

The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas met in regular session on Monday, October 12, 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:

Police Chief	-	Skip Edman
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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 September 27, 2021 Regular Meeting

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

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

4. Citizens' Presentations and Comments. ¹

Debbie Damon addressed Council giving information on the League of Women's Voters, her local merchant support recommendations, and the Endeavors Program in Eagle Lake. A copy of her presentation is attached to these minutes.

5. City Manager's Report Including Sales Tax, the Water Filtration System, the Hill Water Plant Ground Storage, the Transportation Alternatives Sidewalk Application, the CodeRED System, and Water System Flushing.

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

Regarding sales tax, Warschak reported sales tax was up approximately \$12,000 this year, compared to the same time period last year. This month's payment was \$133,099 compared to \$121,110. The County, City of Weimar, and the City of Eagle Lake all saw increases as well. Rankin asked if there were any big items included in this payment, to which City Secretary, Bana Schneider, replied no.

Regarding the water filtration system, Warschak reported the Spring and Tait water plant filters are operating satisfactorily. The Hill water plant is out of service. The filter media in the vessel is being replaced. The original media installation was not done as it should have been. Universal Tank suggested pulling it all out and reinstalling the media.

Regarding the Hill Water Plant Ground Storage, Warschak stated there are two tanks at that location. One of those tanks is leaking. It was drained to determine the issues. After inspection, pin holes were found in the

floor of the tank. We are in the process of getting proposals for the repair. The other tank was patched approximately 30 years ago.

Regarding the Transportation Alternatives Sidewalk Application, Warschak stated the application has been submitted and is currently in a competitive evaluation phase with a targeted award date this month. TxDOT will advertise for bids for the MLK Sidewalk Project in October.

Regarding the CodeRED system, Warschak stated a link has been added to the city website for citizens to register for this notification system. This system allows users to receive emergency alerts and other important notifications.

Regarding water system flushing, Warschak stated with the filter down, flushing is being postponed. Gobert asked if there had been any complaints. Warschak and Schneider both stated they had not received any calls. Warschak stated the field crews indicated it seemed the water was clearing quicker than when they previously flushed.

6. Consideration and Action to Approve the Closure of Spring Street from the Corner of Milam Street to the End of the Stafford Opera House on Thursday, December 2, 2021 for Ladies Night Out as Requested by the Chamber of Commerce.

Councilman Daley made a motion to approve the street closure. Councilman Rankin seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

7. Consideration and Action to Approve the Closure of Wallace Street Between Bowie Street and Live Oak Street from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 12, 2021 for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parade and Celebration as Requested by Grupo Guadalupano.

Police Chief, Skip Edman, stated this will be the first event with the new procedures using barricades.

Councilman Cummings made a motion to approve the street closure. Councilman Daley seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

8. Consideration and Action to Approve Resolution 236-21, a Resolution Designating the Representative and Alternate to the Houston-Galveston Area Council for the Year 2022.

Councilwoman Frnka made a motion to nominate Gobert as the representative and Rankin as the alternate to the HGAC. Councilman Cummings seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

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

The motion passed.

9. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the September Golf Association Report.

Jim Stein gave the report. He stated they are changing their fiscal year to match the City's fiscal year. He stated preliminary numbers indicate they are up in all areas. He stated their membership increased from 67 when he started, to 89 as of today, indicating a 35% increase. He stated their LCRA grant had been denied. They never made it out of the first round. They will be looking to CCIDC next. Cummings asked if they have ever had, or will have an all ladies tournament. Stein replied it is hard to get enough entries for that type of tournament. Tournaments are costly to put on, so they have not had an all ladies tournament yet. Stein indicated they are now tracking all rounds played. He stated a majority of the revenue should come from the people that use the course. They are also looking for hole sponsors.

No action was needed.

10. Items from Council members.²

Councilman Cummings – none

Councilman Swindle – none

Councilwoman Frnka – none

Councilman Rankin – he hoped everyone enjoyed their Columbus Day holiday

Councilman Daley - none

Mayor Gobert – Gobert stated she and Warschak had attended the TML conference. She stated it was not as helpful as two years ago. She stated she had been on the phone regarding mitigation funds and the offices of Kolkhorst, McCaul, and Leman have been very helpful.

21. Announcements.

There were none.

15. Adjournment.

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 5:51 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.