

MINUTES
OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL
May 8, 2023
5:00 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Mike Brening
Mayor Pro Tem Judy Foster Pike
Councilmember Jimmy Dyer
Councilmember Quardez Warrior
Councilmember Nell Wilkins

STAFF PRESENT:

City Manager Mark Pullium
City Attorney Nathan Lee
Police Chief Gray Couch
Utility Director Sam Summers- n/a
Fire Chief Ben Williams
Recreational Director Tangela Cummings

Mayor Brening called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance given by Councilmember Wilkins.

Councilmember Warrior made the motion to adopt the May 8, 2023, agenda, Mayor Pro Tem Pike seconded the motion, all approved.

Mayor Pro Tem Pike made the motion to approve the April 10th meeting minutes, Councilmember Dyer seconded, Councilmember Warrior and Councilmember Wilkins, approved. Mayor Brening abstained from voting since he left the meeting early.

Councilmember Dyer made the motion to approve the April 5th work session meeting minutes, Mayor Pro Tem Pike seconded, Councilmember Wilkins approved, Mayor Brening and Councilmember Warrior abstained from voting, they did not attend the work session.

Georgia State Representative Debbie Buckner updated the council and audience on the latest update of the Legislative Session. There were some laws that passed, and some did not that should have been when it came to mental health. Representative Buckner was very proud to have gotten the Resolution passed to rename the Lane Street Bridge the Thomas Terry Bridge.
Mayor Brening thanked Representative Buckner for attending the meeting.

City Manager Pullium gave the monthly budget report.

Old Business:

Mayor Brening, where is the city on the county removing the gas tanks, there is hazardous material in the tanks.
3 more water tanks left to renovate.

No New Business:

City Council Comments:

Councilmember Warrior thanked all the employees for their hard work.

Councilmember Wilkins thanked Phillip for his help during the county wide cleanup, Councilmember Wilkins had 17 team members and cleaned up 61 bags of trash.

Councilmember Wilkins will be in charge of the Juneteenth celebration on June 19th from 12:00 to 6:00 pm and the theme this year is "let change together".

Speed breakers on East Main Street.

Thanked City Manager Pullium for his hard work and everything he is doing. You can always call on him and he will have an answer for you. He deserves an increase in salary.

Mayor Report:

The unfortunate loss of an employee on the job, Mr. Keith Brink. Our thoughts and prayers for his family during this time.

The DRI report on Mountain Springs Project is being handled by Three Rivers.

City Manager Report:

Rate Study being done by Bill Powell with GRWA, rates will have to go up, waiting for the final report.

Acoustic leak detection is complete, and several leaks were found by Rye Engineering.

The Mountain Spring Retreat Project is moving along.

Waiting for a report from the county about the fuel tanks.

The Manchester Restoration Plan includes the establishment of a Landbank. If approved, the Land Bank Intergovernmental agreement will consist of 2 recommended members from the City Council, 2 from Meriwether County Commissioners and 1 from Meriwether County School District.

The investment income is doing very well.

Councilmember Wilkins wanted to know why the ARPA funds are not given back to the community.

City Manager Pullium advised Councilmember Wilkins that the money is given back to the community by improving the water tanks, water system improvements and upgrading the pumping stations.

City Manager Pullium will ask Turnipseed Engineering to look in to a CDBG Grant for housing.

Department Heads:

Chief Gray Couch: K-9 Unit is in service after 6 weeks of training. In the first week there were several drug arrests.

Fire Chief Williams advised no outside burning until September.

Health Fair May 20th from 11:00 to 2:00 at the Recreation Center.

Recreational Director Tangee Cumming:

Senior Center

Seniors from Senior Center went to eat lunch at old time buffet.

May 4th Mother Day Picnic.

May 18th District yearly Picnic in Hogansville.

Senior revived the old planters at the center to plant a vegetable garden.

Quilting has started back again in the craft room.

Fire Department does monthly blood pressure checks.

Sports:

June 5-16 Summer Camp

June 17th Basketball Camp @ Manchester High School ages 5-12

June 22-24 Hosting State Dixie youth tournament

June 29th Little Navigator Camp

Meeting with Tonjia Oneal about Art Camp for the Summer.

Splash pad opening Memorial Day Weekend.

Football registration has started.

T-ball will start the last week of May.

Being no further business; Councilmember Warrior made the motion to adjourn, Councilmember Wilkins seconded, all approved.