



FROM THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

The West Columbia City Council met for a regular meeting on Monday, June 8. Mr. Dan Lee attended the meeting and spoke during Citizen's Comments. His comments focused on concerns that his sister's water meter was leaking due to installation problems. The water meter concern has since been resolved.

On June 22, Mr. Lee filed a complaint against a Council member concerning an interaction between Mr. Lee and the Council member prior to the June 8th meeting. Mr. Lee's complaint alleges an incident occurred in the City Hall parking lot prior to the meeting. Mr. Lee's complaint was filed with the West Columbia Police Department.

A complaint of this nature is typically investigated and prosecuted by the City; however, if conflict of interest exists, or to avoid the appearance of bias, the City works with other appropriate jurisdictions to investigate and prosecute a complaint when determined to be appropriate.

Due to the involvement of a City Council member in this case, West Columbia Police Chief Paul Odin forwarded the complaint to the District Attorney's office for review, investigation and potential prosecution if warranted. The matter is currently being investigated by the District Attorney's office.

The City of West Columbia strives to create an environment that supports diversity and inclusion and opposes disrespect in any form. Elected officials and employees of the City are expected to participate in actively creating a welcoming, safe and open communication. As a general law city, the City is governed by State law with regard to election and retention of elected officials and is prohibited from independent actions related to elected official election or removal. As a political subdivision of the state of Texas in the United States of America, the City of West Columbia is bound by laws and principles of due process and nondiscrimination.

There will be a regular meeting on Monday, July 13 at 7:00 p.m.

Citizens are always invited and encouraged to attend and speak during Public Comment. West Columbia's City Attorney will be present to address concerns and respond to questions.

Mayor Laurie B. Kincannon