

**Town Manager's Office
Town of Mansfield**

Memo

To: Town Council
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager
CC: Town Employees
Date: January 25, 2016
Re: Town Manager's Report

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

Council Business

- *Accessible Parking at Mansfield Community Center* – As I reported at the last meeting, the Traffic Authority will review and evaluate the concerns about handicap accessible parking at the Community Center. Staff will report back to the Council once the Traffic Authority has a recommendation, I estimate not later than the March 8, 2016 meeting.
- *Budget Retreat* – The Town Council's annual budget retreat will be held on Saturday, February 6, 2016 at 9:00 AM in the Council Chamber. Light refreshments will be served.
- *Connecticut's Town Meeting* – The Connecticut Council of Small Towns will hold its annual conference on February 16th from 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM. The conference is an opportunity for first selectman, mayors and managers throughout the state to network and decide on their top legislative priorities. Councilors who wish to join me at this session should contact Sara-Ann Bourque in the Manager's office to register as soon as possible as space is limited.
- *Meeting with State Legislators* – Based on the current response from Mansfield's state delegation we are tentatively planning on meeting with our state legislators at the February 8, 2016 Council meeting to discuss the upcoming term of the General Assembly.
- *Questions from C. Naumec* – I had planned to discuss the questions posed by Mr. Naumec at tonight's meeting, but we need more time to respond in detail. I have informed Mr. Naumec that we will list this item on the agenda for the February 8, 2016 Council meeting.

Major Projects and Initiatives

- *Planning and Development*
 - *Brew Pubs and Other Alcoholic Liquor Permits* – The Economic Development Commission recently recommended that the Town Council and Planning and Zoning Commission consider amending regulations to allow for brew pubs in Mansfield. Currently both the Zoning Regulations and Code of Ordinances limit the types of alcoholic liquor permits that are allowed in Mansfield. While the PZC is in the process of reviewing potential amendments to the Zoning Regulations, changes to the types of alcoholic liquor permits identified in the Code of Ordinances cannot be amended by the Town Council. Such a change must be initiated by a petition signed by at least 10% of registered voters for placement on a ballot at either a regular or special election. (Please see the attached opinion from the Town Attorney regarding this matter.)

Department Reports

- Department of Human Services
 - Mansfield Advocates for Children ("MAC"), the Town of Mansfield Committee that supported the initiative to build the Jeffrey P. Ossen Family Foundation Community Playground, has announced that it will be selling more engraved pickets on the fence surrounding the new playground. There are approximately 300 pickets that are not engraved, and MAC hopes to sell many of these to offset the cost of the maintenance and improvement of the playground. Many of the playground's components are available for sponsorship as well, and as the donor

board has not been finalized, future donors to the project will be recognized on this board when it is installed later this year. Fence pickets cost \$35 each, and forms to place an order can be found at www.mansfieldcommunityplayground.org and at the Mansfield Community Center. The pickets will be ordered and installed when there are a sufficient number of orders to justify the cost to ship the pickets. The Jeffrey P. Ossen Family Foundation Community Playground is located behind the Mansfield Community Center at 10 South Eagleville Road in Mansfield, and has already become a popular spot for families to bring their children. Persons with questions about component sponsorship, pickets, or other playground matters may contact Maggie Ferron at ferronmb@mansfieldct.org or 860 429-3338.

Upcoming Events

- *Storrs Farmers Market* – Storrs Farmers Market is open year-round! The Winter Market will be open twice a month from December through April in the Buchanan Auditorium of the Mansfield Public Library. Storrs Winter Farmers Market will be open from 3:00 to 5:00 PM on the following dates: Jan 30; Feb 13 and 27; Mar 12 and 26; and Apr 9 and 23. Everything sold at Storrs Winter Farmers Market is grown or produced in Connecticut, so the offerings change with the seasons. Visit storrsfarmersmarket.org for more information and to sign up for weekly emails from the Market (bi-weekly in the winter).

Upcoming Meetings*

- Traffic Authority, January 26, 2016, 9:00 AM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Human Services Advisory Committee, January 27, 2016, 3:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Economic Development Commission, January 28, 2016, 5:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Inland/Wetland Agency & Planning and Zoning Commission, February 1, 2016, 6:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Four Corners Water and Sewer Advisory Committee, February 2, 2016, 6:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Advocates for Children, February 3, 2016, 5:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board Meeting, February 4, 2016, 4:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Special Town Council Meeting, February 6, 2016, 9:00 AM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Finance Committee, February 8, 2016, 5:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Town Council, February 8, 2016, 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.*

O'MALLEY, DENEEN, LEARY, MESSINA & OSWECKI

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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January 11, 2016

Matthew W. Hart, Town Manager
Town of Mansfield
4 South Eagleville Road
Mansfield, Connecticut 06268-2599

Re: Alcohol Permit Regulation

Dear Matt:

You have inquired regarding the process for amending the class of liquor permits allowed in the Town of Mansfield.

Section 30-9 et seq of the Connecticut General Statutes allows every town the option of determining which classes of intoxicating liquor permits, if any, will be allowed in that town. All classes of permits are allowed in the town unless a petition is filed pursuant to Section 30-10 to prohibit any such permits or to limit the class of permits allowed in the town.

In 1966 a petition was duly filed and a referendum held which permitted limited classes of permits to be issued in Mansfield (package store permit, package store beer permit, grocery store beer permit, druggist permit and hotel permit). A further petition was filed in 1969, and a referendum approved the addition of additional classes of permits (restaurant permit, club permit, restaurant permit for wine and beer only, restaurant permit for beer only) Again, in 1983 another petition was filed and a referendum held which approved the addition of "temporary beer permits and temporary liquor permits for outings, picnics and social gatherings" to the classes of allowed permits.

In order to operate a 'brew pub', I am informed by the State Department of Consumer Protection, Liquor Control Commission that a "manufacturer permit" is required. This permit is not currently allowed in Mansfield.

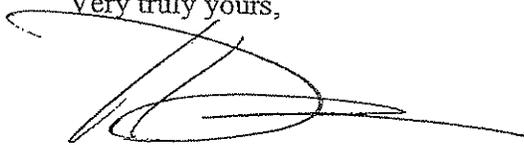
Connecticut General Statutes Section 30-10 provides in relevant part that "upon the petition of not less than ten per cent of the electors of any town, lodged with the town clerk at least sixty days before the date of any regular town [or special election pursuant to the statute] election, the selectmen of the town shall warn the electors of such town that, at the regular town election, a vote shall be taken to determine: (1) Whether or not

the sale of alcoholic liquor shall be permitted in such town, or (2) whether the sale of alcoholic liquor shall be permitted in such town in one or more of the classes of permits set forth in section 30-15.”

In order to add the manufacturer’s permit to the classes of allowed permits, a petition must be filed signed by at least ten (10) percent of the electors of Mansfield asking to add that class of permit (and any others or to approve all permits), and a vote held. The vote is on three (3) questions: (1) allowing all permits; (2) allowing limited classes of permits; and (3) allowing no permits. If no question receives a majority of the vote, the votes for all permits and limited permits are added together and if a majority, the limited permits are approved.

Please feel free to contact me with any further questions.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kevin M. Deneen', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Kevin M. Deneen

KMD/lc