

REGULAR MEETING-MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL-OCTOBER 27, 2003

The regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council was called to order by Mayor Elizabeth Paterson at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Haddad, Hawkins, Holinko, Paterson, Clouette, Martin, Thorkelson

Absent: Bellm, Schaefer

By consensus the Council moved up item # 1. Under Old Business

1. Proclamation in Honor of Southeast School's Receipt of Green Flag Award for Environmental Leadership

Mayor Paterson read the Proclamation to the children, presented them with a poster, puzzle and a calendar from the 300th celebration. Afterwards the children and guests had refreshments.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Martin moved and Mr. Clouette seconded to approve the minutes of October 14, 2003.

So passed unanimously.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

There were no persons present to address the council.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

2. Underage Drinking, University Spring Weekend and President Austin's Task Force on Substance Abuse

Public Hearing on underage drinking ordinance will be on the agenda for November 10, 2003.

V. NEW BUSINESS

By consensus item # 6 was moved up on the agenda.

6. Length of Service Awards Program for Volunteer Emergency Services Personnel

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Thorkelson seconded that effective October 27, 2003, to

authorize staff to implement the length of service awards program (LOSAP) for volunteer emergency services personnel, as proposed by the Emergency Services Management Team in its memorandum dated October 27, 2003.

Mr. Hawkins moved and Mr. Holinko seconded to table this issue until the next meeting so that all personnel could review the plan.

So passed unanimously.

3. NECASA grant Program to Support the Activities of Local Alcohol, tobacco and Other Drug Abuse Prevention Councils

Mr. Martin moved and Mr. Thorkelson seconded that effective October 27, 2003, to authorize the Town Manager to submit an application in the amount of \$3,3000 to the Northeast Communities Against Substance Abuse (NECASA) to support the activities of local alcohol, tobacco, and other drug abuse prevention councils.

So passed unanimously.

4. Capital Projects Fund

Mr. Thorkelson moved and Mr. Martin seconded that effective October 27, 2003, to adopt the adjustments to the Capital Projects Fund, as presented by the Director of Finance in his memorandum dated October 21, 2003.

So passed unanimously.

5. Compensation Adjustment for Town Manager

Mr. Hawkins moved and Mr. Holinko seconded that effective October 27, 2003, to modify the Town Manager's compensation as follows: 1. A 2.75 percent wage increase retroactive to July 1, 2003; 2. Health insurance coverage as provided to the town's nonunion personnel; and 3. An annual annuity payment of \$14, 000 per year.

So passed unanimously.

6. Previously discussed

VI. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

VII. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

VIII. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Holinko commented that the 300th ball was a very special evening. It was held in the Rome ballroom on the University of Connecticut campus. The "Little Big Band" played for the evening.

Mayor Paterson thanked the 300th Steering Committee, the Ball Committee and the

staff Mr. Matt Hart, Assistant Town Manager and Town Clerk Joan Gerdson for all their efforts. It was a very successful event.

Mr.Thorkelson commented on the death of Claude McDaniels, long time resident and farmer in town.

IX. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

The Mansfield Community Center opened up last Friday morning. The grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony will be on Saturday, November 1, 2003. All council members will be receiving invitations. Mayor Paterson thanked the Town Manager for his effort in bringing this building project to completion. Mr. Berliner commented on the many hours and hard work of the staff. There are 1361 members of the community center.

The Finance Director presented an analysis of proposed State Grants for fiscal year 2003/2004. These are only estimates and may change during the year. At present the town should be receiving an additional amount of about \$341,000

Please note the enrollment numbers of the Mansfield Public School as given in Dr. Gordon Schimmel's memo.

The report of the State of Connecticut Blue Ribbon Commission on Property Tax Burdens and Smart Growth Incentives was included in the packet. Town Manager Martin H. Berliner was on the commission and hopes that the legislature and the state administrators will read the document in its totality. Council members commented that it was a very comprehensive report.

X. FUTURE AGENDAS

XI. PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

7. E. Paterson and M. Berliner re: Adel Urban's Retirement
8. Planning and Zoning Commission Application Referral-Six-lot Subdivision on Coventry Road
9. Report of the State of Connecticut Blue Ribbon Commission on Property Tax Burdens and Smart Growth Incentives
- 10.The Hartford Courant-"Expanding our City Limits for the Common Good"
- 11.G. Schimmel re: Enrollment Figures for Mansfield Public Schools
- 12.Honorable J. Rowland re: Mansfield's Tercentennial Celebration
- 13.Council of Small Towns re: 2003 Grassroots Government Leadership Institute
- 14.Minutes for the Technical Advisory Group Meeting for the Long-term impact Analysis of the University of Connecticut's Fenton River Water Supply Wells on the Habitat of the Fenton River
- 15.Connecticut Department of Health re: Estimated Populations in Connecticut as of July 1, 2002
- 16.J. Smith re: Analysis of State Grants for Fiscal Year 2003-2004

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Not needed.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:15 p.m. Mr. Martin moved and Mr. Thorkelson seconded to adjourn the meeting.

So passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Joan E. Gerdson, Town Clerk