

The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas, met in special joint session on Monday, June 16, 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 (absent)
Mayor Pro Tem	-	Curtiss Schonenberg
Councilman	-	Steve Woodall
Councilman	-	Eddie Hernandez
Councilman	-	Chuck Rankin
City Manager	-	Donald Warschak
City Secretary	-	Linda Lakich

Other City Staff present included:

Traci Edman	-	Assistant City Secretary
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**1. Call to Order.**

Councilman Curtiss Schonenberg called the joint meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

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

Curtiss Schonenberg led the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

Columbus City Council did not take any action on items 3 thru 9.

**3. Consent Agenda:**

- a) Approval of invoices
- b) Approval of May 2014 financial Statements.
- c) Approval of Regular meeting minutes for May 19, 2014.

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

**5. City Manager's Report: Sales Tax.**

**6. Discussion and Action, if necessary, regarding the transfer of mineral rights to the City of Columbus.**

**7. Discussion and Action, if necessary, regarding updates about the existing Crossroads Business Park Tenants: E'Kabel.**

**8. Discussion and Action, if necessary, regarding any prospective companies interested in land at the Crossroads Business Park.**

**9. Discussion and Action, if necessary, to approve the Annual Financial Report for the year ended September 30, 2013.**

**10. Discussion and Action, if necessary, regarding modifications to the City of Columbus and County of Colorado's Tax Abatement Programs.**

Curtiss Schonenberg presented a list of property tax abatements that was obtained from the State Comptroller's office. He stated that he would like to discuss increasing tax abatements with Eagle Lake, Weimar and the County. He stated that to be more attractive to businesses moving to the area, the abatement package needs to be enhanced. CCIDC Board Member, Elizabeth Flint, pointed out that since our tax rates are so low, the additional abatement should not be needed. Steve Woodall pointed out that our pool of skilled workers is also low. Chuck Rankin stated that he thinks that while Ms. Flint's point is well taken, that it is a marketing issue. He suggested looking at the possibility of adding a higher tier for larger capital investments. Steve Woodall suggested establishing a committee to look into the matter. Curtiss said that he would like to be able to tell the County that he has the support of the City of Columbus and CCIDC.

Councilman Rankin made a motion to authorize Curtiss Schonenberg to approach the County and request that they evaluate modification of their property tax abatement program. Councilman Woodall seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

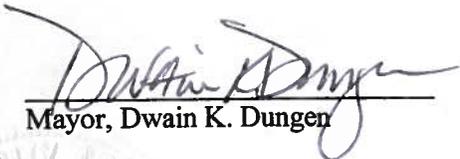
Ayes: Councilman Woodall, Schonenberg, Hernandez, and Rankin

The motion passed.

Columbus City Council did not take action on items 11 thru 14.

11. **Discussion and Action, if necessary, regarding developmental plans and goals for CCIDC.**
12. **Executive Session: In accordance with Texas Government Code, Subchapter D, Section 551.072 deliberation regarding real property and Section 551.087 deliberation regarding economic development.**
13. **Reconvene into Regular Session and consideration and action, if any, regarding Executive Session, deliberations regarding real property and economic development.**
14. **Discussion of items to be placed on future agendas and announcements.**<sup>2</sup>
15. **Adjournment.**

Curtiss Schonenberg adjourned the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

  
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Mayor, Dwain K. Dungen

ATTEST:

  
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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.