

MINUTES
OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL
JANUARY 13th, 2020 5:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Mike Brening

Councilmember Solomon Ferguson

Councilmember Judy Foster

Councilmember Jimmy Dyer

STAFF PRESENT:

City Manager Doug Westberry

City Clerk Lea Spell

City Attorney Nathan Lee

Police Chief Gray Couch

**Immediately prior to the meeting being called to order, Judge John Gilson swore in Michael J Brening as Mayor and Jimmy Dyer as councilmember.

Mayor Brening called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. in City Hall. Craig Williamson gave the invocation and Mayor Brening led the pledge of allegiance.

Motion made by Solomon Ferguson to approve the agenda with an amendment adding section “(4h) Mayor Pro Tem”, motion was seconded by Judy Foster. Vote was 3 ayes with Jimmy Dyer abstaining.

Motion made by Judy Foster, seconded by Solomon Ferguson to approve the December 9th, 2019 regular council meeting minutes. Vote was 3 ayes with Jimmy Dyer abstaining.

Motion made by Judy Foster and seconded by Solomon Ferguson to approve the December 2019 Treasurer’s Report. Vote was unanimous with 4 ayes.

Nneka Carter with the Manchester Development Authority was not present at the meeting.

Motion made to appoint Doug Westberry as City Manager, Lea Spell as City Clerk, John Gilson as Municipal Court Judge and Nathan Lee as City Attorney. Vote was unanimous with 4 ayes.

Motion made by Solomon Ferguson to appoint Karla Jones and Jaynie Nesmith to the Downtown Development Authority with a term beginning January 2020 and ending December 31st, 2024. Motion was seconded by Judy Foster. Vote was unanimous with 4 ayes.

Motion made by Judy Foster and seconded by Mike Brening to appoint Richard Klenhard, Minnie Terry and Willie Dewberry to the Planning and Zoning Board with the term beginning January 2020 and ending December 31st, 2024. Vote was unanimous with 4 ayes.

Motion made by Mike Brening to replace retired Councilmember Bruce Burt as signer on the City’s bank accounts with Councilmember Solomon Ferguson. Vote was 3 ayes with Solomon Ferguson abstaining.

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CONTINUED

Motion made by Judy Foster and seconded by Jimmy Dyer to close the Railroad Days checking account and issuing a check with the remaining funds to Carla Stephens. The check is to be sent to the Chairperson of the Downtown Development Authority for the Authority to pass to Ms. Stephens.

Motion made by Mike Brening and seconded by Solomon Ferguson to declare District 1 Post 2 Council Seat as vacant and to set the qualifying fees for the 2020 Manchester Special Election. Vote was unanimous with 4 ayes.

Motion made by Judy Foster and seconded by Solomon Ferguson to approve Pay Requests 1, 2, and 3 for the USDA Water Treatment Plant Project. Vote was unanimous with 4 ayes.

Motion made by Mike Brening and seconded by Judy Foster to appoint Solomon Ferguson as Mayor Pro Tem. Vote was unanimous with 4 ayes.

The Mayor presented keys to the City to retiring councilmembers Travis Ferguson and Bruce Burt. Many words of gratitude and thanks were given by the Mayor, Council and City Manager to the gentlemen for their diligence and dedication to serving the City of Manchester. A reception was held in honor of the occasion immediately following the meeting.

Chief Gray Couch updated the council on a shooting that occurred on Perry Street in November of 2019. He stated that there had been 2 arrests resulting in 28 felony counts. He noted that the victim was still doing well in his recovery.

Motion made to adjourn at 5:39 PM by Jimmy Dyer and seconded by Solomon Ferguson. Vote was unanimous with 4 ayes.

City Clerk Lea Spell

Mayor Michael J. Brening