

The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas, met in regular session on Thursday, June 12, 2014 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 (absent)
Councilman	-	Eddie Hernandez
Councilman	-	Chuck Rankin
City Manager	-	Donald Warschak
City Secretary	-	Linda Lakich

Other City Staff present included:

Police Chief	-	Bill Lattimore
Code Enforcement Off.	-	Ford Stein

1. Call to Order.

Mayor Dwain Dungen called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. He asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of Councilman John Axel who died May 28, 2014.

2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

Mayor Dungen led the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

3. Consent Agenda.

- a. Approval of Invoices.
- b. Approval of Minutes of May 22, 2014 Regular Meeting.
- c. Approval of April 2014 Financial Statements.

Councilman Schonenberg made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Councilman Rankin seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Schonenberg, Hernandez, and Rankin
Absent: Councilman Woodall

The motion passed.

4. Citizens' Presentations and Comments.¹

There were no citizens' presentations or comments.

5. City Manager's Report Including Sales Tax, Water Plant Aerator Project, and Downtown Sidewalk Project.

City Manager, Donald Warschak, presented his City Manager's Report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

6. Consideration and Action to Authorize Closure of Streets – Milam St. from Walnut to Spring, Spring St. from Milam to Travis, and Travis St. from Spring to Walnut – on July 4, 2014 for the Independence Day Parade and Related Activities.

Nancy Stiles introduced Evan Windham who is the new Visitors Center director. Evan invited the City Officials to participate in the parade on July 4th and to attend the laser show and other activities that evening. She also presented a brief overview of her activity at the Visitors Center, including updating and tracking interest in the Chamber of Commerce/Visitors website.

It was explained that the Chamber would only need to have Spring and Travis Streets closed for the July 4th activities and that they would like the closure starting at 4 p.m. and ending when the event was over around 10 p.m.

Councilman Rankin made a motion to authorize closure of Spring Street and Travis Street adjacent to the Courthouse on July 4th starting at 4 p.m. until no longer needed for Independence Day activities. Councilman Schonenberg seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Schonenberg, Hernandez, and Rankin
Absent: Councilman Woodall

The motion passed.

7. Consideration and Action to Authorize the Application for a Hancher Foundation Grant by the Nesbitt Memorial Library for Scanner and Microfilm Equipment.

Susan Chandler explained that the equipment to be requested in the application would be especially useful in research done by the public in the Texas Room.

Councilman Rankin made a motion to authorize the application by the Nesbitt Memorial Library for a Hancher Foundation Grant. Councilman Schonenberg seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Schonenberg, Hernandez, and Rankin
Absent: Councilman Woodall

The motion passed.

8. Consideration and Action to Approve Authorization to Advertise for Bids for 2014 Street Seal Coating.

Donald Warschak presented a map of the area around the Junior High School which is scheduled to be seal coated in the current year. He said that the areas which will be affected by the new gas line to the industrial park will be skipped this year and added to next year's seal coat project. This year's seal coating will complete the area north of Walnut and in 2015 the City will begin seal coating on the south side. He said that the City is on a 10 year cycle to completely seal coat all of its streets.

Councilman Schonenberg made a motion to authorize management to advertise for bids for the 2014 Street Seal Coating. Councilman Hernandez seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Schonenberg, Hernandez, and Rankin
Absent: Councilman Woodall

The motion passed.

9. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, on the May 2014 Code Enforcement Report.

Code Enforcement Officer, Ford Stein, presented his May 2014 Code Enforcement Report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

No action was necessary.

10. Items from Councilmembers.²

Councilman Woodall – absent.

Councilman Schonenberg – commented that he would like to have the City and County consider enhancing their property tax abatement programs. It was suggested that a joint meeting with the Columbus Community & Industrial Development Board be posted for June 16th so that Council members could participate in their discussion of the issue.

Councilman Hernandez – no comment.

Councilman Rankin – no comment.

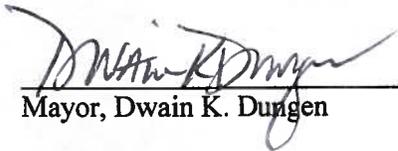
Mayor Dungen – commented that with the budget coming up, they would need to fill Councilman Axel's position soon.

11. Announcements.

There were no announcements.

12. Adjournment.

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m.



Mayor, Dwain K. Dungen

ATTEST:



Linda Lakich, 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.

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.

