
{February 8, 2010}

City of Mansfield

MINUTES OF REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING

February 8, 2010

The Board of Aldermen met in regular session on Monday, February 8th, 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 J. Dudley Kemper. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Alderman Alvin R. Woodley. The roll was called by the City Clerk and the following were Present: Honorable Curtis W. McCoy, G. B. Hall III –District A, J. Dudley Kemper –District B, Mitchell L. Lewis –District C, Joseph Hall, Jr. –District D, and Alvin R. Woodley –District E. Absent: None. Press: Coleman Robinson (The Enterprise). Others present: James “Jim” Ruffin (City’s Public Works Director), Brian M. Phillips (City’s Code Enforcement Officer), Cynthia “Cindy” Williams (City’s Public Relations Officer), Richard Johnson, Jr. (City’s Attorney), Ben Rauschenbach (BALAR Associates, Inc.), Arthur J. Williams, Jr. (Vice-President of Mansfield Planning & Zoning Commission) and Fletcher Carter (citizen).

It was MOTIONED by MITCHELL L. LEWIS and SECONDED by ALVIN R. WOODLEY to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2010 regular city council meeting and to dispense with the reading. Passed Unanimously.

It was MOTION ED by JOSEPH HALL, JR. and SECONDED by ALVIN R. WOODLEY to pay current outstanding bills for this period. Passed Unanimously.

The Mayor next opened the floor to hear public comments from those in attendance to any item outlined on the meeting agenda. When none were offered, the Public Comments Period was then closed.

Old Business:

Item A: It was MOTIONED by JOSEPH HALL, JR. and SECONDED by ALVIN R. WOODLEY to approve the recommendation by BALAR Associates, Inc. to award a construction contract to Wicker Construction, Inc. for the replacement of city water lines as part of the Water Distribution System Improvements Project. This contractor submitted the lowest responsive bid of \$2,388,842.05 for this work (Total Base Bid and Alternate No. 2). All sealed bids for this component of the aforementioned project were opened and read aloud by a representative of BALAR Associates, Inc. on Tuesday, January 26th at 10:00 am C.S.T. at Mansfield City Hall. The remaining contractors submitting sealed bids included: Don M. Barron Contractor, Inc. – \$2,422,749.79 (Total Base Bid and Alternate No. 2), Digco Utility Company, L.P. -\$3,055,175.00 (Total Base Bid and Alternate No. 2). All bid bonds were in place. Passed Unanimously.

Item B: It was MOTIONED by MITCHELL L. LEWIS and SECONDED by G. B. HALL III to approve the recommendation by BALAR Associates, Inc. to award a construction contract to TGS Contractors, Inc. for the installation of emergency generators for the City as part of the Water Distribution Systems Improvements Project. This contractor submitted the lowest responsive bid of \$191,636.55 for this work. Bids submitted for this component of the project were opened and read aloud by a representative of BALAR Associates, Inc. on Tuesday, January 26th at 10:00 am. C.S.T. at Mansfield City Hall. The remaining bidders included: Valley Electric, L.L.C. -\$217,448.00, Yor-Wic Construction Company, Inc. -\$219,020.50, Pro-Build Construction, Inc. -\$220,638.00, and Hope Contractors of Shreveport, Inc. -\$221,542.00. All bid bonds were in place. Passed Unanimously.

Item C: It was MOTIONED by and SECONDED G. B. HALL III to approve the recommendation by BALAR Associates, Inc. to award a construction contract to Thielsch Group, Inc. for the replacement of water meters in the City as part of the Water Distribution System Improvements Project. This contractor submitted the lowest responsive bid of \$767,327.68 for this work. Bids received for this component of the project were opened and read aloud by a representative of BALAR Associates, Inc. on Tuesday, January 26th at 10:00 am C.S.T. at Mansfield City Hall. The remaining bidders included: Vanguard Utility Service, Inc. - \$991,827.00, Valentine & Leblanc, L.L.C. -\$1,011,699.00, and Digco Utility Construction, L.P. -\$1,195,775.00. All bid bonds were in place. Passed Unanimously.

Item D: It was MOTIONED by MITCHELL L. LEWIS and SECONDED by J. DUDLEY KEMPER to approve Change Order No. 3 as submitted by David Lawler Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$12,483.42 for the 2008-2009 LCDBG Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements. This was an additive change order increasing the contract price to \$803,272.42 from \$790,789.00. The contract price was last adjusted to \$790,789.00 at the Council's January 25th meeting. Passed Unanimously.

New Business:

Item A: Mr. Benjamin C. Rauschenbach, one of BALAR Associates' project engineers, appeared before the Council to offer explanation for Change Orders 2 and 3 as submitted by David Lawler Construction, Inc. for the 2008-09 LCDBG Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements. After some prior discussions with City staff, BALAR believed that the Council may have been misinformed as to how these Change Orders would be financed. The original contract amount awarded for this project was \$834,000.00. To date, there has been three (3) Change Orders prepared for this project. Change Order No. 1 decreased the construction cost by \$46,483.00. Change Orders 2 and 3 increased the construction cost by \$15,755.42. With the approval of Change Order No. 3, the final construction cost for the project will be \$803,272.42. This price is \$28,272.42 above the Louisiana Community Development Block Grant (LCDBG) available funds for construction (AFC) of \$775,000.00. Therefore, the additional costs above the AFC will need to be financed by the City of Mansfield. It was originally intended for existing electrical components at the treatment plant be used, but these two Change Orders became necessary when BALAR concluded that this would not be feasible. Certain equipment had to be replaced to ensure the safety and reliability of the Treatment Plant's functions. Mr. Rauschenbach further explained that Block Grants typically do not include contingency funds and therefore, unforeseen costs must be satisfied by the owner (the City of Mansfield). Mayor McCoy stated that a budget amendment would have to be prepared and approved to cover these unanticipated expenses. Conclusively, as of the date of this meeting, the project is 98% complete.

Item B: No other New Business.

During the Comments Period for the Mayor and Council members, Mayor McCoy congratulated those councilmen who were re-elected unopposed for another four-year term and wished well those incumbents who must campaign prior to the upcoming March 27th election.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m., by MOTION from ALVIN R. WOODLEY and was SECONDED by MITCHELL L. LEWIS. Passed Unanimously.

Curtis W. McCoy, Mayor

Marvin R. Jackson, City Clerk