

The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas met in special session on Thursday, August 4, 2016 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	-	Lori An Gobert
Councilman		Gary Swindle
Councilman	-	Eddie Hernandez (Absent)
Councilman	-	Chuck Rankin
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. **Citizens' Presentations and Comments.<sup>1</sup>**

There were no comments.

4. **Discussion of Budget Workshop.**

Bana Schneider stated Council would have to set the property tax rate at the next meeting in order to comply with all of the notice requirements. Council discussed a possible increase to the current tax rate.

Discussion ensued regarding water rates and the need to raise them in order to meet debt service requirements if certificates of obligations are issued for water system improvements.

Additional capital improvements, infrastructure maintenance requirements, departmental wish list items, and payroll increases were also discussed.

Susan Chandler spoke about changing library hours of operation in order to streamline staffing requirements.

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

Councilwoman Gobert – None.

Councilman Swindle – None.

Councilman Hernandez – Absent.

Councilman Rankin – None.

Mayor Dungen – None.

7. **Announcements.**

The City Manager stated there will be a large trail ride at the fairgrounds this weekend. They are expecting around 2,000 people. He also mentioned the bridge closures announced by TxDOT.

Monday and Tuesday the East River Bridge will be closed and Wednesday and Thursday one lane of the North Bridge will be closed. The closures are for inspections.

**8. Adjournment.**

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:57 p.m.



Handwritten signature of Dwain Dungen in blue ink, written over a horizontal line.

Mayor, Dwain Dungen

ATTEST:



Handwritten signature of Bana Schneider in blue ink, written over a horizontal line.

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.