

REGULAR MEETING - MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
January 11, 2010

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: Haddad, Keane, Kochenburger, Lindsey, Moran, Paterson, Paulhus, Ryan

Excused: Schaefer

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to approve the minutes of the December 28, 2009 Special meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Paulhus moved and Ms. Lindsey seconded to approve the minutes of the December 28, 2009 meeting. A note will be added to identify the names attached to the List of Key Issues as those members who made verbal comments and not as an indication of individual priorities. Motion as amended passed unanimously

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Lida Bilokur, Wormwood Hill Road, expressed her concerns regarding the Wellness Center and its future. (Statement attached)

Cynara Stites, Hanks Hill Road, spoke to the required qualifications for the Senior Services Social Worker position and described the difference between a MSW and a LCSW. (Statement attached)

Bob Kremer, Charles Lane resident and administrator for Glen Ridge Cooperative, thanked Town Council members who visited the site during the campaign and stated that members of the Cooperative were in attendance to share their thoughts and hopes for senior services.

Betty Robinson, Sycamore Drive, spoke in support of an active Wellness Center. (Statement attached)

Marilyn Gerling, Sycamore Drive resident and Interim Senior Services Coordinator, spoke to the interview process for the Senior Services Coordinator and requested that stakeholders be involved in that process.

Matt Proser, Sycamore Drive, spoke in support of Ms. Bilodur's comments and asked the Council to look at the possibilities for volunteer transportation services as part of a larger issue of public transportation.

Ruth McLaughlin, Sycamore Drive, asked the Town to provide a biannual update on the assisted/independent living project.

Sharry Goldman, Browns Road resident and a member of the Coalition for Assisted Living, expressed her concerns regarding the exposure seniors might have if the assisted living project requires a "buy in." Ms. Goldman distributed a *Washington Post* article describing her concerns. (Article attached)

Bev Korba, Sycamore Drive, spoke to the importance of the Senior Center and the Wellness Program.

David Freudmann, Eastwood Road, spoke to the need for economic development and expressed his views of the development in Storrs Center and the Four Corner's area. (Statement attached)

Betty Wassmundt, Old Turnpike Road, spoke in support of the goal of answering public comment questions and expressed her disagreement with the process used to determine the Town Attorneys' retainer.

Mike Sikoski, Wildwood Road, asked about a rumor regarding the elimination of the public comment section of Town Council meetings.

Ric Hossack, Middle Turnpike, spoke to parking at the Town Hall stating that Town owned vehicles that are not being used should be moved off site.

IV. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Report attached

Town Manager Matt Hart reported on a structure fire at 51 Bundy Lane and thanked the Mansfield Fire Department and those of neighboring towns for their efforts. The Town Manager will provide a more detailed report on the assisted/independent living project noting that Masonicare recently renewed their option on a piece of property in Town.

Mr. Ryan, Chair of the Finance Committee, commented he has reviewed the Town Attorney's billing for the last four years and is certain that the retainer contract is in keeping with past expenditures.

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. UConn Landfill, Long-term Monitoring Program

The Town Manager reported the quarterly progress reports on the landfill will be ending as the landfill will be closing. No significant issues have been identified in recent reports

2. Community/Campus Relations

Mayor Paterson and Ms. Keane reported the Community Quality of Life Committee recently met and discussed the composition of the Committee. It is the recommendation of the Committee that the membership be changed to 2 or 3 Town Council members (a minimum of 2 Town Council members), 3 or 4 Citizen members (depending on the number of Council members) and a UConn representative. The total number of members will remain at 7.

By consensus the Council agreed to the changes.

The Town/ University Committee will be meeting on January 12, 2010 to hear a presentation on an animal testing facility the University and USDA are considering. The Town Manager will provide a report to the Council.

3. Community Water and Wastewater Issues

The Town Manager reported staff attended a DEP presentation on proposed revisions to state's stream flow regulations and will keep the Council apprised of the changes.

4. Town Council Orientation, Goal Setting

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Haddad seconded to formally endorse the Town Council's Goals and Objectives for the two-year Council term expiring on November 8, 2011, as these goals and objectives may be modified from time-to time.

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Haddad seconded to add the Town Council's Goals and Objectives, adopted on January 11, 2010, to the Council Policy Index.

Council members reviewed the Town Council Goals as discussed at the last meeting. Members were in agreement that the stated goals were not listed in order of importance and that only the itemized goals, not the listing of key issues, would be adopted.

Councilors Keane, Lindsey and Paulhus distributed proposed suggestions for changes to the goals. (Statement attached) Members discussed the suggested changes and agreed to postpone any action until members have had a chance to review them. Mayor Paterson asked all members who have any wording changes or additions to submit them to the Town Manager prior to the next meeting.

By consensus the Council agreed to postpone action until the next meeting.

5. Committee Appointments

Mayor Paterson moved and Mr. Haddad seconded to appoint Christopher Paulhus to the Mansfield Downtown Partnership Committee. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Paterson moved and Mr. Haddad seconded to appoint Elizabeth Paterson and Gregory Haddad to the Regionalization Committee. A friendly amendment to include Meredith Lindsey was accepted and the motion as amended passed unanimously.

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to appoint Antonia Moran to the Community Quality of Life Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

6. Resolution to Approve \$200,000 Small Town Economic Assistance Program

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

WHEREAS, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 4-66 (g), the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development is authorized to extend financial assistance for economic development projects; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the Town of Mansfield make an application to the State for \$200,000 in order to undertake the Downtown Mansfield Revitalization and

Enhancement Project - Phase III and to execute an Assistance Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF MANSFIELD;

1. That it is cognizant of the conditions and prerequisites for state assistance, as imposed by Connecticut General Statutes Section 4-66 (g);
2. That the filing of an application for State financial assistance by the Town of Mansfield in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 is hereby approved and that the 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 hereby adopts or has adopted as its policy to support the following nondiscrimination agreements and warranties required under subsection (a)(1) of Connecticut General Statutes sections 4a-60 and 4a-60a, respectively, as amended by Public Act 07-245 and sections 9(a)(1) and 10(a)(1) of Public Act 07-142 and, and for which purposes the "contractor" is the 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.

7. Ordinance Regarding Off Street Parking on Residential Rental Property

Mr. Haddad moved and Ms. Keane seconded to schedule a public hearing for 7:30 p.m. at the Town Council's regular meeting on January 25, 2010, regarding a proposed ordinance titled "An Ordinance Regarding Off Street Parking on Residential Rental Property."

Director of Planning Greg Padick offered a brief description of the ordinance which will affect one, two and three family housing in the Town's Housing Ordinance certification zone. Mr. Padick will clarify provisions for an occasional events exclusion prior to the public hearing. Town Manager Matt Hart remarked that staff is still reviewing the fee schedule to insure the full cost recovery of the program and will provide that information to the Council.

VII. DEPARTMENTAL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

No comments

VIII. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Ms. Moran, Chair of the Committee on Committees, moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to expand the Four Corners Sewer and Water Advisory Committee by one citizen member. Mr. Haddad requested the membership be increased by two citizen members, noting that since water is now included in the charge a person with water expertise should be included. Accepted as a friendly amendment the motion passed raising the number of citizen members to five.

Ms. Moran moved to appoint Gene Nesbitt to the Four Corners Sewer and Water Advisory Committee. Motion passed.

Mr. Ryan, Chair of the Finance Committee, announced the Committee will meet on January 12, 2009.

Mr. Haddad, Chair of the Personnel Committee, reported the Committee met with the Ethics Board to review revisions to the Ethics Ordinance. The ordinance will be presented to the Council as soon as the revisions have been completed.

IX. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

No reports presented

X. PETITIONS, REQUEST AND COMMUNICATIONS

8. Access Community Action Agency Community Results Presentation
9. Mansfield Self & RV Storage
10. Notice of Intent to Amend Connecticut Water Quality Standards and to Hold a Public Hearing
11. Building Operator Certification re: W. Hammon
12. CCM Member Dues for FY 2010-11
13. University of Connecticut re: Public Notice of CT DEP Permit Applications for Proposed Activities at Mirror Lake
14. Chronicle "Mansfield's revaluation is officially under way" - 12/19/09
15. Chronicle "Editorial: We offer these threads, needles" - 12/21/09
16. Chronicle "Live from Storrs, council meetings" - 12/21/09
17. Chronicle "Watershed plan miffs Mansfield" - 12/22/09
18. Chronicle "Fitness center planned at the East Brook Mall" - 12/23/09
19. Chronicle "Mansfield council to meet on term goals" - 12/24/09
20. Chronicle "Editorial: We offer these threads, needles" - 12/28/09
21. Chronicle "Letter to the editor" - 12/30/09
22. Chronicle "Fiscal concerns dominate Mansfield's '09" - 12/31/09
23. Mansfield Today "Fitness center planned at East Brook Mall" - 12/28/09
24. Mansfield Today "15 take on the Energy Challenge" - 12/29/09

XI. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Betty Wassmundt, Old Turnpike Road, commented on the Town Attorneys' retainer contract. Ms. Wassmundt questioned the need for appliances and vending machines in the Town Hall and urged the Council to allow the Town to develop without assistance.

XII. FUTURE AGENDAS

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to recess the Town Council meeting and move into executive session to discuss pending claims and litigation in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pending claims and litigation in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes §1-200(6) (b)

Present: Haddad, Keane, Kochenburger, Lindsey, Moran, Paterson, Paulhus, Ryan

Also included: Town Manager Matt Hart, Director of Public Works Lon Hultgren

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The Town Council reconvened in regular session.

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Kochenburger seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk