

The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas met in regular session on Monday, March 10, 2008 at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 605 Spring Street, Columbus, Texas, with the following present:

Mayor	-	Richard Heffley					
		Mayor Pro Tem	-	Curtiss Schonenberg			
Councilman	-	Charles Richardson					
		Councilwoman	-	Sandra Frnka			
Councilman	-	Chuck Rankin					
Councilman				John Wagner			
		City Manager	-			David Meisell	
City Secretary			-	Patti Glaeser			

1. Call to Order.

Mayor Heffley called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

Mayor Heffley led the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

3. Presentation of Proclamation honoring Erwin Knippel for 42 Years of Service to the National Weather Service and the City of Columbus.\

Mayor Heffley presented Erwin Knippel with a City of Columbus Proclamation to honor him for his 42 years of service to the National Weather Service and the City of Columbus.

4. Consent Agenda:

a. Approval of invoices.

b. Approval of Minutes of February 25, 2008 Regular Meeting.

Councilwoman Frnka moved to approve the consent agenda. Councilman Richardson seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Richardson, Schonenberg, Rankin, Wagner
Councilwoman Frnka

The motion passed.

5. Consideration and Action to Approve Invoice from Curtiss Automotive.

Councilman Rankin moved to approve the invoice from Curtiss Automotive. Councilwoman Frnka seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Richardson, Rankin, Wagner
Councilwoman Frnka
Abstain: Councilman Schonenberg

The motion passed.

6. Citizen's Presentations and Comments.

There were no citizen's presentations or comments.

7. Discussion of City Manager's Report including Drainage Improvements, Sewer Plant Drying Bed Update, River Status, Water Plants Turn-Around, Water Pumpage History, New Truck Status, House Demolition, Revenue Update, City Hall Update, Council Meeting Times.

City Manager, David Meisell, presented his City Manager's Report which is attached to these minutes. Mr. Meisell voiced his concern with the recent reports of yellow water in the east part of the City. Mr. Meisell believes the problem is due to the fact that some of the lines coming from the Spring Well have not been used in over a year and need to be flushed to clear the lines. He is also concerned with the filter system and will convert the filtration system to a polyphosphate system. He hopes to have this project completed in a couple of weeks.

Mr. Meisell also discussed the recently received asbestos inspection report. He said it would cost the city \$86,000 for a total abatement.

He reported he is continuing to work with the architect to design a new HVAC system.

Mr. Meisell that AEP put a line monitor at Cardinal Hill on 72 hours. There were no reports of surges or spikes.

8. Public Hearing: Annexation of 9.5 Acres of Land in the Elizabeth Tumlinson Survey, Abstract No. 44, Colorado County, Texas.

Mayor Heffley opened the Public Hearing at 7:35 p.m. Mr. Meisell briefed the Council on the annexation process. There were no public comments made.

Mayor Heffley closed the Public Hearing at 7:47 p.m.

The Open Meeting reconvened.

9. Consideration and Action to Approve Columbus Convention and Visitors Bureau Bylaws.

Councilman Schonenberg moved to approve the Columbus Convention and Visitors Bureau Bylaws. Councilwoman Frnka seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Richardson, Schonenberg, Wagner
Councilwoman Frnka

Nay: Councilman Rankin

The motion passed.

10. Consideration and Action to Approve Ordinance 77-08 Garbage. Councilman Rankin voiced his concerns over the dumpster placement problem. He would like to address businesses to solve the problem. Mr. Meisell read an e-mail he had received from Jay Howard, Texas Disposal System (TDS) Municipal Representative which addressed the issue of a dumpster in the vicinity that sits on the street. Mr. Howard said he and the TDS driver looked for a better place to put the dumpster, but because of safety issues were unable to locate a better location.

Councilman Rankin moved to approve Ordinance 77-08 establishing new garbage rates with the stipulation that the dumpster problem be revisited with a report from TDS and Mr. Meisell within the next two months.. Councilman Richardson seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Richardson, Schonenberg, Rankin, Wagner
Councilwoman Frnka

The motion passed.

11. Consideration and Action to approve a Budget Amendment for Purchase of a Swimming Pool Ladder Tower. Councilman Rankin suggested the City look at a possible grant from CCIDC for possible funding of a swimming pool ladder tower. The estimated cost of the tower is Councilman Schonenberg moved to table Agenda Item #11. Councilman Rankin seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Richardson, Schonenberg, Rankin, Wagner
Councilwoman Frnka

The motion passed.

12. Items from Councilmembers.2 Councilman Richardson reported he was getting phone calls about the color of the water. Councilwoman Frnka voiced her concern of the parking lot by the golf course and field house. Mr. Meisell said he has looked at the problem and believes putting in curbs around the big trees will help with the problem. Councilman Schonenberg - no comment. Councilman Rankin commented that the new flags at Midtown Park look good. Councilman Wagner - no comment.

13. Announcements.
There were no additional announcements.

14. Adjournment.
There being no further business, Mayor Heffley declared the meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Mayor, Richard Heffley

ATTEST:

Patti Glaeser, 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.

Citizens who wish to comment on a posted agenda item may do so when that item is addressed by the Mayor. Citizen's comments are limited to five minutes.

2 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.