

MINUTES  
OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL  
October 10, 2016  
5:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Michael J. Brening

Mayor Pro Tem Bruce S. Burt

Councilmember Solomon Ferguson

Councilmember Travis L. Ferguson

Councilmember Pattisue Elliott

OTHER STAFF PRESENT:

City Attorney Nathan Lee

City Manager Doug Westberry

City Clerk Lea Spell

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

Motion made by Travis Ferguson, seconded by Bruce Burt to approve the minutes of the September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016 regular meeting. A vote was taken and the results were unanimous with 5 ayes.

Motion made by Travis Ferguson, seconded by Solomon Ferguson to approve the minutes of the September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016 called council meeting. A vote was taken and the results were unanimous with 5 ayes.

Motion made by Bruce Burt to approve the September 2016 Treasurer's report as presented, seconded by Solomon Ferguson. A vote was taken and the results were unanimous with 5 ayes.

Robert Allen came before the council to discuss the most recent activity on a dilapidated property at 23 North St. City Attorney, Nathan Lee, explained what had been done thus far and what possible further action could be taken. Allen Posey, with Charles Abbott Associates, also detailed his activity and reiterated alternate courses of action.

Options at this point in the process are to ramp up efforts to locate the property owner by means of a private investigator or for the City to begin a different process of condemning the property. Both options were discussed at length, particularly regarding the costs associated with each process. Mayor Brening expressed his concern that moving towards the condemnation process would not only set a precedent for other properties but also would be quite expensive as the cost of demolition would fall on the City. He also noted that continuing with the current process would hopefully place the cost burden on the property owner and not the City.

The Council agreed and assured Mr. Allen that Code enforcement, the City Manager, and City Attorney would continue with their efforts.

A Budget Resolution was presented to the council for fiscal year 2015-2016. Motion was made by Pattisue Elliott, seconded by Travis Ferguson, to adopt the resolution. Vote was unanimous with 5 ayes.

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5:00 P.M., continued.

Mayor Brening reminded everyone of the Railroad Days Event and Rotary Club Car show the weekend of October 15<sup>th</sup>. He also gave updates on various projects in town that are helping boost the local economy.

Councilmember Pattisue Elliott mentioned additional tourists in town due to the coastal evacuation from Hurricane Matthew. She noted that she hoped Manchester and surrounding areas would attract more businesses to provide accommodations in the future.

Mayor Pro-Tem Bruce Burt informed City Staff that a concerned citizen had contacted him about large trucks using 4<sup>th</sup> St where they are not allowed. He asked that the police department monitor the area and possibly have signs put in place to deter them.

City Manager Doug Westberry reminded everyone of the upcoming countywide clean -up day on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. There will be two dumpsters at the Washington Street side of the mill from 8 -4 and the county will be accepting unmounted tires at the Meriwether County Public Works facility. He noted that there will be 11 collection sites throughout the county on that day.

A Resolution approving the amended and restated gas supply contract, between the City of Manchester and Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia and authorizing the execution, delivery and performance of the amended and restated gas supply contract and for other purposes, was presented to the council. Motion was made by Bruce Burt and seconded by Solomon Ferguson to adopt the resolution. Vote was unanimous with 5 ayes.

A motion was made by Travis Ferguson, seconded by Pattisue Elliot, to enter into the Statewide Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement with the State of Georgia. Vote was unanimous with 5 ayes.

Motion made by Bruce Burt and seconded by Solomon Ferguson to appoint Craig Williamson to the Pine Mountain Regional Library Board. His term will run until June 30, 2019. Vote was unanimous with 5 ayes.

Motion made by Solomon Ferguson, seconded by Bruce Burt to adjourn at 5:55 PM. Vote was unanimous with 5 ayes.

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City Clerk Lea Spell

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Mayor Michael J. Brening