

City of Mansfield
MINUTES OF REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING
August 12, 2013

The Board of Aldermen met in regular session on **Monday, August 12th**, in Mansfield City Hall, located at 705 Polk Street. Mayor McCoy 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 Troy N. Terrell**. Following the pledge, the roll call was suspended; however, the following officials were recorded as **Present**: Hon. Curtis W. McCoy, G. B. Hall III –District **A**, Troy N. Terrell –District **B**, Mitchell L. Lewis –District **C**, Joseph Hall, Jr. – District **D** and Alderman Kervin D. Campbell –District **E**. **Absent**: None. **Other City Personnel Present**: James “Jim” Ruffin (Public Works Director), Brian Phillips (Court Clerk), Richard Johnson, Jr. (City Attorney) and Joseph Pratt (Chief of Police). **Others Present**: Gerald Schirmer (KSA Alliance, Inc.), Bill Hardin (The Park Companies), Linda Vidler (Friends of the Mansfield Female College Museum), Valda Barry (Friends of the Mansfield Female College Museum), Rev. Roy Jones (N.A.A.C.P. –President of local chapter). **Press Present**: Julie Morris (editor) –*The Enterprise*.

It was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** to approve the minutes of the **July 22, 2013 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. No comments were offered at this period. The **Public Comments Period** was then closed.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Item A: It was MOTIONED by **G. B. HALL III** and SECONDED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** to approve **Change Order No. 2** as submitted by **ELA Group, Inc.** for the Public Works Maintenance Facility Renovations Project. This was an additive Change Order in the amount of **\$2,703.00** and represents the construction of two needed items at this facility. The State Fire Marshal has requested an interior concrete landing for the new access door at the Southeast Corner of the building. The second item is to install a new window in the office as requested by the City. This Change Order increases the current contract price from \$281,430.00 to \$284,133.00. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item B: It was MOTIONED by **G. B. HALL III** and SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** to authorize the Mayor to enter into and execute a **Cooperative Endeavor Agreement** between the City of Mansfield and the Friends of the Mansfield Female College Museum. Representatives (Linda Vidler and Valda Barry) of the organization were present and introduced the Agreement (C.E.A.) to solicit support from the City for the impending **Texaco Country Showdown Mansfield - Local Competition** event, which is scheduled for Saturday, August 24th and will be held on the grounds of the Clista A. Calhoun Center (515 Louisiana Street). The

event is free to the public. Further, the winner of the competition will be announced at the conclusion of the program, and will advance to the State Finals scheduled for October 12th in Stonewall, Louisiana. Mayor McCoy and the Board of Aldermen voted unanimously to offer monetary support to the event in the amount of **\$4,500.00**, and in exchange for that donation the event organizers (F.M.F.C.M.) agree to help promote the City through promotion of the community. The City joins other sponsors of the event, including the Town of Stonewall, Jimmy Granger Ford, Down Home Meats, Dr. F. Gil Rew and several others. The Best Western Plus DeSoto Inn & Suites is the event's sponsor hotel. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item C: It was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **TROY N. TERRELL** to approve adoption of a Resolution declaring the area known as **DeSoto Estates** (916 Jacobs St.) as a Priority Redevelopment Area and approve the Development Plan of Action for Economic Development and Concerted Revitalization Plan for the City of Mansfield. **DeSoto Estates** is located in a qualified U.S. census tract and has been identified as a cultural and economic area in need of preservation and redevelopment. A representative (Bill Hardin) from **The Park Companies (Madison, MS)**, a real estate development firm, is applying for funding through the Louisiana Finance Housing Agency (LHFA), and other funding sources, to renovate the 130-unit apartment complex with needed repairs estimated at \$50,000 per unit. The company is not requesting any financial support from the City, simply that they adopt the Resolution and the Concerted Revitalization Plan. These documents will be included in their application package as part of their request for project funding. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item D: It was MOTIONED by **G. B. HALL III** and SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** to approve the introduction of a Proposed Ordinance to amend Chapter 10, Article II, Division 3 of the Code of Ordinance of the City of Mansfield pertaining to weeds and noxious growths (to include garbage and trash). This amendment to the existing Ordinance, if approved, will more clearly define who is responsible for maintaining real estate located in the City of Mansfield in a sanitary condition. The amendment proposes to make not only the owner (s) of properties responsible for grass cutting, weed abatement, and trash and garbage removal, but any tenant or occupant of any leased lot (occupied or unoccupied), place or property. Additionally, the Proposed Ordinance replaces outdated Civil Code Article 2924 with Revised Statute 9:3500, as recited in Section 10-77 (Conditions of Lien) of Chapter 10, Art. II, Div. 3, of the Mansfield Code of Ordinances. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item E: At this time, a presentation was scheduled by Mr. **Todd Eppler**, CEO and new hospital administrator of the DeSoto Regional Health System of Mansfield, Louisiana. However, Mr. Eppler failed to attend this meeting; therefore, his presentation will perhaps be rescheduled for another time.

Item F: No other new business discussed.

During the **Comments Period** for the Mayor and Council Members, no comments were offered.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at **5:01 p.m.**, by MOTION from **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and was SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS.** Motion Passed Unanimously.

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