

City of Mansfield
MINUTES OF REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING
September 10, 2012

The Board of Aldermen met in regular session on **Monday, September 10th**, 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 Troy N. Terrell**. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Alderman Mitchell L. Lewis**. The oral roll call was suspended; however, the following officials were recorded as **Present**: Hon. Curtis W. McCoy, G. B. Hall III –District A, Troy N. Terrell -District B, Mitchell L. Lewis –District C, and Joseph Hall, Jr. –District D. **Absent**: Alvin R. Woodley –District E. **Others Present**: James “Jim” Ruffin (Public Works Director), Brian Phillips (Court Clerk), Eboni Parker (Public Relations Officer), Richard Johnson, Jr. (City Attorney), Gwendolyn Jones (Deputy Clerk), Joseph Pratt (Chief of Police), David Ryals (Manager –Water Treatment Plant), William Weatherford (CPA & Auditor), Cedric Floyd (President & CEO –Data Center of LA), and Michael Hackworth (city employee). **Press Present**: Vickie Welborn (*The Times*).

It was MOTIONED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** and SECONDED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** to approve the minutes of the **August 27, 2012 regular** City Council meeting and to dispense with the reading. Motion Passed Unanimously.

It was MOTIONED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** and SECONDED by **G. B. HALL III** to approve the payment of current outstanding bills for this period. Motion Passed Unanimously.

The Mayor next opened the floor to hear public comments from those in attendance to any item outlined on the meeting agenda. No comments were offered at this period. The **Public Comments Period** was then closed.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Item A: It was MOTIONED by **G. B. HALL III** and SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** to approve the recommendation of Public Works Director, Jim Ruffin, to offer full-time employment to **Michael A. Hackworth**. He has been employed with the City since June 4, 2012. Upon employment, Mr. Hackworth was assigned to work at the City’s Water Treatment Plant as an operator trainee. He has successfully completed his 90-day probationary period and has become a valuable member of the team at the treatment plant. Finally, Mr. Hackworth has demonstrated a willingness to work well with his co-workers and supervisors, and has shown an ability to complete tasks as assigned. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Item B: At this time, a presentation was offered by Mr. **Cedric Floyd**, President and CEO of **Data Center of LA**, regarding the proposed redistricting and reapportionment of Mansfield City Council Districts. Mr. Floyd informed the Council that districts must be reapportioned after every 10-year census. The first step of this effort is to determine the population of each district. The deviation among districts cannot exceed ten (10%) percent. Once the council districts are

determined to exceed ten percent deviation, they must be redistricted based on the most current U.S. Census. This reapportionment must be performed before the next election (2014). However, it was the request of Mayor McCoy to have this endeavor completed before the closed of 2012. Mr. Floyd will begin consulting with City officials on proposed redistricting plans. Once prepared, the redistricting plans and supporting documentation will be submitted to the U. S. Department of Justice.

Item C: At this time, independent auditor and CPA, Mr. **William Weatherford**, presented his narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the City of Mansfield for the year ended December 31, 2012. He began by stating that the City was in a very strong position, financially. As of the end of 2011, the assets of the City exceeded its liabilities by \$14,261,757. Also, as of the close of the fiscal year 2011, the City's governmental funds reported a combined ending fund balance of \$4,771,821, an increase of \$477,530. On June 14, 2011, the City called for early redemption of the outstanding maturities of the 2001 Series Revenue Bonds (\$425,000) and retired this issue. The City has issued \$4,120,000 of taxable Sales Tax Bonds, Series 2010 through the State's Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund for the purpose of constructing and acquiring improvements, extensions and replacements to its water system. The City has issued \$1,550,000 of Limited Tax Revenue Bonds, Series 2010 for the same aforesaid purpose. The City also issued \$1,214,800 of taxable Sewer Revenue Bonds, Series 2009 to effect improvements to its wastewater collection system. Additionally, despite the fact that other taxing authorities are experiencing a reduction of sales taxes collected, sales tax revenues increased \$559,102 during 2011 from \$2,395,779 during the prior year to \$2,954,811 during the current year. However, with the nation's economic downturn and with the Haynesville Shale not as active as it once was, this trend is not expected to continue in 2012. The City received oil and gas revenues of \$871,103 during the year ended December 31, 2011. On November 10, 2010, the citizens of the City approved, in a special election, the levy of a three percent (3%) hotel occupancy tax to be used solely for public purposes within the City. By the close of 2011, the City had received occupancy taxes totaling \$151,209. Other noteworthy accomplishments during 2011, included an increase in revenue from citations issued by the police department over the prior year by \$57,098. Finally, the City was awarded a Community Development Block Grant in the amount of \$239,470 for street improvements on August 25, 2011. As of December 31, 2011, no funds related to this grant had been expended. In conclusion, Mr. Weatherford complemented Mayor McCoy, the councilmen and the staff on the exceptional way they have handled the financial resources of the City and urged them to keep up the good work.

Item D: No other new business discussed.

During the **Comments Period** for the Mayor and Council Members, Alderman G. B. Hall III expressed his appreciation to Mayor McCoy and his staff on the great done they have done with regard to handling the daily operations of the City. Alderman Joseph Hall, Jr. echoed those sentiments.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at **5:01 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*