

SPECIAL MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
September 27, 2010

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the special meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. ROLL CALL

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

II. WORK SESSION

School Building Project

Mayor Paterson welcomed the Mansfield Board of Education and staff to the work session.

Rick Lawrence, Lawrence Associates, and Tom DeMauro, Construction Manager from Newfield Construction, presented a short history of the project and information requested on Option E including cost, floor plans, site requirements, staffing, use of existing buildings, cost of insurance for vacant buildings, and projected time line. (Presentation attached)

Director of Finance Cherie Trahan and Director of Maintenance Bill Hammond presented the estimated cost of potential repairs for both a five year and ten year period, and a twenty year estimate of planned improvements. Both schedules were based on Option A. The total cost for repairs will partially be dependent on how and when the projects are undertaken. (Information attached)

Board of Education Chair, Mark LaPlaca, distributed a letter addressing the Board's response to Council questions. (Letter attached).

The next work session will be focused on siting issues including a report prepared by the Sustainability Committee. By consensus Council members agreed to authorize the Town Manager to send a letter to the abutters of Goodwin School to see if there is any interest in selling property.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Betty Wassmundt, Old Turnpike Road, asked if money had been placed in escrow to cover the cost of the projected repairs to the schools. Town Manager Matt Hart explained the Town does not have a sinking fund but funds these types of repairs through the Capital Improvement Fund.

Jeremy Katz, UConn student, requested an estimate on the amount spent to date on the School Building Project.

Director of Finance Cherie Trahan estimated about \$170,000 has been spent some of which will be reimbursable from the State.

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Mike Sikoski, Wildwood Road, asked if the Town has discussed possible uses for the 3 existing school buildings if they are not to be used as schools.

David Freudmann, Eastwood Road, questioned the level of debt the Town would incur if the majority of the money for these projects is to be borrowed.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Kochenburger seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk