



The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas met in regular session on Monday, April 25, 2022, 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
Councilman – Gary Swindle
Councilwoman – Sandra Frnka (Absent)
City Manager – Donald Warschak
City Secretary – Bana Schneider
Assistant City Secretary – Dinah Jacobs

Other City Staff present included:

Police Chief – Skip Edman
Code Enforcement – Richard LaCourse
Code/Fire Assistant – Duane Naiser

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: Gary Swindle

Seconded by: Ronny Daley

Ayes: Chuck Rankin, Keith Cummings, Ronny Daley, and Gary Swindle

Carried 4-0

3.1. Approval of Invoices [INVOICES_04.25.2022.pdf](#)

3.2. Approval of Minutes of the April 11, 2022 Regular Meeting
[MINUTES_04.11.2022.pdf](#)

3.3. Approval of the January 2022 Financial Statements [JANUARY 2022.pdf](#) 

3.4. Approval of the Investment Report for the Quarter Ended March 31, 2022
[INVESTMENT REPORT 03.31.22.pdf](#) 

4. Citizens' Presentations and Comments'

Debbie Damon addressed Council on the upcoming Colorado County Town Hall Meeting. She invited everyone to attend on May 4th at the Nesbitt Memorial Library. Reservations are required due to the capacity of the room.

The Mayor questioned if all candidates had been invited. There was conflicting information. Damon stated she gave a list to City Secretary, Bana Schneider. Schneider stated she will reach out to all candidates tomorrow.

Diane Rau addressed Council and her concerns regarding dogs tethered on chains. She stated she is an animal lover and was here to inquire about the law Animal Control officer, George Bergfeld, gave her regarding dogs on chains.

5. City Manager's Report Including the McCormick WWTP River Bank Project, the MLK Street Sidewalk Project, and Use of Excess Sales Tax Revenue. [CM REPORT.pdf](#) 

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

Regarding the McCormick WWTP Riverbank Project, Warschak stated the contractor has installed the effluent line. They are currently back filling the area and anticipate completion by mid May.

Regarding the MLK Street Sidewalk Project, the contractor is currently working on the section located between Back Street and BUS Hwy 71 and the section between Austin and Prairie Street. Curbing and sidewalk are being installed.

Regarding Sales Tax Funds, after reviewing the budget, I am recommending any increase in sales tax funds be used to cover any overages on the annual sealcoat project, should any occur. If that project remains within budget, I am recommending those funds be used to replace the tile roof on the fire station. The Spanish tile is leaking. One quote for the resin type tile was \$80,000, another for a metal standing seam at \$50,000, and a galvalum quote at \$40,000. Rankin asked about the possible overage number. Schneider stated she is conservatively estimating between \$70,000 to \$80,000 over budgeted revenues.

6. Consideration and Action to Approve the Donation of Labor, Valued at \$800, for Exterior Painting of the Spring Water Plant from JDC Finishes, LLC. [DONATION.pdf](#)



Warschak stated the Spring Plant needs to be painted, and one of the bidders has offered to donate their labor costs. Schneider stated it is a former employee.

Motion to approve the donation of labor from JDC Finishes, LLC for exterior painting of the Spring Water Plant.

Moved by: Chuck Rankin
Seconded by: Gary Swindle

Ayes: Chuck Rankin, Keith Cummings, Ronny Daley, and Gary Swindle

Carried 4-0

7. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the March 2022 Fire Marshal Report.

[FIRE MARSHAL MARCH 2022.pdf](#) 

Report was not presented due to a call for a structure fire.

8. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the March 2022 Code Enforcement Report. [CODE ENFORCEMENT MARCH 2022.pdf](#) 

Report was not presented due to a call for a structure fire.

9. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the March 2022 Police Report.

[MARCH STATS 2022.pdf](#) 

Police Chief, Skip Edman, gave his report. A copy of the report is attached to these minutes. Edman reported on training and no mental health transports this month.

Gobert stated the Mental Health Deputy position has been approved.

10. Items from Councilmembers²

Cummings - none

Daley - The dedication this past weekend was really nice. The park is also a really nice facility.

Swindle - none

Frnka - absent

Rankin - One of our National Guardsmen at the border drowned trying to save individuals trying to cross the border. He is military and thinks we as a State need to make sure the individual's family is taken care of. He succumbed in his efforts to save those two lives.

Gobert - Thanked Donald and the Parks Department for getting everything set up and planned for the dedication. We will also quickly be going into budget time.

11. Announcements

Schneider - Swindle and Frnka are still slated to be in at the May meeting because the Canvas will not have been done yet. Date to be determined after the 16th. It also has to be done by the 18th of May.

12. Adjournment

Gobert adjourned the meeting at 5:57 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.