

City of Mansfield
MINUTES OF *REGULAR* PUBLIC MEETING
July 22, 2019

The Board of Aldermen met in *regular* session on **July 22nd**, in Mansfield City Hall located at 705 Polk Street. Mayor Mayweather called the meeting to order at **4:30 p.m.**, after which an Invocation was offered by **Alderman Mary J. Green**. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Alderman Christopher S. Thomas**. 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**, Joseph Hall, Jr. –District **D** and Kervin D. Campbell –District **E**. **Absent: None.** **City Hall Personnel, Dept. Heads, & Other City Personnel Present:** Gwendolyn Jones (Deputy Clerk), Brian Phillips (Court Clerk), Jim Ruffin (Public Works Director), Annette Blue (Chief –Mansfield Police Dept.), Billy Locke (Asst. Chief –Mansfield Police Dept.), Nathaniel Anderson, Jr. (Detective –Mansfield Police Dept.), Latarsha Shelton (Chief -Mansfield Fire Dept.), Bryan Ross (Capt. –Mansfield Fire Dept.), Logan Calhoun (Mansfield Fire Dept.), Christopher Samuels (Mansfield Fire Dept.) and Frederick Lowery II (Mansfield Fire Dept.). **Others Present:** Junear LeShay, A. J. Williams, Jr., Charlotte Miller, Pamela Hubier and Sheriff Jayson Richardson. **Press Present:** None.

It was MOTIONED by **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** and SECONDED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** to approve the minutes of the **July 8, 2019 *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: It was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** to accept the donation to the City by the *DeSoto Parish Sheriff's Office* of two (2) **2012 Chevrolet Tahoe 4-door, 2-wheel drive SUVs**. It will be necessary to make some minor modifications to the vehicles to satisfy the Police Departments' purposes. First, the vehicles will need to be repainted, and secondly radio equipment must also be installed. Several other minor modifications will need to be performed before being officially added to the Department's fleet. Aldermen's Joseph Hall and Christopher Thomas expressed appreciation to Sheriff Richardson for the generous donations. Further, they expressed gratitude for the good working relationship that exists between the City and the parish's Sheriff's department. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item B: It was MOTIONED by **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** and SECONDED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** to authorize the Mansfield Police Department to begin issuing citations to any business in violation of the Occupational License Ordinance due to non-payment of delinquent **2019** Occupational Licensing fees. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item C: It was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** to approve the recommendation offered by Fire Chief Latarsha Shelton, to formally offer full-time employment to Mr. **Frederick L. Lowery II** with the City of Mansfield. Mr. **Lowery** initially began his tenure with the City on January 15, 2018 as a part-time firefighter in the Mansfield Fire Department. His status was changed to full time on July 16, 2018 due to his admirable work ethic, commitment and dedication to his charge of protecting the lives of the citizens of this municipality. Additionally, Mr. **Lowery** was formerly employed by *DeSoto Fire District 8* in a supervisory capacity from August 2003 to November 2017. Finally, before coming into the employ of the City, Mr. **Lowery** had already attained the required Firefighter and Emergency Responder certifications necessary to perform the duties of a state-licensed, certified firefighter. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item D: At this time, the Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for the period 01/01/19 through 06/30/19 was presented. The Statement reflected revenues and expenditures for the Corporation General Fund and any other additional funds identified as major funds of the City. Further, this statement provided a mid-year summary of the revenues collected and the expenditures incurred and paid through June 30, 2019. With this Statement, the Mayor and Aldermen were offered a document they could review to determine if revenue streams and expenditure line items were on track to hopefully end the year at it was forecast in the 2019 Financial Budget. No action was required on this report. It is presented monthly for their perusal and as a matter of information.

Item E: At this time, a presentation was offered by Ms. **Pamela Hubier**, Campus Dean of the *Northwest Louisiana Technical College* (Mansfield Campus). Ms. **Hubier** informed the attendees that effective July 1st, the college name was officially changed to *Northwest Louisiana Technical Community College*. The Mansfield campus currently serves 208 students, with 43% of the student population being full-time students. The name change means that courses completed at this institution can now be transferred to any other accredited institution of higher learning. Further, with the addition of a Nursing Department and several other new courses, enrollment is expected to increase significantly. The Mayor and Alderman thanked Ms. Hubier for the update on the technical college's new name and expanded curriculum.

Item F: Following the above presentation, Ms. **Emilie Zalfini** next offered a presentation on the **National League of Cities (NLC) Service Line Warranty Program** administered by *Utility Service Partners, Inc.* Ms. **Zalfini** is employed by *Utility Service Partners* (a HomeServe company). *Utility Service Partners* has partnered with over 600 municipalities and utilities across North America, and has achieved a 4.7 out of 5 stars customer satisfaction rating. Offered at no cost or liability to cities, the **NLC Service Line Warranty Program** educates homeowners about their service line responsibilities and offers protection for unanticipated, and often costly, repairs to broken, leaking or clogged water and sewer lines. There are typically three mail campaigns per year, comprised of up to six mailings. Additionally, the program keeps dollars in the local economy by utilizing local contractors to execute the repairs. *Utility Service Partners*

handles all marketing, distribution and management of the program. The City is given the option to review all any and all marketing materials before they are mailed out to homeowners. Repairs are dispatched to a call center, which then dispatches a contractor to the homeowner's residence, and there is no limit on the number of claims that can be filed by a homeowner. Even if the homeowner decides not to purchase the warranty, they are still provided with useful information regarding their service line responsibilities. The Mayor and Council took no action at this time to participate in the program. It was MOTIONED by **MARY J. GREEN** and SECONDED by **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** to take the information disseminated under advisement to allow time for further perusal. Motion Passed Unanimously.

At this time, Alderman **Joseph Hall, Jr.** requested that the agenda be amended to include the introduction of proposed **Ordinance No. 2 of 2019**, drafted to request the closure and abandonment of the undeveloped portion of Jackson Street, located in Block 16 in the City of Mansfield, which traverses through a city lot. This closure and abandonment will allow for commercial construction by the owners of the lot. When no objections were voiced to the amendment of the agenda for this reason, it was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** to approve amendment of the agenda. Motioned Passed Unanimously. It was MOTIONED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** and SECONDED by **MARY J. GREEN** to set a public hearing on the adoption of proposed **Ordinance No. 2 of 2019**, and move to adopt said **Ordinance**, if there be no objections voiced at the City Council's regular meeting scheduled for Monday, August 12th. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item G: No other new business discussed.

Comments from Mayor Mayweather and/or Council Members: During this period, the Mayor offered no comments. However, Alderman Joseph Hall informed those in attendance of a soft opening of a new nutrition/refreshments bar on Wednesday, July 24th at 7:00 o'clock a.m., called *The Nutrition Zone*, and located at **110 Edwards Street**. No other comments were offered from any other City Council member.

With no further business to discuss, this meeting was declared adjourned at **5:00 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*