

The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas, met in regular session on Wednesday, October 8, 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
Councilwoman	-	Lori An Gobert (arrived at 6:40 p.m.)
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.

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 September 25, 2014 Regular Meeting.
- c. Approval of August 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 Woodall, Schonenberg, Hernandez, and Rankin
Absent: Councilwoman Gobert

The motion passed.

4. Citizens' Presentations and Comments.¹

The individual signed up for Citizens' Comments wished to speak during Item 6 on the Agenda.

5. City Manager's Report Including Sales Tax, Downtown Sidewalk Project and Gas System Supply.

City Manager, Donald Warschak, presented his City Manager's Report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. He reported that he had been informed that the use of LNG during the gas system supply interruption would not be able to supply the required pressures, so CNG will be used, which will be more costly.

6. Consideration and Action to Approve Street Closures of Spring, Travis, and Milam Streets for the Columbus Folk Fest Scheduled for November 7-8, 2014.

Amanda Danning with Columbus Folk Fest told Council that they would like to close Spring, Travis and Milam Streets around the Courthouse Square for Folk Fest this year. She said that the merchants on Milam had requested the closure in front of their businesses to improve their visibility. Donald Warschak stated that because Milam is a state highway (Spur 52) and the closure is for more than four hours, the City will have to follow TxDOT closure procedures. These include a traffic control plan prepared by an

engineer, an ordinance passed by Council, and signage that follows TxDOT guidelines. He stated that signage would cost from \$4,000-5,000.

Councilwoman Gobert arrived at 6:40 p.m.

There was a discussion of detour routes and whether it would be feasible to only block parking on Milam. Amanda Danning said that they would prefer to have the street blocked so that vendors can set up in the street. The Mayor also suggested that the City Manager look into possibly borrowing signs from TxDOT.

Councilman Schonenberg made a motion to approve the closure of Milam, Spring, and Travis Streets as presented by Columbus Folk Fest from 4 p.m. on Friday, November 7th thru Sunday morning, November 9th at 9 a.m. Councilman Hernandez seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Woodall, Schonenberg, Hernandez, and Rankin
Councilwoman Gobert

The motion passed.

7. **Consideration and Action to Approve Street Closure in the Memorial Oaks Subdivision for Halloween Activities on the Evening of October 31, 2014.**

Mayor Dungen said that they would like to have the streets in the subdivision closed from about 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Councilman Schonenberg made a motion to approve the closure as requested. Councilwoman Gobert seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Woodall, Schonenberg, Hernandez, and Rankin
Councilwoman Gobert

The motion passed.

8. **Consideration and Action to Award the Construction Bid for the Water Plant Aerator Grant.**

Donald Warschak reported that three bids were received for construction of the aerators at the water plants. The low bid was from LL&F Construction Management, Inc., of El Campo, for \$375,808. Since they have done satisfactory work for the City in the past, he recommended awarding the contract to them. He also reported that the bid is about \$25,000 more than anticipated, so those funds will need to come from what is left over from the Water/Gas Bond money.

Councilman Rankin made a motion to accept the bid from LL&F Construction Management, Inc. for construction of the Water Plant Aerators. Councilman Woodall seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Woodall, Schonenberg, Hernandez, and Rankin
Councilwoman Gobert

The motion passed.

9. **Consideration and Action to Approve Ordinance 168-14 Setting School Zone Schedules.**

Donald Warschak said that the school district asked for changes in the school zone times at all three schools. He said that TxDot has taken care of the changes in the school zones that are on state highways, and that Council would need to pass Ordinance 168-14 to change the times on the other city streets. He also reported that he had spoken with Mr. O'Leary at St. Anthony's School, and that the new times work with their schedule.

Councilwoman Gobert made a motion to approve Ordinance 168-14 setting school zone schedules. Councilman Rankin seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Woodall, Schonenberg, Hernandez, and Rankin
Councilwoman Gobert

The motion passed.

10. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, on the September 2014 Code Enforcement Report.

Donald Warschak presented the August 2014 Code Enforcement Report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

No action was necessary.

11. Items from Councilmembers.²

Councilman Woodall – no comment.

Councilwoman Gobert – no comment.

Councilman Schonenberg – no comment.

Councilman Hernandez – no comment.

Councilman Rankin – no comment.

12. Announcements.

It was announced that the City would host a Water Meeting on October 16th, and that Council was invited to attend. It was also announced that the H-GAC Regional Planning Meeting will be held on October 23rd.

13. Adjournment.

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:13 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.

