

The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas, met in regular session on Thursday, February 12, 2015 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
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 January 22, 2015 Regular Meeting.

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
Councilwoman Gobert

The motion passed.

4. Citizens' Presentations and Comments.¹

Reverend Daniel Poré presented a portrait, which he painted, of Mayor Dungen to the City. He expressed his thanks to the Mayor for being sensitive to the needs of the city's citizens, especially the minority community.

5. City Manager's Report Including Sales Tax, HOME Grant Project, Sewer Averaging, and AutoRead Meter Project.

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

6. Public Hearing to Allow Citizens the Opportunity to Review Performance and to Obtain Comments Regarding the Columbus 2012 Texas Capital Fund – Downtown Revitalization Program Contract No. 712202 for Sidewalk Improvements.

The Mayor opened the public hearing at 6:36 p.m. He explained that, with the completion of the sidewalk renovation downtown, public input was being sought concerning the project. Council expressed their approval of the sidewalks. Joel Usher stated that he thought that they looked good.

At 6:37 p.m. Mayor Dungen closed the Public Hearing.

7. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, on the Columbus Volunteer Fire Department Quarterly Report to Council.

Ford Stein presented the quarterly Columbus Volunteer Fire Department Report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. Concerning the SCBA equipment, he reported that the equipment currently in use is being discontinued and that the Department will need to consider its options concerning whether to replace units as they break or to replace all units at the same time. He stated that the Department will come back to Council with a report at a later time. In addition, he reported that the newly acquired ladder truck was being repainted and that the Annual Oyster Fry would be on February 22nd.

No action was necessary.

8. Consideration and Action to Adopt Resolution 142-15, a Resolution of the City of Columbus Authorizing a General (Regular) Municipal Election to be Held on May 9, 2015. Consideración y acción para adoptar la resolución 142-15, una resolución de la ciudad de Columbus que autoriza un elección municipal (regular) general para ser sostenido el 9 de mayo de 2015.

The City Secretary explained that Council Places 1 and 2 and the Mayor were up for election and that the filing period for candidates would end on February 27, 2015.

Councilman Schonenberg made a motion to adopt Resolution 142-15, a Resolution of the City of Columbus authorizing a general municipal election to be held on May 9, 2015. Councilman Rankin 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 Resolution 143-15, a Resolution Approving a Municipal Maintenance Agreement between the City of Columbus and the State of Texas for the Maintenance, Control, Supervision and Regulation of Certain State Highways within the City.

The Mayor explained that this resolution formalized the approval of the agreement presented at the last meeting.

Councilman Woodall made a motion to approve Resolution 143-15 approving a municipal maintenance agreement between the City and the State for the maintenance, control, supervision and regulation of state highways within the City. 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 to Approve a Manufactured Home Permit at 1808 Highway 71 as requested by Victor Galvan.

After clarification could not be given on the location of the property, the Mayor stated that the item would be tabled until additional information was available.

11. Consideration and Action to Submit a Proposed Replat of a 0.1910 Acre Tract Situated in the Original Lot 1 and Original Lot 2 of Block 37 of the City of Columbus, into two(2) lots (0.0538 and 0.1372 Acres) as Requested by Julius and Rita Ruffeno.

The City Manager explained that the current property line is right at the edge of the property next door and that the Ruffenos wish to replat and sell a strip of land to the neighbor. He stated that the remaining property would still meet the minimum lot size requirements.

Councilman Rankin made a motion to submit the proposed replat of the property in Block 37 to the Planning and Zoning Commission as requested by Julius and Rita Ruffeno. Councilman Schonenberg seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

12. Consideration and Action to Adopt Resolution 144-15, a Resolution Authorizing the Submission of a Texas Criminal Justice Division Grant Application for Digital Evidence Collection Equipment for the Police Department.

Chief Lattimore explained that the grant application is for Police cameras and that there is no match required by the City.

Councilman Woodall made a motion to adopt Resolution 144-15 authorizing the submission of a Texas Criminal Justice Division Grant Application for digital evidence collection equipment for the Police Department. Councilman Hernandez seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

13. Consideration and Action to Appoint Michael Poncik as the City's Rabies Control Officer.

Donald Warschak explained that, with Butch Schmidt's retirement, this was a position that needed to be filled.

Councilman Schonenberg made a motion to appoint Michael Poncik as the City's Rabies Control Officer. Councilwoman Gobert seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

14. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, on the January 2015 Code Enforcement Report.

Code Enforcement Officer, Ford Stein, presented his January 2015 Code Enforcement Report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

No action was necessary.

15. Executive Session: In Accordance with Texas Government Code, Subchapter D, Section 551.072 – Deliberations about Real Property.

Mayor Dungen Closed the Regular Session at 6:55 p.m. to enter into Executive Session.

16. Reconvene into Regular Session and Consideration and Action, if Any, Regarding Executive Session – Deliberations about Real Property.

Mayor Dungen reconvened the regular session at 7:08 p.m., with all parties present before the Executive Session still present. No action was necessary.

17. Items from Councilmembers.²

Councilman Woodall – no comment.

Councilwoman Gobert – commented that Council had received a letter of thanks from EMS Director Patty Nelson expressing her appreciation for the Police Department's assistance and willingness to be a part of the team.

Councilman Schonenberg – no comment.

Councilman Hernandez – no comment.

Councilman Rankin – no comment.

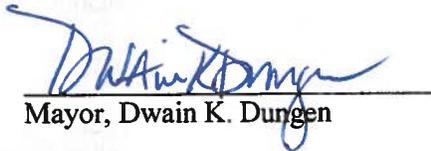
Mayor Dungen – congratulated the Police Department on a job well done.

18. Announcements.

The City Secretary again announced that the filing deadline for Council Positions 1 and 2 and for Mayor was Friday, February 27th at 5:00 p.m.

19. Adjournment.

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:10 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.