



The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas met in regular session on Monday, March 25, 2024, 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 (Absent)  
Councilwoman – Paige Sciba  
Councilman – Michael Ridlen (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

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor Lori An Gobert called the meeting to order at 5:32 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:* Keith Cummings

*Seconded by:* Chuck Rankin

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

**Carried 3-0**

3.1 Approval of Invoices [INVOICES 20240325.pdf](#) 

3.2 Approval of Minutes of the March 11, 2024 Regular Meeting  
[MINUTES 20240311.pdf](#) 

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

Debbie Damon addressed Council regarding a Town Hall on April 18, 2024 from 6:30-8:30p.m. regarding Proposition A & B.

Other citizens requested to speak at respective agenda items.

**5. City Manager's Report Including Utility Billing, TxDOT Projects Updates, PHMSA Pipeline Grant, the Texas A&M University Transportation Study, and Spring Trash Off.**

[CM REPORT 20240325.pdf](#) 

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

**6. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the Wellness Council's Presentation on the Texas A&M Housing and Transportation Needs Assessment.**

Dr. Mazie Leftwich, President of the Wellness Council, spoke on behalf of the Texas A&M Housing & Transportation Needs Assessment. The purpose is to identify specific needs within this community. They are hoping to get good hard data that can be used by anyone needing specific information when trying to address those needs and for funding purposes.



No action was required.

**7. Consideration and Action Regarding the Bid and Sale of City Owned Property Located at 930 Travis Street.**

Motion to approve the bid and the earnest money contract for the property listed above.

*Moved by:* Paige Sciba

*Seconded by:* Keith Cummings

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

**Carried 3-0**

**8. Consideration and Action to Approve the Closure of Travis Street Between Walnut Street and Spring Street on the Last Saturday of the Month, March Through November, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for the Columbus Country Market. [COLUMBUS COUNTRY](#)**

[MARKET.pdf](#) 

Motion to approve the street closure as presented.

*Moved by:* Paige Sciba

*Seconded by:* Keith Cummings

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

**Carried 3-0**

**9. Consideration and Action to Approve the Closure of Travis Street Between Walnut Street and Spring Street on Saturday, April 6, 2024 from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for Community Connections Day as Requested by Habitat for Humanity. [HABITAT FOR](#)**

[HUMANITY.pdf](#) 

Motion to approve the street closure as presented.

*Moved by:* Paige Sciba  
*Seconded by:* Chuck Rankin

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

**Carried 3-0**

- 10. Consideration and Action to Approve the Closure of Wallace Street Between Live Oak Street and Bowie Street on Tuesday, April 23, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for the St. Anthony School 2nd Annual Career Day. [ST ANTHONY SCHOOL.pdf](#)**

Motion to approve the street closure as presented.

*Moved by:* Paige Sciba  
*Seconded by:* Chuck Rankin

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

**Carried 3-0**

- 11. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the February 2024 Fire Marshal Report. [FIRE MARSHAL FEBRUARY 2024.pdf](#)**

Code Enforcement officer, Richard LaCourse, gave the report in Fire Marshal Gorman's absence. A copy of the report is attached to these minutes.

LaCourse also informed Council on the status of the new engine that is getting close to completion.

No action was required.

- 12. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the February 2024 Code Enforcement Report. [CODE ENFORCEMENT FEBRUARY 2024.pdf](#)**

LaCourse, gave his report. A copy is attached to these minutes.

Gobert stated it is Spring and the grass is growing. LaCourse responded, he had not started on the weeded lot letters.

No action was required.

- 13. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the February 2024 Police Report. [CPD STATS FEBRUARY 2024.pdf](#)**

Police Chief, Skip Edman, gave his report. A copy is attached to these minutes. One of the big items coming out of the Chief training was that we will now have to keep personnel files like Civil Service cities do.

No action was required.

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

Cummings - none

Sciba - none

Rankin - none

Gobert - There was a Mayor meeting today; Eagle Lake put in a Pickleball Court; Weimar got a new City Manager; Happy Easter

**15. Announcements**

Warschak - Happy Easter

Schneider - if you do not have a headshot, a photo can be taken of each Council member after the meeting

**16. Adjournment**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 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.