

City of Mansfield
MINUTES OF *REGULAR* PUBLIC MEETING
January 23, 2017

The Board of Aldermen met in regular session on **Monday, January 23rd** in Mansfield City Hall located at 705 Polk Street. Mayor Curtis McCoy 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 **Alderwoman Brenda H. Hall.** Following the pledge, the roll call was suspended. However, the following officials were recorded as **Present:** Hon. Curtis W. McCoy, *Mayor*, Brenda H. Hall –District **B**, Mitchell L. Lewis –District **C**, Joseph Hall, Jr. –District **D**, and Kervin D. Campbell –District **E.** **Absent:** Mary L. Green –District **A.** **Absent due to suspension:** Roy R. Jones –District **B.** **Other City Personnel Present:** Tommie Crawford (Public Relations Officer), James “*Jim*” Ruffin (Public Works Director), and John Evans (City Attorney). **Others Present:** A. J. Williams, Jr. and Harmon “*Tripp*” Dungan, III, **Press Present:** None.

It was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** to approve the minutes of the **January 9, 2017 *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 subsequently closed.

Old Business:

Item A: At this time, a public hearing was conducted to hear and discuss any comments related to the adoption of proposed **Ordinance No. 1 of 2017**, drafted to govern the selling, handling, distributing or otherwise dispensing of alcoholic beverages of low and/or high content within the corporate limits of the City of Mansfield, LA. When no comments were offered, the public hearing was subsequently closed.

Item B: Before consideration for adoption of proposed **Ordinance No. 1 of 2017**, the Mayor invited the city’s attorney, Mr. John Evans, to stand and field any questions from the council regarding the content of the Ordinance. Mr. Evans stated that since the Ordinance was first introduced at the council’s regular meeting on January 9th, an additional clause (waiver) had been incorporated into Section 3-71 of Article IV (*Regulations*), Division 1 (*Generally*). It was inserted in this section under subsection (*g*). Ordinarily, according to LA R. S. 26:81 and 26:281 in part, no permit can be granted for any premise situated within three (300) hundred feet, or less distance of a building used exclusively as a regular church, synagogue, public library, school, or playground, etc. This added subsection makes provisions for premises used exclusively as a church or synagogue, still making procurement of an alcohol beverage permit possible, provided the permit applicant obtains a sworn affidavit from the appropriate, authorized representative of the facility. This would be necessary when the premise is situated less than the required three hundred (300) feet as recited in the state statute. For the most part, the Ordinance before the council was primarily the same one introduced at their January 9th meeting, with the exception

of the correction of a few typographical errors, and the like. Following a brief discussion, it was MOTIONED by **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** and SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** to adopt **Ordinance No. 1 of 2017** as presented, which will govern the selling, handling, distribution or otherwise dispensing of alcoholic beverages within city's corporate limits. The Ordinance will now be published in its entirety in the February 2nd edition of our local journal, *The Enterprise and Interstate Progress*. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item C: No other old business to discuss.

New Business:

Item A: It was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** to approve the written recommendation of interim Fire Chief, LaTarsha Shelton, to offer full-time employment to Mr. **Michael Andrew Gonzales** with the Mansfield Fire Department. Mr. **Gonzales** has been employed with the City of Mansfield since September 30, 2016 as a firefighter. Since that time, he has proven to be punctual, reliable and cooperative with regard to working and communicating with his coworkers and supervisors. Motion Passed Unanimously. Similarly, it was MOTIONED by **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** and SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** to approve the written recommendation of interim Fire Chief, LaTarsha Shelton, to offer full-time employment to Mr. **Bryan Lakeith Ross** with the Mansfield Fire Department. Mr. **Ross** has been employed with the City of Mansfield as a firefighter since October 5, 2016. Since his brief tenure with the Department, Mr. **Ross** has demonstrated the ability to cooperate, work and communicate well with his supervisors and fellow firefighters. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item B: At this time, Mansfield High School Booster Club sponsor, Mrs. **Betty Carter** was scheduled to make a presentation. However, an unforeseen circumstance prevented Mrs. **Carter** from attending this meeting. She will be later contacted to ascertain if she will be available for inclusion on a future agenda.

Item C: No other new business discussed.

During the period set aside for reception of any comments from the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, none were offered.

With no further business to discuss, this meeting was declared adjourned at **4:38p.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