

The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas met in special session on Wednesday, July 17, 2013 at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 605 Spring St., Columbus, Texas, with the following present:

Mayor	-	Dwain Dungen
Mayor Pro Tem	-	Curtiss Schonenberg
Councilman	-	Steve Woodall
Councilman	-	John Axel
Councilman	-	Eddie Hernandez
Councilman	-	Chuck Rankin
City Manager	-	Donald Warschak
City Secretary	-	Linda Lakich

Other City Staff present included:

Police Chief	-	Bill Lattimore
Public Works Super.	-	Michael Poncik

**1. Call to Order.**

Mayor Dwain Dungen called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.**

Mayor Dungen led the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

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

There were no citizens' presentations or comments.

**4. Workshop.**

The City Secretary started a discussion of General Fund revenues by saying that the certified appraised values will be available by the 7/25/13 regular meeting. She estimates that current year sales tax revenue will see a 7.5% increase over last year and is budgeting a 5.5% increase for 2014. A discussion of Utility rates followed during which it was noted that there was no rate increase last year for the Water, Sewer, or Gas Departments and that the City's current rates are lower than many cities in the vicinity of the same size.

Council was given a wish list of capital and other items requested by Department Heads. The Police Department is asking for \$12,000 for weapons and binoculars so that officers do not have to use their own rifles and shotguns. The Police Department is also requesting \$4,300 for a light bar and radar unit to finish fully equipping the black Tahoe which was originally intended to be used as a detective's vehicle. The Police Department is also requesting \$38,000 for a new Tahoe to be used as a patrol vehicle to replace a Crown Victoria.

The Fire Department is requesting an increase of their pension contribution from \$71 to \$75 per fireman per month, fire school training for one additional member, and \$10,000 to replace additional SCBA cylinders.

The Swimming Pool has a carryover of \$6,000 from last year's budget to replace the circulation pump. The Parks Department also has a carryover of \$6,000 to paint and complete repairs on the Mansfield Building.

The Library is requesting a FAX/copier/scanner to be used by patrons, and a new projector for the meeting room.

The Utility Department is requesting \$12,000 for a GPS mapping system to be used to locate lines. The Water Department would like to replace an old truck with a Ford F250 at a cost of \$25,000 and the Sewer Department would like to replace their front end loader for \$25,000. The cover for the fueling station is also carried over from last year's budget.

The City Manager also explained that the touch read system interface on the gas meters is no longer being made, so they are currently looking into the cost of replacing meters.

The next Budget Workshop was scheduled for July 25<sup>th</sup>.

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

Councilman Woodall – no comment.

Councilman Axel – no comment.

Councilman Schonenberg – no comment.

Councilman Hernandez – no comment.

Councilman Rankin – no comment.

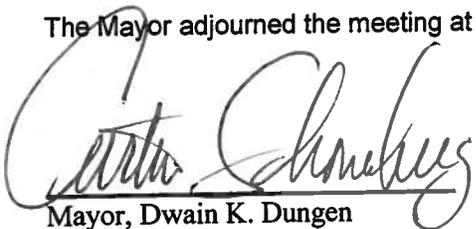
Mayor Dungen – no comment.

**6. Announcements.<sup>2</sup>**

There were no announcements.

**7. Adjournment.**

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

  
Mayor, Dwain K. Dungen

*Mayor Robert*

ATTEST:



Linda Lakich, 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.

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.

<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.