

The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas met in regular session on Thursday, July 8, 2021, at 5:30 p.m., 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
Councilman	-	Gary Swindle
Councilwoman	-	Sandra Frnka
City Manager	-	Donald Warschak
City Secretary	-	Bana Schneider
Asst City Secretary	-	Dinah Jacobs

Other City Staff present included:

Code Enforcement	-	Richard LaCourse
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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 of Allegiance and Invocation.

3. Consent Agenda:

- a. Approval of Invoices
- b. Approval of Minutes of the June 28, 2021 Regular Meeting

Councilman Swindle made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilwoman Frnka seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilmen Swindle, Rankin, Cummings, Daley, and Councilwoman Frnka

The motion passed.

4. Citizens' Presentations and Comments. ¹

None

5. Discussion of Budget Workshop – General and Utility Funds.

The property tax rate was discussed. After discussion, a roll call was done to determine the rate to use.

Cummings - .290

Daley - .295

Swindle - .290

Frnka - .290

Rankin - .285

Average - .290

City Secretary, Bana Schneider, will go back and revise budget numbers based on this tax rate.

Library Director, Susan Chandler presented several of her wish list items, including a new copier, new carpet, and interior painting. Quotes for carpet came back from Lincke Floors in LaGrange at \$59,000, and Five Oaks in Columbus at \$55,000.

Gobert requested to have HOT funds reflected with the negative carryover.

Cummings asked if it was required to give City employees a raise.

Rankin thought there were other areas to cut in the budget instead of employee raises.

Gobert stated it should be a true merit raise if given, and not a flat amount just given to each employee across the board.

6. Items from Council members.²

Councilman Cummings – none

Councilman Swindle – none

Councilwoman Frnka – none

Councilman Rankin – none

Mayor Gobert - none

7. Announcements.

The regular scheduled Council meeting will be Monday, July 12th.

8. Adjournment.

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 6:34 p.m.



Mayor Lori An Gobert

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 council members 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.