



The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas met in special session on Friday, August 26, 2022, at 12:00 PM, in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 605 Spring St., Columbus, Texas, with the following present:

Mayor – Lori An Gobert  
Mayor Pro Tem – Chuck Rankin (Absent)  
Councilman – Keith Cummings  
Councilman – Ronny Daley  
Councilwoman – Paige Sciba  
Councilman – Michael Ridlen  
City Manager – Donald Warschak  
City Secretary – Bana Schneider  
Assistant City Secretary – Dinah Jacobs

Other City Staff present included:

Police Chief – Skip Edman  
Code Enforcement – Richard LaCourse

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor, Lori An Gobert, called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation**

Gobert led the pledge and invocation.

**3. Citizens' Presentations and Comments<sup>1</sup>**

Daniel Pore, wearing his "pastoral hat", addressed Council regarding families that had contacted him about the flooding along the Hwy 71 corridor after the recent rains. He is concerned because we have not even entered hurricane season. He stated something needed to be proactively done regarding the maintenance of drainage areas.

Warschak stated the drainage issue area on Hwy 71 is TxDOT responsibility. He stated he would be getting with TxDOT to see what can be done to improve it.

Pore stated this keeps happening with every seasonal rain. The families cannot keep up financially, and something needs to be done now.

Gobert stated TxDOT has HWY 71 in their plans, and all things must go through them. We are also working on a drainage study and are adding areas each year when we can afford to.

Warschak stated the field personnel are currently cleaning out the culverts.

**4. Consideration and Action Regarding the 2022 Tax Rate Notification and Public Hearing. [TAX RATE NOTIFICATION.pdf](#) **

City Secretary, Bana Schneider, stated the information is on page 3 of their packets. Public hearing is scheduled for September 21, 2022 and pass on the following Monday at the regular meeting.

Motion to vote for the .292273 tax rate and present it at a public hearing on September 21, 2022.

*Moved by:* Paige Sciba

*Seconded by:* Michael Ridlen

**Aye**                    Michael Ridlen, Paige Sciba, Keith Cummings, and  
Ronny Daley

**Carried 4-0**

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

Cummings - none

Daley - none

Sciba - none

Ridlen - stated he drove around the other afternoon after the heavy rain; it would have been impossible to know which area will be affected the most, but there are things we can proactively be done; stated Rampart / Houston area needs to be looked at; next day the water was gone, but needs to be looked at; nothing could handle that much rain that fast

Rankin - absent

Gobert - South side of town had issues; as well; there was just too much rain too fast

**6. Announcements**

Warschak - none

Schneider - public hearing on the budget and adopt it on September 12

**7. Adjournment**

Gobert adjourned the meeting at 12:24 p.m.



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**Lori An Gobert, Mayor**

**Attest:**



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**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.