

SPECIAL MEETING-MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
APRIL 19, 2007

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the special meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. ROLL CALL

- Present: Blair, Clouette, Haddad, Hawkins, Koehn, Paterson, Paulhus

II. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

- No Comments

III. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Public Works, Town Aid and Solid Waste.

Lon Hultgren, Director of Public Works, presented an overview of his budget. The budget does not include the additional mechanic originally requested, although if money becomes available he would like the Council to revisit the issue. Mr. Hultgren noted that the solid waste rates will have to be raised and that this area of the budget also supports the work of the recycling agent. Ms. Koehn noted that she would like to see information on the web that lists all the items that can be recycled. Mr. Haddad requested information on how much the fee waiver ordinance is costing the budget and expressed concern that many of those eligible are not aware of the waiver. (FLAG) Since the evidence shows that they recycle less than single families Ms. Koehn noted that maybe multifamily customers should pay more. It was noted that if property owners encourage recycling they would pay less. Jeff Smith, Director of Finance commented that the real subsidy is the cost of keeping the landfill open. The Solid Waste Advisory Committee will review all the information and make fee recommendations to the Council.

2. Building/Housing Inspection

Michel Nintean, Director of Housing, described the shared building inspector agreement with Tolland and the proposed part time inspector position that is to be filled and the person cross trained between the Building department and the Housing Inspection department. He noted that to date the Housing Inspection Program is covering about one-half of their expenses.

3. Capital Projects

Jeff Smith commented that the capital budget has been cut back and contains \$645,000 for projects next year. In the five-year plan the payments begin to be stretched out over a number of years

Mr. Hawkins raised a number of concerns in the capital budget regarding the requests of the Fire and Emergency Services departments. Mr. Hawkins stated

that the consolidation of the departments was in part an effort to save on the cost of shared equipment and in this budget he does not see any effort to do so. He also noted that the Council passed a motion to have two ambulances on the road and does not see this reflected in the request. Mr. Hawkins requested a complete list of the vehicles in the department so that the Council can look at what the Town has and what needs to be replaced within the system. (FLAG). The Council requested that Chief Dagon attend the next budget session.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Haddad seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk