



The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas met in regular session on Monday, March 28, 2022, at 5:30 PM, in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 605 Spring St., Columbus, Texas, with the following present:

Mayor – Lori An Gobert
Mayor Pro Tem – Chuck Rankin
Councilman – Keith Cummings
Councilman – Ronny Daley
Councilman – Gary Swindle
Councilwoman – Sandra Frnka
City Manager – Donald Warschak
City Secretary – Bana Schneider
Assistant City Secretary – Dinah Jacobs

Other City Staff present included:

Police Chief – Skip Edman
Code Enforcement – Richard LaCourse
Fire Marshal – Brent Gorman, Jr.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Lori An Gobert called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

Gobert led the pledge and invocation.

3. Consent Agenda:

Motion to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Moved by: Gary Swindle

Seconded by: Keith Cummings

Ayes: Chuck Rankin, Keith Cummings, Ronny Daley, Gary Swindle, and Sandra Frnka

Carried 5-0

3.1. Approval of Invoices [INVOICES_03.28.2022.pdf](#)

3.2. Approval of Minutes of the March 14, 2022 Regular Meeting

[MINUTES_03.14.2022.pdf](#) 

3.3. Approval of the November 2021 Financial Statements [NOVEMBER_2021.pdf](#)



4. Citizens' Presentations and Comments¹

Debbie Damon addressed Council regarding newspaper ads for www.claimtexas.org. She wanted to bring this to everyone's attention, and urged everyone to check it out to see what might be theirs for claiming.

5. City Manager's Report the McCormick WWTP River bank Project, the MLK Street Sidewalk Project and Columbus Trash-Off. [CM REPORT.pdf](#) 

City Manager, Donald Warschak, gave his report. A copy is attached to these minutes. Warschak reported the contractor for the Army Corp project is back and the riverbank project is moving again. They are excavating and preparing to install the final backfill.

Regarding the MLK Street Sidewalk Project, Warschak stated the project has started. They are currently working on the section located between Back Street and BUS Hwy 71.

Regarding the Columbus Trash-Off Day, Warschak reported the event is scheduled for March 30-April 2. Citizens may bring large items to the City Maintenance Yard. If Citizens are requesting limb pick up, they may call City Hall to be put on a list. City Secretary, Bana Schneider, stated Marion Schonnenburg called to say there is a licensed refrigeration technician that is volunteering to remove any refrigerant for items brought to the yard. He will tag them as coolant removed.

6. Consideration and Action Regarding a Noise Ordinance Variance for Friday, April 29, 2022 from 5:30 p.m. to Midnight and Saturday, April 30, 2022 from 5:30 p.m. to Midnight at the Colorado County Fairgrounds for a Truck and Tractor Pull as

Requested by Thunder By The Colorado, Inc. [NOISE VARIANCE THUNDER.pdf](#) 

There was discussion regarding the time of the requested variance. Councilwoman Frnka stated she believed the event should end at 11:30 pm on Saturday because many people attend church early on Sunday mornings.

Motion to amend a Noise Ordinance Variance for the Thunder By The Colorado truck and tractor pull, from 5:30pm-midnight on Friday, March 29 and from 5:30pm-11:30pm on Saturday, March 30.

Moved by: Sandra Frnka

Seconded by: Keith Cummings

Ayes: Keith Cummings and Sandra Frnka

Nays: Chuck Rankin, Ronny Daley, and Gary Swindle

Denied 2-3

Motion to approve a Noise Variance for Thunder By The Colorado for a truck and tractor pull from 5:30pm- midnight, on Friday, April 29, and from 5:30pm-midnight on Saturday, April 30.


Moved by: Chuck Rankin

Seconded by: Gary Swindle

Ayes: Chuck Rankin, Ronny Daley, and Gary Swindle

Nays: Keith Cummings and Sandra Frnka

Carried 3-2

7. **Consideration and Action to Approve the Closure of Travis Street from Walnut Street (Highway 90) to Spring Street from 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on the Last Saturday of Every Month Beginning on March 26, 2022 and Ending on November 26, 2022, as Requested by the Columbus Country Market. [COLUMBUS COUNTRY MARKET.pdf](#)** 

Motion to approve the monthly street closures as requested for the Columbus Country Market.

Moved by: Chuck Rankin

Seconded by: Keith Cummings

Ayes: Chuck Rankin, Keith Cummings, Ronny Daley, Gary Swindle, and Sandra Frnka

Carried 5-0

8. **Consideration and Action to Approve Ordinance 251-22, an Ordinance Adopting Guidelines for Filming in the City of Columbus. [ORDINANCE 251-22.pdf](#)** 

Schneider stated the packet includes the revisions the attorney made, as well as a clean version, along with the ordinance. There was discussion regarding filming in the City of Columbus.

Motion to approve Ordinance 251-22 Adopting Guidelines for Filming in the City of Columbus.

Moved by: Ronny Daley

Seconded by: Gary Swindle

Ayes: Chuck Rankin, Keith Cummings, Ronny Daley, Gary Swindle, and Sandra Frnka

Carried 5-0

9. **Consideration and Action to Appoint Utility Billing Clerk, Donna Samora, as the Deputy Municipal Court Clerk as Provided in Section 29.010 of the Texas Government Code.**

Schneider stated, Assistant City Secretary, Dinah Jacobs, is the current Deputy Court Clerk. With Jacobs' added HR duties, Municipal Court Clerk Kaylee Brune has conferred with Judge Peters regarding appointing a new Deputy Court Clerk.

Motion to approve the appointment of Utility Billing Clerk, Donna Samora, as Deputy Municipal Court Clerk.

Moved by: Chuck Rankin

Seconded by: Keith Cummings

Ayes: Chuck Rankin, Keith Cummings, Ronny Daley, Gary Swindle, and Sandra Frnka

Carried 5-0

10. Consideration and Action to Approve the Notice of General Election. *Consideración y acción para aprobar el aviso de elección general.* [NOTICE OF MAY 7 ELECTION.pdf](#)



Schneider stated the notice was required to be published in the paper when there is an election. *La secretaria de la ciudad, Bana Schneider, declaró que este es un aviso obligatorio que debe publicarse en el periódico cuando hay elecciones.*

Motion to approve the Notice of General Election.
Moción para aprobar el Aviso de Elección General.

Moved by: Keith Cummings
Seconded by: Gary Swindle

Ayes: Chuck Rankin, Keith Cummings, Ronny Daley, Gary Swindle, and Sandra Frnka

Carried 5-0

11. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the February 2022 Fire Marshal Report. [FIRE MARSHAL FEBRUARY 2022.pdf](#) 

Fire Marshal, Brent Gorman, Jr., gave his report. A copy of the report is attached to these minutes. Gorman reported six inspections, one consult, and 23 fire calls this month.

No action was required.

12. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the February 2022 Code Enforcement Report. [CODE ENFORCEMENT FEBRUARY 2022.pdf](#) 

Code Enforcement officer, Richard LaCourse, gave his report. A copy is attached to these minutes. LaCourse reported 29 permits were issued. He highlighted his current Code Enforcement II training, along with the Colorado County Sheriff's Office sewer line issue and resolution. LaCourse also stated 1105 Washington has been deemed a substandard structure. Notice has been given to the property owner.

No action was required.

13. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the February 2022 Police Report. [FEBRUARY STATS 2022.pdf](#) 

Police Chief, Skip Edman, gave his report. A copy is attached to these minutes. Edman highlighted his Chief training, and the Bart Catlett memorial motorcycle ride.

No action was required.

14. Items from Councilmembers²
Cummings - none

Daley - none

Swindle - none

Frnka - none

Rankin - none

Gobert - thanked Rankin for filling in for her at the last Council meeting

15. Announcements

Warschak - Trash Off reminder

16. Adjournment

Gobert adjourned the meeting at 6:02 pm.



Mayor Lori An Gobert

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.