



THE MANSFIELD MINUTE MARCH 2017

www.mansfieldct.gov

- **Town Budget Presentation**,
Monday, March 27,
5:30 – 7 PM, at the Town
Hall Council Chambers.
- **Winter Storrs Farmers Mar-
ket at the library**, Saturdays,
March 4 & 18, 3-5 PM.
- **Mansfield schools are closed**
March 10.
- **It's almost spring! April**
vacation camp registrations
are beginning; check out **Parks**
& **Rec for Camp Mansfield**
and **Ray Reid Soccer camp**.
- **Sign up for [Wowbrary](#)** and be
among the first to learn about
new books, movies, and music
at the library!

Budget Meetings begin March 27

All citizens are welcome!
We urge you to attend these
sessions or to take time to read
[budget information](#) that will be
posted on the Town's web site:
www.mansfieldct.gov.

Do you have a suggestion or
comment on this year's
budget? We'd like to hear it!

Just fill out the [form](#)
and click 'submit'.
([mansfieldct.org/forms/
budget_suggestion.php](http://mansfieldct.org/forms/budget_suggestion.php))

See the full list of meetings
on page 2.

Mansfield Online: Town Services

Welcome to 2017! With each year that passes, our world is becoming more fast-paced and our people more non-stop. Most of us have enough trouble finding the time to eat a proper meal, get a carwash, or catch up on some sleep. I am sure that I can speak for all of us when asking- who has time to run to town hall to pay a parking ticket? Or submit a service request? Or register to vote?

If only there was a quick and convenient way accomplish these tasks...

Well, the Town of Mansfield is here for you. We understand the hectic, active lives of our residents, and this is why we offer a variety of online services and information from different departments throughout town. These interactive online services allow residents to do business from the comfort of their own homes. Below are some of the online services made available to you, the resident, by visiting <http://www.mansfieldct.gov/>.

The great Benjamin Franklin once said that "nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes." So don't make your next tax payment a deathly experience. Visit our Revenue Collections [webpage](#) for a plethora of information regarding your tax, refuse, and sewer bills. Just type in your account information and you are on your way.

Moving on with a very relevant hypothetical: Who do I contact if there is a pothole in the street in front of my house?

(Continued on page 2)

LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK ABOUT OUR WEB SITE



?? A key component of further developing our online services is receiving feedback about what is working and what could be improved upon. For this particular task, we ask for your help!

We have recently released an online survey about our Town website. We are interested in your input in regards to how you use the website, its strengths and weaknesses, as well as your recommendations for its improvement. What works best for you? What are you having trouble with? Do you have any recommendations to upgrade our online services? As we continue to move deeper into the online era, your thoughts into how to improve your personal experience on our webpages are truly invaluable.

To participate in our website survey please visit
www.mansfieldct.gov/websitesurvey.
Your input is greatly appreciated.

Mansfield Online cont. from pg. 1

Just visit the Town’s Public Works [page](#) and submit a service request form. In fact, you can submit an online service request form for just about any town-related issue. We will ensure that your request lands in the right hands, and is resolved in a friendly and timely manner.

Next, visit our trash and recycling [page](#), and learn everything you need to know to accomplish that New Year’s resolution of decreasing your carbon footprint.

And don’t forget to visit the Mansfield Library’s [page](#) for an assortment of research tools and downloadable audiobooks, E-books, and movies. All you need is your free, state-of-the-art library card. The list goes on and on.

Sign up for emergency notification announcements at the Fire Marshal [webpage](#), register to vote at our Registrar [webpage](#), and register for the hippest recreation programs at the Community Center and all around town at the Parks and Recreation [page](#).

From the Town Clerk’s office to library services, you are only a mouse click away from checking that pesky task off your to-do list.

Visit www.mansfieldct.gov or call 860.429.3397 to learn more about our online services today!

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

Town Budget Meetings

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings will take place in Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building (Town Hall), 4 South Eagleville Rd.

Budget Presentation

Monday, Mar. 27, 5:30-7:00 PM
Budget Message, Budget in Brief, Guide to the Budget, Revenue Summaries, Expenditure Summaries

Budget Review

Wednesday, Mar. 29, 6:30 PM
General Government, Public Safety

Budget Review

Tuesday, Apr. 4, 6:30 PM
Public Works, Town Aid Road Fund, Sewer Funds, Solid Waste Fund, Transit Service Fund

Budget Review

Wednesday, April 5, 6:30 PM
Board of Education, Facilities Management, Town Wide Operating Transfers,

Public Information Session

Tuesday, Apr. 18, 7:00 PM
Manager’s Proposed Budget Review

Budget Review

Wednesday, April 19, 6:30 PM
Community Services, Community Development Parks & Recreation Program Fund, Mansfield Discovery Depot, Other Operating Fund, Debt Service Fund

Budget Review

Thursday, Apr. 20, 5:30 PM
Health Insurance Fund, Workers Compensation Fund, Management Services Fund, Cemetery Fund/Long Term Investments,

Eastern Highlands Health District Fund, Mansfield Downtown Partnership Fund, Supplementary Data

Public Hearing on Budget at Regular Council Meeting

Monday, Apr. 24, 7:00 PM

Budget Discussion

Tuesday, Apr. 25, 6:30 PM
Flagged Items, Additions and Reductions

Adoption of Budget

Wednesday, Apr. 26, 6:30 PM
If necessary add Thursday, April 27

Public Information Session

Wednesday, May 3, 7:00 – 8:30 PM
Town Council Adopted Budget

Annual Town Meeting

Tuesday, May 9, 7:00 PM
at Mansfield Middle School Auditorium

Participation is encouraged! Make your voice heard and vote on your Town Budget. Who may vote at the Town Meeting? Any person who is registered to vote and any citizen of the USA over the age of 18 who owns property (motor vehicle or land) in Mansfield valued at \$1,000 or more.



Open Mansfield
open.mansfieldct.gov

See your tax dollars at work!
Visit our financial transparency platform that makes it easy to explore how your tax dollars are collected and spent.

open.mansfieldct.gov

New Faces In Town

Adam Libros has been appointed as the Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal/Emergency Management Director. He has 23 years of combined volunteer and career fire experience serving in various CT towns including Vernon, Simsbury, and Canton. Prior to Mansfield, Adam was the Fire Marshal/Deputy Fire Chief in Vernon, CT for 3 years.

Rachel Leek has been appointed to the Assistant Animal Control Officer. She received her Associates degree in Animal Science from UConn and is certified as a Zoo and Aquarium Science Professional and is also a certified Animal Training and Enrichment Professional. Rachel is currently the Customer Service Manager at Walmart where she has worked for 12 years.

Katie Bell is our new Youth Services Supervisor. She was previously a primary therapist for adolescents in the Partial Hospital/ Intensive Outpatient Program at Natchaug Hospital. Katie received her Doctor of Psychology and Masters in Clinical Practices from the University of Hartford.

Fran Raiola was promoted to Fire Chief last October. Fran had been serving as the Town's Deputy Chief-Fire Marshal-Emergency Management Director since April 2012 and with the Town since September 2000.



Attention Farmers and other Agricultural Business Owners!

We Want to Hear from You!

Join us for a Gathering of Mansfield's Agricultural Community on Tuesday, March 14, 7 PM at the UConn Floriculture Building. Please let us know if you will be attending. Contact Jennifer Kaufman at KaufmanJS@MansfieldCT.org or 860-429-3015x6204.

Assessment Appeals

The Board of Assessment Appeals will hold meetings at Town Hall in the Assessor's Office:

Saturday, March 4, 9 AM—12 PM
Tuesday, March 14, from 6:30—8:30 PM

They will hear appeals on assessments for the October 1, 2016 Real Estate and Personal Property Grand Lists, as well as the October 1, 2015 Supplemental Motor Vehicle Grand List. If you want to file an appeal, please contact the Assessor's Office at 429-3311 or visit www.mansfieldct.gov for more information.

Free Public Wireless

The Public Library, Community Center, Town Hall, Senior and Wellness Center, Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center, and all six of the schools are Free Wireless Internet Hotspots.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Am I guaranteed privacy when using public wireless Internet?

A: No. Wireless connections are less secure than wired connections. You are advised not to use wireless to transmit confidential information such as unencrypted passwords, credit card numbers, financial records, or any other personal, private, or sensitive information. We do not provide encryption.

Q: Does your Internet connection protect me from viruses?

A: No. While the Internet is a wonderful resource, there are some people who use it for malicious purposes to spread viruses, spyware, and malware. We highly recommend that you run anti-virus and security software on your device and keep your software up-to-date to reduce your risk.

Q: Do you use content filtering software?

A: The connection at the Public Library is unfiltered because it is a research site, while the connections at the Community Center, Senior Center, and Town Hall have some content filtering (we have content filtering that attempts to block websites that are likely to be inappropriate for general use in a public setting and by multiple age groups, but some inappropriate content will still get through so we advise you to be selective in the information that you access). Parents/guardians are responsible for monitoring access by their children using the wireless network.

Q: Can I use the public wireless for whatever I want?

A: Wireless users are individually responsible for adhering to Federal, state, and local regulations, laws, and copyright. We may refuse wireless access to users who violate laws, regulations, the acceptable use text, or to any users' whose activity disrupts the wireless network or is an inappropriate behavior in this facility or its grounds. We are not liable for misuse of the wireless connection.

Q: Is the wireless connection guaranteed to work?

A: We are proud to provide a reliable wireless network, but we can not guarantee that it will work with all equipment and there may be unexpected outage times. We apologize for any inconvenience.



March Events and Activities in Mansfield



Parks and Recreation

Winter Family Fun Nights!

Friday, Mar. 3, 5:30-8:30 PM
at the Community Center.
Giant inflatables, ping pong, tot
toys, puzzles, open gym & more!
No registration is required.

Free Mansfield Day

Sunday, Mar. 13, 12—2 PM
Have you been
wondering what all the
excitement is about at the
Community Center? Well, if
you're a Mansfield resident you
can find out for FREE.

Recreation Rescue

Friday, Mar. 10, 7:30-5:30
For children grades K-8,
games and activities.



Field Trip to
Dinosaur State Park. Fee

Creative Kid/ Parents Night Out

Saturday, Mar. 18, 5—7:30 PM
Drop off children in grades pre-
K—6 for evening of fun with
pizza, drinks and art project. Fee.

Family Paint Nights

Saturday, Mar. 25, 4—6 PM
Acrylic paint so dress for a mess!
Each participant paints a 16" x
20" canvas. Supplies and step-by-
-step instruction provided. Fee.

Storrs Winter Farmers Market

The Market is held from
3 to 5 PM at the library.

2017 Winter dates:

March 4 and 18

April 8 and 22

For more info:

storrsfarmersmarket.org

Mansfield Public Library

Grand Canyon National Park



Thursday, Mar. 2,
6:30 PM

George Jacobi will
read selections from
Inspiration Point, the
blog he wrote for the

Grand Canyon National Park
website during the 2016 season.

Book Discussion: Potluck Supper

Tuesday, Mar. 14, 6 – 8 PM
Join us for our annual potluck
supper where we will also choose
new books for the year.

The Not-So-Good Life of the Colonial Goodwife

Presented by Velya Jancz-Urban
Thursday, Mar. 16, 6:30 PM
Discover what life was really like
for New England's colonial women
in the spheres of birth, death, sex
and birth control, childcare, sick-
ness, and medicine.

Showcase: Venezuela

Saturday, Mar. 18, 2 PM
Join us as we meet Omar Poleo
from Venezuela. He will speak of
Venezuela's remarkable geographic
beauty, its ethnic diversity, and the
country's political unrest.

After School Fun Shoe Box Cities

Tuesday, Mar. 21, 4 – 5:30 PM
What can you build with a shoe
box? Come use your imagination to
build a creative city within your
box. Bring a shoe box or other
small box if you can; we will
provide as many as we can.

All library programs are free.

Mansfield Senior Center

AARP Tax-Aide Assistance

AARP's Tax-Aide program
provides free tax preparation to
taxpayers with low to moderate
income. Appointments available
Tuesdays and Thursdays through
April 7. Call 860-429-0262
for an appointment.

FoodShare

Thursday, Mar. 2, 16, 30
11:30—12:15 PM
Wrights Way back Parking Lot.
Please bring your shopping bags.

St. Paddy's Day Luncheon and Entertainment

Wednesday, Mar. 15, 12 PM
Enjoy a deliciously festive St.
Patrick's Day meal. Ringrose &
Freeman Traditional Irish Music
at 1PM. Call 860-487-9876 by
Mar. 8 to register.
No tickets sold at the door.



Fun & Games on Your Smartphone Workshop

Thursday, Mar. 16, 10 AM
Sponsored by the Public Library.

Fresh Friday & Entertainment

Friday, Mar. 24, 12 PM
Roasted Pork Tenderloin.
Performance by UConn's Drop
the Bass. Buy \$7 ticket by Mar.
20. No tickets sold at the door.

Polish Luncheon

Thursday, Mar. 30, 12 PM
Homemade Polish
themed meal with fresh
Pierogis & Kielbasa.
Buy \$7 ticket
by Mar. 27.
No tickets sold at the door.

