

# **The City of Manchester**

## **MINUTES OF THE TOWN HALL MEETINGS**

**For the purpose of receiving public input and providing information regarding the City of Manchester's intent to sell its municipal gas system to Liberty Utilities (Peach State Natural Gas) Corp. The sale price is \$3.1 Million. The sale is scheduled to be completed no later than June 30, 2017.**

**February 2, 2017 – 6:00 p.m. – Council Chamber**

### **PRESENT:**

Mayor Michael J. Brening  
Mayor Pro Tem Bruce S. Burt  
Council Member Pattisue Elliott  
Council Member Travis L. Ferguson

City Manager Doug Westberry  
Police Officer Jeremiah Kring  
  
1 member of the General Public

Mayor Brening called the Town Hall Meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and introduced Liberty Utilities Representatives Randy Johnson, Director of Business Development and Pete Bouxsein, Manager of Regulatory and Finance Reporting.

Mr. Johnson and Mr. Bouxsein provided an overview of Liberty Utilities which included community outreach, safety & operations, engineering & compliance, billing, rates and customer service.

The Mayor and Council Members provided reasons prompting them to consider the sale of the city's natural gas system.

Questions were taken and answered from the audience. Handout materials were made available.

With no further comments or questions from those in attendance, Mayor Brening declared the meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

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**February 13, 2017 – 6:00 p.m. – Council Chamber**

### PRESENT:

Mayor Michael J. Brening  
Mayor Pro Tem Bruce S. Burt  
Council Member Pattisue Elliott  
Council Member Solomon Ferguson  
Council Member Travis L. Ferguson

City Manager Doug Westberry  
Star Mercury Reporter John Kuykendall

4 members of the General Public

Mayor Brening called the Town Hall Meeting to order at 6:07 p.m., welcome everyone and introduced Liberty Utilities Representatives Randy Johnson, Director of Business Development and Pete Bouxsein, Manager of Regulatory and Finance Reporting.

Mr. Johnson and Mr. Bouxsein provided an overview of Liberty Utilities which included the history of the company, community outreach, safety & operations, engineering & compliance, billing, rates and customer service.

Questions concerning rates were brought forth by members of the audience whereas the representatives responded that the Georgia Public Service Commission regulates rates for Liberty just as they do for the city. It was further explained that Liberty rates have both fixed and variable (usage) portions, similar to the current rate structure. Liberty's rate structure has a lower variable portion and a higher fixed portion, so there will be less variability in monthly gas bills over the course of a year.

Safety and response times as a priority were discussed as well as training.

The Mayor and Council Members provided motives prompting them to contemplate the sale of the city's natural gas system and stated that the process started more than a year ago, and had been thoroughly thought out.

Liberty representatives made take home informational materials available to everyone.

With no further comments or questions from those in attendance, Mayor Brening declared the Town Hall meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m. and notified those in attendance that the Regular Meeting would reconvene within 5 minutes.

Respectfully submitted by Doug Westberry, acting secretary

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Mayor, Michael J. Brening

**AUTHENTICATED:**  
This 13th Day of March 2017

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City Clerk Lea Spell