

The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas met in special session on Thursday, September 03, 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	-	Woody Moore
Councilwoman	-	Lori An Gobert
Councilman	-	Eddie Hernandez
Councilman	-	Chuck Rankin (absent)
City Manager	-	Donald Warschak
City Secretary	-	Bana Schneider

Other City Staff present included:

Police Chief	-	Bill Lattimore
Library Director	-	Susan Chandler

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 Minutes of August 27, 2015 Regular Meeting.

Councilwoman Gobert made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Councilman Hernandez seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Moore, Schonenberg, and Hernandez, Councilwoman Gobert  
Absent: Councilman Rankin

The motion passed

4. **Citizens' Presentations and Comments.'**

There were no comments.

5. **Discussion and Action to set a Special Meeting for September 17, 2015 to Award the Gas Line Grant Project.**

The City Manager remarked that bids for the project were due on the 15<sup>th</sup> of September and a meeting needed to be set in order to award the project.

Councilwoman Gobert asked why a special meeting needed to be called and why it could not be done at the regular council meeting scheduled for September 24<sup>th</sup>?

The City Manager replied that per the grant the bid had to be awarded by September 19<sup>th</sup>

Councilman Schonenberg made a motion to schedule a special meeting for September 17<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 pm in Council Chambers. Councilman Hernandez seconded the motion.  
The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Moore, Schonenberg, and Hernandez, Councilwoman Gobert  
Absent: Councilman Rankin

The motion passed

**6. Public Hearing on the Property Tax Rate for Tax Year 2015 and Fiscal Year 2016.**

The Mayor opened the public hearing at 6:33 p.m.

The Mayor stated that the tax rate was the same rate of .27312, but with the higher property valuations it would increase the tax revenue by 4.5%.

The public hearing was closed at 6:35 p.m.

**7. Public Hearing on the Proposed 2015-2016 City of Columbus Operating Budget.**

The public hearing was opened by the Mayor at 6:35 p.m.

There were no comments.

The public hearing was closed at 6:35.30 p.m.

**8. Consideration and Action to Approve Ordinance No. 173-15, an Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 166-14 to adopt a Budget for the Ensuing Fiscal Year Beginning October 1, 2015 and Ending September 30, 2016.**

Councilwoman Gobert made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 173-15 to adopt a Budget for the ensuing fiscal year beginning October 1, 2015 and ending September 30, 2016. Councilman Schonenberg seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilman Moore, Schonenberg, and Hernandez, Councilwoman Gobert  
Absent: Councilman Rankin

The motion passed

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

Councilman Moore – None.

Councilwoman Gobert – Asked about how the smoke testing was going and if there had been a lot of calls about visible smoke. Chief said they had not received any calls. The City Manager stated that there was some visible smoke coming from the vent pipes at a few homes and some leakage on manholes.

Councilman Schonenberg – None.

Councilman Hernandez – None.

Councilman Rankin – Absent.

Mayor Dungen – None.

**10. Announcements.**

The Mayor reminded council of the regular meeting scheduled for next Thursday and that at least 4 council members must be in attendance.

**11. Adjournment.**

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 6:37 p.m.

  
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Mayor, Dwain K. Dungen

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bana Schneider, 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.

<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.