City of Mansfield Council Meeting Minutes

City Council Meeting Minutes May 8, 2023 – 7:00 p.m. Mansfield Community House Page 1 of 3

PRESENT: GW Davis Jr, Blair Northen, Marty Smallwood, Helen Robertson, and Fred Purvis

Absent: Scott Colyn

OTHERS: Theresa Smallwood, Elsie Smith, and Crystal Smallwood

Mayor GW Davis Jr. called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. During the moment of reflection, Mayor Davis asked if anyone had anything to reflect on during the moment of reflection. The Sims Family and the Kinard family was mentioned, Jimmy Mote Family, Veterans and soldiers and upcoming Mother's Day. After the moment of silence, Mayor Davis then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Davis presented the agenda with 1 deletion: ARPA funds- Pine St project. He then called for the agenda adoption. Mayor Pro Tem, Blair Northen made motion to accept the corrected agenda, Councilman Marty Smallwood seconded the motion. No discussion. The vote was unanimous.

Mayor Davis presented minutes April 10,2023. Councilman Marty Smallwood made motion to accept the April 10, 2023, minutes as presented. Northen seconded the motion. No discussion. The vote was unanimous.

No citizen comments on agenda items.

Old business discussed as follows:

Budget Planning purposes: Items were presented with bids that were received so far as follows:

Generator for Sewer Plant w/ Installation\$20,000Tree Trimming\$15,000Truck Repair\$15,000Speed bumps\$6000

Projects include:

Fire truck \$2000 Old City Hall \$3500

Northen made a motion to accept bids for budget planning purposes only as presented equaling \$61,500. Smallwood seconded the motion. Discussion included: checking with DOT to get further clarification on the Hwy $11/3^{rd}$ St. intersection repair, seeking lower bids in the meantime and what could be used with ARPA funds.

New Business:

Mayor Davis presented the proposal from MEAG on purchasing power during months where we fall short. This will allow Mansfield to be less vulnerable when having to go to the market to purchase power. Northen made a motion to purchase 218,400 kW at a fixed rate of \$40.00 per mWh during the months of June, July, August, and September 2023. Smallwood seconded the motion. No discussion. All in favor.

Mayor Davis stated ECG came to the office to present the 2024 budget. The increase will be \$5812.00. There is a fund for educational, Training and development that we can use to offset the increase. The availability in the fund is \$3679.79. Northen made a motion to table, however Mayor Davis stated there was no call for a vote because the budget is locked in for 2 years. Tree trimming has been removed, but it won't be off the budget until 2025. Some discussion included what services are provided and how much we use the services. It was asked to email the paperwork to all council members from the budget meeting. No action needed.

Mayor Davis presented an application from James Read located at 3352 Hwy 11S Mansfield to deannex from the city. Smallwood made a motion to deny the request. Northen seconded the motion. Discussion included after speaking with the city attorney, some didn't think this was good practice. No other discussion. All in favor.

Business license renewal from JT marble was presented. Smallwood made a motion to accept the business license. Northen seconded the motion. No discussion. All in favor.

The alcohol license was presented from Mansfield Market Place dba Mansfield Shell. Northen made motion to accept license. Smallwood seconded the motion. No discussion. Vote 3/1 with Robertson opposing.

JET Maintenance proposed an additional inspection monthly on the Poplar St pump station with the repairs that had occurred over the past month. The increase will be \$110.00 per month. Smallwood made a motion to accept. Purvis seconded the motion. No discussion. All in favor.

The sign ordinance was presented and needed to be updated. Smallwood made a motion for a moratorium on all signs for 60 days. Any person wishing to erect a sign, whether business or personal, MUST seek council approval. Northen seconded the motion. No discussion. All in favor.

The city has been in contact with DTS (Delinquent Tax Service) pursuing late property taxes. The only cost to the city will be advertising. The company adds fees to the balance and will get paid once the taxes are paid or property is sold. Northen made a motion to use the third-party company to collect delinquent property tax on taxes 3 years and later past due. Smallwood seconded the motion. Discussion included the city will revisit and seek payment on 2 years instead of 3. This will be on the agenda at a later meeting. All in favor.

During the software conversion it was discovered several lights on private property are not being billed. It may have been a prior administration agreement, but it is unclear. Northen made a motion to bill any customers that have a security light on private property for the light. The City shouldn't pay unless it directly benefits the city or safety issues within the city. Smallwood seconded the motion. No discussion. All in favor.

An invoice was presented from Hays Tractor for the repair of the John Deere for \$4440.38. Northen made a motion to pay the invoice. Purvis seconded the motion. Discussion included all repairs must be in the form of a quote first to make sure it will not be over \$1000.00 before any work is done in the future. Procedures must be followed and future invoices over \$1000 without approval will not be paid unless it is an emergency. All in favor

To sell surplus items did not receive a motion.

Mayor Davis presented a request to close the alley located at 2956 Hwy 11 from the Prosser/Biggers family. Northen made a motion to accept the request with understanding the city will not incur any fees or charges. The alley will be split 50/50 with landowners. Purvis seconded the motion. No discussion. All in favor.

Citizen comments included from Theresa Smallwood there should be a New Hires training to go over policy and procedures with a document signed by employees and should be consistent to prevent any further miscommunication with new hires or employees being promoted.

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GW Davis Jr, Mayor
Marty Smallwood, Post 1
Helen Berlson
Halan Dahartson Dost 3

Blair Northen, Post 3, Mayor Pro Tempore

Scott Colyn, Post 4

Fred Purvis, Post 5