

**City of Mansfield**  
**MINUTES OF *SPECIAL* PUBLIC MEETING**  
**November 13, 2018**

In a *special meeting* called pursuant to the provisions of R.S. 42:19, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen met on **Tuesday, November 13th**, in Mansfield City Hall located at 705 Polk Street. Mayor John Mayweather, Sr. 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**, and Joseph Hall, Jr. –District **D**. **Absent**: Kervin D. Campbell –District **E**. **Other City Personnel Present**: Gwen Jones (Deputy Clerk) and Tommie Crawford (Public Relations Officer). **Press Present**: Martha Rivers (interim editor -*The Enterprise & Interstate Progress*).

It was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** to approve the minutes of the **October 22, 2018 regular** City Council meeting and to dispense with the reading. Motion Passed Unanimously.

It was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** to pay current outstanding bills for this period. The city clerk further explained that the bills referenced are those usual expenses which are incurred on a regular monthly basis. With this action, the council is authorizing the payment of recurring encumbrances such as utility bills, insurance premiums, maintenance bills for repair to the city's vehicles (in every department), heavy equipment, court expenses, office and janitorial supplies, etc. 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. The city's Fire Chief (Latarsha Shelton) and a number of Fire Department personnel were in attendance at this meeting. One of the firefighters present (Gwenda Taylor) rose and inquired if any pay increases were being considered for inclusion in the city's 2019 Financial Budget. Mayor Mayweather and a couple of the Aldermen responded, that yes, the 2019 Budget did in fact include an annual pay increase for all full-time City employees in the amount of \$1,200 per employee. It should also be noted that though the Budget is of a very conservative nature, any increase in recurring revenue has been designated for employee benefits. Chief Shelton later rose and voiced concern over outdated bunker gear sets, air packs and various other Fire Department equipment/apparatus, in dire need of replacement. Recently, an itemization of the expired equipment was submitted for consideration as capital expenditures requests for inclusion in the 2019 Budget. One of those capital expenditures was for a new lawn mower, estimated to cost \$3,600. That expenditure (\$4,000) was included in the impending year's budget. However, since limited capital reserves are forecast for 2019, many of the Fire Chief's requests cannot be funded out of the proposed year's budget. To that end, an application for Capital Outlay Appropriation in the amount of \$105,000 for fiscal year 2019-2020, has been submitted to the State's Division of Administration (Office of Facility Planning and Control) to assist with funding needed upgrades to the Fire Department's two fire station facilities and the Department's firefighting gear and equipment. Until we are notified that our

submission has been approved; the city's current budget will be analyzed closer to ascertain if any surplus reserve funds remain which could fund some of the equipment in need of replacement. When no other comments or remarks were offered from the floor, the **Public Comments Period** was then subsequently closed.

**Old Business:**

Item A: It was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** to approve rescission of **Ordinance No. 9 of 2018** due to the recitation of an incorrect physical address reflected in the Notice of Public Hearing published in the October 4<sup>th</sup> edition of our local journal, *The Enterprise & Interstate Progress*. That public hearing notice was related to this Ordinance. The incorrect address recited in the body of the Notice, nullifies the adoption of the Ordinance. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item B: No other old business discussed.

**New Business:**

Item A: **Ordinance No. 10 of 2018** was introduced, drafted to change zoning at the request of petitioner, **Cherrelle Martin Roland**, on property bearing a municipal address of **1313 Pegues Street**, from an R-1 District (Single-Family Residence District) to a B-3 District (Community and Central Business District). This Ordinance replaces the rescinded or repealed **Ordinance No. 9 of 2018**. It was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **MARY J. GREEN** to authorize advertisement of the title of the Ordinance in the November 22<sup>nd</sup> edition of our local journal, and set a public hearing on same for November 26<sup>th</sup>. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item B: At this time, the City's **2019 Proposed Operating Budget** of Revenues and Expenditures was presented. A full copy of the Budget was included in the agenda packages of the Mayor, each Alderman, and each Department Head. The budget consists of six (6) major revenue and expenditure categories. Those categories include anticipated revenues and expenditures for the general funds of the Corporation, Waterworks, Sewer Department, Debt Service Fund, Police Witness Fee Fund, Water Sales Tax Fund, and a detailed review of all capital expenditures. The fiscal year **2019** is forecast to provide **\$5,926,850** in estimated revenues. The Budget is conservative in nature, with expenditures being within the anticipated revenues. No action on its adoption was required at this time. It was simply being presented for review and further discussion at the next regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen.

Item C: It was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** to set a public hearing for the regular Council meeting scheduled for Monday, November 26<sup>th</sup>,

to hear and discuss any comments related to the **2019 Proposed Operating Budget**. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item D: No new other business discussed.

**Comments from Mayor Mayweather and/or Council Members:** Mayor Mayweather did not offer any comments. However, Alderwoman Green stated that with the recent municipal election behind us, the selection of a Mayor Pro Tempore should be placed on an upcoming regular meeting agenda. According to LA R.S. 33:405(A)(3), the Board of Aldermen shall after every municipal election select from among themselves, a Mayor Pro Tempore to preside at all meetings and perform all duties of the mayor in his absence or disability. No comments were offered from any of the remaining Aldermen present at this meeting.

With no further business to discuss, this meeting was declared adjourned at **5:10 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*