

The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas met in regular session on Thursday, September 22, 2016 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
Mayor Pro Tem	-	Lori An Gobert
Councilman	-	Keith Cummings
Councilman	-	Gary Swindle
Councilman	-	Eddie Hernandez
Councilman	-	Chuck Rankin
City Manager	-	Donald Warschak
City Secretary	-	Bana Schneider

Other City Staff present included:

Police Chief	-	Bill Lattimore
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1. **Call to Order.**

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

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

Mayor Dungen led the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

3. **Consent Agenda:**

a. Approval of Invoices

Councilman Rankin made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Councilman Swindle seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilmen Cummings, Swindle, Hernandez, and Rankin; Councilwoman Gobert

The motion passed.

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

Debbie Damon introduced Mark Schlaudraff to Council. Mr Schlaudraff is a member of Team USA Junior Men's Barebow Archery Team. He spoke to Council about his experience in archery which began with the local 4-H program. Mark also informed Council about an upcoming competition in Ireland in which he will be participating. Mr. Schlaudraff was saluted with a round of applause.

5. **City Manager's Report Including Water System Flushing and 2016 Street Improvement Project.**

City Manager, Donald Warschak, gave his City Manager's Report, a copy of is attached to these minutes.

Flushing of the water system is still ongoing. After starting the process, City Crews had to stop to take care of some water leaks. They should be able to get back to flushing next week, and finish up in the far west portion of town.

The street seal coating should begin on Monday. The contractor will begin in the downtown area. If there is no rain, the seal coating should be completed in a couple of days.

Councilwoman Gobert asked about smoke testing. Warschak stated smoke testing of the sewer lines is ongoing. They have found some leaks in the far North part of town on Burford Street. There are some shallow clay lines located along that stretch, and the leaks appear to be in the joints.

**6. Consideration and Action to Adopt Ordinance 186-16, an Ordinance of the City of Columbus, Texas, Awarding the Sale and Authorizing the Issuance of City of Columbus, Texas Combination Tax and Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2016; Levying a Tax and Providing for the Payment Thereof; Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of a Paying Agent/Registrar Agreement; Approving the Official Statement; Enacting Other Provisions Relating Thereto; and Declaring an Effective Date.**

Jennifer Douglas of Specialized Public Finance related to Council the results of the competitive sale of the City's offering of the Series 2016 Certificates of Obligation. She informed Council Standard and Poor's had reaffirmed the City's credit rating at AA-. Douglas also spoke about historical bond rates. There was quite a bit of interest in the City's issuance with 5 buyers bidding. Raymond James had the lowest interest rate bid at 2.2%. Her firm would be happy recommending Raymond James be awarded the sale. If approved tonight, the sale would be closed on October 18<sup>th</sup>. Glenn Opel of Bracewell, LLP addressed Council. He stated as the bond attorney, he would shepherd the sale through the Attorney General's office. He stated the approval of the action is all that is required by the City Council.

Councilman Rankin made a motion to adopt Ordinance 186-16 as presented. Councilwoman Gobert seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilmen Cummings, Swindle, Hernandez, and Rankin; Councilwoman Gobert

The motion passed.

**7. First Reading of Resolution 165-16, a Resolution Approving Expenditures of 4B Revenues over \$10,000 of City Generated Economic Development Corporations, with less than 20,000 Residents for the Funding of a Grant to the Live Oak Art Center for a Concession and Event Space within the City of Columbus.**

The Mayor read the resolution.

Councilman Rankin asked if this project fit within the rules for expenditure of 4B funds.

Councilwoman Gobert stated the project had been drawn up by their attorney to make sure it fits within the guidelines, and has a specific completion date. Rankin asked about the "concession" element of the project. Gobert stated it was also expansion of exhibition space and event space, all to help bring visitors to Columbus. Councilman Swindle asked what a reimbursable grant was. Gobert replied LOAC is paying for the project, and must submit receipts, then the CCIDC will remit the grant amount.

**8. Consideration and Action to Ratify Budgeted Property Tax Increase in the 2016-2017 Budget.**

Councilwoman Gobert made a motion to ratify the budgeted property tax increase as reflected in the 2016-2017 budget. Councilman Hernandez seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilmen Cummings, Swindle, and Hernandez; Councilwoman Gobert  
No: Councilman Rankin

The motion passed.

**9. Consideration and Action to Approve Ordinance No. 182-16 to Establish the Property Tax Rate of \$0.28000.**

Councilwoman Gobert made a motion that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.28000, which is effectively an 8.94 percent increase in the tax rate. Councilman Cummings seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilmen Cummings, Swindle, and Hernandez; Councilwoman Gobert  
No: Councilman Rankin

The motion passed.

**10. Consideration and Action to Approve Ordinance 183-16 to Establish Water Utility Rates.**

Councilman Rankin asked if the revenue numbers had been verified. The City Secretary stated they had been.

Councilwoman Gobert made a motion to approve ordinance 183-16. Councilman Swindle seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilmen Cummings, Swindle, Hernandez, and Rankin; Councilwoman Gobert

The motion passed.

**11. Consideration and Action to Approve Ordinance No. 184-16 to Establish Sewer Utility Rates.**

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve ordinance 184-16. Councilman Rankin seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilmen Cummings, Swindle, Hernandez, and Rankin; Councilwoman Gobert

The motion passed.

**12. Consideration and Action to Approve Ordinance No. 185-16 to Establish Gas Utility Rates.**

Item 12 was tabled due to a typo.

**13. Consideration and Action to Authorize the Advertizing for Bids for Construction of the New Downtown Park Project.**

Dungen stated the Visitor's Center had been downsized because of costs. The new smaller building has to be rebid. Warschak gave a brief overview of the changes to both the interior and exterior. Gobert commented the change in design would allow for expansion in the future.

Councilman Rankin made a motion to authorize the advertising for bids. Councilman Swindle seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilmen Cummings, Swindle, Hernandez, and Rankin; Councilwoman Gobert

The motion passed.

**14. Consideration and Action to Authorize the Mayor to Enter the City of Columbus into a Contract for Public Services with Family Crisis Center, Inc.**

Councilwoman Gobert stated she felt they do a good job.

Councilwoman Gobert made a motion to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contact with Family Crisis Center, Inc. Councilman Rankin seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilmen Cummings, Swindle, Hernandez, and Rankin  
Abstain: Councilwoman Gobert

The motion passed.

**15. Consideration and Action to Authorize the Mayor to Enter the City of Columbus into a Contract for Public Services with Combined Community Action, Inc.**

Councilwoman Gobert made a motion to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with Combined Community Action, Inc. Councilman Cummings seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilmen Cummings, Swindle, Hernandez, and Rankin; Councilwoman Gobert

The motion passed.

**16. Consideration and Action to Approve Change Order N0. 3 to the TX CDBG Gas Line Project.**

Warschak stated this was a change order for as built quantities.

Councilman Hernandez made a motion to approve change order No. 3 to the TX CDBG Gas Line Project. Councilman Cummings seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilmen Cummings, Swindle, Hernandez, and Rankin; Councilwoman Gobert

The motion passed.

**17. Consideration and Action to Submit a Proposed Replat of a 0.312 Acre Tract Situated in the Smith & Jones Addition, Block O of the City of Columbus, into Two (2) Lots (0.183 and 0.129 Acres) as Requested by Vernon L. and Ilene A. Schindler.**

Councilwoman Gobert made a motion to submit the replat to Planning and Zoning. Councilman Cummings seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilmen Cummings, Swindle, Hernandez, and Rankin; Councilwoman Gobert

The motion passed.

**18. Consideration and Action to Submit a Proposed Replat of Two (2) 0.338 Acre Tracts Situated in the Ward Addition, Block 3, Lot 2 and Lot 5 of the City of Columbus, into Two (2) Lots (0.391 Acres (Lot 2) and 0.285 Acres (Lot 5) as Requested by the Estate of Harry C. Henkhaus, Jr.**

Warschak stated two lots that back up to each other. Years ago, the owners put in a building which was over the property line, and they want to adjust the legal lot lines.

Councilwoman Gobert made a motion to submit the replat to Planning & Zoning. Councilman Hernandez seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilmen Cummings, Swindle, Hernandez, and Rankin; Councilwoman Gobert

The motion passed.

**19. Consideration and Action to Approve a 2016-2017 Budget Amendment for Library Memorials and Donations and Associated Expenditures.**

Item 19 was tabled because of a typo.

**20. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, on the August 2016 Police Report.**

Chief Lattimore gave the Police Report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. Lattimore stated Officers Weiser and Mayfield were awarded their TCOLE Intermediate license. He also stated the Fair was going on through Sunday.

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

Councilman Cummings – None

Councilwoman Gobert – None

Councilman Swindle – None.

Councilman Hernandez – None

Councilman Rankin – None

Mayor Dungen – None

**22. Announcements.**

Two weeks off before the next meeting.

**23. Adjournment.**

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:04 p.m.



~~Mayor, Dwain Dungen~~

Mayor Pro Tem, Lori An Gobert

ATTEST:



Bana Schneider, City Secretary

<sup>1</sup>During this agenda item, citizens may comment for the record on items, which are not on the agenda. However, the Council may not participate in discussion or deliberation on any item that is not on the agenda. Citizens may request that a topic be added to a future agenda.

<sup>2</sup>Limited to statements. Issues raised by councilmembers under this item cannot be deliberated by Council. The Open Meetings Act does not allow Council to deliberate items that don't appear on the agenda.