

REGULAR MEETING-MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
August 27, 2007

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, Duffy, Haddad, Hawkins, Koehn, Paterson, Paulhus, Schaefer
Absent: Blair

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Hawkins moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2007 meeting as presented.
Motion passed unanimously.

III. MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Paterson requested a moment of silence in honor of and respect for our troops around the world.

IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

No comments

V. SWEARING IN OF DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

Matt Hart, Town Manager, announced the appointment of William "Chip" Jordan to the position of Deputy Fire Chief. He thanked Mr. Jordan for his service noting that he has always been impressed with his talent, dedication and his ability as an incident commander.

Chief Dagon also congratulated Mr. Jordan noting that this appointment completes the initial phase of the restructuring of the department.

Town Clerk, Mary Stanton, swore in Deputy Fire Chief Jordan.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Discussion regarding Mansfield Community Center

2. Community/Campus Relations

The Town Manager reported that the community reception for the new Director of Off Campus Housing went very well with a number of neighborhood residents in attendance. The Town and UConn staff began their annual neighborhood visits

today in the hope of impressing upon the students that they are a part of a larger community. Senior UConn and Town staff met with the management of Carriage House Apartments and discussed a number of proposals aimed at curbing student parties. The Manager and the Dean of Students and their staffs recently met to discuss reporting procedures regarding enforcement of the student code of conduct.

Mr. Hart also reported that between 4,000 and 5,000 students congregated at Carriage House this last weekend. The management company, Aspen Square has promised to follow through with a number of evictions this week.

Mayor Paterson commented that she has been very impressed with the new President of UConn and has invited him to meet with various community groups including the Council. She added that from all indications President Hogan appears to be very community oriented.

The Town Manager will convene a meeting of the Transportation Committee to authorize the police to close roads in the University area if necessary.

3. Community Water and Wastewater Issues

Eastern Highlands Health Director, Rob Miller, will peer review the information submitted by UConn regarding the Stadium Road retention basin. His analysis will be available for the next meeting.

The Town Manager will forward the material he received from UConn regarding the assessment of water availability to Council members. The voluntary conservation efforts will continue.

4. Contract for Resident Trooper Services

Mr. Clouette moved and Mr. Haddad the following resolution:

Resolved, effective August 27, 2007, that the Town Manager Matthew W. Hart be and is herewith authorized to execute a contract on behalf of the Town of Mansfield with the Connecticut Department of Public Safety, Division of State Police, for the services of six resident state troopers for the period beginning July 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2009.

Motion passed unanimously.

5. Personal Service Agreement – Daycare Services at Mansfield Discovery Depot

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded to approve the following resolution:

Resolved, effective August 27, 2007, that the Town of Mansfield hereby adopt as its policy to support the nondiscrimination agreements and warranties required under Conn. Gen. Stat. § 4a-60(a)(1) and § 4a-60a(a)(1), as amended in State of Connecticut Public Act 07-245 and sections 9(a)(1) and 10(a)(1) of Public Act 07-142, as those statutes may be amended from time to time.

Motion passed unanimously.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

6. Proclamation Recognizing September as Leukemia, Lymphoma and Myeloma Awareness Month
Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded, effective August 27, 2007, to authorize the Mayor to issue the attached Proclamation Recognizing September as Leukemia, Lymphoma & Myeloma Awareness Month.
Motion passed unanimously.
7. DECD Application for Small Cities Funding of Juniper Hill Sprinkler Project

Mr. Schaefer moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded, to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, federal monies are available under the Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, 42 U.S.C § 5301, et. seq., as amended, also known as Public Law 93-383, and administered by the State of Connecticut, Department of Economic and Community Development as the Connecticut Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 127c, and Part VI of Chapter 130 of Connecticut General Statutes, the Commissioner of the State of Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development is authorized disburse such federal monies to local municipalities; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the Town of Mansfield make an application to the State for \$700,000 in order to undertake a Small Cities Community Development Program and to execute an Assistance Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

1. That it is cognizant of the conditions and prerequisites for the state financial assistance imposed by Chapter 127c, and Part VI of Chapter 130 of Connecticut General Statutes
2. That the filing of an application for State financial assistance by the Town of Mansfield in an amount not to exceed \$ 500,000 is hereby approved and that Matthew Hart, Town Manager is directed to execute and file such application with the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, to provide such additional information, to execute such other documents as may be required, to execute an Assistance Agreement with the State of Connecticut for State financial assistance if such an agreement is offered, to execute any amendments, decisions, and revisions thereto, and to act as the authorized representative of the Town of Mansfield.
3. That it adopts or has adopted as its policy to support the following nondiscrimination agreements and warranties provided in subsection (a)(1) of Connecticut General Statutes sections 4a-60 and 4a-60a, respectively, as amended by Public Act 07-142, and for which purposes the "contractor" is Town of Mansfield and "contract" is said Assistance Agreement:

The contractor agrees and warrants that in the performance of the contract such

contractor will not discriminate or permit discrimination against any person or group of persons on the grounds of race, color, religious creed, age, marital status, national origin, ancestry, sex, mental retardation or physical disability, including, but not limited to, blindness, unless it is shown by such contractor that such disability prevents performance of the work involved, in any manner prohibited by the laws of the United States or of the state of Connecticut. The contractor further agrees to take affirmative action to insure that applicants with job-related qualifications are employed and that employees are treated when employed without regard to their race, color, religious creed, age, marital status, national origin, ancestry, sex, mental retardation, or physical disability, including, but not limited to, blindness, unless it is shown by such contractor that such disability prevents performance of the work involved.

The contractor agrees and warrants that in the performance of the contract such contractor will not discriminate or permit discrimination against any person or group of persons on the grounds of sexual orientation, in any manner prohibited by the laws of the United States or of the state of Connecticut, and that employees are treated when employed without regard to their sexual orientation.

Mr. Hawkins requested clarification regarding UConn's position on not providing water for the sprinkler system for Juniper Hill.

Motion passed unanimously.

VIII. DEPARTMENTAL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Koehn requested a copy of the letter regarding aquifer protection referred to in the Conservation Commission minutes.

IX. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Mr. Clouette reported that the Committee on Committees is sponsoring a booth at the Know Your Town Fair and the Festival on the Green in order to promote volunteerism in Town. Applications and information on the many committees in Town will be available. Ms. Duffy requested members let her know of their availability for the events.

Mr. Clouette recommended the following appointments to the Town Council:
 Penny Potter to the Parks Advisory Committee
 Anita Bacon to the Arts Advisory Committee
 Lisa Oransoff to the Mansfield Advocates for Children
 Jackie Soroka to the Mansfield Advocates for Children
 Carol Fineout to the McSweeney Center Board
 The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Paulhus reported on the first meeting of the Strategic Planning Steering Committee. He noted that the Committee is off to a good start.

Mr. Haddad reported that the Personnel Committee would be meeting soon in order to begin the Town Manager review process.

X. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

- Ms. Duffy reported that she has received calls from citizens regarding the proposed Ponde Place.

Ms. Koehn questioned the use of the Quality of Life Report in the justification portion of the Zoning Change Application for Ponde Place. She requested that staff investigate the manner in which the report was accepted and to see if the application correctly reflects the Council's intentions.

Mr. Haddad requested information on the process that UConn uses to select which developments receive approval for water and sewer usage and which do not. He is concerned that UConn's decision-making process is determining where projects are being developed in Town. Mr. Hawkins noted that Holinko Estates was denied water and sewer hook ups for an additional 50 units. The Town Manager stated that since the establishment of the Water and Waste Water Committee, on which the Town has two members, more criteria for approval have been established. The Manager will forward to Council members a report prepared by UConn which answers many of the Council's questions.

XI. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

- See attached.

Mr. Hart reported that Mansfield and Willimantic staffs have been discussing the viability of a regional water and sewer facility and that the Arts Advisory Committee has completed a draft of the Art in Town Buildings Policy.

- XII. FUTURE AGENDAS

- XIII. PETITIONS, REQUEST AND COMMUNICATIONS

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- 8. Planning and Zoning Commission Application Referral- D. Dorwart
 - 9. Planning and Zoning Commission Application Referral- Ponde Place, LLC
 - 10. C. van Zelm re: June 30, 2007 Progress Report, Semi-Annual Report and Requisition for Payment for \$78, 905.29 for the Downtown Mansfield Revitalization and Enhancement Project.
 - 11. VNA East re: 4th Quarter Statistics

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded to move into Executive Session.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Personnel Issues

Included: Matthew Hart, Town Manager, Maria Capriola, Assistant to the Town Manager, Curt Vincente, Director of Parks and Recreation, Jeff Smith, Director of Finance and Cherie Trahan, Comptroller.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Schaefer seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk