

City of Mansfield
MINUTES OF *REGULAR* PUBLIC MEETING
June 14, 2021

In-Person Council Meeting

The Board of Aldermen met in *regular* session on **June 14th**, 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 Joseph Hall, Jr.** 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 in attendance at this regular meeting of the city council. **Present:** Hon. John H. 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), Billy Locke (Asst. Police Chief), Joshua Ryals (Public Works Director), Brandon Campbell (Firefighter –Fire Dept.), and Christopher Samuels (Firefighter –Fire Dept.). Others Present: (three) 3 other present. **Press Present:** None.

It was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** to approve the minutes of the **May 24, 2021 *regular*** City Council meeting and dispense with the reading. Motion Passed Unanimously.

It was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** 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 public comments were offered from any of the participants in this meeting, the **Public Comments Period** was then subsequently closed.

Old Business:

Item A: A public hearing was conducted to hear and discuss any comments related to **Ordinance No. of 2021**, drafted to change zoning at **363 Oxford Road** from an R-2 District (Multi-Family Residence Dist.) to a B-2 District (Neighborhood Business Dist.) at the request of petitioner **Timothy S. Griffin** for the purpose of situating a portable building for commercial use at the aforementioned municipal address. No comments were offered with regard to this petitioner's request. Therefore, the public hearing was then subsequently closed.

Item B: It was MOTIONED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** and SECONDED by **CHRISTOPHER S. THOMAS** to approve adoption of **Ordinance No. 1 of 2021**, drafted to change zoning at **363 Oxford Rd.** from an R-2 District (Multi-Family Residence Dist.) to a B-2 District (Neighborhood Business Dist.) at the request of petitioner **Timothy S. Griffin** for the purpose of situating a **portable building** on this property for commercial use. Motion Passed Unanimously. (Full **Ordinance** recited below):

**CITY OF MANSFIELD
ORDINANCE NO. 1 of 2021**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Mansfield, in *regular* session convened and via an in-person meeting for:

AN ORDINANCE TO REZONE FROM AN R-2 DISTRICT (MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENCE DISTRICT) TO A B-2 DISTRICT (NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS DISTRICT) THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY:

BEG 660 FT S OF NW COR OF W½ NE SEC 16 T 12 R 13, RUN TO W/R/W/L OF KCS RR, NELY ALONG W/R/W/L OF KKCS RR TO PT DUE E OF BEG, W TO BEG IN MFLD (190-503)(255-616) LESS HWY R/W (313-196-200-204)(779-439)(784-878)(784-879) **(363 Oxford Road)**

WHEREAS, a petition to the Mansfield Planning/Zoning Commission was properly filed requesting that the property described here-in-above be rezoned and all proper notices and procedures have been followed:

AND WHEREAS, the Mansfield Board of Aldermen has recommended that said property be rezoned:

SECTION 1. The property shall be rezoned from an R-2 District (Multi-Family Residence District) to a B-2 (Neighborhood Business District) said property being described as herein above.

SECTION 2. All parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

This Ordinance was introduced by Alderman Mitchell L. Lewis on the 24th day of May, 2021, with second by Alderwoman Mary J. Green, and passed, to publish the Ordinance title on June 10, 2021, and present for adoption on June 14, 2021

UPON MOTION of Mitchell L. Lewis and SECONDED by Christopher S. Thomas, the above and foregoing ordinance was adopted on this the 14th day of June, 2021, with the votes as follows:

Yeas: 5
Nays: 0
Absent: 0
Abstain: 0

New Business:

Item A: It was MOTIONED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** and SECONDED by **CHRISTOPHER S. THOMAS** to approve selection of *The Enterprise and Interstate Progress* to serve as the city's Official Municipal Journal for fiscal year beginning **July 1, 2021** and ending **June 30, 2022** pursuant to LA R.S. 43:141(A) and LA R.S. 43:147(A)(B). Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item B: After review of the city's annual **Municipal Water Pollution Prevention (MWPP) Environmental Audit Report**, it was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and MOTIONED **CHRISTOPHER S. THOMAS** to adopt the **Resolution** on page 17 as mandated by the LA Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) to maintain requirements for our Louisiana Pollution Discharge Elimination System (LPDES) Permit No. **LA 0038962**, the permit number assigned to our Wastewater Treatment Plant. Through this report, the city informs the LDEQ of certain actions taken or that will be taken to maintain its permit requirements. The city resolves each year to continue to annually review user charges and adjust same as necessary to ensure sufficient funds for operation, maintenance, and repairs to equipment within the system. Additionally, the city resolves to seek alternative funding sources for collection system improvements located in areas not eligible for LCDBG funding. Finally, the city will encourage continued education and training by adequately funding educational expense for Operator Certification and Training activities. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item C: It was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** to approve authorization for the Mayor to enter into and execute an Agreement for Redistricting Services between the City and **Data Center, LLC** (Kenner, LA) using current data from the year 2020 U.S. Census. It is expected that this data will be released for review and use by mid-August 2021. The act of redistricting is both required and should be consistent with Louisiana State law as mandated by LA R.S. 33:382(F). The purpose of this action is to determine if the boundaries of the districts continue to divide the municipality into districts of nearly equal population. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item D: At this time, a presentation was offered by Ms. **Amanda Flynn**, *Business Consultant* for a the **Louisiana Small Business Development Center (LSBDC)** announcing upcoming workshops, conferences, courses and available business information resources offered for the enhancement of economic development in the small-business community. The LSBDC is funded by the **U. S. Small Business Administration, Louisiana Economic Development** and participating institutions of higher education. Additionally, the LSBDC currently serves seven (7) regional locations across all 64 parishes. This agency provides professional, no-cost expertise to start-up or existing small businesses. Her team offers guidance on how to draft a business plan, assistance on determining how much money is needed to get the business started, and even guiding the entrepreneur on what new venture to pursue. This agency actively and

aggressively promotes innovative ideas and advances economic development in Louisiana. The Mayor and Aldermen expressed appreciation to Ms. **Flynn** for the information disseminated and assured her that the City stands ready to assist her agency to the extent that it can to further advance her agency's efforts. She closed by stating that she will secure a venue soon in Mansfield to host a marketing and training workshop to individuals expressing interest in the resources her agency can offer to their start-up businesses.

Item E: No other new business discussed.

Comments from Mayor Mayweather and/or Council Members: During this period, the Mayor made the City Council aware of the presence of several of the city's Department Heads and vowed to encourage their continued attendance at the Council meetings. Alderman **Christopher Thomas** thanked Public Works Director Joshua Ryals for the recent, accelerated trash pickup around the City. Next, assistant Police Chief, Billy Locke, rose to inform the Mayor and Council of a need for additional personnel for the Police Department. He requested that during budget preparation for fiscal year 2022, an increase in the rate of pay for police officers be considered. He intimated that doing so may encourage interested individuals to apply for employment with the City, along with informing those applicants of a host of other employer-paid benefits afforded them should they accept employment with the City. Mr. Locke also informed the Mayor and Aldermen of several grants his office had applied for the 2021/2022 fiscal year. He concluded by announcing that during the upcoming summer months, one of the grants applied for is sufficient enough to fund the hosting a football camp at Mansfield High School. The camp will be facilitated by small number of retired NFL players.

With no further business to discuss, this meeting was declared adjourned at **5:14 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*