

REGULAR MEETING-MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
November 13, 2006

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

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Clouette, Haddad, Hawkins, Koehn (7:50 p.m.), Paterson, Paulhus, Redding, Schaefer
Absent: Blair

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Clouette moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded to approve the minutes of the October 23, 2006 meetings with minor corrections.
Motion so passed.

III. MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Paterson requested a moment of silence in honor of and respect for our troops around the world. The Mayor also asked the public to include the memory of Ann Robb in their thoughts. Mrs. Robb, proprietor of Barrows and Burnham for many years, was a special person in Mansfield.

IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Minati Roychoudhuri, 7 Fieldstone Drive, described a recent dog attack that occurred when she was walking on Spring Hill Road. She described her injuries as significant and stated that this was the dog's second attack. Ms. Roychoudhuri expressed concern that the dog will attack someone else noting that the owner's house backs up to the Mansfield Middle School.

Matt Hart, Town Manager, is meeting with the parties this week and stated that the dog is currently under a restraining order.

Helen Mulkern, who lives in Mansfield Center near Joshua's Trust property, asked whether or not the Town has a leash law. She often walks on the trails and encounters dogs that are not leashed.

Matt Hart stated that the town parks have leash laws but there is no town ordinance requiring dogs to be leashed.

Chandrasek Roychoudhuri, 7 Fieldstone Drive, commented that he was not supportive of laws that are too restrictive and that the problem with the dog that attacked his wife is that it is a trained attack dog.

Diane Sauer, 26 Fieldstone Drive, who often walks with Ms Roychoudhuri, asked if restraining the dog to the house is enough.

Tom Stachelsky, Depot Road, asked the Council what could be done to slow down traffic on Depot Road. He and his wife have trouble getting in and out of their

driveway because the cars speed over the speed bumps. He suggested that maybe different speed bumps or a one-way designation might help the situation.

The Town Manager stated that the issue has been referred to the Traffic Authority who will take a fresh look at the situation.

Norma Stachelsky, 82 Depot Road, worries about her grandchildren and the speed of the traffic.

Mayor Paterson requested that a motion be made to move Item 6, Videotaping and Broadcasting of Town Council Meeting, as the next item of business. The motion was made by Mr. Haddad, seconded by Mr. Schaefer and passed by all.

Mike Nelson of Charter Communications described some of the technical options available to the town for the filming of the Town Council meetings. In response to a question from Mr. Clouette, Mr. Nelson promised that he would provide some samples of the productions in other area towns. Mr. Haddad suggested that the Council look at an overall technical upgrade of the Council Chambers.

- V. OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Issues Regarding the UConn Landfill

Matt Hart, Town Manager, stated that when a report is received regarding the UConn Landfill it will be forwarded to the Department of Health for review and that review will be incorporated into the larger report for the Council. Mr. Hawkins asked that the Manager investigate the reasons for the sampling anomalies.

2. Community Water and Wastewater Issues

The committee looking at these issues has hired a consultant and once that person is up to speed a public session will be announced.

3. Retirement Agreement between the Town of Mansfield and Martin H. Berliner

Mr. Hawkins moved and Ms. Koehn seconded to pass the following resolution. Resolved, to authorize Mayor Elizabeth C. Paterson to execute the proposed Retirement Agreement between the Town of Mansfield and Martin H. Berliner, the terms of which Agreement are retroactive to July1, 2006. Motion so passed.

4. Expansion of Membership to Conservation Commission

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Clouette seconded, effective November 13, 2006, to schedule a public hearing for 7:30 p.m. at the Town Council's regular meeting on November 27, 2006, to solicit public comment regarding the proposed amendment to Section 11-3 of the Mansfield Code of Ordinances (Mansfield Conservation Commission).

Motion so passed.

5. Community/Campus Relations

Matt Hart commented that the colder weather has curtailed much of the disruptive behavior around campus and that staff will use the winter months to examine police coverage and other options. Mayor Paterson said that she is encouraged because students keep coming back to the Partnership meetings and want to participate. Mr. Hawkins commented that anecdotal evidence shows that the Housing Code has been beneficial for the students.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

6. Videotaping and Broadcasting of Town Council Meetings

Addressed above.

7. Traffic Concerns on Depot Road

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Schaefer seconded, effective November 13, 2006 to refer the issue of traffic concerns on Depot Road to the Traffic Authority, which shall review the matter and report back to the Town Council.

Council members discussed the general issue of shortcut roads in town and specifically what might be done on Depot Road especially since traffic is expected to increase with the opening of the Reynolds School.

Motion so passed.

8. Acceptance of Various Town Roads

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Clouette seconded, effective November 13, 2007, to refer the acceptance of Jackson Lane, Jonathan Lane and Monticello Lane as town roads to the Planning and Zoning Commission for review pursuant to Section 8-24 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Motion so passed.

9. Financial Statements for the Period Ending September 30, 2006

Mr. Schaefer moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded, effective November 13, 2006, to refer the Financial Statements Dated September 30, 2006 to the Finance Committee for review.

Motion so passed.

Mr. Hart inquired whether the Council members would be opposed to the financial reports being immediately disseminated to the Finance Committee. Mr. Schaefer agreed that the moment the financial statements are ready they should be forwarded to the members of the Finance Committee with copies to the other Council members. This would allow the Finance Committee to report back to the Council in a timely fashion.

By consensus the Council agreed that reports to standing committees would be

direct referrals with copies of the reports disseminated to other Council members.

10. Memorandum of Agreement between the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security and the Town of Mansfield

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Clouette seconded, effective November 13, 2006, to authorize the Town Manager, Matthew W. Hart, to execute the attached Memorandum of Agreement between the State of Connecticut and the Town of Mansfield for federal fiscal year 2006 State homeland Security Grant Funds, and to authorize by resolution the Town Manager, Matthew W, Hart, to direct and execute the terms of the grant.

Motion so passed.

11. Proclamation in Honor of Martin H. Berliner

Mr. Clouette moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded, effective November 13, 2006 that the Mayor be authorized to issue the Proclamation in Honor of Martin H. Berliner.

Motion so passed.

12. Successor Collective Bargaining Agreement for Local 2001, CSEA, SEIU Professional and Technical Employees

Mr. Hawkins moved and Ms. Redding seconded, effective September 13, 2006, to authorize the Town Manager to execute the proposed successor Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town of Mansfield and Local 2001, CSEA, SEIU-Professional and Technical Employees, which agreement shall enter into effect on July 1, 2006 and expire on June 30, 2009.

Mr. Hart commented that this agreement is good for the town and good for the employees. Some of the changes include a sick leave buyout, short and long term disability provisions, retiree health insurance adjustments, minor changes to health care and changes to overtime compensation.

Motion so passed.

13. Assisted/Independent Living Project

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded, effective November 13, 2006, to endorse the proposed next steps for the assisted/independent living project, and to authorize staff to proceed with the project as presented.

Mr. Clouette requested that there be a representative of the Council on the Advisory Committee. He would also prefer to have the Council vote on the preferred developer. Mr. Hawkins agreed stating that it is important that the developer sell the proposal to the Town Council.

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded to table the motion.

Motion so passed.

Mr. Hart will incorporate the suggestions and report back to the Council.

VII. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

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VIII. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

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IX. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

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Mr. Paulhus reported that he, the Mayor and the Town Manager attended the Veterans Day event at the Senior Center and at UCONN. He also was a speaker at the service in Willimantic.

Mayor Paterson attended the celebration of the laying of the cornerstone at the amphitheater. She described the theater as a great addition to the town.

X. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Report attached

Additions to the Report

The Connecticut Recreation and Parks Association is honoring Curt Vincente, Director of Recreation. He will be receiving their highest award, the Distinguished Service Award.

The Personnel Committee will be meeting soon to discuss non-union personnel issue.

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XI. FUTURE AGENDAS

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XII. PETITIONS, REQUEST AND COMMUNICATIONS

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14. Advance University Reducing Reliance on Fenton River

15. CCM, Candidate Bulletin

16. Metro Hartford alliance re: Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

17. D. Owen re: Arts Advisory Committee

18. M. Stanton re: Special Town Meeting

19. Parks and Recreation re: The Nutcracker Ballet

20. State of Connecticut Department of Public Health re: Estimated Populations in Connecticut as of July 1, 2005

21. PA Times Making Big Plans: Bush Expands Use of National Strategies

22. M. Jodi Rell re: Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant

23. WINCOG re: Executive Director

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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Mr. Paulhus moved and Ms. Redding seconded to move into Executive Session. Motion so passed

Present: Clouette, Haddad, Hawkins, Koehn, Paterson, Paulhus, Redding, Schaefer
Also Present: Matt Hart

Status Report re Pending Claims and Litigation

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Paulhus moved and Ms. Redding seconded to adjourn the meeting.
Motion so passed.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk