



The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas met in regular session on Monday, August 22, 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 (Absent)
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
Assistant City Secretary – Dinah Jacobs

Other City Staff present included:

Police Chief – Skip Edman
Code/Fire Assistant – Duane Naiser

1. Call to Order

Mayor Pro Tem, Chuck Rankin, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

Rankin led the pledge and invocation.

3. Consent Agenda:

Motion to approve consent agenda as presented.

Moved by: Keith Cummings

Seconded by: Ronny Daley

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

Carried 5-0

3.1. **Approval of Invoices** [INVOICES 08.22.2022.pdf](#)

3.2. **Approval of Minutes of the August 8, 2022 Regular Meeting**
[MINUTES 08.08.2022.pdf](#)

3.3. **Approval of Minutes of the August 18, 2022 Special Meeting**

[MINUTES 08.18.2022.pdf](#) 

4. **Consideration and Action to Approve Invoices from Columbus Tire Center (Sciba Corporation).** [INVOICES COLUMBUS TIRE.pdf](#) 

Motion to approve Columbus Tire invoices as presented.

Moved by: Michael Ridlen

Seconded by: Ronny Daley

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

Abstain Paige Sciba

Carried 4-0

5. **Citizens' Presentations and Comments¹**

There were no citizen presentations.

6. **City Manager's Report including Sales Tax, the McCormick WWTP Riverbank Project, the MLK Sidewalk Project, and the Highway 90 East River Bridge Project Updates.**

[CM REPORT.pdf](#) 

City Manager, Donald Warschak, gave his report. A copy is attached to these minutes. Warschak reported sales tax for the month of August was \$184,441.69. This is up from \$175,536.34, the same period last year. The County and Cities of Weimar and Eagle Lake all saw increases as well.

Regarding the McCormick WWTP Riverbank Project, Warschak reported the contractor is still waiting on the delivery of the safety device. Once it is installed, the project will be scheduled for completion.

Regarding the MLK Street Sidewalk Project, Warschak reported a final walk thru being completed and are now waiting on the ADA inspection for this project.

Regarding the Hwy 90 East River Bridge Project, Warschak reported TxDOT is working on both ends of that project to get it completed by the November target date.

Councilman Rankin asked about clean-up of the fenced area at Midtown Park.

7. **Consideration and Action to Approve the Closure of Milam Street (Spur 52) from the Elementary School Playground to Walnut Street (Highway 90), and the Closure of Walnut Street (Highway 90) from Milam Street (Spur 52) to Veterans Drive on Saturday September 10, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. until Noon for the Colorado County Fair Parade.**

[FAIR PARADE.pdf](#) 


Motion to approve Fair Parade street closures as requested.

Moved by: Ronny Daley

Seconded by: Keith Cummings

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

Carried 5-0

- 8. Consideration and Action to Approve the Closure of Cardinal Lane from Park Street to Montezuma Street; Montezuma Street from Cardinal Lane to Legion Drive; Legion Drive from Montezuma to Veterans Drive; Veterans Drive from Legion Drive to Milentz Street; Milentz Street from Veterans Drive to the Marley Giddens Center on Wednesday, September 14, 2022 from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for the Columbus Cardinal Booster Club Homecoming Parade. [HOMECOMING PARADE.pdf](#) **

Motion to approve Homecoming Parade street closures as presented.

Moved by: Keith Cummings

Seconded by: Michael Ridlen

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

Carried 5-0

- 9. Consideration and Action to Approve the Closure of Legion Drive from the Large Memorial Entrance Gate to Legion Circle for all Varsity, Sub-Varsity and Junior High Home Football Games as Requested by Columbus Independent School District. [FOOTBALL STREET CLOSURE.pdf](#) **


Motion to approve football game street closures as requested.

Moved by: Michael Ridlen

Seconded by: Paige Sciba

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

Carried 5-0

- 10. Second Reading of Resolution 250-22, 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 Business Improvement Grant to 7GT Properties, LLC for Facade Improvements. [RESOLUTION 250-22.pdf](#) **

City Secretary, Bana Schneider, read Resolution 250-22.

- 11. Consideration and Action to Approve Resolution 250-22, 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 Business Improvement Grant to 7GT Properties, LLC for Facade Improvements.**

Motion to approve Resolution 250-22.

Moved by: Paige Sciba

Seconded by: Michael Ridlen

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

Carried 5-0

12. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the July 2022 Fire Marshal Report.

[FIRE MARSHAL JULY 2022.pdf](#) 

Fire/Code Assistant, Duane Naiser, gave the report in Brent Gorman's absence. A copy is attached to these minutes. Naiser reported there were eleven fire inspections as listed. Fire response calls totaled 25, and as of the end of July, there have been 213 calls.

No action was needed.

13. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the July 2022 Code Enforcement Report.

[CODE ENFORCEMENT JULY 2022.pdf](#) 

Fire/Code Assistant, Duane Naiser, gave the report in Richard LaCourse's absence. A copy is attached to these minutes. Naiser reported 31 permits for the month of July. He highlighted the permits on the list. Regarding the miscellaneous items listed, the old #1 Buffet is currently being demolished. Per Warschak, it should be completed by the end of the week. A list of substandard structures was discussed. The new permit software, SmartGov, is in the process of ramping up.

No action was needed.

14. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the July 2022 Police Report.

[JULY 2022 STATS.pdf](#) 

Police Chief, Skip Edman, gave his report. A copy is attached to these minutes. Edman reported ongoing training. Edman discussed the school training during the teacher in-service and addressed any issues and deficiencies the schools had. There were also no mental health transports for two months now.

Ridlen questioned the morale of the officers. Edman stated Columbus is blessed. The raises have pumped in some good spirits to let them know they are appreciated.

No action was needed.

15. Discussion of Budget Workshop.

Depending on the rate Council decides, determines the notice Schneider will have to publish.

There was discussion of each of the possible options and the effects of each.

Council was in favor of .29227 tax rate. Thursday will be a vote that has to be published.

Public hearing on the budget will be on September 12th.

Budget will be adopted then as well.

16. Items from Councilmembers²

Cummings - none

Daley - none

Sciba- none

Ridlen - none

Rankin - none

Gobert - absent

17. Announcements

There were no other announcements.

18. Adjournment

Rankin adjourned the meeting at 6:41 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.