



The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas met in special session on Monday, July 29, 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 (Absent)  
Councilman – Keith Cummings  
Councilman – Ronny Daley  
Councilwoman – Paige Sciba (Absent)  
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 consent agenda as presented.

*Moved by:* Ronny Daley

*Seconded by:* Keith Cummings

**Aye** Michael Ridlen, Keith Cummings, and Ronny Daley

**Carried 3-0**

3.1 Approval of Minutes of the July 22, 2024 Regular Meeting [MINUTES\\_20240722.pdf](#)



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

There were no public comments.

**5. Discussion of Budget Workshop:**

- 5.1 Special Revenue Funds:  
HOT - Chamber Request
- Chamber Executive Director, Becky Nutt, and Chamber President, Peggy Harrison, presented the HOT Fund budget request to Council. There was discussion regarding the fund balance and projected HOT collections for the remainder of the fiscal year.
- Council asked that the Chamber trim their request for the 2025 budget year and resubmit.
- 5.2 General Fund Revenues:
- City Secretary, Bana Schneider, reviewed the property tax valuation and expected revenues based on the current tax property tax rate.
- Council also discussed sales tax and the possibility of reduced collections because of the I-10 construction.
- 5.3 Utility Fund Revenues:
- Council discussed utility revenue after last year's rate increases.

**6. Items from Councilmembers<sup>2</sup>**

Cummings - None

Daley - None

Ridlen - None

Gobert - None

**7. Announcements**

There were no announcements.

**8. Adjournment**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:47



**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