

City of Mansfield
MINUTES OF *REGULAR* PUBLIC MEETING
October 26, 2020

In-Person Meeting

The Board of Aldermen met in *regular* session on **October 26th**, in Mansfield City Hall's council room 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 Christopher S. Thomas.** Following the pledge, the roll call was suspended. However, the following officials were recorded as **Present:** Hon. John H. Mayweather, Sr., -**Mayor**, Mary J. Green –District **A**, Christopher S. Thomas –District **B**, Joseph Hall, Jr. –District **D**, and Kervin D. Campbell –District **E.** **Absent:** Mitchell L. Lewis – District **C.** **City Hall Personnel, Dept. Heads, & Other City Personnel Present/Participating:** Gwendolyn Jones (Deputy Clerk), Jim Ruffin (Public Works Director) Joshua Ryals (Water Operator), Billy Locke (Asst. Police Chief), Latarsha Shelton (Fire Chief), Logan Calhoun (Firefighter), and Christopher Samuels (Firefighter). **Others Present/Participating:** John Barr (Dist. Dir. –US Sen. John Kennedy's office) and David L. Ryals (Circuit Rider –LRWA). **Press Present/Participating:** None.

It was MOTIONED by **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** and SECONDED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** to approve the minutes of the **October 12, 2020 *regular*** City Council meeting and dispense with the reading. Motion Passed Unanimously.

A *special* meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen was called and was to be held on Thursday, October 22nd at **6:30 p.m.** to convene **in-person** at Mansfield City Hall in the Council Meeting Room. However, the meeting was **CANCELED** for lack of a quorum present. The only Aldermen present at this *special* meeting were Aldermen **Mitchell Lewis** –District C and **Kervin Campbell** –District E.

The City Clerk next opened the floor to hear public comments from those in attendance/participating to any item outlined on the meeting agenda. Constituents had been invited to participate in the meeting with regard to public comments using the method of either emailing, faxing or phoning in by 4:00 p.m., any public comments they wanted to offer during the Public Comments Period. Since no comments were received by any of the methods outlined above, the **Public Comments Period** was then subsequently closed.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Item A: It was MOTIONED by **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** and SECONDED by **CHRISTOPHER S. THOMAS** to approve the recommendation of the Mansfield Planning & Zoning Commission **granting** the request of petitioners **Demotrice Allen** and **Tina Allen** to situate a mobile home for residential use on property bearing a municipal address of **404 Chamberlin Street** and located in an R-1 District (Single-Family Residence District). The legal

description of this property is described as: BEG. 130FT S OF THE NW COR OF LOT 24 OF PINECREST SUBD. TH RUN E 316 FT, S 124.6 FT, W 316 FT, N 124.6 FT TO THE PT. OF BEG. No objections to the petition were voiced at the October 21st regular meeting of the Commission, and it was mentioned that there are presently other mobile homes in the vicinity. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item B: It was MOTIONED by **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** and SECONDED by **CHRISTOPHER S. THOMAS** to approve the recommendation of the Mansfield Planning & Zoning Commission **granting** the request of petitioners **Darnell Sanders** and **Nicole Sanders** to situate a mobile home for residential use on property bearing a municipal address of **199 Saunders Street** and located in an R-1 District (Single-Family Residence District). The legal description of this property is described as: LOTS 10 & 11 BLK 3 JACKSON SUBD MFLD. No objections were voiced at the October 21st regular meeting of the Commission, and it was mentioned that there are presently other mobile homes in the vicinity. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item C: It was MOTIONED by **KERVIN D CAMPBELL** and SECONDED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** to approve the recommendation of the Mansfield Planning & Zoning Commission **granting** the request of petitioner **Diana Peoples** to situate a mobile home for residential use on property bearing a municipal address of **1403 Shallowhorne Street** and located in a B-2 District (Neighborhood Business District). The legal description of this property is described as: BEG LOTS 31, 32, & 33 BLK 3 JEFFERSON HWY SUBD MFLD. While Ms. **Peoples** was not present at the meeting of the Commission held on October 21st, there were no objections voiced at that meeting to her petition. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item D: At this time, a presentation was made by Mr. **David L. Ryals**, a circuit rider with the *Louisiana Rural Water Association (LRWA)* to hear and discuss the results of a recent, mandated Sewer Rate Study Analysis as required by the provisions of the 2020/2021 Louisiana Development Block Grant (LDBG) project where an award was made to the City for this program which is facilitated by the *Office of Community Development (OCD)*. Mr. **Ryals** stated that it is now a requirement of this program that if a municipality has a public water and/or wastewater system, the system (s) must be sustainable, exclusive of any grant or other appropriation awarded to it. The system must be such that it has adequate revenue so support all the expenses associated with operating and maintaining it. At the completion of the analysis Mr. **Ryals** performed, the results revealed that our wastewater system was not sustainable. For every dollar the City spends to operate the system, we are only collecting approximately 82 cents. To retain the 2020/2021 LCDB grant (\$1,083,000) awarded to the City to perform improvements at our wastewater treatment plant, the sustainability factor must be \$1.13. For every dollar spent to operate and maintain our sewer treatment plant facility and collection system, we must collect

\$1.13. Because our system is currently not sustainable, it has become necessary to increase user fees for the sewer services we offer our customers. At the conclusion of Mr. **Ryals'** presentation, all members of the City Council agreed unanimously to an increase of our sewer system charges. An Ordinance will be drafted for introduction at a near future meeting requesting adoption of the Ordinance to increase sewer system charges for property owners connected to City sewerage lines both inside and outside the City's corporate limits.

Item E: No other new business discussed.

Comments from Mayor Mayweather and/or Council Members: During this period, the no comments were offered from either the Mayor or any member of the City Council.

With no further business to discuss, this meeting was declared adjourned at **5:18 p.m.** by MOTION from **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** and was SECONDED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** Motion Passed Unanimously.

John H. Mayweather, Sr., *Mayor*
Marvin R. Jackson, *Clerk*