

City of Mansfield
MINUTES OF *REGULAR* PUBLIC MEETING
August 27, 2018

The Board of Aldermen met in *regular* session on **August 27th**, in Mansfield City Hall located at 705 Polk Street. Mayor John Mayweather, Sr. called the meeting to order at **4:30 p.m.**, after which an Invocation was offered by **Alderman Mitchell L. Lewis**. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Alderman Kervin D. Campbell**. Following the pledge, the roll call was suspended. However, the following officials were recorded as **Present**: Hon. John Mayweather, Sr., - **Mayor**, Mary J. Green –District **A**, Christopher S. Thomas –District **B**, Mitchell L. Lewis – District **C**, Joseph Hall, Jr. –District **D**, and Kervin D. Campbell –District **E**. **Absent**: None. **Other City Personnel Present**: Gwen Jones (Deputy Clerk), Brian Phillips (Court Clerk), James “Jim” Ruffin (Public Works Director), Tommie Crawford (Public Relations Officer), Latarsha Shelton (Fire Chief), Fred Jones (Police Dept.), and Annette Blue (Police Dept.). **Press Present**: Raley Pellitteri, *Editor (Mansfield Enterprise & Interstate Progress)*.

It was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** to approve the minutes of the **August 13, 2018 *regular*** City Council meeting and to dispense with the reading, with the following corrections noted: Under **Item A** of New Business in the August 13th minutes, a Motion was made by Alderwoman Mary J. Green to authorize advertisement of the title of **Ordinance No. 7 of 2018** (Surplus Equipment Sale Ordinance) and to set a public hearing on same for the Aldermen’s August 27th meeting. However, during transcription of those minutes, the name of the Aldermen who offered a Second to that motion was inadvertently omitted. That Motion was Seconded by Alderman Mitchell L. Lewis. Additionally, at the Aldermen’s August 13th meeting, the city council voted to approve Budget Amendment #2 of 2018, which reflected a \$32,000 capital expenditure for the Police Department described as a police *equipment* purchase. This budget amendment was presented to make allowances for the purchase of a new police vehicle for the Police Department. Alderwoman Mary Green asked if the line item description could be modified to reflect the heading *Police Vehicle Purchase*. Her request was noted, and the city clerk stated that it would be shared with the city’s accountant. 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 none were offered from the floor, the **Public Comments Period** was then subsequently closed.

Old Business:

Item A: A public hearing was conducted to hear and discuss any comments related to the adoption of proposed **Ordinance No. 7 of 2018**, drafted to declare equipment as **surplus** and to dispose of same by private sale after public notice. When no comments were received from the floor regarding this matter, the public hearing was then subsequently closed.

Item B: It was MOTIONED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** and SECONDED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** to adopt **Ordinance No. 7 of 2018** drafted to declare equipment as **surplus** and to dispose of same by private sale after public notice. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item C: No other old business discussed.

New Business:

Item A: It was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** to approve the recommendation offered by the Mansfield Planning and Zoning Commission, **denying** the request of petitioners **Theosis & Arnice J. Goldsmith**, for placement of a mobile home on property located in an R-2 District (Multi-Family Residence District), and bearing a municipal address of **2253 Whaley Street**. The petitioners' request was presented and denied at the Commission's meeting held on Wednesday, August 18, 2018, due in large part to the absence of the petitioners at their meeting. The Commissioners had additional inquiries to pose to the petitioners, or their representative (s), but due to their absence, those inquiries could not be answered. Also at the Commission's meeting was a Mr. Charles Bratchett, who voiced strong opposition to the petitioner's request. Should their request be approved, the mobile home in question would be situated directly next to his residence. He believed that placement of the mobile home near his dwelling would drastically reduce his property value. Since the petitioners failed to appear at the Commission's August 18th meeting to defend their position on this matter, the Board of Aldermen decided unanimously to uphold the decision rendered by the Zoning Commission. While they (the petitioners) did fax in a letter (letter was read aloud by Deputy Clerk Gwen Jones) outlining their intentions/plans in this regard, the Board of Aldermen still elected to support the decision of the Commission. The letter arrived just minutes before commencement of the Aldermen's meeting, but resulted in having no influence on the Aldermen's decision to deny the petitioner's request. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item B: It was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** to approve the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures for the period of 01/01/18 through 07/31/18 for the Corporation General Fund, and any additional funds identified as major funds of the city. The Statement provided a detailed summary of all the major funds (Corporation, Water and Sewer) and auxiliary funds of the city. The Statement outlined the amounts budgeted for each revenue and expense line item, reflecting the budgeted amounts, the amounts collected to-date and the percentages under/over budget. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item C: It was MOTIONED by **MARY J. GREEN** and SECONDED by **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** to approve the recommendation of Public Works Director, James "Jim" Ruffin, to offer full-time employment to **Troy Dale Ross** with the City of Mansfield. Mr. **Ross** was hired on May 24, 2018, and was assigned to work in the Street Department. He has successfully completed his 90-day probationary and has demonstrated the ability to cooperate, work and communicate with his coworkers and supervisors. Mr. **Ross** also possesses a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) which should prove advantageous to him in other areas of his employment with the city. Motioned Passed Unanimously.

At this time, the city clerk requested that the agenda be amended to consider offering full-time employment to another employee who had successfully completed his 90-day probationary period and assigned to work in the Public Works area. Before consideration of his request to amend the agenda, the city clerk opened the floor to allow any public comments in this regard or to receive any oral objections to this request. When no comments or objections were voiced, it was MOTIONED by **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** and SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** to amend the agenda to consider full-time employment with the city for **Joshua G. Headrick**. Motion Passed Unanimously. Mr. **Headrick** has been employed with the city since May 25, 2018, and has to-date demonstrated his willingness to work in harmony with his coworkers and follow the instructions given to him by his supervisor (s). It was MOTIONED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** and SECONDED by **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** to offer full-time employment with the city to **Joshua G. Headrick**. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item D: No new other business discussed.

Comments from Mayor Mayweather and/or Council Members: Preceding the reception of any comments from the Mayor and Council Members, the city clerk verbally informed the Board of Aldermen that the budget process for preparation of the city's 2019 Annual Budget of Revenue and Expenditures, had begun. At this time, no action was necessary at mention of this fact. It was simply stated as a matter of information. All Department Heads had been asked to begin compiling a list of their requested capital expenditures for 2019, placing them in priority order, to be considered for possible inclusion in next year's budget. Capital expenditures would be those items which cost \$3,000 and above (per unit or piece of equipment), and that are essential to continuing everyday departmental operations in 2019.

Though not on the published agenda, Alderman **Joseph Hall** requested that the agenda be amended to further discuss the status of possibly purchasing a new fire truck to replace the one damaged and later deemed a total loss as a result of a storm event in late fall 2017. This matter had previously been discussed in some detail at the Aldermen's August 13th regular meeting. It should be noted that the Mayor was not in favor of amending the agenda for further deliberation of this matter, and orally expressed his displeasure at the insistence that the agenda be amended to do so. After some persistence, Alderman Hall's motion did eventually receive a second from Alderman **Christopher Thomas**. However, Alderman Hall later withdrew his motion on this issue, when it appeared that some council members were reluctant to offer any further comments.

With no further business to discuss, this meeting was declared adjourned at **5:00 p.m.** by MOTION from **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and was SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS**. Motion Passed Unanimously.

John H. Mayweather, Sr., Mayor
Marvin R. Jackson, Clerk