MINUTES

OF THE REGULAR MEETING

OF THE MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL

February 14, 2022

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** **STAFF PRESENT:**

Mayor Mike Brening City Manager Mark Pullium

Mayor Pro Tem Judy Foster Pike Interim City Clerk Leslie Jackson

Councilmember Jimmy Dyer City Attorney Nathan Lee

Councilmember Quardez Warrior Police Chief Gray Couch

Councilmember Nell Wilkins Utility Director Sam Summers

Fire Chief Ben Williams

Angel Fowler

**Others present**: Glen Gosa

Mayor Brening called the Public Hearing to order at 5:08 to discuss rezoning at 965 Hill Street from R2 to R3 and Special Use located at 12 E Main Street (the Public Hearing was advertised for 6:00 pm, Attorney Nathan Lee advised the council to open public hearing and leave the meeting open until after 6:00 pm, Public Hearing ended at 6:15 pm)

Rezone -965 Hill Street from R2 to R3-Councilmember Warrior made motion to change zoning, Mayor Pro Tem Pike seconded, Councilmember Wilkins aye, Councilmember Dyer abstained from voting.

Special Use -12 E Main Street- Councilmember Warrior made motion to approve a Special use for 12 E Main Street, Councilmember Wilkins seconded, 5 ayes

Mayor Brening called the regular meeting to order at 5:20 p.m. City Manager Mark Pullium gave the invocation and Mayor Brening led the pledge of allegiance.

Motion was made to approve the agenda by Councilmember Warrior and seconded by Councilmember Dyer. Vote was unanimous with 5 ayes.

Motion was made to approve the January 10, 2022 regular meeting minutes by Councilmember Dyer and seconded by Councilmember Wilkins. Vote was unanimous with 5 ayes

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Motion was made to approve the January 5, 2022 work session minutes by Councilmember Wilkins and seconded by Councilmember Dyer. Vote was unanimous.

Motion was made to appoint Angel Fowler as City Clerk by Mayor Brening and seconded by Councilmember Wilkins. Term from January 24, 2022 to December 31, 2022. Vote was unanimous with 5 ayes.

Motion was made to appoint Kay Harbin to the Planning and Zoning Board term of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024 by Mayor Pro-Tem Pike and seconded by Councilmember Warrior. Vote was unanimous with 5 ayes.

Appointments to the Manchester Development Authority postponed until March Meeting

Motion was made to appoint Anne Warrior, Katricia Mosley and Lucille Leonard term of 2/14/2022 to 12/31/2024, Lynn Patterson and Solomon Ferguson term 2/14/2022 to 12/31/2025 to the Manchester Housing Authority Board by Councilmember Dyer and seconded by Councilmember Quardez Warrior. Vote was unanimous with 5 ayes.

Appearances or public comments were made by Laura Murphy concerning the condition of the sidewalks. Sam Summers advised this was being taken care of by the inmates. Brenda Pierson owner of Bea’s Baby Boutique on Main Street talk to the council about the Fresh Breath Community Outreach which is non-profit organization that provides diapers, car seats, or booster seats to needy families. Ms. Pierson is working on a project to help babies and toddlers and the event is scheduled for April 23, 2022.

Motion was made to update the signatories for Colony Bank and F & M Bank to have Mayor Pro Tem Judy Foster Pike, City Manager Mark Pullium, City Finance Director Kathy Storey and City Clerk Angel Fowler to be authorized signatories by Councilmember Warrior, seconded by Councilmember Wilkins, Councilmember Dyer, Mayor Pro Tem Pike abstained.

No Old Business or New Business

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In the Mayor’s comments, he welcomed Angel Fowler as the new City Clerk and advised the Council that Recreation Director Vic Dowis will be retiring in April. The Senior Adult Homes should start building late summer or early fall. Mayor Brening advised the council that the LMIG applications were several years behind and expressed thanks to City Manager Pullium for his hard work to get the applications completed and submitted. The city will be receiving approximately $120,000 in LMIG Funds. He advised the council that Talbot County has agreed to pay their portion of the water treatment facility project in full which will be a total of $945,352. Mayor Brening and City Manager Pullium attended the grand opening of Farmers Furniture.

In Council comments Mayor Pro Tem Pike welcomed new City Clerk Angel Fowler and thanked Leslie Jackson for being the interim city clerk and she is very sad about Vic Dowis retiring. She said the “Tina Turner Review” was a huge success with 225 tickets sold.

Councilmembers Dyer, Warrior and Wilkins welcome new City Clerk Angel Fowler and thanked Interim City Clerk Leslie Jackson for her service. Everyone will miss Vic Dowis when he retires. Councilmember Wilkins thanked City Manager Pullium for working on her citizen issues and Mayor Brening for helping her with different items.

In the city manager comments, City Manager Pullium reported that the roof at Callaway Building which houses Manchester Recreation Department and the Senior Center is in need of a new roof and he is preparing a request for proposals. The two package stores that have applied for liquor stores and are still getting their applications in order. The City Manager Pullium and City Clerk Fowler talked to Meriwether County 911 Director Brin Jones about reverse 911 to be able to notify the citizens by text, phone call or email about general information, weather, water problems or emergencies. This will be at no cost to the city. City Manager Pullium will let the invitation to bid for the paving of streets in the city, this should take place in the spring.

There were no comments from the City Attorney Nathan Lee.

Comments from department supervisors was Fire Chief Ben Williams. Fire Chief Ben Williams advised the Mayor and Council that the Fire Department has received a 50/50 grant from the Forestry Commission for equipment.

Sam Summers, Utilities Works Director advised the council that the water plant facility was hit by lightning. The damage was extensive and staff is working on filing insurance claim.

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Motion was made to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:28 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem Judy Foster Pike, seconded by Councilmember Quardez Warrior. Vote was unanimous with 5 ayes.

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City Clerk Angel Fowler Mayor Mike Brening