

## REGULAR MEETING-MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL-FEBRUARY 28, 2005

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

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Blair, Haddad, Hawkins, Paterson, Paulhus  
Absent: Clouette, Koehn, Redding, Schaefer

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of February 10, 2005.

So passed unanimously.

Ms. Blair moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 14, 2005.

So passed unanimously.

III. MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Paterson requested a moment of silence to remember all those persons serving in uniform abroad and for the victims of the Tsunami disaster.

IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

No comments from the public.

V. PUBLIC HEARING

1. An Ordinance Regulating Litter

Mr. Robert Cook, 319 Separatist Road, read a statement regarding Section 14 of the proposed litter ordinance. He feels that the ordinance is very revenue negative and explains his opinion in the attached statement. He would like to see the areas especially around No. Eagleville Road, Hunting Lodge Road, Birch Road, etc. cleaned up, but urged equality in enforcement so that the town is not sued for being arbitrary in administering the ordinance.

At 7:40 p.m. the Public Hearing was closed.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

2. Application(s) to Department of Economic and Community Development for Small Cities Program Fund.

Mr. Hawkins moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to reschedule the March 14,

2005 public hearing to solicit public comment regarding an Application to the Department of Economic and Community Development for Small Cities Program Funds until 7:30 p.m. at the Town Council's regular meeting on March 28, 2005.

So passed unanimously.

### 3. An Ordinance Regulating Litter

Town Attorney Dennis O'Brien and Assistant Town Manager Matt Hart spoke with Council on a proposed amendment to the proposed litter ordinance. Questions were raised by Council members regarding term "Blight" and "Litter" and concerns over the lien that may be placed on real estate against which the fine was imposed.

Ms. Blair moved and Mr. Haddad seconded to table this issue.

So passed unanimously.

### 4. University Spring Weekend and Campus/Community Relations

No action taken. The Council's subcommittee on the Community Quality of Life has met. A draft of their report will be brought to the Council shortly.

## VII. NEW BUSINESS

### 5. WPCA-Proposed Willimantic Sewer Budget 2004/05

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded to recess as the Council and convene as the WPCA.

So passed unanimously.

Mr. Haddad moved and Ms. Blair seconded that effective February 28, 2005, to adopt the proposed Willimantic Sewer Budget for 2004/05 as presented by the Department of Finance.

So passed unanimously.

Mr. Paulhus moved and Ms. Blair seconded to adjourn as the WPCA and reconvene as the Town Council.

So passed unanimously.

### 6. MRRA-Amendment to Solid Wasted Regulations, Section A196-12(G)

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded to recess as the Town Council and convene as the MRRA.

So passed unanimously.

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded that effective February 28, 2005,

to schedule a public hearing for 7:30 p.m. at the Town Council's regular meeting on March 14, 2005, to solicit public comment regarding the proposed amendment to Section A196-12(G) of the Solid Waste Regulations.

So passed unanimously.

Mr. Paulhus moved and Ms. Blair seconded to adjourn as the MRRA and reconvene as the Town Council.

So passed unanimously.

7. Zoning Board of Appeals Concerns, Legal Issue

Mr. Paulhus moved and Ms. Blair seconded to table this issue.

So passed unanimously.

VIII. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

The Council noted the voting of the Board of Education on the proposed fulltime Kindergarten class.

The Council noted the usage of the Community Center.

IX. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

X. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Hawkins presented a photo of the fire engine tanker truck that was given to the Eastern Connecticut Fire School by the Town of Mansfield. The engine has the acknowledgment of this gift on the truck itself.

Mr. Hawkins asked if all the Council members had received an e-mail from the Director of the Housing Authority regarding the litter ordinance. All members had received the email. By consensus the Council requested the staff and Mayor to respond to the email.

XI. TOWN MANAGERS REPORT

The Town Manager has received a notification from CCM regarding the draft letter sent by Probate Court Administrator James Lawlor. He has now introduced a spending cap that should keep towns with populations less than 45,000, considered local courts, to keep their courts as long as they operated within a certain per person budget. This will allow the Mansfield/Coventry Court to continue without having the town help pay for the court.

There is a Downtown Partnership meeting to be held on Tuesday at 4:00 p.m. in their office.

The Town/University committee will be meeting a week from tomorrow in the Council Chamber.

Mayor reported that she would be attending the National League of Cities Meeting from Saturday to Tuesday. She will be meeting with Legislators; Dodd, Liberman and Simmons regarding support and funding for the Downtown Partnership.

XII. FUTURE AGENDAS

XIII. PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

8. The Daily Campus, February 18, 2005-"Mansfield Council Supports litter ban."
9. National League of Cities re: FY 2006 Federal Budget Proposal
- 10.M. Hart re: Public Safety Committee Annual Report
- 11.Connecticut Conference of Municipalities re: Governor's Proposed Budget: Impact on Towns and Cities FY 2005-06
- 12.Connecticut Conference of Municipalities re: Summary of Governor's Transportation Investment Proposal
- 13.Connecticut Council of Small Towns re: Town Leaders Pass School Funding Resolution: Urge "Fierce Fight"
- 14.Testimony of G. Schimmel, J. Smith and M. Callahan re: An Act Concerning Energy Conservation and School Construction Funding.
15. Friends of the Mansfield Public Library re: February 2005 Book Sale

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Not needed.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:36 p.m. Mr. Paulhus moved and Ms. Blair seconded to adjourn the meeting.

So passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Joan E. Gerdson, Town Clerk