

MINUTES
OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL
JULY 12TH, 2021 5:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Mike Brening

Mayor Pro Tem Solomon Ferguson

Councilmember Judy Foster Pike

Councilmember Quardez Warrior

Councilmember Jimmy Dyer

STAFF PRESENT:

Interim City Manager Mike Stewart

City Clerk Lea Spell

City Attorney Nathan Lee

Chief Gray Couch

Fire Chief Ben Williams

Mayor Brening called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. in City Hall. Mayor Pro Tem Solomon Ferguson gave the invocation and Mayor Brening led the pledge of allegiance.

Motion was made to approve the agenda by Judy Foster Pike and seconded by Jimmy Dyer. Vote was unanimous with 5 ayes.

Motion was made by Solomon Ferguson, seconded by Quardez Warrior to approve the June 14th regular meeting minutes. Vote was unanimous with 5 ayes.

Motion was made by Jimmy Dyer, seconded by Solomon Ferguson to approve the June 17th called council meeting minutes. Vote was unanimous with 5 ayes.

Nneka Carter with the Manchester Development Authority asked the Mayor and Council to look for invitations for two ribbon cutting ceremonies to be scheduled the latter part of July. She also thanked City employees (both current and former) for their help with a successful July 3rd event. Further mentioned were upcoming events to be held at the President Theatre.

New Meriwether County Administrator, Brad Vaughn, introduced himself to the Mayor and Council. He thanked the City for the work it does and expressed his appreciation on behalf of Meriwether County.

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cont.

Manchester citizen, Alfred Dingler, appeared before the council with several updates, proposed initiatives and offers of assistance for the City. Mr. Dingler also requested certain City records and suggested updates to the City's methods of communication for its elected officials.

Recommended to the council by Interim City Manager, Mike Stewart, was to increase the hours for code enforcement. Motion made by Mayor Mike Brening and seconded by Jimmy Dyer to add an additional 4 hours per week to the existing hours. Vote was unanimous with 5 ayes.

In the Mayor's comments, he noted the reopening of the old Tante building as an event center, expressed his appreciation to the fire department for their quick response to a fire in Warm Springs, and referenced the recent mailing of updated information concerning solid waste.

The Mayor, along with councilmembers, expressed their thanks to both Nneka Carter for her hard work coordinating the July 3rd event and also thanked the Manchester Fire Department for their recent mutual aid assistance in various situations.

Interim City Manager, Mike Stewart, updated the Mayor and Council on ARPA funds and referenced a handout included in the agenda packet explaining utilization of the funds. He also requested a work session be scheduled to further discuss ARPA, upcoming LMIG (Local Maintenance & Improvement Grant) processes, and solid waste services.

Police Chief Gray Couch updated the council on a recent shooting that occurred on July 5th. He stated that one suspect had been apprehended, another had surrendered, and the victim had recovered.

Fire Chief Ben Williams gave a brief update for his department and noted an increase in calls, particularly those of a medical nature. Additional mention was made of the recent purchase of expired/outdated equipment.

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cont.

Motion was made at 5:55 PM by Solomon Ferguson to enter into executive session. Motion was seconded by Judy Foster Pike. Vote was unanimous with 5 ayes.

Motion made at 6:05 PM by Quardez Warrior to exit out of executive session. Motion was seconded by Solomon Ferguson. Vote was unanimous with 5 ayes.

Motion made by Mike Brening and seconded by Solomon Ferguson to enter into a contract with Kathy Storey at a rate of \$55 per hour for financial services. Vote was unanimous with 5 ayes.

Motion made at 6:55 PM by Solomon Ferguson and seconded by Quardez Warrior to adjourn. Vote was unanimous with 5 ayes.

City Clerk Lea Spell

Mayor Mike Brening