

# City of Mansfield

## AGENDA

City Council Meeting Agenda  
March 9, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.  
Mansfield Community House  
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- I. Call to Order:
- II. Agenda Approval:
- III. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance:
- IV. Newton County Sheriff's Report:
- V. Citizen's Comments on Agenda: *Limited to Agenda Items only for 5 minutes each*
- VI. Approval of Minutes:
  - a. February 10, 2020 Council Meeting Minutes
- VII. New Business:
  - a. Approving the Antique Fire Truck Repairs
  - b. Approving Turnipseed's Proposal for Engineering Services to assess the Sewerage Treatment Plant condition
  - c. COVID-19
  - d. GPW Broadband Project
  - e. Storm Drain Repair on Hardman St
  - f. Sara Sometti Michaels Email on Filming in Mansfield
- VIII. Citizen's Comments on Non-Agenda Items: *Limited to 5 minutes each*
- IX. Adjournment:

# City of Mansfield

## MINUTES

City Council Meeting Minutes  
March 9, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.  
Mansfield Community House  
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PRESENT: GW Davis Jr, Perry Lunsford, Blair Northen, Austin Mitchell, Bryan Hale, Helen Robertson (late)

OTHERS PRESENT: Miranda Hale, Kory Wilson, Mary Ann Davis, Walter Tuggle, Elsie Smith, William & Sarah Cocchi, David NaDell, Willie Belcher, Delores Bagby, Connie Moore, Henry Loyd, John Napoli, Ashlan Webb

The meeting was called to order at 7:01PM.

The honorable mayor GW Davis Jr stated that while in training for Newly Elected Officials, he found out that the proper protocol for council to vote is by raising their hands, so after Councilman Austin Mitchell made the motion to approve the agenda and Councilman Blair Northen gave the second, he asked all those council present and in favor of the motion to show by raising their hand. The motion passed 4/0. (Councilman Helen Robertson was not present at this time but did arrive shortly after.)

Immediately, the honorable mayor GW Davis Jr grievously shared news regarding our community and country beginning with the passing of 2 current or former citizens, who were past members that served our community or had family that served our community; Ms. Fran Blackwell and Ms. Fontaine Schoenfeld. He announced that today marked the largest fall on Wall Street in one day since 2008 and read the following statement that he prepared for tonight's meeting:

The Coronavirus concern is impacting all around us. From Dobbins AFB where 34 cruise ship coronavirus exposed persons are being transported to nearby Hard Labor Creek State Park where a holding area for quarantined coronavirus patients is being prepared. We are in contact with our local EM officials and are receiving updates from the state and the CDC. The best advise has been given over and over; wash hands diligently, use hand sanitizer and be careful about attending crowded places. In the interest of complete transparency I want to let you know that we have had one person who attended last week's Public Hearing and Work Session is being quarantined for COVID-19 type symptoms. If this case is confirmed I will let you know. There may be Dark days ahead and we will need each other's prayers and support.

Mr. Willie Belcher gave a touching invocation and the honorable mayor lead everyone in the pledge.

Newton County Sheriff Deputy T Smith brought greetings from the Sheriff's office and brought news about the sub-precinct, stating that Ms. Gray is now working. Citizen's voiced concerns about speeding

tractor-trailers and cars that seems worse during early mornings and school hours. It was noted, however, that the presence of Newton County Sheriff's Office does make a difference.

There were no citizens comments on agenda items.

The honorable mayor pro tempore Perry Lunsford made a motion to approve the February 10, 2020 Council Meeting Minutes and Councilman Austin Mitchell gave the second. All Council voted 'aye'. The motion passed 5/0.

Mayor pro tempore Perry Lunsford made a motion to approve the repair of the City's antique fire truck as-long-as it did not exceed \$1,000. Councilman Austin Mitchell gave the second. Councilman Austin Mitchell said he contacted the NCSO about installing a lock to have access to the fire truck, but they expressed concerns about the security of the lock and it was decided that the process would remain the same, the city would get access by the NCSO. Councilman Blair Northen suggested the truck not be worked on in the old station bay but suggested it continue to be stored there. It was also determined that it has been at least 10 years since the truck run. Also, Councilman Blair Northen, Councilman Austin Mitchell, and John, along with the repairman will try to meet on a Saturday to see if there is a bigger issue than just the distributor and carburetor that need to be repaired. Reminding everyone of the motion, the honorable mayor GW Davis Jr called for a vote to repair the antique fire truck as-long-as the repairs did not exceed \$1,000. All council present voted 'aye'. The motion passed 5/0.

Councilman Blair Northen made a motion to table item VII b. but wanted discussion as to why. Councilman Austin Mitchell gave the second. Councilman Blair Northen explained that in attending the Newly Elected Officials conference he learned that there are grants available for these exact services proposed by Turnipseed. The City is going to explore what is available in grants, etc. Councilman Blair Northen also took the opportunity to express the importance of the 2020 Census and encouraged everyone to make sure they are counted. All council present voted 'aye'. The motion passed 5/0.

The honorable mayor GW Davis Jr said that he moved most of what he had to share on COVID-19 to before our prayer but continued by saying it is not easy to get tested and if someone is having the "type" of symptoms, self-quarantine is recommended. The symptoms are fever and respiratory problems such as; cough, shortness of breath, pneumonia like symptoms. He urged everyone to listen to the science and health officials rather than political rhetoric. He explained, the elderly are at a greater risk and have been much more impacted than younger people. He said 100% of the cases in the U.S. are 60+ years old. He continued to urge everyone to not denounce their neighbors in need, shop for them, prepare a meal, etc., the degree of separation is not far. There are local civic organizations and churches that are forming groups to step up to help people in need. He encouraged everyone to pray.

Moving on, the honorable mayor GW Davis Jr shared that he received an email from Mr. Greg Clay of the Georgia Public Web and said he is going to contact him and find out the status of the fiberoptic project that will run to the City's water tower to give the City wireless broadband.

The honorable mayor GW Davis Jr explained that Item VII e. was not discussed at the work session because it is a situation that has come up since then. He proceeded by saying, because of the heavy rains we have been experiencing, there has been a washout on Hardman St. It appears that it has been undermining for awhile and it will not be an easy repair because one side is higher than the other side and the other side is a wetland, commented mayor pro tempore Perry Lunsford. The honorable mayor GW Davis Jr continued to explain that the City has asked for bids from 5 contractors but has only received 2 as of tonight's meeting. Councilman Blair Northen suggested reaching out to Baldpates Contractors for a bid and to hold a Special Called Meeting on Thursday, March 12 @ 5:30PM to award the contract.

There will be a meeting arranged regarding the filming in Mansfield before a determination is made.

The first citizen comment made on non-agenda items came from Mr. Davis NaDell Sr., 3145 Hwy 11. Mr. NaDell stated that he heads up the Mansfield Super Senior's meeting on Tuesdays and assured everyone that they have been taking steps towards protection from the Coronavirus and suggested that a list or sign up sheet be created for the Council Meetings to know who has been in attendance.

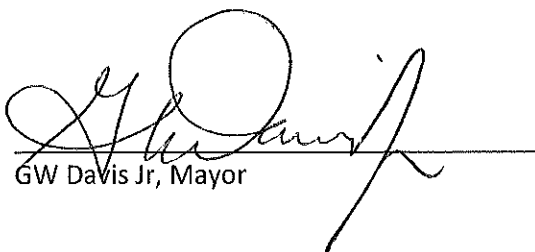
Mr. Henry Loyd, 265 Loyd Rd, asked where the sub-division on Loyd Rd was going.

Mrs. Connie Moore, 161 Loyd Rd, asked the Mayor and Council to reconsider putting in speed bumps that had already been there back. She commented that the existing driveways are already blind driveways and with the addition of 5 new houses, she is more concerned. The honorable mayor GW Davis Jr told Mrs. Moore that the City would do some research on the request.

Mr. Walter Tuggle, 111 Fifth Ave, asked for an update on the light in the City Center. There was little update available at-this-time.


Councilman Austin Mitchell made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Blair Northen gave the second. All Council voted 'aye'. The motion passed 5/0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:02PM.

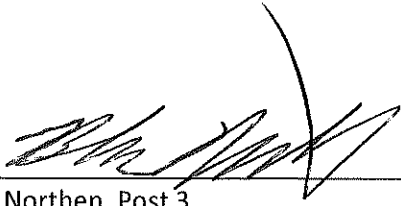


GW Davis Jr, Mayor

Perry Lunsford, Post 1, Mayor Pro Tempore

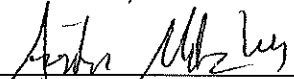


Helen Robertson, Post 2



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Blair Northen, Post 3



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Austin Mitchell, Post 4



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Bryan Hale, Post 5