



The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas met in regular session on Monday, December 12, 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  
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 Enforcement – Richard LaCourse

**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 the consent agenda 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**

3.1. **Approval of Invoices** [INVOICES 12.12.2022.pdf](#)

3.2. **Approval of Minutes of the November 28, 2022 Regular Meeting**

[MINUTES 11.28.2022.pdf](#) 

4. **Consideration and Action to Approve Invoices for Colorado Valley Veterinary Services.**

[INVOICES CVVS.pdf](#) 

Motion to approve the Colorado Valley Veterinary Services invoice as presented.

*Moved by:* Chuck Rankin

*Seconded by:* Keith Cummings

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

**Abstain** Michael Ridlen

**Carried 4-0**

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

Motion to approve the 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**

6. **Citizens' Presentations and Comments<sup>1</sup>**

Janet Hollman, Columbus Chamber of Commerce Events Director, addressed Council. She thanked the City and Chief Edman for allowing the lighted Christmas parade. It was nothing less than spectacular. She is requesting the parade be placed on the calendar to be considered as an annual event. They would like to do it on the Tuesday before Ladies Night Out.

Lindsey Graham, Bicentennial Committee and Chamber Board President, addressed Council, thanking them as well. She presented two awards for the "Most Christmas Cheer" to Donald Warschak and Chief Skip Edman.

7. **City Manager's Report Including Sales Tax, the MLK Sidewalk Project, TxDOT Projects Updates, Montezuma Street Sidewalk Grant Application, and Sewer Averaging.**

[CM\\_REPORT.pdf](#) 

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

Regarding sales tax, Warschak reported the sales tax payment for the month of December was \$156,886.28 which was an increase from last year's payment of \$141,208.72. The County and City of Weimar saw increases, while the City of Eagle Lake experience a decrease.

Regarding the MLK Street Sidewalk Project, Warschak reported the ADA inspection is complete and found to be substantially compliant. Once the Contractor completes the punch list items, the project will be ready for close out.

Regarding the Hwy 90 East River Bridge Project, Warschak reported the TxDOT contractor is working on bridge approaches and the guard rail system at the Front Street intersection and the east end of the bridge. The City will continue the cast iron water main crossing line replacement when the contractor starts the storm drain improvements. Two-way traffic shifting to the new bridge will be in the near future.

Regarding the Hwy 90 (Walnut Street Sidewalk Project), Warschak reported the project has been bid combined with a similar project and bid by TxDOT. TxDOT has indicated the Columbus project will start first.

Regarding the Hwy 71 (Fannin Street) TxDOT has bid this project. It is part of a larger project in other areas. We are waiting on an anticipated start date.

Regarding the Montezuma Street Sidewalk Grant Application, Warschak reported TxDOT will begin the application process in December for the Transportation Alternatives Grant Program. Applications are due in January.

**8. Consideration and Action to Award the Contract for Construction for the CDBG**

**Downtown Revitalization Grant Project. [CDM21-0041 BID TABULATION.pdf](#) **

Jacob Mikeska of Weishuhn Engineering addressed Council. He reported the apparent low bid was from M&C Fonseca in the amount of \$258,292.50. There is funding available in the amount of \$302,500.00


Motion to approve a conditional bid award to the recommended contractor, M&C Fonseca.

*Moved by:* Chuck Rankin

*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 Resolution 254-22, a Resolution Authorizing a Professional Service Provider for Engineering Services for Regional Mitigation Program Council of Governments Method of Distribution Program. [RESOLUTION 254-22.pdf](#) **


Motion to approve Resolution 254-22 naming John D. Mercer & Associates as the engineering service provider for the Regional Mitigation Program Council of Governments MOD program..

*Moved by:* Michael Ridlen

*Seconded by:* Keith Cummings

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

**Carried 5-0**

- 10. Consideration and Action to Approve the Closure of Milam Street (Spur 52) from Houston Street to Walnut Street (Highway 90) and Walnut Street (Highway 90) from Milam Street to Legion Drive on Saturday March 4, 2023 From 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for the 80th Annual FFA Parade. [FFA PARADE CLOSURE.pdf](#) **

Motion to approve the street closure as presented.

*Moved by:* Ronny Daley

*Seconded by:* Paige Sciba

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

**Carried 5-0**

- 11. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the November 2022 Golf Report. [NOVEMBER 2022 GOLF.pdf](#) **

Bana Schneider, City Secretary, reviewed the golf report with Council. A copy is attached to these minutes.

- 12. Items from Councilmembers<sup>2</sup>**

Cummings - none

Daley - none

Sciba - None

Ridlen - none

Rankin - none

Gobert - She stated the lighted parade was fantastic, and the effort that went into many of the floats was impressive. She thanked the organizers of the parade and Ladies Night Out. Congratulations on a job well done.

- 13. Announcements**

Warschak - none

Schneider - reminder that the next meeting will be on Wednesday, December 21st at noon with lunch.

**14. Adjournment**

Gobert adjourned the meeting at 5:49 p.m.



**Lori An Gobert, Mayor**

**Attest:**



**Bana Schneider, City Secretary**

<sup>1</sup>During 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.

<sup>2</sup>Limited 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.