

**City of Mansfield**  
**MINUTES OF REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING**

**September 11, 2023**

**In-Person Council Meeting**

The Board of Aldermen met in *regular session* on **September 11, 2023**, in Mansfield City Hall located at 705 Polk Street. Mayor Thomas Jones, Jr. called this meeting to order at **4:35 p.m.**, after which an Invocation was offered by **Alderswoman Victoria Jackson**. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Alderswoman 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, Christopher Thomas -District B, **Absent: None, Personnel, Dept. Heads, & Other City Personnel Present:** William Bradford (City Attorney) LaSonja Byrd (HR Director) Bryan Ross (Fire Chief), Maria Hogan (City Clerk), **Others Present:** Sharon Collins, Imogene Lloyd, Shelia Youngblood, Katina Lane, Linda Williams, Clara Canada, Matthew McKee, Chassidy Robinson

It was **MOTIONED** by Antonio Washington and **SECONDED** by Christopher Thomas to approve the minutes of the **AUGUST 28, 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**

Item A: It was **MOTIONED** by Antonio Washington and **SECONDED** by Christopher Thomas to approve Resolution #13 of 2023 adopting a Citizen Participation Plan for the CDBG Program. **Motion Passed Unanimously**

Item B: Public Hearing- The purpose of the meeting is to obtain views on the housing and community development needs of the City of Mansfield and to discuss the submission of an application for funding under the State of Louisiana (LCDBG) program. The floor was open for comments

Imogene Lloyd of 713 Norris St expressed her concern about the old house next door. Imogene Lloyd stated she had pictures of the over grown property and

that she had been doing her best to keep it clean. Imogene Lloyd stated the property has caused rats and snakes to be on an around her house.

Clara Canada of 704 Jacobs St stated her concern about the property at 706 Jacobs St. Clara Canada stated that no one live there and the up keep has not been done on the property.

Shelia Youngblood was concern about the property at 706 Jacobs St, because this property is in her back door. Shelia Youngblood stated that there were old dog houses on the property and causing rats to migrate to her houses.

Rita Myles spoke about the property next door to her. The house has been abandoned for several years.

Mary Green stressed her concern about the property at 710 Jacobs St being over grown.

Attorney Bradford explained the property standards and lien on property. Attorney Bradford suggested that the city implement the property owners to maintain properties.

Alderswoman Victoria Jackson stated that she spoke to the Code Enforcer about some abandon mobile homes in her district that are an eye sour to the community.

Alderman Washington suggested we address an ordinance to make sure that a certain year on mobile homes and skirting be enforced to put them in the city.

Attorney Bradford suggested the city put polices and ordinances in order.

Mayor Thomas Jones assured the community that the city will do everything to make the City of Mansfield beautiful. **The Public Hearing was closed**

Item C: It was MOTIONED by Christopher Thomas and SECONDED by Antonio Washington, Approval of a Resolution ordering and calling a special election to be held in the City of Mansfield, State of Louisiana, to authorize the continuation of an existing 8.80 mills tax on assessed valuation on all the property subject to taxation in the City for the purpose of providing general funds for any lawful corporate purposes of the City; and further making application to the State Bond Commission for consent and authorization to hold the aforesaid election; and providing for other matters in connection therewith. **Motion Passed Unanimously**

Item D: It was MOTIONED by Christopher Thomas and SECONDED by Rita Myles, Approval of a Resolution ordering and calling a special election to be held in the City of Mansfield, State of Louisiana, to authorize the incurring of debt and issuance of bonds therein; making application to the State Bond Commission in connection therewith; and providing for other matters in connection therewith. **Motion Passed Unanimously.**

Item E: It was MOTIONED by Mary Green and SECONDED by Rita Myles Approve Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding dated May 26, 2023 between the City of Mansfield and Louisiana Connected, LLC." **Motion Passed Unanimously.**

Comments: Mayor Thomas Jones Jr thanked the community for showing up to the meeting and showing their concern about the city. The mayor assured them that the city will diligently put forth every effort to solve the blighted properties. Alderwoman Mary Green stated that she received a call, complimenting Chief Ross on a great job his department was doing.

With no further business, this meeting was adjourned at 5:08 p.m. by MOTION from VICTORIA JACKSON and was SECONDED by RITA MYLES **Motion Passed Unanimously.**

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