

City of Mansfield
MINUTES OF REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING
October 25, 2010

The Board of Aldermen met in regular session on Monday, October 25th, 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 G. B. Hall III. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Alderman Mitchell L. Lewis. Following the pledge, the roll was called by the City Clerk and these officials were recorded as **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 **A** and Joseph Hall, Jr. –District **D**. **Press Present**: John E. Blanchard (*The Enterprise*).

It was MOTIONED by MITCHELL L. LEWIS and SECONDED by ALVIN R. WOODLEY to approve the minutes of the **October 11, 2010** *regular* city council meeting and to dispense with the reading. Passed Unanimously.

The Mayor next opened the floor to hear public comments from those in attendance to any item outlined on the meeting agenda. When none were offered, the **Public Comments Period** was then closed.

Old Business:

Item A: In order to comply with the LA Public Bid Law, city-owned property municipally known as **808 Louise Street**, was advertised in our local journal (*The Enterprise*) on October 7th, October 14th and October 21st. The advertisement was to request the receipt of sealed bids to rent or lease this property. Only bid proposals where the intended use of the property was for commercial purposes, were to be accepted. As of commencement of this meeting, no bids had been received. Therefore, the city council voted unanimously to enter into a lease agreement with Ms. Allie B. Campbell for a period of one year at \$200.00 per month. Alderman G. B. Hall III did request that a stipulation be recited in the agreement that reserves the City's right to consider offers to purchase this property when the lease period expires. It was MOTIONED by ALVIN R. WOODLEY and SECONDED by G. B. HALL III to authorize the Mayor to enter into and execute a formal lease agreement between the City of Mansfield and Ms. Allie B. Campbell stipulating the terms and conditions specified above as well as any others in connection therewith. Passed Unanimously.

Item B: No other old business discussed.

New Business:

Item A: It was MOTIONED by G. B. HALL III and SECONDED by ALVIN R. WOODLEY to approve the recommendation made by Acting Police Chief, Joseph Pratt, to hire officers **DeBrandon L. Jackson** and **Johnny R. Zamarripa** full-time in the Mansfield Police Department. Both officers have demonstrated the ability to interact with the public and conduct themselves in a professional manner. Also, both officers have prior work experience in the Mansfield Police Department. Officer **Jackson** was formerly employed with the Department from September 8, 2004 to July 28, 2010 and Officer **Zamarripa** from August 27, 2004 to December 10, 2007. Chief Pratt remarked that it in observing their work ethic and characters,

both would be valuable assets to the Department in their positions as patrol officers. Passed Unanimously.

Item B: It was MOTIONED by MITCHELL L. LEWIS and SECONDED by ALVIN R. WOODLEY to approve the recommendation made by the Mansfield Planning and Zoning Commission to grant the request of Mr. **Jessie Thomas** to place a mobile home at **1107 Georgia Street**. This property is more particularly described as **Lots 1 & 2, Blk 5 of Fairview Subd., located in SW SW Sec 16, T12, R13**. Passed Unanimously.

Item C: At this time, a presentation was made to Mayor McCoy and the City Council by Rev. Kenneth D. Norton on behalf of Alderman Troy N. Terrell, as the 2010 National Night Out winner. Alderman Terrell's local '*block party*' for this event was the most attended of any of the block parties held on the first Tuesday in August. Alderman Terrell was not present at this meeting, therefore, Rev. Norton opted to present a plaque and placard to the Mayor and City Council. Rev. Norton attended this meeting in his capacity as local chapter president of the NNO organization as and chairman of the Citizens for a Better Mansfield organization.

Next on the agenda was the reception of reports from the City's Department Heads. First to report was Public Works Director, Jim Ruffin. Mr. Ruffin presented his overview of the status of the various contractors performing work within the City's corporate limits. He stated that Wicker Construction, Inc. is 78% complete with their work. They are the contractor performing improvements to the City's Water Distribution System, and were 75% complete as of the October 11th council meeting. Trenchless Methods, Inc., the contractor performing wastewater collection system improvements, are 90% complete with their work. Mr. Ruffin further reported that this contractor is currently under budget and that because of this fact, additional sewer improvements are being considered in Meadow Park Subdivision. The company contracted to install new water meters throughout the City, Thielsch Group, Inc. is about 65% complete with their work. Presently, there are installing two inch meters and meters of greater size in the City. Another contractor, TGS Contractors, Inc. has one (1) generator left to install at the Water Treatment Plant. The generator was delivered on October 22nd, but has not been installed. Installation is expected to commence by month's end. The company performing improvements to the sewer collection system at the old DeSoto Plaza Shopping Center, has completed their work. All improvements have been made and the equipment and appurtenances installed are functioning properly. Next to report was Fire Chief, Lee Shaver. Chief Shaver was not present at this meeting. Therefore, the final department head to report was Acting Police Chief, Joseph Pratt. This was Captain Pratt's first council meeting in his official position as Acting Police Chief. Former Police Chief Don English retired this position on October 15th and Captain Pratt was appointed as Acting Police Chief by Mayor McCoy, until further notice. Chief Pratt reported that since his appointment, two additional police officers had been hired and that three officers are currently enrolled at the Police Academy. He begged the council's patience during this transition period, and remarked that other changes in the Department are forthcoming.

During the **Comment Period** for the Mayor and Council Members, Mayor McCoy informed the attendants to watch for increased police patrol in both the old and new housing projects. He also stated that he has requested that the patrol of area businesses be intensified, especially at night. This will be done in an effort to deter robberies and break-ins. Finally,

Mayor McCoy stated that with the impending commencement of Phase II of the City's Water Distribution System Improvements project, city residents could expect to experience continued inconveniences with regard to property line excavation and possible street closures. Of course, these inconveniences would only be temporary, giving the contractors time to complete their work. Alderman Woodley reminded attendants to vote on Tuesday, November 2nd, in support of the Hotel Tax proposition included on the ballot. The new tax, if passed, will only affect citizens if they reserve lodging at one of the local facilities. The increased revenue will enable the City to provide or enhance other services afforded Mansfield residents. Alderman Woodley also asked about the traffic light at the corner of Gibbs and Jefferson streets. Currently, it has been reduced to a continuous blinking yellow light. Mayor McCoy responded to this inquiry by stating that the LA DOTD is presently conducting a traffic control study to determine if this light needs enhancing to accommodate increased traffic flow in this area.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 4:49 p.m., by MOTION from G. B. HALL III and was SECONDED by MITCHELL L. LEWIS. Passed Unanimously.

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