

Town Manager's Office

Town of Mansfield

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

Council Business

- *Future Agenda Items* – over the past few months the Town Council has identified the following items for future discussion:
 - Workshop on Four Corners Sanitary Sewer project
 - Fall semester review (code enforcement, off-campus services, police)
 - Additional tax exemption for disabled veterans
 - Update on Probate Court operations
 - Performance measure project
 - Presentation on Housing Code and related ordinances
 - Storrs Center and lessons learned
 - Update Town Council goals

In addition, the Council has requested presentations from our major departments leading into the budget season. It will be challenging to include all of these items before the proposed budget is issued at the end of March, but we should be able to include several of these discussion topics over the next four months.

- *Health Insurance Fund* – At the meeting on November 10th, Finance Committee members raised a number of questions concerning the status of the Health Insurance Fund. Maria Capriola did meet with our Anthem BC/BS representatives and they were able to provide us with some updated numbers related to the committee's inquiries:
 - As of October 2014, the health insurance pool has 507 contract counts (employees) and 1,252 members (employees plus dependents)
 - There are 664 females in the pool, which equates to 53% of total membership. The average age of female members in the pool is 36.9 compared to the Anthem norm of 40.2. We are below the Anthem norm.
 - There are 588 males in the pool, which equates to 47% of total membership. The average age of male members in the pool is 36.8 compared to the Anthem norm of 38.6. We are below the Anthem norm.
 - In the last 12 months, 3.8% of the members have represented 39.4% of the total claim costs, or 4 out of every 10 dollars spent on claims. The 3.8% of members referenced represent claims that have cost \$25,000 or greater. Many of these claims are episodic in nature, not chronic conditions.
 - We have had 45 claims over \$25,000 in the last 12 months, compared to 24 claims over \$25,000 in the previous 12 month period. No one claim has reached the stop loss threshold yet this year.

Anthem subsequently provided revised (LOWER) claims data for the months of July and August (revised spreadsheet attached). We plan to discuss this issue in more detail with Milliman, our employee benefits consultant, at an upcoming Personnel Committee.

- *Eagleville Schoolhouse* – Joshua's Trust has provided notice that it will be vacating the Eagleville Schoolhouse building owned by the Town, sometime during the late winter and early spring. The Town will now need to decide what other use or uses would be appropriate for that facility. Sometime over the next few months staff will provide you with some thoughts on this subject, and you can determine whether you would like to refer the issue to a committee for review. Joshua's Trust has proven an excellent tenant for many years and I wish them all the best at their new location at the Atwood Farm and Estate.

Department Reports

- *Revaluation 2014* – the Town commenced informal hearings on Monday, November 17, 2014. During Monday through Wednesday there were a total of 47 appointments. There are seven additional hearing dates scheduled, November 24-25, December 1, 3, 11, 15 and 17, plus one phone date. More dates will be added if necessary. With our new software provided by Vision Government Solutions, Inc., owners have the option to book their hearing appointments online 24/7; this service has been well received. Our Project Manager from Vision, Ms. Brandy Landry, is conducting the hearings.

Major Projects and Initiatives

- *CL&P Interstate Reliability Project* - Work in Mansfield this week will include work on overhead lines in the vicinity of Stafford Road, Highland Road and Mansfield City Road. Weekly construction updates can be found at www.NEEWSprojects.com. Residents can also call 1-866-99NEEWS (1-866-996-3397) or email NEEWS@NU.com for more information.

Upcoming Events

- *Storrs Farmers Market* – Storrs Winter Farmers Market will be open two Saturdays a month from 3:00 – 6:00 pm at the Mansfield Public Library. The Winter Market dates are: December 13 and 20, January 17 and 31, February 14 and 28, March 14 and 28, and April 4 and 18. 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 for more information.
- *Winter Welcome* – The Mansfield Downtown Partnership and Storrs Center master developer LeylandAlliance will sponsor the 2nd annual Winter Welcome in the downtown on Saturday, Dec. 13, from 1-5 PM. The event is free and open to the public and takes place rain, snow, or shine. Strolling carolers and musicians as well as open houses, promotions, and specials at participating Storrs Center businesses will take place throughout the afternoon. At 2 PM, Santa Claus arrives on a Mountain Dairy milk truck! Visit with Santa from 2-4 PM at the UConn Co-op Bookstore. At 4 PM, join the E. O. Smith Chamber Singers on the Town Square for a sing-along.

Upcoming Meetings*

- Traffic Authority, November 25, 2014, 10:30 AM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Regulatory Review Committee, December 1, 2014, 2:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Inland/Wetland Agency & Planning and Zoning Commission, December 1, 2014, 7:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Agriculture Committee, December 2, 2014, 7:30 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Advocates for Children, December 3, 2014, 5:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board of Directors, December 4, 2014, 4:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Parking Steering Committee, December 4, 2014, 6:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Regulatory Review Committee, December 8, 2014, 2:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Housing Code Board of Appeals, December 8, 2014, 5:00 PM, Conference Room C, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Finance Committee, December 8, 2014, 6:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Town Council, December 8, 2014, 7:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building

**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.*