



The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas met in regular session on Monday, June 24, 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  
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  
Code Assistant – Cody Nance

**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 20240624.pdf](#)

3.2 Approval of Minutes of the June 10, 2024 Regular Meeting

[MINUTES 20240610.pdf](#) 

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

Mr. Subhash Gupta addressed Council regarding a new camp, the Texas Hindu Campsite. It is outside the City limits down FM 109. He said it will benefit the City due to the amount of traffic it will draw. He extended an invitation to Council to attend the opening on July 27, 2024 at 4 p.m.

5. **City Manager's Report Including Sales Tax, TxDOT Projects Update, City Projects Update, and the Wastewater Treatment Plants Permit Renewals. [CM](#)**

[REPORT 20240624.pdf](#) 

City Manager, Donald Warschak, gave his report. A copy is attached to these minutes. Regarding sales tax, he stated the City of Eagle Lake, and the County saw increases, while the City of Weimar saw a decrease.

Gobert questioned a water leak at the Spring location. Warschak reported it was a rubber gasket that sprung a leak. The plant was taken offline and repaired.

6. **Consideration and Action to Award the Bid for the 2024 Street Seal Coat Project.**

[BID TABULATION STREET IMPROVEMENTS.pdf](#) 

Warschak gave the bid information from the only bidder, H & C Construction. He stated it was very similar to last year. He is recommending the award go to H & C.


Motion to award the Seal Coat Project bid to H & C Construction.

*Moved by:* Paige Sciba

*Seconded by:* Chuck Rankin

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

**Carried 5-0**

7. **Consideration and Action to Award the Bid for the 2024 Gas System Improvement Project. [BID TABULATION GAS SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS.pdf](#) **

Warschak gave the bid information from the only bidder, B&D Services. The bid was within the budgeted amount. Warschak recommended B&D Services be awarded the bid.

Motion to award the bid to B&D Services.

*Moved by:* Keith Cummings

*Seconded by:* Ronny Daley

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

**Carried 5-0**

8. **Consideration and Action to Approve Amendment Number 1 for the Grant Administration Services Contract for the Community Development Block Grant - Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) Method of Distribution (MOD) Program, Contract #24-065-059-E569. [GA ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES CONTRACT AMENDMENT](#)**

[1.pdf](#) 

Motion to approve Amendment Number 1 to the Grant Administration Services Contract.

*Moved by:* Paige Sciba

*Seconded by:* Ronny Daley

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

**Carried 5-0**

9. **Consideration and Action to Approve Resolution 280-24, a Resolution Designating Authorized Signatories for Contractual and Financial Documents Pertaining to the GLO Community Development Block Grant - Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) Method of Distribution (MOD) Program, Contract #24-065-059-E569. [RESOLUTION 280-](#)**

[24 SIGNATORIES.pdf](#) 

Motion to approve Resolution 280-24.

*Moved by:* Chuck Rankin

*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 Resolution 281-24, a Resolution Regarding Civil Rights Policies for the GLO Community Development Block Grant - Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) Method of Distribution (MOD) Program, Contract #24-065-059-E569. [RESOLUTION 281-24 CIVIL RIGHTS POLICIES.pdf](#)**

[RESOLUTION 281-24 CIVIL RIGHTS POLICIES.pdf](#) 


Motion to approve Resolution 281-24.

*Moved by:* Paige Sciba

*Seconded by:* Keith Cummings

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

**Carried 5-0**

11. **Consideration and Action to Approve Resolution 282-24, a Resolution Proclaiming April as Fair Housing Month in the City of Columbus.** [RESOLUTION 282-24 FAIR HOUSING MONTH.pdf](#) 

Motion to approve Resolution 282-24.

*Moved by:* Paige Sciba

*Seconded by:* Keith Cummings

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

**Carried 5-0**

12. **Consideration and Action to Adopt the Amended Financial Management Goals and Procedures Pertaining to the GLO Community Development Block Grant - Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) Method of Distribution (MOD) Program, Contract #24-065-059-E569.** [FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT GOALS 2024.pdf](#) 

City Secretary, Bana Schneider, stated GLO has a new requirement regarding federal and state grant funding. The addition of Section 9 to the current policy meets those requirements

Motion to adopt the Amended Financial Management Goals and Procedures 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**

13. **Consideration and Action to Approve a Texas Municipal League Cyber Liability Interlocal Agreement.** [TML CYBER LIABILITY INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT.pdf](#) 

There was discussion regarding the amount of loss the City could incur if they had a cyber-attack.

Motion to approve the Cyber Liability Interlocal Agreement.

*Moved by:* Chuck Rankin

*Seconded by:* Keith Cummings

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

**Carried 5-0**

- 14. Consideration and Action to Designate the City Secretary/Finance Director as the Employee to Calculate the No-New-Revenue Tax Rate and Voter-Approval Tax Rate in Accordance with Section 26.04(c) of the Property Tax Code. [DESIGNATION OF OFFICER-EMPLOYEE FORM.pdf](#)**

Motion to designate the City Secretary/Finance Director as the employee to calculate the different tax rates.

*Moved by:* Chuck Rankin

*Seconded by:* Michael Ridlen

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

**Carried 5-0**

- 15. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the May 2024 Fire Marshal Report. [FIRE MARSHAL MAY 2024.pdf](#)**

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

No action was needed.

- 16. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the May 2024 Code Enforcement Report. [CODE MAY 2024.pdf](#)**

Code Enforcement officer, Richard LaCourse, gave his report. A copy is attached to these minutes. He introduced the new Assistant Code enforcement officer, Cody Nance.

No action was needed.

- 17. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the May 2024 Police Report. [CPD STATS MAY 2024.pdf](#)**

Police Chief, Skip Edman, gave his report. A copy is attached to these minutes.

The new officer we sponsored to the police academy has now graduated and he was valedictorian of his cadet class. Edman also highlighted officer training .

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

Cummings - none

Daley - none

Sciba - a charge for false alarms - please add to agenda for consideration

Ridlen - none

Rankin - been encouraging himself to read more; he suggested a book by Tulsi Gabbard

Gobert - none

**19. Announcements**

Schneider - presented a token of appreciation to Dinah Jacobs for the countless hours and dedicated service on a compliance project.

**20. Adjournment**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:13 p.m.



~~Lori An Gobert, Mayor~~  
Chuck Rankin, Mayor Pro Tem

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.