

The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas met in special session on Thursday, September 24, 2015 at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 605 Spring St., Columbus, Texas, with the following present:

Mayor	-	Dwain Dungen (Absent)
Mayor Pro Tem	-	Curtiss Schonenberg
Councilman	-	Woody Moore (Absent)
Councilwoman	-	Lori An Gobert (Absent)
Councilman	-	Eddie Hernandez
Councilman	-	Chuck Rankin
City Manager	-	Donald Warschak
City Secretary	-	Bana Schneider

Other City Staff present included:

Code Enforcement	-	Ford Stein
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1. **Call to Order.**

Mayor Pro Tem, Curtiss Schonenberg called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.**

Schonenberg led the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

3. **Consent Agenda:**

- a. Approval of Invoices
- b. Approval of Minutes from the September 10, 2015 Regular Council Meeting
- c. Approval of Minutes from the September 17, 2015 Special Meeting

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Councilman Rankin seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilmen Schonenberg, Rankin and Hernandez.  
Absent: Councilwoman Gobert, Councilman Moore.

The motion passed.

4. **Citizens' Presentations and Comments.**<sup>1</sup>

Ms. Rebecca Cuneo was at meeting regarding agenda item 11. Schonenberg suggested she wait to speak until that time. Cuneo agreed.

5. **City Manager's Report Including 2015 Street Improvements and Interstate 10 & Business Hwy. 71 Signal Project.**

City Manager, Donald Warschak, presented his City Manager's Report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. He stated that the street seal coating project would begin tomorrow, September 25<sup>th</sup> and should be completed by Wednesday, September 30<sup>th</sup>.

Warschak also gave an update on the status of the Interstate 10 and Bus. Hwy 71 signal project. He stated that TXDOT was to send the project out for bids in December. After the bid is awarded, hopefully sometime in February, the winning bidder will have to order the signal poles, which have an

estimated delivery of 12 to 14 weeks after order so it will be summer of 2016 before construction will actually begin.

Mayor Pro Tem Schonenberg asked if there was a construction start date for the gas project awarded to B & D Construction. Warschak said that we are in the process of signing contracts and there is no start date at this time.

6. **First Reading of Resolution 151-15, A Resolution Approving Expenditures of 4B Revenues over \$10,000 of City Created Economic Development Corporations, with less than 20,000 Residents for the Real Estate Transactions Between Columbus Community & Industrial Development Corp. and the Colorado County Ag Complex.**

Mayor Pro Tem Schonenberg read Resolution 151-15, a copy of which is attached to these minutes..

Councilman Rankin said that he has some questions regarding the contract. He indicated that none of his questions were "deal breakers", only that he wants his concerns answered. Schonenberg explained that discussion of the contract was not an agenda item, only the reading of the resolution was on the agenda. City Secretary Bana Schneider indicated that she had asked the Mayor about any discussion of the contract and he had stated that any discussion would take place before a vote was taken after the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.

Rankin then asked what would happen if Council amended the Resolution; would it have to be read again twice. Schonenberg indicated that if changes were made it would come back to Council for two readings again. Rankin voiced his feelings that the Council was going about this backwards. He stated that as a group, Council had done a poor job in the past and have allowed things to go through without knowing all of the facts. Thus his hesitancy for approving anything without all of his questions answered.

Councilman Rankin also wants the record to reflect his concern about the language of the resolution and wants to stipulate that council should be informed of the legality of approving the resolution before any questions are answered.

7. **Consideration and Action to Approve a 2014-2015 Budget Amendment for Library Donations, Memorials and Miscellaneous Revenues and Associated Expenditures.**

Schonenberg asked if there were any questions regarding these revenues and expenditures. There were no questions.

Councilman Rankin made a motion to approve the 2014-2015 Budget Amendment for Library as stated. Councilman Hernandez seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows

Ayes: Councilman Rankin, Schonenberg and Hernandez  
Absent: Councilwoman Gobert and Councilman Moore

The motion passed.

8. **Consideration and Action to Approve a 2014-2015 Budget Amendment for Library Grant Revenue and Associated Expenditures.**

Schonenberg asked if there was any discussion pertaining to this budget amendment. There was no discussion required.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve the 2014-2015 Budget Amendment for the Library Department as stated. Councilman Rankin seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows

Ayes: Councilman Rankin, Schonenberg and Hernandez  
Absent: Councilwoman Gobert and Councilman Moore

The motion passed.

9. **Consideration and Action to Approve a 2014-2015 Budget Amendment for HOME Grant Revenue and Economic Development Expenditures.**

Schneider commented that some of the expenses had been paid in the previous budget cycle but all of the reimbursement was made this fiscal year.

Councilman Rankin made a motion to approve the HOME Grant Budget Amendment as discussed. Councilman Schonenberg seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows

Ayes: Councilman Rankin, Schonenberg and Hernandez  
Absent: Councilwoman Gobert and Councilman Moore

The motion passed.

10. **Consideration and Action to Approve a Manufactured Home Permit for #5 Block 110 Rampart Street as Requested by Ana Santiago Salvador.**

Mayor Pro Tem Schonenberg stated that the application was incomplete or answered incorrectly with no plat data attached and therefore should be sent back to the applicant.

The item was tabled.

11. **Consideration and Action to Approve a Manufactured Home Permit for Block 57 Lot 4 on the Corner of Washington and Prairie Street as Requested by Rebecca Cuneo.**

Mayor Pro Tem Schonenberg indicated the area shown on the application was in a restricted area of the City and only the Planning and Zoning Commission could change the zoning.

City Manager Warschak stated that at this time Ms. Cuneo was only asking for a permit to place the home there so she would have to come back to Council with a request for referral to P & Z. The Council could not send her there before that request is made.

Ms. Cuneo stated that she did not know if it was in a restricted area or not. She said that there are some mobile homes near this lot.

Schonenberg told Ms. Cuneo that she would have to come back and make that request, but he did not feel that the committee would be so inclined to change the zoning.

Ms. Cuneo stated that she is in the process of looking for a lot in which she can place a manufactured home and that she had not purchased this particular lot. She said that she would continue her search in an unrestricted area in which to make a purchase.

Councilman Rankin asked Code Enforcement officer Ford Stein if he reviewed the permit applications before they were sent before council. Stein replied that he did.

No action was taken.

12. **Consideration and Action to Approve a Leave of Absence for Councilman Woodrow Moore.**

The City Secretary stated that Councilman Moore had some commitments prior to becoming a Council member and he would miss tonight's meeting as well as the regular meeting on October 8th. He wanted to be safe in asking for the leave in case he is delayed and cannot make the scheduled meeting on October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Councilman Rankin made a motion to approve a leave of absence for Councilman Woodrow Moore. Councilman Schonenberg seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows

Ayes: Councilman Rankin, Schonenberg and Hernandez  
Absent: Councilwoman Gobert and Councilman Moore

The motion passed.

**13. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the Disclosure, Per Section 2256.005 of the Public Funds Investment Act, by the Appointed Investment Officers of the City of Columbus.**

Both the City Manager and City Secretary disclosed, as per code section 2256.005 of the PFIA, that they had a personal business relationship with the bank that holds investments for the City.

No action was required.

**14. Items from Councilmembers.<sup>2</sup>**

Councilman Moore – Absent

Councilwoman Gobert – Absent

Councilman Schonenberg – None

Councilman Hernandez – None

Councilman Rankin – None

Mayor Dungen – Absent

**6. Announcements.**

Warschak reminded everyone the Fair parade is set for Saturday, September 26, 2015.

**7. Adjournment.**

The Mayor Pro - Tem adjourned the meeting at 6:53 p.m.

  
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Mayor, Dwain Dungen

ATTEST:

  
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Bana Schneider, City Secretary