

The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas, met in regular session on Thursday, March 13, 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
Councilman	-	John Axel (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 explained that Councilman Axel was absent due to illness.

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 February 27, 2014 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
Absent: Councilman Axel

The motion passed.

4. Citizens' Presentations and Comments.¹

Chad Henneke from 1321 Milam told Council that he has had a problem with dirty water for some time and that nothing has been done by the City to correct the situation. He said that it looks like rust and that it settles out of the water over time. He asked that something be done about it.

5. City Manager's Report Including Sales Tax, Nesbitt Memorial Library, and Warrant Roundup.

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

6. Consideration and Action to Approve a Proclamation Declaring March 23 through March 29, 2014 as Boys and Girls Club Week in Columbus

Joel Usher invited Council to visit the club during the week to see what they are doing. He said that they would have an open house on March 24th.

Councilman Woodall made a motion to approve the proclamation declaring March 23 through March 29 as Boys and Girls Club Week in Columbus. Councilman Rankin seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

7. Certification of Unopposed Candidates in the Regular Municipal Election.

City Secretary, Linda Lakich, certified that the candidates for Council in Places 3, 4, and 5 were unopposed.

8. Consideration and Action to Adopt Ordinance 163-14, an Ordinance of the City of Columbus, Texas, Declaring the Unopposed Candidates for the Offices of City Councilmember Place Three, City Councilmember Place Four, and City Councilmember Place Five as Elected.

Councilman Woodall made a motion to adopt Ordinance 163-14 to declare the unopposed candidates as elected for Councilmember places 3, 4, and 5 as presented. Councilman Schonenberg seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

9. Consideration and Action on the Mayor's Appointment of Two Members to the Employee Grievance Committee for a Term of Two Years.

Mayor Dungen explained that the current members of the Employee Grievance Committee were Councilman Tesch and Councilman Axel who are not able to serve on the committee. He nominated Eddie Hernandez and Steve Woodall to serve on the committee for a two year term. The mayor asked for a vote on the nominations. The vote was as follows:

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

The nominations were approved.

10. Consideration and Action to Authorize the Mayor to Sign a City Company Agreement with KW International Regarding the Texas Capital Fund Project.

The mayor explained that this would authorize him to sign the agreement between KW International and the City on behalf of the City.

Councilman Schonenberg made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the City Company Agreement with KW International regarding the Texas Capital Fund Project. Councilman Woodall seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

11. Consideration and Action to Approve a Budget Amendment for Library Grant Revenues and Books, Supplies, and Audio Visual Expenditures.

The Mayor explained that the library had received \$6,457 in grant revenues and that this would amend the budget so that they can spend it.

Councilman Rankin made a motion to approve the Library budget amendment as presented. Councilman Hernandez seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

12. Consideration and Action to Approve a Proclamation Declaring April as Fair Housing Month.

Councilman Woodall made a motion to approve the proclamation declaring April as Fair Housing Month. Councilman Schonenberg seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

13. Executive Session: In Accordance with Texas Government Code, subchapter D, Section 551.072 – Deliberations about Real Property – Easements.

Mayor Dungen closed the Regular Session at 6:44 p.m. to adjourn into executive session.

Mayor Dungen reconvened the Regular Session at 7:02 p.m. with the same councilmembers present as before.

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

Mayor Dungen explained that management had been instructed to continue negotiations concerning easements.

No action was necessary.

15. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, February 2014 Code Enforcement Report.

Code Enforcement Officer, Ford Stein, presented his February 2014 Code Enforcement Report, a copy of which is attached.

No action was necessary.

16. Items from Councilmembers.²

Councilman Woodall – no comment.

Councilman Schonenberg – Gave an update on TCEQ action regarding lake thresholds.

Councilman Hernandez – no comment.

Councilman Rankin – said that he would like to hear more regarding groundwater issues. He stated that he would also like an update on CCIDC activity.

17. Announcements.

There were no announcements.

18. Adjournment.

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:07 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.