

**City of Mansfield**  
**MINUTES OF *SPECIAL* PUBLIC MEETING**  
**December 17, 2018**

In a *special meeting* called pursuant to the provisions of R.S. 42:19, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen met on **Monday, December 17th**, 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**, Kervin D. Campbell -**District E** and Joseph Hall, Jr. -**District D**. **Absent**: None. **Press Present**: None.

The City Clerk next opened the floor to hear public comments from those in attendance to the sole item reflected on the published agenda, the adoption of an Ordinance drafted to offer an Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures for the ensuing fiscal year (**2019**). When the floor was deemed opened for receipt of public comments, Mansfield resident and local business owner, Mrs. Betty Carter, rose and stepped to the podium to inquire as to whether or not a certain allocation had been contained in the 2019 Budget. Specifically, she inquired if an appropriation had been included in the 2019 proposed Budget for the purchase of a new fire truck. Mayor Mayweather abruptly interrupted her from making any further comments in this regard by stating that the Council had only assembled on this day to approve adoption of the 2019 Financial Budget. He would not entertain any further discussion or questions regarding the purchase of a fire truck to replace the truck deemed a total loss, as a result of a storm event which occurred in early fall of 2017. He repeated that this *special meeting* had only been called to approve adoption of 2019 Budget as previously prepared and provided to each of the City Council members. He then called for the closure of the **Public Comments Period** by the City Clerk.

Before asking for a vote on the adoption of **Ordinance No. 11 of 2018** (drafted to present a Financial Budget for fiscal year 2019), Alderman **Joseph Hall, Jr.** requested to ask a question about the Budget before them. Mayor Mayweather retorted that if his question was in regard to the purchase of a new fire truck, he would not entertain any more questions in this respect. The measure (adoption of **Ordinance No. 11 of 2018**) was then put to a vote. To adoption of the 2019 Financial Budget submitted, Alderwoman **Mary J. Green** and Alderman **Joseph Hall, Jr.** both cast nay votes. The remaining Aldermen (**Christopher S. Thomas, Mitchell L. Lewis** and **Kervin D. Campbell**) each cast yea votes. It was MOTIONED by **CHRISTOPHER S. THOMAS** and SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** that the 2019 Operating Budget of Revenues and Expenditures be declared adopted by majority vote of the City Council.

This meeting was then declared adjourned at **4:37 p.m.** by MOTION from **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** and was SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS**. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Realizing that a non-agenda item had been presented to them for discussion before commencement of the meeting, it was MOTIONED by **Joseph Hall, Jr.** and SECONDED by

**KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** that the meeting be reopened to entertain discussion of that item. A copy of the document presented to each Aldermen **before** the meeting was a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the City and the *DeSoto Parish Police Jury*. The *Police Jury* would be appropriating and providing \$5,000 to the City to assist with underwriting costs associated with the City's Annual Christmas Parade and Festival. When no objection from any of the councilmen present was voiced to reopening the meeting to discuss and act on this document previously provided to them, the meeting was declared reopened by Mayor Mayweather. The *Police Jury* staff will also provide non-monetary assistance to the City in the form of barricades, electrical connections, and other miscellaneous items/services to help facilitate the City's planned event. It should be noted that as a result of this event, each party reasonably expects to receive something of value in exchange for the expenditure of public funds and/or resources by the *Police Jury*. In this case, both entities expect to promote tourism and economic development activities in DeSoto Parish and in the City of Mansfield. The promotion of tourism in Mansfield and DeSoto Parish potentially results in increased tax revenues for the *Police Jury* and the City. After no further discussion on this matter was brought forth, it was MOTIONED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** and SECONDED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** to authorize the Mayor to enter into and execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the City and the *Police Jury* for the purpose of facilitating the aforementioned project. Motion Passed Unanimously.

With no further business to discuss, this meeting was declared adjourned at **4:41 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*