



The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas met in regular session on Monday, June 23, 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 (Absent)  
Assistant City Secretary – Dinah Jacobs

Other City Staff present included:

Police Chief – Skip Edman  
Code Enforcement – Richard LaCourse  
Library Director – Lynnette Weido

**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 [20250623.pdf](#)

3.2 Approval of Minutes of the June 9, 2025 Regular Meeting  
[MINUTES 20250609.pdf](#)

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

There were none.

Gobert read a letter from citizen - Ken Braden.

Warschak responded that he and Code Enforcement Officer, Richard LaCourse, met with the developer the next day. The developer is in agreement to an easement, and it is being worked on at this time.

5. **City Manager's Report Including Sales Tax, TxDOT Projects Updates, City Projects Updates, and the Rise Broadband Fiber Project. [CM REPORT 20250623.pdf](#)**

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

Gobert asked is there would be any strain on the water system with the storage tank out of service. Warschak replied it is the smaller of the two (200,000 gallons) and did not think there would be any issues.

Warschak also discussed the details of the gas leak last Friday on Shult Drive. A contractor bored through the gas line that had been marked.

6. **Consideration and Action to Approve the Bid for the 2025 Gas Improvement Project.**

[2025 GAS SYSTEM IMP.pdf](#)

Warschak discussed the details of the bids.

Warschak recommended B&D Services for this project.

Motion to award the bid to B&D Services for this project.

*Moved by:* Michael Ridlen

*Seconded by:* Chuck Rankin

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

**Carried 5-0**

7. **Consideration and Action to Approve the Bid for the 2025 Street Improvement Project.**

[2025 STREET IMP.pdf](#)

Warschak discussed the details of the bids.

Warschak recommended H&C Construction.

Rankin commented that we need to stay on them about cleanup.

Motion to award the bid to H&C Construction for this project.

*Moved by:* Paige Sciba

*Seconded by:* Keith Cummings

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

Cummings - none

Daley - none

Sciba - none

Ridlen - commented/inquired on the letter that was sent from Ken Braden; what is our obligation? Warschak stated really no obligation; Sciba stated she felt by him building a fence, it was indicating that property owner should do nothing beyond the fence; Ridlen felt if we do something now, there will be the expectation for the City to maintain; he felt this is landowners amongst themselves to solve and maintain. Sciba stated it is a private property owner's problem. Per Code Enforcement it is not a violation and cannot be seen from the road. Gobert asked Warschak to reach out to him and inform him this is not a City issue. We do not get into property owner discussions.

Commended the Chamber for a great Economic Development event today at Hound Song.

Rankin - Glad he was not a B2 bomber.

Gobert - Commend all who handled the gas leak. Things went amazingly well.

**13. Announcements**

There were none.

**14. Adjournment**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:16 p.m.



**Lori An Gobert, Mayor**

**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.

Aye

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

Carried 5-0

8. **First Reading and Approval of Resolution 303-25, a Resolution Approving Expenditures of 4B Revenues over \$10,000 of City Created Economic Development Corporations with Less than 20,000 Residents for Funding of a Community Development Grant to Columbus Municipal Golf Association for Concrete Golf Cart Paths. [RESOLUTION 303-25 CCIDC-CMGA.pdf](#)**

Gobert gave the first reading of Resolution 303-25.

9. **First Reading and Approval of Resolution 304-25, a Resolution Approving Expenditures of 4B Revenues over \$10,000 of City Created Economic Development Corporations with Less than 20,000 Residents for Funding of an Economic Development Grant to Potter's Western Store for a Mural Sign. [RESOLUTION 304-25 CCIDC POTTERS.pdf](#)**

Gobert gave the first reading of Resolution 304-25.

10. **Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the May 2025 Code Enforcement Report. [CODE ENFORCEMENT MAY 2025.pdf](#)**

Code Enforcement Officer, Richard LaCourse, gave his report. A copy is attached to these minutes.

All food trucks have been permitted/licensed.

LaCourse discussed the substandard list with Council. All are visible from the right of way.

Gas leak was a good test of the Office of Emergency Management. FD, PD, City, EMS, OEM were all present. The right decisions were made to shut the gas off to make the repair. There were lots of discussions on what could be done and what was done.

Gobert stated the use of the notification system worked well. She encouraged citizens to sign up to stay abreast of things happening.

Ridlen questioned the comment if we shut gas off or leave on for repairs. Who made the decision? LaCourse stated the City Manager, himself and the Utility Supervisor, Kevin Faichtinger. The entire south side of town was going to lose pressure and then there would be no gas.

No action was needed.

11. **Consideration and Action, if Necessary Regarding the May 2025 Police Report. [CPD MAY 2025.pdf](#)**

Police Chief, Skip Edman, gave his report. A copy is attached to these minutes.

Edman stated two new officers were on-boarded making them fully staffed. There has been a lot of training and 2 mental health transports.

Gobert asked if we had reached out to the Mental Health Deputy. Edman stated yes, and they has been very effective.

No action was needed.