

City of Mansfield
MINUTES OF *REGULAR* PUBLIC MEETING
August 14, 2023

In-Person Council Meeting

The Board of Aldermen met in *regular* session on **August 14, 2023**, in Mansfield City Hall located at 705 Polk Street. Mayor Thomas Jones, Jr. called this meeting to order at **4:34 p.m.**, after which an Invocation was offered by **Mayor Thomas Jones Jr**, The Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Alderwoman Mary Green**. 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**, Rita Myles –District **E**. Victoria Jackson – District **C**, Antonio Washington -District **D**, **Absent:** Christopher Thomas -District **B**, **Personnel, Dept. Heads, & Other City Personnel Present:** William Bradford (City Attorney) Ronnie Morris (Code Enforcement Officer), LaSonja Byrd (HR Director) Tommie Crawford (Public Relation) Bryan Ross (Fire Chief) Christopher Johnson (Chief of Police), Michelle Thomas (Asst. Chief of Police), **Others Present:** Jackie Albright (Jackie Pack Dog Grooming) Tarus Chatman (PWD) Darius Adkins (Firefighter), Fred Jones (MPD), Madison Ebarb (MPD), Skylar Ross (MPD), Gloria Adkins, Shirley Youngblood

It was MOTIONED by Mary Green and SECONDED by Victoria Jackson to approve the minutes of the **JULY 24, 2023 *regular*** City Council meeting and dispense with the reading.
Motion Passed Unanimously

Mayor Jones 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

New Business:

Item A: It was MOTIONED by Antonio Washington and SECONDED by Rita Myles to accept the prestation by Chief Christopher Johnson to introduce the new patches for the Mansfield Police Dept. for the uniforms. **Motion Passed Unanimously**

Item B: It was MOTIONED by Mary Green and SECONDED by Antonio Washington to approve Skylar Ross approval for State Pay. **Motion Passed Unanimously.**

Item C: It was MOTIONED by Victoria Jackson and SECONDED by Rita Myles to promote Madison Ebarb to Sergeant with the Mansfield Police Dept. **Motion Passed Unanimously**

Item D: It was MOTIONED by Mary Green and SECONDED by Antonio Washington to approve full-time employment to firefighter Dariu Darrell Adkins with the Mansfield Fire Dept. **Motion Passed Unanimously**

Item E: It was MOTIONED by Antonio Washington and SECONDED by Victoria Jackson to Approval the of Change Order No. 3 for the Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements project (LCDBG funded). This change order is for the piping modifications required by the contractor. **Motion Passed Unanimously**

Item F: It was MOTIONED by Antonio Washington and SECONDED by Victoria Jackson to Approval of Proposed **Ordinance No. 1 of 2023** was introduced at a *regular* meeting of the Board of Alderman of the City of Mansfield, on Monday, **July 24, 2023** in the Council room of Mansfield City Hall located at 705 Polk Street to discuss and hear any comments regarding adoption of the following Proposed Ordinance: An Ordinance drafted to rezone property bearing a municipal address of **540 Kings Hwy.** from an R-2 district (Single Family District) to a B-3 District (Community and Central Business District) at the request of petitioner, **Jackie S. Albright**, as the future site of “**Jackie’s Pack Dog Grooming**”. **Motion Passed Unanimously**

Item G: It was MOTIONED by Antonio Washington and SECONDED by Victoria Jackson to Approve of **Ordinance No 2 of 2023** to increase monthly Paid Time Off accruals by one hour per month for all City employees having worked beyond his or her working test period of 90 calendar days and to otherwise provide with respect thereto. **Motion Passed Unanimously**

Item H: Received an Update on the City of Mansfield Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for the period of 7/1/2023 thru 7/31/2023

Item I: It was MOTIONED by Victoria Jackson and SECONDED by Rita Myles to add an item J and item K to the agenda. **Motion Passed Unanimously**

Item J: It was MOTIONED by Victoria Jackson and SECONDED by Rita Myles to add to the agenda **PURSUANT TO LA. R.S. 42:19.1 NOTICE OF CONSIDERATION OF ACTION REGARDING AD VALOREM TAX NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the City of Mansfield, State of Louisiana will meet on **Monday, September 11, 2023, at 4:30 p.m.**, at the Mansfield City Hall, 705 Polk Street, Mansfield, Louisiana, at which time there will be consideration of action regarding calling an election to authorize the incurring of debt through the issuance of general obligations bonds and the levy and collection of an **ad valorem tax** dedicated to the payment of the principal, interest, and premium, if any, on the bonds. The proceeds of the bonds will be used for constructing and maintaining infrastructure to allow third parties the ability to provide **broadband** to the residents and businesses of Mansfield. **Motion Passed Unanimously**

Item K: It was MOTIONED by Victoria Jackson and SECONDED Rita Myles to add to the agenda **PURSUANT TO LA. R.S. 42:19.1 NOTICE OF CONSIDERATION OF ACTION REGARDING AD VALOREM TAX NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the City of Mansfield, State of Louisiana will meet on **Monday, September 11, 2023, at 4:30 p.m.**, at the Mansfield City Hall, 705 Polk Street, Mansfield, Louisiana, at which time there will be consideration of action regarding calling an election to authorize the continuation of the levy and collection of an existing **ad valorem tax** for the purpose of providing general funds for any lawful corporate purposes of the City. **Motion Passed Unanimously**

Comments: Mayor Thomas Jones Jr informed the public that the City of Mansfield had joined the lawsuit pertaining to PFAS. Also, Mayor Jones gave an update on the Surplus Sale, and funds collected from Building Permits. Mayor Jones stated that the city had been allocated \$300,000 for water and sewer from the state through a grant that Representative Kenny Cox was able to secure through House Bill 560 during the legislative session.

With no further business, this meeting was adjourned at **4:58 p.m.** by MOTION from **ANTONIO WASHINGTON** and was SECONDED by **RITA MYLES**.

Motion Passed Unanimously.

Thomas Jones, Jr., *Mayor*

Maria Hogan, *City Clerk*