

City of Mansfield
MINUTES OF *REGULAR* PUBLIC MEETING
January 9, 2017

The Board of Aldermen met in regular session on **Monday, January 9th** 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 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. 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**: Gwendolyn Jones (Deputy Clerk), Brian Phillips (Court Clerk), 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 **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** and SECONDED by **BRENDA H. HALL** to approve the minutes of the **December 12, 2016 *regular*** City Council meeting and to dispense with the reading. It should be noted that the Board of Aldermen’s *special* meeting, which would have been held on **December 27, 2016**, was cancelled by council approval due to the Christmas holiday. This action was recorded in the December 12th minutes. Motion Passed Unanimously.

It was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** to approve the payment of current outstanding bills for this period. 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: -None.

New Business:

Item A: At this time, **Ordinance No. 1 of 2017** was introduced, drafted to amend Chapter 3 of the Mansfield Code of Ordinances titled “*Alcoholic Beverages*”, which governs the sale, handling, distributing and otherwise dispensing of alcoholic beverages within the corporate limits of the City of Mansfield, LA. If adopted this Ordinance would repeal the present Chapter 3 and would be replaced with this new version. A copy of the Ordinance drafted for Council review, was provided to the Mayor and each of the Aldermen. They were instructed to review the document and later, before the January 23rd regular council meeting, communicate any desired revisions to the City Clerk. Authorization to enact this Ordinance is a result of the local option election held on Saturday, December 10, 2016 where a total of five (5) propositions were included on the election ballot and put before the constituents to vote on. After passage of all five propositions, the local governing authority is now sanctioned to not only permit the serving of alcohol in ‘*restaurants only*’, but local retail establishments are now permitted to sale alcoholic beverages of low and high alcoholic contents (under certain conditions) within the corporate

limits of the City. On hand to further elaborate on what is now legally allowed in the city's corporate limits was city attorney, Mr. John S. Evans. Mr. Evans was given the floor and stood to state that he had fashioned this new, revised alcoholic beverage Ordinance in the format of several Ordinances he had reviewed from around the State. This revised Ordinance, once adopted, will repeal the present Ordinance and will govern the activities of retailers desiring to sell alcoholic beverages in their establishments. Certain limitations are stipulated in the Ordinance will govern to what extent some local retailers will be able to sell alcohol in their respective businesses. Since passage of the propositions from the December 10th special election, several local merchants have expressed interest in applying for an alcoholic beverage permit, once the Ordinance is formally adopted. After a brief discussion, it was MOTIONED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** and SECONDED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** to authorize advertisement of the Ordinance in the January 19th edition of *The Enterprise & Interstate Progress*, and set a public hearing of same for the January 23rd regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item B: No other new business discussed.

During the period set aside to receive comments from the Mayor and Council members, Mayor McCoy reported that at the close of the books for fiscal 2016, the City ended the year *'in the black.'* However, he went on to comment that, just as in 2016, the 2017 financial budget was very conservative in nature and that we would continue to closely monitor expenditures to keep them within budgeted allocations. On a separate matter, the Mayor requested that Public Works Director, Jim Ruffin, offer a brief statement on the impending work scheduled as a result of the city's recent award of \$800,000 from an 2014/2015 LCDBG program application. The grant award will be used to perform improvements to a sizable segment of the City's sewer collection system, namely several sewer lift stations and sewer mains. Greatly impacted by this impending infrastructure improvement activity will be Mansfield homeowners residing along the Oxford Road and Gibbs Street. However, with a grant of this magnitude, a significant number of Mansfield's property owners will be positively affected.

With no further business to discuss, this meeting was declared adjourned at **4:47 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