



THE MANSFIELD MINUTE JANUARY 2015

www.mansfieldct.org

- *Town Hall will be closed January 1st and 19th.*
- *Winter Parking Ban— don't park overnight on the street or in a municipal lot when it's snowing—you'll be towed!*
- *Winter Farmer's Market January 17 & 31, 3-5 PM at the Library.*

Budgeting For Next Year

The fiscal 15-16 budget process is fast approaching!

Each year the Town prepares an operating budget and capital improvement program. The Town operates on a July 1—June 30 fiscal year. Most of the key dates in the Town's budget process will occur in late winter/spring 2015 for the July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016 fiscal year. The Town budgets for its anticipated revenues and expenditures needed to provide services such as Pre K-12 education, fire and police protection, snow plowing, and the public library. The capital budget provides funding for projects such as road paving, drainage projects, and school building renovations.

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE PROPOSED

MANSFIELD TOMORROW

Plan of Conservation and Development

View the plan online at www.mansfieldtomorrow.com.

Hard copies of the plan can be viewed at the Office of the Town Clerk, Mansfield Community Center and Mansfield Senior Center, or borrowed from the Mansfield Public Library.

Community Information Meetings

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF PLAN

Thursday, January 15, 2015

7:00 p.m.
Council Chambers
Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
4 South Eagleville Road

This meeting will be broadcast on Charter Cable Channel 191 and streamed live on-line at www.mansfieldct.org.

Wednesday, January 21, 2015

2:30 p.m.
Mansfield Senior Center
303 Maple Road

Thursday, February 5, 2015

7:00 p.m.
Mansfield Middle School Cafeteria
205 Spring Hill Road

Open House

INFORMAL DROP-IN EVENT; VIEW MAPS AND DISCUSS PLAN

Saturday, January 31, 2015

10 am - 12:30 pm
Buchanan Center Auditorium
Mansfield Public Library
54 Warrenville Road

Public Hearing

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION HEARS PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE PLAN

Monday, March 2, 2015

7:00 p.m.
Council Chambers
Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
4 South Eagleville Road

The hearing may be continued to another date and time if there are more people present than can be heard prior to 11:00 p.m.

- The Town Manager develops and proposes an operating and capital budget to the Town Council, usually in late March of every year.
- The Town Council then holds a series of workshops, hearings, and information sessions on the budget, adopting a budget annually in late April.
- Voters in Mansfield then vote on the submitted budget at the annual Town Meeting.
- The 2015 Town Meeting will be held on May 12, 2015 at 7 PM in the Middle School Auditorium.

Electors and citizens are encouraged to actively participate in the budget process by attending budget workshops, public information sessions and hearings, and voting at the annual town meeting. The Town records as many budget workshops and hearings as possible on its government access channel (Channel 191 for Charter subscribers) and on the Town's website (live streaming and archived footage for 30 days), www.mansfieldct.gov/MansfieldTV.

In late March 2015 hard copies of the proposed FY 15/16 budget are distributed to

Continued on page 2...



Mansfield Tomorrow is a Town project funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Office of Economic Resilience.

www.MansfieldTomorrow.com

Mansfield Tomorrow

Budgeting... cont. from pg. 1...

the following locations for public viewing:

- Town Clerk’s Office,
- Community Center,
- Public Library,
- Senior Center.

The budget will also be available to view on the Town’s website, www.mansfieldct.gov/Budget.

Property Tax Relief

Mansfield homeowners who are having a difficult time paying their property taxes may be eligible for property tax relief. Taxpayers that may be eligible for property tax relief include veterans, seniors, disabled persons, and farm owners. Information about tax abatement programs in Mansfield, including eligibility requirements, can be obtained by contacting the Assessor’s Office at 860-429-3311 or on the web at www.mansfieldct.gov/Assessor.



Water Project Update

Notice of Tentative Determination Issued

The CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) has issued a Notice of Tentative Determination (NTD)

regarding the Diversion Application that CT Water and UConn jointly filed seeking approval for the delivery of water from CT Water to UConn and the Town of Mansfield.

The Notice reflects a finding by DEEP that the proposed diversion is necessary, will not significantly affect long-range water resources management, and will not impair proper management and use of the water resources of the State.

The request was consistent with the earlier Environmental Impact Evaluation, which concluded that the CT Water proposal was the most environmentally sound and economical alternative as well as being most consistent with the State Plan of Conservation and Development.

CT Water (CWC) will construct a pipeline from Tolland to Mansfield to provide additional supply for UConn and the Mansfield area. The NTD includes a list of conditions that would be required for the regulated activity under the permit.

Opportunity for Public Input

Before making a final decision on the application, DEEP will consider written comments from interested persons. Written comments should be directed to Doug Hoskins, Bureau of Water Protection & Land Reuse, Inland Water Resources Division, Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127, or

may be submitted via email to Douglas.Hoskins@ct.gov no later than January 15, and reference permit number DIV-201404187.

The Commissioner intends to waive the requirement for public hearing, but shall hold a hearing upon receipt of a petition as more thoroughly described in the [notice](#).

For more information, please visit this [link](#) on CTWater.com or contact CT Water: 1-800-286-5700.



Volunteer Drivers Needed!

Did you know that we have a volunteer driver program here in Mansfield?! This is a FREE service to all residents. Mansfield Volunteer Senior Transportation provides time specific transportation to residents age 60 and over and those adults (18 years of age and older) who are receiving Social Security Disability benefits.

Volunteer Senior Transportation drivers use a town vehicle or his/her own automobile. A mileage reimbursement plan is available for drivers using their own vehicle.

Our services are available Monday through Friday 8:30AM to 4:30 PM and for travel in a 30-mile radius.

Transportation is not available on town holidays nor when the Senior Center is closed due to weather conditions.

If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information about the program, please contact Gianna Stebbins at 860/429-0262 x2.



Town Hall Hours:

Monday	8:15-4:30
Tuesday	8:15-4:30
Wednesday	8:15-4:30
Thursday	8:15-6:30
Friday	8—12

HOUSING CODE COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATES ARE NOW REQUIRED FOR MOST RESIDENTIAL RENTAL UNITS

The housing certificate program has now expanded and is in effect for most residential rental units town-wide. This promotes safe and sanitary conditions through set standards for residential dwelling units in all areas of the community and is no longer exclusive to certain portions of town.

A Housing Code Enforcement Officer inspects each property to determine its status in accordance with code criteria.

- If the property is serviced by private well and septic, the owner must provide a water test report conducted by a licensed laboratory within the past two years and proof that the septic system has been cleaned within four years.
- For certain properties, a detailed parking space site plan must be submitted, approved and be on file with the Building & Housing Inspection office.
- In the event violations are found upon inspection, a notice is sent of such and time is given to address issues.
- Once utilities, facilities and other aspects associated with the unit have been approved, a Certificate of Compliance will be issued after payment of certificate fees.
- Rental dwelling units are subject to certification processing every two years.

A code compliant rental environment not only protects the interests of both landlords and tenants, but also serves to benefit the community and improve quality of life for all stakeholders. For additional information regarding the Housing Code, refer to the Town website, www.mansfieldct.gov.

Cinderella

E.O Smith High School's Drama Club will enchant people of all ages with its upcoming production of Rogers and Hammerstein's Cinderella. Directed by Lenore Grunko with music direction by Ken Clark, the show will run on Friday, Jan. 30, at 7:30 PM, Saturday, Jan. 31, at 2 PM and 7:30 PM, and Sunday, Feb. 1, at 2 PM All shows will be in the high school auditorium

Tickets are \$12, or \$10 for seniors and students. Please contact (860) 429-2179 or eosmithdramaclub@gmail.com for advanced reservations and weather-related information.



Welcome New Town Staff

Welcome to our new and recently promoted staff:

Alix Moriarty has been promoted to a part-time Supervisor with the Parks and Recreation Department. Alix has been serving as a senior lifeguard with the department and is also a volunteer Firefighter/EMT.

Walker Higgins has been appointed to a Laborer position with Public Works. Walker recently completed an associate's degree in automotive technology and had been a seasonal laborer with our DPW Department.

Jason Chilly has been hired as a part-time Firefighter/EMT with Fire and Emergency Services. Jason has been a volunteer firefighter with the Chaplin Fire Department since 2010.

Ana Zeller, RD, has been appointed to the Eastern Highlands Health District as their new Community Health and Wellness Coordinator.

POP!!! Power of Play returns!



Two fun workshops sponsored by the Library, Mansfield Advocates for Children (MAC) and the Mansfield Discovery Depot.

ParentPOP

Saturday, January 17

10 AM- Noon in the Buchanan Auditorium, MPL

Please sign up in advance.

Parents, how fluent are you in the language of play? Find out at this fun and interactive program that invites you to explore movement and body language to improve self-expression and communication. Learn how play can be used as an effective tool to enhance family connections. Child care will be available in the Library during this program. To sign up, drop in or call the Library (423-2501), or email Sara Anderson at andersonsd@mansfieldct.org.

KidPOP

Friday January 23

6:00-7:00 PM in the Buchanan Auditorium, MPL

All ages welcome, no registration necessary.

Calling all families...come play with us! KidPOP is an exciting event designed to help families explore the power of play together. Jeff Smithson will lead parents and kids on an active, inquisitive journey that is designed to encourage families to find new ways to communicate while using the language of play. Enjoy lots of laughs and plenty of surprises in an evening full of physicality and fun. For more information about Jeff, check out www.proponentofplay.com.



January Events and Activities in Mansfield



Parks and Recreation

Open House

December 28—January 3
at the Community Center.
Free classes and demonstrations,
free child care.

Chance to win a free 3 month
membership or personal training
package...and FREE use of all
the facilities. There will also be
open house week membership
specials. Call (860) 429-3015 for
more information.

Winter Family Fun Nights!

Saturday, Jan. 3, 4:30-7:30 PM
Saturday, Jan. 24, 4:30-7:30 PM
at the Community Center.
Giant inflatables, ping pong, tot
toys, puzzles, open gym& more!
No registration is required.

Free Mansfield Day

Saturday, Jan. 17, 4:30-7:30 PM
Have you been
wondering what all the
excitement is about at the
Mansfield Community Center?
Well, if you're a Mansfield
resident you can find out for
FREE.

Parent's Night Out

Saturday, Jan. 17, 3:30-7:30 PM
Drop the kids off for some
supervised fun. Pizza and drinks
will be served.
\$20 for Mansfield residents,
\$30 for non-residents.



Mansfield Public Library



Friends Book Sale

Saturday, Jan. 10,
9 AM - 4 PM
The Friends are holding
a one day sale in the
Buchanan Auditorium.
Pick up some books to
read for when we get
that snowy day!

Organizing 101: How to Organize Your Space, Your Time and Your Life

Saturday, Jan. 17, 2015, 2-3:30 PM
Presented by Corina Torrey.
The holidays are over and it's time
to get your life and house in order!
Join us for an informative work-
shop to get you started. Topics
covered include the 5 step process
that will take you from a state of
clutter and chaos to a state of order
and functionality. Free.

After School Winter Crafts

Tuesday Jan. 20, 4:00-5:30 PM
All ages welcome
Celebrate the beauty of a winter
landscape. We'll read the book
Winter Trees by Carole Gerber, and
then make winter tree pictures
using watercolors, tissue collage,
chalk and more.

Sprucing Up The Library

The library will be **closed** for
maintenance from January 5-7.
Stop in ahead of time to pick up
everything you need.
And remember, we don't charge
fines while the library is closed. So
don't worry about returning
anything on those days.

Mansfield Senior Center

Herrman Blood Pressure Clinic
Wednesday, Jan. 7, 11:30 AM
This clinic is available to those 55
years of age and older on a first
come first serve basis. Free.

Estate Planning Workshop

Wednesday, Jan. 7, 1 PM
Eric Judge, Financial Planner and
Attorney Laurel Mangan will ex-
plore why it's important to have a
health care directive, a Will, pow-
er of attorney and trust.

Estate Planning, Part 2

Wednesday, Jan. 14, 1 PM
Learn the basics of preparing your
estate plan:
Beneficiary designation, Wills,
Trusts, Tax information, and
Life Insurance.
Call 860-429-02962 ext 1.

FoodShare Distribution

Thursday, Jan. 8 & 22, 11:30.

UConn Tailgate Party!

Sunday, Jan. 25, 2:30 PM
Women's Huskies vs. Cincinnati
Bearcats. Enjoy the 3 PM game
and feast on Nachos, Pretzels,
Hot Dogs and Dairy bar Sundaes.

Senior Van Trips

Call 860-429-0262 ext. 0
for more information and to
register for these popular trips.

Wednesday, Jan. 14

Trash Museum and Lunch.

Friday, Jan. 23

Ballard Puppet Museum and
Lunch. Museum admission free.

Wednesday, Jan. 28

Uncommon Kitchen.

Town of Mansfield, Connecticut
Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
4 South Eagleville Road, Mansfield, CT 06268
mansfieldct.gov 860.429.3336

