

**City of Mansfield**  
**MINUTES OF REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING**  
**September 22, 2014**

The Board of Aldermen met in regular session on **Monday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>**, 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 Joseph Hall, Jr.** The Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Alderman Mitchell L. Lewis.** Following the pledge, the roll was called, and the following officials were recorded as **Present:** Hon. Curtis W. McCoy, Mary L. Green –District **A**, Roy R. Jones –District **B**, Mitchell L. Lewis –District **C**, Joseph Hall, Jr. –District **D**, and Kervin D. Campbell –District **E.** **Absent:** None. **Other City Personnel Present:** James “*Jim*” Ruffin (Public Works Director), Brian Phillips (Court Clerk), Gwendolyn Jones (Deputy Clerk), and Chief Gary Hobbs (Mansfield Police Dept.). **Press Present:** Julie Morris (*The Enterprise*) and Vickie Welborn (*The Times*).

It was MOTIONED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** and SECONDED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR** to approve the minutes of the **September 8, 2014 regular** City Council meeting and to dispense with the reading. 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. At this time, Ms. **Linda D. Sibley**, a Mansfield citizen residing at **139 Francine Avenue**, rose to express her opposition to allowing a mobile home to be situated at **120 Meadow Drive.** Ms. Sibley lives within 300 feet of the site where the proposed mobile home would be situated. Her argument was that she felt having a mobile home placed in this subdivision (Meadow Park Subdv.) would negatively impact the property values in that area. On a separate matter, Mr. **Jeff Heard** stood to remark that he was elated that the Mayor, City Council and the Mansfield Police and Fire Departments chose to publicly acknowledge a recent heroic act performed by Mr. **Michael Brown.** On September 2<sup>nd</sup> during a house fire in the 100 block of Meadow Drive, Mr. Brown rushed into the burning structure to save a four-year from certain fatality. Mr. Heard noticed that later on the agenda, Mr. Brown was slated to be presented with an award for his courageous deed. When no further comments were offered, the **Public Comments Period** was then closed.

**Old Business:**

**Item A:** A Public Hearing was conducted to discuss and hear any comments concerning the adoption of Proposed Ordinance No. 7 of 2014, to change the street name of West City Park Drive to **Riemer Calhoun Circle.** When no comments were offered during this period from any of the attendees at this meeting, the Public Hearing was then closed.

**Item B:** It was MOTIONED by **ROY R. JONES** and SECONDED by **MARY L. GREEN** to adopt **Proposed Ordinance No. 7 of 2014** to change the name of a street located within the City’s corporate limits from West City Park Drive to **Riemer Calhoun Circle.** Motion Passed Unanimously. (Full Ordinance recited below - copy of Ordinance on file at City Hall):

**CITY OF MANSFIELD**  
**ORDINANCE NO. 7 OF 2014**

AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE NAME OF A STREET LOCATED  
IN THE MUNICIPALITY FROM “WEST CITY PARK DRIVE”  
TO “RIEMER CALHOUN CIRCLE”

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Mansfield, State of Louisiana, in regular session convened:

SECTION 1.

Pursuant to a public hearing held on September 8, 2014, subsequent to notice by publication thereof, the name of the street located within the boundaries of the City of Mansfield is changed as follows:

FROM: **West City Park Drive**  
TO: **Riemer Calhoun Circle**

SECTION 2.

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3.

This Ordinance was introduced on September 8, 2014, with public notice published on September 18, 2014.

SECTION 4.

Ordinance becomes effective October 15, 2014.

UPON MOTION OF ALDERMAN Roy R. Jones, seconded by Alderman Mary R. Green, the above and foregoing Ordinance was adopted on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September, 2014, with the votes as follows:

YEAS: 5  
NAYS: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0  
ABSENT: 0

**Item C:** A public hearing was conducted to discuss and hear any comments concerning the the adoption of Proposed Ordinance No. 8 of 2014 to rezone property located at **605 Laura Street** from an R-1 District (Single-Family Residence District) to a B-3 District (Community and Central Business District). When no comments were offered during this period from any of the attendees at this meeting, the Public Hearing was then closed.

**Item D:** It was MOTIONED by **MARY L. GREEN** and SECONDED by **ROY R. JONES** to adopt **Proposed Ordinance No. 8 of 2014** to rezone property with a municipal address of **605 Laura Street** from an R-1 District (Single-Family Residence District) to a B-3 District (Community and Central Business District). Motion Passed Unanimously. (Full Ordinance recited below – copy of Ordinance on file at City Hall):

**CITY OF MANSFIELD  
ORDINANCE NO. 8 of 2014**

AN ORDINANCE TO REZONE FROM AN R-1 DISTRICT (SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENCE DISTRICT) TO A B-3 DISTRICT (COMMUNITY AND CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT) THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY:

LOTS BEG AT IRON PIPE AT INTERSECTION OF N/B/L PEGUES ST & W/L LAURA ST, RUN N 1191.5 FT FOR PT OF BEG, TH W 204 FT, N 100 FT, E 204 FT, S 100 FT TO BEG, (259-268)(531-453) SEC 9 T12 R13(955-703)(979-544)(1003-806)(1053-133)(1135-7)(1143-120) (**605 Laura Street**)

WHEREAS, a petition to the Mansfield Planning/Zoning Commission was properly filed requesting that the property described here-in-above be rezoned and all proper notices and procedures have been followed:

AND WHEREAS, the Mansfield Board of Aldermen has recommended that said property be rezoned:

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Mansfield, in regular session convened:

SECTION 1. The property shall be rezoned from an R-1 District (Single-Family Residence District) to a B-3 (Community and Central Business District) said property being described as herein above.

SECTION 2. All parts of ordinance in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

UPON MOTION OF Alderwoman Mary L. Green, and SECONDED BY Alderman Roy R. Jones, the above and foregoing ordinance was adopted on this the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September, 2014, with the votes as follows:

Yeas: 5  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 0  
Abstain: 0

**Item E:** A public hearing was conducted to discuss and hear any comments concerning the adoption of Proposed Ordinance No. 9 of 2014 to amend Section 2-41 of Article III, Division I, Chapter 2 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Mansfield. When no comments were offered during this period from any of the attendees at this meeting, the Public Hearing was then closed.

**Item F:** It was MOTIONED by **MARY R. GREEN** and SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** to adopt **Proposed Ordinance No. 9 of 2014** to amend Section 2-41 entitled, ***“Wrongful Political Activities by Personnel,”*** Article III (***“Officer and Employees,”*** under Division 1 (***“Generally”***) in Chapter 2 of the Mansfield Code of Ordinances. Motion Passed Unanimously. (Full Ordinance recited below – copy of Ordinance on file at City Hall):

**CITY OF MANSFIELD  
ORDINANCE NO. 9 of 2014**

TO AMEND SECTION 2-41 ENTITLED “WRONGFUL POLITICAL ACTIVITIES BY PERSONNEL” , OF ARTICLE III, DIVISION 1 OF CHAPTER 2, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY THE CITY OF MANSFIELD, LOUISIANA, AND TO PROVIDE FOR RELATED MATTERS

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Mayor and Alderman of the City of Mansfield, Louisiana, in regular session convened, that Section 2-41 of Chapter Two of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Mansfield, Louisiana, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

SECTION 1.

**Sec. 2-41. Wrongful political activities by personnel.**

(a) *Coercing, influencing other personnel.* No officer or employee appointed by the governing authority of the city shall be subjected to coercion, promises or other influence by the officers and employees of the city for the purpose of influencing his vote, support or other political activity in any election or primary election.

(b) *Penalty.* Any officer or employee appointed or employed by the governing authority of the city guilty of violating the provisions of this section shall be subject to discharge or suspension without pay by the mayor and board of aldermen, after a hearing before the city council at which such officer or employee shall have a right to be heard in his defense.

#### SECTION 2.

This Ordinance was introduced at the Council meeting on September 8, 2014, with public notice advertised on September 18, 2014.

#### SECTION 3.

This Ordinance becomes effective on October 15, 2014.

#### SECTION 4.

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith shall hereby be rescinded.

UPON MOTION OF ALDERMAN Mary L. Green, seconded by Mitchell L. Lewis, the above and foregoing Ordinance was adopted on the 22nd day of September, 2014, with the following votes:

AYES: 5  
NAYES: 0  
ABSENT: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0

**Item G:** No other old business discussed.

#### New Business:

**Item A:** Prior to taking formal action on the Mansfield Planning and Zoning Commission's recommendation to approve the request of petitioners **Marvin** and **Annette Wells**, Mayor McCoy opened the floor for further discussion and to hear any comments from the floor on this matter. Mr. **Billy Cotton**, a property owner residing at 125 Meadow Drive, stood and commented that he was not opposed to the Wells' petition to situate a mobile home at **120 Meadow Drive**. Further

Alderwoman Mary Green stated that she had had conversation with at least seven (7) residents in that neighborhood and none were opposed to allowing the Wells to situate a mobile home in the area. Alderman Mitchell Lewis commented that he too had spoken to several residents in that district and received no opposition to the Wells' intention to place a mobile home on Meadow Drive. Likewise, Alderman Kervin Campbell stated that he had conversation with a resident in that neighborhood and the resident expressed no opposition to the petitioner's request. Following these comments, it was MOTIONED by **MARY L. GREEN** and SECONDED by **KERVIN D. CAMPBELL** to approve the recommendation of the Mansfield Planning and Zoning Commission to grant the request of petitioners **Marvin** and **Annette Wells** to place a mobile home on property in an R-1 District with municipal address of **120 Meadow Drive**. Motion Passed Unanimously.

**Item B:** It was MOTIONED by **MARY L. GREEN** and SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** to approve adoption of a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to act as Representative and Official Signatory on a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the State of Louisiana, Office of Facility Planning and Control of the Division of Administration for a **\$50,000** Capital Outlay Appropriation awarded to the City for Wastewater Collection System Improvements, and to provide for all other matters in connection with same. Motion Passed Unanimously.

**Item C:** It was MOTIONED by **ROY R. JONES** and SECONDED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** to approve adoption of a Resolution in support of Constitutional Amendments **3** And **10** slated for inclusion on the November 4<sup>th</sup> election ballot, drafted to assist municipalities in the collection of delinquent property taxes and with the conducting of annual property tax sales. Constitutional Amendment No. 3 preserves local government's right to manage the collection process of delinquent property taxes, and Amendment No. 10 reduces the current tax redemption period from 36 months to 18 months. Motion Passed Unanimously.

**Item D:** It was MOTIONED by **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** and SECONDED by **JOSEPH HALL, JR.** to approve the appointment of Mrs. **Jeri Burrell** and Mrs. **Bettie Carter** to serve as chairman and co-chairman respectively on a Parks & Recreation Committee for the City. They are primarily charged with seeking out avenues where financial assistance may be available to our municipality which would assist with funding improvements to the City's existing recreational parks. The Mayor and City Council are continually searching for means to provide fun, wholesome activities for the youth and young adults in our City and community. Mrs. Burrell and Mrs. Carter are to report periodically to the Mayor and Aldermen and inform them of any funding available to us for this endeavor. The Mayor's administrative staff will then intervene and initiate execution of any further requirements mandated by the agency making the funds available. Motion Passed Unanimously.

**Item E:** At this time, Mayor McCoy called on Police Chief Gary Hobbs, who then called and requested Mr. **Michael A. Brown** to come forward so that he could be recognized for his bravery

in rescuing 4-year old Keyonta' Wyatt on September 2<sup>nd</sup> from a burning house in the 100 block of Meadow Drive. Chief Hobbs presented Mr. Brown with a plaqued Citizenship Award for his selfless display of humanity on behalf of the Mayor, the Board of Aldermen, and the Mansfield Police and Fire Departments. The moment was captured in pictures by both *The Enterprise* and the *The Times*, with Keyonta included in the photos along with his parents and great-uncle, Mr. Brown.

**Item F:** At this time, the incumbent for DeSoto District Judge (Division A -42<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District), Hon. **Robert E. Burgess** was given the floor to make a presentation. Judge Burgess began by thanking the citizens of Mansfield and the parish for allowing him to serve in this capacity for the past 24 years. He refrained from using this platform to campaign for re-election to this office, but simply wanted to express gratitude to the constituents for their support over his more than two decades of service as District Judge.

**Item G:** No other New Business discussed.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was declared adjourned at **5:00 p.m.** by MOTION from **MITCHELL L. LEWIS** and SECONDED by **ROY R. JONES**. Motion Passed Unanimously.

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