

MINUTES
OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL
May 8th, 2017
5:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Michael J. Brening

Mayor Pro Tem Bruce Burt

Councilmember Pattisue Elliott

Councilmember Solomon Ferguson

OTHER STAFF PRESENT:

City Attorney Nathan Lee

City Manager Doug Westberry

City Clerk Lea Spell

Chief Gray Couch

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Councilmember Travis Ferguson

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

Motion made by Solomon Ferguson to approve the April 10th minutes, seconded by Pattisue Elliott. Vote was 3 ayes and Councilmember Bruce Burt abstaining.

Motion made by Pattisue Elliott and seconded by Solomon Ferguson to approve the minutes of the April 10th Public Hearing. Vote was 3 ayes with Councilmember Bruce Burt abstaining.

Motion made by Pattisue Elliott and seconded by Bruce Burt to approve the April Treasurer's report. Vote was unanimous with 4 ayes.

In attendance at the meeting were students from Mountain View Elementary school who had achieved top scores on the Georgia Milestones Tests. Out of 300 students in grades 3,4, and 5, Manchester had 19 students who earned the status of "Distinguished Learners". Mayor Brening recognized these students for their hard work and Councilmember Solomon Ferguson thanked the parents, grandparents, and the community for their role in the children's success.

Motion made by Bruce Burt, seconded by Pattisue Elliott to appoint Glen Gosa to the Manchester Development Authority Board to fill the unexpired term of Ricky Gray. Vote was unanimous. The term will expire December 31st, 2017.

Motion made by Pattisue Elliott and seconded by Bruce Burt to approve a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute documents pertaining to the sale of the City's natural gas system. Vote was unanimous.

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Cont.

Councilmember Solomon Ferguson asked for city personnel to research means of obtaining funding for the demolition of dilapidated houses in the city. City Manager Doug Westberry stated that he would begin checking into the methods that are available. Councilmember Pattisue Elliott inquired about overgrown lots and asked if there were fines that could be levied against property owners. City Attorney Nathan Lee said that he would check into the city's ordinances pertaining to fines. City Manager Doug Westberry explained that in many situations a letter from Code Enforcement would resolve the problem without the need for a fine to be assessed.

City Manager Doug Westberry updated the council on various items. The first being the mural that will be painted on the outside wall of El Agave Mexican restaurant. He noted that prepping of the wall which included pressure washing, filling of cracks and crevices, and the application of Kilz was almost complete. He said that the wall should be ready for the artist's rendering by the end of the week.

The Mayor and Council were also updated by Mr. Westberry on the status of the City's July 3rd celebration. He informed them that he had been in touch with another organization regarding the fireworks presentation and that it was promised to be a bigger and better show than years past. He also stated music would be provided by the band "Big Daddy and Company". His final comments regarding the event pertained to vendor activity. He stated that vendors would be allowed to set up at the event but electricity would not be provided.

Mr. Westberry's final update was in regards to the Department of Transportation's installation of school zone signage and lighting in the Manchester High School area. He noted that he would be executing DOT documents soon for the project and the project should be completed by the beginning of the next school year.

Mayor Brening concluded the meeting with information about a fund raiser for the son of Manchester Fire Department member, Ben Williams. He informed everyone that Ben's son was injured in an accident while playing baseball, had undergone surgery and continues to recover. The fundraiser/benefit tournament is being hosted by a group from Thomaston and will held at the Manchester Recreation Department on Saturday May 13th. Donations for the family may also be made at F & M Bank.

Motion made by Solomon Ferguson and seconded by Pattisue Elliott to adjourn. Vote was unanimous.

City Clerk Lea Spell

Mayor Michael J. Brening