



The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas met in regular session on Monday, January 12, 2026, 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 (Arrived 5:31 p.m.)
City Manager – Donald Warschak
City Secretary – Bana Schneider
Assistant City Secretary – Dinah Jacobs (Absent)

Other City Staff present included:

Police Chief – Skip Edman
Code Enforcement – Richard LaCourse
Elections Advisory Board – Cody Nance

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 consent agenda as presented.

Moved by: Ronny Daley

Seconded by: Keith Cummings

Aye Paige Sciba, Chuck Rankin, Keith Cummings, and Ronny Daley

Abstain Lori An Gobert

Carried 4-0

3.1 Approval of Invoices

[20251222_MINUTES.pdf](#) 

4. Consideration and Action to Approve Invoices for Columbus Tire Center (Sciba Corporation).

[20260112_COLUMBUS TIRE.pdf](#) 

Councilman Michael Ridlen arrived at 5:01 p.m.

Motion to approve invoices for Columbus Tire Center as presented.

Moved by: Keith Cummings

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

Chris Christensen addressed Council regarding water intrusion and the impact on drainage if a subdivision is allowed on the 14 acres being considered for annexation. He stated the Texas Water Code included specifics for managing run-off and the developer would need a permit. He also stated inspections would be needed and any city development should require drainage plans.

Other citizens spoke during specific agenda items.

6. City Manager's Report

City Manager, Donald Warschak, gave the report a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

Warschak ceded the floor to Gerri Conrado from Langford Community Management for an update on the city's RCP grant project. Conrado stated the planning grant was at the stage for community input, and they are expecting a November completion date.

7. Public Hearing Regarding the Report and Recommendation from the Planning & Zoning Commission for Amendments to Chapters 10 and 14 of the City's Code of Ordinances.

[P&Z_REPORT.RECOMMENDATION.pdf](#) 

Gobert opened the meeting at 5:48 p.m.

With no public comments, the public hearing was closed at 5:49 p.m.

8. Consideration and Action to Approve Ordinance 294-26, and Ordinance Amending Chapter 14 Zoning, Article 14.02 Zoning Ordinance, Division 3 District Regulations of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbus. [ORD 294-26_PUD_CH 14.pdf](#) 

Motion to approve Ordinance 294-26 amending Chapter 14, Zoning, as presented.

Moved by: Paige Sciba

Seconded by: Michael Ridlen

Aye

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

Carried 5-0

9. Public Hearing on Proposed Annexation of a 14.166 Acre Tract of land situated in the Elizabeth Tumlinson Survey, Abstract Number

44, Colorado County, Texas. [ANNEXATION-NOTICE OF 1st PUBLIC HEARING--01-12-2026.pdf](#) 

Gobert opened the public hearing at 5:53 p.m.

North Oak Street resident, Paula Frnka, voiced concerns she and her neighbors have regarding the property subject to annexation. The residents of the neighborhood have concerns regarding drainage and the effect this development will have on the neighborhood.

Civil engineer for Quiddity, Darren McAfee, stated currently there are plans for a 27 lot subdivision on the 14 acres. They are doing a drainage study and are applying for a permit with the Army Corp of Engineers for river drainage and run-off. The plans have not been finalized and will be contingent upon permits received.

Debbie Damon stated this area was completely underwater during Hurricane Harvey and had been contacted by many people regarding their concerns about development.

Christensen asked if FEMA permitting was required.

The public hearing was closed at 6:01 p.m.

10. Consideration and Action to Approve Resolution 313-26, a Resolution Setting the Date, Time and Place for Public Hearings on the Proposed Annexation of Certain Property Owned by the City of

Columbus, Texas. [RES 313-26 ANNEXATION-CITY PROPERTY.pdf](#) 

Motion to approve Resolution 313-26 as presented.

Moved by: Michael Ridlen

Seconded by: Chuck Rankin

Aye

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

Abstain

Lori An Gobert

Carried 5-0

11. Consideration and Action to Approve Change Order #1 for the Construction Contract with Bull G Construction for the Community Development Block Grant Water Line Project CDV23-0407.

Warschak stated this was merely a time extension. The contractor did not want to start before the during the holidays.

Motion to approve change order #1 for CDBG grant CDV23-0407 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

12. Consideration and Action to Approve Amendment #1 for the Professional Services Contract with InFocus Title for the Community Development Block Grant - Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) Method of Distribution (MOD) Program Contract Number 24-065-060-E570.

Warschak stated this amendment was needed in order to include the easement required for the new wastewater treatment plant.

Motion to approve contract amendment #1 for InFocus Title.

Moved by: Paige Sciba

Seconded by: Chuck Rankin

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

Carried 5-0

13. Consideration and Action Regarding a Noise Variance Request for a Mardi Gras Themed Country & Western and Zydeco Concert and Rodeo to be Held at the Colorado County Fairgrounds on Friday, February 13, 2026 from 5:00 P.M. to 12:30 A.M. as Requested by Micheal Paul of Magnificent Seven.

Motion to approve the noise variance as requested.

Moved by: Ronny Daley

Seconded by: Chuck Rankin

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

Carried 5-0

14. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the Election Advisory Board Update.

Cody Nance stated the board has made the recommendation to commissioner's court to go to county-wide voting for all elections.

No action was required.

15. Consideration and Action to Approve a Joint Election Contract with the Colorado County Elections Administrator for the May 2, 2026 General Election. [JOINT ELECTION CONTRACT.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

16. Consideration and Action to the Approve a Partial Closure of Milam Street (Spur 52) from Myra Jane Drive to the Courthouse Square on Saturday, January 17, 2026 Starting at 2:00 P.M. for the Annual March for Life.

Motion to approve street closure 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

17. **Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the December 2025 Golf Report.** [CMGA DEC 2025.pdf](#) 

CMGA Board Treasurer, Larry Zajicek, gave the report to council. He highlighted improvements being made at the course

No action was required.

18. **Consideration and Action to Accept the Resignation of Michael Ridlen, City Council Place 4.**

Mayor Gobert thanked Councilman Ridlen for all his years of service on Council and that he would be missed. Ridlen stated it had been an honor to serve on City Council.

19. **Consideration and Action to Approve the Mayor's Appointment of Renee Long to City Council Place 4 for an Unexpired Term Ending on May 11, 2026.**

Motion to approve the Mayor's appointment of Renee Long to Council Place 4.

Moved by: Paige Sciba

Seconded by: Ronny Daley

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

Carried 5-0

20. **Oath of Office for Newly Appointed City Council Place 4.**

Gobert administered the oath of office to Long.

21. **Items from Councilmembers²**

Cummings - None

Daley - None

Sciba - None

Long - She is honored to serve on Council.

Rankin - Welcome to Renee, and Mike will be missed

Gobert - Thanked Ridlen again and thanked Long for agreeing to serve

22. **Announcements**

Warschak - thanked Mike for his service

City Secretary, Bana Schneider, stated January 14th will be the first day to apply for a place on the May 2nd general election ballot.

23. Adjournment

Gobert adjourned the meeting at 6:25 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.