

Sharry Goldman  
187 Browns Road  
Storrs, CT 06268

What does it mean to be a “preferred developer”?

Who preferred this developer?

When they were selected?

Would they be preferred now? Why?

Do we owe a “preferred developer” anything?

Would the town benefit from revisiting the pros and cons of a preferred developer and this particular developer (especially regarding the buy-in vs. rental issue)?

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## Definition of a "Landlord" in Town Ordinances

At the Town Meeting on the parking ordinance, I suggested that – if the Town Meeting sustained the parking ordinance – the Town Council should amend the parking ordinance to make the definition of a “landlord” in the parking ordinance consistent with the definition of a “landlord” elsewhere in the Housing ordinances.

Nobody who knew that I was correct spoke up. The people who attended the Town Meeting came away with the impression that I was mistaken when I said there are conflicting definitions of “landlord” in Town ordinances.

After two attempts, I received verification from Greg Padick:

He wrote this e-mail to me:

“I discussed this issue with Mike Nintean, Dir. of Building and Housing and the following reflects my understanding:

1. The Housing Code does provide an exemption for someone renting their house for a 1 year period. This exemption is not contained in the Landlord Registry ordinance or the new Parking Area ordinances. The Housing Code and Landlord Registry ordinances also have different exemption language for owner occupied properties.
2. It has been recommended that the 3 ordinances involving rental property have identical exemption provisions and it is expected that this issue will be taken up by the Town Council in the next few months. This issue is currently being reviewed by the Town Attorney.”

When Greg wrote, “it has been recommended,” I wondered – in the interest of open and transparent government -- **who** had recommended this, but I expect the Town Council will pass changes in the ordinances.

Cynara Stites

## Parking Ordinance Re: Backing Cars out of Driveways

I made a second suggestion to the Town Council when I spoke at the Town Meeting. I suggested that the Town Council amend the Parking Ordinance to remove the prohibition of backing out of driveways because this applies only to tenants who live in houses in the landlord registry zone.

If this were a safety issue instead of an aesthetics issue related to property values, then the prohibition would apply to every driveway in town.

The parking ordinance applies to only one of the three driveways on my road where four cars are parked because two of those driveways are at owner-occupied houses. If the driveway and the rental house across the road from me must be altered to make it possible for the four cars to always be able to back out of the driveway, the value of my property will be adversely affected because the tree in front of the house will have to be cut down and the small front lawn is paved over. There is no other way to comply with the "no backing out" provision in the ordinance.

Dr. Week's orthodontist office on the corner on Route 195 and Hanks Hill Road has four parking spaces for patients that require drivers to back their cars out onto Hanks Hill Road.

Drivers traveling northbound on Route 195 who turn right onto Hanks Hill Road have only a few seconds to see these cars in the road.

The parking ordinance does not apply to this safety issue about cars backing into the road because the orthodontist office is not a rental house in the landlord registry zone.

Finally, the parking plan for Storrs Center will create a safety hazard by creating diagonal parking spaces on Route 195 so drivers will have to back their cars into oncoming traffic on one of the heavily traveled sections of Route 195.

The new parking ordinance does not apply to this intentionally designed traffic hazard because Storrs Center is not a rental house in the landlord registry zone.

I urge the Town Council to remove the backing out prohibition from the parking ordinance. If it's not a safety issue at owner-occupied homes, businesses, and the Storrs Center, then how can it be a safety issue only at rental houses in the landlord registry zone?

Cynara Stites

Dear Council Members:

7-22-10

I want to reply to Greg Haddad's comments made at the end of the last council meeting about the Ethics Board and the public's comments about this Board.

Haddad was overheard to say that he "did this" against his better judgment. Does that mean that he was imposed upon to give this tirade? One could conclude that. Of course, the Mayor is "proud" of him for it. Perhaps, was it her idea?

I think it quite remarkable that Haddad would conclude that I am unhappy with the FOI Commission's findings. I'm quite happy with it. I submitted a complaint claiming technical violations of the FOI law at the meeting held on September 17<sup>th</sup> and that is exactly what the Hearing Officer concluded. Isn't that what the FOI Act is all about – technicalities which define procedure so as to protect the public. The second complaint against Nora Stevens was pretty trivial excepting that it was a part of a much larger scenario. I could hardly worry about that. In fact, it is funny in a pathetic way. Nora wrote in an email that she spoke with two members of the Ethics Board but at the Hearing she could not remember doing so.

What I tried to explain to the council is that there are inaccuracies in the Hearing Officer's representation of the situation at the meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> and in her understanding of the complaint I filed against Nora Stevens. There is good reason for this, the testimony was very rambling. Testimony even included comments by Mary Stanton who was never involved in either situation. I believe that Mike Sikoski was trying to tell you that there are these inaccuracies in the Officer's representation.

Let me give you an example. The Hearing Officer refers to the fact that I asked Nora Stevens if Maria was present at the so called executive session held on the 17<sup>th</sup>. That never happened; I never asked that question. I don't know how the Officer understood that. All of my communication with Stevens was by email which will show that I never asked such a question. I would never have thought to do so; Maria was at the meeting and everyone knew it. Nora Stevens made the unsolicited and outrageous claim that Maria Capriola did not attend the executive session on the 17<sup>th</sup>. I suspect I know why she did it. Subsequently this issue came up at the following meeting; Ric Hossack taped that part of that meeting so all can listen to it – just ask. (This is but one of the reasons why I claim Mansfield needs a completely new Board of Ethics.) Nora claimed, at the meeting subsequent to the 17<sup>th</sup>, that whether Maria was at the meeting or not was just a misunderstanding between her and I. When Ric Hossack pressed the issue, the entire Ethics Board, who all knew very well that Maria was at the meeting, said: "I don't know", "I can't remember" or "I won't answer, you're threatening me". This is but one reason why I have no confidence in this Board.

Now, I ask, how can you give a vote of confidence to a Board that has two FOI violations especially when you have never attended any of their sessions. (One current council member attended one session that I know of.) Note, that is two violations when their "advisor", the towns FOI expert, was present to direct their procedure.

How can you give a vote of confidence to an Ethics Board that includes town management? I say stand up and tell the public your opinion as to the function of the town's Ethics Board. Should this Board be independent of town management or should town management participate in it as is now the case. What is your opinion and directive? Answer me, how could this Board hear a complaint against Maria? Take a look at the makeup of this Board. Can you honestly say it is representative of the Town of Mansfield?

Certainly, you may give a vote of confidence to the Ethics Board members for all being respected members of the community,

<http://us.mc824.mail.yahoo.com/mc/showMessage?sMid=8&fid=Sent&filterBy=&.rand=1898194945&m...> 7/26/2010

as Haddad states.

I want to comment on another of Haddad's claims. He claims that it is the same people who complain. That's not true. There are a few of us who are regulars at council meetings and we do look seriously at issues before the council and we comment on them. But, other people come before council with concerns on a fairly regular basis. These people may not be as vocal as I and a couple of others are but they state their issues as forcefully and consistently. Still, others bring issues to Matt Hart and town administrators as well as council. These people stress issues which I have not had time to look into. I know that some of these people are in complete agreement with the issues I stress but they have enough trying to deal with their own issues. In fact, it is my opinion that one could throw a dart at a chart of town management and likely find problems with the management. It's time you, the council, heard what people say. Town management generally operates on the basis of personal self-entitlement. The attitude is "this is Mansfield, the budget always passes" which says to me they think they can do anything and the taxpayer will pay the bill. (One person in upper management was overheard to make that statement.) Who looks out for the taxpayers in this town?

Now, I've heard you say that citizens have access to their councilors in many ways including email. Please let me know that you have received this email and read it. That will save me, and you, from a presentation at a council meeting. Thank you.

Betty Wassmundt

Dear Council Members:

7-21-10

I hope you will read my critique of the report you were presented regarding the cost of revaluation to Mansfield by doing the process in-house as opposed to hiring the process out to a qualified company/consultant.

I request that you give me your opinion and that you, please, point out any errors you may find in my reasoning. Thank you.

Betty Wassmundt

Revaluation:

Please refer to the Assessor's report in your packet dated June 28, 2010 on page 141. The purpose of the report was to determine if it is cost efficient for the Town of Mansfield Assessor's office to do revaluation in-house as opposed to hiring the process to a consultant. That is the question I had posed and, I believe it is the question which should be answered in the interest of verifying that the Mansfield taxpayer is receiving good value for his/her money. The Mansfield taxpayer has a right to expect that.

The report concludes that Mansfield has spent less on its revaluation than did two other towns, Tolland and Coventry; it did this by comparing Mansfield's cost to those towns. I claim the report to be inadequate for several reasons.

1) Both Mansfield and Tolland did complete revaluations; Coventry did a partial revaluation of just 1000 properties. Coventry cannot be included in this comparison.

2) The three towns differ in their work week. See below. One should not draw a conclusion from comparison of annual salaries when the time worked differs so.

Hours worked per week

	Mansfield	Tolland	Coventry
Assessor	35	40	37
Assistant(s)	35	35	37
Appraiser	35	--	--

3) Mansfield has a dedicated appraiser on staff. This is necessary in order to do the in-house revaluation and it is the only reason to have a dedicated appraiser. Tolland and Coventry hire the appraisals out as part of the consultant's fee for doing the revaluation. They do not maintain a staff appraiser.

4) I must point out to you that Mansfield hires a consultant in addition to that required for the revaluation work while Tolland and Coventry do not. That cost was not included in the data you were given. Also, Mansfield used part-time help during the revaluation and that cost was not included. Also, you were given "estimates" of salaries with no verification for the numbers used but, you don't need this information anyway.

So, let us disregard this comparison approach.

I submit to you that one should look at the cost to Mansfield for the last 5 years just for doing the revaluation. This would include the cost of the consultant, the cost of the appraiser and any other costs specific to the revaluation. All of the other costs of the Assessor's office would be required under any circumstance and should not be considered.

So, let's add up the numbers we want. Then perhaps you can look at this relative to the cost of the consultant who did Tolland's revaluation though, we really need to know how much an appropriate firm/consultant would have bid to do our work. Note: the State of Connecticut specifies a few companies qualified to do revaluation and towns must use one of these.

Mansfield's cost:

\$ 75,000 Consultant (Mansfield paid an \$80,000 consultant fee.)

\$275,000 Appraiser's salary for 5 years at \$55,000 per year

\$ 82,500 Benefit package estimate (30% for 5 years)

\$432,500 Total

Please add cost of part-time help used and possibly additional consultant cost.

This would seem to be very costly to Mansfield; Tolland spent just \$308,000 and, I believe, has more parcels. Mansfield spends over that just for the appraiser. I submit that you owe it to the tax payers of the Town to review the decision to do in-house revaluation and to justify the cost. You need to cut spending every place that you can. If you started now to budget \$25,000 for revaluation cost (This is currently being done.) plus the \$55,000 salary cost of the appraiser, you would have \$400,000 ready to hire out the revaluation in 5 years. Thank you.

*E. Wassmund*

# Memo

To: Town Council  
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager *Matt*  
CC: Town Employees  
Date: July 26, 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:

## Council Requests for Information/Council Business

- *Senior Services Social Worker* – Last week I met with Director of Human Services Kevin Grunwald and Councilors Denise Keane and Meredith Lindsey to discuss the Senior Services Social Worker position. Based on our review of the statutes and regulations concerning clinical social work in the State of Connecticut, we collectively determined that it would be appropriate to require the employee to be licensed as a licensed clinical social worker (LCSW) or licensed professional counselor (LPC), or to be receiving supervision from a licensed mental health professional. We have discussed this issue with our senior services social worker, Ms. Barbara Lavoie, and will provide her with the supervision she needs to be licensed. For your reference, I have attached the job description which has been revised to reflect this requirement (please see the Special Requirements section on page 2). I would like to thank Kevin, Denise and Meredith for their assistance in developing a resolution to this matter.

## Departmental/Division News

- *Town Manager's Office, Tour of Bergin CI* – Last week Mayor Paterson and I, along with various members of our community, attended an orientation session hosted by the Warden and the senior staff at the Bergin Correctional Institute. The session was very comprehensive, and I was impressed by the dedication of the staff and the educational programs that are provided to the inmates in order to reduce recidivism and to provide them with some of the basic skills needed to achieve constructive employment. I would like to thank Warden Monica Rinaldi and her staff for an informative tour, as well their willingness to work cooperatively with our community.
- *Town Manager's Office, Community Notification System* – On Wednesday, August 18, 2010, the Town of Mansfield and the Bergin Correctional Institution plan to test our community notification system which is designed to notify members of the community in the event of an escape at Bergin. Community members who wish to subscribe to the notification system may do so by contacting Ms. Wendy Parker in the Mansfield Resident State Trooper's Office at [ParkerWA@mansfieldct.org](mailto:ParkerWA@mansfieldct.org) or 860 429-3360.

## Major Projects and Initiatives

- *Mansfield Downtown Partnership, Storrs Center Project* – I anticipate that the Town Council will need an executive session at or around the time of your next meeting to continue our review and discussion of commercial and financial information provided in confidence by Storrs Center Alliance regarding the Storrs Center project. Sara-Ann Chaine will contact you with potential dates for that session.
- *New England Central Railroad (NECR) Line, TIGER II Application* – Earlier today I was contacted by Charles Hunter of RailAmerica with a request to sponsor his company's pre-application seeking approximately \$12.3 million from the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program, to increase the existing line's capacity to handle freight service. (This would be a first step towards the restoration of passenger rail for the line.) The main portion of the project would cover the NECR from New London to the MAVT border and some small routes around Hartford as well. The grant

does require a match of \$3 million which would be funded in its entirety by RailAmerica. The pre-application was due today and RailAmerica was unable to secure another sponsor for the application. With Mansfield's interest in this project and its importance to regional transportation, sustainability and economic development goals, I agreed to serve as a sponsor for the pre-application with the understanding that RailAmerica would need to seek endorsement from the Town Council in order to submit the more formal grant application, which is due August 23, 2010.

### Member Organizations

- *Storrs Farmers Market* - Storrs Farmers Market is pleased to invite you to its new "Midweek Mini Market" held on Wednesdays at the Mansfield Community Center. The Midweek Mini Market will be open every Wednesday from 3:00 – 5:00 pm through September 29. Stop by on your way home and select fresh vegetables, fruits, and prepared foods from Storrs Farmers Market vendors. The Midweek Mini Market will be located in the grassy area to the left of the Mansfield Community Center (rain or shine). We hope to see you there!

### Special Events

- *Tour de Mansfield – Tour de Mansfield: Village to Village* was held on Saturday, July 15, 2010 with approximately 150 riders of all ages participating. The event featured 5, 20 and 40-mile rides that started and ended at the Mansfield Community Center and concluded with a barbecue. Special thanks to our platinum sponsor, Mansfield OBGYN for supporting this great community event for the fourth year in a row! Thanks also to Sara-Ann Chaine for managing the event, Kathleen Paterson of the Mansfield Downtown Partnership and Amanda Barry of the Parks and Recreation Department for assisting with planning, and our community volunteers for the assistance with running the event.

### Upcoming Meetings\*

- Sustainability Committee, July 28, 2010, 7:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Ordinance Development and Review Subcommittee, July 29, 2010, 7:30 AM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- IWA/Planning and Zoning Commission, August 2, 2010, 7:00 PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Communications Advisory Committee, August 2, 2010, 7:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Agriculture Committee, August 3, 2010, 7:30 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Traffic Authority, August 4, 2010, 9:30 AM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Advocates for Children, August 5, 2010, 5:00 PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board of Directors, August 5, 2010, 4:00 PM, Downtown Partnership Office
- Housing Code Board of Appeals, August 9, 2010, 5:00 PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Finance Committee, August 9, 2010, 6:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Town Council, August 9, 2010, 7:30 PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building

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

**TOWN OF MANSFIELD  
POSITION DESCRIPTION**

**Class Title:** Senior Services Social Worker  
**Group:** CSEA – Professional and Technical Employees  
**Pay Grade:** CSEA Grade 20  
**FLSA:** Exempt  
**Effective Date:** August 1, 2010

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**General Description/Definition of Work**

This position performs intermediate professional work in the support and assistance of senior citizens with personal, social, health and economic needs as well as related work as required. Duties include assessing client needs; counseling and assisting clients; determining available programs and services; preparing and maintaining files, records and reports. Work is performed under regular supervision. Position reports to the Director of Human Services.

**Essential Job Functions/Typical Tasks**

- Assesses needs of individuals to identify and determine appropriate eligible support services in an effective, cost efficient manner; meets with residents to determine psycho-social needs and appropriate support and services; coordinates support providers and communicates with identified caregivers; assures outcome results are identified and achieved by providing appropriate initial contact with competent and appropriate providers; communicates to medical personnel; testifies in Probate Court.
- Working in conjunction with the Senior Center Coordinator, develops and implements programs in the areas of recreation, wellness and social service information (e.g. programs on fall prevention, balance screening, vision impairment, meditation, living wills, power of attorney, flu and pneumonia clinics, cancer screenings);
- Assists in providing and planning professional services by registered APRN's, geriatric specialists, podiatrists and the visiting nurse.
- Implements and provides programs to counsel on financial assistance, medical assistance, energy assistance, Medicare and other supplemental insurances.
- Researches providers and services available that can have a positive impact on the emotional and physical well-being of clients.
- In conjunction with fellow Human Services staff, coordinates and facilitates support groups as needed, such as the *Grandparents Raising Grandchildren* group.
- Provides consultation and support services to family members of older persons in need of assistance.
- Writes articles and conducts presentations.
- Gathers and maintains data; reports information to appropriate agencies and/or Town departments.
- Maintains records of professional services provided, including use of MySeniorCenter software.
- Performs related tasks as required.

**Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:**

- General knowledge of social, economic and health problems; general knowledge of social institutions and the methods of the helping process; general knowledge of individual and group behavior.
- General knowledge of Microsoft applications including Outlook and Word.
- Ability to identify social problems and assess the ability of clients to utilize available services to solve problems.
- Ability to communicate effectively in both oral and written forms.
- Ability to plan and organize work and to understand and interpret laws, policies and regulations; ability to prepare reports and maintain records.

## Senior Services Social Worker (cont'd.)

- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with clients, associates, other professional and technical staff, social service agencies and the general public.

### Education and Experience:

Graduation from an accredited college or university with major course work in behavioral health, social work, gerontology or related field supplemented by a master's degree and considerable counseling and case management experience. Consideration may be given to equivalent experience and training.

### Physical Demands and Work Environment:

(The physical demands and work environment characteristics described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. The list is not all-inclusive and may be supplemented as necessary. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.)

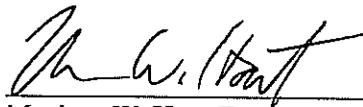
- This is sedentary work requiring the exertion of up to 10 pounds of force occasionally, and a negligible amount of force frequently or constantly to move objects.
- Work requires reaching, standing, walking, and fingering.
- Vocal communication is required for expressing or exchanging ideas by means of the spoken word, and conveying detailed or important instructions to others accurately, loudly, or quickly.
- Hearing is required to perceive information at normal spoken word levels, and to receive detailed information through oral communications and/or to make fine distinctions in sound.
- Visual acuity is required for preparing and analyzing written or computer data, operation of motor vehicles or equipment, determining the accuracy and thoroughness of work, and observing general surroundings and activities.
- The worker is not subject to adverse environmental conditions.

### Special Requirements:

Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) or Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC); or eligible for licensure and currently receiving supervision from a licensed mental health professional.

*The above description is illustrative of tasks and responsibilities. It is not meant to be all-inclusive of every task or responsibility. The description does not constitute an employment agreement between the Town of Mansfield and the employee and is subject to change by the Town as the needs of the Town and requirements of the job change.*

Approved by:



Matthew W. Hart, Town Manager

Date: 07/26/2010



*Town of Mansfield*

*Proclamation in Recognition of Mansfield Resident State Trooper's Office*

*Whereas*, the state troopers and police officers of the Mansfield Resident State Trooper's Office are responsible for the preservation of public order, dedicated to the impartial enforcement of town ordinances and state statutes, and tasked with the protection of life and property as well as addressing quality of life issues in town; and

*Whereas*, the Mansfield Resident State Trooper's Office is to be commended for its assistance in the promotion of positive community-campus relations, including its participation in the activities of the Mansfield Community Campus Partnership and its attention to unsanctioned off-campus functions and other problematic off-campus behavior; and

*Whereas*, over the past year the Mansfield Resident State Trooper's Office has successfully executed an aggressive campaign targeting narcotics related offenses in Mansfield; and

*Whereas*, in partnership with other local and state agencies the Mansfield Resident State Trooper's Office has continued its proactive enforcement of town and state liquor laws to promote public health and safety, particularly for our youth; and

*Whereas*, over the past year several of the state troopers assigned to Mansfield have received commendations, awards and promotions for meritorious service to our community and the State of Connecticut:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mansfield Town Council, on behalf of the community, does hereby express its appreciation and gratitude to the state troopers and police officers of the Mansfield Resident State Trooper Office for their outstanding service to the community.

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and caused the seal of the Town of Mansfield to be affixed on this 26<sup>th</sup> day of July in the year 2010.*

*Elizabeth C. Paterson*

Elizabeth C. Paterson  
Mayor, Town of Mansfield

## Summary of Rules of Procedure Discussion & Outstanding Items

- On April 26, 2010 the following occurred regarding Rule 4B, public hearings: Paulhus made a motion, seconded by Kochenburger to recommend for Rule 4B, “public comment at public hearings is limited to five minutes per speaker unless otherwise modified by the Council at the beginning of the hearing.” The motion passed unanimously.
- Pledge of Allegiance. On July 26, 2010 and by consensus, the Committee agreed to recommend for Rule 3 that the pledge of allegiance be added to the agenda for Council member swearing in ceremonies, one meeting in February for Presidents Day, one meeting in May for Memorial Day, one meeting in July for Independence Day, one meeting in November for Veteran’s Day.
- Rule 3b, Second Public Comment. On July 26, 2010, Kochenburger made a motion, seconded by Haddad to recommend reducing the opportunity for public comment from two opportunities to one opportunity, more specifically eliminating the second public comment of the evening. Kochenburger and Haddad voted in favor, Paulhus voting against. Motion passed.
- Rule 3b, Standing Agenda Items. On July 26, 2010 and by consensus, the Committee agreed to recommend that water/wastewater and community/campus relations alternate as standing agenda items every other meeting.
- Rule 4a/4b, Public Participation. On July 26, 2010 and by consensus, the Committee agreed to recommend that citizens who submit written comments or statements at public hearings or opportunity for public comment be encouraged to orally summarize their comments rather than reading them in their entirety.

## **Mansfield Agriculture Committee Charge**

**CHARGE/DUTIES:** The Agriculture Committee shall be an advisory board to the Town Council and other Town officials with the following charges and duties:

### **General**

- a. To foster agricultural viability and preservation of agricultural land in Mansfield.
- b. To foster a healthy environment.
- c. To serve as a conduit between local farmers and non-profit agencies, civic organizations, municipal boards and commissions, elected officials, and non-farm residents.
- d. To advocate for agriculture before land use and other commissions.
- e. To act as a resource for agricultural information.
- f. To chart land use in Mansfield to support a balance between agriculture, preservation, and other land uses.
- g. **To promote keeping Town-owned farmland in agricultural production. In addition, to ensure the responsible use of Town-owned farmland by monitoring use agreements between the Town and local farmers.**

### **Education and Outreach**

- a. To increase awareness of agricultural enterprises in the community.
- b. To promote the value of viable agriculture to the Town in the areas of employment, property taxes, environment and farmland preservation.
- c. To provide information and guidance on agriculture-related issues-such as zoning, inland wetland, public works and others - to town departments and other boards and commissions and residents as necessary.
- d. To support young farmers by supporting local, regional, and state vocational agricultural education, and 4-H programs.
- e. To recognize and support new farming operations.
- f. To act as a sounding board and provide review to town departments, boards and commissions concerning the impact of proposed town policies on agricultural activities.

### **Economic Opportunities**

- a. To identify opportunities to preserve and expand agriculture in Mansfield.
- b. To promote opportunities for residents and local businesses to support agriculture.
- c. To provide information regarding available financial support related to agricultural viability.

**MEMBERSHIP:** The Agriculture Committee will consist of 6 regular voting members and 4 alternates appointed by the Town Council in accordance with A§192 of the Mansfield Code. Insofar as practical, members appointed shall be representative of all groups interested in the management, protection and regulation of agriculture as defined by Connecticut General Statutes 1-1q, particularly those directly involved in agriculture. A chairman, vice chairman and a secretary will be elected and will serve for a term of one year.

**LENGTH OF TERM:** The appointments will be for two year terms.