

City of Mansfield
MINUTES OF *REGULAR* PUBLIC MEETING
APRIL 24, 2023

The Board of Aldermen met in *regular* session on **April 24, 2023**, in Mansfield City Hall located at 705 Polk Street. Mayor Thomas Jones, Jr. called this meeting to order at **4:30 p.m.**, after which an Invocation was offered by **Alderswoman Mary Green**. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Alderswoman Victoria Jackson**. Following the pledge, the roll call was suspended. However, the following officials were recorded as in attendance at this regular meeting of the City Council. **Present:** Hon. Thomas Jones, Jr., -**Mayor**, Mary J. Green –District **A**, Christopher S. Thomas – District **B**, Victoria W. Jackson –District **C**, Antonio G. Washington –District **D**, and Rita J. Myles –District **E**. **Absent:** None. **City Hall Personnel, Dept. Heads, & Other City Personnel Present:** William Bradford (Attorney) Maria Hogan (City Clerk) Gwendolyn Jones (Deputy Clerk), LaSonja Byrd (HR Director) Tarus Chatman (Public Work) Comiseia Green (Police Dept.), Brady Green (Police Dept) Bryan Ross (Fire Chief), Gwendolyn Taylor (Fire Dept.), Dandre Pouncy (Fire Dept.), Christopher Samuels (Fire Dept.), Ronnie Morris (Code Enforcement Officer), Chris Robinette (Administrator) Jeremy Evans (Clerk of Court) and. **Others Present:** Winfred Johnson, Commeshea Webb, Betty Carter, Katrina Johnson, Jarred Jones, Jimmy Turner (Starlight #111) Ernest Drain (Pride of Anderson #137). **Press Present:** None.

It was MOTIONED by **Rita Myles** and SECONDED by **ANTONIO G. WASHINGTON** to approve the minutes of the **April 10, 2023, *regular*** City Council meeting and dispense with the reading. 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. When no comments were voiced from any of the attendees at this meeting, the **Public Comments Period** was then subsequently closed.

Old Business: None

Item A: It was MOTIONED by **Christopher Thomas** and SECONDED by **Rita Myles**. Approving the Recommendation presented to the City Council by Mayor Thomas Jones to confirm the promotion of Sgt. Christopher Johnson (Acting Chief of Police) to the position of Chief of Police of the Mansfield Police Dept. Motion passed Unanimously.

Item B: Oath of Office of Chief of Police Christopher Johnson by Jeremy Evans Clerk of Court

Item C: MOTIONED by **Mary Green** and SECONDED by **Victoria Jackson** and **Antonio Washington** for the Adoption of the **2023-2024** Operating Budget of the DeSoto Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission for the fiscal year of **July 1, 2023**, through **June 30, 2024**. Motion passed Unanimously.

Item D: MOTIONED by **Antonio Washington** and SECONDED by **Rita Myles** to Approve authorizing the Mayor to enter into and execute a Maintenance Agreement between the City of Mansfield and LA DOTD for Mowing & Litter Pickup for the period beginning **07/01/2023** and ending **06/30/2024**. Motion passed Unanimously.

Item E: MOTIONED by **Antonio Washington** and SECONDED by **Christopher Thomas** to approve a Resolution authorizing the Levy and Collection of certain tax millages for the City of Mansfield, authorizing the proper officials of the Parish of DeSoto, State of Louisiana to spread such taxes for the year **2023**, to provide for the collection of such taxes and otherwise provide with respect thereto.

Comments from the Mayor expressing his congratulations to Chief Christopher Johnson. The Mayor appreciated everyone, the students and staff from Mansfield Middle School, who came out and helped with the Love The Boot cleanup program. The Mayor informed the public that the selling of the old vehicles will be done. The Mayor also updated the public that some new business will be coming to Mansfield soon.

Comments from the City Attorney, updating the public on Broadband. The City Attorney stated that we were approaching the Provider. He had a good conversation with the Developer about raising private dollars. Also, the City Attorney stated that there is a good partnership with the Developer and he revisited the Bond Election to fill in a lot of the gaps as that progressive. As for Federal and Statewide Broadband, we are in a better place than where we were.

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With no further business to discuss, this meeting was declared adjourned at **4:46 p.m.** by MOTION from **Victoria Jackson** and was SECONDED by **Mary Green**. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Thomas Jones, Jr., *Mayor*
Maria Hogan, *Clerk*