

**City of Mansfield**  
**MINUTES OF *REGULAR* PUBLIC MEETING**  
**October 12, 2015**

The Board of Aldermen met in regular session on **Monday, October 12th**, in Mansfield City Hall located at 705 Polk Street. Mayor McCoy called the meeting to order at **4:30 p.m.**, after which an Invocation was offered by **Alderman Kervin D. Campbell**. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Alderman Joseph Hall, Jr.** Following the pledge, the roll was called, and the following officials were recorded as **Present**: Hon. Curtis W. McCoy, **Mayor**, Mary L. Green –District **A**, Mitchell L. Lewis –District **C**, Joseph Hall, Jr. –District **D** and Kervin D. Campbell –District **E**. **Absent**: Roy R. Jones –District **B**. **Other City Personnel Present**: Gwendolyn Jones (Deputy Clerk), Brian Phillips (Court Clerk) and James “*Jim*” Ruffin (Public Works Director). **Others Present**: A. J. Williams, Jr. **Press Present**: None.

It was MOTIONED by **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** and SECONDED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** to approve the minutes of the **September 28, 2015 *regular*** City Council meeting and to dispense with the reading. Motion Passed Unanimously.

It was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** 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 comments were offered from the floor, the **Public Comments Period** was then closed.

**Old Business**: -None.

**New Business**:

**Item A**: A discussion ensued regarding intentions to perform improvements to the DeSoto Plaza Shopping Center (formerly where our **Wal-Mart** store was located) in an effort to help revitalize that quadrant of the City. Mayor McCoy stated that his vision for the facility was to convert a portion of it into a recreation/amusement center, namely the vacant and former **Wal-Mart** store building, similar to the **Party Central** recreation center located in Bossier City. This would be a facility targeted at providing recreational activities for the youth and young adults in our community. It would possibly include such recreational amenities as an indoor go-cart track, a miniature golf course, batting cages, a rock climbing wall, video arcade games, a bungee trampoline and other associated youth-oriented activities. The updated facility may also include a picnic pavilion where short order grills could be installed. Also in this plaza in the slot that **Terrell Bros. Furniture** formerly occupied, plans would be to convert that space into a convention center. All of the remaining spaces could possibly be leased out to private entities. To fund the purchase and improvements proposed for this facility and purchase the equipment for the amusement center, the levy of an additional property tax millage is being considered. To help determine the position of the voters on levying an additional tax millage, the Mayor requested that within the next ten days, each alderman compile a list of at least ten registered voters from their respective districts. A meeting will be scheduled with these voters to convey

our intention to levy an additional property tax millage and for the purpose of informing them of the City's plan to purchase and make improvements to the DeSoto Plaza Shopping Center. On a separate matter, the Mayor also informed the Council of intentions to include an alcoholic beverage issue on an upcoming election ballot. It will be a proposal allowing 'packaged' liquor to be sold in grocery stores and retail outlets such as *Brookshire's Supermarket* and our *Wal-Mart SuperCenter*. Currently, liquor sales are a commodity that we are not receiving any revenue from since all the outlets where alcoholic beverages can be purchased are outside the corporate city limits. Annexation of those outlets into the city limits will also be explored at some future date. All the aldermen present were unanimously in favor of moving forward with both of these issues (the purchase and improvements to the DeSoto Plaza Shopping Center and the sale of alcoholic beverages in grocery stores and retail outlets).

At this time, the Mayor requested that the agenda be amended to include the discussion and approval of a *Cooperative Endeavor Agreement* with the DeSoto Parish Police Jury to make needed improvements to our portion of Sandhill Drive and Vista Lane. When no objections to amend the agenda were received from the floor, it was MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** to amend the agenda to take up discussion of this item. The City will grant the Police Jury access to its portion of the above mentioned streets and make necessary drainage improvements to same, and the Police Jury will provide labor, equipment, and materials to perform the necessary repairs to these two busy thoroughfares. It was then MOTIONED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** to authorize the Mayor to enter into and execute a *Cooperative Endeavor Agreement* with the DeSoto Parish Police Jury to perform identified repairs to Sandhill Drive and Vista Lane. Motion Passed Unanimously.

**Item B:** No other new business discussed.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was declared adjourned at **4:48 p.m.** by MOTION from **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** and was SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS**. Motion Passed Unanimously.

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