

REGULAR MEETING-OCTOBER 28,2002-MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

The regular meeting of 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, Hawkins, Holinko, Paterson, Rosen, Schaefer, JC Martin

Absent: Haddad, Thorkelson

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Rosen moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded to approve the minutes of October 15, 2002 with one correction under Business Sponsorship and Commercial Advertising in Town Parks: "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. Mr. Schaefer abstained.

III. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Open Space Acquisition-Fesik Property

The Town Planner, Greg Padick, outlined the proposed acquisition on a map and answered questions of the Council.

Mr. Jim Morrow of the Open Space Committee was also present to answer any questions.

No members of the public had comments on this property.

IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Mr. Joe Carey, 96 Mt. Hope Road, requested the Council to postpone any decision on the dehumming and straightening of Rte. 89 at the intersection of Mt. Hope Road. He would like to have the opportunity to mobilize the neighborhood, which he says has very strong feelings against this project. He will be getting a petition of the neighbors who do not want improvements made by DOT that would increase the speed in the area. He would like a meeting date to have the neighbors return to the Council and voice their concerns. After discussion the Council will bring this issue up on the agenda of Nov. 25, 2002.

V. OLD BUSINESS

2. Open Space Acquisition

Mr. Rosen moved and Mr. Bellm seconded to authorize the Town Manager to complete the proposed purchase agreement dated October 10, 2002 between the Town of Mansfield and Ms. Florence Prescott Fesik for the purchase of the 7.5 acre parcel as described in Vol. 111 pg. 88 of the Town of Mansfield land records, and to expend \$7,000 from the Capital Projects Fund-Open Space Acquisition Account for the subject purchase.

So passed unanimously.

3. Route 89/Mt. Hope Road Intersection

No action taken, the item will be brought up on November 25, 2002.

4. University Spring Weekend

No action taken, however Mr. Martin inquired if legislatively the Liquor Commission could require sales of large amounts of kegs to be reported to the Commission as to where they were going and on what day. This would be a state form and a state regulation.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

5. Role of Civil Preparedness Advisory Council

No action taken. Town Manager reported that although the process was taking longer than he had thought, progress is being made.

VII. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

No comments

VIII. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Mr. Schaefer reported that the Finance Committee would meet at 7:00 p.m. instead of at 4:00 p.m.

IX. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Paterson and Council member Mr. Hawkins attended a CCM workshop on Property Tax Reform.

Mayor Paterson, the Town Manager, Assistant Town Manager and others attended the CCM Conference. They reported that the conference was excellent, however there was expressed concern that the legislature may take another look at the state's finances for the second half of the year and pull back on some State funding to the towns.

X. TOWN MANAGERS REPORT

The Plan of Conservation and Development Meeting will be held on November 7, 2002 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers. At this meeting Jim Gibbons of the UConn Cooperative Extension Service will make a presentation on economic development in small towns.

The final public presentation on an ongoing "Lands of Unique Value" analysis for Mansfield will be held on October 30, 2002 at 7:30 p.m. in Room 100 of the Young Building at the University of Connecticut. At this meeting the project elements will be explained, inventory mapping will be displayed, final recommendations will be presented and discussed and public questions and comments will be addressed. All are invited to attend.

A public hearing has been scheduled for Thursday, November 21, 2002 at 6:30p.m. at the University of Connecticut at the Bishop Center, Room 7, on the Environmental Impact Evaluation for the Graduate Student Apartments and Downtown Mansfield Masterplan Projects.

The Town has received two additional Small Cities Grant Program; \$500,000 for the Juniper Hill Kitchen and \$300,000 for Housing Rehabilitation.

The Plains Road Bridge project will not begin until next Spring.

The Mansfield Downtown Partnership will hold a meeting at their office on November 5, 2002 at 4:00 p.m.

CCM has sent the Town a Legislative Update regarding state aid cuts.

The Town did not receive a Small Town Economic Assistance Program Grant.

On November 2, 2002 there will be a Community Center Building Committee Meeting at 9:00 a.m. to view the Center site. All Council members are invited to attend.

The Mayor read an e-mail from Martha N. Kelly of Bundy Lane, who opposes any, signs on public lands.

Mr. Bellm requested that an issue be brought forward to the Town/Gown committee. The issue is that the pine trees recently planted on Rt. 195 near the chicken coops on Horse Barn Hill will, when mature, block the vista as motorists drive onto campus. What were the reasons to place these trees in that location?

XI. FUTURE AGENDAS

XII. PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

6. Town of Mansfield Legal Notice-November 5, 2002 State Election
7. Department of Economic and Community Development(DECD) re: Notice of Small Cities Grant Awards for Juniper Hill and Housing Rehabilitation Programs
8. W. Topliff re: Update on Local Ambulatory Vehicle Exemption
9. W. Topliff re: Mansfield Tax Deferral Program
10. Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services re: Enforcement Program for Limiting Minor's Access to Tobacco
11. M. Berliner re: Re-Appointment of Dr. James Peters to Social Services Advisory Board.
12. CCM re: Revised Bulletin Concerning Constitutional Challenges to Billboard Regulations-Victory Appeal
13. "Requirements for Meetings under the Freedom of Information Act"
14. Notice and Executive Summary of Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) for Graduate Student Apartments and Downtown Master Plan Projects
15. Town of Mansfield Directory of Board and Commission Members
16. Notice of Plan of Conservation and Development Meeting.
17. Press Release re: Plains Road Bridge Closure

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Not needed.

XIV/ ADJOURNMENT

At 8:32 p.m. Mr. Martin moved and Mr. Schaefer seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Joan E. Gerdson, Town Clerk