

City of Mansfield

Council Meeting Minutes

City Council Meeting Minutes
June 12, 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: Walter Tuggle, Mr. & Mrs. Cowan, Elsie Smith, Cliff Shockley, 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 Walton Family, food pantry and anyone in need was mentioned. After the moment of silence, Mayor Davis then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Davis presented the agenda and called for the agenda adoption. Mayor Pro Tem, Blair Northen made motion to accept the corrected agenda, Councilman Fred Purvis seconded the motion. No discussion. The vote was unanimous.

Mayor Davis presented minutes May 8, 2023 and June 5, 2023, Special Called meeting. Northen made motion to accept the May 8, 2023 minutes as well as the Special called meeting minutes from June 5, 2023, minutes as presented. Purvis seconded the motion. No discussion. The vote was unanimous.

No citizen comments on agenda items.

Old business: None

New Business:

Mayor Davis presented the City of Civility Resolution. Northen made a motion to accept resolution. Councilman, Marty Smallwood seconded the motion. No discussion. All in favor.

Mayor Davis presented the variance request from 3860 Hwy 213. He recommended the city continue with the consistency of previous requests which were 6-month limits. Smallwood made a motion to accept request with a January 1, 2024, deadline. Northen seconded the motion. Discussion included adding stipulation of a 90-day review to make sure adequate progress was being made. If there is no progress, the camper would have to be moved by October 1, 2023. Progress is defined as removal of trash and maintenance of yard and premises. Also, no water and sewer should be hooked to camper. No other discussion. All in favor of motion with stipulations.

Mayor Davis revisited the need to adopt Newton County animal ordinance due to the conflict with the city not having an animal control officer and court system. This can be changed back to a Mansfield ordinance at any time. Northen made a motion to adopt Newton County Animal Control ordinance and authorizing the Animal Control Department to enforce such ordinance. No Discussion. All in favor.

Northen made a motion to table the sign ordinance until next meeting. Smallwood seconded the motion. Discussion included continuing to look for ordinance that is in place, look at the two other cities and revise the ordinance, we still have a remaining 30 days left of the moratorium. No other discussion. All in favor

Delinquent property tax has been turned over to the collection service. Northen made a motion to authorize the Mayor or Clerk to sign necessary paperwork to enter a levy of taxes and FIFA. Smallwood seconded the motion. Discussion included how to handle delinquent taxes going forward but will be discussed later. All in favor.

Business license renewal from Too Unique & Company and a new business license from Mansfield Shell was presented. Northen made a motion to accept the business license. Purvis seconded the motion. No discussion. All in favor.

Mayor Davis presented plans for fencing in the old jail. A letter was mailed to the adjacent business owner however no buildings have been moved. The proposed fencing is under the Mayor authority but was presented so council could decide on style. A perimeter fence will be put in by city works consisting of chain link poles with chain ran thru eyelets to make the appearance more in line with the look of downtown Mansfield rather than a chain link fence. No action needed.

Northen made a motion to cancel any previous votes to survey other city property. Purvis seconded the motion. No discussion. All in favor.

Northen made a motion to place generator and Kubota lawnmower on govdeal.com. Smallwood seconded the motion. No discussion. All in favor

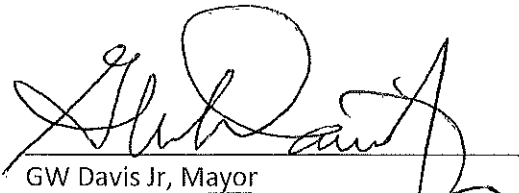
Mayor Davis presented the increase from Burgess & Son. Due to the increase in landfill fees, they are forced to increase each can by \$1.00. It is the mayor recommendation to pass along the \$1.00 to the citizens. We are still \$1.00 cheaper than surrounding cities. Northen made a motion to increase each can by \$1.00. Smallwood seconded the motion. No discussion. All in favor.

Mayor Davis presented the proposed budget. Northen made a motion to accept the budget. Smallwood seconded the motion, and the budget was up for discussion. Discussion included projects that were not addresses. Smallwood stated 5th Ave and Pine wasn't addressed. He also pointed out an error where 3rd Ave and Hwy 11 was on SPLOST and ARPA. SPLOST funds were addressed due to no activity since 2018. It was determined we could pay for the paving of the trail from SPLOST funds leaving excess funds to fund other projects including paving other roads, repairing sidewalks, etc. Northen stated Ms. Smallwood has been speaking with Greg Ashworth at Turnipseed. We currently have 20,740.66 in a sinking fund that was necessary with a prior project. These funds can be moved to the water fund to offset expenditures for site prep for the new sewer plant as this is no longer a requirement from GEFA for a loan. The 2017 SPLOST will have to go to a ballot due to 115,668 being allocated to public safety and we are not going to be able to use that money for that purpose. Mayor Davis also recommended a special called meeting to discuss allocation of projects. After much discussion Northen made a motion to withdraw the motion on the table. Smallwood seconded the motion. All in favor. Northen made a motion to approve proposed budget with changes of 44,642.02 being moved from SPLOST to general to cover the paving of Cricket frog trail, leaving \$106,590.00 to be used for various paving and sidewalk repairs. Furthermore moving 20,740.66 from the sinking fund to the water/sewer fund closing out the sinking fund account. Smallwood seconded the motion. All in favor

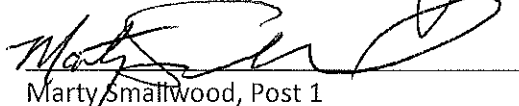
Mayor Davis called for a special meeting on June 26, 2023, at the community center at 7pm. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss the allocation of monies to projects from the SPLOST/ ARPA funds.

Citizen comments included Cliff Shockley. He addressed the council about the letter he received concerning his dog and camper. He stated his dog was on a runner and could get into the shed where his house, food and water were. He also stated we had incorrect information about the camper as no one was living in the camper but would have it moved by the timeframe listed on the letter. Mayor explained runners were not acceptable and he would need to continue his fence or get a kennel for the dog. No one is taking his dog; everyone just wants what is best for citizens and animals.

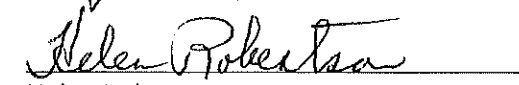
No further discussion. Northen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Smallwood seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:58



GW Davis Jr, Mayor



Marty Smallwood, Post 1

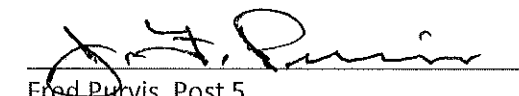


Helen Robertson, Post 2



Blair Northen, Post 3, Mayor Pro Tempore

Scott Colyn, Post 4



Fred Purvis, Post 5