

MINUTES
OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL
January 8, 2024
5:00 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Mark Trimble
Councilmember Meka Lowe
Councilmember Danny Wadsworth
Mayor Pro-Tem Quardez Warrior

STAFF PRESENT:

City Attorney Nathan Lee
Police Chief Gray Couch
Utility Director Sam Summers
Fire Chief Ben Williams
Recreational Director Tangela Cummings

Called to order by Mayor Trimble at 5:00 pm

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance given by Mayor Trimble.

Judge Gilson swore in Councilmembers Quardez Warrior, Meka Lowe and Danny Wadsworth.

Mayor Pro-Tem Warrior made the motion to adopt the January 8, 2024, agenda, Councilmember Wadsworth seconded the motion, all approved.

Mayor Pro-Tem Warrior made the motion to approve the December 12, 2023, minutes, he verified that the information in the minutes are true and correct, Councilmember Wadsworth seconded the motion, all approved.

Arkeious Grier requested to speak to the council regarding the police department and certain police officers, giving more citations out to citizens and he felt like this was harassment just for a taillight. Mr. Grier admitted that his taillight was out when he received his citation. Citizens have filed complaints or are scared to file a complaint with the police chief or police department. Mr. Grier said he has not had a response from the Chief or City Manager.

Audrey Plumer and Dawn Ridley from Source Urbanism gave a presentation and update on the upcoming Community Building Project. The building was built in 1930's and the building needs a lot of repairs and renovations to meet code. In the renovation the contractor will strive to match all the materials that are in the building at present. Ms. Plumber advised that the city has made an application for a grant. If the city receives the grant and the project moves forward the building will provide endless opportunities for the city.

Mayor Pro-Tem Warrior made the motion to Transfer 30 acres on Nebula Rd to the Manchester Development Authority for the Mountain Springs Project, Councilmember Wadsworth seconded, Mayor Trimble approved, Councilmember Lowe abstained from voting, because she does not know enough about the project to vote. 3 ayes 1 abstained

No Old Business

No New Business

Mayor Comments:

Mayor Trimble, this is a unique time and time for growth in the city. The selling of business can and will cripple a small town. What is Manchester's vision, what do we do next?

Council Discussion:

Councilmember Lowe, it is an honor to hold this seat and I do not take it lightly, I have an opportunity to serve and listen to the people. Some issues I have heard are that the people are not happy with the city, people are hurting financially, people feel like the departments are unprofessional, not listening to their complaints. The city is dirty and has potholes, trees in power lines and trash everywhere. We need to be the best possible government there is.

Councilmember Wadsworth, was a councilmember in the late 80's, did have concerns about the yellow water and wants Manchester to succeed and not fall like other communities have. Looking forward to Mt. Springs project and willing to help all districts in Manchester not just mind.

Mayor Pro-Tem Warrior, welcomed both new council members and new Mayor. Thanked everyone for their support and so glad to see a good crowd including young people at the meeting. Thanked Mr. Grier for his comments. We have a lot to cover to make a great city.

Mayor Trimble was glad to hear all the councilmember speeches, we need to strive to make Manchester a place to work, live and play.

Department Heads:

Chief Couch, arrest has been made in the shooting death of a Manchester Football player and more arrest are coming.

Fire Chief Williams, fire department is a recipient of a \$17,000 grant, with a no match, this grant is to purchase PPE for the fire department.

Cody Kelly from J & T Environmental spoke to the crowd about the yellow water in town, when the city upgrade the water plant, the plant is a micro flock filtration system and was not made to handle the lake turning, which mean with the cool nights and warms days the minerals like iron, magnesium etc, float to the top and the plant cant handle all the small organism. The plant ran 24/7 to control the discoloration. There was no danger to the community and daily testing was done, all reports can be located on the Georgia Drinking Water web site. Adding baking soda to the filters and water was the key to clearing up everything, the baking soda absorbed all the chemicals used to treat the algae. Mr. Kelly advised that he should have given the city something to put on the website to help the citizens understand what was happening.

Utility Director Summers advised that the underpass has been reopened.

Mayor Trimble advised the council and citizens in attendance that there will be work session January 11TH at 11:00 am.

Mark Trimble, Mayor

Angel Fowler, City Clerk