

The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas met in regular session on Thursday, December 21, 2017 at 12:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 605 Spring St., Columbus, Texas, with the following present:

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|----------------|---|--------------------------|
| Mayor | - | Dwain Dungen |
| Councilman | - | Keith Cummings |
| Councilwoman | - | Lori An Gobert |
| Councilman | - | Eddie Hernandez (Absent) |
| Councilman | - | Chuck Rankin (Absent) |
| Councilman | - | Gary Swindle |
| City Manager | - | Donald Warschak |
| City Secretary | - | Bana Schneider |

Other City Staff present included:

| | | |
|------------------|---|------------------|
| Police Chief | - | Skip Edman |
| Code Enforcement | - | Richard LaCourse |
| Fire Marshal | - | Brent Gorman |

1. Call to Order.

Mayor Dwain Dungen called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

Dungen led the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

3. Consent Agenda:

- a. Approval of Invoices
- b. Approval of Minutes of the December 11, 2017 Regular Meeting

Councilwoman Gobert made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Councilman Swindle seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

4. Citizens' Presentations and Comments.¹

There were no citizen comments.

5. City Manager's Report Including Electric Rates.

City Manager, Donald Warschak, gave his report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. Warschak stated he had signed a new contract for electricity rates. The 3 year contract will result in an approximate savings of \$8,000 per year over the current rate. Warschak also stated he had spoken to the contractor who would be constructing the new bridges. After the first of February, they will begin construction of the north river bridge. They were going to construct the east bridge first, but the riverbank there experienced major erosion

from the flooding associated with hurricane Harvey, so there may be some redesign required for the bridge approaches.

6. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the Fire Marshal Report.

Brent Gorman gave the report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. The Mayor asked if he was still receiving resistance. Gorman stated he was receiving some, but nothing major.

No action was required.

7. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the November 2017 Code Enforcement Report.

Richard LaCourse gave the report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. LaCourse stated a board of adjustments meeting would be required for a variance for a Habitat for Humanity House. Councilwoman Gobert stated it seemed funny that the request would be for a six inch variance. LaCourse stated it would be a total of a foot, six inches on both sides.

No action was required.

8. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the October 2017 Police Report.

Chief Edman gave the report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. Gobert asked about an officer involved motor vehicle accident. Edman stated an officer was responding to another MVA, and a vehicle he thought was going to yield to the right, actually turned left in front of the officer.

No action was required.

9. Items from Councilmembers.²

Councilman Cummings – None

Councilwoman Gobert – None

Councilman Swindle - None

Councilman Hernandez – Absent

Councilman Rankin – Absent

Mayor Dungen – Wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

10. Announcements.

There were no announcements

11. Adjournment.

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 12:12 p.m.



Mayor, Dwain Dungen

ATTEST:



Bana Schneider, City Secretary

¹During 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.

²Limited 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.

