

City of Mansfield
MINUTES OF *REGULAR* PUBLIC MEETING
April 27, 2015

The Board of Aldermen met in regular session on **Monday, April 27th**, in Mansfield City Hall located at 705 Polk Street. Mayor Pro-Tempore Mitchell L. Lewis called the meeting to order at **4:30 p.m.**, after which an **Invocation** was offered by **Alderman Joseph Hall, Jr.** The Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Alderman Kervin D. Campbell.** Following the pledge, the roll was called, and the following officials were recorded as **Present:** Hon. Mitchell L. Lewis, **Mayor Pro-Tempore**, Mary L. Green –District **A**, Joseph Hall, Jr. –District **D** and Kervin D. Campbell –District **E.** **Absent:** Hon. Curtis W. McCoy –**Mayor** and Roy R. Jones –District **B.** **Other City Personnel Present:** Brian Phillips (Court Clerk), Gwendolyn Jones (Deputy Clerk), James “Jim” Ruffin (Public Works Director), Chief Gary Hobbs (Mansfield Police Dept), and Tommie Crawford (Public Relations Officer). **Others Present:** Chris Robinette (DeSoto Parish Sales & Use Tax Commission), Richard Duncan (MPD), Jeremy Burton, Kalisha Burton, Dorothy Pratt and Paula Pratt. **Press Present:** None.

It was MOTIONED by **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** and SECONDED by **MARY L. GREEN** to approve the minutes of the **April 13, 2015 *regular*** City Council meeting and to dispense with the reading. Motion Passed Unanimously.

The City Clerk next opened the floor to hear public comments from those in attendance to any item outlined on the meeting agenda. When no comments were offered from the floor, the **Public Comments Period** was then closed.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Item A: It was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** to approve a **Resolution** adopting the **2015** property tax millage rates, set at **8.070 mills** for general alimony and **8.460 mills** for general expenses. By adoption of this **Resolution**, the proper administrative officials of the City of Mansfield, State of Louisiana, are empowered, authorized and directed to levy taxes upon the assessment roll of DeSoto Parish for the year **2015** on all property subject to taxation. Motion Passed Unanimously. (Full copy Resolution on file at City Hall)

Item B: It was MOTIONED by **MARY L. GREEN** and SECONDED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** to adopt a **Resolution** approving the **2014-2015 Revised** and the **2015-2016** Budget of the **DeSoto Parish Sales & Use Tax Commission.** The Commission is the agency which collects sales tax revenue for the City, the parish School Board and Policy Jury and other governmental bodies in the parish. Select pages from the Commission’s annual operating budget for **2015-2016** were distributed to the City Council for perusal prior to this regular meeting. In attendance at this meeting to answer any inquiries posed by the Council, was the Administrator of the Commission, Mr. **Chris Robinette.** Motion Passed Unanimously. (Full copy of Resolution on file at City Hall)

Item C: It was MOTIONED by **MARY L. GREEN** and SECONDED by **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** to approve a **Resolution** adopting a Citizen Participation Plan for the **2016-2017** Louisiana Community Development Block Grant (LCDBG) Program. This plan describes how the City of Mansfield intends to involve citizens in the planning, implementation, and assessment of the local Community Development Block Grant Program. All aspects of citizen participation will be conducted in an open manner with freedom of access to information for all interested persons. Attempts will be made to reach all citizens, with particular emphasis on participation by persons of low and moderate income, residents of slum and blighted areas and of areas in which funds are proposed to be used. Notices informing citizens of any public hearings will appear in the official journal of the City of Mansfield a minimum of five (5) calendar days prior to the hearing. In addition, public hearing notices will also be posted in City Hall, and hearings also publicized through local community organizations. Finally, a copy of this plan will be made available to the public upon request. Motion Passed Unanimously. (Full copy of Resolution on file at City Hall)

Item D: It was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **MARY L. GREEN** approving the recommendation of the Mansfield Planning and Zoning Commission to deny the request of petitioner, Mr. **Joe L. Mayweather**, to rezone property municipally known as **1100 Georgia Street**, from an R-2 District (Multi-Family Residence District) to a B-3 District (Community and Central Business District). Mr. Mayweather's grandson (Kelvin Mayweather) was present at the Zoning Commission's April 15th meeting and stated that his intentions were to situate a barber shop on the property. Also present at the Commission's April 15th meeting was neighboring resident, Mrs. **Dorothy Pratt** who expressed concern over limited parking and occasional loud music, as this property is adjacent to hers. Motion Passed Unanimously. The legal description of the property at **1100 Georgia Street** is as follows: TRACT 1: COMM AT THE SE COR, BLK 6, JUNCTION HEIGHTS SUBD., SD PT BEING THE PT OF BEG; TH S 90 DEGS 00 MINS 00 W, A DISTANCE OF 172.60 FT; TH N 0 DEGS 00 MINS 00 SECONDS E, A DISTANCE OF 87.85 FT; TH N 90 DEGS 00 MINS 00 SECONDS E, A DISTANCE OF 172.60 FT; TH S 0 DEGS 00 MINS 00 SECONDS E, A DISTANCE OF 87.85 FT TO THE PT OF BEG: SD DESCRIBED TRACT CONT. 0.35 ACRE, MORE OR LESS. TRACT 2: COMM AT THE SE COR, BLK 6, JUNCTION HEIGHTS SUBD., TH N 00 DEGS 00 MINS 00 SECONDS E, A DISTANCE OF 87.85 FT TO THE PT OF BEG: TH S 90 DEGS 00 MINS 00 SECONDS W, A DISTANCE OF 172.60 FT; TH N 0 DEGS 00 MINS 00 SECONDS W, A DISTANCE OF 26.45 FT; TH N 90 DEGS 00 MINS 00 SECONDS W, A DISTANCE OF 27.40 FT; TH N 00 DEG 00 MINS 00 SECONDS E, A DISTANCE OF 53.00 FT; TH N 90 DEGS 00 MINS 00 SECONDS E, A DISTANCE OF 200 FT; TH S 0 DEGS 00 MINS 00 SECONDS E, A DISTANCE OF 79.45 FT TO THE PT OF BEG. SD DESCRIBED TRACT CONT. 0.35 ACRE, MORE OR LESS. (89-538)(511-589)(688-201)(688-432)(346-662)(372-713)(688-432)(688-201)(786-563) LESS 0.081 ACRES BEING PARCEL NO.-41-01 FOR U.S. HIGHWAY 171 PROJECT. (908-384)

Item E: It was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **MARY L. GREEN** to approve the recommendation of the Mansfield Planning and Zoning Commission to deny the request of petitioner, Mr. **Joe L. Mayweather**, to situate a portable building for commercial use on property municipally known as **1100 Georgia Street**. Authorization to situate a portable building for commercial use on this property was contingent upon approval of the petitioner's request to rezone this property from an R-2 District to a B-3 District, and that petition was denied. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item F: This agenda item was read aloud by the City Clerk. However, before taking a vote on the Mansfield Planning and Zoning Commission's recommendation to deny the petitioner's (**Jeremy and Kalisha Burton**) request to rezone property municipally known as **905 Mary Jane Boulevard**, the City's deputy clerk (Gwen Jones) was allowed an opportunity to share with the Council the Zoning Commission's reason for the denial. She stated that there were no objections from any neighboring property owners. The petitioners' request for a rezone was denied simply because they were not present at the Zoning Commission's April 15th meeting. A prior commitment prohibited them from attending that meeting. Therefore, the Commission voted to deny their request on that basis. Taking this information into account, the City Council agreed unanimously to consider approval of the petitioner's request for a rezone by first introducing an Ordinance and then setting a public hearing for same at their **May 11th** regular meeting. The property in question bears the following legal description: BEG 225 FT E OF INTERSECTION OF E/L OF MYRA ST WITH N/L MARY JANE BLVD IN MFLD, FOR BEG, RUN E 105 FT, N 175 FT, W 25 FT, N 65 FT, W 79 FT, S 240 FT TO BEG, (219-183)(668-370)(674-515) IN SEC 9 T12 R13,(692-817)(692-800)(735-6)(1241-468,470). Once the petitioners above have been approved to rezone the property (905 Mary Jane Blvd.) captioned above from an R-1 District to a B-3 District, they can then advance their plans of using a portion of the residence for commercial purposes. No action can be taken on this matter, and the petitioners are prohibited from proceeding with their intentions until such time as their request to rezone this property has been approved by Ordinance.

Item G: It was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **MARY L. GREEN** to approve the recommendation of the Mansfield Planning and Zoning Commission to grant the request of the City of Mansfield to situate a mobile home on property located in an R-1 District (Single-Family Residence District), municipally known as **208 Pea Street**. This property bears a legal description of: BEG. AT A PT 120 FT N FROM THE NW COR. OF W. N. CUNNINGHAM'S PASTURE SOLD HEIR BY THE CROSBY HEIRS ON APRIL 28, 1885, AND RUN N 100 FT AND FROM 2 SD DESIGNATED PARISH E IN PARALLEL LINES 110 FT FOR QUANTITY, CONT. 1/4 OF AN ACRE, MORE OR LESS. (BK1/P662)(748-604). The City has intentions of entering into a *Cooperative Endeavor Agreement* with the **Desoto Parish Police Jury** to use the mobile home as a homeless shelter. There were no oral

objections expressed at the Zoning Commission's April 15th meeting nor were there any written objections delivered to the Zoning Commission at or prior to their meeting. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item H: It was MOTIONED by **MARY L. GREEN** and SECONDED by **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** to authorize the Mayor to enter into and execute a *Cooperative Endeavor Agreement* with the **DeSoto Parish Police Jury** for the erection of "*Children at Play*" signs and speed control bumps on pre-determined city streets surrounding the Alumni Park located at **1216 Old Jefferson Highway**. The Police Jury will provide labor, equipment and materials for installation of the signage and speed bumps, and the City will determine the proper location of these surface enhancements. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item I: It was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** to authorize the Mayor to enter into and execute the annual *Maintenance Agreement for Mowing and Litter Pickup* with the LA Department of Transportation and Development for fiscal year ending June 30, 2016. The City realizes approximately **\$8,260.00** annually from this arrangement, provided all conditions and stipulations recited in the Agreement are met. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item J: It was MOTIONED by **MARY L. GREEN** and SECONDED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** to approve the recommendation offered by Police Chief Gary Hobbs, to offer full-time employment to patrol officer, **Ri'chard R. Duncan**, with the Mansfield Police Department. Officer Duncan has been employed with the Department since February 18, 2015, and during his probationary period, has been an exemplary employee. He has achieved an excellent attendance record, and has proven that he is capable of following the instructions given to him by his supervisors. Finally, Officer Duncan has demonstrated his ability to interact with the public and conduct himself in a professional manner. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item K: No other new business discussed.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was declared adjourned at **4:43 p.m.** by MOTION from **MARY L. GREEN** and was SECONDED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** Motion Passed Unanimously.

Curtis W. McCoy, *Mayor*
Marvin R. Jackson, *Clerk*