



THE MANSFIELD MINUTE APRIL 2017

www.mansfieldct.gov

- **Winter Storrs Farmers Market** at the library, Sat., Apr. 8 & 22, 3-5 PM.
- **Mansfield Schools will be closed April 10-14.**
- **Don't miss the Friends of the Library Book Sale** on April 1 & 2.
- **Town Offices will be closed on Friday, April 14.**
- **Repair Café on Saturday, April 8, 10-2, at the First Congregational Church's Arnold Auditorium, 199 Valley Street, Willimantic.**



A LOOK at the BUDGET

All citizens are welcome at the budget meetings listed on page 3. 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: mansfieldct.gov, as well as the information posted on open.mansfieldct.gov.

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

Proper Planning Department

We have all heard the expression "proper planning prevents poor performance". This is probably something we embody in our day-to-day lives, whether we know it or not. Quite honestly, our ability to reason and think logically before acting is an essential component of human nature. What shoes should I wear today? What route should I take to work? What kind of pizza am I going to eat for dinner? Without planning, we would all be shoeless, pizza-less mortals getting lost on our way to work.

Now obviously, shoeless and pizza-less is a worst case scenario, however this begs the question, what would happen if a whole town of people had no sense of planning? There would be no development, no new business in town, no long term community goals, and nothing stopping Mr. Jones over on Warrenville Road from building a skyscraper in his back yard. Fortunately, these responsibilities are overseen by our very competent and hard-working Department of Planning.

Mansfield's Department of Planning consists of four friendly and knowledgeable staff working collaboratively to ensure all issues related to land-use, commercial and residential development, regulations, and agriculture are taken care of in an efficient manner. Our Director of Planning and Development, Linda Painter, administers and coordinates the activities of the town's planning and development functions under the direction of the Planning and Zoning Commission. The Planner also coordinates land use issues with the Town manager, Town Council, advisory committees, other municipal departments and federal, state, and regional organizations.

Another integral responsibility of the Planning Department is the day-to-day enforcement of zoning and inland wetland regulations, including plan review and issuance of permits. Janell Mullen, Assistant Planner/Zoning Agent and Jennifer Kaufman, Environmental Planner/Inland Wetlands Agent, are responsible for reviewing all proposed development and land use activities for conformance with the regulations. In fact, it is not uncommon to see Jennifer and Janell out and about in Mansfield visiting proper-

(Continued on page 2)

Rid Litter Day is Saturday, April 29!

Get together with your neighbors to pick up litter.

Roadsides collect a lot of debris. Time to spring clean! If you have bags of litter that exceed your household trash collection service, please call the number below. You may take bags of litter to the transfer station for no charge which is located on Route 89. For more information call 429-3333.

Planning cont. from pg. 1

ties, inspecting sites, and making certain that all is consistent with regulations and approved plans.

In addition to the above activities, the Planning Department also supports community and economic development activities sponsored by various advisory committees and commissions. Last but not least, the Department also provides housing rehabilitation assistance for low and moderate income homeowners. If your house is in need of critical repairs, contact Jessie Richard, Planning and Community Development Assistant, to see if you qualify for program benefits.

The Planning Department continuously works with citizens, community leaders, and fellow Mansfield employees to help build a consensus on how the town should grow and develop. In 2015, the Town released [Mansfield Tomorrow](#), its updated Plan of Conservation and Development based on these shared needs, desires, and goals. With a comprehensive action plan and knowledgeable staff in place, the Planning Department and Town of Mansfield is well equipped to address community needs and continue promoting our Town. Major projects currently underway include updates to the Town's zoning regulations and implementation of a new permit-

ting and enforcement software system that will allow residents to file applications on-line for permits.

For more information about the Planning Department or [Mansfield Tomorrow](#) please visit the department's web page at www.mansfieldct.gov/content/1914/2787/default.aspx.

Organic Land Care Workshop Series

To register call 860-429-3333 or e-mail waltonvd@mansfieldct.org.

Build Your Own Rain Barrel

Saturday, Apr. 22, 10 – 11:30 AM
Buchanan Auditorium

Save yourself a bunch of money by learning how to make your own rain barrel. Do-it-yourselfers Rick Brosseau and Shawn Santasiere will retrofit a food grade barrel during the presentation. Register by April 14.

No-Till Gardening

Thursday, Apr. 27, 7 - 8 PM
Buchanan Auditorium

Calling all gardeners or want-to-be gardeners interested in learning how to nourish the soil without disturbing it. Organic farmer, Brian O'Hara, will share no-till techniques that incorporate compost, mulch, cover crops and proper fertilization. Brian has experience growing large volumes of crops in a small piece of land while building the soil. Register by April 25.

Backyard Composting

Saturday, May 6, 10 - 11 AM
Town Hall Council Chamber
Learn about the inner workings of a compost pile and how it is an integral part of organic land care. This workshop will help you get started or improve what you already have going. Presented by Virginia Walton, Recycling Coordinator. Register by May 3.



The Betsy Hamill Memorial Campership Fund

Summer camp is often a time of growth, learning, and enjoyment for young people. Families are sometimes faced with the difficult choice between paying for basic needs or providing a summer experience for their children. Through generous community donations, the *Betsy Hamill Memorial Campership Fund* enables the youth in our town to participate in these wonderful opportunities, regardless of their economic status, by offering scholarships to attend camp programs. If you are in need of financial support to make camp possible for youth in your household, applications can be obtained through your child's school, through the Youth Services office at Town Hall, or online at the Youth Services town website.

The campership fund would not be possible without the donations of individuals, organizations, local businesses and the faith community. We appreciate their commitment to making Mansfield an exceptional place to live for all of our residents. The Town's Youth Services Bureau absorbs the duties of fund administration so 100% of contributions go toward helping a child have a great summer.

Please consider donating. All contributions are fully tax deductible. Checks should be made payable to "Town of Mansfield - Betsy Hamill Campership Fund." Mail to: *The Betsy Hamill Memorial Campership Fund* c/o The Mansfield Human Services Department, 4 South Eagleville Road, Mansfield, CT 06268-2599.

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

News From the Registrar of Voters Office



You may be getting mail...

Between January and May, the State mandates that all ROVs conduct a "Confirmation of

Voter Residence" canvass by mail to all voters who have not voted in a federal election in at least the past 4 years. This year we are sending out over 2,000 letters to registered voters in town, which seems like a lot (it IS!) This is a HUGE project, and we appreciate your help!

Frequently Asked Questions:

Why are you questioning my residence address, I've lived in this house for many years?

If you have not cast a vote in Mansfield in the last two Federal elections, we are required by State statute to confirm that you still reside in town and that we have the correct residence address for you.

Why don't you know that I live in town? I pay taxes etc., doesn't the computer know?

This is one of the BEST things about our Voter Registration system here in CT. It does not "talk" to any other system in the town thus protecting your registration information and voting history.

Why doesn't this letter get sent to my PO BOX?

A PO Box does not confirm that you live in town OR what your residence address is. We send the letter to your residence address with directions to the post office to forward to your mailing address if necessary. Only your residence address determines your assigned polling place.

What if I receive a letter addressed to someone who no longer lives here?

Please note that information on the envelope, and return the unopened envelope to the mailbox or post office. The letter will return to us and we will take action as is necessary. If your child, parent or roommate receives a letter at your address, only THEY may complete and sign part B for return. We cannot accept information from anyone other than the voter.

So if you receive a letter from our office this month, please fill out the bottom of the form and send it back to us in the enclosed postage paid envelope. We'll be here, waiting for the postman!

Contact the Registrars of Voters at 860 429-3368:

Beverly Miela (R)

mielabm@mansfieldct.org;

Jeanne Ahern Mogayzel (D)

mogayzelja@mansfieldct.org

Town Budget Meetings

Unless otherwise noted,
all meetings will take place in Council Chambers.

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 Dis-
covery, 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, Sup-
plementary 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

Public Information Session

Wednesday, May 3, 7:00 – 8:30 PM

Town Council Adopted Budget

Annual Town Meeting

Tuesday, May 9, 7:00 PM

Mansfield Middle School Auditorium

*Make your voice heard and vote on the 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.*



MARTIN



April Events and Activities in Mansfield



Parks and Recreation

April Vacation Camp

April 10-13, 7:30 AM-5:30 PM.
Grades K-8. Includes games, arts & crafts, special events and trips.
Detailed flyers available at the community center and distributed to the schools.

Other April Vacation Options

April Vacation Art!
Ray Reid Soccer Camp
Magnolia Run

www.mansfieldcc.com for details

Spring Family Fun Nights!

Saturday, Apr. 1, 4:30—7:30 PM
Saturday, Apr. 22, 4:30-7:30 PM
Giant inflatables, ping pong, tot toys, puzzles, open gym & more!
No registration is required.

Free Mansfield Day

Saturday, Apr. 1, 4:30-7:30 PM
Have you been wondering what all the excitement is about at the Community Center?
Find out for FREE.

Family Paint Nights

Saturday, Apr. 22, 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.
Artist: Joan Miro

Backyard Games

Outdoor Volleyball and Badminton sets are available to rent for home use. Reserve & pay 48 hours in advance. \$10 per set per use (up to 3 days).

Mansfield Public Library

Friends of the Library Book Sale

Saturday, Apr. 1, 9AM-4PM
Sunday, Apr. 2, 9AM-3PM

Canteen Tales with puppeteer Shane McNeal

Saturday, Apr. 8, 10:30—11:30 AM
Come learn the story of the valiant, but timid, Knight Toby and his Quest for the Golden Spork.

Cartooning Workshop with Jerry Craft

Tuesday, Apr. 11, 2 – 3 PM
Cartoonist and author Jerry Craft returns by popular demand!
Learn the tricks and techniques of cartooning from a pro.

Come to a Clifford Party

Wednesday, Apr. 12, 10:30—12 PM

Do you love Clifford the Big Red Dog? We'll have stories, crafts & activities.



Puppet Making Workshop

Thursday, Apr. 13, 1 – 3 PM
Make your own butterfly glove or mitten puppet at this workshop led by Karen Lank. We'll supply gloves and mittens, but bring your own if you have any extras.

Your Behavior:

Why You Do the Things You Do

Thursday, Apr. 20, 6:30PM
Dr. Richard H. Pfau will help you understand why you do the things you do and why others do what they do too.

Mansfield Senior Center



Introduction to Gmail

Friday, Apr. 7, 10 AM

Join our UConn

Tech for an informative session on how to get started with your Gmail account.

FoodShare

Thursdays, Apr. 13 and 27, 11:30 AM

No registration necessary. Please bring your shopping bags.



Closed Caption Presentation

Tuesday, Apr. 18, 12:30 PM
Our Local Title 4 ADA Specialist will discuss new cutting-edge technology. Call 860-487-9870 to register by April 13.

Annual Intergenerational Dinner and Talent Show

Tuesday, Apr. 18, 5 PM
E O Smith High School
The menu *Tour of Europe* includes appetizers, entrees and desserts, prepared and served by UConn dietician students.
Buy an \$8 ticket by April 12.

Fresh Friday Luncheon

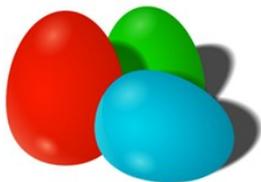
Friday, Apr. 21, 12 PM
Fresh Salad Bar with all the fixings for \$7. Reserve by April 17, sorry no walk-ins.



EGGSTRAVAGANZA!

Mansfield Advocates for Children will hold its annual egg hunt on Saturday, April 8 at 1 PM at the Community Center. The event will also feature crafts, fitness games, and a visit from the Bunny! The egg hunts will take place on the Ossen Community Playground and will be held in three waves- for ages 1-3, 4-6, and 7-10.

For more information call 860-487-9875 or email dufresnes@mansfieldct.org.



Town of Mansfield, Connecticut
Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
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mansfieldct.gov 860.429.3336

