

# Memo

To: Town Council  
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager  
CC: Town Employees  
Date: April 28, 2014  
Re: Town Manager's Report

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Below please find a report regarding various items of interest to the Town Council, staff and the community:

## **Council Business**

- *CL&P Interstate Reliability Project* – Construction activities in Mansfield this week include the clearing of vegetation in the right-of-way in the vicinity of Stafford Road and the installation of access roads and construction pads in the vicinity of Mansfield City Road, Crane Hill Road, Bassetts Bridge Road, Hawthorne Lane and South Bedlam Road. Additional information about the project will be posted on the Town's website as it becomes available. Weekly construction updates can be found at [www.NEEWSprojects.com](http://www.NEEWSprojects.com). Residents can also call 1-866-99NEEWS (1-866-996-3397) or email [NEEWS@NU.com](mailto:NEEWS@NU.com) for more information.
- *Future Agenda Items* – Staff had planned in April to provide an update on the Probate Court consolidation and to schedule a discussion of Council Rules and Procedures. Given the recent work on the budget and other pressing matters, we plan to address these items at a meeting in May instead.
- *Mansfield Minute: Budget Edition* – Over the past few years, the town has mailed a budget flyer to residents detailing the Council's adopted budget and noticing the annual town meeting. For the first time this year, staff will combine the budget flyer with the Mansfield Minute in an effort to further the reach of the Mansfield Minute and the exposure of the Council's budget information. You should expect to see this publication in your mailbox in early May.

## **Departmental Reports**

- *Planning and Zoning*
  - *UConn EIEs* - The University of Connecticut has published Environmental Impact Evaluations (EIEs) for two projects that were the subject of scoping meetings earlier this year: a new STEM residence hall and a new Science and Engineering Building. Planning and Development Director Linda Painter will review the EIEs and report to the Council. Public hearings will be held on May 29<sup>th</sup> at the Bishop Center in Room 146 (7:00 PM: Science and Engineering Building; 7:30 PM: new residence hall). Written comments are due by Friday, June 6<sup>th</sup>. Electronic copies of the reports are available on the OEP website (<http://www.envpolicy.uconn.edu/eie.html>) and hard copies are available for review at the Town Clerk's office. More information on the public hearing and comment process can be found on the CEQ Monitor website (<http://www.ct.gov/ceq/cwp/view.asp?a=987&q=249438>).

## **Major Projects**

- *Storrs Center*
  - *Educational Playcare* - Construction has started on Educational Playcare.
  - *Eight Royce Circle* - Eight Royce Circle is under construction and the apartments are scheduled to open in August with CVS and Brueggers Bagels/Jamba Juice to open shortly thereafter.
  - *Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center* - The grand opening of the [Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center](#) was held on April 14<sup>th</sup>. Construction began in the spring of 2013 on this intermodal transportation node that now serves as a bus and bicycle hub and information center. UConn and Windham Region Transit District (WRTD) buses are now stopping at the Nash-Zimmer. Peter Pan buses will soon add the Nash-Zimmer to their route as well. The Nash-Zimmer transportation center offers racks, showers, lockers and storage for bicycle commuters. Exterior bicycle racks are

already in use by local cyclists, and the Center also features a video wall with information about Storrs Center and surrounding cultural and recreational opportunities. The Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center is named for Dennison Nash and Gary Zimmer, two longtime Mansfield residents who were strong advocates for alternative transportation. For more information, please visit [www.mansfieldct.gov/TransportationCenter](http://www.mansfieldct.gov/TransportationCenter). You can also follow the Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center on Twitter: @NashZimmer.

- *Phase 2* - On April 23, the Partnership Board of Directors held a public hearing on the zoning permit application for Phase 2 of Storrs Center (mixed-use development with approximately 200 apartments, and 34,000 square feet of commercial development). The Board closed the hearing and recommended to the Director of Planning and Development that the application meets the Storrs Center Special Design District regulations including design guidelines. The Director of Planning and Development will review the plans and is expected to make her decision shortly. If final approvals are given in May, construction may start as early as June for an opening date of August 2015.
- *Price Chopper* - Price Chopper is scheduled to open in June 2014.
- *Town Square* - Work is continuing on the town square with the stone wall complete. The granite curb for the green circle and the trees should go in this week. Once that is complete, work will begin on placing the pavers, and laying the stage floor. Work on most of the horizontal elements should be completed by mid-May. Electrical work will continue this summer.

### **Upcoming Events**

- *Storrs Farmers Market* – Storrs Farmers Market will open its 20<sup>th</sup> season this Saturday, May 3, 2014. Storrs Farmers Market is open every Saturday from May through Thanksgiving, from 3:00 to 6:00 PM on the front lawn of the Beck Municipal Building. Everything sold at Storrs Farmers Market is grown or produced in Connecticut. In fact, the average distance from farm to market is just 12 miles! Visit [www.storrsfarmersmarket.org](http://www.storrsfarmersmarket.org) for more information.

### **Upcoming Meetings\***

- Special Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting, April 29, 2014, 7:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Human Services Advisory Committee, April 30, 2014, 3:30 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- **Special Town Council Meeting (if necessary)**, April 30, 2014, 6:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board of Directors, May 1, 2014, 4:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Inland Wetlands Agency/Planning & Zoning Commission, May 5, 2014, 7:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Beautification Committee, May 5, 2014, 7:00 PM, Conference Room C, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- **Region #19 Referendum**, May 6, 2014, 6:00 AM – 8:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Four Corners Sewer and Water Advisory Committee, May 6, 2014, 7:00 PM, Mansfield Community Center
- Agriculture Committee Meeting, May 6, 2014, 7:30 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Advocates for Children, May 7, 2014, 5:30 PM, Senior Center
- **Public Information Session on Council's Adopted Budget**, May 7, 2014, 7:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Playground Committee, May 8, 2014, 7:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Solid Waste Advisory Committee, May 8, 2014, 7:00 PM, Conference Room C, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Board of Education, May 8, 2014, 7:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building

- Responsible Contracting Committee, May 9, 2014, 9:00 AM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Housing Code Board of Appeals, May 12, 2014, 5:00 PM, Conference Room C, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Special Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting, May 12, 2014, 7:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- **Town Council**, May 12, 2014, 7:30PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- **Annual Town Meeting for Budget Consideration**, May 13, 2014, 7:00 PM, Auditorium, Mansfield Middle School

*\*Meeting dates/times are subject to change. Please view the [Town Calendar](#) or contact the Town Clerk's Office at 860-429-3302 for a complete and up-to-date listing of committee meetings.*