

CITY OF MANSFIELD
MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL WORKSHOP
March 21, 2011

In a *special meeting* called pursuant to the provisions of R.S.: 42.7, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen met on Monday, March 21st, in Mansfield City Hall located at 705 Polk Street. The workshop was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Mayor McCoy, after which an **Invocation** was offered by Alderman Mitchell L. Lewis. The **Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Alderman Alvin R. Woodley. Following the pledge, the oral roll call was suspended, however, the following officials were recorded as present: **Present:** Honorable Curtis W. McCoy, G. B. Hall III –District **A**, Mitchell L. Lewis –District **C** and Alvin R. Woodley –District **E**. **Absent:** Troy N. Terrell – District **B** and Joseph Hall, Jr. –District **D**. **Press Present:** Kriston Newsom (*The Enterprise*).

The Public Comments Period was opened by Mayor McCoy to hear any comments from those in attendance with regard to the sole item up for discussion on the meeting agenda. When no public comments were offered, the **Public Comments Period** was then closed.

This special council workshop was called to invite input and discussion of the City subsidizing the proposed purchase a several large capital expenditures for use in various departments.

A discussion of equipment needed for the **Public Works** area was first deliberated. For this department the following is proposed for purchase: three (3) pickup trucks (two ¾-Ton trucks and one ½-ton) at an approximate cost of \$51,000 for all three, one (1) backhoe costing roughly \$61,000, one (1) Dump Truck estimated to cost \$75,000 and one (1) Street Sweeper with a price tag anticipated between \$125,000 and \$160,000.00. The three pickup trucks and backhoe are under state contract and will not have to be advertised for public bid. The City was recently notified that their 2010/2011 LGAP application for the purchase of a new backhoe was approved. They can anticipate receiving an award of \$27,000 against the total purchase price of roughly \$61,000. However, the dump truck and street sweeper will have to be advertised for bid. In a previous regular meeting, the Council had already authorized the advertisement of bids for improvements to the City's Maintenance/Storage Facility. Alderman G. B. Hall III reported that he has received commitments from outside donors to help underwrite the cost of improvements to the Maintenance/Storage Facility. The purchase of other items for this department, namely a Sewer Machine and a Lowboy Trailer, will be considered at a later date.

Items needed for the **Fire Department** included an upgrade to their communications equipment. The cost attached to this purchase is estimated at \$22,912.00 (quote received from Shreveport Communications). The police department is also receiving a new digital radio communications system. When their equipment was advertised for bid, equipment for the Fire Department was not available. It is not necessary that this equipment be advertised for bid since the estimated cost is less than \$30,000.00. However, other quotes may be procured.

The needs list for the **Police Department** includes the purchase of ten (10) lap top computers for installation in patrol cars. With this equipment, officers will be able to communicate with state police and can receive reports on stolen vehicles, receive accident reports and retrieve a host of other helpful data. The cost of these computers is estimated at roughly \$50,000.00. No expenditures are anticipated in 2011 for the purchase of any new vehicles for this

department. Mayor McCoy commented that practically the entire fleet of vehicles in the police department is new or are late model automobiles.

Other capital expenditures include the purchase of update computer hardware and software equipment for use at Mansfield City Hall. Much of the present equipment is antiquated and productivity is not being maximized. Many daily functions at City Hall are still being performed manually. This upgrade will enhance the court docket system, the collection of property taxes and many accounting functions. This equipment will be advertised for public bid as authorized at the council's February 28th meeting. On another matter, improvements to Gibbs Street are being proposed. The intention is to expand the width of the street by 1½ feet on either side. In conclusion, the proposed purchases for all departments total approximately \$555,000.00. Mayor McCoy reported that we currently have the funds available to subsidize these purchases, due in large part to recent royalties received as a result of lands nominated with the LA State Mineral Board. The City received royalty income a short while ago totaling just over \$785,000.00. A portion of these monies will be used to purchase the equipment specified above. Alderman Hall suggested that we retain some of this '*windfall*' money in case future state or federal grant matches are required. Also, anticipated is recurring revenue from the Hotel Occupancy Tax levied recently, with those collections commencing in January of this year. The proposed purchases are expected to benefit residents in all the districts in some manner.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m. by MOTION from G. B. HALL III with motion SECONDED by ALVIN R. WOODLEY. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Curtis W. McCoy, *Mayor*
Marvin R. Jackson, *Clerk*