



The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas met in regular session on Monday, January 22, 2024, 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
City Manager – Donald Warschak
City Secretary – Bana Schneider (Absent)
Assistant City Secretary – Dinah Jacobs

Other City Staff present included:

Police Chief – Skip Edman
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 Michael Ridlen, Paige Sciba, Chuck Rankin, Keith Cummings,
and Ronny Daley

Carried 5-0

3.1 Approval of Invoices [INVOICES_20240122.pdf](#)

3.2 Approval of Minutes of the [MINUTES_20240108.pdf](#)

4. Citizens' Presentations and Comments¹

Hadley Sciba addressed Council regarding the curb and gutter they paid to have installed and the final completion portion that will be done by the City.

5. City Manager's Report Including Sales Tax, Sewer Averaging, Utility Billing, TxDOT Projects Updates, PHMSA Pipeline Grant, and the Texas A&M University Transportation Study. [CM](#)

[REPORT_20240122.pdf](#) 

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

Gobert gave the listing of the TxDOT project dates.

Rankin graphed the sales tax with the budget vs. the plotting. It appears we are about \$250,000 ahead of the budgeted amounts.

Sciba had a citizen report to her a big pothole at the elementary school and would like to have that looked at for repair.

6. Consideration and Action to Adopt Ordinance 274-24, an Ordinance of the City of Columbus Authorizing a General (Regular) Municipal Election to be Held on May 4, 2024. [ORDER OF](#)

[ELECTION ORDINANCE 274-24.pdf](#) 

Consideración y acción para adoptar ordenanza 274-24, una ordenanza de la ciudad de Columbus que autoriza un elección municipal (regular) general para ser sostenido el 4 de mayo de 2024.

[ORDEN DE ELLECCION ORDENANZA 274-24.pdf](#) 

Motion to approve as presented. *Moción para aprobar tal como se presentó*

Moved by: Ronny Daley

Seconded by: Paige Sciba

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

Carried 5-0

7. Consideration and Action to Approve Resolution 273-24, a Resolution to Select an Administrative Service Provider to Complete Application, Project Implementation, and Plan Development for the GLO Community Development Block Grant - Mitigation-Resilient

Communities Program. [RESOLUTION 273-24-ADMIN_GLO-CDBG.pdf](#) 

Warschak reported this is a new study. New grant with no match required. Recommendation is to go with Langford. This would be paid for with grant funds.

Motion to approve Langford and Associates.

Moved by: Chuck Rankin

Seconded by: Keith Cummings

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

Carried 5-0

- 8. Consideration and Action to Approve the Closure of Milam Street (Spur 52) from Houston Street to Walnut Street (Hwy 90); Walnut Street (Hwy 90) from Milam Street (Spur 52) to Legion Drive on Saturday, March 2, 2024 from 9:00 a.m. to Noon for the 81st Annual Columbus FFA Parade.**

[FFA PARADE STREET CLOSURE.pdf](#) 

Motion to approve the street closure as presented.

Moved by: Paige Sciba

Seconded by: Michael Ridlen

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

Carried 5-0

- 9. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the December 2023 Fire Marshal Report. [FIRE](#)**

[MARSHAL_DEC_2023.pdf](#) 

Code Enforcement officer, Richard LaCourse, gave the report in FM Brent Gorman's absence due to jury duty. A copy is attached to these minutes.

There was a leak at the Fire Department with the roof. They have looked at it with Vincent Roofing. The gutters were an issue due to being full of leaves which was then pushing water over.

A leaf guard will need to be installed. Warschak stated they will watch it and report back.

Gobert stated it needs to be 100% leak proof.

They did apply for an LCRA grant to put in a sprinkler system.

No action was needed.

- 10. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the December 2023 Code Enforcement**

Report. [CODE ENFORCEMENT_DEC_2023.pdf](#) 

LaCourse, gave his report. A copy is attached to these minutes.

No action was needed.

- 11. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the 2023 Report on Racial Profiling. [RACIAL](#)**

[PROFILING_2023.pdf](#) 

Police Chief, Skip Edman, reviewed the racial profiling report. A copy is attached to these minutes.

Their system generates the report. He then plugs the numbers into TCOLE for this report.

Rankin asked for clarification on the Inventory line.

No action was needed.

12. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the December 2023 Police Report.

[CPD STATS DECEMBER 2023.pdf](#) 

Police Chief, Skip Edman, gave his report. A copy is attached to these minutes.

No action was needed.

13. Items from Councilmembers²

Cummings - none

Daley - none

Sciba - none

Ridlen - shout out to the HS for putting on a career fair; there were 24 exhibitors; 50% of the kids are not going to college and need to be employable; he applauded them as it is very much needed

Rankin - none

Gobert - Donald and I went to HGAC; if anyone wants to see the wastewater video it is posted; annual chamber meeting on Thursday - state of the "union" - at the Opera House, Buddy Rau room 5:30-7:30pm

14. Announcements

There were no announcements.

15. Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:01 p.m.



Lori An Gobert, Mayor

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.