

The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas met in regular session on Monday, January 13, 2025, at 5:30 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

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 Library Director – Susan Chandler

1. Call to Order

Mayor Lori An Gobert called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

Gobert led the pledge and invocation.

3. Consent Agenda:

Motion to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Moved by: Ronny Daley

Seconded by: Keith Cummings

Aye Michael Ridlen, Paige Sciba, Chuck Rankin, Keith

Cummings, and Ronny Daley

Carried 5-0

- 3.1 Approval of Invoices 20250113.pdf @
- 3.2 Approval of Minutes of the December 23, 2024 Regular Meeting 20241223 MINUTES.pdf ∅

4. Consideration and Action to Approve Invoices from Columbus Tire Center (Sciba Corporation). COLUMBUS TIRE 20250113.pdf Ø

Motion to approve the Columbus Tire invoices as presented.

Moved by: Michael Ridlen Seconded by: Chuck Rankin

Aye

Michael Ridlen, Chuck Rankin, Keith Cummings, and

Ronny Daley

Abstain

Paige Sciba

Carried 4-0

5. Citizens' Presentations and Comments¹

Bill Durbin addressed Council regarding his support for the ESD he spoke about several meetings ago. He informed Council about a friend, Penny Miekow, who recently passed in a house fire. He reiterated his passion regarding the support of First Responders and that we need to do all we can to support the ESD endeavor and encourage others as well.

6. City Manager's Report Including Sales Tax, TxDOT Projects Updates, City Projects Updates, TextMyGov, and Sewer Averaging. CM REPORT 20250110.pdf ∅

City Manager, Donald Warschak, gave his report. A copy is attached to these minutes.

Gobert asked if we could reach out and see if TxDOT's contractor could push back their start time on the bridge project, maybe 8:00 am, versus the 7:00 am. They have been removing rivet, and, the volume of noise that carries down the river is pretty substantial.

Rankin asked if there was anything in the contract to remediate the lawns affected by the waterline project. Warschak stated there was not but we could look at doing something in the spring.

Warschak stated the Texas Parks and Wildlife Grant Application was recommended for award, which will include a splash-pad at Midtown Park.

7. Consideration and Action to Approve a Joint Election Contract with the Colorado County Elections Administrator for the May 3, 2025 General Election. <u>JOINT</u>

ELECTION CONTRACT 2025.pdf @

Motion to approve the Joint Election Contract as presented.

Moved by: Paige Sciba

Seconded by: Keith Cummings

Aye

Michael Ridlen, Paige Sciba, Chuck Rankin, Keith

Cummings, and Ronny Daley

Carried 5-0

8. Consideration and Action to Approve Resolution 291-25, a Resolution Authorizing the Designated Representative of the City to Execute an Agreement with the Texas

Water Development Board for Funding in the Amount of \$3,225,854. <u>RESOLUTION</u> 291-25 AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE.pdf ∅

Motion to approve Resolution 291-25.

Moved by: Keith Cummings Seconded by: Michael Ridlen

Aye

Michael Ridlen, Paige Sciba, Chuck Rankin, Keith

Cummings, and Ronny Daley

Carried 5-0

9. Consideration and Action to Approve the Appointment of One (1) Member to the Nesbitt Memorial Library Advisory Board for a Term Ending April 1, 2028.

Appointee Kristi Samilpa was introduced to Council by Library Director, Susan Chandler. Samilpa spoke about her background and eagerness to get involved in the Columbus community.

Motion to approve Kristi Samilpa to the Library Board.

Moved by: Paige Sciba

Seconded by: Michael Ridlen

Ave

Michael Ridlen, Paige Sciba, Chuck Rankin, Keith

Cummings, and Ronny Daley

Carried 5-0

10. Consideration and Action to Approve the Reappointment of Two (2) Members to the Planning & Zoning Commission for Terms Ending December 2027.

Motion to approve the reappointment of Tracy Lilie and Brenda Wilson to P&Z.

Moved by: Keith Cummings Seconded by: Chuck Rankin

Aye

Michael Ridlen, Paige Sciba, Chuck Rankin, Keith

Cummings, and Ronny Daley

Carried 5-0

11. Consideration and Action to Approve the Partial Closure of Milam Street (Spur 52) from Myra Jane Drive to the Courthouse Square on Saturday January 18, 2025

Starting at 2:00 P.M. for the Annual March for Life. MARCH FOR LIFE.pdf @

Motion to approve the street closure as presented.

Moved by: Michael Ridlen Seconded by: Chuck Rankin

Michael Ridlen, Paige Sciba, Chuck Rankin, Keith Cummings, and Ronny Daley

Carried 5-0

12. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the December 2024 Golf Report.

GOLF DECEMBER 2024.pdf @

City Secretary, Bana Schneider, reviewed the golf report with Council.

The new board is really trying to make improvements and are spending a little more than they are currently taking in. They have posted for a groundskeeper as well.

No action was needed.

13. Items from Councilmembers²

Cummings - none

Daley - none

Sciba - none

Ridlen - Echoed the sentiments of Durbin regarding Penny Miekow. She was a wonderful person and will be missed by the community.

Rankin - he agreed as well with Ridlen and Durbin about Ms. Miekow.

Gobert - Texas Parks & Wildlife Board meeting is next Tuesday; she will be going to Austin to give thanks as this is a game changer for Midtown Park. Also, finally happy to be at contract with the WWTP project.

14. Announcements

Schneider advised Council of the retirement party for Library Director, Susan Chandler, on January 31st.

15. Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

Lori An Gobert, Mayor

Attest:

Bana Schneider, 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.

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.