

City of Mansfield
MINUTES OF *REGULAR* PUBLIC MEETING
September 12, 2016

The Board of Aldermen met in regular session on **Monday, September 12th** in Mansfield City Hall located at 705 Polk Street. Mayor Curtis McCoy called the meeting to order at **4:30 p.m.**, after which an Invocation was offered by **Alderman Mitchell L. Lewis**. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Alderwoman Mary L. Green**. Following the pledge, the roll call was suspended. However, the following officials were recorded as **Present**: Hon. Curtis W. McCoy, **Mayor** Mary L. Green –District **A**, Mitchell L. Lewis –District **C**, and Kervin D. Campbell – District **E**. **Absent**: Brenda H. Hall –District **B** and Joseph Hall, Jr. –District **D**. **Absent due to suspension**: Roy R. Jones –District **B**. **Other City Personnel Present**: Gwendolyn Jones (Deputy Clerk), James “*Jim*” Ruffin (Public Works Director), Tommie Crawford (Public Relations Officer), Latarsha Shelton –Mansfield Fire Dept. (Interim Chief). Others Present: A. J. Williams, Jr., and Raymond Kelly, Jr. **Press Present**: None.

It was MOTIONED by **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** and SECONDED by **MARY L. GREEN** to approve the minutes of the **August 22, 2016 *regular*** City Council meeting and to dispense with the reading. Motion Passed Unanimously.

It was MOTIONED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** and SECONDED by **MARY L. GREEN** 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.

At this time, before discussion of any new business, Mayor McCoy requested that the agenda be amended to include the discussion of a Reciprocal Aid Agreement between the Mansfield Fire Department and **DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 8**. The Agreement proposed is for the purpose of securing to each entity the benefits of reciprocal aid to all incidents in which a structure fire may be involved. When no objections to the amendment were expressed, it was MOTIONED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** and SECONDED by **MARY L. GREEN** to approve amendment of the agenda to include this item. Respectively, each entity agrees to provide automatic aid to geographical location incidents that could possibly involve a structure whether it be commercial or residential. This Agreement is not limited to an actual working fire, but includes still alarms and all other types of calls that are structure related. Further, this aid is to include all equipment, apparatus, personnel and volunteers necessary in response to a working fire or non-active fire incident. Latarsha Shelton was present to represent **DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 8**, and stood to elaborate on the terms of the Agreement distributed to each council member in attendance prior to commencement of this session. It should also be noted that Mrs. Shelton was appointed as interim Fire Chief of the Mansfield Fire Department on September 8th. Mayor McCoy polled each councilman individually to ask if they had any concerns or reservations regarding this

appointment, and all councilmen present agreed that Mrs. Shelton was seemingly capable of performing the duties associated with this position. Mrs. Shelton is the first African American to be appointed to this post in the Mansfield Fire Department. After a brief discussion of this matter, it was MOTIONED by **MARY L. GREEN** and SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** to authorize the Mayor, as Official Signatory for the City, to enter into and execute the Reciprocal Aid Agreement as drafted, by and between the City and the *DeSoto Parish Fire District No. 8*. Motion Passed Unanimously.

New Business:

Item A: It was MOTIONED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** and SECONDED by **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** to approve the recommendation offered by Public Works Director, Jim Ruffin, to offer full-time employment to Mr. **Raymond Kelly, Jr.** with the City of Mansfield. Mr. Kelly has been employed with the City since May 31, 2016 in a probationary status, and assigned to work in the Sanitation Department. Since his employment, his performance evaluation reflects that he is very reliable and has demonstrated the ability to cooperate, work, and communicate with his coworkers and supervisor. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item B: At this time, Mrs. **Jeri Burrell** was scheduled to appear before the Mayor and Council to deliver a presentation, but failed to attend this meeting.

Item C: No other new business discussed.

During the period set aside to receive comments from the Mayor and Councilmen, none were voiced from those officials, but the City Clerk did inform the governing body that the budget process for the 2017 fiscal year had begun. Preliminary preparation of the 2017 Annual Budget of Revenue and Expenditures had commenced. A proposed budget should be forthcoming in a near future regular meeting for the Mayor and Council's review.

With no further business to discuss, this meeting was declared adjourned at **4:44 p.m.** by MOTION from **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** and was SECONDED by **MARY L. GREEN**. Motion Passed Unanimously.

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