



**TOWN OF MANSFIELD  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
Monday, February 22, 2010  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
AUDREY P. BECK MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
7:30 p.m.**

**AGENDA**

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<b>ROLL CALL</b>	
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**OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL**

**FUTURE AGENDAS**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

32. Sale or purchase of real property, in accordance with CGS §1-200(6)(d)

**ADJOURNMENT**

SPECIAL MEETING-MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

February 9, 2010

DRAFT

Deputy Mayor Gregory Haddad called the special meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room of the Community Center.

I. ROLL CALL

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

Excused: Paterson

II. QUARTERLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DATED DECEMBER 31, 2009

Director of Finance Cherie Trahan reviewed the expenditures and revenues for the quarter ending December 31, 2009. Town Manager Matt Hart and Assistant to the Town Manager Maria Capriola described the Town's wellness program and the self-insurance program.

Flag – Reasons out of district special education children pay tuition to Mansfield.

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to accept the Quarterly Financial Statements dated December 31, 2009 as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

III. CAPITAL NON-RECURRING FUND

The Director of Finance presented an overview of the Capital Non-recurring Fund and a proposed mitigation plan to address the shortfall. Ms. Trahan will track the shortfall which is currently \$256,390.

Flag – An explanation of the Pequot Fund formula criteria for the inclusion of UConn students in the institutional count for the Town.

Mr. Paulhus left at 7:30 p.m.

IV. PROPOSED 2010/2011 BUDGET

Approximately 1.3% of the anticipated 5.64% total change in the real estate property tax assessments for FY 2010/2011 is due to new growth. The Town Manager's budget to the Council will most likely be a budget that supports current services. The Town Manager noted that in the last 3 years substantial cuts in personnel have been made in the Town budget and further reductions would involve major policy decisions.

Flag – Ask CCM to provide information regarding the percent of increase in the budgets of like towns and regional towns. Ask CCM to provide information on the percent of increase in the grand list in like towns and regional towns.

V. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The Director of Finance provided information on the one year and five years Capital Improvements Program and reviewed the current debt service of the Town. Town Manger Matt Hart stressed that the Town needs to find a way to support the needed capital improvements, especially given the Town's historic dependence on state funding.

VI. COUNCIL POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Flag – Request for information regarding average negotiated salary increases in similar communities and types of arbitration awards being granted including arbitration awards in instances where previously there had been a zero increase.

Finance Chair Bill Ryan thanked Ms. Trahan and the staff for the information presented.

Mr. Schaefer moved and Ms. Moran seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

Gregory Haddad, Deputy Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk.

REGULAR MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL  
February 8, 2010

DRAFT

Deputy Mayor Gregory Haddad 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, Paulhus, Ryan, Schaefer  
Excused: Paterson

Deputy Mayor Haddad announced that the evening's meeting, for the first time in Mansfield's history, is being televised live.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Kochenburger moved and Mr. Schaefer seconded to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2010 meeting as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

Council members noted that a number of items recorded in the minutes as agenda items for the subsequent meeting are not on the evening's agenda.

Mr. Ryan moved and Ms. Keane seconded to add a discussion of senior services to the agenda as Item 3a. The motion passed unanimously.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Howard Raphaelson, Timber Drive, spoke about the issue of recruiting and urged the Town to take all efforts necessary to make sure the correct person is hired.

Sharry Goldman, Browns Road, provided a written statement regarding her extemporaneous comments at the January 25, 2010 meeting and commented on the subject of volunteer drivers for seniors. (Statement attached)

Mike Sikoski, Wildwood Road, requested the purchase price of the Potter property.

Jane Blanshard, Sycamore Drive, underscored that the demographics of the Town is increasingly that of an aging population and affordable and accessible senior transportation is important.

Joan Hall, Birchwood Heights Road, spoke in favor of the Ordinance Regarding Off Street Parking on Residential Rental Properties commenting that she has a 4 bedroom house for rent that she will only rent to 3 people in order to maintain the character of the neighborhood.

Cynara Stites, Hanks Hill Road, spoke in favor of political signs on public property in two specific instances. (Statement attached)

Steve Bacon, Wormwood Hill Road and member of the Downtown Partnership, urged the Council to approve the grant for the upgrade to the Storrs Road sewer lines noting the impact it will have on the Storrs Center project.

Ric Hossack, Middle Turnpike, commented on the applications for the STEAP grants. (Statement attached)

Gene Nesbitt, Wormwood Hill Road and Chair of the Four Corners Sewer and Water Advisory Committee, spoke to the need for infrastructure in the Four Corners area and urged support for the grant proposals. (Statement attached)

Peter Plante, Oak Drive and PZC representative to the Four Corners Sewer and Water Advisory Committee, commented there are two important reasons to support the grant funding for the Four Corners projects, economic development and environmental remediation.

#### IV. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Report attached

Town Manager Matt Hart updated the Council on the options being discussed regarding the name and location of the probate court. The CEO's of all the affected towns and the affected Probate Judges have been meeting to discuss the options.

#### V. OLD BUSINESS

##### 1. Community/Campus Relations

The Town Manager reported the Town University Relations Committee will be meeting February 9<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. at which time Spring Weekend, the proposed USDA facility and the dredging of Mirror Lake will be discussed. The Mansfield Community Campus Partnership will be meeting on February 11<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.

The Community Quality of Life Committee met and discussed the proposed Off Street Parking on Residential Rental Property Ordinance. Ms. Keane and Ms. Moran, members of the Committee, remarked the meeting was well attended and raised a number of questions regarding the implications and consequences of the proposed ordinance.

##### 2. Community Water and Wastewater Issues

The Town Manager and Councilors Schaefer and Paulhus, both of whom are members of Four Corners Sewer and Water Advisory Committee, reported on a presentation that provided an overview of the regulatory process for three potential water supply sources. The potential water supplies under consideration are an existing water company, a local well or an additional well field in the Willimantic River.

Deputy Mayor Haddad requested a report for the next meeting summarizing the permitting process for an additional Willimantic well field and the transporting of water from an existing water company along Route 195. The materials presented at the Advisory Committee meeting will be included in the next Town Council packet.

### 3. Committee Appointments

Ms. Keane moved and Mr. Kochenburger seconded to appoint Council member Paulhus to the Four Corners Sewer and Water Advisory Committee. Motion passed with all in favor except Mr. Paulhus who abstained.

Ms. Keane moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to appoint Councilors Lindsey and Ryan to the Transportation Advisory Committee. The motion passed with all in favor except Ms. Lindsey and Mr. Ryan who abstained.

Ms. Keane moved and Ms. Lindsey seconded to appoint Council member Paulhus to the Town University Relations Committee. The motion passed with all in favor except Mr. Paulhus who abstained.

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to appoint Council member Keane to the Public Safety Committee. The motion passed with all in favor except Ms. Keane who abstained.

### 3a. Senior Center Issues

Members discussed whether or not the possible move of members of the Human Service Department to the Senior Center would preclude the use of that space for a wellness center, questioned how additional services at the wellness center could be funded, and requested an update on the hiring process for both a social worker and a senior center coordinator.

The Town Manager reported on his recent meeting with the Commission on Aging at which time a number of these issues were discussed as was the possibility of a community conversation on senior services held jointly with the Senior Center Association. He will be meeting with the Senior Center Association later this week. The relocation of members of the Human Services Department to the Senior Center is currently not feasible. The Town Manager updated the Council on the status of the hiring process and commented that all applicants will be fully vetted by both their peers and interested stakeholders.

## VI. NEW BUSINESS

### 4. Federal Appropriations

#### a. Systems Control Equipment – Storrs Center

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Schaefer seconded effective February 8, 2010, to authorize the Town Manager to submit an

appropriations request for systems control equipment for parking associated with Storrs Center in the name and on behalf of the Town of Mansfield to Congressman Joe Courtney.

Council members discussed the appropriateness of the proposal given that the Parking Steering Committee has not made decisions regarding the equipment needs for the parking areas, the importance of applying for grants in anticipation that there will be parking equipment needed for the project, the source of the required matching funds should the grant be awarded and the fact that the Council will need to vote to accept the grant if awarded.

The motion passed with all in favor except Ms. Keane and Ms. Lindsey who voted in opposition.

b. Storrs Road Water and Sewer Line

Mr. Schaefer moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded, effective February 8, 2010, to authorize the Town Manager to submit an appropriations request for upgrade of the Storrs Road (Route 1950) sewer line in the name and on behalf of the Town of Mansfield to Congressman Joe Courtney.

Director of Public Works Lon Hultgren reported the existing sewer lines which serve the Storrs Center area are in need of replacement and although UConn is the responsible party if the Town could secure some grant funding it would be helpful.

The motion passed with all in favor.

c. Four Corners Sewer and Water Projects

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Schaefer seconded, effective February 8, 2010, to authorize the Town Manager to submit to Joe Courtney in the name and on behalf of the Town of Mansfield the appropriation requests for the Four Corners water and sewer projects.

Motion passed with all in favor.

Mr. Schaefer moved and Ms. Lindsey seconded to prioritize the grant applications as follows: Four Corners Sewer and Water Projects, Systems Control Equipment and Storrs Road Water and Sewer Line.

After additional discussion Mr. Schaefer moved to divide the question with a vote on establishing the Four Corners Sewer project as the first priority and the Four Corners Sewer and Water project as the second priority.

Seconded by Ms. Keane the motion passed with all in favor except Deputy Mayor Haddad who was in opposition.

Mr. Schaefer moved to establish the Systems Control Equipment as the third priority and the Storrs Road Water and Sewer Line as the fourth priority.

Seconded by Ms. Moran the motion passed unanimously.

Downtown Partnership Inc. Executive Director Cynthia van Zelm will communicate the Council's prioritization list to the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development.

5. FY 2010/11 Budget Review Calendar

Mr. Ryan Chair of the Finance Committee announced a change to the calendar. The Thursday April 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting will be moved to Wednesday the 21<sup>st</sup>. Changes may be made to the schedule as needed and the Town Manager will be available to update Council members who cannot attend all the meetings.

6. Establishment of Ordinance Development and Review Subcommittee

Ms. Moran moved and Ms. Keane seconded the following resolution:

Resolved, effective February 8, 2010, to establish as an ad hoc committee of the Town Council an Ordinance Development and Review Committee responsible for the development and review of town ordinances. Said ad hoc committee shall be appointed by the Council as a whole and comprised of a minimum of three council members. Any interested council member may participate in the committee's deliberation in an ex officio capacity.

Members discussed the flaws in the current system of ordinance introduction and expressed the need for a system that gives the Council input and ownership prior to the public hearing.

Ms. Moran proposed the resolution be changed to read as follows:

Resolved, effective February 8, 2010, to establish as an ad hoc committee of the Town Council an Ordinance Development and Review Committee responsible for the development and review of those proposed town ordinances which are not already within the purview of an existing standing committee. Said ad hoc committee shall be appointed by the Council as a whole and comprised of a minimum of three council members. Any interested council member may participate in the committee's deliberation in an ex officio capacity.

Accepted as a friendly amendment the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to refer the draft Off-Street Parking on Residential Rental Property Ordinance to the new Ordinance Development and Review Committee for its review and recommendation. The members of the committee to review the draft Off-Street Parking on Residential Rental Property Ordinance shall be Peter Kochenburger (Chair), Denise Keane and Toni Moran.

Motion passed unanimously.

#### VII. DEPARTMENTAL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Lindsey requested members be provided a copy of the Mansfield Board of Education's Goals and Objectives.

#### VIII. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Mr. Ryan, Chair of the Finance Committee, reported the Committee reviewed the introduction to the budget to be presented at the meeting on February 9<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Moran, Chair of the Committee on Committees announced the Committee will be meeting on Tuesday February 16<sup>th</sup> and is looking for a candidate for the Four Corners Sewer and Water Advisory Committee with expertise in water issues.

Deputy Mayor Haddad, Chair of the Personnel Committee, reported the Committee would be meeting soon to discuss the Town Council Rules of Procedure.

#### IX. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilors Paulhus, Moran and Lindsey attended the League of Women Voter Legislative breakfast.

Councilors Moran and Lindsey participated in the field trip to Glastonbury to look at a large elementary school.

#### X. PETITIONS, REQUEST AND COMMUNICATIONS

7. C. Newcombe re: Proposed housing code changes
8. G. Padick re: Political signage and Town property
9. G. Padick re: Proposed Inland Wetlands Regulation revisions – Mr. Kochenburger requested members receive a copy of the draft Inland Wetland Regulation revisions which shows the proposed changes.
10. M. Capriola re: Bergin C.I. Community Notification System
11. State of Connecticut Department of Public Safety re: Federal grant funding

12. State of Connecticut Judicial Branch re: Court and library closings
13. M. Jodi Rell State of the State Speech
14. M. Jodi Rell – Official Statement re: Dating Violence Awareness Month
15. CCM Legislative Update
16. Windham Special Olympics Invitational Swim Meet Opening Ceremonies
17. Winter Fun Day
18. Town Council Meeting Minutes (excerpt), 11-19-1973
19. Chronicle “Public hearings begin on combining schools” – 1-21-10
20. Chronicle “Hearing tonight on parking rules” – 1/25/10
21. Chronicle “Parking rules draw ire, but no vote” – 1/26/10
22. Chronicle “Gym hearing resumes Monday” – 1/29/10
23. Chronicle “Mansfield ed board eyes slight decrease in budget” – 1/29/10
24. Chronicle “Cardio Express hearing continued once again” – 2-2-10
25. Mansfield Today “Learn more about the proposed consolidated...” – 1-25-10
26. Mansfield Today “Student leader accuses town of conspiring to...” – 1-26-10

#### XI. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Ric Hóssack, Middle Turnpike, asked the Council to adhere to the Charter and stated the Committee on Committees should strictly adhere to the term limit wording in the Charter.

Betty Wassmundt, Old Turnpike Road, expressed her concern with the ad hoc Ordinance Development and Review Subcommittee, commented that the unionization of the custodians at the Community Center is another way to hide expenses and expressed her displeasure with the workings of the Capital Non-Recurring Fund.

Mike Sikoski, Wildwood Road, expressed his hope that the Ordinance Development and Review Subcommittee will provide an opportunity for public comment at their meetings.

Mr. Paulhus left the meeting at 10:30 p.m.

#### XII. FUTURE AGENDAS

Ms. Moran requested the issue of political signs be added to a future agenda, Mr. Schaefer would like to discuss tax exempt farm buildings and Ms. Keane requested the Council’s Rules of Procedure be added to an agenda in the near future.

Ms. Lindsey asked that a report from staff regarding the impact of a large elementary school on Rte 89 traffic and possible water and sewer concerns at Southeast School be provided to the Council.

Mr. Ryan requested a report on the senior issues of wellness, hiring and transportation be added to an agenda in the future.

Mr. Ryan moved and Ms. Moran second to recess the meeting and move into Executive Session.

Motion passed by all.

### XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

a. Settlement Agreement with Windham

Present: Haddad, Keane, Kochenburger, Lindsey, Moran, Ryan, Schaefer

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

b. FOI cases (FIC Docket #2009-690, #2009-627, and #2009-656)

Present: Haddad, Keane, Kochenburger, Lindsey, Moran, Ryan, Schaefer

Also included: Town Manager Matt Hart, Town Clerk Mary Stanton

Continued review and discussion of commercial and financial information provided in confidence by Storrs Center Alliance, in accordance with CGS §§ 1-200(6) (E), 1-210(b) (5) (B)

Present: Haddad, Keane, Kochenburger, Lindsey, Moran, Ryan, Schaefer

Also included: Town Manager Matt Hart

### XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The Town Council reconvened in regular session.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Kochenburger and seconded by Mr. Schaefer.

Motion passed unanimously

Gregory Haddad, Deputy Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

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8 February 2010

Mansfield Town Council

Dear Council members and citizens of Mansfield,

This is to affirm my support for the proposed ordinances designed to protect the quality of life in residential neighborhoods. Staff have worked hard to craft tools to help address a problem that the Quality of Life committee has discussed for the past year: how to protect neighborhoods against a strong trend that favors the purchase of single-family homes by investors who pack them with renters, usually students. Whatever fine-tuning is required for these ordinances and other measures should be the subject of careful consideration, in the interests of fairness to all. In essence, though, the proposed protective measures are appropriate. Though I am a member of the Quality of Life committee, I want to be clear that I am offering these thoughts as an individual.

Here, in a nutshell, are the tools being proposed and their purpose: The recommended shift from “four unrelated people” to “three unrelated people” is an effort to blunt the profit motive driving the worst abuses. The requirements that students register and that adequate parking be designated are designed to allow town officials to monitor the number of tenants in a house, which has been a problem for the Zoning Agent to enforce. These three tools are thus complementary.

Now we have a backlash among landlords. That’s understandable, and some of the opposition is founded not just in self-interest, but in idealism – a belief that “less government is better” and that Mansfield is adopting tactics more appropriate to a larger town. As a landlord myself for 36 years and one who raised some of those objections to the fees and requirements concerning water-testing and septic cleaning instituted three years ago, I would like to address the concerns of landlords in particular.

Mostly I want to say that we are all in this together, as citizens and landlords. By way of personal example, the proposed ordinance concerning three vs. four unrelated persons will hurt me financially. My wife and I own a four-bedroom house across the street. The new ordinance will restrict our ability to rent it to four students. If that is the price we have to pay for curbing the excesses of landlords who want to pack eight students into those four bedrooms, then that’s okay. Not perfect, but okay. We want to live in a neighborhood, not a defacto undergraduate dorm.

To those who oppose the proposed ordinances on grounds of wanting Mansfield to remain a "small town," I ask you to consider the following. We are all faced with staggering economic pressures. The central fact is that UConn is growing quite beyond its earlier declared optimum size, and is consequently outgrowing its housing. The effects on Mansfield are immediate and serious – serious enough to require a change in our thinking from that of a laid-back small town to one of a vigilant community prepared equip itself with tools to prevent its own destruction.

Exactly how destructive this trend is cannot readily be appreciated until one has lived with it, as we have, in an older neighborhood within walking distance of the UConn campus. The issue is not just "party houses," which challenge the peace and civility of a neighborhood; it is the loss of neighborhood coherence that takes place when predominantly owner-occupied homes are taken over by absentee landlords trying to maximize profits.

Those who do not live in conspicuously vulnerable neighborhoods like ours may rationalize that this is simply the cost of UConn's expansion, and that their own neighborhoods are safe. However, as we have fielded complaints brought before the Committee on Quality of Life, it has become clear that these pressures are by no means confined to the neighborhoods surrounding the university. Any older neighborhood in Mansfield consisting of houses valued under \$300,000 is vulnerable.

I personally wish that President Mike Hogan would take some leadership on this issue. He could first of all declare an intended cap on UConn's student population. His silence simply fuels wild investment that assumes the growth is out of control, or driven – as many people believe – by UConn's own need for more tuition revenues in the form of more students. Second, he could commission a study, if none has been undertaken, aimed at understanding and mitigating the deleterious impact of UConn's growth on surrounding towns. Third, he could assume a higher profile in fostering good relations between students and neighborhoods. He has done none of these things, as far as I know. Consequently it seems to be up to the Town of Mansfield to defend itself.

To my fellow landlords, I say let's work together to help the Town fine-tune these ordinances in ways that achieve their aims without unduly punishing small landlords who are honest and not out to abuse the system.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Morse". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

David Morse

Cc: Mike Hogan, President UConn

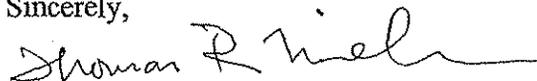
Town of Mansfield  
Town Council  
February 8, 2010

To The Members of the Town Council,

I am writing this letter to express my support to the proposition currently being weighed with respect to the changes in the existing housing code and the number of unrelated people allowed residing in a rental property. My understanding and therefore my support, comes from the fact that this proposition is intended to correct the potential of future blight and preserve the current integrity of existing residential neighborhoods. To my understanding, there is a "Grandfathering" for existing rental housing and that it would hold for the current list of rentals within the town. I support this as well since I don't feel that penalizing the landlords for purchases they have already made is appropriate. However, we do enter into an unusual argument based on the concept that if the Landlords rental income is restricted by government, it could be considered that their individual quality of life can be affected and in turn, the Landlord's right to earn income from their property can affect the quality of life for those people who exist in these aging neighborhoods that fall prey to the "income property" concept. This is very reminiscent of Joseph Heller's "Catch 22"

To summarize, I am very much in favor of limiting the number of people who can reside in future rental property (as in not currently existing as a rental unit by a date yet to be determined by you- the town council) in Mansfield. I think the University needs to rethink its student housing crisis...perhaps to the extent of limiting its growth. In 50 + years of being a Mansfield resident, I have seen the town change from rural to "faux-rural/urban sprawl" and seemingly caused by an entity that offers no benefits to the town other than possible gainful employment to some of the town's residents since it is not beholding to the town for taxes yet its very growth taxes our town.

Sincerely,



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To the Mansfield Town Council:

First, in an unexpected consequence of new technology initiatives, the audio tape of the Mansfield town Council meeting of January 25, 2010 is almost inaudible, and the video tape is non-existent. I spoke extemporaneously to the council at that meeting, and neglected to provide a written statement. I have now reconstructed that statement and the notes are attached.

Tonight, I would like to return to the subject of volunteer drivers for seniors. My goal is to respond to a statement made by Human Services Director Kevin Grunwald at the previous council meeting. At that meeting, and at other presentations on volunteer drivers I've heard by Kevin, he states that "we already have Dial-a-Ride." It appears to me that one could infer from his statement that Dial-a-Ride obviates the need for a volunteer driver program. That would be a mistake. On a continuum of services from fixed-route to demand responsive, Dial-a-Ride falls somewhere in the middle. For captive riders, all service is better than nothing, but for the subset of captive riders who are elderly or frail, the ability to use anything less than demand responsive service is compromised. Services that are most highly demand-responsive are taxis and volunteer drivers. We all know that taxi service in this town has come and gone, and that it is prohibitively expensive for longer trips.

While Dial-a-Ride is a very useful service it has many limitations.

1. Dial-a-ride can not go out of its district. Dial-A-Ride provides transportation service Monday through Friday within the ten-town Windham region (Ashford, Chaplin, Columbia, Coventry, Hampton, Lebanon, Mansfield, Scotland, Willington and Windham). Hours of service vary by town.
2. Medical appointments in Hartford and visits to in-patients at tertiary hospitals in Hartford are not accessible on Dial-a-Ride.
3. ADA Paratransit service is available to eligible individuals who are traveling within a 3/4 mile radius of a WRTD fixed-route bus service during the same days and times the fixed route service is operating. But it is only a mechanism to equalize access to WRTD's fixed route transit.
4. Dial-a-Ride does not go to Bradley airport. While Uconn offers students transportation to Bradley (\$100/round trip) their website indicates that service is not offered to community members.
5. Frail seniors waiting for return transportation on Dial-a-Ride can't withstand long waits.

6. Service ends at 4 p.m. Unexpected delays, especially in the case of medical appointments, could leave people without transit.
7. The many towns and cities that already have a volunteer driver program for seniors already have Dial-a-Ride. Volunteer driver programs are used to supplement Dial-Ride. I fail to understand what aspects of Mansfield's demographics obviate the need for the same supplemental service available in other towns.

The need for a volunteer driver program was documented in 2004 by the Commission on Aging. Since 2004, I am quite sure that new positions and even whole new departments have been created in Mansfield. At the same time, while new staff has been added elsewhere, it appears to me that seniors have actually lost service hours. For leaders with courage, difficult economic times can present opportunities. We need to practice zero-based budgeting. We can't assume that every position or task created by past councils is necessary at the same level (or even necessary at all) today. Zero-based budgeting can apply to space as well as funds. My request is that the Town Council directs the town manager to develop a concrete proposal to institute a volunteer driver system without further delay or obstruction. Mansfield residents have always given generously of our time, and are more than willing to help if the town can get this program organized, but we can't move this project down the road while while barriers are being placed in our path.

Synopsis of Extemporaneous comments made by Sharry Goldman to  
Manfield Town Council  
January 25, 2010

This is my second time here in two weeks. This is unprecedented for me. I am normally here as a cheerleader, and I don't feel like a cheerleader right now. I'm upset about that and I want to get back to that role, but I can't get back to that role, as much as I love this town, until we get some work done, and that's why I'm here tonight.

It's difficult to respond to a report that hasn't been given yet, but that's the way the structure of these meetings works and I'd like to say a few words about the Senior Services Overview you have in your packet.

My overall comment is that it is difficult for me to connect this report to voluminous records on the goals of our senior citizens that I've retrieved. What I've brought tonight dates back to 2004, and it's likely that further research would yield citations before that.

I don't want to criticize those of you who weren't here then, which is most of you actually, but there is a unifying theme in a lot of the reports. What happens? Where are the action items? I think that there is consensus and we heard that consensus in testimony given by senior citizens at the previous council meeting (January 11) and tonight.

I brought with me the minutes of a meeting of the Mansfield Commission on Aging which took place September 13, 2004. Present were some of the "Superstars" of our community and Kevin Grunwald for town staff.

I'd like to draw your attention to item V: Optional Reports on Services/needs of Town Aging Populations.

- A. Health Care services: "Staff are still in the process of evaluating how best to respond to the health and wellness needs of seniors." That was 2004.
- B. Social, Recreational, Educational : "P. Hope also reported that we are working with the CT Assoc. For Community Transportation to explore the development of a Volunteer Driver Program. That was 2004. They still haven't seen action on it. In fact, they've seen a lot of trees killed for reports from the Mansfield Director of Social Service on why it can't be done. Yet Volunteer Driver programs exist in a host of Connecticut towns, including neighboring Coventry, and in towns and cities across America.
- C. Housing: Assisted Living Project: representatives from the Coalition on Assisted Living [I should note I was co-chair of that commission] visited Summerville to explore possible interest in development of a similar facility in Mansfield." The council did make progress on this item when the commissioned they Brecht report and set up a committee to find a developer in the private sector. However, the council has named a preferred developer that has a buy-in model instead of a monthly rental model. The Coalition on Assisted Living specifically recommended the monthly model, and in the intervening years, has proven

prescient. David S. Hilzenrath attracted national attention with his Washington Post article on the bankruptcies of assisted living companies which caused seniors to lose their buy-ins. Shouldn't we be revisiting Mansfield's decision?

Finally, in the same minutes under "Old Business" there is a statement from Kevin Grunwald recommending the establishment of a process for updating the long range plan (2004-2014). We only have four years to go, and I still can't find action items for this plan.

The minutes of this meeting of the Commission on Aging were delivered to the town council in their November 8, 2004 packet.

If you research the history, these same topics keep coming up, but I don't see forward movement. It would appear that some of this should be worked out at the committee level, but I don't see the process for it.

I would also like to address some specifics in the report from the Social Services director that is in your packet tonight. There are a lot of comments in the report about what cannot be done, but I don't like to start from that position. My history in this town is to see what can be done, and get there.

The only action item I can find in the report, besides changing titles and duties, was a proposal to relocate the Human Services administration. I'm not sure where that goal came from I've participated in two long-range planning activities in town, and this never came up. I wonder if it's analogous to the decision to apply for an AT& T Excelsior [sic] Grant in April 2007 to put technology in the Senior Center. Again, I don't know where that initiative came from, but it was not a goal that had been on the list.

In conclusion, I'd like to say that the goals of the Commission on Aging and the senior community in general seem to me to be consistent and clear. I really want to see action and I'm willing to take whatever steps are necessary to bring the goals to fruition.

Thank you.

February 8, 2010

TO: Mansfield Town Council

FROM: Cynara Stites  
122 Hanks Hill Road

RE: Political signs on public property

Greg Padick provided information in your packet about proposed revisions to the Town's zoning regulations on political signs.

In the last seven years, the American Civil Liberties Union of Connecticut has made three requests to the Mansfield Planning & Zoning Commission to repeal the zoning ordinance that limits the size of political signs, the number of political signs, and the period of time political signs can be posted.

Political speech is afforded particular First Amendment protection because it helps preserve our democracy.

In response to the ACLU-CT's most recent "request," Greg Padick and Attorney Dennis O'Brien are recommending deletion of the zoning regulation that limits on the number of signs, size of signs, and period of time the signs may be displayed. This is a victory for freedom of speech. The ACLU will be happy.

Political signs on public property

However, tonight, I want to focus on the part of that zoning regulation that prohibits political signs on public property.

I am bringing this to the Town Council because Greg Padick noted that the Town Council has the authority to make a policy that authorizes political signs on Town property.

Greg's two alternatives for wording the zoning regulation have the same effect: prohibiting political signs on a road right-of-way and outside of polling stations on election day.

1. One proposal is to re-insert the current language in this zoning regulation that states: "*Political signs shall not be located on public property, including street rights-of-way.*"
2. The alternative proposal would be to just *require that property owners give permission for posting political signs.*

Greg Padick says: The alternative "approach would effectively, if less expressly, prohibit political signs on Town property unless the Town Council, Mansfield's legislative body, establishes policy that authorizes such signage."

Please allow political signs on public property in two circumstances:

I believe that there are two circumstances when it is in the interests of the Town and the residents for the Town to allow political signs on public property:

1) Political signs may be posted on a road right-of-way with the permission of the private property owner whose property fronts on the road as long as the signs do not block drivers' line of vision.

2) Political signs may be posted at least 100 feet away from polling sites on election days.

Rationale for Cynara's proposals:

It seems to me that prohibiting political signs in front of houses and in front of polling stations would effectively prohibit political signs altogether.

The Town's prohibition of posting political signs on the Town's right-of-way effectively prevents property owners like me from posting any political signs in front of our properties because we have stone walls abutting the Town's right-of-way.

Signs posted behind the Town's right-of-way may not be invisible on our dark, rural roads.

It seems to me that the most appropriate, desirable, and visible locations for political signs are in front of people's homes on the Town's right-of-way and outside the polls on election days.

Nobody will mistake political signs in front of people's houses as expressions of the Town government's point-of-view . . . just as nobody mistakes the political signs posted outside polling places on election day as expressions of the Town government's point-of-view.

I believe that the Town has more interest in encouraging voter participation in elections than in worrying about the remote possibility that political signs might have negative effects on "*neighborhoods*" and "*preserving Mansfield's scenic character*," or that political signs might create "*potential litter*."

Political speech should trump pristine landscapes any time.

The Town should be looking for ways to promote **more** – not less – political speech.

I am not bothered when I see a lot of political signs.

To the contrary, I am distressed when there are so few political signs that you can drive around town without realizing there is an upcoming election.

I say: The more political signs, the better.

I believe that it's in the Town's interest to expand the number of places where political signs can be posted in order to increase residents' awareness of elections, particularly local elections.

As you know, several budget referenda have failed to pass in Mansfield because less than 2% of registered voters turned out to vote "yes."

I urge the Town Council to use your authority to make a Town policy that permits political signs on the Town's right-of-way and outside polling stations on election day.

Please do this before the PZC finalizes its zoning regulation changes.

The Council recently approved an application for a STEAP grant for engineering, administration and construction of infrastructure for Phase 1A of the Storrs Center project.

Question 1: If this grant is not obtained, will the town need to invest an additional \$250,000 into the project for Phase 1A.?

Question 2: Since the public has been told that the Town would not have additional infrastructure investment in Storrs Center, is this expenditure for Phase 1A infrastructure the responsibility of Leyland Alliance. If this is true and the grant is received, does the Town accrue a \$250,000 credit from Leyland Alliance?

Question 3: Are there additional infrastructure investments that <sup>are</sup> ~~is~~ the Town's responsibility for the other phases of the project?

The sewer grant application that is on the agenda tonight indicates that the UConn sewer line needs to be increased in size,

Question 4: Will the current sewer lines be a limiting factor in the either a start or completion of the 4 phases of the project?

Question 5: If UConn was unable to obtain budget authorization for the matching part of the federal grant, would the town need to fund the match in order for the Storrs Center project to proceed?

I request that the Council discuss their understanding of these aforementioned items and to convey specific answers to the public in a timely manner.

Richard Hossack Testimony  
2/8/10

February 10,2010

To: Town Council Members

From: Gene Nesbitt

Chair, 4-Corners Sewer and Advisory Committee

You have before you this evening two grant request proposals concerning the development of needed infrastructure in the 4- Corners area. The first request for funding through the Connecticut DECD for sewers is also part of the larger request for the federal funding request that includes funding both sewer and water projects.

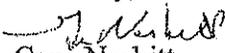
Because of the relative high costs of providing water and sewer to the area, it is appropriate that the Town of Mansfield seek grant funding to help lower the taxpayer and user costs that need to be expended to remediate the environmental and issues and to provide a needed sustainable economic base.

The Advisory Committee is currently discussing the various alternatives to completing the design phases of the project. We have received information concerning estimated costs and time-lines for the various components of the project. Given the time-lines for approval the subject state and federal grants, it is appropriate to initiate the grant requests at this time. I am personally cautiously optimistic that we will be successful in working through the design phases with a time line that will allow the Town to take advantage of federal grants if received.

At the 4-Corners Sewer and Water Advisory Committee held on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, the members voted unanimously to support the submission of these grant proposals.

On behalf of the Advisory Committee, I am asking for your favorable support of these grant applications.

Sincerely,

  
Gene Nesbitt

**Sharon A. Tyler**

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**From:** Town of Mansfield [webmaster@mansfieldct.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 09, 2010 12:38 PM  
**To:** Town Employees  
**Subject:** Town Manager's Report

**Town Manager's Office  
Town of Mansfield**

## Memo

**To:** Town Council  
**From:** Matt Hart, Town Manager  
**CC:** Town Employees  
**Date:** February 8, 2010  
**Re:** Town Manager's Report

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Below please find a report regarding various items of interest to the Town Council, staff and the community:

### Budget and Finance

- *Town Council Budget Retreat* - The annual budget/finance retreat will be held tomorrow, Tuesday, February 9, 2010 from 6:00 - 9:00 PM in the Community Room of the Mansfield Community Center.

### Council Requests for Information/Council Business

- *Potter Property* - Councilor Schaefer requested an update on the Potter property. The subject land locked parcel obtained by the Town from the Potter Estate was sold on 7/1/09 to Esther Cotton who owns the abutting property to the north.
- *School Building Committee Q & A Webpage* - Councilor Lindsey requested a copy of the Q & A webpage for the School Building Committee be distributed to the Council. The Board of Education staff is working to complete this webpage. We expect to be able to include the questions and answers as a communication in the February 22, 2010 Council meeting packet.
- *Tax Exemption for Farm Buildings* - Councilor Schaefer requested an update on the tax exemption for farm buildings. If the new Ordinance Development and Review Subcommittee is created and the Council wishes to renew their work on the ordinance, Council may want to refer this item to the Subcommittee for review.

### Departmental/Division News

- *Department of Fire and Emergency Services*
  - *Arson Fires* - As you will recall, during the fall of 2006 there were a number of arson fires in Mansfield and surrounding communities. On Friday January 29, 2010, Thomas Nedweden was convicted of a number of first and third degree arson charges for these fires as well as charges for additional offences. Nedweden will be serving a 20 year sentence followed by 10 years of special probation. The convictions and sentence are directly related to the perseverance, dedication and teamwork by members of the Mansfield Fire Department and Resident Troopers Office working cooperatively with CSP Eastern District Major Crime unit, State Fire

Marshal Investigators, CSP Detectives from Troops C and D and Fire Marshals from the towns of Chaplin, Ashford and Hampton. While several members of of the Mansfield Fire Department and Resident Troopers Office directly worked this case or provided assistance, I would like to especially thank Assistant Chief/Deputy Fire Marshal Francis Raiola for his superior work and the contributions he made to the successful investigation of these crimes.

- o *Firefighter/EMT*- I am pleased to announce that Theodore Morrissette has been appointed as a full-time Firefighter/EMT to fill the second of two vacancies in the fire department. Ted has served the community for many years as a part-time firefighter and volunteer and I am confident that he will do a fine job in his new role. Congratulations Ted!
- o *Ice Rescue* - On Sunday, January 31st at 3:50 p.m. members of the Mansfield Fire Department were dispatched mutual aid to Eagleville Lake on the Mansfield/Coventry town line for a person that had fallen through the ice. Mansfield Fire Department and Coventry Volunteer Firefighters Association members arrived on scene at 3:54 p.m. to find a woman approximately fifty (50) yards out on the ice near a man that was in the water. Members initiated an ice rescue operation to save the individual that had fallen through an area of thin ice (the woman was coaxed off the ice to insure she did not fall through as well). The ice rescue consisted of two MFD members donning cold water suits and going out onto the ice on an ice sled that was connected with a rope to department members on shore. As the rescuers got closer to the man the ice gave way and they had to paddle out the remaining 30 feet to reach the victim. The MFD members reached the man, secured him to the ice sled, and then the members on shore pulled the ice sled back to shore. Upon arriving back at the shore the victim was placed into a waiting ambulance and treated for hypothermia as he was being transported to Windham Community Memorial Hospital. At Windham Community Memorial Hospital the ambulance transferred the victim into the LifeStar helicopter and airlifted out to Saint Francis Hospital. The victim, a Mansfield resident, was released from the hospital without suffering any lasting injuries. The entire rescue operation took only fourteen (14) minutes from the time the department was notified of the call until the victim was leaving the scene en-route to WCMH; a very effective and well coordinated effort by all personnel at the incident. Members of the MFD that responded to the call included: Deputy Chief William Jordan, Captain Ryan Hawthorne, and Firefighters Christopher Beaulieu, Eric Beaulieu, Willard Cornell, James Galey, Brian Jones, Christopher Jones, Norm Meikle, Jennifer Moore, Juan Sanchez III, Michael Thompson and James York.

#### *Town Manager's Office*

- o *FY 2008-09 Annual Report* - The Town of Mansfield's 2008-09 annual report has been printed and posted on the Town's website. Copies of the report can be found at the town hall in the Town Clerk's office, the Mansfield Public Library and the Mansfield Senior Center.
- o *Media Upgrade Project* - We are proud to announce the completion of our media upgrade project for the Council Chambers. Tonight is the first Council meeting the Town is broadcasting live over our public access channel 13. In addition to live broadcast, Council meetings will continue to be taped and rebroadcast per our regular schedule (Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday at 12:00pm; Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 7:00pm). The Town is proud to be offering this new service to its residents and wishes to thank Ric Hossak for his past volunteer work taping meetings.
- o *Blue Ribbon Commission (MORE)*- As a representative of CCM and COST, I have been participating as a member of the Town Functions Subcommittee of the Speaker's Blue Ribbon Commission on Municipal State Grants and Mandate Relief. The Town Functions subcommittee is currently discussing opportunities, challenges and other issues related to the provision of local government services on a shared or regional basis.
- o *Political Signage and Town Property* - I wish to draw your attention to communication item #8 in your Council meeting packet for updated information on this topic.
- o *State of the Town* - I have been invited by the Chamber of Commerce to present a "State of the Town" address at the Chamber's meeting on March 10, 2010. The session will be held at the Nathan hale Inn and Conference Center and begin at 8:00 AM. Council members are certainly welcome; please RSVP to Sara-Ann if you wish to attend.

#### Future Agendas

- *Meeting with State Legislators* - Due to an unexpected conflict, Representative Merrill was unable to meet with us

tonight. We are tentatively working to reschedule our meeting with our legislators for 7:00pm on February 22, 2010 in advance of our regular Council meeting.

## **Major Projects**

*Juniper Hill* - In 2007, the Town submitted a Small Cities application to the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development for fire safety improvements to Juniper Hill Village assisted housing facility. Juniper Hill is a HUD assisted senior housing facility owned and operated by Mansfield Retirement Community, Inc., a non-profit housing corporation. In recent years, the "cottages" at Juniper Hills had been the site of two major fires; given the age and mobility concerns of the senior residents, the fire safety upgrade of these units was critical. The Town was awarded the a \$500,000 grant, which provided funding to install a fire sprinkler system throughout the cottages as well as other related fire safety improvements. The initiative was completed in 2009 and I would like to thank Maria Capriola and Jesse Shea for their good work on this project. You can view pictures of the project at [www.mansfieldct.org](http://www.mansfieldct.org), "planning department," "small cities projects."

## **Upcoming Events**

*Winter Fun Day* - The Mansfield Downtown Partnership, along with the Town of Mansfield Parks and Recreation Department and Town Manager's office, invites area residents to celebrate the season at the 4th Annual Winter Fun Day on Saturday, February 13. This free event will be held from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm outside the Mansfield Community Center. There will be a number of fun activities for all ages to enjoy, from ice skating (weather permitting) to musical performances, a horse drawn wagon, storytelling, ice sculptures and a 3-on-3 demonstration on the ice by the Northeast Youth Ice Hockey Mite House team. The popular "Wacky Hat Contest" will be held at 2:00 pm. Children are invited to wear their craziest creation or store-bought hat to Winter Fun Day and register for the contest. Prizes for Wackiest, Most Creative, and Judges' Choice will be awarded. In keeping with the community spirit of the event, a food drive to benefit the Town of Mansfield Human Services' Food Pantry will be held during Winter Fun Day. Visitors are asked to please bring a non-perishable food item to the Community Center. For more information, please contact the Mansfield Downtown Partnership: 429.2740 or [mdp@mansfieldct.org](mailto:mdp@mansfieldct.org).

## **Upcoming Meetings\***

- Youth Service Bureau Advisory Board, February 9, 2010, 11:30 AM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Town-University Relations Committee, February 9, 2010, 4:00 PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Town Council, February 9, 2010, 6:00 PM, Community Room, Mansfield Community Center
- Historic District Commission, February 8, 2010, 8:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Community-Campus Partnership, February 11, 2010, 4:00 PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Board of Education, February 11, 2010, 7:30 PM, Southeast School
- Planning and Zoning Commission, February 16, 2010, 7:00 PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Committee on Committees, February 16, 2010, 7:00 PM, Conference Room C, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Advocates for Children, February 17, 2010, 9:00 AM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Conservation Commission, February 17, 2010, 7:30 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Advocates for Children, February 22, 2010, 1:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Town Council, February 22, 2010, 7:30 PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building

*\*Meeting dates/times are subject to change. Please view the Town Calendar at [www.MansfieldCT.org](http://www.MansfieldCT.org) or contact the Town Clerk's Office at 429-3302 for a complete and up-to-date listing of committee meetings.*



**Town of Mansfield  
Agenda Item Summary**

**To:** Town Council  
**From:** Matt Hart, Town Manager *Matt*  
**CC:** Maria Capriola, Assistant to the Town Manager; Lon Hultgren, Director of Public Works  
**Date:** February 22, 2010  
**Re:** Community Water and Wastewater Issues

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**Subject Matter/Background**

As requested, attached please find the meeting materials for the February 2, 2010 meeting of the Four Corners Sewer and Water Advisory Committee. This includes the information prepared by the firm of Milone & MacBroom regarding the scope of engineering services and regulatory requirements associated with a new water supply.

**Attachments**

- 1) Four Corners Sewer and Water Advisory Committee, February 2, 2010 meeting materials

AGENDA AND MEETING NOTICE

Four-Corners Sewer and Water Advisory Committee  
Special Meeting  
February 2, 2010 (Tuesday)  
Council Chambers, Mansfield Town Office Building  
7:00 PM

Agenda:

1. Call to order
2. Approval of minutes
3. Review of Water Permitting Requirements- Jeanine Grouin (Milone and MacBroom)
4. Update - Cedar Swamp Aquifer Study (Lon)
5. Update - UConn Operation Contract Renewal, Willimantic River Study and Master Water Plan. PWD Capital budget requests (2010-1022) related to 4 Corners.
6. Design Guidelines (subcommittee report)
7. USDA Sewer funding grant
8. Other business
9. Future meeting dates/agenda

DRAFT  
Town of Mansfield, Four-Corners Advisory Committee  
Minutes of the Meeting – February 2, 2010  
Council Chambers, Mansfield Town Office Building

Present: Nesbitt (Chair), Plante, Ferrigno, Pacholski, Girard, Rawn, Spak, Hart, Schaffer, Hultgren (staff), Gouin (Milone & MacBroom), vanZelm (guest -- Mansfield Downtown Partnership), Sobanik (guest – Celeron Square), Freudmann (guest – Eastwood Road), Paulus (guest --Town Council)

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by chair Nesbitt.

The minutes of the December 15, 2009 meeting were reviewed and approved on a motion by Hart/Plante.

Nesbitt was elected continuing chair of the committee on a motion by Plante/Rawn.

Nesbitt introduced Jeanine Gouin of Milone and MacBroom (consultants who prepared the joint UConn/Town water and wastewater planning document in 2007). Ms. Gouin handed out a map and two information sheets explaining the permitting process relating to water supply in Connecticut which is regulated by both the Department of Public Health and the Department of Environmental Protection. Discussion with the Committee members ensued. She noted that the permitting processes for either new wells (regardless of location) or piping water into a new area were quite involved, time consuming and expensive (on the order of \$200,000 for a three phased study, testing and permitting). Hultgren said that he had obtained a budgetary estimate of \$2M from Milone and MacBroom for the development of a new wellfield to serve the four-corners area.

Hultgren updated committee members on the on-site water exploration study (phase I) being performed by Charter Oak Environmental. He said that the report should be available for the Committee's March meeting and that the results so far were encouraging, in that there appear to be some deeper stratified drift deposits in the Cedar Swamp brook area.

Pacholski reported that results from UConn's Willimantic River yield study should be presented at the next UConn Water/Wastewater Policy Advisory Committee meeting. Restrictions on the wellfield withdrawal rate are a good possibility in years of extreme low-flow. If the DEP's current proposal on streamflow standards (now in public process) is adopted by the State, it could impact UConn's withdrawal rates even further.

Hultgren explained that he had requested funds for further study (phase II) of potential well areas and for the first half of the pump station design in the Town's FY 2010-2011 capital budget. Considerable discussion then took place over whether or not to request all of the money needed for study and design now so that the water supply study and permitting work (which could take up to 2 years) didn't hold up the project. Approximately \$300,000 (plus bonding and legal costs) would be needed to fund the water supply study/design and the design of the sewer pump station. Hart said he would discuss this with the Town Council at its upcoming retreat. Most committee members favored trying to obtain the spending authorization for all of the study and design work sooner than later.

Hultgren handed out and explained two funding requests to be submitted to Congressman Courtney's office for federal funding in FY11. He explained that the first request (sewer only)

was separated from the full (sewer and water) request so that it could be forwarded to the CT DECD who had requested grant requests in the \$1M range. The two funding requests were endorsed on a motion by Plante/Schaffer. These will now be placed on the Town Council's Feb 8<sup>th</sup> agenda. Committee members that are available are encouraged to attend the Council meeting in support of the grant requests.

Nesbitt reported on his research into USDA grants for sewer and water systems for smaller communities. Staff will check with USDA representatives to see if the four corners district could meet the criteria for this grant program.

Under other business, Nesbitt suggested another public information session on the project might be in order for April of this year. He also suggested that the fiscal impact analysis be re-examined to make sure it was not too conservative in its assumptions. Staff and the fiscal impact subcommittee will review this in early March.

The discussion of the design guidelines subcommittee's report was postponed to a future meeting.

The next meeting was set for 7 PM on Tuesday March 9<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted,

Lon Hultgren  
Director of Public Works

**Mansfield Water Supply**  
**Potential Scope of Services for New Wellfield at Willimantic River**  
**February 2, 2010**

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Phase I – Study

- Review of existing maps, publications, and geologic reports
- Review of parcel mapping and land ownership
- Review of groundwater classifications
- "Environmental Data Review" (database search) of potential pollution sources
- Report of recommendations for further investigation
- Development of probable project costs
- Report of permitting requirements
- Estimated cost \$10,000

Phase II – Limited Investigation

- Limited wetland delineations
- Floodplain delineation based on existing FIS and town-owned topographic mapping
- Test borings and installation of several 2-inch and 6-inch observation wells
- Step testing of 6-inch observation wells
- Groundwater sampling and testing in potentially impaired areas
- Recommendations for Phase III
- Estimated cost \$25,000

Phase III – Aquifer Testing, Design, and Permitting

- Installation of additional observation well network
- Installation of two temporary pumping wells
- Additional wetland delineations if necessary
- Preparation for aquifer pumping test (riverbed and wetland piezometers, etc.)
- Aquifer pumping test combined with preliminary safe yield pumping test
- Water quality testing at end of pumping test
- Revise existing floodplain modeling and select location and type of compensation
- Design of production wells and transmission piping
- Design of treatment (if needed)
- DPH permitting and approvals
- DEP Flood Management Certification (if the University contributes to funding)
- DEP Diversion Permit
- Plans and specifications for wellfield construction, including fill material and
- Estimated cost \$150,000

**Mansfield Water Supply**  
**Summary of Regulatory Permitting Requirements Associated with New Water Supplies**  
**February 2, 2010**

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**New Well Supply**

- Well Site Approval  
Regulating Agency: CT Department of Public Health  
Typical Timeframe: 2 Months  
Planning Level Cost Estimate: \$5,000
- Water Diversion Permit  
Regulating Agency: CT Department of Environmental Protection  
Typical Timeframe: 2 Years  
Planning Level Cost Estimate: \$25,000 to \$50,000
- Flood Management Certificate (Only if State Funding is Involved)  
Regulating Agency: CT Department of Environmental Protection  
Typical Timeframe: 6 to 9 months  
Planning Level Cost Estimate: \$10,000 to \$15,000
- Well Use Approval  
Regulating Agency: CT Department of Public Health  
Typical Timeframe: 2 Months  
Planning Level Cost Estimate: \$5,000
- Treatment Approval (Only if Treatment is Necessary)  
Regulating Agency: CT Department of Public Health  
Typical Timeframe: 2 Months  
Planning Level Cost Estimate: \$5,000
- Local Site Plan Approval (Wellhouse Building, Fill, Access, etc.) – Town of Mansfield  
Typical Timeframe: 1 – 2 Months  
Planning Level Cost Estimate: \$3,000 to \$5,000

**Water Pipeline Extension Along Route 195**

- Water Diversion Permit  
Regulating Agency: CT Department of Environmental Protection  
Typical Timeframe: 2 Years  
Planning Level Cost Estimate: \$25,000 to \$50,000
- CEPA Review (Only if State Funding is Involved)  
Regulating Agency: CT Department of Environmental Protection  
Typical Timeframe: 1 to 1½ years  
Planning Level Cost Estimate: \$50,000 to \$75,000
- Water Main Extension Approval  
Regulating Agency: CT Department of Public Health  
Typical Timeframe: 2 to 3 Months  
Planning Level Cost Estimate: \$5,000 to \$10,000

## MEMO

1/22/10

To: 4 Corners Water/Sewer Advisory Committee  
From: 4 Corners Water/Sewer Design Guidelines Subcommittee  
Re: Recommended Design Guidelines for the 4 Corners Sewer District

A subcommittee composed of Rawn, Ferrigno & Spak, with assistance from Hultgren, Padick and Nesbitt met on January 12<sup>th</sup> to review aerial maps and information provided to the committee previously by Padick to try to arrive at a consensus as to what elements make sense for design guidelines for the 4 corners area as it develops after the installation of water and sewer systems.

The area map was divided into 3 areas of relatively contiguous properties that were most likely to develop in the near term (see areas A, B and C on the attached map). (These properties were identified in the committee's previous study of potential development.) The following design elements were identified as desirable for all of these areas:

1. Minimize curb cuts and promote interior connections between the properties.
  - a. In area A this would be between the properties
  - b. In area B this would involve combining several of the smaller properties
  - c. In area C1 this would involve using the old road, making connections behind the Grand Union to the Professional Park, and utilizing one or more R/W's to the south of CVS leading to Rte 195. In area C2, this would mean utilizing internal roadways.
2. Promote pedestrian walkways & streetscapes in the area.
  - a. Consider the walkway up 195 North to the Holiday Mall/Timber Drive area a high Town priority
  - b. Require walkways in all development/redevelopment proposals – all sides of 195 and 44, all properties.
  - c. Set standards for street lighting fixtures, benches and area signage such they are consistent for the area. Consider parking and internal area lighting standards as well.
3. Continue building orientation standards such that
  - a. There are no building set backs per se and buildings can be located right up to the edge of the streetscape/walkways.
  - b. Place parking in the rear of the buildings, and whenever possible allow no parking between the street and the buildings.
4. Establish building height standards that would allow taller buildings to be built in this area.
5. Develop "gateway" elements in three locations that will have common architectural elements and announce the gateway to UConn:
  - a. Route 44 near the Cedar Swamp brook crossing
  - b. Route 195 near the Cedar Swamp brook crossing
  - c. At the 44/195 intersection.

The subcommittee also reviewed the detailed design guidelines for the Storrs Center development which include (but are not limited to) trees, terraces, sidewalks, public squares, windows, roofs, building materials, building colors, building lighting, courtyards, etc., etc. and felt that this level of specificity would not be appropriate for the 4 corners design area. One exception to this is possibly requiring pitched roofs (except for buildings over a certain height), but there was no clear consensus on this. (Screened flat roofs were thought to be an OK approach by some members.)

It was noted in the subcommittee's discussions, that many of the site considerations (minimizing curb cuts, building orientation, access between properties) are already spelled out in the PZC's regulations. If the advisory committee can reach a clear consensus on the design elements that could be established in a 4 corners design district, then a future meeting/presentation with the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) would be appropriate.

attach: 4 corners aerial map



**Town of Mansfield  
Agenda Item Summary**

**To:** Town Council  
**From:** Matt Hart, Town Manager *MattH*  
**CC:** Maria Capriola, Assistant to Town Manager; Mary Stanton, Town Clerk  
**Date:** February 22, 2010  
**Re:** Town Council Rules of Procedure

---

**Subject Matter/Background**

Attached please find the revised draft Town Council Rules of Procedure, as prepared and endorsed by the Personnel Committee at their January 25, 2010 meeting. A summary of recommended revisions includes:

- Rule 2 & 3 – Updates posting requirements for public meetings based upon statutory changes in the Freedom of Information laws.
- Rule 4 – Eliminates the second public comment opportunity at the end of Council meetings.
- Rule 5 – Provides a mechanism for handling disorderly and disruptive conduct in accordance with Freedom of Information Act, C.G.S. Section 1-232.
- Rule 5 – Provides alternative language to decorum.
- Rule 10 (previously) – Council office hours eliminated.

The following items have been flagged by the Personnel Committee for discussion by the Council as a whole:

- Is Rule 9C, Council standing committee appointments, consistent with the Charter, ordinance, or Council resolution?
  - At its November 19, 1973 meeting, the Council passed a motion providing that *the Mayor and Deputy Mayor be authorized to appoint the members of the standing committees*. Earlier that evening they passed a motion establishing the three standing committees of the Council: Finance, Personnel, and Committee on Committees.
- Should Council have one or two public comment opportunities during their regular meetings?

In addition, there are two other issues that I wish to highlight for Council's discussion: First, staff has noted that Rule 2(e) prohibits formal votes at Council work sessions. Council work sessions constitute a special meeting of the Council, and there are times when the Council may wish to take formal action at a work session. Consequently, I recommend the Council delete this restriction from the rule, which, as amended, would read as follows:

- Work Sessions are by definition of the Freedom of Information Act, Special Meetings of the Council. In order to preserve the informal and relaxed

atmosphere that encourages exchange between members of the Town Council, town government and invited participants, Work Sessions will generally be held prior to the Regular Meeting. Work Sessions may be scheduled by the Mayor or by majority of vote of the Council. All requirements of the Freedom of Information Act that pertain to Special Meetings shall be observed for Work Sessions. Work Sessions will be held to discuss, review, research or explore topics for possible later action. ~~No formal votes may be taken, except for a vote to go into Executive Session.~~

Second, in order to emphasize the importance of *civilized* debate and discussion, I would like the Council to consider the following amendment to the revised Rule 5 on decorum (see *italics*):

- All meeting participants including Councilors, citizens and staff should confine their remarks to the substance of the issue at hand. Participants should avoid discussing personalities and not impugn the motive, character or integrity of any individual. *The Town Council recognizes the right of a resident to criticize its local government, but this should be done appropriately and responsibly, with civility and discretion.* All participants should address their remarks to the Mayor and maintain a civil tone. These rules of conduct shall also apply to all written correspondence. Disorderly and disruptive conduct will be handled in accordance with Freedom of Information Act, C.G.S. Section 1-232.

### **Recommendation**

Staff recommends that the Council review the revisions proposed by the Personnel Committee as well as the other issues that have been highlighted above. Once the Council is comfortable with the draft, the Council should adopt the revised Rules of Procedure by formal motion and note any amendments made to the January 25<sup>th</sup> version endorsed by the Personnel Committee.

To initiate your discussion, the following motion is suggested:

*Move, effective February 22, 2010, to adopt the revised Town Council Rules of Procedure as proposed by the Personnel Committee.*

### **Attachments**

- 1) Town Council Rules of Procedure, Approved September 8, 2008
- 2) Draft Town Council Rules of Procedure, as endorsed by Personnel Committee, 1/25/10
- 3) Excerpt from Town Council minutes of November 19, 1973



TOWN OF MANSFIELD  
TOWN COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE  
Approved September 8, 2008

BE IT RESOLVED, that under the authority of Section C302 of the Town Charter, the Town Council of the Town of Mansfield does hereby establish its Rules of Procedure as follows. These rules are in effect for the term of office of the Council and shall be adopted at the organizational meeting. Procedural matters not covered by the Town Charter or these Rules of Procedure will be determined by the Mayor, or by the Deputy Mayor in the absence of the Mayor, in accordance with "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised."

Rule 1 – Organizational Meeting

Each newly elected Council shall meet for organization at the next regular meeting of the Town Council following the municipal election. During this Organizational Meeting the Town Council shall elect, by a majority vote of all Council members, one of their number to serve as Mayor, who shall preside at Council meetings, and one of their number to serve as Deputy Mayor, who shall serve in the Mayor's temporary absence. If both are absent, the Council may designate from its membership a temporary presiding officer. At this Organizational Meeting, the Council shall also fix by Resolution the time and place of its regular meetings for the following two-year period, which meetings shall be held at least once a month as required by the Charter. The appointment of a Town Attorney may also take place at this meeting, but said appointment shall take place no later than one month after the election of the Council.

Rule 2 –Meetings

- a) All meetings shall be held in compliance with the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act, Connecticut General Statutes sections 1-200, et seq.
- b) The presence of five members of the Council is necessary for a quorum. Each Council member is asked to notify the Mayor or the Town Manager as soon as possible if the member expects to be absent
- c) Special Meetings of the Town Council may be called by the Mayor, or on the written request of at least three members of the Council, filed with the offices of the Town Manager and Town Clerk not less than 36 hours (excluding Saturday, Sunday, legal holidays and any day on which the Office of the

Town Clerk is officially closed) in advance of such meeting, which request must specify the date, time and business to be transacted at any such Special Meeting. The Town Clerk shall post a notice in the Office of the Town Clerk indicating the time, place and business to be transacted, and copies of this notice shall be served by mail or personally upon each Council member and the Town Manager or left at their usual place of abode at least twenty-four (24) hours prior thereto. The notice shall be placed on the Town's website as soon as it is practicable.

- d) Emergency Special Meetings may be called by the Mayor or the Town Manager in case of an emergency with at least two hours notice given to Council members, without complying with the posting of notice requirement, but a copy of the minutes of every such Emergency Special Meeting shall be filed with the Town Clerk not later than 72 hours following the holding of such meeting in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, C.G.S. section 1-225 (d).
- e) Work Sessions are by definition of the Freedom of Information Act, Special Meetings of the Council. In order to preserve the informal and relaxed atmosphere that encourages exchange between members of the Town Council, town government and invited participants, Work Sessions will generally be held prior to the Regular Meeting. Work Sessions may be scheduled by the Mayor or by majority of vote of the Council. All requirements of the Freedom of Information Act that pertain to Special Meetings shall be observed for Work Sessions. Work Sessions will be held to discuss, review, research or explore topics for possible later action. No formal votes may be taken, except for a vote to go into Executive Session.
- f) Joint meetings and hearings may be held with the governing bodies of other governmental entities or agencies and such joint regular or special meetings may be held in the jurisdiction of either body.
- g) The Town Clerk is the Clerk of the Council and shall, in accordance with the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act, keep for public inspection minutes of all its proceedings, including all roll call votes and indicating deliberations, discussions and actions which shall be the official record of Council proceedings. The journal shall be authenticated for each meeting by the signature of the Mayor or Deputy Mayor in the absence of the Mayor. Notes from the meeting indicating all actions shall be available to the public within 48 hours after the meeting and the minutes shall be available within 7 days of the meeting. Upon approval the minutes shall be posted on the web site in a timely manner.

### Rule 3- Agenda of Council Meetings

- a) The Town Manager, in consultation with the Mayor, shall prepare the agenda
- b) Unless altered by a two-thirds vote of the Council, the regular order of business shall be as follows:
  - 1. Call to Order
  - 2. Roll Call
  - 3. Approval of Minutes
  - 4. Public Hearing (if scheduled)
  - 5. Opportunity For Public to Address the Council
  - 6. Town Manager's Report
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  - 9. Quarterly Reports
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  - 11. Reports of Council Committees
  - 12. Reports of Council Members
  - 13. Petitions, Request and Communications
  - 14. Opportunity For Public to Address the Council
  - 15. Future Agendas
  - 16. Executive Session (if scheduled)
  - 17. Adjournment
- c) Ceremonial presentations to individuals or groups that include refreshments, may be scheduled prior to the Regular Meeting time in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act. A notice that the presentation will take place prior to the Regular Meeting will be included on the agenda for that meeting.
- d) Prior to or during the discussion on each item on the agenda the Mayor may call upon the Town Manager, designated staff or other appropriate person for the purpose of background presentation of business to be discussed. Council members may address questions to these individuals.
- e) Unless extenuating circumstances occur, the agenda and all supporting material shall be delivered to the Council not later than the Friday preceding each regular meeting of the Council.
- f) Every effort will be made to ensure that copies of the agenda, minutes and related material distributed with the packet will be made available on the Town's website no later than noon on the Friday preceding each regular meeting of the Council.
- g) Recurring Old Business items shall have an end date to be determined by the Council.

#### Rule 4 – Public Participation

a) Regular Meetings

The Town Council welcomes comments from the public. On the agenda of each meeting of the Town Council, two periods shall be set aside and designated as an opportunity for the public to address the Council on any issue of importance to the Town. Citizen comments may be presented orally or in writing. Each speaker will be allowed one opportunity to speak for a maximum of five minutes in each session. Any citizen so speaking shall identify him/herself by name and address, and if the speaker is speaking for a group or organization, she/he may so state. Citizen comments will be accepted as presented. Written statements presented by speakers during the public comment section shall be included in the minutes of the meeting. Council members are free to ask questions to clarify the intent of the citizens commenting. Citizens should not attempt to engage Council members, the Town Manager or Town staff in debate or line of questioning. Written statements from the public received prior to the completion of the Town Council packet will be included as a communication. Communications received after the packet has been completed will be distributed to members prior to the meeting and be included as a communication in the next packet.

b) Public Hearings

Public hearings are an opportunity for citizens to address the Town Council on a specific issue. Citizen comments may be presented orally or in writing. Written statements received by the Town Clerk prior to the public hearing will be noted on the record and distributed to Council members either in the packet or that evening. Both these letters and written statements presented by speakers during the public hearing shall become part of the minutes. All citizens so speaking shall identify him/herself by name and address, and if the speaker is speaking for a group or organization, she/he may so state.

c) Work Sessions

Work Sessions are an opportunity for the Council, Town Government and invited participants to discuss issues. An opportunity for public comment, other than invited participants, may be set-aside at the beginning of the Work Session to hear from citizens who have comments pertaining to the issue at hand.

#### Rule 5 – Conduct

All meeting participants including Councilors, citizens and staff should not discuss personalities and will not be permitted to impugn the motive, character or integrity of any individual. All participants should address their remarks to the Mayor and maintain a courteous tone. These rules of conduct shall apply to all written correspondence.

#### Rule 6- Introduction and Public Hearing of Ordinances

- a) Section C307 of the Charter of the Town of Mansfield provides that "All ordinances introduced by a member of the Council shall be in written form and shall be limited to one subject, which shall be clearly stated in the title." A copy of the ordinance shall be filed with the Town Clerk who shall follow the procedures for copying, distribution and notice of the proposed ordinance set forth in Town Charter section C307.
- b) Section C308 of the Town Charter requires that the Town Council shall hold at least one public hearing before any ordinance shall be passed. If the ordinance is on the Council's agenda for possible action, the Council may choose to vote on the proposed ordinance right after the public hearing is held. The Council may also hold more than one public hearing on a proposed ordinance prior to taking final action.
- c) Prior to the Town Council scheduling a public hearing regarding a proposed ordinance, the Town Manager shall present a written fiscal impact analysis to the Council.

#### Rule 7- Motions

- a) When a motion is made and seconded it shall be stated by the Mayor or the Town Clerk, if requested. If the motion is made in writing, it shall be read aloud prior to being debated. The motion so made and seconded will be in possession of the Council and subject to amendments or withdrawal.
- b) Motions shall be reduced to writing when requested by the Mayor or by a majority of the whole Council.
- c) When a motion is under debate, no further motion shall be received except to adjourn, to recess, to table, for the previous question, to limit or extend debate, to postpone to time certain, to refer to committee, to amend or to postpone indefinitely, which motions shall have precedence in the order indicated.
- d) Motions to adjourn, to lay upon the table and for the previous question shall be decided without debate.
- e) Motions to postpone to a definite time and to close debate at a specific time shall be decided without debate, except with respect to the time fixed, which shall be subject to amendment altering the time.

- f) Motions to refer, to postpone indefinitely or to amend shall be debatable, but only with respect to such a referral, postponement or amendment, and not with respect to the subject matter of the main motion.
- g) Any amendment must be germane to the motion.
- h) Motions to table, to postpone to time certain or to postpone indefinitely, once having been decided, shall not be reconsidered at the same meeting, whereas a motion to refer a matter to a committee can be reconsidered only at the meeting of the vote. Any other motion can be reconsidered only at the same or next succeeding meeting of the Council.
- i) Any motion to reconsider shall be in order only upon motion by a member participating in the prevailing vote of the original motion, and there shall be no reconsideration of the vote upon motion to adjourn, for the previous question or to reconsider.
- j) Any motion under debate, which consists of two or more independent propositions, may be divided by a majority vote of the whole Council.

#### Rule 8 - Debate

- a) During discussion or debate, no Councilor shall speak unless recognized by the Mayor.
- b) Councilors shall confine their remarks in debate to the pending question.
- c) Any Councilor who knows in advance of a meeting that he /she wishes to obtain certain data or have a question answered, or wishes specific figures or expenditures, or the like, should, insofar as possible, inform the Town Manager in writing of the nature and details of the inquiry, so that the Town Manager will have the opportunity to have the answer available at such meeting.
- d) Any member who realizes or anticipates that he/she has or will have a conflict of interest with respect to a matter before the Council for consideration should announce his or her intention to abstain from voting on the matter as soon as the conflict becomes apparent, and should thereafter refrain from further discussion of or involvement in the matter.

#### Rule 9 – Standing Committees

- a) There shall be the following standing committees of the Council
  - Committee on Committees

- Finance Committee
  - Personnel Committee
- b) The Council may create or dissolve committees of the Council by resolution.
- c) The Mayor shall appoint members of the Council to such committees and shall designate the chair of each. The Mayor may announce any adjustments in membership or chairmanship at a regular Council meeting with such changes to be effective at the next regular committee meeting.
- d) All Councilors shall be ex-officio members of the committees to which they are not assigned, but do not have the authority to make motions or to vote.

#### Rule 10 – Council Office Hours

One half hour prior to the second Council meeting of the month Council members will be available to hear from the public on any issue. Councilors shall participate in the office hours on a rotating basis.

#### Rule 11 – Executive Session

Executive Sessions will be limited to those subjects allowed pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act. The reasons for such a session and persons to attend shall be publicly stated. A two-thirds vote of the members of the Council present and voting shall be necessary in order to go into Executive Session.



TOWN OF MANSFIELD  
TOWN COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE  
DRAFT VERSION  
As endorsed by Personnel Committee 1/25/10

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- c) Special Meetings of the Town Council may be called by the Mayor, or on the written request of at least three members of the Council, filed with the offices of the Town Manager and Town Clerk not less than 36 hours (excluding

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Saturday, Sunday, legal holidays and any day on which the Office of the Town Clerk is officially closed) in advance of such meeting, which request must specify the date, time and business to be transacted at any such Special Meeting. The Town Clerk shall post a notice in the Office of the Town Clerk indicating the time, place and business to be transacted, and copies of this notice shall be served by mail or personally upon each Council member and the Town Manager or left at their usual place of abode at least twenty-four (24) hours prior thereto. The notice shall be placed on the Town's website at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

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- d) Emergency Special Meetings may be called by the Mayor or the Town Manager in case of an emergency with at least two hours notice given to Council members, without complying with the posting of notice requirement, but a copy of the minutes of every such Emergency Special Meeting shall be filed with the Town Clerk not later than 72 hours following the holding of such meeting in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, C.G.S. section 1-225 (d).
- e) Work Sessions are by definition of the Freedom of Information Act, Special Meetings of the Council. In order to preserve the informal and relaxed atmosphere that encourages exchange between members of the Town Council, town government and invited participants, Work Sessions will generally be held prior to the Regular Meeting. Work Sessions may be scheduled by the Mayor or by majority of vote of the Council. All requirements of the Freedom of Information Act that pertain to Special Meetings shall be observed for Work Sessions. Work Sessions will be held to discuss, review, research or explore topics for possible later action. No formal votes may be taken, except for a vote to go into Executive Session.
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Rule 3- Agenda of Council Meetings

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- 17. Adjournment

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- c) Ceremonial presentations to individuals or groups that include refreshments, may be scheduled prior to the Regular Meeting time in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act. A notice that the presentation will take place prior to the Regular Meeting will be included on the agenda for that meeting.

- d) Prior to or during the discussion on each item on the agenda the Mayor may call upon the Town Manager, designated staff or other appropriate person for the purpose of background presentation of business to be discussed. Council members may address questions to these individuals.

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Council members are free to ask questions to clarify the intent of the citizens commenting. Citizens should not attempt to engage Council members, the Town Manager or Town staff in debate or line of questioning. Council Members and the Town Manager may offer responses to questions or concerns raised by citizens during the portions of the agenda reserved for their reports and comments, but are not obligated to provide answers to impromptu questions.

Written statements from the public received prior to the completion of the Town Council packet will be included as a communication. Communications received after the packet has been completed will be distributed to members prior to the meeting and be included as a communication in the next packet.

b) Public Hearings

Public hearings are an opportunity for citizens to address the Town Council on a specific issue. Citizen comments may be presented orally or in writing. Written statements received by the Town Clerk prior to the public hearing will be noted on the record and distributed to Council members either in the packet or that evening. Both these letters and written statements presented by speakers during the public hearing shall become part of the minutes. All citizens so speaking shall identify him/herself by name and address, and if the speaker is speaking for a group or organization, she/he may so state.

c) Work Sessions

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Rule 5 – Decorum

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- b) Section C308 of the Town Charter requires that the Town Council shall hold at least one public hearing before any ordinance shall be passed. ~~The Council may also hold more than one public hearing on a proposed ordinance prior to taking final action.~~
- c) Prior to the Town Council scheduling a public hearing regarding a proposed ordinance, the Town Manager shall present a written fiscal impact analysis to the Council.
- d) The Town Council may discuss a proposed ordinance but may not amend, adopt or reject it on the day the first public hearing is convened in accordance with Section 308. This provision may be suspended by a majority vote.

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- b) Motions shall be reduced to writing when requested by the Mayor or by a majority of the whole Council.
- c) When a motion is under debate, no further motion shall be received except to adjourn, to recess, to table, for the previous question, to limit or extend debate, to postpone to time certain, to refer to committee, to amend or to postpone indefinitely, which motions shall have precedence in the order indicated.

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- d) Motions to adjourn, to lay upon the table and for the previous question shall be decided without debate.
- e) Motions to postpone to a definite time and to close debate at a specific time shall be decided without debate, except with respect to the time fixed, which shall be subject to amendment altering the time.
- f) Motions to refer, to postpone indefinitely or to amend shall be debatable, but only with respect to such a referral, postponement or amendment, and not with respect to the subject matter of the main motion.
- g) Any amendment must be germane to the motion.
- h) Motions to table, to postpone to time certain or to postpone indefinitely, once having been decided, shall not be reconsidered at the same meeting, whereas a motion to refer a matter to a committee can be reconsidered only at the meeting of the vote. Any other motion can be reconsidered only at the same or next succeeding meeting of the Council.
- i) Any motion to reconsider shall be in order only upon motion by a member participating in the prevailing vote of the original motion, and there shall be no reconsideration of the vote upon motion to adjourn, for the previous question or to reconsider.
- j) Any motion under debate, which consists of two or more independent propositions, may be divided by a majority vote of the whole Council.

Rule 8 - Debate

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- a) During discussion or debate, no Councilor shall speak unless recognized by the Mayor.
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- d) Any member who realizes or anticipates that he/she has or will have a conflict of interest with respect to a matter before the Council for consideration should announce his or her intention to abstain from voting on the matter as soon as the conflict becomes apparent, and should thereafter refrain from further discussion of or involvement in the matter.

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Rule 9 – Standing Committees

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- Committee on Committees
  - Finance Committee
  - Personnel Committee
- b) The Council may create or dissolve committees of the Council by resolution.
- c) The Mayor shall appoint members of the Council to such committees and shall designate the chair of each. The Mayor may announce any adjustments in membership or chairmanship at a regular Council meeting with such changes to be effective at the next regular committee meeting.
- d) All Councilors shall be ex-officio members of the committees to which they are not assigned, but do not have the authority to make motions or to vote.

Rule 10 – Executive Session

Executive Sessions will be limited to those subjects allowed pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act. The reasons for such a session and persons to attend shall be publicly stated. A two-thirds vote of the members of the Council present and voting shall be necessary in order to go into Executive Session.

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VIII. TOWN ATTORNEY

MOTION MADE BY MR. JOHNSON, SECONDED BY MISS GOODWIN, THAT THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION BE ADOPTED:

RESOLVED: PURSUANT TO SECTION 502 OF THE TOWN CHARTER, OLIVER S. CHAPPELL, ESQ. IS HEREBY APPOINTED TOWN ATTORNEY FOR THE TOWN OF MANSFIELD. COMPENSATION FOR SAID ATTORNEY SHALL BE THE MINIMUM HOURLY RATE OF THE MINIMUM FEE SCHEDULE FOR WINDHAM COUNTY.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY.

IX. STANDING COMMITTEES

MOTION MADE BY MR. QUINN, SECONDED BY MISS GOODWIN, THAT THE FOLLOWING SHALL CONTINUE TO BE THE STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL:

- FINANCE COMMITTEE
- PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
- COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION MADE BY MR. RICHARDS, SECONDED BY MISS GOODWIN, THAT THE MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR BE AUTHORIZED TO APPOINT THE MEMBERS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEE MEMBERS WERE APPOINTED:

FINANCE COMMITTEE - MR. JOHNSON, CHAIRMAN  
MISS GOODWIN, VICE CHAIRMAN  
MR. HILL

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE - MR. QUINN, CHAIRMAN  
MRS. BARBERET  
MR. WHITHAM

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES - MRS. BARBERET, CHAIRMAN  
MRS. AMDUR  
MR. RICHARDS

X. ADJOURNMENT

ON A MOTION BY MR. QUINN THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:23 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

*Madelyn A. Eremita*

MADELYN A. EREMITA  
CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

*Joseph N. Gill*

JOSEPH N. GILL  
MAYOR

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**Town of Mansfield  
Agenda Item Summary**

**To:** Town Council  
**From:** Matt Hart, Town Manager *M.H.*  
**CC:** Maria Capriola, Assistant to Town Manager; Kevin Grunwald, Director of Human Services; Patricia Michalak, Youth Services Coordinator  
**Date:** February 22, 2010  
**Re:** Presentation: Youth Service Bureau Advisory Committee

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**Subject Matter/Background**

At Monday's meeting, staff and the advisory board will provide the Town Council with a brief overview of the programs and services provided by the town's Youth Service Bureau. These programs support and advocate for the social and emotional development of Mansfield's youth. Clinical services include: individual counseling, family counseling, group counseling, crisis intervention, psychiatric assessment, medication management and multi-family group therapy. Our youth services staff members also serve as the social workers for the public schools. Several initiatives focus specifically on the needs of families with young children including school readiness, information and referral and community planning.

**Financial Impact**

In addition to funding provided through the Town's general fund, the Youth Service Bureau receives approximately \$197,000 annually in funding from the Connecticut Departments of Education and Mental Health and Addiction Services, the Northeast Communities Against Substance Abuse, the Bishop's Fund of the Episcopal Diocese of Connecticut and the William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund. With youth services staff serving as the school social workers, we are able to obviate the need for outplacement or referral to outside agencies for more costly and restrictive levels of care.

**Recommendation**

Staff and the Advisory Board recommend that Council members familiarize themselves with the range of services that are currently provided to youth in town and to clarify their vision for Youth Services as a core municipal service. We also invite your support for new programs and initiatives that are designed to meet emerging needs of families and youth in our community.

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**Town of Mansfield  
Agenda Item Summary**

**To:** Town Council  
**From:** Matt Hart, Town Manager *MWH*  
**CC:** Maria Capriola, Assistant to Town Manager; Kevin Grunwald, Director of Human Services  
**Date:** February 22, 2010  
**Re:** Community Partnership Grant

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**Subject Matter/Background**

The Children's Fund of Connecticut and the Annie E. Casey Foundation are partnering with the William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund to advance the Discovery Birth-to-Age Eight Initiative by aligning their funding for community grants. This investment is an opportunity for communities to continue to build and strengthen their *local capacity* to develop, enhance and implement a community-wide plan; a plan for creating a system of services and supports that is accessible to and supportive of young children and their families, has measurable results and is jointly owned by communities and statewide public and private partners. A key premise of the community partnership is that a broad and inclusive community decision making approach that engages parents, service providers, community leaders and residents is a prerequisite for creating an effective system of services and supports.

The Town of Mansfield has been a recipient of a Discovery grant from the William Caspar Graustein Fund since 2002, and was one of 23 communities in Connecticut that were awarded a Local Capacity Building Grant to develop a comprehensive community plan for young children in 2008/2009. During the eight years that we have worked with the Graustein foundation our town has been recognized as a leader in the state of Connecticut in building an agenda to improve the success of all young children from birth to age eight.

**Financial Impact**

This grant provides up to \$50,000 in funding for each of the next two years, and requires applicants to commit to provide a local match of \$25,000 each of those two years. The proposed Human Services' Department budget includes \$20,000 in funding for this grant, with the balance of the match coming from a reallocation of hours for the Director of the Department of Human Services and staff of the Mansfield Discovery Depot. If this funding is not approved as part of the department's budget staff would need to obtain the required cash match from another source to be able to proceed with this grant. The Mansfield Board of Education and the Eastern Highlands Health District have also committed to contribute "in kind services" in support of this initiative.

### **Recommendation**

This grant would enable the Town of Mansfield to implement the strategies developed through our Plan for Young Children. This plan focuses on all children birth to age eight and all the service systems that support healthy child development and early school success. Our community plan is a road map for assessing and changing institutional policies and practices and provides community-wide accountability for results. If this grant is awarded to the Town of Mansfield the Town Council will need to authorize the Town Manager to sign the contract that will enable us to receive these funds.

One of the requirements of this grant application is that our early childhood collaborative (Mansfield Advocates for Children) obtains the backing of the chief elected official, the superintendent of schools, and the collaborative sponsor. Staff recommends that the Town Council authorize the Mayor and the Town Manager to sign this grant application as an indication of that support.

If the Town Council agrees with this recommendation, the following motion is in order:

*Move, effective February 22, 2010, to authorize Mayor Elizabeth Paterson and Town Manager Matthew Hart to sign and submit the Community Partnership grant application.*

### **Attachments**

- 1) Funding Options and Eligibility Criteria
- 2) Community Partnership Application Abstract

**THE DISCOVERY FUNDING OPTIONS AND ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

Eligible applicants are priority and competitive school districts that currently receive a Discovery grant from the Memorial Fund. Communities may submit applications for one of the Continuation Options described in the chart below. If the application review team does not select a community for its chosen option, applicants will be invited to consider another Option deemed most appropriate.

Continuation Options	Criteria Eligible Communities will:
<p><b>Option 1:</b> <b>Plan Implementation</b> Grants up to \$50,000</p>	<p>Commit to implementing your comprehensive birth-to-age-8 community plan that adequately addresses all the plan requirements.</p> <p>Commit to a single early childhood collaborative that has merged all local early childhood entities, or can demonstrate that multiple efforts are structured to ensure inclusive decision making and accountability for the community plan.</p> <p>Commit to a results-based community decision making and accountability process.</p> <p>Commit to supporting early healthy development (physical, behavioral, oral) and include health service strategies in the community plan.</p> <p>Commit to participate in cross-site or on-site capacity building.</p> <p>Commit to select and collect data for a set of common indicators and measures in partnership with other Memorial Fund grantees and the other funding partners.</p> <p>Commit to provide a local match of \$25,000 each year for two years.</p>
<p><b>Option 2a:</b> <b>Plan Enhancement</b> Grants up to \$25,000</p>	<p>Commit to enhance an existing comprehensive birth-to-age-8 community plan that is missing elements or has elements in need of further refinement.</p> <p>Commit to a single early childhood collaborative that has merged or is willing to merge all local early childhood efforts or has a strategy to develop a structure to ensure inclusive decision making and accountability for the community plan.</p> <p>Commit to a results-based community decision-making and accountability process.</p> <p>Commit to supporting early healthy development (physical, behavioral, oral) and include health service strategies in the community plan.</p> <p>Commit to participate in cross-site or on-site capacity building.</p> <p>Commit to select and collect data for a set of common indicators and measures in partnership with other Memorial Fund grantees and the other funding partners.</p>
<p><b>Option 2b:</b> <b>Plan Development</b> Grants up to \$25,000</p>	<p>Commit to engage in the development of a comprehensive birth-to-age-8 community plan to improve results for all young children.</p> <p>Commit to a single early childhood collaborative that has merged, or is willing to merge all local early childhood entities or has a strategy to develop one.</p> <p>Commit to a results-based community decision making and accountability process.</p> <p>Commit to address early healthy development (physical, behavioral, oral) in the community plan.</p> <p>If separate groups, submit a joint application from the Discovery Collaborative and the School Readiness Council.</p> <p>Commit to participate in cross-site and on-site capacity building.</p>

## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP APPLICATION ABSTRACT

This grant presents an opportunity for the Town of Mansfield to continue to build and strengthen our local capacity to develop, enhance and implement our community-wide plan; a plan for creating a system of services and supports that is accessible to and supportive of young children and their families.

The comprehensive community plan that was developed by our Leadership Work Group focuses on all children birth to age eight and all the service systems that support healthy child development and early school success. The community plan is a road map for assessing and changing institutional policies and practices and provides community-wide accountability for results. Our plan focuses specifically on the areas of health, successful learning and community connectedness, and proposes the following strategies that are linked to the indicators that our collaborative has identified:

### HEALTH

#### Indicators:

- % of Mansfield Children passing the President's Physical Fitness test in grade 4
- % of Mansfield live births with non-adequate prenatal care
- % of days optimal food choices are offered in public school preschool classes

#### Strategies:

- Partner with EHHD to conduct walkability and bikeability audits within a one mile radius of town center and elementary schools.
- Partner with "Nurturing Families Network and other healthcare providers to identify and address barriers to adequate pre-natal care.
- Identify current practices and promote best practices for optimal food choices in public school preschool classrooms.

### SUCCESSFUL LEARNERS

#### Indicators:

- % of Mansfield children scoring level 3 or above on the Kindergarten Inventory.
- % of Mansfield 3<sup>rd</sup> graders reading at or above state goal on the CT Mastery Test.

#### Strategies:

- Collaborate with the Public Schools to develop a new Kindergarten Intake form to collect more detailed information on infant/toddler and preschool experience.
- Develop a system to collect and use data to better define concerns about literacy 0-8.
- Continue to strengthen partnerships between centers, home care, and public schools.

### COMMUNITY CONNECTEDNESS:

#### Indicators:

- % of Mansfield residents who indicate feeling a sense of connectedness to the community as evidenced by participation in programs and services.

#### Strategies:

- Develop a survey to gain baseline data on resident's experience of community connectedness.
- Improve communications.
- Improve transportation options.



**Town of Mansfield  
Agenda Item Summary**

**To:** Town Council  
**From:** Matt Hart, Town Manager *MattH*  
**CC:** Maria Capriola, Assistant to Town Manager; Gregory Padick, Director of Planning  
**Date:** February 22, 2010  
**Re:** Political Signs

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**Subject Matter/Background**

The Town Council requested that this item be placed on the agenda for discussion. I have attached related information, which we had previously disseminated to the Council.

**Attachments**

- 1) G. Padick re: Political Signage and Town property

**TOWN OF MANSFIELD**  
**OFFICE OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

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GREGORY J. PADICK, DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

Memo to: Matthew H. Hart, Mansfield Town Manager  
From: Gregory Padick, Director of Planning  
Date: February 3, 2010  
Re: Political signage and Town property



As previously communicated, the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) has been reviewing the Zoning Regulation provisions for political signs and plans to conduct a public hearing on proposed revisions to Mansfield's existing political sign regulations in April or May. At Monday's PZC meeting, the Commission reviewed the issue of political signs on Town property and decided to retain, as part of the draft regulation revision, an existing prohibition of political signs on Town property. This decision was reached after consultation with the Town Attorney. In conjunction with the PZC public hearing process, the draft regulation revisions will be forwarded to the Town Council for review and potential comment.

For your information, I have attached a 2/1/10 memo I prepared for the PZC after consultation with the Town Attorney regarding the regulation of political signs on Town property. I also have attached the current draft revision to the Zoning regulations that will be presented to the PZC at their 2/16/10 meeting.

**TOWN OF MANSFIELD  
OFFICE OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

GREGORY J. PADICK, DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

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Memo to: Mansfield Planning and Zoning Commission  
From: Gregory Padick, Director of Planning  
Date: February 1, 2010  
Re: Political signage and Town property



Based on an email and discussion with Town Attorney Dennis O'Brien, the following information is presented regarding the prohibition of political signs on Town property issue raised at the last meeting:

1. There is U.S. Supreme Court authority for the proposition that a town may in fact legally prohibit the posting of signs on town property. *City Council v. Taxpayers for Vincent*, 466 U.S. 789 (1984). The legal basis is that as long as there are ample other effective means for advertisers, politicians, and other purveyors of ideas to get their messages out via public or private means, it is okay for a town to ban all signs from public land. Per Connecticut General Statutes section 8-2, municipal property is subject to the regulatory authority of the PZC. Therefore, it would be legally acceptable and preferable in the opinion of the town attorney for the PZC to re-insert into the proposed Zoning Regulation regarding political signs the existing provision: "Political signs shall not be located on public property, including street rights-of-way."
2. The alternative approach the PZC may consider is to go to public hearing with the current draft provision that requires property owner approval for all political signs. This approach would effectively if less expressly prohibit political signs on Town property unless the Town Council, Mansfield's legislative body, establishes policy that authorizes such signage. The PZC could consult the Town Council prior to scheduling a public hearing on the subject regulation revision or alternatively, as is the PZC's standard policy, the PZC could refer the proposed sign regulation revisions to the Town Council in association with other public hearing referrals.

## February 3, 2010 DRAFT

### **Proposed Revisions to Article X, Section C.h.4 of Mansfield's Zoning Regulations Regarding Political Signs**

#### **Proposed Zoning Regulation Revisions**

Revise Article X, Section C.h.4 as follows:

1. Delete existing provisions.
2. Add the following new provisions:

4. Political Signs

Subject to obtaining property owner approval and compliance with the traffic safety criteria of Section C.7. of this Article, political signs on private property are authorized. Political signs shall not be located on public property, including street rights-of-way. To help reduce neighborhood impact and to help preserve Mansfield's scenic character, it is recommended that political signs be limited in size and number, be non-illuminated and be displayed for a limited period of time.

#### Explanatory Note:

The proposed Zoning Regulation amendment would eliminate current standards for political signs on private property which include restrictions on the number, size and period of time for display and limit the nature of a political sign. The proposed amendment retains an existing provision that prohibits political signs on public property. The proposed provision includes generic recommendations for political signs which are advisory and not mandatory. These recommendations are included to help reduce neighborhood impact and potential litter problems and to help preserve Mansfield's scenic character.

Town of Mansfield  
**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
Meeting of 20 January 2010  
Conference B, Audrey P. Beck Building  
**MINUTES**

*Members present:* Quentin Kessel, Scott Lehmann, John Silander, Frank Trainor. *Members absent:* Robert Dahn, Peter Drzewiecki, Joan Stevenson. *Others present:* Jackie D'Amato, Jake Friedman, Marcus Hilditch, William Okeson, Beverly Sims (regarding item 2); Grant Meitzler (staff).

1. The meeting was **called to order** at 7:30p by Chair Quentin Kessel.

2. **Ponde Place test wells.** Ponde Place LLC has had four test wells drilled on the property to determine whether there is sufficient ground water to supply 45K gpd. Water at high pressure has been injected into the test wells to fracture rock ("hydro-fracking") and liberate water. A 72-hour pump test, now underway, will conclude tomorrow. Neighbors D'Amato, Friedman, Hilditch, Okeson, & Sims expressed concerns about this activity:

- The test well permit requires monitoring a number of existing wells to determine whether pumping has adverse neighborhood effects. However, the wells closest to the test site are not being monitored: Ms. Sims' well was rejected for monitoring because the well-head was covered by an inch of surface water; Mr. Friedman refused to authorize monitoring because Ponde Place LLC would not agree to assume responsibility for any damage the nearby drilling and hydrofracking might cause to his well; Ms. D'Amato & Mr. Hilditch were not approached. Another neighbor dropped out of the monitoring program because her water turned brown after the probe was inserted in her well. {Meitzler suggested that iron deposits on the inside of the well casing might have been disturbed when the probe was inserted.} Since the wells most likely to be adversely affected by hydro-fracking and drawdown are not being monitored, why is the test proceeding?
- Access to the test site has been improved by bringing in fill to raise the bed of the woods road (extending N. from Northwood Rd) where it crosses a wetland. This may impact the wetland; is it authorized by the permit? {Meitzler thought that the required silt barriers were in place and would protect the wetland; he will take another look at the site.}
- The permit authorizes drilling four test wells only if the first two were inadequate, yet all seem to have been drilled at the same time. {Meitzler's impression is that the first two wells reached little water.}

The monitoring issue appears to be the most serious: if monitoring is inadequate, the pump test will have to be repeated, according to Meitzler. Neither the Commission nor anyone else at the meeting knew which wells were being monitored and whether there is reason to believe they are representative. The Commission will ask Greg Padick to clarify the situation. (D'Amato, Friedman, Hilditch, Okeson, & Sims left the meeting.)

3. The draft **minutes of the 16 December 2009 meeting** were approved as written.

4. **Joint Presentation to Town Council.** Representatives of the Open Space Committee, Parks Advisory Committee, and Conservation Commission will meet tomorrow to plan a presentation to the Town Council to remind Council members of the value of open space. Kessel will attend.

**5. UConn Hazardous Waste Transfer Station.** The proposed move of this facility from its current location E. of Horsebarn Hill to near UConn's sewage treatment plant is in limbo. The Commission believes that the transfer station should not be located where an accident or mischief could pollute the Fenton River and its aquifers. Kessel will ask Matt Hart to bring the issue to the Town-Gown Committee.

**6. Term Limits.** Current Town policy limits terms on committees to no more than ten years in a row (three 3-year terms), though this policy has not been enforced of late. Four current members of the Commission are not in compliance with this policy. The Commission is concerned that enforcement of this policy would make it difficult to assemble a quorum, since long-standing members tend to be more committed and requests that Alternate Members be named have gone unanswered.

**7. Streamflow Standards.** The DEP has proposed to regulate diversions from streams so that flows adequate for fish and other organisms are maintained. Connecticut's rivers and streams would be placed into four categories by condition, ranging from Class 1 ("having little current development in the watershed and having not been affected by the removal of water from human uses") to Class 4 ("where past practices have resulted in a significant deviation from the natural stream flow pattern and restoring these rivers and streams to a more natural condition would cause and extreme economic hardship"). Flow standards for Class 1 would aim to protect "ecological health"; those for Classes 2-4 would weigh human needs more & more heavily. Flow management plans to achieve these standards would be phased in over time.

While the proposed regulations seem generally good, Lehmann observed that Class 4 streams would essentially be written off: there would be little pressure to restore them to "a more natural condition." Written comments on the proposal will be accepted until 04 February 10.

**8. UConn stormwater management.** Kessel distributed a new revised version of the draft comment to DEP Commissioner Marrella on UConn's stormwater management plan. After some discussion, the Commission approved the letter, with minor editorial changes (motion: Silander, Trainor; all in favor save Lehmann, who abstained, citing insufficient time to consider whether reservations about the previous version had been adequately addressed).

**9. Mirror Lake dredging.** UConn has applied to DEP for a permit to dredge Mirror Lake to increase its capacity and improve water quality. Improvements to the spillway called for in the Stormwater Management Plan will be made at this time. Approximately 17.1 K cubic yards of sediment will be removed and dewatered in basins constructed near Rte.195. Clarified water will be pumped back into Mirror L, the dewatered sediment removed to somebody else's back yard. The Commission is concerned that returning nutrient rich water to Mirror Lake will nourish algal blooms there and in Roberts Brook; it wonders whether a limnologist was consulted in planning this project. Kessel will request that the DEP hold a public hearing in Storrs on the permit application.

**7. Adjourned** at 9:30p. Next meeting: Wednesday, 17 February 2010, 7:30p.

Scott Lehmann, Secretary, 21 January 2010; revised 22 January 2010.  
Approved 17 February 2010

TOWN OF MANSFIELD  
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES OF JANUARY 12, 2010

Members Present: W. Ryan, D. Keane

Other Council Members Present: none

Staff Present: C. Trahan

Guests: None

Meeting to order at 6:00pm.

1. Minutes from 12/28/09 meeting approved as presented
2. Cherie Trahan reviewed the budget process including a draft calendar, the format for the budget workshops and information sessions.
3. Cherie Trahan also reviewed the upcoming Financial & Budget Retreat. Items typically discussed are the current quarterly financials, current economic conditions and how they impact the financial status and outlook for the Town, current projections for the fiscal year, issues expected to impact the upcoming budget, and potential major initiatives.
4. Questions that were raised regarding the Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> quarterly financial statements were answered.
5. Other business also included a proposed Finance Committee schedule for 2010.
6. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 6:30pm.

Motions:

Motion was made to accept the December 28, 2009 minutes by Denise Keane.  
Seconded by Bill Ryan. Motion so passed.

Motion was made to approve the Finance Committee meeting schedule as proposed by Denise Keane. Seconded by Bill Ryan. Motion so passed.

Motion to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cherie Trahan  
Director of Finance

Mansfield Historic District Commission

Minutes, Meeting February 9, 2010

Members present: I. Atwood, A. Bacon, G. Bruhn, T. Holt and D. Spencer

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 P.M. by Chairperson Bruhn. Alternate Holt was declared a voting member for the meeting.

Bill Gray, of 93 Mansfield Hollow Road, attended the meeting. He has, on his property, an outbuilding which is beyond repair. He wishes to tear it down and replace it with a new construction. The building straddles the property line between his property and that of Rhoda Dyjak. She, too, wishes to have the building removed, but she has no plans to build a replacement. Mr. Gray was informed by the Commission that he needed to take several actions which are as follows:

- He needs to get his builder to supply him with detailed plans showing dimensions, materials and other pertinent design details for the new building.
- He needs a site plan to show building location. His original idea had been to build the new structure on the property line with Ms. Dyjak. He was told by the Commission that he needed to be at least 10 feet away from any property line. (Note: That may not be correct. So, he needs to talk with the Zoning Enforcement Officer. See below.)
- He needs to talk with the Zoning Enforcement Officer to determine where he can locate the building and what else, if anything, he needs to do.
- He needs to appear at a hearing which the Commission will hold at its next meeting, 3/9/10.

The minutes of the 1/12/10 meeting were approved.

Copies of Jack Nardi's report on "Support Materials needed when applying for a Certificate of Appropriateness" were distributed and a discussion followed. It was felt that this was a useful part of a definition of the materials needed by the Commission to consider applications for a C.of A. The Chair suggested that it would be useful to hold a workshop at which we could put together the numerous ideas which have been discussed over the months. The goal would be to arrive at a concise statement of what the Commission expects from applicants. The Chair will schedule a workshop.

The discussion of possible letters to historic districts residents was put off until the business of the workshop is successfully completed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Holt  
Acting Secretary

**Mansfield Commission on Aging Minutes**

**9:30 AM – Senior Center**

**Monday, January 11, 2010**

**PRESENT:** T. Quinn (Chair), K. Grunwald (staff), M. Gerling (staff), S. Gordon, Emile Poirier, J. Adamcik, C. Phillips, C. Pellegrine, W. Bigl, J. Quarto, T. Rogers (MSCA), A. Holinko, J. Scottron

**REGRETS:** M. Thatcher

- I. **Call to Order:** Chair T. Quinn called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.
- II. **Appointment of Recording Secretary:** K. Grunwald agreed to take minutes for the meeting.
- III. **Acceptance of Minutes:** The minutes of the **December 14** meeting with the correction in the spelling of Emile Poirier's name and the addition of Carol Phillips' name as being present.
- IV. **Correspondence – Chair and Staff:** none.
- V. **New Business**
  - A. **Long-Range Plan Review:** K. Grunwald distributed copies of the long-range plan for 2007-2010. C. Pellegrine feels that there is still much work that needs to be done in this plan. T. Quinn felt that the plan provides general direction, but K. Grunwald pointed out that there are specific action steps to address in each area. J. Quarto addressed the issue of supporting volunteer training to provide telephone reassurance, and questioned whether or not there is a need for this. C. Phillips believes that the need was not justified. How is a service like this publicized and promoted, and how does this tie back into other areas of the plan? Some questions re: what the role of the COA is in implementing this plan. The role of the COA is to recommend and advise, but not to actually implement the plan. J. Quarto questioned whether or not a service like telephone reassurance is happening within the senior residential communities (Jensen's, Glen Ridge, etc.), which it appears that it is. T. Quinn raised the question of how to publicize these services. C. Pellegrine reminded the group of the work that she and Mary Thatcher did on information dissemination and promotion, including using Sparks. T. Rogers clarified that Sparks is a communication of the Association, and has previously been edited by the Coordinator. K. Grunwald pointed out that the implementation of the Triad program should be included in the section on Safety & Security, and T. Quinn mentioned seeking the support of the Town Council for this. C. Phillips pointed out that the issue of safety is especially critical for seniors who are living alone outside of the senior residential communities. **K. Grunwald encouraged members to review the plan and come to the February meeting with specific additions and recommendations.**
  - B. "Other": none.

## VI. **Optional Reports** on Services/Needs of Town Aging Populations

### A. Health Care Services

Wellness Center and Wellness Program – Kevin Grunwald reported that an interview panel has been developed for the Senior Social Work position and interviews will be starting shortly.

### B. Social, Recreational and Educational

Senior Center – Marilyn Gerling introduced herself as the part-time interim Coordinator. She said that she is interested in working to bring factions together to make the Senior Center a positive place to attend.

Senior Center Assoc. – Tom Rogers reported that this has been a difficult time at the Senior Center and he thanked people for their assistance. The Association's Executive Board is scheduled to vote to recommend adoption of changes to the bylaws at their meeting this Wednesday.

### C. Housing

Assisted Living Advisory Committee: K. Grunwald reported that Masonicare has renewed their option to purchase the Warren property through 2011.

Wrights Way: J. Adamcik reminded members that they've been promised a bus shelter. W. Bigl said that it is on the agenda to follow-up in the Spring.

Juniper Hill: no report.

Jensen's Park: Emile Poirier will be representing Jensen's.

Glen Ridge: no report.

### D. Related Town and Regional Organizations such as:

Advisory Committee on the Needs of Persons with Disabilities: Members will be invited to attend the next meeting of the COA.

## VII. **Old Business**

- A. Long Range Plan for 2007- 2010: discussed in new business.
- B. Sub-Committee Report: New Senior Center- no discussion.
- C. Triad: no discussion.

## VIII. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:15. Next meeting: **Monday, February 8, 2010 at 9:30 AM** at the Senior Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Grunwald

**Mansfield Board of Education Meeting**  
**January 28, 2010**  
**Minutes**

**Attendees:** Mark LaPlaca, Chair, Chris Kueffner, Secretary, Martha Kelly, Katherine Paulhus, Carrie Silver-Bernstein, Randy Walikonis, Superintendent Fred Baruzzi, Director of Finance, Cherie Trahan, Board Clerk, Celeste Griffin

**Absent:** Holly Matthews, , Min Lin, Shamim Patwa

The meeting was called to order at 7:37pm by Mr. LaPlaca.

**PRESENTATION FOUR SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT:** Mr. Rick Lawrence, Lawrence Associates, discussed the Four Options the school building committee is researching for school renovations or building a new school. Following the presentation was a time for comments, questions, and answers.

**HEARING FOR VISITORS:** None

**COMMUNICATIONS:** None

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Personnel Committee: Mr. LaPlaca reported the committee met with the MEA Executive Council. EASTCONN Executive Board: Mrs. Paulhus reported that EASTCONN will celebrate its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**MMSA:** Sheryl Lambert, President, discussed the many fundraising activities and support provided to the school by this parent group.

**REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:**

- MMS Writing Center – Jeff Cryan and Julie White, writing center teacher, reported on the implementation of new program.
- Mathematics Curriculum – Karen Moylan, math consultant, reviewed the process and format of the proposed mathematics curriculum.
- Progress Reports – Mr. Baruzzi and the building principals discussed the progress reports and information provided to parents with the reports.
- 2010-2011 Proposed Budget - The building principals reviewed the Middle School and Elementary School Regular Programs.

Mrs. Paulhus left at 10:15pm

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**CONSENT AGENDA:** **MOTION** by Mr. Kueffner, seconded Mr. Walikonis that the following item for the Board of Education meeting of January 28, 2010 be approved or received for the record: **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor That the Mansfield Public Schools Board of Education approves the minutes of the January 21, 2010 Board meeting.

**HEARING FOR VISITORS:** None

**SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA:** None.

**MOTION** by Ms. Silver-Bernstein to adjourn at 11:10pm. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Celeste N. Griffin, Board Clerk

**MANSFIELD DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP  
ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION COMMITTEE  
Mansfield Downtown Partnership Offices  
Wednesday, December 2, 2009  
5:00 pm**

**MINUTES**

Present: David Woods, Andrew Ewalt, Marcia Firsick, Dee Goodrich, Pat Hempel, Janet Jones, Joe Muro, Kristin Schwab, and Betsy Paterson

Staff: Cynthia van Zelm and Kathleen Paterson

**1. Call to Order**

David Woods called the meeting to order at 5:04 pm.

**2. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

Betsy Paterson moved to approve the minutes from the September 20 meeting and the July 28 meeting.

Dee Goodrich seconded the motion.

The Committee approved both sets of minutes.

**4. Update on Storrs Center Project including communications**

Cynthia van Zelm reported that eight businesses have signed letters of intent for the first phase of Storrs Center and that several more are in negotiations with the master developer, LeylandAlliance. She said the Town of Mansfield and BL Companies are in the design phase for Storrs Road.

**5. Review of Communications Plan**

Ms. Goodrich suggested several promotional ideas, including participating in ESPN's College Game Day, which will be held for the first time for women's basketball on January 16 at UConn.

Marcia Firsick offered to work with Kathleen Paterson on setting up a Constant Contact account for the Partnership; she has used the service for the UConn Co-op and has had a positive experience.

**6. Review of the Committee Charge**

Ms. van Zelm explained that each of the Partnership's committees will be reviewing their charges and revising them if necessary. She asked the Committee for their feedback.

After some discussion, the Committee agreed by consensus on a few changes to the charge:

- Change “Establish working relationships. . .” to “Maintain working relationships. . .”
- Change “Build a strong network. . .” to “Strengthen and expand a network. . .”
- Change “. . .reverse negative attitudes and build on positive perceptions.” to “. . .improve public awareness and perception.”
- Add a new bullet point: “Coordinate publicity and marketing efforts with the Membership Development Committee.”

Ms. Paterson moved to accept the revised charge.

Ms. Jones seconded the motion.

The Committee approved the charge unanimously.

### **7. Update on Winter Fun Day**

Ms. K. Paterson said that the Fourth Annual Winter Fun Day will be Saturday, February 13 from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm in front of the Mansfield Community Center. She noted that the event has been moved from Sunday to Saturday so that it may be held earlier in the day. She reported that the following activities have been confirmed: horse drawn wagon rides, ice sculptures, the “Wacky Hat Contest,” and ice skating (weather permitting). She added that there will be some new activities, including a couple indoors, that will be confirmed in the coming weeks.

### **8. Discuss Arts and Crafts Fair**

Ms. K. Paterson explained that the idea for an arts and crafts fair was born out of the requests she received while planning the *Festival on the Green* and discussions from community members who were interested in such an event. She said that she had begun researching similar events and thought an arts and crafts fair would be successful in Mansfield.

After some discussion, the Committee expressed their support for such an event and their desire to allow for sufficient planning and preparation. The Committee recommended that an arts and crafts fair should be planned for the spring of 2011.

### **9. Discuss Spring Newsletter**

Ms. K. Paterson said that the spring newsletter will be published in early April and asked the Committee for content suggestions.

Ms. Jones suggested mentioning the arts and crafts fair, to get people interested.

Pat Hempel suggested reviewing Winter Fun Day and including photos of past events.

Ms. Paterson suggested including a “Save the Date” message for the *Festival on the Green*.

### **10. Discuss Tote Bags**

Ms. van Zelm said that the idea of a Partnership tote bag first surfaced while discussing possible membership incentives with the Membership Committee, who thought the topic would be better addressed by the Advertising and Promotion Committee.

The Committee decided to table the idea for the time being but to consider it as a possible promotional effort for the opening of the first phase of Storrs Center.

#### **11. Set meeting dates for 2010**

Ms. van Zelm will work with Dean Woods' office to confirm the future dates and will email the Committee with the dates.

#### **12. Other**

Ms. van Zelm noted that the Committee has two open positions that may be filled (but are not required to be filled).

Ms. Paterson suggested adding a piece about serving on committees to the spring newsletter.

#### **13. Adjourn**

Ms. Hempel moved to adjourn.

Mr. Muro seconded the motion.

The motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 pm.

*Minutes prepared by Kathleen M. Paterson*

To: Town Council Planning & Zoning Commission  
 From: Curt Hirsch, Zoning Agent   
 Date: February 9, 2010

Re: **Monthly Report of Zoning Enforcement Activity**  
*For the month of January, 2010*

Activity	This month	Last month	Same month last year	This fiscal year to date	Last fiscal year to date
Zoning Permits issued	4	7	4	70	84
Certificates of Compliance issued	12	13	12	65	91
Site inspections	39	53	35	293	346
Complaints received from the Public	0	3	2	23	39
Complaints requiring inspection	1	3	2	20	23
Potential/Actual violations found	5	6	1	37	18
Enforcement letters	19	18	8	79	72
Notices to issue ZBA forms	2	0	1	6	4
Notices of Zoning Violations issued	1	4	1	28	32
Zoning Citations issued	10	8	0	35	7

Zoning permits issued this month for single family homes = 0, multi-fm = 0  
 2009/10 fiscal year total: s-fm = 8, multi-fm = 8

TOWN/UNIVERSITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE  
Tuesday, January 12, 2010  
Audrey Beck Municipal Building, Council Chambers

Minutes

Present: P. Barry, M. Beal, R. Ganim, T. Haggerty, M. Hart, J. Hintz, R. Hudd, E. Paterson, J. Saddlemire, S. Rhodes, N. Silander, W. Simpson

Staff: M. Capriola, J. Jackman, J. Kodzis, G. Padick  
(UCONN) R. Miller, A. Rowe, I. Hart, Dean G. Weidemann

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 4:04 pm.

2. December 9, 2009 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Simpson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hintz to adopt the minutes of December 9, 2009 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Spring Weekend 2010 Planning Update

Chief Hudd provided an update. State, Town, and University agencies have met to discuss the recommendations from the Spring Weekend report. The agencies are exploring the feasibility and logistics of implementing the recommendations.

4. USDA/UCONN Project

Dean G. Weidemann (College of Agriculture and Natural Resources) provided an overview of the proposed Animal Health Research Center project. The \$30 million facility, a partnership between UCONN and the USDA, would be constructed at no cost to Connecticut taxpayers. The single story facility would be 35,000 sq. ft. and have office and lab space as well as an attached holding barn for up to 84 animals. The Depot campus was selected for the facility because of its space, utilities, bus service, parking, and proximity to campus. The facility would be a USDA facility operating on leased UCONN land. UCONN will provide animal feed and waste disposal that is consistent with its existing systems and practices.

The lab will conduct work to improve vaccines for animal health. This lab would be the 12<sup>th</sup> research lab for the USDA that deals with animal health; many similar labs are on other university campuses such as Penn State and the University of Georgia. The work will focus on how healthy animals react to experimental vaccinations. This will be a low biological safety level (BSL2). There will be no diseased animals at the facility nor will there be any disease causing organisms above BSL2 (limited to agents of moderate risk commonly found).

The facility will add research personnel, strengthen the partnership/collaboration on animal vaccine research between UCONN and the USDA, and will likely attract

additional funding and high-tech jobs. Connecticut's congressional delegation supports the project.

There will be an opportunity for public input as well as a public information session. The information session will be held in February. The USDA will drive this process since the lab will be their facility.

5. 2010 Meeting Schedule.

The Committee explored switching the day it meets for regular meetings. At this time, no decision was made to alter the 2010 regular meeting schedule (adopted in November). The Committee will next meet Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 4pm.

6. Updates:

A. Mansfield Downtown Partnership (MDP). Mr. Rhodes provided an update.

Winter Fun Day activities are scheduled for February 13<sup>th</sup> from 11am-2pm at the Mansfield Community Center. An RFQ for intermodal garage 1 is being prepared. The Planning and Design Committee meets January 19<sup>th</sup>.

B. Mansfield Community Campus Partnership (MCCP). Mr. Hintz reported on the UMASS Amherst community campus partnership presentation held in December. MCCP meets Thursday January 14<sup>th</sup> and will discuss the ideas explored in the UMASS presentation.

C. Quality of Life Committee. Mr. Rhodes and Mayor Paterson provided an update. The Committee is researching/discussing the idea of a tenant registry. The Committee made a recommendation to Council to add site parking plans to the landlord registration process (parking ordinance). Council has scheduled a public hearing on the ordinance for January 25, 2010 at 7:30pm in Council Chambers.

7. Other Business/Announcements

None.

8. Opportunity for the Public to Address the Committee

None.

9. Meeting adjourned at 4:45pm

Next Meeting: February 9, 2010

Respectfully Submitted,  
Maria Capriola, Assistant to Town Manager

TOWN OF MANSFIELD  
Joint Meeting of Ethics Board & Personnel Committee  
Thursday, January 7, 2010  
Audrey Beck Municipal Building, Conference Room B  
4:30pm

**Minutes**

*As Adopted by the Personnel Committee at their 1/25/10 meeting*

**Ethics Board Members Present:** Lena Barry, Nancy Cox (Chair), David Ferrero, Saul Nesselroth, Mike Sikoski, Win Smith, Nora Stevens

**Personnel Committee Members Present:** Gregg Haddad (Chair), Peter Kochenburger, Christopher Paulhus, Elizabeth Paterson (Mayor, ex-officio member)

**Staff Present:** Maria Capriola, Assistant to Town Manager

I. DISCUSSION OF ETHICS BOARD'S RECOMMENDED REVISIONS TO ETHICS CODE  
Members of the Personnel Committee made inquiries regarding the recommendations presented by the Ethics Board as follows:

- What was the basis, research for the recommended revisions (Kochenburger)?
  - Board responded that they reviewed model codes and reviewed the 2004 study conducted by Common Cause regarding ethics codes in Connecticut. The Personnel Committee requested Ms. Capriola to provide the Committee copies of the "model code," state work group municipal model code, and the 2004 study conducted by Common Cause.
- Should the Board adopt interpretive (gloss) commentary (Kochenburger)?
  - Board responded that the intent was to create a clean, simple document tailored to Mansfield's needs. An interpretive gloss is something that can be considered.
- Section 25-1 and 25-2 – no discussion.
- Section 25-3
  - 25-3E – Does the immediate family definition extend to a brother or sister whom does not reside with an official or employee (Haddad)? Would recommend making the definition into two sentences.
    - Board responded "yes."
  - 25-3C – Should "substantial segment" be defined (Kochenburger)?
    - Board responded by describing intent of language; public benefit v. direct personal benefit.
  - 25-3F – The definition of "financial sense" is clear, but "personal sense" is not. What would be an example of an indirect or direct personal benefit that is not also a financial benefit? Is "personal sense" needed (Haddad)?
    - Board responded that it had attended training after it had submitted its recommendations to the Personnel Committee. In that training, it was recommended that any reference to "personal sense" be removed from codes of ethics. No member was able to think of an example of an indirect or direct personal benefit that would not also fall under "financial sense."
  - 25-3G – The sentence on court officials can be removed since probate officials are state employees.

- 25-3H – Many council members and elected officials are current or retired employees of the State of Connecticut, including the University of Connecticut. What guidance can the Board give to council members and elected officials who are employed by the state? When would recusal be appropriate (Haddad)?
  - Board reviewed the proposed language on recusal. The Board can also issue an advisory opinion on this issue for clarification. Mr. Kochenburger stated that very few state employees can be considered to have an ownership interest in the state and perhaps that can be part of the discussion. Mr. Haddad requested Ms. Capriola to inquire with the State as to cases, guidelines, etc. they may have on similar matters.
- Section 25-4
  - 25-4A – Insert the word “requests” in last sentence (Kochenburger).
  - 25-4B(3) – Review of appearances. Last sentence needs to be reviewed to ensure that the first amendment is not violated (Haddad & Kochenburger).
    - Board responded that people are entitled to their free speech, but that officials need to distinguish between their private opinion as an individual v. the opinion of the body they serve with.
  - 25-4B(6) – Review of nepotism provisions (Paulhus).
    - Board provided overview of proposed language regarding nepotism and the waiver process.
  - 25-4B(4) – Clarification for political solicitation. Makes sense to extend to municipal employees, but not to elected officials or other officials (Haddad).
  - 25-4C(6)a – There should be high public grounds for requiring disclosure of officials and employees. Why candidates for political office? Why political party committee officers (Haddad)?
    - Board responded that this provision is meant to be proactive (to avoid potential issues) as opposed to reactive.
  - 25-4C(6)b – Should personal interest be replaced with conflict of interest in the recusal provision (Kochenburger)?
  - Conflict of interest should clearly address/define the ability of officials and employees to serve on multiple committees or boards.
- Sections 25-5, 25-6, 25-7, 25-8 – no discussion.
- Section 25-9A – add “employee” - to be last word in sentence.
- Next Steps:
  - Ethics Board to make further recommendations based on discussion at 1/7/10 joint meeting and submit to Personnel Committee
  - Personnel Committee takes over review of the Ethics Code; may seek consultation from the Board from time to time on particular issues.
  - After Personnel Committee and legal review, an endorsed version is submitted to the Council as a whole for review and consideration.

## II. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:03 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Maria E. Capriola, Assistant to Town Manager

TOWN OF MANSFIELD  
Joint Meeting of Ethics Board & Personnel Committee  
Thursday, January 7, 2010  
Audrey Beck Municipal Building, Conference Room B  
4:30pm

**Minutes**

*As Adopted by Ethics Board at their 2/4/10 meeting*

**Ethics Board Members Present:** Lena Barry, Nancy Cox (Chair), David Ferrero, Saul Nesselroth, Mike Sikoski, Win Smith, Nora Stevens

**Personnel Committee Members Present:** Gregg Haddad (Chair), Peter Kochenburger, Christopher Paulhus, Elizabeth Paterson (Mayor, ex-officio member)

**Staff Present:** Maria Capriola, Assistant to Town Manager

I. DISCUSSION OF ETHICS BOARD'S RECOMMENDED REVISIONS TO ETHICS CODE  
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- Should the Board adopt interpretive (gloss) commentary (Kochenburger)?
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- Section 25-1 and 25-2 – no discussion.
  
- Section 25-3
  - 25-3E – Does the immediate family definition extend to a brother or sister who does not reside with an official or employee (Haddad)? Would recommend making the definition into two sentences.
    - Board responded "yes."
  - 25-3C – Should "substantial segment" be defined (Kochenburger)?
    - Board responded by describing intent of language; public benefit v. direct personal benefit.
  - 25-3F – The definition of "financial sense" is clear, but "personal sense" is not. What would be an example of an indirect or direct personal benefit that is not also a financial benefit? Is "personal sense" needed (Haddad)?
    - Board responded that it had attended training after it had submitted its recommendations to the Personnel Committee. In that training, it was recommended that any reference to "personal sense" be removed from codes of ethics. No member was able to think of an example of an indirect or direct personal benefit that would not also fall under "financial sense."
  - 25-3G – The sentence on court officials can be removed since probate officials are state employees.

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  - Conflict of interest should clearly address/define the ability of officials and employees to serve on multiple committees or boards.
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  - Personnel Committee takes over review of the Ethics Code; may seek consultation from the Board from time to time on particular issues.
  - After Personnel Committee and legal review, an endorsed version is submitted to the Council as a whole for review and consideration.

## II. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:03 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Maria E. Capriola, Assistant to Town Manager

TOWN OF MANSFIELD  
Joint Meeting of Ethics Board & Personnel Committee  
Thursday, January 7, 2010  
Audrey Beck Municipal Building, Conference Room B  
6:10pm

**Minutes**

Members Present: Lena Barry, Nancy Cox (Chair), David Ferrero, Mike Sikoski, Win Smith, Nora Stevens

Staff Present: Maria Capriola, Assistant to Town Manager, Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

**I. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ric Hossack, Middle Turnpike Road. Spoke to his objections to member appointments to the Board.

**II. COMMUNICATIONS**

By consensus the Board moved the agenda item labeled "communications" to #2 on the agenda.

Ms. Stanton was asked to comment on the Committee on Committees minutes of December 21, 2009. Ms. Stanton was asked by the Committee's Chair, Toni Moran to invite members of the Ethics Board to the Committee's meeting on January 19, 2009 at 7pm in Conference Room C. The Committee will review and discuss the Board's memo to the Committee: re recommendations for vetting Ethics Board members and role of staff.

**III. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

a. pending claims and litigation – (FOI Complaint Docket #FIC 2009-627)

b. pending claims and litigation – (FOI Complaint Docket #FIC 2009-690)

Ms. Stevens made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ferrero to move the agenda item labeled "executive session..." to #3 on the agenda. The motion passed with no objections. Ms. Stevens made a motion, seconded by Mr. Smith to enter into executive session. The motion passed with no objections. All Board members in attendance were present during the session, as were Ms. Capriola and Ms. Stanton. The Board entered executive session at 6:33pm. The Board re-entered public session at 6:40pm (approximately).

**IV. FAQ Brochure**

Ms. Stevens made a motion, seconded by Mr. Smith to table "FAQ Brochure" to a future agenda. The motion passed with no objections.

**V. DISCUSSION OF JOINT MEETING HELD BETWEEN THE ETHICS BOARD AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

Ms. Barry and Mr. Ferrero left the meeting at 6:42pm due to scheduling conflicts. Members voting on matters under agenda items #5-7 were Cox, Sikoski, Smith, and Stevens.

Additional recommendations to be made to Personnel Committee:

- 25-3G – Mr. Smith made a motion, seconded by Ms. Stevens to add, "(Official does not mean) a member of an advisory board if, but only if, the advisory board has no authority to implement its recommendations or to act on behalf of the Town or to restrict the authority of the Town to act." Cox, Smith, Stevens voted in favor, Sikoski opposed. Motion passes.
- 25-3F- Mr. Sikoski made a motion, seconded by Mr. Smith to delete "personal" from the definition in 25-3F but not throughout the document. The motion passed with no

objections. However, discussion later occurred as to the intent of the meaning behind "throughout the document." Mr. Sikoski had intended for "throughout the document" to mean that personal sense should be left in other sections of the code. Other members had thought it meant that the motion was specific to 25-3F only and that "personal sense" in other sections of the code would be addressed separately.

- 25-3C – Ms. Cox made a motion, seconded by Mr. Smith for 25-3C to read, "Use of his or her position/office by an official or employee in a manner in which he or she knows may result in a financial benefit not shared with a substantial segment of the Town's population for any of the following." Smith and Cox voted in favor, Sikoski and Stevens opposed. Motion failed.

Ms. Stevens offered an alternative to the original motion. Ms. Stevens made a motion seconded by Ms. Cox for 25-3C to read, "An official or employee's use of his/her position may not result in a financial benefit not shared with a substantial segment of the Town's population for any of the following." Cox, Smith, and Stevens voted in favor with Sikoski opposed. Motion passes.

- 25-3E – Mr. Smith made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sikoski for 25-3E to read, "Any parent, brother, sister, child, spouse or co-habiting partner of an individual. The parent, brother, sister or child of said spouse or co-habiting partner. Also, the spouse or co-habiting partner of any such child or any dependent relative who resides in said individual's household." The motion passed with no objections.
- 25-3H – By consensus, the Board decided it would defer further discussion of the definition for outside employer or business to the Personnel Committee.
- 25-4A – By consensus, the Board decided to revise the last sentence of 25-4A to read, "This applies not only to objects such as cars and trucks, but also to travel and other expense reimbursement requests."
- 25-4B(3) – Mr. Smith made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sikoski to delete the last sentence in 25-4B3. All voted in favor with no objections. Motion passes.
- 25-4C(6) - By consensus, the Board decided it would defer further discussion of annual disclosure to the Personnel Committee.
- 25-4C(6)(b)i – By consensus the Board decided to change the first sentence to read, "An official or employee must refrain from acting on or discussing a matter before the Town, if acting on the matter, or failing to act on the matter represents a conflict of interest."
- 25-9A – By consensus the Board decided to change 25-9A to read, "In order that all public officials and employees are aware of what constitutes ethical conduct in the operations of the government of the Town of Mansfield, appropriate officials shall make available a copy of this Code of Ethics to each official and employee.
- Ms. Stevens made a motion, seconded by Mr. Smith that the, "Proposed revisions as amended be sent to the Personnel Committee and to note in the forwarding copy that the Board chose not to address outside employer under definitions and annual disclosure statement by candidates for public office." All voted in favor with no objections. Motion passes.

#### VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 12/3/09 MEETING

Ms. Stevens made a motion seconded by Mr. Sikoski to adopt the minutes of December 3, 2009. The motion passed with no objections.

#### VII. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Stevens made a motion seconded by Mr. Smith to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed with no objections. The meeting adjourned at 7:13pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Maria E. Capriola, Assistant to Town Manager

PAGE  
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**TOWN OF MANSFIELD**  
Office of the Human Services Department

---

Kevin Grunwald, MSW, Director  
Kathy Ann Easley, MSW, Social Worker  
  
Karen L. Taylor, Admin Assistant

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING  
FOUR SOUTH EAGLEVILLE RD  
MANSFIELD, CT 06268-2599  
(860) 429-3315  
Fax: (860) 429-7785  
Email: [HumanServ@mansfieldct.org](mailto:HumanServ@mansfieldct.org)

February 2, 2010

Matt Hart, Town Manager

Dear Matt:

Wow! A very simple word, but it seems to be the best way to express the Mansfield Department of Human Services gratitude for the immense outpouring of love, caring and generosity to assist Mansfield families' this holiday season.

Last year's participation and enthusiasm was exceeded in a manner that was unprecedented. This year, more than 60 families' holiday celebrations were enriched and their wishes fulfilled by the personalized gifts they received. Many families were visibly overwhelmed, left speechless and tearful by the obvious signs of dedication and commitment from their community.

Without you, the Holiday Giving Program would not have been successful. On behalf of all these families and the staff of the Department of Human Services, Thank You!

Sincerely,

Kathy Ann Easley  
Holiday Program Coordinator

PAGE  
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LEGAL NOTICE  
TOWN OF MANSFIELD

In accordance with Section 7-349 of the Connecticut General Statutes, notice is hereby given that the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Town of Mansfield and the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for Regional School District 19 for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009, which were prepared under the Director of Finance and audited by Blum, Shapiro & Company P.C., 29 South Main Street, West Hartford, CT, are on file and open for public inspection in the Office of the Town Clerk, 4 South Eagleville Road, Mansfield, Connecticut.

Dated at Mansfield, Connecticut, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of February 2010.

Mary Stanton  
Town Clerk, Mansfield

PAGE  
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LEGAL NOTICE  
EASTERN HIGHLANDS HEALTH DISTRICT  
AUDIT REPORT

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Financial Report of the Eastern Highlands Health District for the year ending June 30, 2009, which was prepared under the Board of Directors and audited by Blum Shapiro & Company, 29 Main Street West Hartford, CT, is on file and open for public inspection in the Offices of the Town Clerk in Andover, Ashford, Bolton, Chaplin, Columbia, Coventry, Mansfield, Scotland, Tolland and Willington.

Dated at Mansfield, Connecticut this 16th day of February 2010.

Mary Stanton  
Town Clerk, Mansfield

PAGE  
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**Mansfield Public Schools**  
**Board of Education Goals – 2009-2010**  
**Revised 1/21/10**

Item # 10

I. Help every student to be a confident and successful learner.

A. Engage and motivate every student.

Sample Strategies:

- Offer comprehensive extra curricular activities, especially in Middle School
- Review/implementation of Progress Report/Progress Report software
- Career awareness presentations

Sample Evidence:

- Progress report/report card effort grade summaries
- Extra curricular activities program and attendance data
- Data collected through survey(s)

B. Improve, as appropriate, reading, writing, and mathematics skills and abilities in every student.

Sample Strategies:

- Direct Instruction for skill development
- Frequent review of student work by grade level/subject teachers and support staff
- RTI/SRBI\* procedures
- Teaching and time management strategies

Sample Evidence:

- CMT scores (as part of district testing report)
- District reading, writing, and mathematics achievement
- Progress report/report card achievement levels

C. Ensure student safety, health, and well-being.

Sample Strategies:

- continual staff training in precautions and response
- Direct student instruction through health program

Sample Evidence:

- School student accident data
- School health data

\* RTI/SRBI: *Response to Intervention/Scientific Research-Based Intervention*

II. Attract, hire, and retain qualified and motivated professional staff.

Sample Strategies:

- Promote the Mansfield Public Schools to highly qualified educators
- Participate in local and/or regional recruiting opportunities
- Continually review and/or refine staff selection process
- Develop professional development based on individual/group needs

Sample Evidence:

- Recruiting data
- Specific professional development, growth opportunities offered

III. Monitor and regularly assess the District's status and requirements with respect to the quality of facilities, sufficiency of space, level of security, adequacy of maintenance, and reliability of student transportation.

Sample Strategies:

- Prioritize space, security, and maintenance needs
- Focus maintenance efforts by building and/or priority
- Act on recommendations of School Building Committee

Sample Evidence:

- Rated capacity vs. current use
- Tools for Schools
- Work order data including response time
- Issues related to school security

IV. Foster and increase communication between the Board of Education and the communities it serves.

Sample Strategies:

- Provide school/district information in multiple formats and multiple locations:
- Provide multiple avenues for parent/community interaction
- Mail upcoming Board packets and agendas to PTO/A presidents.
- Expand internet access to of Board of Ed and District events, news and data

Sample Evidence:

- School/District written communications sent to parents and/or community
- School/District face-to-face presentations regarding program and/or educational issues
- Periodic visits by Board members to school PTO/A meetings and/or school events.

V. Reduce energy consumption and generally minimize the District's environmental impact.

Sample Strategies:

- Limit use of buildings after regular school hours without impacting school/town programs
- Provide energy consumption and cost information to staff, students, and parents on a frequent basis
- Promote and encourage staff and/or student initiatives regarding energy conservation
- Complete and monitor fuel conversion project at MMS
- Employ organic turf maintenance methods
- Consider environmental effects and consequences of siting and location when planning renovations and/or construction projects

Sample Evidence:

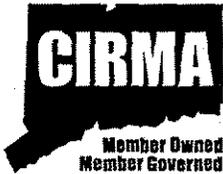
- School/District energy conservation measures implemented
- Monthly energy reports
- Participation in buying locally produced food through DOAG Farm-to-Schools

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**BUDGET REVIEW CALENDAR  
FOR BUDGET YEAR 2009-10**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>ITEM</u>
Mar. 22	Mon 7:30 PM	Budget Presented to Town Council - Regular Meeting - Council Chambers - Beck Building - Introduction to the Budget & Review of Process
Mar. 25	Thu 7:00 PM	Council Budget Workshop - Council Chambers - Beck Building - Major Cost Drivers - Policy changes & initiatives (Issue Papers) - Discussion questions
Mar. 31	Wed 6:30 PM	Council Budget Workshop - Council Chambers - Beck Building - Board of Education budget - General Fund Revenue Review - Programmatic Review (review narratives) = General Government/Town Wide (Including Contrib. To Area Agencies) = Public Safety = Community Services = Community Development = Education
Apr. 1	Thu 7:00 PM	Public Information Session on Mgr's budget - Council Chambers - Beck Building
Apr. 5	Mon 6:30 PM	Council Budget Workshop - Question & Answer Session - Buchanan Auditorium - Mansfield Public Library - Operating Transfers to Other Funds = Parks & Recreation Fund = Debt Service Fund = Downtown Partnership - Internal Service Funds - Health Insurance, Worker's Compensation & Management Services = Health Insurance Fund = Worker's Compensation Fund = Management Services Fund - Other Agencies/Funds = Day Care Fund = Eastern Highlands Health District = Cemetery Fund/Long Term Investment Pool
Apr. 8	Thu 7:00 PM	Council Budget Workshop - Council Chambers - Beck Building - Capital Improvement Program - Capital Nonrecurring Fund - Solid Waste Fund and Town Aid Road Fund - Sewer Funds
Apr. 12	Mon 7:30 PM	Public Hearing on Budget Council Chambers - Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
Apr. 15	Thu 6:30 PM	Council Budget Workshop - Additional Q & A Session - Board of Education discussion with Board (before Board's regular meeting) Council Chambers - Beck Building
Apr. 19- 23		School Break
Apr. 19	Mon 7:30 PM	Adoption of Budget and Recommended Appropriations Mansfield Senior Center - Arts & Crafts Room
Apr. 20	Tue 7:30 PM	Adoption of Budget and Recommended Appropriations (if necessary) Council Chambers - Beck Building
Apr. 21	Wed 7:00 PM	Public Information Session #2 Buchanan Auditorium - Mansfield Public Library
May 11	Tue 7:00 PM	Annual Town Meeting Mansfield Middle School Auditorium

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**CONNECTICUT  
INTERLOCAL  
RISK  
MANAGEMENT  
AGENCY**

900 Chapel Street, 9th Floor  
New Haven, Connecticut 06510-2807  
Telephone: 203-946-3700 | Fax: 203-773-6971  
www.cirma.org

REC'D FEB 10

Item #12

February 4, 2010

Ms. Maria E. Capriola  
Assistant to the Town Manager  
Town of Mansfield  
Beck Municipal Building,  
4 So. Eagleville Rd.  
Mansfield, CT 06268

Re: 2010 CIRMA Annual Meeting

Dear Ms. Capriola:

On behalf of CIRMA, thank you for contributing your time and talent to the 2010 CIRMA Annual Meeting as a presenter for the workshop *Pre-Employment Physicals: A Winning Approach to Hiring*.

We appreciate the work that you put into this session, and we know the attendees appreciated it.

Again, thank you for sharing your time and expertise.

Sincerely,

Karen E. Tammaro  
Administrative Associate

cc: David Demchak, CIRMA Vice President Risk Management Services and  
Business Development  
Joey Barbera, CIRMA Senior Risk Management Consultant  
Luc Pentz, CIRMA Risk Management Consultant

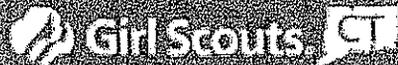


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# Girl Scout Week Proclamation Request

If this e-mail does not display properly, please view our [online version](#).  
To ensure receipt of our e-mail, please add [general@gsofct.org](mailto:general@gsofct.org) to your address book.

Item #13



February 17, 2010

Dear Mayor/First Selectman,

This year marks Girl Scouts of the USA's 98th anniversary and Girl Scouts of Connecticut is proud to be a part of this exciting movement which brings courage, confidence, and character to over 44,000 girls and 20,000 adults around the state of Connecticut.

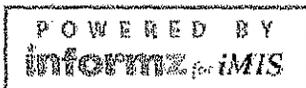
Please join us in celebrating this great accomplishment by proclaiming the week of March 7, 2010 as Girl Scout Week. You may [click here](#) to find the 2010 Girl Scout Week Proclamation and customize it to your city or town. Local Girl Scouts will be contacting you to set up a meeting to receive the proclamation. If a Girl Scout has not yet approached you to set up a meeting time, please contact Barbara Connors at [bconnors@gsofct.org](mailto:bconnors@gsofct.org) who will put you in touch with Girl Scouts in your city or town or answer any questions you may have.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

For more information on Girl Scouts of Connecticut,  
please visit us online at [www.gsofct.org](http://www.gsofct.org).

**Girl Scouts of Connecticut**

340 Washington Street, Hartford, CT 06106  
Phone - 860-522-0163 | Fax - 860-548-0325 | [Unsubscribe](#)



### Girl Scout Week Proclamation

WHEREAS, March 12, marks the 98th anniversary of Girl Scouts of the USA, founded by Juliette Gordon Low in 1912 in Savannah, Georgia; and,

WHEREAS, throughout its distinguished history, Girl Scouting has inspired millions of girls and women with the highest ideals of courage, confidence, and character; and,

WHEREAS, through the Girl Scout leadership experience girls develop the skills and lessons that will serve them a lifetime so that they may contribute to their communities; and,

WHEREAS, Girl Scouting takes an active role in increasing girls' awareness of the opportunities available to them today in math, science, sports, technology and other fields that can expand their horizons; and,

WHEREAS, more than 3 million current Girl Scout members nationwide will be celebrating 98 years of this American tradition, with nearly 50 million women who are former Girl Scouts and living proof of the impact of this amazing Movement;

NOW, THEREFORE, I (name of mayor, etc.), by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of (name of municipality), do hereby applaud the commitment Girl Scouting has made to support the leadership development of America's girls and proudly proclaim the week of March 7, 2010, as Girl Scout Week.



Item #14

Since 1961.

January 28, 2010

Elizabeth C. Paterson  
Mayor of Storrs-Mansfield

Dear Mayor Paterson:

The Peace Corps will celebrate its 49<sup>th</sup> anniversary to commemorate the March 1, 1961 signing of the Executive Order establishing the agency. We would like to invite you to participate in our anniversary celebration by issuing a proclamation pronouncing the week of March 1 through 7, 2010 as Peace Corps Week in Storrs-Mansfield. This proclamation would pay tribute to the more than 3073 men and women from Connecticut who have served as Peace Corps Volunteers since 1961, and who continue to build a legacy of service for the next generation. The Peace Corps would be most honored if you could issue such a proclamation. Attached you will find draft language of a proclamation for your use.

Forty-eight years after its inception, the Peace Corps continues to recruit American citizens to be Volunteers. Today, Volunteers spend two years living and working alongside local people in 76 countries - fulfilling the mission articulated more than four decades ago. The Peace Corps' 49th anniversary represents a significant opportunity to expand the public's awareness of the Peace Corps and to pay tribute to the contributions Americans have made to the cause of peace and human progress in 139 countries around the world.

As the Peace Corps approaches its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, its service legacy continues to promote peace and friendship around the world. Connecticut residents continue to be a rich source of committed and talented Peace Corps Volunteers for assignments in the areas of education, health and HIV/AIDS, information technology, business development, agriculture, and the environment. We hope you can join us in honoring their volunteer service and in commemorating the Peace Corps' anniversary by proclaiming March 1 through 7, 2010 as Peace Corps Week. Please do not hesitate to contact Molly Levine at 212-352-5446 with your inquiries or if you would like to participate in our anniversary events.

Thank you for your generous consideration of this request and for your support of the Peace Corps.

Sincerely,

Vincent Wickes  
Regional Manager

Enclosure



Since 1961.

(Sample Language for a Proclamation)

City of Storrs-Mansfield

## A PROCLAMATION

Peace Corps Week: March 1-7, 2010

WHEREAS: The Peace Corps has become an enduring symbol of our nation's commitment to encourage progress, create opportunity, and expand development at the grass-roots level in the developing world; and

WHEREAS: More than 195,000 Americans have served as Peace Corps Volunteers in 139 countries since 1961; and

WHEREAS: Over the past 49 years, 3073 men and women from the state of Connecticut have responded to our nation's call to serve by joining the Peace Corps; and

WHEREAS: Peace Corps Volunteers have made significant and lasting contributions around the world in agriculture, business development, information technology, education, health and HIV/AIDS, and the environment, and have improved the lives of individuals and communities around the world; and

WHEREAS: Peace Corps Volunteers have strengthened the ties of friendship and understanding between the people of the United States and those of other countries; and

WHEREAS: Peace Corps Volunteers, enriched by their experiences overseas, have brought their communities throughout the United States a deeper understanding of other cultures and traditions, thereby bringing a domestic dividend to our nation; and

WHEREAS: It is indeed fitting to recognize the achievements of the Peace Corps and honor its Volunteers, past and present, and reaffirm our country's commitment to helping people help themselves throughout the world; now

THEREFORE: I, Elizabeth C. Paterson, Mayor of the City of Storrs-Mansfield, do hereby proclaim March 1 through 7, 2009, Peace Corps Week, the City of Storrs-Mansfield.

**Sara-Ann Chainé****From:** Nancy [cocobear710@comcast.net]**Sent:** Friday, February 12, 2010 6:56 PM**To:** KDarigan@killinglyct.org; twm.killingworth@snet.net; firstselectman@lebanontownhall.org; fball@town.ledyard.ct.us; mhayes-finn@oldlyme-ct.gov; goldberga@madisonct.org; Town Mngr; questions@cityofmiddletown.com; CityClerk@ci.milford.ct.us; mmotterbeno@monroect.org; selectmenmorris@optonline.net; bmezzo@naugatuck-ct.gov; jwright@newingtonct.gov; Jeb.Walker@ci.new-canaan.ct.us; Earl@town.new-hartford.ct.us; MayorDeStefano@newhavenct.net; mberliner@ci.new-london.ct.us; townmanager@townofnorthbranfordct.com; selectmen@northstoningtonct.gov; jjacaruso@cityofnorwich.org; mazzaj@ci.guilford.ct.us**Subject:** Silver Star Banner Day city/town proclamation

Dear Mayor, City, or Town Representative.

Welcome to 2010, a new year and May is only a few months away.

On May 1, 2009, Silver Star Families of America and over 1500 cities help to honor our wounded and ill military veterans by showing appreciation for their sacrifices on Silver Star Banner Day. Since then the State of Missouri declared Silver Star Day a state law, signed by MO. Governor Jay Nixon. We now have over 2500 cities and counties and most all of those are permanent. Now is the time to get on the band wagon, so to speak.

You are receiving this letter because either your town's proclamation was not received by the organization, it was signed as a single year proclamation, or it was not signed. We all agree our veterans should be acknowledge, but many forget that statement when discussing those that have sacrificed part of themselves. Our wounded or ill war veterans should be recognized through their local areas, their local communities, local organizations, and the media. We need to let them know that we have not forgotten that they have made personal sacrifices on our behalf. This is why we are sending out letters and requesting the proclamations.

There are tens of thousands (of) veterans that have returned home wounded in one manner or another. That count is only from the current wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, we want them all recognized, including all those injured or ill from previous wars. There are visible wounds and invisible wounds and there are illnesses directly related to their wartime service. We need to let them know they are and always will be remembered and not forgotten.

The not for profit 501c3 organization: [www.silverstarfamilies.org](http://www.silverstarfamilies.org) supports and recognizes all the wounded and ill veterans.

A sample of the proclamation is (included in) this letter. You may make changes to fit your own community situation. To see more information on Silver Star Banner Day please go to: [http://www.silverstarfamilies.org/SSBD\\_2010.html](http://www.silverstarfamilies.org/SSBD_2010.html) there you will see who has signed from within your state.

The United States Conference of Mayors, the League of Cities, and the National Association of Counties, along with many organizations are supporting this effort.

If you choose to sign, which we hope you do, please remember to send your proclamation in so you can be counted and posted on the site. Send the proclamation to either the organization's founder:

Steve Newton, Founder SSFOA, 525 Cave Hollow Rd, Clever, MO. 65631

or myself:

Nancy Spuerke, 88 Francine Drive, Brockton MA 02302

We, as an organization, thank you. I personally wish to thank you.

Kind Regards  
Nancy Spoerke  
Silver Star Banner Day Committee member  
Silver Star Families of America MA Representative  
my email: [cocobear710@comcast.net](mailto:cocobear710@comcast.net)

Please see attached sample proclamation..

Silver Star Banner Day CITY Proclamation or Resolution

WHEREAS, the City of \_\_\_\_\_ has always honored the sacrifice of the men and women in the Armed Forces and

WHEREAS, The Silver Star Families of America was formed to make sure we remember the blood sacrifice of our wounded and ill by designing and manufacturing a Silver Star (Service) Banner and Flag and

WHEREAS, to date The Silver Star Families of America has freely given thousands of Silver Star (Service) Banners to the wounded and their families, and

WHEREAS, the members of The Silver Star Families of America have worked tirelessly to provide the wounded of this City and Country with Silver Star (Service) Banners, Flags and care packages, and

WHEREAS, The Silver Star Families of America's sole mission is that every time someone sees a Silver Star (Service) Banner in a window or a Silver Star (Service) Flag flying, that people remember the (sacrificed) for this City, State and Nation and

WHEREAS, the people and Mayor of \_\_\_\_\_ wish that the sacrifice of so many in our Armed Forces never be forgotten

NOW THEREFORE, I, \_\_\_\_\_, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF \_\_\_\_\_ do hereby proclaim

My appreciation of The Silver Star Families of America and honor their commitment to our wounded Armed Forces members. I hereby declare May 1st "SILVER STAR BANNER DAY" the permanent and official day to honor the wounded and ill Soldiers of the City of \_\_\_\_\_.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the City of \_\_\_\_\_ in the State of \_\_\_\_\_ (this month of ) \_\_\_\_\_(day of) \_\_\_\_\_ in the (year of).\_\_\_\_\_

## Mansfield may move human services office

By **CAITLIN M. DINEEN**

Chronicle Staff Writer *2/13*

**MANSFIELD** — A proposal to move Mansfield's human services director to the town's wellness center has led to some criticism from area senior citizens and town council members.

"Right now, the space is not being used," said Kevin Grunwald, human services director, during a

recent town council meeting.

Currently, Grunwald's office is located inside the Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building.

The wellness center is next to the senior center at 309 Maple Road and is where senior citizens can obtain information regarding their physical and emotional health and well being.

Mansfield's human services department offers various programs for all residents, including youths. Among specific services are crisis counseling and financial assistance during times of trouble.

The recommendation for the shift is in the preliminary discussion phase, according to Maria Capriola, executive assistant to the town manager.

Grunwald said the change in location would allow human services staff to contact the most people in town who utilize the services.

"The issue is it's not critical which door they come in," he said. "As long as they get access to the services they need."

The department has three staff members in the main office, three staff members in the youth services office and three people at the senior center.

Although the department helps all residents, Grunwald said it was important to be near the largest demographic population of residents in town and Mansfield's population is aging.

"We are getting older in this town," he said, adding seniors who currently use the senior center range from ages 55 to 95 years old.

Grunwald estimated one-third of the town's population would be at least 65 years old by 2030.

According to Capriola, the suggestion was made because, as director of the department, Grunwald helps over-see the neighboring senior center.

"It could be beneficial," she said. "So (Grunwald) can have a greater role and scope in day-to-day activities."

While some town officials support the change, local senior citizens said they would prefer the space be used to expand senior services and senior-operated wellness programs.

Local senior citizen Jane Blanchard said using space for offices would take away space for senior citizen wellness programs.

According to Blanchard, she would prefer Grunwald remain close to town hall, because she thinks it is important for all town hall employees to be under the close eye of town officials.

"There's not enough supervision in the hierarchy in the town hall," she said.

Blanchard said seniors in town pay a lot of taxes without getting a lot of services in return. "The seniors in this town pay a lot of taxes and we have no kids in the school system," she said.

Some councilors agreed it may not be necessary to relocate Grunwald.

"I don't see the need to move (Grunwald)," said Councilor William Ryan, adding the wellness center site needs to cater to senior programs. "This is a real need that's not being met."

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# Storrs Center gets another commitment

By CAITLIN M. DINEEN  
Chronicle Staff Writer

2/3

MANSFIELD — The Mansfield Downtown Partnership has received another letter of intent from a prospective business looking to be part of the proposed downtown Storrs Center project.

“Tailoring by Tima” — an alteration and custom tailoring business currently located on 10 Dog Lane — is the ninth business to sign a letter of intent.

“We are very pleased to add Tailoring by Tima to our roster of prospective Storrs Center tenants,” said Partnership Executive Director Cynthia van Zelm. “Our goal has been to achieve a balanced mix of commercial end-users drawn from the service, retail and food service sectors, so this early commitment is welcome.”

The proposed \$220 million project is a mix of residential developments, retail shops and commercial buildings to be built along Storrs Road from Dog Lane to South Eagleville Road.

The project is to be funded by a mix of federal, state, local and private funding.

Eight letters of intent for the project — which has been in the works for nearly a decade — have been received since May.

Those include Pomfret-based Vanilla Bean Café, Moe’s Southwest Grill, Storrs Automotive, Wings Over Storrs, Travelplanners, Campus Cuts, Body Language and Cosimo’s Italian Restaurant.

Storrs Automotive, an automobile repair shop, Campus Cuts, a hair salon, and Body Language, a tattoo studio, are current tenants in the building that will be razed before new construction begins.

Their letters of intent signify they would like to stay in their current locations.

Half of the letters of intent are eateries.

Van Zelm is not the only one glad to hear another local business has agreed to stay in Storrs Center.

Officials with the master developer — Tuxedo, N.Y.-based Leyland Alliance — said it was important to include newer and already existing businesses in the shopping and residential hub.

“A critical component of our leasing strategy has been to attract existing businesses like Tailoring by Tima that have been serving the Mansfield community and will integrate well with new tenants coming from outside the area,” said Macon Toledo, Leyland Alliance’s vice president of planning and development.

Residents interested in learning more about the progress of the proposed Storrs Center project can attend the partnership’s monthly open house Thursday from 6 to 7 p.m.

The open house will take place in the partnership office located at 1244 Storrs Road behind People’s United Bank.

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# Many questions raised about new school plan

By **CAITLIN M. DINEEN**

Chronicle Staff Writer **2/5**

**MANSFIELD** — The more than 30 residents, teachers and parents attending Thursday's public information session about a proposed consolidated elementary school had plenty of questions.

Residents piled into the Annie E. Vinton Elementary School gymnasium to learn more about the consolidated school — and three other options — aimed at physically improving and potentially condensing — the town's system of elementary schools.

The next scheduled information

session will be Thursday, Feb. 11, at Southeast Elementary School at 7 p.m.

Although people attending Thursday's session — which was part of a regular board of education meeting — did not say they were for or against the one-elementary school option, some expressed concern over the quality of education in Mansfield.

"Because our schools are smaller, they have a more home, more family environment," said Vinton PTA co-President Sarah Delia. "I'm concerned about that kind of feeling."

Many parents echoed Delia's statement, saying they were concerned students would simply become a number and would lose the one-on-one contact and relationships they can develop in the existing three smaller schools.

"The smaller, personal one-on-one time will be kind of lost," Delia said. "And kids are not comfortable with that."

Mansfield Superintendent Fred Baruzzi said he thought pupils would adjust to a larger school while still maintaining close contact with teachers.

(Questions, Page 4)

# Questions raised about school plan

(Continued from Page 1)

Baruzzi said it is the class environment and the quality of teachers that define any school, not the size of the building.

Additionally, Baruzzi said the idea of a larger school likely concerns parents more than the pupils.

"I think the largest transition will be for the parents and not the students," he said.

While some people were concerned about the size of the building, others were concerned about the design and layout of the proposed facility.

"My only concern is that it's something that inspires (students)," said resident Jeff Brown.

Brown, who is the father of a pupil at Vinton, said he hoped the changes would make the schools a better tool for teaching rather than "boxes" where children are taught.

Education officials have been talking about a one-school option since 2006, but no action has been taken on the proposed change.

Options range from updating and remodeling the three existing elementary schools to closing two elementary schools and operating one, all-inclusive elementary school in town.

A new consolidated elementary school would cost local taxpayers approximately \$16 million, with the remainder being paid for with state funds.

Currently, Mansfield has three, kindergarten-through-grade-4 elementary schools in town: Dorothy C. Goodwin Elementary School, Southeast and Vinton.

A total of four options are being discussed. They include:

- Option A, \$30.38 million, repairing and maintaining the three elementary schools with roof and window replacements, new heating and ventilation systems and new gym floors.

- Option B, \$76.65 million, renovating the media center and computer rooms at all three elementary schools, replacing windows and roofs, and building an addition at Southeast School.

- Option C, \$68.15 million, closing one elementary school and completely renovating the other two with additions and roof replacements.

- Option D, \$45.98 million, to build or operate one all-inclusive, new elementary school in town. Such a school could be at a new site or at an existing school location.

All options also include making renovations to Mansfield Middle School, which serves grades 5-8.

The project costs, however, differ from what taxpayers will fund, as school building projects are reimbursed by the state.

For example, educational officials estimate "Option A" would cost local taxpayers \$22 million, "Option B" \$41 million, "Option C" \$37 million and "Option D" \$16 million.

Taxpayer costs vary due to strict limitations and guidelines in the state board of education's reimbursement policy.

Certain items of construction and materials are subject to reimbursement while others are not.

Even if voters reject a consolidated version of elementary schools during a proposed November referendum, Mansfield officials will need to maintain and update the buildings.

Although all options would cost Mansfield taxpayers between an additional \$59 to \$731 a year in taxes for 20 years, updated buildings could result in the town moving in a "green" direction.

According to Bill Hammond, Mansfield's director of maintenance, a new building would have Energy Star efficient elements that would result in thousands of dollars of savings for the town.

"Very rough numbers" show there could potentially be \$200,000 a year in energy savings, he said.

"It's certainly in that magnitude," said Hammond.

No matter what changes are made to the town's four schools, projects would not be completed until 2014, said education officials.

Editor: 216  
I am responding to Jane Blanchard's Feb. 3 comments regarding Mansfield Human Services and the (lack of) supervision of employees at the town hall.

Blanchard says "the seniors in this town pay a lot of taxes and don't get a lot of services in return and have no kids in the school system." What about fire and emergency services? The library? The historical society? Who plows the snow on town roads? Does the senior center offer programs for elders? Parks and recreation opportunities? Don't forget maintenance of town cemeteries. I

could go on. Ma'am, you may not have children in school now, but you most certainly did twenty plus years ago or did you forget about that?

I'm a 20-year town employee and frankly, I'm offended Blanchard thinks those who work at the town hall aren't properly supervised. Come visit us and see who runs the offices. Better yet, ask the town council if you can join them when they take a tour to see how we conduct business and maybe you'll learn something.

Wendy Parker  
Mansfield Center

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## Opinion 2/8

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### Chronicle

Lucy B. Crosbie  
*President*

Kevin Crosbie  
*Publisher*

Charles C. Ryan  
*Editor*

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### Editorial

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# We offer these threads, needles

Threads to emergency personnel from Mansfield and Coventry who successfully pulled a 76-year-old man out of Eagleville Lake's icy waters Jan. 31. Reportedly, only 14 minutes passed from the time the "911" call was placed by the man's wife to when he was out of the water. That speed likely saved his life. Often, we take for granted that when we call 911 help will arrive quickly. But in rural towns, distance and volunteer availability can conspire against us. Thankfully, Mansfield and Coventry responders had the proper training and were quick to help. One local man owes his life to them.

PAGE  
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Editor:

2/9

As *the Chronicle* recently reported, the Town of Mansfield proposes to move the human services director's offices from the town hall to the wellness center and the senior center. The wellness center is not big enough to accommodate four employees and their desks. This move would prevent any possibility of re-introducing health-care services that the wellness center had in the past.

The town also wants to take over precious space that is already heavily used by seniors at the Mansfield Senior Center. The senior center needs more space, not less. Whoever came up with this bright idea must have never been in the senior or wellness centers. Other nearby towns are expanding their senior centers just as Mansfield is proposing to downsize the Mansfield Senior Center and downgrade the services of the wellness center.

One rationale that the town has given for this move is that it would enable the human services director to provide administrative support to the senior center. The senior center is still recovering from the town's overly controlling

administration during the past six years. We do not need more adult supervision.

The town also says that this office move is necessary so that the human services staff can be closer to seniors in order to provide financial assistance, fuel assistance, personal property tax relief, etc. We agree with human services Director Kevin Grunwald that "it's not critical which door they come in as long as they get access to the services they need." The door in the town hall is just as easy to find.

Lida S. Bilokur  
Mansfield

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**PAGE  
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# Mansfield seeks federal funding

(Continued from Page 1)

installation of a new well and water mains to the once-bustling intersection.

In addition to agreeing to apply for the grants, councilors also ranked the projects in their personal order of priority.

It was during this ranking process that councilors ranked the development of Four Corners as more important than communication and control systems at the proposed \$220 million Storrs Center project.

Four Corners — which councilors identify as the “gateway” to Mansfield and UConn — has been plagued by water and sewer troubles for years.

The intersection is on the state Department of Environmental Protection “watch list” to ensure problems — such as contaminated water — are addressed.

Once a business hub, Four Corners is now beset with vacant and decaying buildings, evidenced by an empty Kathy Johns restaurant site.

The proposed Storrs Center project is a mix of residential developments, retail shops and commercial buildings to be built along Storrs Road from Dog Lane to South Eagleville Road.

The project is to be funded by a mix of federal, state, local and private funding and is overseen by the Mansfield Downtown Partnership.

The \$1.1 million application was ranked first by councilors while the \$3.3 million grant was ranked second.

The Storrs Center project was ranked third and the funding that would assist UConn officials was ranked fourth.

Councilors Denise Keane and Meredith Lindsey, both Republicans, said they did not agree the council should approve applying for the Storrs Center funding because the application had not been discussed at the subcommittee level.

“This has not come up or been discussed at the parking steering committee yet,” said Lindsey, who serves on that committee.

Lindsey said she thought the grant indicated the town was ready to move forward with how they would control parking around the residential and commercial hub when, in fact, that had not been discussed.

Keane said the details listed in the grant made her “uncomfortable.”

The grant application stated gates, parking meters and other control methods would be used in the center’s three garages and in nearby parking lots, including the E.O. Smith parking lot and UConn’s adjacent fine arts building parking lot.

“We are putting the cart before the horse a little bit,” said Mansfield Public Works Director Lon Hultgren. “But if there’s money available, you need to apply for it.”

Although applications for the grants were approved, it remains unknown how much funding, if any, Mansfield could potentially receive later this year.

Mansfield Downtown Partnership Executive Director Cynthia van Zelm said she did not know how far down the town’s list federal officials would look when granting applications.

“I think it’ll be difficult, but you just don’t know,” she said.

## Mansfield seeks fed funding

By CAITLIN M. DINEEN 2/9  
Chronicle Staff Writer

**MANSFIELD** — Town councilors Monday approved applications for four fiscal year 2011 federal appropriations totaling more than \$5.97 million in funding for three different projects.

Applications were approved during the council’s regular meeting.

Of the grant applications, two focused on the development of the intersection of routes 195 and 44, one would fund control systems for the proposed Storrs Center project and another would help install new sewer lines on Route 195.

The grants are as follows:

- \$961,600 would be used toward the purchase of control equipment, such as gates and parking meters, for the three garages and surrounding parking lots as part of the Storrs Center project.
- \$610,850 would be used to help University of Connecticut officials replace an old sewer line along Route 195 from Whitney Road to Dog Lane.
- \$1.1 million would be needed to collect and pump sewage out of the intersection known as Four Corners to the UConn wastewater treatment plant.
- \$3.3 million would be used to fund a water study leading to the permitting and

(Mansfield, Page 4)

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2/9

## Mansfield to celebrate wintertime

By **CAITLIN M. DINEEN**  
Chronicle Staff Writer

**MANSFIELD** — Residents are encouraged to don their wackiest hats, bundle up and enjoy the New England winter chill during the fourth annual "Winter Fun Day."

The event — sponsored by the Mansfield Downtown Partnership — takes place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. outside the Mansfield Community Center Saturday. It is free and open to the public.

The annual event includes a variety of activities for all residents including horse-drawn carriage rides, story telling and a wacky hat contest.

During the hat contest, residents — both young and old — will wear wacky homemade or store-bought hats for judging.

There will be prizes for the wackiest, most creative and "judges' choice" hats. Judging will take place at 2 p.m.

Musical performances by The Chordials and Rubyfruit, two a cappella student groups from the University of Connecticut, will take place during the event as well.

As the festival celebrates Mansfield and winter, there will be a variety of winter activities to do.

Weather permitting, there will be ice-skating on the rink outside the community center.

Meanwhile, the Northeast Youth Ice Hockey Mite House team will perform a 3-on-3 demonstration at 12:30 p.m. in the ice rink.

Representatives from the University of Connecticut Dining Services will demonstrate how to create art from ice as they carve ice sculptures on site.

For example, last year a life-size M&M character was carved out of ice.

Although the event is about celebrating Mansfield and celebrating a sense of community in town, people attending the event can also do their part to help others.

"In keeping with the community spirit of the event, a food drive to benefit the Town of Mansfield Human Services' Food Pantry will be held," reads a press release about the event.

Residents are asked to bring unopened, non-perishable food items to the community center during the event.

In case of inclement weather, the event is Feb. 20.

For more information, contact the Mansfield Downtown Partnership at (860) 429-2740. For more information about donating to the food pantry, call the human services department at (860) 429-3315.

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# Seniors pleased, human services to stay

By CAITLIN M. DINEEN  
Chronicle Staff Writer

MANSFIELD — The office of the town's human services department will not be changing its location to the town's wellness center building on Maple Road, as proposed earlier this year.

Councilors first learned of the proposed move in late January, but it is no longer an option, said Town Manager Matthew Hart.

According to Hart, several senior citizen residents — who have recently descended on council meetings to express their opinion — and commission on aging members disagreed with the proposal.

"We decided to drop that idea," said Hart.

Hart told councilors Monday during their town council meeting about the decision to keep the department where it is.

Currently, the department is located in the

Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building.

Maria Capriola, administrative assistant to the town manager, told councilors in January the reasoning behind the move was to bring the human services department closer to local seniors.

Capriola — and Human Services Director Kevin Grunwald — said the move was not finalized, but it would make services more accessible to the general population of Mansfield.

Mansfield's human services department offers various programs for all residents, including youths. Among specific services are crisis counseling and financial assistance during times of trouble.

In addition to changing the department's office to reach the aging population of Mansfield, Hart said there were other reasons behind the move.

"It was motivated by some very good ideas,"

he said. "But there was another motivation."

According to Hart, if the department moved, the town would have had a potential site for the town's consolidated probate court.

Despite the desire to have additional space, Hart said the timing was not right for the shift.

"It doesn't seem reasonable at this point," said Hart during Monday's council meeting.

The potential move of the department upset area senior citizens, who previously said they hoped the space would remain accessible and used for wellness programs for seniors.

The wellness center is located next to the Mansfield Senior Center at 309 Maple Road.

The decision to keep the human services where it is currently located was greeted by applause from seniors attending Monday's town council meeting.

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Editor:

2/12/10

I'd like to reply to the letter from Wendy Parker indicating that she was offended by the comments of Jane Blanshard. First, I'd like to say that I wonder if *the Chronicle* deliberately printed the Parker letter next to the D. Dowd Muska commentary. If so, I commend *the Chronicle* because this commentary provided a great response to the letter. I would bet that Jane Blanshard is one of the taxpayers referred to in this commentary who has been paying attention to the development of the bureaucracy called town government in Mansfield.

I'm one of those people who had children in school 20-plus years ago that Parker spoke of. As I recall, we had all of the services that Parker refers to and we didn't have all the bureaucracy that it now takes to provide them. As well, we didn't have the tax bill that it now takes to support this bureaucracy. I understand Blanshard's attitude completely.

Now, I'm a supporter of *the Chronicle* because I know that it is the means by which we citizens can communicate and express opinions. But, sometimes I cannot state everything that I want in a letter limited to 300 words. This is one of those times. I want to tell Mansfield citizens what I observe of the supervision in our town government. I want to tell them that supervision in Mansfield includes allowing town employees to take snow plowing trucks home to plow their personal drives. I want to give people other examples but I can't do it in 300 words. So, since I can't fit it all in here, I found that I can have my letter in its entirety printed at [www.savemansfieldct.com](http://www.savemansfieldct.com). Please go to that web site to learn lots about the operation of your town hall.

Betty Wassmundt  
Storrs

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Hartford Courant  
**OUR VIEW** 12/10/09

# HOW TO ACT REGIONALLY

**S**ince the end of World War II, central Connecticut has been beset by suburban sprawl. Hartford has lost almost a third of its peak population, while former rural towns have boomed, although with low-density, auto-driven development.

In recent years, state government has tried to counter this trend with smart, or responsible, growth policies. As

## AGENDA 2010 FOR THE REGION

Third in a six-part series

Greater Hartford thinks about becoming a more cohesive metro region, it must plan to grow smartly to save energy, cut pollution, preserve open space

and save farms. The region should:

- 1. **REUSE AND REHABILITATE EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE** by focusing development in the town centers and transit corridors, not in the region's dwindling open space. That means, among other things, encouraging historic preservation and restoring brownfield sites.
- 2. **PLAN REGIONALLY.** The region should have a major downtown and an array of smaller town centers that are compact, lively, mixed-use and walkable.
- 3. **EXPAND HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES** and transportation options, including bicycles.

These principles are embedded in the state and regional plans of conservation and development. The problem with these plans is that they are mostly advisory. (One positive step, from a 2007 responsible growth law, is a requirement that when state agencies give a grant of \$200,000 or more for real estate acquisition or development, the project must be consistent with the state plan.)

Metropolitan Hartford cannot succeed as a region if it becomes an undifferentiated swath of strip malls and subdivisions. We need lively cities and towns and scenic forests and farms. The regional and state plans are a sensible guide. To assure that development more closely follow the smart-growth principles in these plans, the state could:

4. **CREATE MODEL ZONING REGULATIONS** and other land-use tools so that towns are able to create the kind of mixed-use town centers envisioned by the regional and state plans. Traditional zoning separated uses, tried to keep the smelly factories away from the homes, etc. Now most of the factories are gone but the zoning rules remain, prohibiting what good planning is trying to encourage. Hamden this year became the first town in New England to embrace a different zoning philosophy, adopting a new code based more on the form of buildings rather than their use. Officials believe the new code will encourage mixed-use development along the town's three major north-south corridors. Some other towns, including Simsbury, are also looking at "form-based" codes.

5. **GIVE GRANTS TO SUPPORT THE POLICIES IN THE PLAN.** The state cannot tell people where to live or build. But it can put its own money behind the kind of development its own plan calls for. The legislature made \$11 million in regional incentive grants available in 2008, and they were snapped up quickly for regional shared service projects. Budget constraints took the funding in 2009, although more of the federal stimulus funds could have been aimed at regional projects.

With the state facing a potential \$6 billion deficit by 2013, regional budgeting might become a necessity. A state blue ribbon commission has been formed to work with towns in finding, and funding, regional efficiencies.

How might this work? State Rep. Brendan Sharkey, who will head the commission, offered a hypothetical example involving the Education Cost Sharing grants, which bring state aid to local schools. He said it might be possible to keep the classroom portion of the grants going to towns, while regionalizing ancillary functions such as food and janitorial services.

"We have to look at what makes sense to regionalize," he said. And then do it.

The Courant editorial page proposes a blueprint for more effective regional cooperation in Greater Hartford and around the state. An agenda for the state will follow next week.

- >> **Today:** A regional look at smart growth.
- >> **Wednesday:** Should towns share tax revenues?
- >> **Thursday:** How to create regional capacity.
- >> **Friday:** City and suburbs must work together.

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# Courant.com

## Merrill to kick off Secretary of the State bid

Associated Press

February 14, 2010

MANSFIELD, Conn.

Connecticut House Majority Leader Denise Merrill is kicking off her campaign for secretary of the state.

Merrill says she will formally announce her plans to seek the Democratic nomination at the Mansfield Community Center at 11 a.m. on Monday.

The seat is being vacated by Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz, who is running for attorney general.

Norwalk Town Clerk Andrew Garfunkel announced this month that he's also seeking the Democratic nomination.

State records show several other candidates are running or considering running for the office, including Democrats Jonathan Harris and Gerry Garcia and Republicans Jerry Farrell Jr., Richard Abbate and Corey Brinson.

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## Courant.com

MANSFIELD

### Legislature's Denise Merrill Enters Race For Secretary Of The State

By EDMUND H. MAHONY

The Hartford Courant

February 16, 2010

State House Majority leader Denise Merrill formally opened a campaign to become secretary of the state Monday before family and supporters in her hometown of Mansfield.

Merrill, a senior Democrat in the state House of Representatives and former chairwoman of the legislature's influential budget-making appropriations committee, is running for the office being vacated by Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz, who is running for attorney general.

The announcement, widely expected, puts Merrill in a crowded field of candidates. Norwalk Town Clerk Andrew Garfunkel recently announced that he was seeking the Democratic nomination. Others running, or considering runs, include Democrats Jonathan Harris and Gerry Garcia, and Republicans Jerry Farrell Jr., Richard Abbate and Corey Brinson.

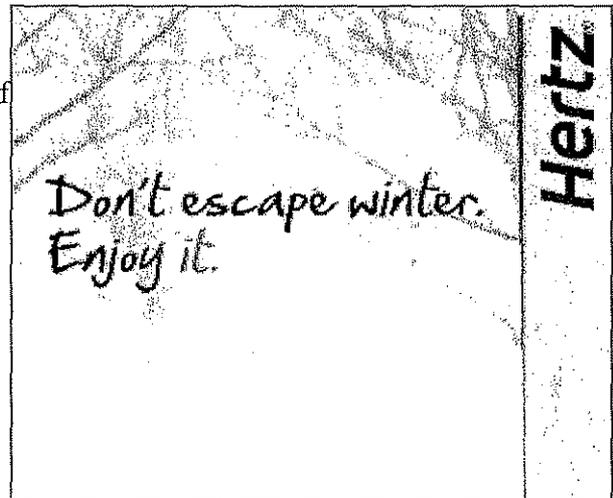
Over a 17-year legislative career, Merrill has promoted efforts to increase the efficiency of state government and said that, if elected, she would use the office of secretary of the state to continue those efforts. Among other things, Merrill said she would redesign the state's registration to enable businesses of all sizes to submit required forms and applications online.

"I would do a lot more with online registration for just about everything," she said. "We are way behind other states in that area."

Merrill has represented Mansfield, which includes Storrs and the University of Connecticut campus, since 1993. Prior to becoming house majority leader, she chaired the appropriations committee and served on the appropriations, education and higher education committees for a decade.

Merrill is a lawyer and a former high school teacher.

Before being elected to the legislature, she was a consultant on civic and legal education programs to the Connecticut Department of Education and the former director of the Training Academy of the Child



Health and Development Institute of Connecticut, which developed training programs for child-care providers, pediatricians, parents, and others involved with children.

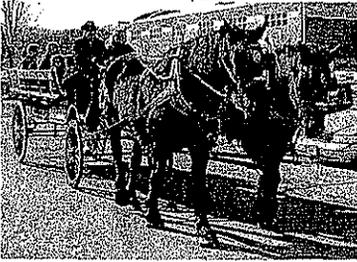
Copyright © 2010, The Hartford Courant

Horse-drawn carriage rides, 'wacky hats,' live music and more are part of 'Winter Fun Da...

## Horse-drawn carriage rides, 'wacky hats,' live music and more are part of 'Winter Fun Day'

by: Caitlin M. Dineen | Staff Writer Wednesday, February 10th, 2010

Item #29



Breezy Acres Percherons provided horse drawn wagon rides at the 2009 Winter Fun Day. Photo © 2009 by Brenda Sullivan.

Don your wackiest hat - or craft a new one - and come out and enjoy the fourth annual "Winter Fun Day," sponsored by the Mansfield Downtown Partnership, Mansfield Parks and Recreation and the Town Manager's office.

The fun runs from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 13.

Horse-drawn carriage rides, games, live music and more are offered for free.

During the hat contest, children of all ages can enter their homemade or store-bought hats for judging. Prizes will be awarded in the categories of wackiest, most creative and judges' choice. Judging will take place at 2 p.m.

Songs by The Chordials and Rubyfruit, two UConn a cappella student groups, will be performed during the event as well.

And, weather permitting, there will be ice-skating on the rink outside the community center. The Northeast Youth Ice Hockey Mite House team also will perform a 3-on-3 demonstration at 12:30 p.m. in the ice rink.



Throughout the day, representatives from UConn Dining Services will demonstrate how to create art from ice as they carve ice sculptures on site. Here is an example for Winter Fun Day 2009. Photo © 2009 by Brenda Sullivan.

Inside the Community Center, there will be storytelling with the Mansfield Public Library and hands-on fun with the Mansfield Advocates for Children.

Refreshments - including chili, chowder, hot dogs, hamburgers, veggie burgers, chicken salad, hummus wraps and hot chocolate - also will be on sale from Lizzie of Taking Care of Tummies Catering.

### *Please help your neighbors*

The event is about celebrating Mansfield and a sense of community, so people attending the event can also do their part to help others at a food drive to benefit the Mansfield Human Services Food Pantry.

Participants are asked to bring unopened, non-perishable food items to the community center (please also check that the food has not exceeded its expiration date, or it will have to be discarded).

## Horse-drawn carriage rides, 'wacky hats,' live music and more are part of 'Winter Fun Da..

In the case of bad weather, Winter Fun Day will be postponed until Feb. 20.

For more information about the Winter Fun Day, contact the Mansfield Downtown Partnership at (860) 429-2740.

For a list of suggested items to donate for the food pantry, please visit the Winter Fun Day page on the Town's website, [www.mansfieldct.org](http://www.mansfieldct.org) or call the Human Services Department at (860) 429-3315 during office hours (Town Hall closes at noon on Friday).

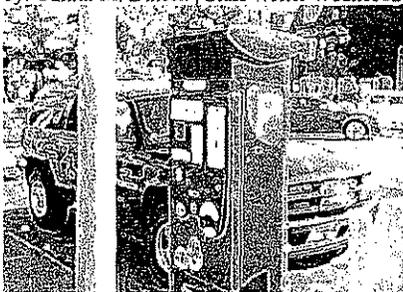
You can also click on this link to see the food drive flyer and needed items, in PDF format:  
[http://www.mansfieldct.org/town/current/events/wfd\\_2010\\_food\\_drive.pdf](http://www.mansfieldct.org/town/current/events/wfd_2010_food_drive.pdf)

*Posted Feb. 10, 2010*

## Town seeks grants to support Four Corners development, Storrs Center parking

by: Caitlin M. Dineen | Staff Writer Wednesday, February 10th, 2010

Item #30



The familiar "lollipop" parking meter is increasingly being replaced with a more high-tech parking "kiosk," such as in downtown Hartford.

The Town Council at its Feb. 8 meeting approved applications for four fiscal year 2011 federal grants totaling more than \$5.97 million.

Two grants would support development at the intersection of Routes 195 and 44, otherwise known as Four Corners. Two are related to the Storrs Center project.

The grants are as follows:

- \$961,600 toward the purchase of control equipment (such as gates and parking meters) for the three garages and surrounding parking lots planned as part of the Storrs Center project;
- \$610,850 to help University of Connecticut officials replace an old sewer line along Route 195, from Whitney Road to Dog Lane;
- \$1.1 million to collect and pump sewage out of the intersection known as Four Corners to the UConn wastewater treatment plant;
- \$3.3 million for a water study necessary for permits and installation of a new well and water mains to Four Corners.

Councilors also ranked the projects in order of priority and placed the development of Four Corners higher on the list than communication and control systems at the proposed \$220 million Storrs Center project.

Four Corners - which councilors identify as the "gateway" to Mansfield and UConn - has been plagued by water and sewer troubles for years.

The intersection is on the state Department of Environmental Protection "watch list" to ensure problems - such as contaminated water - are addressed.

Once a business hub, Four Corners is now beset with vacant buildings.

The proposed Storrs Center project is a mix of residential developments, retail shops and commercial buildings to be built along Storrs Road from Dog Lane to South Eagleville Road.

The project is to be funded by a mix of federal, state, local and private dollars and is overseen by the Mansfield Downtown Partnership.

Councilors Denise Keane and Meredith Lindsey, both Republicans, said they did not agree the council should approve applying for the Storrs Center funding because the application had not been discussed at the subcommittee level.

Lindsey, who serves on the parking committee, said she thought applying for the grant indicates the town is ready to move forward on questions about how parking around the residential and commercial hub will be managed, which is not the case.

The grant application stated gates, parking meters and other control methods would be used in the center's three garages and in nearby parking lots, including the E.O. Smith parking lot and UConn's adjacent fine arts building parking lot.

Keane said these details make her "uncomfortable."

"We are putting the cart before the horse a little bit," said Mansfield Public Works Director Lon Hultgren. "But if there's money available, you need to apply for it."

Posted Feb. 10, 2010

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## Public input invited on work near Eagleville Brook

by: Submitted Press Release Thursday, February 11th, 2010



A view of Eagleville Brook from February 2007  
DEP report, "A Total Maximum Daily Load  
Analysis for Eagleville Brook, Mansfield, CT"

The state Department of Transportation has announced that its Office of Engineering is developing plans to rehabilitate culverts near Eagleville Brook in Mansfield and Beaver Brook in Franklin.

In a press release, DOT Commissioner Joseph F. Marie said, "It is the department's policy to keep the public informed and involved when such projects are undertaken." "It is important that the community share its concerns with us to assist in the project's development."

If there is adequate interest, an informational meeting will be conducted. At this time, it is not anticipated that a formal public hearing will be necessary, according to the press release.

The project involves lining existing culverts with new pipes and repairing the existing concrete headwalls as necessary.

The project's design is expected to be completed in June 2011, and construction is anticipated to begin in spring 2012.

Construction work is anticipated to last about three weeks, with minimal disruption to traffic.

The project is expected to be paid for 80 percent with federal funds and 20 percent by state funds.

For more information about this project, contact Scott A. Hill, manager of state design, at (860) 594-3272 or by e-mail at [scott.hill@ct.gov](mailto:scott.hill@ct.gov) and make reference to State Project Number 172-394.

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