

**City of Mansfield**  
**MINUTES OF *REGULAR* PUBLIC MEETING**  
**January 27, 2020**

The Board of Aldermen met in *regular* session on **January 27th**, in Mansfield City Hall located at 705 Polk Street. Mayor John H. Mayweather, Sr. called this meeting to order at **4:30 p.m.**, after which an Invocation was offered by **Alderman Christopher S. Thomas**. 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 H. Mayweather, Sr., -**Mayor**, Christopher S. Thomas –District **B**, Mitchell L. Lewis –District **C**, Joseph Hall, Jr. –District **D** and Kervin D. Campbell –District **E**. **Absent**: Mary J. Green – District **A**. **City Hall Personnel, Dept. Heads, & Other City Personnel Present**: Gwendolyn Jones (Deputy Clerk), Jim Ruffin (Public Works Director), Joshua Ryals (Water Operator), and Billy Locke (Asst. Police Chief –MPD). **Others Present**: Fran Norwood, Bethany May, and A. J. Williams, Jr. **Press Present**: None.

It was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** to approve the minutes of the **January 13, 2020 *regular*** City Council meeting and 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. Since no comments were offered from the floor, the **Public Comments Period** was then subsequently closed.

**Old Business**: None.

**New Business**:

Item A: **Ordinance No. 1 of 2020** was introduced, drafted to **amend** the city’s Annual Financial Budget for fiscal year **2020**. Specifically, amendments to the city’s capital budget were being proposed. No amendments were being proposed to the operating budget. An amendment to capital drainage improvements in the amount of \$20,000 was being proposed, and an amendment of \$35,000 to capital streets/sidewalks was also being proposed. At the time of budget preparation, no allocations were made to fund improvements now needed in these areas. Public Works Director, Jim Ruffin, explained that the \$20,000 proposed adjustment would fund improvements to the Johnson Street, Vida Street and Jacobs Street bridges. Conversely, the \$35,000 amendment to the line item of capital streets/sidewalks, would help underwrite the cost of striping streets in the newly asphalted downtown district, along with a few other areas that need pavement striping. It was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** to authorize advertisement of a Notice of Public Hearing regarding this proposed Ordinance, in the February 6<sup>th</sup> edition of our local, municipal journal (*The Enterprise*) and to set a public hearing on same for February 10<sup>th</sup>. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item A: It was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED BY **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** to approve authorization for the Mayor to enter into and execute a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement in partnership with the *DeSoto Parish Police Jury* to effect improvements to certain, specified streets and sidewalks located within and under the jurisdiction of our

municipality. This work is necessary to promote the safety of our citizens and for visitors of DeSoto Parish. The total cost of this work is estimated at **\$24,374.00**. By this Agreement, the city and parish propose to share this cost equally, which amounts to \$12,187.00 due to be expended by each entity. To perform this work, *Nation Services Company, Inc.* (Shreveport, LA) will be placed under contract. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item B: No other business discussed.

**Comments from Mayor Mayweather and/or Council Members:** During this period, the Mayor recognized the presence of Mrs. **Fran Norwood** and Mrs. **Bethany May**, chairman and vice-chairman respectively of the organization *Mansfield in Motion*. He requested that they deliver a brief, informal report on any new developments with regard to the Mansfield Revitalization initiative. Mrs. **Norwood** informed the Mayor, Aldermen present and other attendees that a reporter with *KSLA Channel 12 News* had recently visited the City to see the aesthetic improvements already made within our corporate limits. Specifically, the reporter and his crew positioned themselves in front of the new mural painted on the side of old *Hibernia National Bank* building to put together a brief documentary of all the recent improvements made in the downtown district. The news segment would air on Thursday, January 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 pm. Still further, plans are to later install exterior lights to illuminate the new mural at night. More improvements to the facades of the remaining buildings in the downtown area are being planned. Particularly, the organization was presently procuring estimates on the installation of new awnings for the buildings located on Texas Street, adjacent to the old Mansfield Twin Cinema. In addition, the front glass windows of the old *Kap's Dry Cleaners* building are slated to be boarded up to mask the debris that resulted from the recent collapse of that structure's ceiling. Finally, Jim Ruffin announced that the new garbage truck had recently been delivered and was immediately put in operation. The City's other two garbage trucks were in constant repair due to age and normal wear, and this new truck was much-needed to add to the Sanitation Department's aging fleet. The city's garbage crew had been trained to operate the new truck before putting it in operation. The new truck cost slightly better than \$137,000 and should provide the City with many years of dependable service.

With no further business to discuss, this meeting was declared adjourned at **4:56 p.m.** by MOTION from **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and was SECONDED by **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL**. Motion Passed Unanimously.

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