

REGULAR MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
October 12, 2010

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. ROLL CALL

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

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to approve the minutes of the September 27, 2010 Special Meeting as corrected. Motion passed unanimously.
Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to approve the minutes of the September 27, 2010 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Ida Millman, Sycamore Drive, asked that the calendar of Council meetings be featured more prominently on the Town's website.

Betty Wassmundt, Old Turnpike Road, expressed her concerns regarding EDR's (Education Realty Trust) description of the Mansfield project as a 500 bed project in a presentation to investors, but as an apartment project in its presentations to the Town. (Submitted material attached).

Mike Sikoski, Wildwood Road, questioned the terms of appointment for members of the Ethics Board as indicated on the letters of appointment.

IV. REPORT OF TOWN MANAGER

Report attached

The Masonicare Board of Directors has approved a budget for the Mansfield Assisted/Independent Living Project. The company has retained a consulting engineer and is conducting an additional market study.

A Volunteer Driver Coordinator has been hired by the Town.

The Transportation Advisory Committee has reviewed the traffic concerns at the intersection of Mansfield City Road and Meadowbrook Lane and has suggested changes in striping, lighting and the possible installation of a guard rail in front of the affected home.

In response to a question asked in the public comment section of the meeting, the Town Manager will look at the Town's website and see if there are additional ways to highlight the Town Council's schedule of meetings.

Town Manager Matt Hart suggested an additional executive session be added to the evening's meeting. This session would also deal with personnel issues, more specifically, the contract with the professional and technical union.

V. REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Ms. Keane requested an update on whether Senior Social Worker Barbara Lavoie has begun the clinical supervision required to become a licensed social worker. Assistant to the Town Manager Maria Capriola reported the contract has been completed and signed and the process is underway.

Ms. Moran suggested that in addition to the physical transportation improvements scheduled for the area of concern on Mansfield City Road she would like to see an effort made to slow the traffic down. Town Manager Matt Hart reported the police are aware of the situation and the area is part of the regular patrol rotation.

Mayor Paterson relayed information she received from former Council member Al Hawkins concerning discussions between the Boy Scouts of America and the Eastern Connecticut School regarding the formation of a public safety explorer post out of the fire school. An organizational meeting will be held on October 21, 2010 at the fire school and all Council members are invited to attend.

Mr. Schaefer reported that cars in Mansfield Center were ransacked and items stolen from the vehicles late Sunday night. The Town Manager will request a status report from the police.

Mr. Ryan asked, given the upcoming budget season, what could be done to expedite the reorganization of the finance department as requested by the Finance Director. By consensus the Council members agreed to discuss the proposed new classifications at the next meeting.

Ms. Keane attended the Chamber of Commerce event last week and reported it was a very nice event.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Community Campus Relations

Council members requested an explanation of any follow up enforcement action taken by Carriage House Management against the tenants who violated their leases as a result of the activity of September 2, 1010. Members also requested aggregate information on the University's disciplinary actions for those students who are arrested off campus. The Town Manager will see what information can be made available to the Council.

The Town Manager reported that an additional police patrol was initiated last weekend to cover the Town more generally. The decision to continue the coverage will be made on a week to week basis. The cost of these additional patrols is borne by the Town.

Mayor Betsy Paterson and Town Manager Matt Hart have been appointed to University of Connecticut President's Task Force on Spring Weekend. At the first meeting of the task force a possible moratorium was discussed.

The Community Quality of Life Committee is reviewing a possible nuisance house ordinance and an ordinance requiring a permit for large gatherings.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

2. Storrs Road & Dog Lane Improvement Projects: Public Information Session

Ms. Keane moved and Mr. Schaefer seconded to conduct a public information meeting for the Storrs Road and Dog Lane improvement projects at 7:30 PM at the Town Council's regular meeting on October 25, 2010 in the Council Chambers of the Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to recess as the Town Council and convene as the Water Pollution Control Authority.
Motion passed unanimously.

3. WPCA, Appointment of Mansfield's Windham WPCA Representative
Mr. Haddad moved and Ms. Keane seconded to approve the following resolution:
Resolved, effective October 12, 2010, that in accordance with Article L of the September 30, 2010 sewer agreement with the Town of Windham, Director of Public Works Lon Hultgren be appointed as the Mansfield WPCA Chairperson's delegate to the Windham Water Pollution Control Authority, for an indefinite term.
Motion to approve the resolution passed unanimously.

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to adjourn as the Water Pollution Control Authority and reconvene as the Mansfield Town Council.
Motion passed unanimously.

4. Additions to Charge of Opens Space Preservation Committee
Mr. Schaefer moved and Mr. Ryan seconded, effective October 10, 2010, to approve the proposed additions to the charge of the Open Space Preservation Committee, as endorsed by the Committee on Committees.
Motion passed unanimously.

The charge of the Open Space Preservation committee, as endorsed by the Committee on Committees, is as follows:

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

General

To advise Town officials concerning open space preservation actions, as outlined in the "Planning, Acquisition, and Management Guidelines, Mansfield Open Space, Park, Recreation, Agricultural Properties and Conservation Easements," which was approved by the Town Council in 2009. These actions include:

- Review properties offered for Town acquisition
- Review proposed subdivisions and submit comments to PZC about proposed open space dedications
- Participate in the development of management plans for Town properties.

To act as a sounding board and provide review to town departments, boards and commissions concerning the impact of proposed town policies on preservation of open space.

To contribute to updates of the Plan of Conservation and Development.

Education and Outreach

To increase awareness of the Town's Open Space Preservation Program
To educate and work with landowners to promote public and private land preservation projects.

MEMBERSHIP: The Open Space Preservation Committee shall consist of 5 regular voting members (one of which shall be an ex officio representative of the Conservation Commission) and 2 alternates appointed by the Town Council in accordance with A§192 of the Mansfield Code. The appointments shall be staggered three year terms. A representative of the Planning and Zoning Commission and a representative of the Parks Advisory Committee may serve as liaison between the Committee and the Commission. Insofar as practical, members appointed shall offer expertise in land use planning or environmental/natural resource fields, such as forestry, soils, wetlands, wildlife, geology, botany. A chairman and a secretary will be elected by the committee and will serve for a term of one year.

5. Town Council Meeting Schedule for 2011

Mr. Ryan moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded, effective October 12, 2010, to adopt the Town Council Meeting Schedule for 2011, as presented by the Town Clerk. Motion passed unanimously.

The dates of the meeting will be displayed on the Town's website.

VIII. DEPARTMENTAL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

No comments offered

IX. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Ms. Lindsey reported the Parking Steering Committee met earlier in the evening and continues to work on a plan.

Ms. Moran, Chair of the Committee on Committees, moved the following nominations as recommended by the Committee on Committees:

Susan Harrington and Tom Harrington to the Parks Advisory Committee;
Leila Fecho to a full member position on the Communication Advisory Committee;

Al Cyr, Charles Galgowski, Bill Palmer, Kathleen Paterson, Carolyn Stearns, Edward Wazer, and Vicky Wetherall to the Agriculture Committee and Wesley Bell, Chrissie Dittrich and Larry Lombard as alternates to the Agriculture Committee.

Motion to approve the recommendations passed unanimously.

Ms. Moran also noted the Committee on Committees is reviewing the terms of appointments to the Ethics Board.

Chair of the Finance Committee, Bill Ryan, reported the Committee reviewed the Capital Projects adjustments, the Solid Waste Fund Program and the exemption of foreclosures from conveyance taxes.

X. PETITIONS, REQUEST AND COMMUNICATIONS

6. M. Hart - Letters of Appointment – The Town Manager will review any special qualifications of those reappointments who are not Mansfield residents and report his findings to the Council.

7. State of CT Office of Policy and Management re: Grant Application

8. CCM Federal Issues Bulletin – 09-15-10

9. CCM Candidate Bulletin: The State-Local Partnership for Education

10. Government Finance Officers Association re: Certificate of Achievement – The Town Manager commended the Director of Finance, the Finance Department, Finance Committee, the Council and Department Heads for all their efforts which led to this commendation.

11. Press Release re: TRIAD Program – Peoples United Bank, the Mansfield Police Department and senior groups have joined together in this effort. The Town Manager thanked Will Bigl and Director of Human Service Kevin Grunwald for their efforts.

12. Chronicle “Mansfield council says ‘no’ to Dog Lane land purchase” 09-24-10

13. Chronicle “Letter to the Editor” – 09-24-10

14. Chronicle “Voters to decide fate of \$2M track for high school” – 09- 25-10

15. Chronicle “Letter to the Editor” – 09-27-10

16. Chronicle “Mansfield mulling new school options” – 09-28-10

17. Chronicle “Mansfield voters keep Smith proposal on track” – 09-29- 10

18. Chronicle “Letter to the Editor” – 09-30-10

19. Chronicle “Mansfield Triad program to help out seniors” – 10-04-10

XI. FUTURE AGENDAS

The next Town Council meeting will be preceded by a workshop on the School Building Project which will include a presentation by the Sustainability Committee. The Council has also approved the publication of an explanatory text and other additional explanatory materials regarding the upcoming referendum questions on the November ballot. The Town Manager suggested that after the workshop and before the regular Council meetings an informational session on the referenda questions be scheduled. By consensus the suggestion was agreed to.

Mr. Haddad moved to recess as the Town Council and to add a second executive session to also discuss Personnel in accordance with CGS §§ 1-200(6), 1-214(b)(5)(b). Seconded by Mr. Paulhus the motion passed unanimously.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Personnel discussion regarding Professional and Technical Union contract in accordance with CGS §§ 1-200(6), 1-214(b) (5) (b)

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

Also included: Town Manager Matt Hart, Assistant to the Town Manager Maria Capriola

Personnel discussion in accordance with CGS §§ 1-200(6), 1-214(b) (5) (b)

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

7. ADJOURNMENT

The Town Council reconvened in regular session. Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Schaefer seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

October 12, 2010