

## REGULAR MEETING-MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL-OCTOBER 15, 2002

The Mansfield Town Council was called to order by Mayor Elizabeth Paterson at 7:32 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Bellm, Haddad, Hawkins, Holinko, Paterson, Rosen, Martin, Thorkelson

Absent: Schaefer

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Thorkelson moved and Mr. Rosen seconded to approve the minutes with corrections.

Motion so passed. Mr. Bellm abstained.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Julie Sherman, Pinewoods Lane spoke against the advertising now posted in Southeast Park on the ballfield. She expressed concern over who and how the advertising would be controlled. She offered that it would be agreeable if the signs could be put up and taken down on each play date. She hoped that the Council would address policy issues of youth organized sports vs. recreational sports. She also asked the Council to think about how much the Town wants to support competitive groups. She asked if the Town assesses other Towns for allowing kids from those towns to use the Mansfield fields. She inquired about lighting, professional experience and who was in charge of these activities. She urged the Council to consider the needs of every one in Town and again asked at what level does the town support these activities.

Dudley Hamlin, Chaffeeville Road, read his letter to the Council.

Helen Koehn, 83 Separatist Road, thanked the Town Council, the Town Manager, and the Director of Public Works for their assistance in bringing the issue of water quality for the residents in the area of the new apartment complex of the University, to a reasonable conclusion. She felt that the end result would benefit not only the residents but also the Town.

She expressed the opinion that taking down and putting up the signs in the Southeast park ballfield sounded like a reasonable compromise.

Joe Carey, 96 Mt. Hope Road, spoke on the hump at the intersection of Route 89 and Mt. Hope Road. He is opposed to any further work on the project. He is not happy with the project, as it will increase the speed of the cars on the road. Nobody wants the speed to be faster.

David Ouimette, Brookside Lane, supports the limited sponsorship of signs on the ballfields.

Diane Nadeau, 50 Thornbush Road, spoke in favor of the sponsorship signs at Southeast Park. She said it would be impractical to put up and take down all the signs at each game.

Bob Milvae, President of Little League, spoke in favor of the signs.

Carolyn Burke, Knowlton Hill Road, spoke in support of the sponsorship signs at the ballfield. She read a letter that her son, thirteen years old, wrote on the issue.

Chris Novac, whose son plays football in Mansfield, said that he believes playing sports

keeps kids out of trouble. He works at the Bergin correctional facility.

Motion by Mr. Haddad and seconded by Mr. Rosen to add 17a and 17b to the agenda.

So passed unanimously.

#### IV. OLD BUSINESS

1. Issues Regarding UConn Landfill Including the Consent Order, Public Participation Relative to the Consent Order and Well Testing

Town Manager reported that the comprehensive report would be submitted by October 31, 2002 and will be ready for review. Then there will a 45-day review time and two public hearings. Next Spring the final approval and remedial action should implement plan.

2. Route 89/Mt. Hope Road Intersection

Mr. Bellm moved and Mr. Thorkelson seconded to postpone to time unspecific the issue of the project at the Route 89/Mt. Hope Road Intersection.

So passed unanimously.

3. Business Sponsorship and Commercial Advertising in Town Parks.

Mr. Rosen moved and Mr. Haddad seconded to support the concept of establishing a dual regulatory scheme to allow limited advertising and program sponsorship signage in Town Parks and refer this issue to Planning and Zoning.

So passed unanimously.

4. Spring Weekend

Mr. Rosen requested that the Manager inquire if there are any legal avenues that the Town could take to decrease the large numbers of students gathering on Spring Weekend. Town Manager has referred this issue to the Town Attorney and has not received an answer yet.

#### V. NEW BUSINESS

5. Grant Application to Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Mr. Martin moved and Mr. Holinko seconded to authorized the Town Manager to submit the grant to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to provide six computers for the Mansfield Public Library.

So passed. Mr. Bellm and Mr. Thorkelson voted no.

6. Social Services Block Grant

Mr. Martin moved and Mr. Thorkelson seconded to adopt the following resolution:

Resolved, that Martin H. Berliner, Town Manager, is empowered to enter into and amend contractual instruments in the name and on behalf, of the Town of Mansfield with the Connecticut Department Social Services for a counseling program and to affix the corporate seal of the Town.

So passed unanimously.

7. Proclamation Designating the Month of October as "Breast Cancer Awareness Month" in Mansfield.

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Martin seconded to authorize the Mayor to issue a proclamation designating the month of October 2002 as Breast Cancer Awareness Month in the Town of Mansfield

So passed unanimously.

8. Proclamation Designating October 15, 2002 as "White Cane Safety Day" in Mansfield

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Thorkelson seconded to authorize the Mayor to issue the attached proclamation designating Tuesday, October 15, 2002 as: White Cane Safety Day" in the Town of Mansfield.

So passed unanimously,

9. Proposed Fee Schedule Revision-Hand-held Scanners

Mr. Thorkelson moved and Mr. Bellm seconded to authorize the Town Manager to establish a fee of \$10 for use of these scanning devices.

So passed unanimously.

10. Proposed Fee Schedule Revision-Animal control

Mr. Rosen moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded to adopt the fee Schedule Revision for various Animal Control Fees, to be effective 21 days after the Town Clerk's publication of the amendments in a newspaper having circulation in the Town of Mansfield, as recommended by the Animal Control Officer in her memorandum dated September 14, 2002.

So passed unanimously.

11. Financial Statements Dated June 30, 2002

Mr. Martin moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded to refer the Financial Statements dated June 30, 2001 to the Finance committee.

So passed unanimously.

12. Adjustments to Capital projects Fund

Mr. Hawkins moved and Mr. Thorkelson seconded to approve the adjustments to the Capital Projects Fund, as proposed by the Director of Finance in his memorandum dated September 19, 2002.

So passed unanimously.

13. Statewide Fire-Rescue Plan

Mr. Hawkins moved and Mr. Bellm seconded to authorize the Town Manager to execute the Memorandum of Understanding.

So passed unanimously.

14. Construction Agreement-Birch Road Bikeway

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Bellm seconded to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that Lon R. Hultgren, Director of Public Works, be, and hereby is, authorized to sign the agreement entitled "Agreement Between the State of Connecticut and the Town of Mansfield for the Construction, Inspection and Maintenance of the Birch Road Bikeway, Utilizing Federal Funds under the Enhancement Component of the Surface Transportation Program"

So passed unanimously.

#### 15. Road and Traffic Sign Issues

Mr. Martin moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded to request that the Traffic Authority review and return with a proposal of the number and size of "Share the Road" signs.

So passed unanimously.

#### 16. Concept Proposal-Relocation of Mansfield City Road near Stearns Road

Mr. Hawkins moved and Mr. Thorkelson seconded to refer this matter to the Agriculture Committee.

Motion failed. In favor: Haddad, Hawkins, Paterson, Thorkelson.

Against: Bellm, Holinko, Rosen, Martin

#### 17. Open Space Acquisition-Fesik Property

Mr. Martin moved and Mr. Thorkelson seconded to set a public hearing for October 28, 2002 at 7:30 p.m. and to refer this matter to the PZC pursuant to CGS 8-24.

So passed unanimously.

#### 17a. Letter of Support to Fund Assisted Living Services at Juniper Hill Village

Mr. Martin moved and Mr. Bellm seconded to authorize the Town Manager to draft and issue a letter in support of Juniper Hill Village's application to the State Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) to fund assisted living services at Juniper Village.

So passed unanimously.

#### 17b. Role of Fire and Emergency Services Committee

No action at this time.

### VI. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

### VII. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Thorkelson seconded to approve the following appointments to the Town boards and commissions:

Appoint Barbara Ivry to the Commission on Aging, Reappoint Nora Stevens and Rev. Philip Seckar to the Commission on Aging, to appoint Steve Pringle to the Arts Advisory Committee, Reappoint Mary Lindsay, Frank Trainor, Brian Krystof and Sidney Waxman to the Beautification Committee, to reappoint Martin H. Berliner to the Eastern Highlands Health District, to reappoint Esther McCabe, David Ferrero and Dennis Mullaney to the Board of Ethics, and to reappoint James Hill and James Morrow to the Open Space Preservation Committee.

So passed unanimously.

### VIII. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Martin noted that the Special meeting at the Senior Center regarding the Community Center was very informative.

### IX. TOWN MANAGERS REPORT

The Separatist Road hearing was held; a general consensus for the plan will be made.

The Special Meeting of the Town Council was held at the Community Center on October 9, 2002. The Director of Recreation in Ridgefield Connecticut was present to discuss the new center in Ridgefield and to offer suggestions to the Town of Mansfield as the Town completes the new facility. The Marketing Group presented a plan, which was very informative.

Informal information has been given that the Town will be receiving two additional Small Cities Grants.

There are three finalists for Director of Social Services. The new director will be present in about 4-6 weeks.

The Town has received notification from AT&T of a cell tower being placed in an area of Baxter Road or Cedar Swamp Road. The Town will ask the firm to come to Mansfield and describe their plan.

The Downtown Partnership held its Annual Meeting. Approximately 80 persons attended the meeting. It was announced that 137-140 members have donated around \$7500. There was a lively discussion on the by-laws and makeup of the Board of Directors. After the discussion both the amended by-laws and Board of Directors were approved.

On October 8, 2002 the Manager attended the Town/Gown Meeting. At that meeting the new Director of Environmental Policy, Rich Miller was introduced.

X. FUTURE AGENDAS

XI. PETITIONS, REQUEST AND COMMUNICATIONS

18. M. Berliner re: Hilltop Apartments Detention Basin Improvements, UConn, Dam Safety Permit Review.

19. Town of Mansfield Suggestions for CCM's 2003 State Legislative Program

20. C. Hirsch re: Zoning Citations Ordinance

21. J. Carey re: Bridge Poem

22. CCM re: Amicus Curiae in Granite State Outdoor Advertising, Inc. v. Zoning Board of Stamford

23. CCM re: State Mandates on Towns and Cities

24. Article re: State Okays Natchaug Expansion

25. The Board Report

26. Mansfield Public Schools 10-1-02 Enrollment

27. Plan of Conservation and Development, Oct. 22, 2002 Meeting

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

28. Open Space Acquisition

At 10:04 p.m. Mr. Martin moved and Mr. Bellm seconded to go into Executive Session for the purpose of Open Space Acquisition with the Town Manager.

So passed unanimously.

At 10:15 the Town Council came out of Executive Session.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

At 10:16 p.m. Mr. Martin moved and Mr. Haddad seconded to adjourn the meeting.  
So passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Joan E. Gerdson, Town Clerk