



The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas met in regular session on Monday, May 8, 2023, 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  
Councilwoman – Paige Sciba  
Councilman – Michael Ridlen (Arrived at 5:40 p.m.)  
City Manager – Donald Warschak  
City Secretary – Bana Schneider  
Assistant City Secretary – Dinah Jacobs

Other City Staff present included:

Code Enforcement – Richard LaCourse

**1. Call to Order**

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

**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:* Ronny Daley

*Seconded by:* Keith Cummings

**Aye** Paige Sciba, Chuck Rankin, Keith Cummings, and Ronny Daley

**Carried 4-0**

3.1 **Approval of Invoices** [INVOICES 05.08.2023.pdf](#)

3.2 **Approval of Minutes of the April 24, 2023 Regular Meeting**  
[04.24.2023 MINUTES.pdf](#)

**4. Consideration and Action to Approve Invoices for Columbus Tire Center (Sciba Corporation). [INVOICES COLUMBUS TIRE.pdf](#)**

Motion to approve the Columbus Tire invoices as presented.

*Moved by:* Chuck Rankin

*Seconded by:* Keith Cummings

**Aye** Chuck Rankin, Keith Cummings, and Ronny Daley

**Abstain** Paige Sciba

**Carried 3-0**

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

Chris Christensen addressed Council and wanted to update them on what is happening at the border. He also stated the Appraisal District lost their only certified appraiser.

**6. City Manager's Report Including the MLK Street Sidewalk Project, the TxDOT HWY 71 Signal Light Project, the Montezuma Street Sidewalk Grant Application, Softball and Baseball Park Restroom Renovations Project, and the Gas System Improvement Project Updates. [CM REPORT.pdf](#)**

City Manager, Donald Warschak, gave his report. A copy is attached to these minutes.

Regarding the MLK Street Sidewalk Project, Warschak reported the final walk-thru had been completed and they are still working on the punch list.

Regarding the Hwy 71 (Fannin Street) Signal Light Project, Warschak reported the contractor is currently installing the conduits for the signal light poles.

Regarding the Montezuma Street Sidewalk Grant Application, Warschak reported TxDOT has notified us that our project is eligible to move forward with the second phase of the application process.

Regarding the Softball and Baseball Park Restroom Renovations, Warschak reported the baseball location is complete and open. The softball location, the subcontractor is working on painting and plumbing. It is very close to completion.

Regarding the Gas System Improvements, Warschak reported the project has been advertised for bids. The bids will be presented at the next Council meeting.

**7. Public Hearing on Proposed Annexation of 13.954 Acres of Land in the E. Tumlinson Survey League, Abstract No. 44, Colorado County, Texas. [ANNEXATION-1ST PUBLIC HEARING.pdf](#)**

Gobert opened the public hearing at 5:38 p.m.

Pat Gillespie addressed Council regarding the proposed property for annexation. This piece is the only parcel the hospital owns that has not been annexed.

Rankin asked what the plans for the property were. Gillespie responded there are no plans at this time. Possible discussion topics were parking or another professional building.

Chris Christensen questioned if it is annexed and in the future City services are needed, would the City be responsible for adding those services. He questioned if it could wait until there are plans for improvement? Gillespie responded they are just trying to get everything standardized.

Warschak responded about the services that are presently there and how services could be extended at a future date.

Gobert closed the public hearing at 5:43 p.m.

**Let the record reflect Michael Ridlen joined the meeting at 5:40 p.m.**

**8. Consideration and Action to Approve a Manufactured Home Permit for Block 86, Lot S-7, 8 of the City of Columbus as Requested by Angela Mendiola. [MH](#)**

[PERMIT\\_MENDIOLA.pdf](#) 

Richard LaCourse discussed the application and location. He stated it meets all of the requirements. The property is very large, so there are no issues with setbacks. It is in the mobile home district. LaCourse stated all requirements are met and requests approval.

Motion to approve the manufactured home permit as requested by Angela Mendiola.

*Moved by:* Keith Cummings

*Seconded by:* Chuck Rankin

**Aye** Michael Ridlen, Paige Sciba, Chuck Rankin, Keith Cummings, and Ronny Daley

**Carried 5-0**

**9. Consideration and Action to Approve a Manufactured Home Permit for Block 110, Lot 5 of the City of Columbus as Requested by Ana Santiago Salvador. [MH](#)**

[PERMIT\\_SALVADOR.pdf](#) 

LaCourse stated this application has morphed. The first building did not meet the code. (not suitable for living conditions) The first request was therefore denied. This application is for a smaller stured unit. This will be on two City lots. It does meet all of the requirements now. It is in an allowable district. They own the lot and he saw no reason not to approve.

Motion to approve the above manufactured home permit as requested by Ana Santiago Salvador.

*Moved by:* Michael Ridlen

*Seconded by:* Keith Cummings

**Aye** Michael Ridlen, Paige Sciba, Chuck Rankin, Keith Cummings, and Ronny Daley

**Carried 5-0**

**10. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the April 2023 Golf Association**

**Report. [GOLF\\_APRIL\\_2023.pdf](#) **

City Secretary, Bana Schneider, went over the golf report with Council.

Shelly Janik stated the golf association seems to be holding checks and not depositing them regularly. Her daughter had to call three times before it was deposited because it had not cleared her bank. Schneider stated she thought they deposited after the first of the month.

No action was required

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

Cummings - did we get any clarification on who can put bids in on the Mansfield property

Daley - same question; Also, I did not realize the Mayor was such an accomplished actress

Sriba - acknowledged the Police dept and Sheriff's dept for their quick response to the lock down a few weeks ago. As a mother, very grateful

Ridlen - looking forward to Magnolia Festival

Rankin - none

Gobert - Thursday, May 11 - time capsule burying event - encouraged members to attend; next Monday at 6pm will be the Police Officer Memorial - encouraged members to attend; Magnolia Days Festival is upon us - they are still in need of volunteers; Fireman's Memorial is this evening at 7:00 p.m. - encouraged members to attend

**12. Announcements**

There were no announcements.

**13. Adjournment**

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 5:58 p.m.



**Lori An Gobert, Mayor**

**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.