TOWN OF MANSFIELD
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, March 14, 2011
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
AUDREY P. BECK MUNICIPAL BUILDING
7:30 p.m.

AGENDA

Page

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF MINUTES 1

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER

REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

OLD BUSINESS

1. School Building Project (Item #1, 03-01-11 Agenda) 63

NEW BUSINESS

2. CT Healthy Campus Grant Initiative 87
3. Appointment to Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board of Directors 93
4. Economic and Community Development Update 95

DEPARTMENTAL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS 97

REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

5. E. Paterson re: Boy Scout Troop 56 117
6. G. Padick re: Roberge Property, 66 White Oak Road 119
7. C. Vincente re: Pool Incident Costs and Update Procedures 127
8. C. Vincente re: Response to Fee Question at Feb. 28, 2011 Town Council Meeting 131
9. Mansfield Self Storage re: Fire Assistance 139
10. Moody's Assigns Aa2 to Mansfield's (CT) $2.8 Million GO Bonds 141
11. State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security re: Mansfield's Local Emergency Operations Plan 145
12. State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection re: Memorandum of Agreement, Campuswide Drainage Master Plan 147
13. Town of Mansfield Annual Report, Fiscal Year 2009-2010 149

14. Chronicle "Letter to the Editor" – 02-23-11 209
15. Chronicle "Mansfield Town Council wants school vote in May" – 02-23-11 211
16. Chronicle "Mansfield, union reach deal" – 02-23-11 215
17. Chronicle "Letter to the Editor" – 02-25-11 217
18. Chronicle "Public hearing Monday on reducing senior fees" – 02-25-11 219
19. Chronicle "Council still supports Masonicare" – 03-01-11 221
20. Chronicle "Letter to the Editor" – 03-02-11 223
21. Chronicle "Mansfield OK's land deal" – 03-02-11 225
22. Chronicle "Town wants two new schools" – 03-02-11 227
23. Chronicle "Mansfield ed budget comes in smaller" – 03-03-11 229
24. Chronicle "We offer these threads, needles" – 03-07-11" 231
25. Patch.com "Mansfield Youth Services Reaches Out to Grieving Residents" – 03-06-11 233

FUTURE AGENDAS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

Following adjournment per CGS §1-200(2) the Council will meet to discuss strategy and negotiations with respect to collective bargaining for units represented by CSEA.

SPECIAL MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
February 22, 2011
Draft

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the special meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the Mansfield Community Center.

I. ROLL CALL
Present: Keane, Kochenburger, Moran, Paterson, Paulhus, Ryan, Shapiro
Excused: Lindsey, Schaefer

II. WORK SESSION
School Building Project
Mayor Paterson welcomed members of the Board of Education and the Superintendant of Schools to the meeting.
Mayor Paterson commented that it is the responsibility of the Council to make fiscal decisions for the Town and the responsibility of the Board of Education to make educational decisions for the Town. Ms. Paterson stated that determinations will need to be made as to what the community will support, what the community can afford, and if and when to bring the issue to referendum.

Town Manager Matt Hart and Director of Finance Cherie Trahan presented a matrix of the options outlining existing and proposed reimbursement rates, facility improvements, instructional/program improvements, community benefits and issues and concerns. Construction Manager Tom Di Mauro reported that the cost estimates for new construction will need to be adjusted to reflect the current situation. These changes will be included in the material for the next work session.

Council members discussed the possible effects of the changes to the reimbursement rates and timing set forth in the Governor's proposed budget. Ms. Trahan will discuss with the Town's bond counsel what would need to be done if the project is sent to referendum and then the reimbursement rates significantly change.

Members were asked to outline their current positions.

Mr. Kochenburger prefers the Two New School Option (Original Option E) but would vote for the status quo until the Town is in a better fiscal position. He stated that when the Town does build new schools they should be not just better schools but schools that will offer significant educational benefits.

Mr. Paulhus spoke in favor of the Two New School Option (Revised Option E) stating that it is never a perfect time to build but the Town has done the work and it is now time to move forward.

Ms. Keane discussed the difference between the needs and wants of the Town stating that we "need" to do improvements to the schools but that we might not be able to afford the "wants" of the Town. Ms. Keane is not in favor of the One School Option (Option D) for educational reasons and would prefer the 20-Year Improvements to the Buildings Option (Option A Cash Basis) until the economy turns around at which time the situation could be reevaluated.

Mr. Shapiro stated that he is generally a proponent of the Two New School Option (Option E Revised) as good schools are important to Mansfield. The current schools are from the 1950's era and investing additional money into them may not make economic sense. As the next step he is in favor of sending the Two New School Option to referendum and then if the residents reject the proposal the Council can reevaluate their options.

Mr. Ryan believes the Board of Education deserves a vote on their recommendation although he feels the Town cannot afford two new schools and will not support that option. Mr. Ryan is concerned the education budgets would suffer. He is confident the One School Option (Option D) could work and feels that the Town has only heard from one faction of residents regarding the educational value of one school versus two schools.

Ms. Moran stated the Two New School Option (Option E Revised) sounds wonderful but feels that, given the falling reimbursement rates, the Town may not be able to afford this option. The data on the educational value of the One School Option (Option D) is mixed but Ms. Moran is convinced that the staff and administration are what determine the educational level of a school. She does not support the current situation nor does she support Goodwin as one of the locations of the schools.

Mayor Paterson would ideally like to support the Two New School Option (Option E Revised) but is concerned there are other economic issues in Town which will also need to be addressed including the decrease in state funding, and necessary increase in the General Fund contribution to the Capital Improvement Fund, the Four Corners Water and Sewer Project, etc. Ms. Paterson does not support making the existing schools good for the next 20 years, but she could support the One School Option (Option D) or waiting a couple of years before making a decision and performing needed maintenance in the meantime.

After additional discussion regarding the options, locations, effects on both the Town's and Board of Education's budgets, and referendum wording the Council agreed by consensus to review resolutions at the next work session which would authorize 20-Year Improvements to all Buildings (Option A Cash Basis), One New Elementary School and Renovations to the Mansfield Middle School (Option D) and Two new Elementary Schools and Less Extensive Renovations to MMS (Option E Revised).
Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to remove the $450,000 for land acquisition costs from Revised Option E.
Mr. Shapiro requested the motion be withdrawn with the understanding that a vote on the location of the schools will occur prior to sending the resolution to referendum. Ms. Moran and Mr. Ryan agreed to withdraw the motion.

Town Manager Matt Hart will provide information on the potential impact the closing of schools would have on the neighborhoods, Goodwin in particular, and possible alternative uses of the closed buildings.

Arrangements will be made so Ms. Keane can participate in the March 1st meeting by phone.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Sikoski, Wildwood Road, questioned the notice of the meeting with regards to location and the reduction in manpower required to realize the listed savings. Mr. Sikoski suggested the Town use the polling facility at UConn to query residents.

Ric Hossack, Middle Turnpike, stated he was glad to hear the Council discuss fiscal responsibility and feels the greatness of any school is not found in it facility but rather in the teachers and administration. He called for a 10 year moratorium to see what the tax benefits from the Downtown Partnership might be.

David Freudmann, Eastwood Road, believes that before any referendum is held the voters need to know the options and the facts. He feels that when a governing body sends a resolution to referendum there is an implied endorsement of the project. Mr. Freudmann expressed concern regarding the debt obligations of the Town.

Jay Rueckl, South Eagleville Road, applauded the efforts of the Council to evaluate the relative cost of the options but stated that he would vote against a One School Option.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

REGULAR MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
February 28, 2011

DRAFT

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: Kochenburger, Moran, Paterson, Ryan, Schaefer, Shapiro
Excused: Keane, Lindsey, Paulhus

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Ryan moved and Mr. Schaefer seconded to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2011 Special meeting. The motion passed with all in favor except Councilors Moran and Schaefer who abstained. Mr. Shapiro moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2011 meeting as presented. The motion passed with all in favor except Mr. Schaefer who abstained.

III. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Amendment to Fee Waiver Ordinance – Senior Center Program

The Town Clerk read the notice for the public hearing.
Mike Sikoski, Wildwood Road, spoke in favor of the amendment but stated that he is not in favor of the fee waivers established for the Community Center. Mr. Sikoski referred to an advertisement for the Center which offered a discount and urged the Council to retain control of setting the fees.
The public hearing was closed.

Mr. Schaefer moved and Mr. Kochenburger seconded to move Item 5, Meeting with Senator Williams, as the next item of business.
The motion passed unanimously.

IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Betty Wassmundt, Old Turnpike Road, expressed her desire to have public discussions on a number of subjects including the role of government and the expectations of the Ethics Code. Statement attached.

Ric Hossack, Middle Turnpike, complimented the Community Center on its babysitting class and the Fire Department on their quick response to a call over the weekend. The efforts of the trained babysitter and the quick action of the Fire Department helped save a life. Mr. Hossack called for unifying the Community Center by providing access to all town residents.

David Freudmann, Eastwood Road, urged the Town Manager and his counterparts in other sending towns to request a level funded budget from Region 19. Mr. Freudmann feels the budget should be reduced by the amount of income received from tuition for the 33 students from Columbia, approximately $330,000.

Mike Sikoski, Wildwood Road, a member of the Ethics Board but speaking for himself, commented that the draft Ethics Code under consideration by the

Personnel Committee is not what the Board of Ethics proposed. Mr. Sikoski also stated that the agenda for the Personnel Committee was posted outside the Town Clerk's office but was not on the website.

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Schaefer seconded to move Item 3, Status Report on Independent/Assisted Living Project, as the next item of business. The motion passed unanimously.

V. REPORT OF TOWN MANAGER

Report attached.
The Town Manager reported that the rating presentation with Moody's, conducted earlier in the day, went very well and he does not anticipate any changes in the Town's rating status.

The Manager will provide a history of fee setting at the Community Center and additional details regarding the cost of refilling and heating the Community Center pool for the next meeting.

VI. REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Ryan noted the proposed Region 19 budget is the Superintendant's budget which will be reduced during the budget process and that the proposed budget includes only ten potential students from Columbia.

Mr. Kochenburger corrected a statement made during public comment regarding the percentage of town residents who are members of the Community Center. His statement, as presented at an earlier meeting, was that of all the Town services offered the Community Center probably has the highest percentage of Town residents participating.

Mr. Schaefer moved and Ms. Moran seconded to add Item 7A, MMA Fuel Conversion Project – Resolution of October 26, 2009, to the agenda.

The motion passed unanimously.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

2. Amendment to Fee Waiver Ordinance – Senior Center Program
Mr. Shapiro moved and Mr. Ryan seconded adoption of the proposed February 14, 2011 amendment to the Fee Waivers Ordinance which would add senior center fees as a fee that may be waived.
Mr. Kochenburger requested a statement indicating that the amendment shall be effective 21 days after publication in a newspaper having circulation within the Town of Mansfield be added to the motion.
Agreed to by the maker and seconder of the motion the amendment as revised was approved by all.

3. Status Report on Independent/Assisted Living Project
Mr. Shapiro recused himself from the discussion.

John Paul Venoit, Senior Vice President of Residential Services of Masonicare, reiterated that Masonicare would like to pursue the assisted/independent living

project in Mansfield at the Maple Road location but lacks the necessary water to move forward. Mr. Venoit stated that assurances of support from the Town Council to the Board of Directors would be helpful.
Council members established that a letter of support would be a commitment to work collaboratively with Masonicare to procure water but would not be a commitment of funds or bonding.

Mr. Kochenburger moved and Ms. Moran seconded, effective February 28, 2011, to authorize the Mayor to issue a letter to the Board of Directors of Masonicare, conveying the Town Council's support and commitment to working collaboratively with the appropriate parties to secure water and wastewater service for Masonicare's independent/assisted living project in Mansfield.

The motion passed with all in favor except Mr. Shapiro who abstained.

4. Community/Campus Relations
Ms. Moran, Chair of the Community Quality of Life Committee, reported the Committee is discussing an ordinance regarding large gatherings. The Town Manager also reported on a meeting held with the State Police to discuss the implementation of the proposed nuisance ordinance. The Troopers had a few language suggestions but are in support of the efforts and are willing to enforce the criminal portion of the ordinance.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

5. Meeting with Senator Williams
State Senator Don Williams outlined the difficult budget situation faced by the State and answered questions from Council members. Senator Williams expects the Governor's proposal regarding the reduction of state reimbursement for school projects to be upheld or even further reduced and is confident the budget process will be completed by the beginning of May. The Senator will also explore the possibility of allowing an increase in the employee contributions to the MERS retirement system to be a subject of collective bargaining.

6. Public Information Meeting – Storrs Road Enhancement Project
Mr. Schaefer moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded, effective February 28, 2011, to schedule for 7:15 p.m. at Town Council's regular meeting on March 28, 2011, a public information session regarding the Storrs Road Enhancement Project.
Motion passed unanimously.

7. Small Cities (Community Development Block Grant) Public Hearing – Housing Rehabilitation
Mr. Ryan moved Mr. Shapiro seconded, effective February 28, 2011, to schedule a public hearing for 7:30 p.m. at the Town Council's regular meeting on March 28, 2011, to solicit public comment regarding the proposed application to the State Department of Economic Community Development for funds under the Small Cities Program.
Motion passed by all.

7a. MMS Fuel Conversion Project – Resolution of October 26, 2009
Director of Finance Cherie Trahan stated this motion is a clarification of the resolution approved by the Council on October 26, 2009.

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Schaefer seconded to approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Town Council resolution adopted October 26, 2009 is hereby amended to read as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Town of Mansfield increase by EIGHT HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS ($800,000) the appropriation for replacement of the electrical heating system at the Mansfield Middle School approved November 7, 2006, for an aggregate appropriation of $4,600,000. The amount of bonds and notes authorized shall remain $3,800,000, and the increased appropriation shall be funded from the Reserve Fund for Capital and Non-Recurring Expenditures in the amount of $476,000, and from anticipated state grants in the amount of $324,000.

Motion to approve the resolution was passed unanimously.

IX. DEPARTMENTAL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

No comments

X. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Ms. Moran, Chair of the Personnel Committee, reported the Committee is in the process of reviewing the draft Ethics Ordinance. The ordinance under review is substantially different in organization and style from the draft previously presented to the Council. The completed draft will be presented to the Council and Ethics Board for comments.

XI. PETITIONS, REQUEST AND COMMUNICATIO

8. F. Baruzzi re: FY 2011-12 Budget
9. G. Padick re: Healey Barn Grant Application
10. G. Padick re: Proposed Inland Wetlands Regulation revisions
11. Legal Notice: Public Notice to Bus and Taxi Operators
12. Press Release: Mansfield Commission on Aging Updates Long-Range Plan for Seniors
13. CCM re: President's Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Request Gets Mixed Reviews from Cities
14. Chronicle "Hearing closed for zoning reg revisions" – 02-10-11
15. Chronicle "USG: Spring Weekend should ban visitors" – 02-10-11
16. Chronicle "Mansfield wants to buy open parcel" – 02-12-11
17. Chronicle "We offer these threads, needles" – 02-14-11
18. Chronicle "Mansfield casino dollars to be slashed" – 02-16-11
19. Chronicle "Share the costs of Spring Weekend" – 02-16-11
20. Chronicle "Mansfield's grand list sees slight increase" – 02-17-11
21. Chronicle "Two firms hired to design hub for Storrs Center" – 02-17-11
22. Chronicle "We offer these threads, needles" – 02-21-11
23. Hartford Courant "UConn Student Leaders Rebuff Spring Weekend Moratorium" – 02-10-11

XII. FUTURE AGENDAS

Ms. Moran requested the reduction to day care center grants as proposed in the Governor's budget be discussed at a future meeting. Discovery Depot Director Mary Jane Newman will be invited to a future meeting.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Ryan moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

February 28, 2011

Memo

To: Town Council
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager MWH
CC: Town Employees
Date: February 28, 2011
Re: Town Manager's Report

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

Council Requests for Information/Council Business

- *Change of Location for 02/22/11 Special Meeting* – We received a question from the public whether it was appropriate for staff to change the location of the 02/22/11 special meeting of the Town Council. The meeting was originally noticed for the Council Chamber in the Audrey P. Beck Building, which staff later learned was unavailable. We issued a new notice within the 24 hour notice period, moving the location of the meeting to the Mansfield Community Center. We did discuss this issue with Mr. Tom Hennick, Public Information Officer for the Freedom of Information Commission, who verified that the Town did everything necessary to move the meeting. The location and date of any public meeting are required to be part of the notice but if a location is found to be insufficient it is the obligation of the agency to find a place that will accommodate the needs of the meeting. Additionally, it is the responsibility of the public agency to notify the public of the change of location. In this case, we notified the public of the change in the meeting location via the QNotify email distribution list system, by posting the revised agenda with the new location on the website and on the Town Clerk's meeting notice board, and by posting notice of the new location on the external doors of the Town Hall and on the Council Chamber doors.

Departmental/Division News

- *Human Services* – The Mansfield Advocates for Children will be hosting a Community Conversation on Mansfield's Plan for Young Children on Saturday, March 26 from 2:30-6:00PM. As this plan has many policy implications for the Town, staff strongly encourages attendance by Council members. Please see the attached flyers for more information.
- *Public Works* – The Town's new salt storage building is almost complete. Some work remains, including: portions of the lighting, concrete wall coating and final paving. Warmer weather is necessary before we can complete the concrete and paving work. Feel free to stop by the Town Garage to see our progress.
- *Town Manager's Office*
  - CCM Legislative Update – Last Thursday, February 24th, the Mayor and I attended CCM's legislative update where the Governor and OPM Secretary Benjamin Barnes reviewed the Governor's proposed budget and its impact on cities and towns. I have attached to item #5 of this packet information regarding the impact of the Governor's proposed budget on Mansfield.
  - Director of Planning and Development – We are actively recruiting candidates on a nationwide basis to serve as our next Director of Planning. I have modified the job description slightly to formalize responsibilities in the areas of community and economic development – hence, the slight change to the title. We are planning to conduct initial interviews in early April of this year.
  - Health Insurance Pooling – This morning I attended an informative presentation hosted by EASTCONN, our local regional educational resource center, regarding the benefits of health insurance pooling. Representatives from a number of area towns and school districts attended and we agreed to continue to review the subject to see if health insurance pooling or the establishment of a health insurance collaborative would make sense for our region. Superintendent Baruzzi and I will continue to monitor this effort to determine whether it would be beneficial for Mansfield to join a larger health insurance pool.

Major Projects and Initiatives

- School Renovations Project – The Town Council has a special meeting scheduled for 6:30PM tomorrow evening, March 1, 2011, to discuss the proposed school renovations project. Staff, the project architect and the construction manager will be on hand to answer any questions from Council. We have sent a packet of back-up information to you; this information has also been posted in the town's website.

Upcoming Meetings*

- Regulatory Review Committee, March 1, 2011, 2:30PM, Conference Room C, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- **Special Town Council Meeting**, March 1, 2011, 6:30PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Advocates for Children, March 2, 2011, 5:00PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Committee on Community Quality of Life, March 2, 2011, 7:00PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board of Directors, March 3, 2011, 4:00PM, Mansfield Downtown Partnership Office
- Ethics Board, March 3, 2011, 4:30PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Four Corners Sewer and Water Advisory Committee, March 3, 2011, 7:00PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Inland Wetland Agency/Planning and Zoning Commission, March 7, 2011, 7:00PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Town/University Relations Committee, March 8, 2011, 4:00PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Parking Steering Committee, March 8, 2011, 6:00PM, Mansfield Downtown Partnership Office
- Historic District Commission, March 8, 2011, 8:00PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Historical Society Board Meeting, March 9, 2011, 7:30PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Community Campus Partnership, March 10, 2011, 4:00PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Solid Waste Advisory Committee, March 10, 2011, 7:30PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Housing Code Board of Appeals, March 14, 2011, 5:00PM, Conference Room C, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Finance Committee, March 14, 2011, 6:00PM, Conference Room C, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Town Council, March 14, 2011, 7:30PM, 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 860-429-3302 for a complete and up-to-date listing of committee meetings.*

Let's talk about

Mansfield's

future...

All Mansfield Children are healthy, successful learners, connected to the community

Saturday

March 26th

2:30-6:00 PM

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

TOWN HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

LIGHT SUPPER SERVED

R.S.V.P. BY 3/18 at 860-429-3399 EXT 3933

Child care available upon request

Please provide ages and number of children

Mansfield Advocates for Children

This event is sponsored by The William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund.

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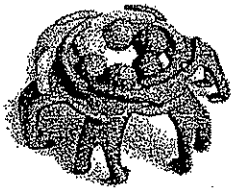

What Is A Community Conversation?

Using a model developed by Public Agenda and the Institute for Educational Leadership, Community Conversations help communities to find common ground for public action and ways to work together to address a variety of issues. Conversations are respectful discussions, characterized by full and diverse participation, where real questions are asked, time is shared, and mutual listening and learning happen. Community Conversations:

- Provide opportunities for people from diverse backgrounds to speak openly with each other in a safe setting;
- Allow participants to voice personal views on important issues through the process of dialogue and discussion;
- Help find common ground for action among participants who may approach these issues with different perspectives; and
- Support participants as they explore differences so that people previously at odds with one another align on objectives and strategies.

What Will Happen At this Event?

The Community Conversation that you have been invited to will give you an opportunity to provide input on Mansfield Advocates for Children's Plan for Young Children. This plan attempts to develop and implement strategies to ensure that "all Mansfield children are healthy, successful learners, connected to the community." Your role will be to discuss these strategies in an attempt to determine how to best achieve this result. The format for the afternoon will be:

- *2:30- Registration/Introductions*
- *2:45- Overview of Mansfield's Plan for Young Children*
- *3:15-4:30- Facilitated Small Group Discussions*
- *4:45-5:30- Group Presentations/Share a Meal*
- *5:30- 6:00- Wrap-Up/Next Steps*

Community Conversations are fun, energizing events that help residents to connect with each other around important issues in a meaningful way. Please call 429-3399, press 3933 by March 18 to register for this event and to arrange for childcare if you will need it for that day. We look forward to seeing you on March 26!

Mansfield Advocates for Children

Funding for the event is generously provided by the William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund

February 28, 2011

To: town Council
From: Betty Wassmundt, Storrs

Before you continue with this year's budget, from what I've heard a large tax increase is planned, I would like you, the council, to have a discussion in open session about what you feel the proper role of government to be. For example, should government provide roads, schools, recreation, job creation, town ~~creation~~ Dev. land etc? It would be nice to know your philosophy. It would be nice to know your priorities.

I see Ethics on the Agenda for the Personnel Committee and I would ask you for an open session discussion as to what you expect from an Ethics Code and why. Do you believe that a town's code of ethics is to give the public confidence in its government or should the town's code of ethics protect the employee.

I'd asked last meeting for the town manager to provide documentation as to why he says Mansfield requires 1 million gallons of water a day. I hope we all get that information.

I heard the town manager say that the Downtown will provide 174 jobs. May we have documentation to substantiate that claim.

About the draining of the CC swimming pool, the town manager says that water replacement cost $4,000. I hear that 24 tanker loads of water had to come in at a cost of $6,000. And there is the cost to heat up all that water, what about that? And was anyone held accountable for this fiasco? And, I heard that management was going to institute procedures so that this won't happen again. Now is that good management or should we expect management to have thought of that beforehand?

MERS – Town Manager – not sustainable

SPECIAL MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
March 1, 2011
DRAFT

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the special meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Keane (by phone), Kochenburger, Lindsey, Moran, Paterson, Paulhus, Ryan, Schaefer, Shapiro

II. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

April Holinko, Middle Turnpike, presented a position paper in support of a planned program of renovation and maintenance for the schools from the Republican Party. (Statement attached) Ms. Holinko also read a letter from Gordon Allan, a former school administrator, who is also in favor of preserving and maintaining the existing buildings. (Letter attached)

Terry Bertholet, Coventry Road, commented on the importance of preserving the quality of education in Mansfield and the need for additional security measures at the schools.

Jay Rueckl, South Eagleville Road, thanked the Council for their hard work and urged small schools for small children. Mr. Rueckl opposes the One School Option as it would change the current system which he feels is working.

Katherine Paulhus, Board of Education member, speaking as a parent this evening, commented that based on the current fiscal uncertainty she is not sure that it makes sense to do anything but eliminate the One School Option.

Jeff Smith, former Mansfield Director of Finance, feels the Two School Option would be an educational and financial disaster. Mansfield has always hired the best teachers but with the pressure to fund the debt service as a result of this project the Town would likely be forced to cut programs and lower the quality of the teachers. Mr. Smith also noted that although Mansfield currently enjoys a low debt service obligation we are beholden to the State for much of our revenues.

Richard Pellegrine, Clover Mill Road, reminded members that when we think of schools we need to think of teachers, staff and the custodians. During his tenure on the Board of Education Mr. Pellegrine knew of custodians who took pride in their schools and went beyond what was expected of them. He feels the expectations have been lowered in the last few years because people know that something different is going to be done with the schools. He supports the tradition of three schools.

Cristina Colon-Semenza, Woods Road, spoke for the parents who are against the One School Option as she feels it is not in the best interest of the children.

Robin Blomstrann, Eagleville Road, spoke in favor of renovation and, if not that, would be supportive of the Two School Option if Goodwin School is one of the schools.
Megan Meikle, Depot Road, agreed with the comments of Ms. Blomstrann and quoted former Board of Education Chair Tim Quinn as saying, "small schools for small children, large schools for large children."

Bill Caneira, Candide Lane, noted the teachers' survey was overwhelming against the One School Option.

Bev Allen, Patriots Square, expressed her support in maintaining the 3 schools with renovations and is concerned with the hidden cost associated with changes.

III. OLD BUSINESS

Town Manager Matt Hart reviewed a timeline prepared by staff and consultants which outlines the necessary steps for the School Building Project. Members discussed the information provided regarding the possible changes to the reimbursement rate and its applicability to a project approved and submitted prior to the June 30, 2011 deadline.
In an effort to capture the impact of these projects the Town Manager presented a 10 year forecast of revenues and expenditures which includes details for the Two School Option, the MMS renovations, a increase in the fund balance to 10%, an increase in the General Fund contribution to the Capital Improvement Program, the water and waste water infrastructure for the Four Corners area and current and future police needs. A review of the debt service fund was also presented. Mr. Hart noted that the forecast does not include all the Capital Improvement Projects currently scheduled. Director of Finance Cherie Trahan reported that in a recent review Moody's expressed the need to increase the fund balance to 10%, up from the current fund balance of just below 5%.

Mr. Ryan requested further confirmation on the reimbursement rate.

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded that the sense of the Council is to remove the One School Option from consideration.
The motion passed with all in favor except Mr. Ryan who expressed concern that the Town will not be able to maintain current educational operating levels as a result of the cost of the facilities.

The Council invited School Board Chair Mike LaPlaca to join them at the table.

Mr. Paulhus moved and Ms. Lindsey seconded to support the Twenty Year Improvements to All Buildings (Cash Basis) Option.

The motion was defeated with Keane, Lindsey and Paulhus in favor and Kochenburger, Moran, Paterson, Ryan, Schaefer and Shapiro in opposition.

Members debated the concept of spreading the project out over a number of years either building the two elementary schools at different times or building both elementary schools at the same time and delaying the middle school project until a later date.

Ms. Moran moved to proceed to referendum on May 24, 2011 with two schools and the middle school renovations with the provision that the elementary school sites are designated no later than March 14, 2011.

The motion passed with Kochenburger, Moran, Paterson, Ryan, Schaefer and Shapiro voting in favor and Keane, Lindsey and Paulhus voting in opposition.

Director of Planning Gregory Padick reviewed a general listing of locational considerations for the siting of a new school and offered more specific information about the three existing elementary school sites.

Mr. Paulhus moved and Ms. Lindsey seconded to designate the Southeast and Goodwin sites as the locations for the new schools.

Motion failed with Keane, Lindsey and Paulhus voting in favor and Kochenburger, Moran, Paterson, Ryan, Schaefer and Shapiro voting in opposition.

Mr. Schaefer moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to designate the Southeast and Vinton sites as the locations for the new schools.

The motion failed with Moran, Ryan, Schaefer and Shapiro voting in favor and Keane, Kochenburger, Lindsey, Paterson and Paulhus voting in opposition.

Mr. LaPlaca suggested the need for more public input regarding the location of the schools.

The siting of the schools will be on the March 14, 2011 Town Council agenda.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 p.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

MANSFIELD REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE
P.O. BOX 32
MANSFIELD, CT 06250
MARCH 1, 2011

Over the years the people of this town have been strong supporters of our educational system, valuing a good education as a necessary basis for all of our children. We, the members of the Mansfield Republican Town Committee, pride ourselves as having been active, positive supporters of Mansfield education. Currently both the board of education and the town council are grappling with the issue of a possible school building project – what to propose and what to support. The issues appear to be should we demolish 2 elementary schools and rebuild 2 larger ones to accommodate our K-4 population; or should we leave empty 2 elementary schools, demolish the third and rebuild 1 large school for our K-4 population; or should we leave all 3 elementary schools standing and occupied and plan and carry out a renovation/maintenance plan for our entire K-8 population?

After much discussion and research, the Mansfield Republican Town Committee has concluded that it would be in the best interests of our children and the taxpayers of the town to, at this time, support a planned program of renovation and maintenance of our K-8 schools – 3 elementary and 1 middle. Further we support this as a Capital Improvement project, not reliant on state bonding and reimbursements.

Our reasons for this position are as follows:

1. It appears that at this time, no one is able to predict or project, realistically, the possible total costs to the town and taxpayers of the "demolish/rebuild" projects.
2. Under our new governor there appears to be a change in proposed school building/renovation reimbursement percentages – but nothing here is definite.
3. There is a possibility there may be no bonding projects approved by the state in the coming years (due to the current deficit climate).
4. In the past, the town has been proactive in addressing and maintaining buildings. We believe these policies should be reinstated. All Town of Mansfield buildings need to have planned programs of maintenance.
5. Renovations of school buildings can be planned for times when they are the least disruptive to the children, i.e., vacations, summers or when there is a chance to move children out of the affected areas for the least amount of time. On the other hand, demolition and reconstruction will be 2 to 3 year projects that will require moving children to different buildings/ neighborhoods for years at a time.
6. The need for renovating buildings in order to address security issues can be accomplished without physically moving offices, etc.
7. The schools, 3 elementary and 1 middle, are all structurally sound and technologically up-to-date.
8. Smaller, neighborhood-type schools appear to be more conducive for learning, especially in the early grades.
9. If a school's population decreases and another's increases, redistricting is an option that is something that many of our children over the years have experienced and have survived.
10. The Town of Mansfield is embarking on some building, construction projects that are already having an impact on our budgets. The addition of a school building project, with indefinable costs, could severely hamper these other projects.

In conclusion, the Mansfield Republican Town Committee support a plan to program the necessary renovation and maintenance of all 3 of our elementary schools and middle school and would want the Town Council to provide for the monies through our annual budget.

Gordon B. Allan
25 Sawmill Brook Lane
Mansfield Center, CT 06250

March 1, 2011

Town Managers office
Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
4 South Eagleville Road
Storrs, CT 06268

Dear Matthew Hart, Elizabeth Paterson and Town Councilors,
As a longtime Mansfield resident and former school administrator, I have become aware of the school building project proposals and endorse the concept of preservation and maintenance of our existing school buildings which include Goodwin, Southeast, Vinton and Mansfield Middle. I encourage you to do the same. These schools have successfully met our children's educational needs for many years in the past and look forward to many more years in the future.

Respectfully,

Gordon B. Allan

Gordon B. Allan

Print Close

school options

From: **Robin Blomstrann** (robinjohnb@sbcglobal.net)
Sent: Mon 2/28/11 4:31 PM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org

To whom it may concern:

I have written to express my discontent with the one school option in an earlier letter. However, I did not mention in my previous letter that my major preference would be to repair the existing three schools. My second preference would be the two school option as long as they are located on both ends of town.

If the ballot comes down to the two school option, please consider disclosing the location of the two schools on the ballot as this will make a major difference for voters in the Goodwin area. If we go with the two schools, it is only fair to have each school on opposite ends of town for equal travel distances. The fear in the minds of many is that UConn will take over the Goodwin area if there is no school present and this could impact our home values.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,
Robin Blomstrann

One school option

From: **Robin Blomstrann** (robinjohnb@sbcglobal.net)
Sent: Thu 2/24/11 8:28 AM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org (TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org)

Hello,

I am writing to express vehement opposition to the one school project. I feel that kids will lose connections which are vital to their development. Life has become impersonal enough. Inevitably, with a large sized school, more children will fall through the cracks. In addition, school should provide a cozy, nurturing environment for children. If this decision comes down to money, I will be very disappointed in a town I moved to because of its schools and commitment to education.

Please do the right thing for our children. My kids will not be impacted by this decision, but, as a mom, concerned citizen, and former educator, I feel strongly enough about this issue to voice my opinion.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Robin Blomstrann

School Building Vote

From: **Stacy Boothroyd** (sbooth21@sbcglobal.net)
Sent: Wed 2/23/11 10:53 AM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org

Dear Council,

I am strongly opposed to the one-school option. As a life-long resident, parent, and tax payer, the best option for the future of our children and town is to have smaller schools. So if given the option, I would support the two school option as opposed to the one school option.

Thank you,
Stacy Boothroyd

school building project

From: **Boskovic, Michele (World Languages & Cultures)** (Boskovicm@easternct.edu)
Sent: Fri 2/25/11 12:12 PM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org

Hello,
As the Town Council is getting ready to decide on an option for the school building project, I would like to express my strong opposition to the one-school option.
Thank you.
Michele Boskovic
11 Michele Lane (Southeast School)

Michele Bacholle-Boskovic, Ph.D.
Dept of World Languages and Cultures
Eastern Connecticut State University
Willimantic, CT 06226
860-465-4572

School building project

From: **Julie Brown** (julie.medill@yahoo.com)
Sent: Tue 2/22/11 9:21 PM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org

I am strongly against the one school option, and I support the two school option.
Thank you,
Julie Brown

school building project

From: **Bill Caneira** (wcaneira8614@charter.net)
Sent: Wed 2/23/11 8:28 PM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org
2 attachments
062810-comments-againstoptionD.doc (33.0 KB) , 071210-comments-againstoptionD.doc (42.0 KB)

Councilors and neighbors:

I understand that we are nearing a Council vote on the referendum question for the School Building Project. I'm one of the parents opposed to the single-school Option D and I wanted to take an opportunity to resubmit to you some of my thoughts on the matter. Please take a few minutes to review the attached. I considered writing something entirely new, but ultimately I felt that these comments still served their purpose.

In summary, I feel that Option D will be to the detriment of our students, teachers, administration, as well as our neighborhoods. I can't quantify this cost, but I hear it in the voices of fellow parents, and I read it in the words of the BOE reccommendation, and of those who participated in the teacher survey. I imagine that cost when I recall the LOWV panel discussing school size, and shudder at the thought of sending a 3 or 4 year old pre-K child to a 700 student school (with 1.5 nurses).

I can appreciate that we are faced with deteriorating, costly facilities and declining revenues and reimbursements - and I don't have a solution for that, especially in our current economic climate. All I ask is that while weighing the various options, please consider those less obvious costs that might not show up in the dollar figures.

Thank you for listening, and for your attention to the project.
Bill Caneira
38 Candide Lane

school building project

From: **Maryclaire Capetta** (maryclaire.capetta@gmail.com)
Sent: Wed 2/23/11 12:29 PM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org

Councilpersons,
I am emailing to voice my strong opposition to the one-school option for Mansfield.
Thank you for serving our town.
Sincerely,
Maryclaire Capetta
48 Monticello Lane

one school option

From: **melissa champagne** (melissachamp@snet.net)
Sent: Wed 2/23/11 11:05 AM
To: towncouncil@mansfieldct.org

To Whom It May Concern:

My family and I are strongly opposed to the one-school option.

Sincerely,
Melissa Champagne

Print Close

School Building Project

From: **Kimberly Christenson** (kmchristenson@charter.net)
Sent: Tue 3/01/11 12:58 PM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org

Hi~

I am writing in reference to the School Building Project. Unfortunately, we cannot attend the meeting tonight, due to a sick child and my husband's work schedule.

However, we would like you to know that we strongly oppose the one school building option.

We are open to growth and change, and fully support the two school proposal.

Sincerely,

Kimberly and Richard Christenson
19 Adeline Place
Mansfield Center

Opposition to the one-school option

From: **Cristina Colon-Semenza** (ccolonsemenza@hotmail.com)
Sent: Tue 2/22/11 11:50 PM
To: towncouncil@mansfieldct.org

Dear Council Members,
I have voiced my concerns several times in the past and I will continue to voice my strong opposition to the one school option. This option is not in the best interest of our children or our community, as have parents, educators and research all said previously.

Sincerely,

Cristina Colon-Semenza
64 Woods Rd, Mansfield

One School

From: **Sonya Conrad** (sonyaconrad@charter.net)
Sent: Mon 7/12/10 3:42 PM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org; PatersonE@mansfieldct.org; HaddadG@mansfieldct.org; DeniseKeane2009@gmail.com; PeterKochenburger@yahoo.com; LindseyM@mansfieldct.org; Morantt@earthlink.net; PaulhusCR@mansfieldct.org; bonbill@charter.net; Carl.Schaefer@uconn.edu

Hello Council Members,

I am a mom of two beautiful boys (I admit I'm a little biased ☺) : 16mnths and 5yrs.

My husband and I moved to Mansfield in 2001 for the purpose of the quality education in smaller schools and the rural feel/small community (as many other people have).

Our family supports the three schools 'as is'. We are in favor of paying more in taxes to maintain the current three elementary schools in town and doing what is necessary to maintain the middle school.

Building a new 'one school' or even 'two schools' does not mean updates/repairs wont need to be done on those buildings in the future. We will have to pay for demolition of the current schools if they aren't leased etc.. Buildings in town such as the library and town hall were schools at one time however we don't need another library or another town hall. I see the vacant schools having potentially many hidden costs.

If my husband and I wanted to pay less in taxes we would move to a neighboring town where taxes are a priority not education (and send them to private school). As a result of some neighboring towns having lower taxes they are paying for it in other ways (the pay me now or pay me later principle – the pay me later has ramifications that no dollar amount could ever truly fix). I would like to not see that in Mansfield.

Thank you for your time.

Cheers,
Sonya Conrad

No on the one-school plan

From: **Coppola, Marie** (marie.coppola@uconn.edu)
Sent: Sun 7/11/10 9:59 PM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org (TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org); PatersonE@mansfieldct.org (PatersonE@mansfieldct.org); HaddadG@mansfieldct.org (HaddadG@mansfieldct.org); DeniseKeane2009@gmail.com (DeniseKeane2009@gmail.com); PeterKochenburger@yahoo.com (PeterKochenburger@yahoo.com); LindseyM@mansfieldct.org (LindseyM@mansfieldct.org); Morantt@earthlink.net (Morantt@earthlink.net); PaulhusCR@mansfieldct.org (PaulhusCR@mansfieldct.org); bonbill@charter.net (bonbill@charter.net); Schaefer, Carl (carl.schaefer@uconn.edu)

Dear Council Members,

I am a new resident of Mansfield with a young daughter. I believe that the one-school option will have a negative impact on the academic and social quality of our schools, and strongly urge you to support the neighborhood schools by voting NO on the one-school plan.

Sincerely,
Marie Coppola

Please note new email: marie.coppola@uconn.edu<mailto:marie.coppola@uconn.edu>

Marie Coppola, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Departments of Psychology and Linguistics
University of Connecticut

Mailing address:
Department of Psychology
University of Connecticut
406 Babbidge Road
Unit 1020
Storrs CT 06269-1020
USA
Phone: +1 860 486-4907 | Fax: +1 860 486-2760

Strong opposition to the one-school option

From: **Coppola, Marie** (marie.coppola@uconn.edu)
Sent: Tue 2/22/11 11:16 PM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org (TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org)

Dear Council Members,

I understand that the Council is nearing its decision on the School Building Project. I am strongly opposed to the one-school option because I do not think it would adequately serve our students.

Sincerely,
Marie Coppola
233 Hanks Hill Rd
Storrs Mansfield

Please note new email: marie.coppola@uconn.edu

Marie Coppola, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Departments of Psychology and Linguistics
University of Connecticut

Mailing address:
Department of Psychology
University of Connecticut
406 Babbidge Road
Unit 1020
Storrs CT 06269-1020
USA
Office: +1 860 486-4907 | Lab: +1 860 486-2185 | Fax: +1 860 486-2760

Please do not build a mega-school

From: **Anna Cranmer** (annacranmer@hotmail.com)
Sent: Sun 7/11/10 11:05 PM
To: towncouncil@mansfieldct.org; patersone@mansfieldct.org; haddadg@mansfieldct.org; denisekeane2009@gmail.com; peterkochenburger@yahoo.com; lindseym@mansfieldct.org; morantt@earthlink.net; paulhuscr@mansfieldct.org; bonbill@charter.net; carl.schaefer@uconn.edu

Mansfield currently has a wonderful school system, and all of my neighbors with school-aged children have moved to this town because of it. Please do not eliminate the neighborhood school system for elementary school in Mansfield. The single school that has been proposed is far too big for an elementary school, even by large school standards, and will not provide the optimal learning environment for our children. Mansfield will no longer be as desirable a place to live and our property values will decline.

I realize that there are many budget constraints and have heard the arguements for the single school. I am unconvinced, however, that building the new mega-school, and relying heavily on state funding which may or may not come through, is the right decision at this time. While our current schools may be older, they are thriving because of the dedicated staff and motivated students, who are not lost in a sea of 750 students.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Anna Cranmer
33 Adeline Place
Mansfield Center, CT 06250

The New Busy is not the old busy. Search, chat and e-mail from your inbox. Get started.

School Building Project

From: **Lisa Drzewiecki** (shepwiecki@sbcglobal.net)
Sent: Wed 2/23/11 10:22 PM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org

To the Town Council,

I understand that you will be voting soon about the school building project and I wanted to let you know that I am strongly opposed to the one-school option. I know that it's cheaper to build one school, but it would be a huge mistake for our students and teachers. One school is too large for kids this age and I'm concerned about the affects on educational quality and safety. For these reasons, I would support the 2-school option for our town.

-Lisa Drzewiecki

school building plan

From: **ieigsti@gmail.com** on behalf of **Inge-Marie Eigsti** (inge-marie.eigsti@uconn.edu)
Sent: Thu 2/24/11 8:22 PM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org

Dear Town Council members,

As you move forward with discussions about how to modify the current school buildings, I wanted to voice my strong support for a multiple-school plan, where we maintain at least 2 separate elementary school buildings in Mansfield. The single-school approach may be appealing for some financial reasons (though it also seems to ignore long-term costs of emptying multiple buildings); however, I think the research that the panel reviewed strongly suggests that a single large school is less effective in supporting student needs (and indeed, may most hurt our most vulnerable children - those who have less family support for education).

Thank you for hearing this input!
--Inge-Marie Eigsti
Professor of Clinical Psychology, University of Connecticut

Inge-Marie Eigsti, Ph.D.
http://eigsti.psy.uconn.edu/
Bousfield 146
Dept. of Psychology, Univ. of Connecticut
406 Babbidge Road, Unit 1020
Storrs, CT 06269

inge-marie.eigsti@uconn.edu
(860) 486-6021
fax: 486-2760

Please vote for the two school option

From: **Brian Evans** (evansbw1@yahoo.com)
Sent: Wed 2/23/11 9:10 PM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org

Hello,

I am a Mansfield resident and parent of an Annie Vinton student. I strongly oppose the one school option and urge you to vote against it.

Thank you.

-Brian Evans

elementary school vote

From: **Evans, Heather** (heather.evans@uconn.edu)
Sent: Wed 2/23/11 10:37 AM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org (TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org)

I am a resident of Mansfield Center and I STRONGLY oppose the one-school option.

I realize that budgets are tight right now, but this is our opportunity to support and continue our high quality elementary education system. Schools are not built every 5 or 10 years. If we make the wrong decision now, we will be living with that for many years to come. Please use the wisdom and foresight necessary to realize that the 2-school option will be what is in the best interest of our children's education for MANY years to come. Please don't be fooled into thinking that school budgets and funding are appropriate places to be stingy, even in our troubled economy.

THE DECISION YOU MAKE NOW WILL AFFECT OUR CHILDREN FOR MANY YEARS TO COME. BE WISE.

Heather Evans, PhD, RNC, CLC
Assistant Clinical Professor
University of Connecticut
School of Nursing
231 Glenbrook Road
Storrs, CT 06269-2026

Office Information:
Storrs Hall, #321
Phone: 860-486-1699
Email: Heather.Evans@UCONN.edu

School options

From: **Jim Greene** (jimgreenejr@hotmail.com)
Sent: Mon 7/12/10 6:51 AM
To: towncouncil@mansfieldct.org; patersone@mansfieldct.org; haddadg@mansfieldct.org; denisekeane2009@gmail.com; peterkochenburger@yahoo.com; lindseym@mansfieldct.org; morantt@earthlink.net; paulhuscr@mansfieldct.org; bonbill@charter.net; carl.schaefer@uconn.edu

Good Morning,

I am writing to voice my opinion that Mansfield either adopt the one school policy. As the parent of two elementary school students I believe in the long run that this is the most viable option for the town. Having most of the children attending the same schools throughout their younger years will provide stability and friendships that will last a lifetime. I realize this is a simplistic way of viewing this and there are many other reasons I believe the way I do but I do not feel I will say anything that you have not heard before.

I also realize this is a very tough decision that you are facing and there is a lot of pressure being felt on all sides of the issue. I do believe Mansfield had a building committee recommend this to the board of education and also strongly believe the committee had the best interests of both the students and the town when they made that recommendation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kindest Regards,

Jim Greene
52 Beacon Hill Dr.
Storrs, CT 06268

The New Busy think 9 to 5 is a cute idea. Combine multiple calendars with Hotmail. Get busy.

Elizabeth Paterson

From: Heidi Hand [heidihand@sbcglobal.net] **Sent:** Tue 3/1/2011 9:52 AM
To: Town Council
Cc:
Subject: One-School Option
Attachments:

Dear Council Members,

I am writing to express my opposition to the one-school option. I strongly believe that smaller schools are more appropriate for young children. I do not believe that a large, single school is in the best interests of Mansfield's children.

Thank you for your consideration and and time as you address this complex issue.

Sincerely,

Heidi Hand
39 Bundy Lane
Storrs

School Building Project

From: **Jessica Higham** (jjohigham@gmail.com)
Sent: Fri 2/25/11 11:56 AM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org
Cc: Jessica Higham (jjohigham@gmail.com)

Dear Town Council Members,
I am writing to express my strong opposition to the one school option for Mansfield. I understand that in difficult financial times this option seems appealing but all of the experts that served on the LWV/MAC panel agreed that one school would not be the best educational option for our students. Likewise, they stated that studies showed a much higher turnover rate with educators the larger the schools became. Mansfield has wonderful teachers and a great educational system, please take the one school option off of the table.
Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Higham
14 Adeline Place
Mansfield Center, CT

Elizabeth Paterson

From: john hodgson [jlhodgson@hotmail.com] **Sent:** Mon 2/28/2011 6:56 AM
To: Town Council
Cc:
Subject: School Building Project
Attachments:

Dear Mansfield Town Council Members,

I appreciate your hard work as you consider the future of our town's educational system. During the course of the past year, I have followed the school building issue through the various boards, and have spoken before the School Building Committee, the Board of Education, and the Town Council on different occasions. I appreciate the opportunity to address the Council once more as it prepares to develop a referendum question on the school building issue.

Last week, my child had a conference with the school psychologist and another student at Southeast School. Some things had been disappearing from her backpack, and staff members had figured out where they were ending up. In the meeting, my daughter got to tell the other child what it felt like to have possessions taken. The other child got to explain himself, and give a heartfelt apology. Then, the three of them played a game together.

Later in the week, as I got off the bus after a late night road game with the varsity ice hockey team that I coach at E.O. Smith, the bus driver stopped me and made a comment about how pleased she always is when she sees that her driving assignment involves E.O. Smith students. She knows they will behave and then thank her for the ride.

There is no doubt in my mind that there is a cause/effect relationship between these two occurrences. I've been seeing it for years. As a counselor at E.O. Smith, I am reminded daily of the special culture we have--which begins with the extraordinary behavior of our students, and the remarkable way they have for caring about the plight of others. As a Southeast parent, I am likewise reminded that I have little to do with the formation of this culture-- I simply help maintain it. For five years I have watched the Southeast staff work their magic in all sorts of settings and situations, be it individual issues with my own child, school-wide functions, or countless unique occurrences like the one last week. I have watched them nurture and shape students from many backgrounds, and mold this culture that I eventually see in the high school-- and on the bus.

The one common denominator, the one thing that has allowed them to truly know their students, to coordinate with one another in their work with these students, and to establish a sense of *community* and *one's role in it* that carries forward, is the size of the learning community itself. I could give countless examples. The incident with the backpack is the current one: It is so clear that because the psychologist knows both of these students, because she had a trusting relationship with teachers she sees daily, because both of the students know each other from their years together, and because the psychologist *had time* to work this situation properly, both children benefited. As a parent, I am pleased that my daughter was subtly shown that there was a human on the other side, that there could be resolution, that she doesn't have to go on feeling victimized. Perhaps even more, I am pleased that this boy, whom I know a little about, is being served by great professionals *over five years*-- not one year at a time-- because the structure allows them to know him and share in his development. Again, it is work like this in the formative years that makes some of our most challenging kids in the high school--and ultimately in society-- truly *reachable*, and *educable*.

Because there are too many interfering variables, it is simply hard to envision this kind of intervention-- which occurs frequently in our three elementary schools-- occurring as readily in a large school. When students don't know one another, it's harder to bring them together. When staff members are acquaintances rather than colleagues, it is harder for them to collaborate well. And, when professionals don't really know their students, they can't be as effective. Teachers who work in large schools confirm this regularly-- and have done so before our committees.

Having lived in Mansfield for most of 35 years, and in my roles as a student in the schools, and later as a high school counselor, parent, and husband of a teacher here, I have long known that we have something special in our schools. And now, as we consider the future structure of education in our town, we must consider the fragility of our outstanding system-- and the impact that

wholesale changes in structure can have upon it.

We live in difficult economic times that happen to coincide with a feeling that something needs to be done about the condition of our school buildings. Many have worked hard on this issue, and there is no easy solution. But, in the process of determining efficient economic solutions and desirable classroom and library sizes, we must not lose sight of the most important factor in the education of our children: The nurturing, personalized *environment* in which they learn.

Though I've held many roles that make me feel close to this issue, it is as the father of a ten-month-old boy that I implore you to continue to consider this truth most seriously, and to give credence to the multitude of voices that have spoken from all directions against building one large school for our elementary children: The voice of our talented staff members and residents who teach in large elementary schools, the voice of current and future parents of young people in our schools, the recommendation of our hard-working school board, the *research* that clearly supports medium, not large elementary schools, and finally the voice of our older school children, who in my experience universally oppose the idea of one large school because the start that they got from the smaller schools is tangible to them.

Sincerely,

John L. Hodgson

491 Wormwood Hill Rd

Mansfield

Print Close

School Building Project

From: **Lisa Holle** (holledixon@charter.net)
Sent: Tue 3/01/11 12:00 PM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org

Dear Town Council members,
I understand that a decision is being made to move forward with one of the options for the Elementary School Building project. I would like to voice my opinion to you. I am **strongly opposed** to the one elementary school option even though that may be more cost effective. Currently the 3 schools seem to be doing a fantastic job where the students, families, and staff seem to be happy and doing well academically and socially. I feel that it is important to not make a change that could alter any of these things. It has been a wonderful experience to have all of the teachers, and I do mean ALL of the teachers and staff, know my children personally while they have been enrolled at Southeast Elementary School. It is not a phenomena of where this happens in the 4th grade after 5 years at the school, but it happens during their first year, whether it be Kindergarten or later on if they have moved into the school district. This personal, social aspect, is important in helping children do well in school, especially children who are in most need of academic, social, and nurturing environments. I urge you to consider the information we learned that large schools do not work as well as smaller schools, and that most of the community is in support of what is best for the children even if it is more costly.

Sincerely,

Lisa Holle
Storrs Heights Road
Storrs, CT

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Elizabeth Paterson

From: PATTI ANN JAJLIARDO [jajliardo@sbcglobal.net] **Sent:** Mon 2/28/2011 1:14 PM
To: Town Council
Cc:
Subject: one school option
Attachments:

I am strongly opposed to the one school option. Don't ruin the quality school system that Mansfield has.

Patti Jajliardo
Independent Avon Representative
www.youravon.com/pjajliardo
(860)429-2166

School options

From: **blair.t.johnson@gmail.com** on behalf of **Blair T. Johnson** (blair.t.johnson@uconn.edu)
Sent: Tue 2/22/11 11:15 PM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write to express **my opposition** to the one-school option currently proposed to replace the current 3-school system in place for elementary students in our town. **Smaller is better, especially as concerns younger students.**

Sincerely yours,
Blair T. Johnson
20 Lynwood Rd
Storrs Mansfield CT 06268-2016

School Building Project: I Support Neighborhood Schools for Mansfield

From: **jordan42@charter.net**
Sent: Sun 7/11/10 10:22 PM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org; PatersonE@mansfieldct.org; HaddadG@mansfieldct.org; DeniseKeane2009@gmail.com; PeterKochenburger@yahoo.com; LindseyM@mansfieldct.org; Morantt@earthlink.net; PaulhusCR@mansfieldct.org; bonbill@charter.net; Carl.Schaefer@uconn.edu

Dear Town Council Members,

As a Mansfield taxpayer, parent, and Goodwin Elementary School employee, I wish to express to you my strong support for at least two, centrally located neighborhood elementary schools for our town. I am strongly opposed to the one school option because I do not believe it makes sense financially or educationally. This is in agreement with the Board of Education's recommendation.

More specifically, I believe that any supposed state and federal funding for new school construction is not a sufficient reason to build one, or even two new schools at this point and time. The cost to maintain or demolish the current schools has not been factored in. There is also the Storrs Center project that has the potential to change our school enrollment or require redistricting. As a parent and employee who is in the schools on a regular basis, I feel our schools are in fine shape and, with some maintenance, should easily last several more years until the economic and demographic conditions are more appropriate for this decision to be made. There is no real reason to force this new building project through at this time.

Ideally, I support maintaining our three existing elementary schools for the next five to ten years.

Respectfully,

Carey Jordan
42 Moulton Road

Print Close

1 School vs 2 Schools

From: **JULIE KESSLER** (jkesslerconsulting@yahoo.com)
Sent: Mon 2/28/11 10:37 PM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org

Dear Town Council,

My name is Julie Kessler and my husbands name is Eugene Kessler and we reside at 20 Buckingham Rd in Mansfield, Ct. I have been a resident of Mansfield since 1978 and have had 3 children go through the mansfield public schools and always have been happy with the education in Mansfield. Even if the 1 school is less money you must consider the children first. I employ you not to consider the one school option. Having 2 schools would be the better choice. This town has always put education and what was best for the children first.. Clearly 2 schools are better than one. We are talking about young elementary children who undoubtedly will get lost in the shuffle in one school. Lets not change the quality of education and whats' in in their best interest.Lets not sacrifice them. PLEASE take this into consideration.

Respectfully,

Eugene and Julie Kessler

Elizabeth Paterson

From: jsmagnuson@gmail.com on behalf of Jim Magnuson **Sent:** Mon 2/28/2011 9:31 AM
To: Town Council
Cc:
Subject: Opposed to 1-school plan
Attachments:

To the council:

I am deeply opposed to the one-school building plan for the following reasons.

1. It will damage education. The school board presented research showing that the optimum size for an elementary school is not more than about 500 students. What we have now is excellent and unusual. The two school plan will be moderately worse, but the 1-school plan will have many deleterious effects. There are many Mansfield parents who are researchers at local universities with research in just this area. It would be quite sensible for the council to commission a quick report from, e.g., the school of education at UConn. The research that has been presented at school board meetings showing some advantages for larger schools was actually done with high school students, not elementary students.

2. Damaging education means damaging the Mansfield housing market. Modest savings now will have deleterious effects for generations. If you ask people why they move to Mansfield, the number one reason is the school system. Decreasing the quality of elementary education will weaken the housing market.

3. The schools we have now are jewels. My daughters attend Southeast. The small size means every single adult working there knows virtually every kid's name. The kind of attention kids get, and the speed with which academic and emotional problems are detected, is incredible. This will not be true in a school 3 times the size, no matter how well-intentioned the staff are.

I know that you, the school board, and the school board's building committee have worked hard on these issues for a long time. But Mansfield residents are going to be unpleasantly surprised if the 1-school plan is selected. Hundreds of parents and other interested citizens showed up at school board meetings over the last year, and many of us thought that the 2-school solution had been settled on as a compromise at the school board level -- most parents and others strongly support the 3-school plan -- and assumed the council would follow that advice. I think many people are not aware that the council is considering the 1-school option. If the 1-school plan is adopted, you can expect very strong opposition to the referendum.

Sincerely,

Jim Magnuson, Wormwood Hill Road

School Building Project

From: **Mayer, Anysia** (anysia.mayer@uconn.edu)
Sent: Wed 2/23/11 9:31 PM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org (TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org)

Dear Council Members:

While I deeply respect your position and commitment to leading this town, I must state that I am strongly opposed to the "one-school" option. The students of this community will not be well served if this is option is adopted.

I advise superintendents across the state of Connecticut and would be happy to present the educational research in support of small schools to town council members.

There is in fact little research to suggest small class size positively impacts learning. However, there is substantial research to suggest large schools negatively impact students' learning and are not conducive to a positive working environment for teachers.

I believe there are multiple policy options and additional funding streams that have not yet been explored because we have focused our discussion thus far only on "buildings" rather than the school system in its entirety.

I also believe that the district and town underestimate the powerful positive impact Mansfield parents could bring to the discussions and solutions if they were included as legitimate partners in the decision making process. This could be accomplished through the creation of a parent committee to advise both the town council and the school board.

Respectfully,

Anysia P. Mayer
Assistant Professor
Educational Leadership
Neag School of Education
University of Connecticut

@ 46 Beacon Hill Drive
Vinton School Parent

Elizabeth Paterson

From: miaangela@aol.com [miaangela@aol.com] **Sent:** Mon 2/28/2011 10:26 AM
To: Town Council
Cc:
Subject: School Building Project
Attachments:

Hello Council Members,

As you are nearing a vote on the school building initiative, I wanted to let you know that I am opposed to the single-school option. In moving to Connecticut two years ago, we chose Mansfield as the best place to raise our family primarily due to the small schools and excellent reputation of its schools. Our two boys are doing well and enjoy school immensely, although the younger one (grade 2) had a difficult time at first. I believe that a larger school would have been an even more difficult experience for him, and other young children intimidated by a large school population.

Being an educator at large urban high schools, first at Wilson Classical High School in Long Beach, California, and now at Manchester High School, I see that large schools can be an advantage in terms of the diversity of courses and extracurricular activities. However, I do not believe these same advantages exist for our younger children. We have been so pleased with the education and experience that our boys are receiving at Southeast, and are eager to see our older son (grade 4) make the transition to Mansfield Middle School next year. He is both excited and nervous about moving to a "bigger school", but I believe this is the appropriate time in his development for this transition. Please consider this as you are casting your votes tomorrow.

Thank you for all you do,
Mia Mitoma
18 Pinewoods Lane

Opposed to the one school plan

From: **Emily Myers** (emilybmyers@gmail.com)
Sent: Wed 2/23/11 8:39 AM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org

Respected City Council Members,

When our daughter began Kindergarten at Annie Vinton last Fall, we walked through the halls behind the principal, Dr. Palmer, listening to him greet each and every child by his or her name. From talking to other parents at the school, we came to find out that school administrators are keenly aware of the challenges each child faces--which child's mother was just laid off, which child has a new sibling at home, which child comes from a tough family situation--and offer help to those in need. This kind of model would simply be impossible under the one mega-school plan.

Mansfield has a history of choosing what's best for our children over the most 'economical' route. That's why I write **in opposition to the one-school plan**.

Sincerely,
Emily Myers
19 Shady Lane
Storrs Mansfield, CT 06268

school

From: **Ronald Nadeau** (ron.nadeau@sbcglobal.net)
Sent: Thu 2/24/11 1:21 PM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org

I am in favor of the one school option. I am very concerned that the reduction in the amount of reimbursement from the state will significantly increase my property taxes. I also support this option because I am not convinced that students will be adversely impacted. My grandson currently attends Birch Heights in Tolland where all grades K-2 are grouped together in one school and he is thriving. The current fiscal climate is a huge factor in this decision. We certainly don't want more families leaving Mansfield because of higher taxes .I'm a retired secondary school teacher and I favor the one school option because it will offer more curriculum flexibility. Buildings don't teach children teachers do .

Sandra Nadeau

1 or 3 Schools

From: **Robin OBrien** (obrienrobin@hotmail.com)
Sent: Wed 2/23/11 7:22 PM
To: towncouncil@mansfieldct.org

I am opposed to the idea of one elementary school in our growing town. I am a "graduate" of Southeast Elementary and have very fond memories of my experiences there. I have returned to Mansfield to raise my own children so they may have the same stellar academic experiences I had. Both my children are at Vinton and we love it. By combining schools into one giant school (or even 2) the quality of education will be diluted. I strongly believe that the overall experience will not be as wonderful for our kids as it is now. I hope you will recognize the kind of comfort and confidence we parents have with all three elementary schools. These things are essential for elementary school families. These things cannot be accomplished with one (or even 2) large school(s).

Thank you for your consideration;

Robin O'Brien

Elizabeth Paterson

From: Jeannette Picard [jeannettepicard@sbcglobal.net] **Sent:** Mon 2/28/2011 7:17 AM
To: Town Council
Cc:
Subject:
Attachments:

Dear Town Council Members:

After years of planning and discussion, the fate and direction of public education in Mansfield will be determined when you vote on the proposed school building project. From renovation of three existing elementary schools, to the building of one large elementary school, to the creation of two elementary schools, the project has taken many forms. However, the last proposal, the one recommended by the Board of Education, deserves your most serious consideration.

- The two school project maintains the smaller learning communities which have been so successful in our town and which research are shown are the most beneficial to younger students
- The two school proposal allows for cost savings in both construction costs and service delivery. The Board of Education has worked hard to trim costs from the two school proposal to meet the needs of taxpayers. Furthermore, recent research has shown that funds spent on education are regained in increased property values.
- The move to one large school would tie our hands if student populations were to increase in the future and our town would find itself with no recourse but to further increase the warehousing our youngest students.

As you make your final decision, I hope that you, as members of the Town Council, will remember their commitment to *all* citizens of our town, even those community members who are too young to speak for themselves. Although a prior commitment (ironically to work with students at the other end of the educational spectrum) does not allow me to attend tonight's meeting, I will be with you in spirit and appreciate your service to our town. Please remember that your decision does not just affect us today, but will have a great affect on the future of our town for years to come.

Sincerely,

Jeannette Picard

Elizabeth Paterson

From: mrubega@sbcglobal.net [mrubega@sbcglobal.net] **Sent:** Tue 3/1/2011 8:42 AM
To: Town Council
Cc:
Subject: OPPOSED to one school option
Attachments:

Dear Council members,

I write to voice my strong opposition to the one-school option for update/renovation of our elementary schools. While I recognize that costs, and the effect of the state's fiscal crisis must be taken seriously by the town, I urge you to remember that any apparent savings of the one school option will be offset by the drop in educational quality, and the attendant reduction in property values, over the long term. A great many people on and off the school board's building committee have invested a great deal of time and energy thinking about what the best investment in school building would be: now is not the time to second guess them. Voting to put the one school referendum up to a vote is voting to bring out the core group of parents and residents who have tracked this issue carefully as committed opposition to such a referendum passing. I respectfully urge you to vote for the two school option.

sincerely,

Margaret Rubega
470 South Eagleville Rd
Stores

Sent from my iPad

Print Close

Re: School Building Public Hearing

From: **Jay Rueckl** (jay.rueckl@gmail.com)
Sent: Mon 2/28/11 3:33 PM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org

To the Town Council:

The following comments pertain to the school building project.

First, I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for your willingness to take on the burden of responsibility for this decision. This is surely the most difficult issue that has confronted the Council in years, and I expect that it will be a gut-wrenching decision for many of you.

Second, I understand that part of your challenge is to balance the needs of the school system with other town needs—a balancing act that is made more difficult by uncertainty about the economic future of our town and state, our heavy reliance on funding from the state, and the impending costs of other major town projects, including the Four Corners project, the need to address future water demands, the desire for an improved Senior Center, the need for an assisted-living facility, and so on.

To me, these projects fall into two categories. On the one hand are

projects generally geared towards improving the quality of life of Mansfield residents—projects such as improving the Senior Center, open space purchases, the building of bike paths and so on. Here it is a question of priorities, and while I am generally supportive of these efforts, I believe addressing the needs of the school system should be our top priority. It is an American tradition, if not a human one, to make sacrifices for the sake of our children, and I believe this tradition reflects the values of the majority of town residents. It certainly reflects mine.

The second category includes projects like the Four Corners project, securing a new water supply, and building the downtown. These are primarily investments for the town, aimed at growing the Grand List and reducing our reliance on state funding. Because these projects have the potential of generating new tax revenues, they are not necessarily in direct conflict with the school building project. However, it is worth noting that one consequence of these projects would be to grow the town, and hence to increase the demands on the school system. Thus, because it provides the least capacity and flexibility to deal with future enrollment increases, the one-school option is, of the school building options under consideration, the least compatible with investments intended to increase the tax base.

Third, I'd like to comment on the decision-making process. I think it was sensible to divide the process in three stages. The School Building Committee, the Board of Education, and the Town Council each have different responsibilities and concerns, and the three-stage process was an efficient way to ensure that all possibilities were identified, and that the educational, fiscal, and other impacts of each option were fully considered. That being said, one drawback of this organization is that the discussion of educational impact was mostly compartmentalized to the initial stages. The discussion recently has focused primarily (not

exclusively, but largely) on the question of affordability. Many of the lessons from the evidence concerning the educational impact of each option seem to have been lost.

Thus, while I don't question the legitimacy of bringing the one-school option to referendum, as discussed at the Feb. 22 Council meeting, I do question its wisdom. I believe the BOE's recommendation of the two-school plan was an implicit rejection of the one-school option. The BOE's deliberations, including the many statements by education professionals and town residents at various public meetings, revealed the unpopularity of the one-school plan among a large segment of the town's population. More importantly, the evidence brought to light during these meetings strongly supports the conclusion that, although there are some educational benefits associated with building one large elementary school, the net impact would be to lower the quality of the education our school system provides. In this light, the endorsement of the one-school option by the Council (as would be implied by bringing it to referendum) would not be balancing fiscal and educational concerns; it would be substituting the one for the other. This would be a mistake. In making your decision, I urge you to follow Hippocrates: First, do no harm. Especially to our schools.

Finally, I'd like to suggest a course of action, which is predicated on the following: First, I assume that a majority of you would find some version of the two-school plan viable given the current reimbursement rates. (Having followed your deliberations for the last five or six months, I think this is a fair assumption.) Second, I assume the two-school option is the best choice from a purely educational perspective, as attested by the BOE's recommendation. Third, because some time would be needed to prepare the town's application to meet the state's June deadline, and because the town's bond attorneys and other offices require a comparable

amount of time to prepare a referendum, a decision on which path to take must be made soon and any referendum must be held in late April or early May. Fourth, notice of the referendum need not occur this rapidly—late March or early April would be soon enough to satisfy statutory obligations given these target dates. Fifth, even if a referendum is approved, the town would not be obligated to bond at all—this would require further action on the part of the Council. Sixth, we don't know if the reimbursement rate will change, nor do we know when we'll know.

Given all this, I urge you to vote now to authorize the preparation of a referendum for bonding the two-school plan contingent on the current reimbursement rate, and that you delay formally voting to hold this referendum until required by statute given the target date. Making the referendum contingent on the current rate would give the voters some certainly about the potential impact of their votes. Delaying the formal notice would give you more time to fully inform the voters about the complex issues involved. If the reimbursement rate were lowered before notice is given, the referendum would be moot and need not be scheduled. If the reimbursement rate were lowered after notice is given, the town would not be obligated to bond—indeed, it wouldn't have the voters' consent to do so. If the referendum fails, or if the reimbursement rate drops, you could begin work on another course of action, which might include a plan for limited- or large-scale renovations of our current buildings, the development of more concrete ideas about the repurposing of these buildings in the event that new schools are built, and the development of a long-term plan that sets a timetable for the school building project in the context of other major capital investments.

I might add that while the preparation of the referendum could impose a cost on the town, there would be an opportunity cost to not being prepared to go forward with the best plan if the reimbursement rate does not

change. Finally, it is no accident that the odious one-school option has no place in my suggested course of action. It is the wrong choice for our town, and I urge you to take it off the table.

Sincerely,

Jay Rueckl

128 South Eagleville Road

Elizabeth Paterson

From: rerumbo@aol.com [rerumbo@aol.com] **Sent:** Wed 2/23/2011 11:09 PM
To: Town Council
Cc:
Subject: One-school option
Attachments:

Dear Council Members,

As the parent of a child who has been in the Mansfield schools throughout his education (now in E. O. Smith), I am STRONGLY opposed to the one-school option.

The only argument in favor of such an option is economic, but it is a short-sighted, end-justifies-the-means kind of economics that does not improve education or our community.

The truth is that "one-school" is bogus pedagogically; it is only the adoration of the almighty dollar that is sexy here. I prefer a well-educated populace to a cheap excuse for education. For once, let our tax dollars go to something worthwhile. We don't need fewer teachers and more crowded students; we need as many good teachers as we can afford, and smaller communities in which students can learn and thrive.

Rebecca E. Rumbo, Ph.D.
209 Davis Road
Storrs

One School Option

From: **kenneth smith** (kennethsmith0926sa@sbcglobal.net)
Sent: Thu 2/24/11 5:36 AM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org
Cc: kennethsmith0926sa@sbcglobal.net

Dear Council Members,

As a parent, taxpayer, teacher, and volunteer for the Mansfield Schools, I must strongly oppose the one-school option for our elementary schools. Research continues to show the benefits of community schools such as we have now. My experience supports this.

Please do not jeopardize the success of our students!

Sincerely,

Theresa Smith
319 Woodland Road
Storrs, CT 06268

elementary schools in Mansfield

From: **Spottiswoode, Heather** (heather.spottiswoode@uconn.edu)
Sent: Mon 7/12/10 11:29 AM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org (TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org); PatersonE@mansfieldct.org (PatersonE@mansfieldct.org); HaddadG@mansfieldct.org (HaddadG@mansfieldct.org); DeniseKeane2009@gmail.com (DeniseKeane2009@gmail.com); PeterKochenburger@yahoo.com (PeterKochenburger@yahoo.com); LindseyM@mansfieldct.org (LindseyM@mansfieldct.org); Morantt@earthlink.net (Morantt@earthlink.net); PaulhusCR@mansfieldct.org (PaulhusCR@mansfieldct.org); bonbill@charter.net (bonbill@charter.net); Schaefer, Carl (carl.schaefer@uconn.edu)

Ladies and Gentlemen,

My husband, Michael and I are the parents of a daughter who just completed 5 incredible years at Southeast School and a son who is entering 1st grade but has been at Southeast since he was 3. We do not favor one or even two schools and feel that one of the things that sets Mansfield apart from so many other towns is its strong educational opportunities. Friends and family from other districts and states have always marveled over the small class sizes and the closeness of the school communities and it's something that we have always considered our children fortunate to be a part of. We moved to Mansfield largely for this reason when our daughter was 3.

We would very much like to see the 3 schools remain – it's a wonderful, unique system and it certainly isn't broke and doesn't need fixing.

Respectfully,

Heather Spottiswoode

Heather L. Spottiswoode
Program Manager, UCONN Mentor Connection
2131 Hillside Road, Unit 3007
Storrs, CT 06269-3007
860-486-0283
860-486-2900 fax
www.gifted.uconn.edu/mentor

Town of Mansfield
Agenda Item Summary

To: Town Council
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager MWH
CC: Maria Capriola, Assistant to Town Manager; Fred Baruzzi, Superintendent of Schools; Gregory Padick, Director of Planning
Date: March 14, 2011
Re: School Building Project

Subject Matter/Background

At the special meeting on March 1, 2011, the Town Council voted to submit the proposed "Two New Elementary Schools/Less Extensive Renovations to Mansfield Middle School" project (Revised Option E) to the voters at a referendum to be held on May 24, 2011, with the provision that the elementary school sites are to be designated no later than March 14, 2011.

In order to comply with the timeline established by the Town's bond counsel, staff recommends that at your meeting on March 14, 2011 you designate the sites for the proposed new elementary schools and refer the proposed project to the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) for review pursuant to Section 8-24 of the Connecticut General Statutes. In addition, I would like to receive guidance from the Council in regards to any explanatory material or information that you would like to provide the voters both before and after you vote to officially place the project on the ballot and to schedule the referendum. (Under the proposed timeline, the Council would take this action at its April 11, 2011 meeting.)

The Section 8-24 referral is an important step. In order to approve the project and make a legal appropriation for the project, the Town needs a favorable report from the PZC and approval from the voters at referendum. If the PZC provides a negative report on the recommended project, the Town Council would need to over-rule the PZC decision by a two-thirds majority of the full Council in order to legally approve and finance the project. Even with a favorable vote at referendum, to proceed and to legally appropriate funds for the project, the Council will ultimately need a favorable report from the PZC or a two-thirds majority of the full Council to over-ride a negative PZC report.

For your reference, I have attached various materials regarding the siting of the proposed schools and the project timeline. With respect to the Goodwin site, the Director of Planning and I have had additional conversations with the owners of the two abutting properties. Both parties have indicated that they would be willing to seriously consider an offer from the Town to acquire their respective properties, based upon mutually satisfactory terms. Staff as well as the project architect and construction

manager will be available at Monday's meeting to address any questions you might have.

Recommendation

The following resolutions are proposed for the Council's use:

Resolved, as part of the proposed "Two New Elementary Schools, Less Extensive Renovations to Mansfield Middle School" project (Revised Option E), that the two new proposed elementary schools shall be sited at the _____ School site and the _____ School site, subject to special permit approval from the Planning and Zoning Commission, the Town's acquisition of any necessary real property and approval of the school renovations project by the voters at referendum.

Resolved, to refer the proposed "Two New Elementary Schools, Less Extensive Renovations to Mansfield Middle School" project (Revised Option E) to the Planning and Zoning Commission for review pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 8-24.

Attachments

1) M. Hart and G. Padick re Elementary School Siting Considerations
2) R. Lawrence re Elementary School Schemes
3) Citizen Communications re Elementary School Siting
4) Proposed May 2011 Referendum Schedule
5) Mansfield Public Schools, Enrollment 1998-2010

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

Matthew W. Hart, Town Manager

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING
FOUR SOUTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD
MANSFIELD, CT 06268-2599
(860) 429-3336
Fax: (860) 429-6863

Memo to: Mansfield Town Council
From: Matthew W. Hart, Town Manager
Gregory Padick, Director of Planning
Date: February 24, 2011
Re: School Siting Considerations

At the Town Council's 2/22/11 meeting, questions were raised regarding potential school sites and possible neighborhood impacts that could arise if existing school sites were no longer used for a school. To help assess school siting issues, we have provided a general listing of locational considerations for siting a new school and more specific information about the three existing elementary school sites. We will be present at the 3/1/11 Town Council meeting to address any questions.

Locational Considerations for siting a new school(s)

- Consistency with Plan of Conservation and Development/Mansfield 2020 (Strategic Plan) and 8/10 considerations provided by Mansfield's Sustainability Committee.
  - Proximity to areas with existing and/or planned higher population density/elementary students
  - Proximity to Planned Development Areas
  - Proximity to existing or planned public infrastructure (sewer, water, walkway/bikeways, pubic transit, etc)
  - Proximity to other Town facilities
- Parcel size and physical character (useable acreage)
- Potential traffic impacts
- Potential neighborhood impacts
- Availability of adjacent land if Goodwin site is selected for a new school

It is important to emphasize that Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) Special Permit approval will be required for any new schools or significant alteration of existing school or for any alternative use of existing school sites. The PZC approval process, will include public hearings and appropriate assessment of all of the siting considerations noted above. PZC approval would not be granted if detrimental environmental, traffic or neighborhood impacts are anticipated.

Existing School Site Considerations

Goodwin	Southeast	Vinton
. 150 single family homes are within 1 mile radius	Approx. 175 single family homes are located within 1 mile radius	Approx. 275 single family homes are located within 1 mile radius
ate to UConn/Storrs Planned pment Areas	Not Proximate to Planned Development Areas	Proximate to Perkins Corner Planned Development Area
ate to existing/planned sewer ter service areas	Not proximate to existing/planned sewer and water service areas	Not proximate to existing/planned sewer and water service areas
ate to existing/planned ays/bikeways & bus service	Not proximate to existing/planned walkways/bikeways or bus service (walkway to library is on Town priority list)	Not proximate to existing/planned walkways/bikeways or bus service
ate to park area	Proximate to park areas, library/Buchannan Center	Not proximate to other Town facilities
onal land needed for new /use of existing school during action (estimated net acquisition 150,000)	No new land needed	No new land needed
sting is needed to confirm septic viability	Engineering study conducted. Septic system viability confirmed	Soil testing done in recent years indicates septic system viability
nificant environmental or traffic t anticipated	No significant environmental or traffic impact anticipated	No significant environmental or traffic impact anticipated
ded school use not expected to cantly alter neighborhood ts	Expanded school use not expected to significantly alter neighborhood impacts	Expanded school use not expected to significantly alter neighborhood impacts
ative Governmental Uses (such ce, storage, maintenance, tion, senior services, etc) not ted to have significant borhood impact-will be subject to approval.	Alternative Governmental Uses (such as office, storage, maintenance, recreation, senior services, etc) not expected to have significant neighborhood impact-will be subject to PZC approval.	Alternative Governmental Uses (such as office, storage, maintenance, recreation, senior services, etc) not expected to have significant neighborhood impact-will be subject to PZC approval.
ative residential uses (such as -family or multi-family opment) are possible and would ject to PZC approval. Occupancy be limited by income/age etc. -family dev. could have impact ZC approval would not be granted pacts are considered significant.	Due to lack of infrastructure, any future residential use likely would be restricted to single family.	Due to lack of infrastructure, any future residential use likely would be restricted to single family.
native commercial uses are not dered consistent with Mansfield's of Conservation and Development herefore, not likely to be oved.	Alternative commercial uses are not considered consistent with Mansfield's Plan of Conservation and Development and therefore, not likely to be approved.	Proximate to a Planned Business area and existing commercial uses along Route 32. There is potential to extend commercial zoning to this site but neighborhood opposition would be expected.

Matthew W. Hart

From: Rick Lawrence [Rick@ThelawrenceAssociates.com]

Sent: Friday, February 25, 2011 1:02 PM

To: Fred A. Baruzzi

Cc: Matthew W. Hart; Cherie A. Trahan; Gregory J. Padick

Subject: Mansfield Schools - Option E - Two New Schools

Attachments: Southeast Scheme 1-2.pdf; Goodwin Scheme 1-2.pdf; Goodwin Scheme 3.pdf

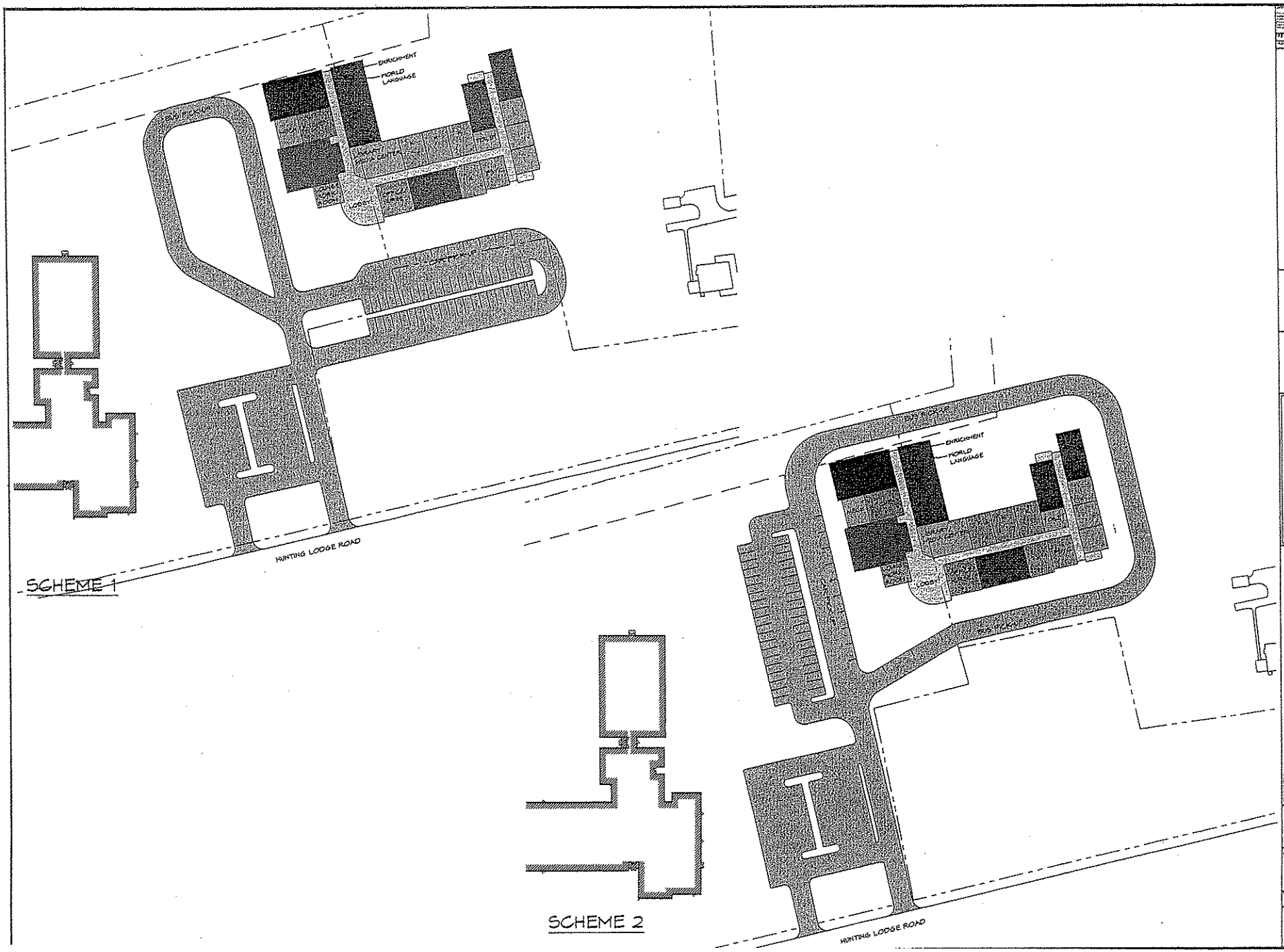
Fred:
Per your request I am forwarding the PDF files of the schematic designs showing the "test fit" for both Goodwin and Southeast Schools. You should have already the ones for Vinton. Perhaps these will be helpful for those considering the various Options to have printed at a small scale just to see how much land is need for the building, parking and drives. Keep in mind these are only conceptual and significant changes may occur in the building shape, space arrangements and circulation as a design is developed further.

On Tuesday evening I will bring the full size plots to have as a reference.

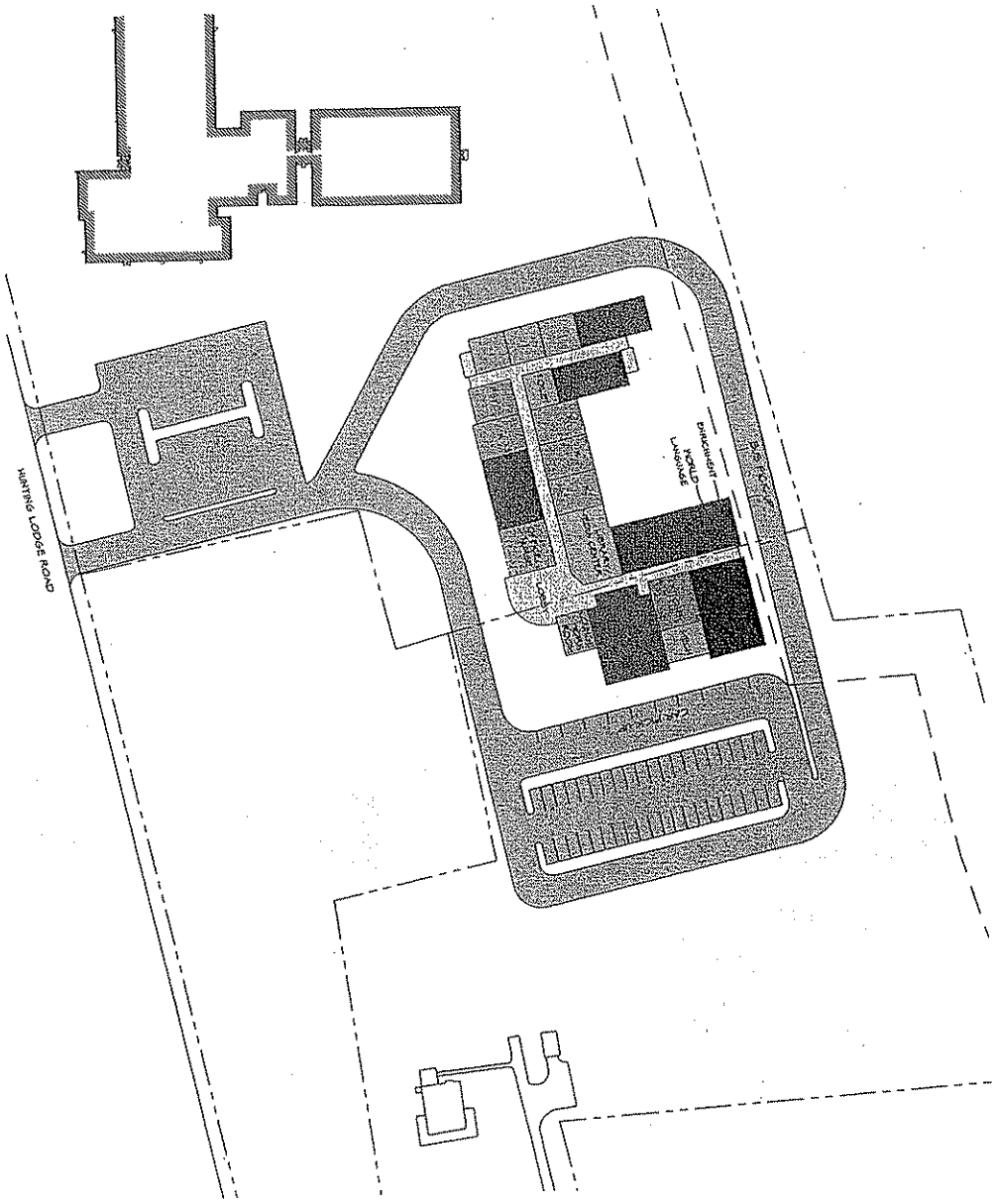
Rick

Richard S. Lawrence, AIA
President
THE LAWRENCE ASSOCIATES
Architects / Planners, P.C.
1075 Tolland Turnpike
Manchester, CT 06042

tel. (860)643-2161
fax. (860)643-4373
email: Rick@TheLawrenceAssociates.com


ENRICHMENT
WORLD LANGUAGE
HUNTING LODGE ROAD
SCHEME 1
ENRICHMENT
WORLD LANGUAGE
HUNTING LODGE ROAD
SCHEME 2
THE LAWRENCE ASSOCIATES
DOROTHY GOODWIN ELEM. SCHOOL
321 HUNTING LODGE ROAD
MANSFIELD, CT
1" = 40'-0"
3/4/01

SCHEME 3



PROJECT TITLE
DOROTHY GOODWIN ELEM. SCHOOL

321 HUNTING LODGE ROAD
MANSFIELD, CT

N

THE LAWRENCE ASSOCIATES

PROJECT NUMBER 06-0067

PROJECT TITLE
SOUTHEAST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
135 WARRENVILLE ROAD
MANSFIELD, CT

THE LAWRENCE ASSOCIATES

PROJECT NUMBER 06-0067

Matthew W. Hart

From: Rick Lawrence [Rick@ThelawrenceAssociates.com]

Sent: Wednesday, February 23, 2011 1:05 PM

To: Fred A. Baruzzi; Matthew W. Hart; Gregory J. Padick; Mark LaPlaca; Tom Dimauro; Cherie A. Trahan

Subject: Mansfield Schools - Option E - Two New Elementary Schools

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Blue

Attachments: Vinton Elementary School Schemes 1 & 2.pdf

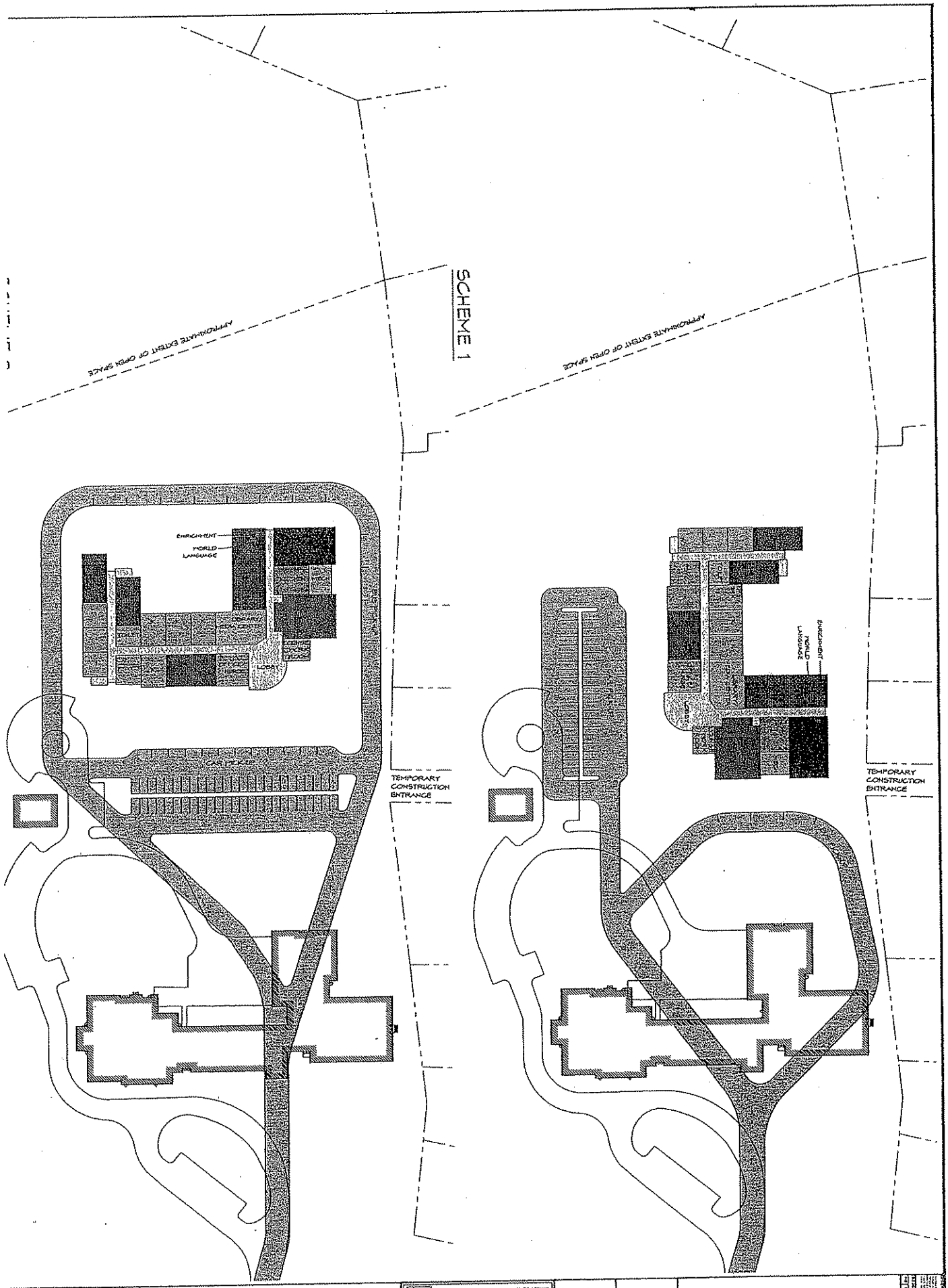
To All:
Subsequent to the last meeting of the School Building Committee I had our staff develop some "test fits" on the Vinton School site using the same floor plan template as used for Goodwin and Southeast. According to Greg Padick, the very eastern portion of the Town property is dedicated to open space and we have avoided using that part of the site. The parameters established for the other two sites were considered for Vinton – the existing school is to remain in use while construction occurs and the existing structure would be demolished once the new is occupied. Because of wetlands and existing vehicular traffic on the north side of the school and the very limited space between the south end of the building and the adjacent property (approximately 25'), it appears Sterns Road will be needed for construction vehicles temporary access into the site.

Attached you will find a PDF that has two possible schemes for the Vinton site. Granted, the new building would be set back from the road a considerable distance and play/ball fields might be in the front but these do indicate a two story building of the approximate size being considered will fit on the site.

If I can answer any other questions, please write back.

Richard S. Lawrence, AIA
President
THE LAWRENCE ASSOCIATES
Architects / Planners, P.C.
1075 Tolland Turnpike
Manchester, CT 06042

tel. (860)643-2161
fax. (860)643-4373
email: Rick@TheLawrenceAssociates.com



ANNIE VINTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
306 STAFFORD ROAD
MANSFIELD, CT

THE LAWRENCE ASSOCIATES

06-0017

72

School Building Options

From: **Heidi Hand** (heidihand@sbcglobal.net)
Sent: Fri 3/04/11 9:31 AM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org

Dear Council Members,

Thank you for your efforts the other night to resolve planning issues surrounding the proposed new schools. I was extremely happy to hear that the one-school option has been abandoned.

I would also like to express my support for Goodwin as one of the future locations. I feel that it is very important to keep a school in the north end of town in order to better serve that part of the school population. Goodwin is not only a wonderful school, but also a center for parent, community, and civic involvement. A significant portion of the Goodwin parent population may be without adequate transportation to travel to the other side of town for various school events. Keeping the site at Goodwin would facilitate parental involvement in the school and continue to develop that side of town.

I realize that additional land needs to be purchased in order to do this, but I feel that the amount of money would not be prohibitive given the amount we would already have to spend.

Thank you for your time and continued efforts to progress the school building project.

Sincerely,

Heidi Hand
39 Bundy Lane
Storrs

School Building Planning

From: **skhathaway21@gmail.com** on behalf of **S Hathaway** (skhathaway@charter.net)
Sent: Fri 3/04/11 10:59 AM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org

To: Town of Mansfield Council Members

Thank you for your continued efforts to resolve planning issues related to the school building proposal. I appreciate that you've remained open to community concerns and understand the desire for two new elementary schools in town.

I hope that you will continue to consider a site on the north end of town in order to help facilitate parental involvement and continued development in this area. I understand that the issue of land is not easy. However, given the nature of the project, it should not be considered prohibitive.

I appreciate your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Suzanne Hathaway
117 Birch Road
Storrs

School Building Project

From: **Jessica Higham** (jjohigham@gmail.com)
Sent: Fri 3/04/11 8:46 AM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org

Dear Town Council Members,

I would first like to thank you for taking the one school option off of the table; generations of Mansfield's families will benefit from your sound decision making.

I would also like to weigh in on the decision regarding the location of the proposed two new schools. Southeast has many advantages as a new school location. First, it is on a parcel of land that is ample in size and would allow for nearly no disruption to the student population during construction. Second, the new school would be situated to improve parking and pick-up and drop-off traffic flow which is presently problematic. Third, Southeast School is located near three terrific town resources, the ball fields, Mansfield Hollow State Park and the library. In today's society, there is such a need for healthier children who are connected to their community and the Southeast location offers the great outdoors, athletic fields and a potential sidewalk or walkway to the library, thus allowing the students to be more involved at the library and in recreational sports.

Thank you for all of your time and commitment to this difficult decision.

Sincerely,
Jessica Higham
14 Adeline Place

March 1st town council meeting

From: **tulay luciano** (tulayluciano@yahoo.com)
Sent: Fri 3/04/11 1:00 PM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org

Dear Councilors:
I am truly appalled to see that the two representatives of the Lawrence Associates were guiding the council's deliberations about the school building choice toward accepting new building (s).

I think it is very inappropriate, if not illegal, that a private firm who has a financial interest in the outcome of the decision to jump in and give advice that the General Assembly would accept the new building(s) construction.

I would alert you that many are watching the council meetings at home.

I am not hiding my dismay here that your decision to build two new buildings was not a good choice financially, and is not necessarily the best choice for educational purposes. Please remember that not all the residents have your high incomes and keep this on mind.

I read the emails sent to the town council about the school building choice on the town council's website. Many expressed that they would like the three schools be retained.

I really wonder how the rest of the parents will react when they realize your decision's impact on their taxes.

I would appreciate a favor of reply.
sincerely,
Tulay Luciano
808 Warrenville Road
Mansfield Center, CT 06250
860.429.6612

School Building Referendum: Sites

From: **jay.rueckl@gmail.com** on behalf of **Jay Rueckl** (Jay.Rueckl@uconn.edu)
Sent: Sun 3/06/11 1:38 PM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org

To the Town Council,

I'd like to thank you for voting to bring the two-school option to referendum. As you know from my previous comments, I think this is the best option available to us. I know that it was a difficult decision, and if you have any lingering trepidations I hope you'll find comfort in the fact that because it's been put to a referendum, the responsibility for this decision falls on all our shoulders and not just yours.

I also want to echo some of your comments by noting that it is especially important that the voters are well informed about this decision. I will vote in favor of the referendum, but I would hate to see it pass on the basis of blind 'support education' votes if the ramifications of going forward aren't understood. Similarly, it would be disappointing if it fails because voters mistakenly equate 'doing nothing' with 'no additional costs'. I wish I had something smart to suggest about how to inform town residents who may not have been following your deliberations closely, but I don't. I do think it would be a matter worth discussing at the next Council meeting.

Finally, on the question of sites: First, I thought it was a good choice to delay the decision to March 14. It looked like the Council was moving towards eliminating the Southeast site at the end of the March 1 meeting. Perhaps that would be the best choice, but because the question has largely been framed as Goodwin or Vinton, coming to the conclusion to keep both sites would have been much more a consequence of the framing than of a thorough consideration of the merits of the Southeast site. Up until now, I don't believe anyone (on the Council or among residents) felt the need to strongly advocate for the Southeast site. This was clearly not true for the other sites.

I think the worksheet provided to the Council does a good job of laying out the pro's and con's of each site, and I won't rehash those points other than to say that I do think the potential consequences of removing a school would be most serious for the Goodwin neighborhood.

This doesn't mean that we should necessarily keep the Goodwin site, but if we opt not to, the Council should make it a priority to address those consequences.

That being said, one obvious concern with the Goodwin site is that we would have to acquire additional land. This has cost implications. Just as importantly, unless some sort of option to buy could be obtained before the referendum, it would also create confusion and uncertainty. I'm sure some voters would believe that passing the referendum would obligate us to buy those two parcels adjacent to Goodwin and might vote against it simply because they think we'd be jacking up the price by approving the referendum before the land is purchased. (I expect the referendum would contain a contingency if we couldn't buy those parcels at a reasonable price, and in any event we are not obligated to actually bond per the referendum if the plan proves unworkable due to future developments. Still....)

I also want to point out that even though the Goodwin site is closest to my home (on South Eagleville), I find it the least accessible and I much prefer it when my kids' activities are at either of the other two sites. While both Southeast and Vinton are easily accessed by major roads, getting to Goodwin involves (for most of us, I'd guess) navigating small roads (often also being used by pedestrians) with awkward turns and stops. (With this in mind, I'll note that it was argued that, in the future, families living in Storrs Center would be best served by having a school at Goodwin. The downtown is more-or-less around the corner from me. Based on my experience, I think those families would find it much easier getting to the Southeast site.)

I also think framing the question as north-vs-south is mistaken, failing to take into account that the major traffic corridors in town (195 and 32) are primarily north/south roads. The major east/west roads are too far north (44) or south (6) to provide reasonably direct access to any of the three sites (for most residents). I think that abandoning the Southeast site would have far worse consequences in terms of travel time for families who live east of 195 (say, on Wormwood Hill Road or Mount Hope Road) than would abandoning the Goodwin site for residents of that neighborhood. Of course, the total impact depends on population density. If I could, I'd try to make the decision by optimizing the total distance of each family from the nearest school given each of the three possibilities (G&S, V&S, G&V). I'd base this on drive time, so there'd be a penalty for the small roads near Goodwin and cross-town east/west routes. I'd also weight long drives disproportionately, to try to minimize, say, the number of drives over 15 minutes.

I'd also try to weigh in repurposing possibilities, which need further discussion too. I know the decision on repurposing can't be made by the 14th, but talking through the plausible possibilities would help.

I'll also note that I find something appealing in maintaining a concentration of civic facilities (library, elementary school, ball fields) along Rt 89. These places complement one another by their physical proximity, and I think there would be value in preserving that.

Finally, I don't think the question should be framed as how to locate two schools rather than three. The question is really how to locate four schools rather than five, with the locations of two (MMS and EO Smith) fixed. (Think the 12-year experience for each family, and not the 4-.)

In closing, I'll note that for much of the last year I thought the best choice would be to build new schools at the Goodwin and Southeast sites. However, given the above considerations and others, I am now convinced that that best option would be the combination of Southeast and Vinton. I could vote for a referendum specifying a different pair of sites, but the combination of the Southeast and Vinton sites is my recommendation as the best long-term solution for the town as a whole.

Sincerely,

Jay Rueckl

128 South Eagleville Road

School Building Project

From: **kenneth smith** (kennethsmith0926sa@sbcglobal.net)
Sent: Fri 3/04/11 10:23 AM
To: TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org
Cc: kennethsmith0926sa@sbcglobal.net

Dear Council Members,

My husband and I are very happy to see that the one-school option has been abandoned. Research continues to support the community school as the best place for children to learn. Our experience at Goodwin supports this research.

We wish to see Goodwin considered as one of the sites for the proposed plan. This is truly a community school with many ties to the University. To do away with Goodwin would be tragic for the children in the Storrs area of Mansfield.

What we have works well! Please do not make any decisions that could do away with our community school.

Sincerely,
Theresa Smith
319 Woodland Road
Storrs, CT 06268

Town of Mansfield
Department of Finance

To: Matt Hart, Town Manager

From: Cherie Trahan, Director

CC: Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

Date: February 25, 2010

Re: Proposed May, 2011 Referendum Schedule

Matt,

I have spoken with our bond attorney, Doug Gillette regarding a timeline for the actions that need to be taken in order to have a referendum on a proposed school renovation project. Basically, here is the sequence of events that need to happen:

1. Provide Bond Counsel with final project description & budget
2. Bond Counsel provides draft authorization document package to Town for review & comment
3. Town Council refers project to Planning and Zoning Commission
4. Planning & Zoning Commission acts on CGS 8-24 referral for review as to conformance with municipal plan of development
5. Town Council adopts Bond Resolution & schedules referendum; may approve preparation of explanatory materials; CGS 9-369b advocacy limitations commence
6. Notice of Election/Referendum posted and published
7. Referendum held from 6am to 8pm

If the bond referendum was going to happen in conjunction with an election, there would be a 60-day "lock-out period" that would happen between when the Council takes action setting the referendum date and the referendum itself. However, that is not the case here.

The major drivers for our schedule now would be:

1. 30 clear days of published/posted notice for the bond referendum
2. Consideration of the timing for Region 19's Budget Referendum (May 3'rd) and our Budget Town Meeting (May 10'th)

Doug Gillette will have a draft schedule prepared for me early next week. If the Council wishes to avoid the dates of the Town Meeting and Region referendum, we would be looking at the end of April or possibly May 17'th or May 24'th. The further out we push it, the less time we have to prepare the application for the school construction grant.

Town of Mansfield 2011 Elementary School Projects Proposed Schedule – May 24, 2011 Referendum Target Date		
Action	**Time Requirements**	**Proposed Date**
Provide Bond Counsel with final project description and budget (including capitalized financing costs as reviewed with Town's Financial Advisor)	--	Not later than Friday, March 18th
Bond Counsel provides draft authorization document package to Town for review and comment	--	Not later than Wednesday, March 23rd
Town Manager or Town Council refers project to Planning and Zoning Commission	Prior to agenda being finalized for April 4th PZC meeting	*TBD* – ??Monday, March 28th Town Council regular meeting??
Planning and Zoning Commission acts on Conn. Gen. Stat. § 8-24 referral for review as to conformance with municipal plan of development	If adopted post-referendum, appropriation and borrowing authorization not effective until approval received	Monday, April 4th (regular meeting)
Town Council adopts Bond Resolution and schedules referendum; may approve preparation of explanatory materials; ***Conn. Gen. Stat. § 9-369b advocacy limitations commence***	--	Monday, April 11th (regular meeting)
Notice of Referendum posted and published	At least 30 clear days before referendum (exclude both terminal days)	Posted not later than Friday, April 22nd; Published not later than Saturday, April 23rd
Referendum held from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.	--	Tuesday, May 24th

School Building Project Summary of Steps and Estimated Timeline

May 24, 2011	Referendum
June 1, 2011	Resolution to be prepared: Establish Building Committee Authorize preparation of schematic drawings and outline specification Authorize the filing of grant application Authorize funding for project
June 1, 2011	MBOE written approval of Education Specifications
June 30, 2011	Grant Application due to the State Dept.of Education School Facilities Unit for review (will need to include two independent appraisals of sites to be acquired)
July 1, 2011	Design of new schools and MMS alterations begins, estimated 14 months to complete ~ September 1, 2012
December 15, 2011	Listing of eligible projects are submitted to the General Assembly Committee (by SDE/School Facilities Unit)
February 1, 2012	General Assembly Committee submits their approved listing of projects to the Governor and the General Assembly (will will know if we are on the list)
July 1, 2012	Project funded with State budget
September 1, 2012	State Approval Process, estimated 3 months to complete ~ December 1, 2012 * Pre-Review Evaluation Process meeting with State (PREP) * Plan Completion Test Meeting (PCT) * School Facilities Unit Review of contract documents * State Department of Education written approval of final plans and specifications
December 1, 2012	Bidding process begins for new schools, estimated 2 months to complete and award contract ~ February 1, 2013
February 15, 2013	Construction begins on new school, estimated 19 months to complete ~ September 15, 2014
December 1, 2013	Bidding process begins for Mansfield Middle School renovations, estimated 2 months to complete and award contract ~ February 15, 2014
March 15, 2014	Construction begins at Mansfield Middle School, estimated 15 months to complete ~ August 15, 2015

Newfield Construction, Inc.
Lawrence Associates/ DRA

March 1, 2011

Mansfield Schools Projects

Two New Elementary Schools/ MMS Renovations Option E (Revised)

	Spring 2011 Referendum	
Activity	Start	Finish
Referendum		By 5/24/11
State Grant Application Due (Deadline)		06/30/11
State Grant Approval (Estimated)		06/01/12
Design, (New Schools, MMS, 14 Months)	07/01/11	09/01/12
State Approvals (New Schools, MMS, 3 months)	09/01/12	12/01/12
Bidding and Award (New Schools, 2 months)	12/01/12	02/01/13
Construction (New Schools, 19 months)	02/15/13	**09/15/14**
Bidding and Award (MMS, 2 months)	12/01/13	02/15/14
Construction (MMS, 15 months)	03/15/14	**08/15/15**

Mansfield Public Schools
Enrollment 1998 - 2010

GW	1998/1999		1999/2000		2000/2001		2001/2002		2002/2003		2003/2004		2004/2005		2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009		2009/2010		2010/2011	
	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June
PreK	22	22	19	20	21	25	22	24	23	24	24	23	24	24	20	23	19	20	22	22	20	22	29	29	30	
K	34	38	34	31	43	42	25	28	39	38	35	34	31	31	38	41	37	35	34	34	40	37	31	29	36	
1	56	58	54	54	42	43	53	57	36	38	43	38	36	35	40	42	35	33	32	31	35	33	36	37	31	
2	64	64	57	59	52	50	48	50	56	56	39	38	43	42	35	36	39	37	34	34	32	32	34	36	38	
3	54	57	63	63	51	51	49	48	51	53	64	65	36	41	42	43	39	38	40	40	36	36	32	31	39	
4	69	68	53	48	63	63	53	54	51	53	54	55	60	62	40	42	43	39	39	40	38	40	34	34	29	
Total	299	307	280	275	272	274	250	261	256	262	259	253	230	235	215	227	212	202	201	201	201	200	196	196	203	

SE	1998/1999		1999/2000		2000/2001		2001/2002		2002/2003		2003/2004		2004/2005		2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009		2009/2010		010/2011	
	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June
PreK	18	22	15	20	25	24	28	20	22	24	23	21	19	20	23	24	20	20	21	23	21	25	28	33	29	
K	49	53	35	36	28	31	31	34	45	45	33	34	35	35	38	40	46	44	42	43	42	41	30	32	51	
1	43	44	69	67	41	40	39	43	43	40	54	53	44	47	41	43	46	46	46	51	44	40	43	47	39	
2	41	46	46	43	59	59	38	37	46	48	40	42	52	51	45	46	43	44	44	47	52	51	41	45	47	
3	38	41	47	46	43	41	62	61	33	35	46	46	43	40	51	52	53	52	43	40	51	51	48	50	46	
4	48	50	45	46	53	54	50	49	64	63	32	31	49	46	41	40	55	54	49	48	37	39	48	49	52	
Total	237	256	257	258	249	249	248	244	253	255	228	227	242	239	239	245	263	260	245	252	247	247	238	256	264	

VN	1998/1999		1999/2000		2000/2001		2001/2002		2002/2003		2003/2004		2004/2005		2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009		2009/2010		2010/2011	
	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June
PreK	19	18	19	19	19	20	21	21	16	20	21	21	23	24	22	24	22	21	24	24	21	26	32	31	31	
K	38	38	36	42	28	29	30	31	38	40	34	36	31	32	40	43	50	47	51	49	36	35	54	53	45	
1	47	49	49	49	51	51	40	39	47	45	47	46	43	39	37	37	46	44	48	48	50	51	33	34	56	
2	53	55	51	50	52	53	50	51	42	43	45	47	47	45	39	39	42	39	51	48	49	50	54	52	38	
3	46	49	55	56	51	54	57	58	55	55	45	50	49	44	45	43	44	43	42	44	49	50	51	50	52	
4	50	51	46	46	58	55	56	54	55	54	57	55	52	47	47	50	47	46	45	47	45	48	49	49	52	
Total	253	260	256	262	259	262	254	254	253	257	249	255	245	231	230	236	251	240	261	260	250	260	273	269	273	
PreK-4 Total	789	823	793	795	780	785	752	759	762	774	736	735	717	705	684	708	726	702	707	713	698	707	707	721	740	

MMS	1998/1999		1999/2000		2000/2001		2001/2002		2002/2003		2003/2004		2004/2005		2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009		2009/2010		2010/2011	
	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June	Oct.	June
5	158	158	165	166	137	145	175	175	159	159	172	169	141	139	150	150	133	133	144	142	140	141	135	139	146	
6	170	166	160	163	164	157	150	152	172	170	168	168	172	172	138	139	156	155	135	136	143	141	146	150	143	
7	158	157	167	169	171	174	163	163	156	159	176	173	170	166	170	169	144	146	166	162	137	137	143	145	152	
8	179	181	158	155	173	171	177	177	162	162	161	157	173	169	163	163	173	173	148	150	160	164	139	140	146	
Total	665	662	650	653	645	647	665	667	649	650	677	667	656	646	621	621	606	607	594	591	580	583	563	574	587	
Dist. Total	1454	1485	1443	1448	1425	1432	1417	1426	1411	1424	1413	1402	1373	1351	1305	1329	1332	1309	1301	1304	1278	1290	1270	1295	1327	

Year 1: Special Education PreSchool in all 3 Elementary School 1998-1999; Full Day Kindergarden 2005-2006; Regular Education PreSchool 2009-2010

PAGE
BREAK

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: March 14, 2011
Re: CT Healthy Campus Grant Initiative

Subject Matter/Background
The Mansfield Community-Campus Partnership (MCCP) has been awarded a grant from the Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) to implement a grant to prevent underage drinking under the *Healthy Campus Initiative*. The purpose of this initiative is to "serve as a catalyst for creating and sustaining healthy campus and community environments." Through this grant the Partnership will work with Celeron Square Apartment Complex to create a "normative environment" relative to alcohol use and party hosting. Along with this strategy, the Partnership will also work to strengthen policy development and enforcement efforts related to hosting parties where alcohol is served.

The Town of Mansfield has been asked to serve as the fiduciary agent for this grant to receive, track and disburse grant funds. The Director of Human Services has been designated as a Co-Principal Investigator for this project.

Financial Impact
The total grant award is $20,000, and the Town will be able to charge up to 10 percent of the total award to serve as the fiduciary agent.

Recommendation
Staff recommends that the Town Council authorize the Town Manager to enter into an agreement to designate the Town to serve as the fiduciary agent for this grant. As a primary partner in the Mansfield Community-Campus Partnership, this would enable the Town to play a key role in enabling the organization to implement a program that is in support of the goals of the partnership and consistent with other municipal initiatives related to off-campus student housing and quality of life issues.

If the Council supports this recommendation, the following motion is in order:

Move, effective March 14, 2011, to authorize the Town Manager, Matthew W. Hart, to enter into an agreement to designate the Town of Mansfield to serve as the fiduciary agent for the Connecticut Healthy Campus Grant.

Attachments

1) MCCP Grant Narrative

Introduction This proposed project will involve the Town of Mansfield as the fiduciary on behalf of the Mansfield Campus-Community- Partnership (MCCP). The Partnership was founded in 2003 as the result of a recommendation by the University of Connecticut (UConn) President's Taskforce on Alcohol and Other Drugs. UConn President Philip Austin and Town of Mansfield Mayor Betsy Paterson appointed the Partnership founding members, which included student leaders, community residents, municipal officials, police officials, and faculty and staff of the University. The Partnership has been meeting on a monthly basis since 2004 and has been instrumental in providing a forum for all stakeholders to share mutual concerns and develop strategies aimed at improving the quality of life for all students and local residents.

The signature program organized by the Partnership on curbing underage drinking is the *community-building initiative*, which entails fall and spring visits to over 450 off-campus students. About 40 members associated with the MCCP and community volunteers form teams to welcome students to the community at the beginning of the fall semester and to provide information regarding community resources and expectations for safe and responsible off-campus living (including alcohol-use policy, ordinances and state laws). These visits are repeated in the spring semester with an added educational component that informs students of the potential risks and consequences associated with alcohol consumption during Spring Weekend. Other examples of MCCP's accomplishments include: 1) providing support to help prevent underage and unsafe drinking during Spring Weekend and the academic year, 2) advocating for the creation of a rental housing code and registry, 3) supporting the creation of the position of UConn's Director of Off-Campus Student Services, and 4) facilitating enforcement of zoning regulations and town ordinances to improve the quality of life.

Currently led by the Mayor of Mansfield and UConn's Director of Off-Campus Student Services, the MCCP continues to serve as a representative community collaborative. The individual membership has changed over the years, but the original constituencies continue to be represented. In the last five years, property managers have actively collaborated with the town and the university to develop policy and strategic initiatives to help reduce public health and safety risks associated with student alcohol use. If the current proposal is awarded funding, the MCCP will fully support the implementation of the proposed project by offering institutional assistance, dedicated resources and membership involvement as well as working in close collaboration with the property management of Celeron Square Apartments (the implementation site for this proposed pilot project).

Problem Statement After reviewing the Scanning Exercises (A-1, A-2 and A-3) in the *College Alcohol Risk Assessment Guide* developed by the U.S. Department of Higher Education's Higher Education Center, it was determined that underage drinking at off-campus parties hosted by college students is a serious public health and safety issue at UConn. In fact, UConn's 2009 annual security report reveals that while the most reported offenses were liquor violations (93%), the second and third highest arrest frequencies belonged to liquor violations (25%) and driving under intoxication (22%); drug violations commanded the highest arrest rate (34%).[1]

Approximately 4,500 undergraduate students live off-campus, with the majority residing within five miles in apartment complexes and single-family homes. In recent years, increased police interventions and emergency services have been required to address public health and safety problems related to parties and alcohol use. As many students who live on-campus regularly visit

off-campus locations to socialize, Connecticut State Police have estimated that 2,000-5,000 person crowds have regularly gathered to party in the off-campus areas adjacent to campus on warm Thursday and weekend nights (specifically Carriage House Apartments). In particular, Celeron Square Apartments, located adjacent to campus with a connecting public walking path/bicycle trail cutting through the site, is a popular destination for party goers. This apartment complex is home to approximately 400 students and is the single largest off-campus apartment complex housing UConn students. On any given Thursday, Friday and Saturday evening, hundreds of party-seeking students travel this pathway through the Celeron Square complex on their way to other apartment complexes and private houses along Hunting Lodge Road, but many also end up somewhere within the Celeron Square t complex. The complex also serves as the "unwilling host" for the unofficial activity site on the Friday of each Spring Weekend.

Over the past five years, Flagship Management, Inc. (owners/managers of Celeron Square Apartments) have directed additional resources to address the issues related to student parties, including the development of a site monitoring program to control vehicle access, tow vehicles of non-tenants/non-registered guests, monitor the safety of the premise and report problems that require police attention. They have also employed police officers (on overtime) for patrol if needed. As alcohol use remains the core problem of student parties, the management has been seeking assistance from the Town of Mansfield, University and area policing units to help address the problems associated with irresponsible party hosting that have negatively affected the health and safety of all student residents and their guests as well as the rights of the property owner and local residents. The party hosting problem at Celeron Square is compounded by the pedestrian traffic on the public pathway that travels through the site.

Goal The goal of this project aims at improving public health and safety of UConn students and the local community through building a community culture of responsible party hosting among off-campus student tenants. This project goal has two main objectives: 1) develop and implement a student-driven campaign to help reduce irresponsible party hosting behavior and underage drinking in a way that is still viewed as fun by students; and 2) generate and implement a community-based alcohol-policy enforcement strategy to improve enforcement effectiveness.

Strategies Based on the needs assessment, the proposed strategies for this project include: 1) create a normative environment and 2) strengthen policy development and enforcement. Past research on community level interventions has evidenced success in reducing intoxication frequency at off-campus parties and the impact of negative consequences.[2] A recent study published in the *American Journal of Preventative Medicine* found that environmental strategies used at off-campus locations have a positive effect on lowering heavy alcohol use by college students[3] (Appendix 1). As the evidence-based research literature has shown the effectiveness of community-based initiatives in curbing the problems associated with underage and unsafe drinking behavior, the current project intends to pilot a location-based environmental strategy. The project, titled as *Operation Party Smart*, will adopt the *3-in-1* approach (recommended by National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism) [4] to design its campus-community strategy and social cognitive theory to help conceptualize/evaluate its evidence-based research components.[5]

Strategy One: Create a Normative Environment

This strategy will be developed by working with student-tenant representatives at Celeron Square Apartment Complex to identify normative behavior, partying consequences and workable solutions

through formative research to gather both quantitative (survey) and qualitative (focus group) data. This formative research data will be utilized to help formulate a community-building campaign. By involving the student tenants in developing this campaign and later helping to implement the campaign as part of the *Operation Party Smart* team, they will be empowered to have a stake in this endeavor and motivated to making this campaign a success. Moreover, by respecting the student tenants' views and ideas on how to better their own health and safety, student tenants and their peers will be less likely to rebel, as they perceive themselves being treated as responsible independent-living adults. Currently, UConn has a network of students, employed as Off-Campus Community Leaders (OCLs), who serve as peer-resource persons to help support student tenants' off-campus living needs. These OCLs will assist with the delivery of campaign activities and the collection of research data, etc. to help facilitate student-tenant involvement with the proposed project.

Strategy Two: Strengthen Policy Development and Enforcement

This strategy will begin with the completion of separate enforcement strategy and training sessions that involve the local property managers (including the Celeron Square property management), the Town of Mansfield, area policing agencies, student tenant representatives and UConn's Off-Campus Student Services. The MCCP will host the enforcement strategy session to generate practical strategies that can effectively enforce the state laws, local ordinances and UConn policies to reduce irresponsible party hosting and underage drinking, followed by enforcement training sessions with the relevant enforcement personnel (See Appendix 2). These enforcement strategies will be utilized to guide the enforcement training session; they will also be incorporated into the *Operation Party Smart* campaign as "tips" for students. As local ordinances addressing irresponsible party hosting are often left unenforced by local municipalities (owing to the lack of manpower and resources), the inclusion of property managers in strategy development and enforcement training will help increase the enforcement skills efficacy of property managers in addressing tenant behavior related to irresponsible party hosting. These enforcement strategies can include such practices as effective utilization of site monitors, proper handling of lease and ordinance violations as well as lease options to incentivize responsible behavior and de-incentivize irresponsible behavior, etc.

The *Operation Party Smart* campaign will utilize communication strategies informed by student tenants of the Celeron Square Apartment Complex and the MCCP partners' enforcement strategy. It will also adopt other campaign tools, including posters, flyers, yard signs, etc. A dedicated website will be constructed to present the *party-hosting 101* modules, health and safety tips and campaign activity announcements, in addition to serving as a platform for information sharing and public discussion forum via blogs and other social networking tools (e.g., *Facebook*), etc. Other campaign strategies may include activities such as movie nights, videogame tournaments and community cook-outs in conjunction with a show-and-tell session of *Operation Party Smart 101*. All of the campaign activities targeting students will focus on developing student awareness, comprehension, acceptance and efficacy associated with responsible party hosting and underage-drinking prevention. These campaign activities will be implemented at the Celeron Square apartment complex site.

The MCCP will work closely with UConn's Off-Campus Student Services to receive additional staff support and resources to fully execute the grant activities and evaluation. Furthermore, all

campaign materials and evaluation tools will ensure cultural competency for the target; webpage content will be made accessible to individuals with disabilities. As this project pilots its prevention and enforcement strategies at the Celeron apartment complex before its expansion to other off-campus group living quarters, it is important to minimize any potential decrease in occupancy at this particular apartment location due to negative student perception of property management and police enforcement. As such, student perception of apartment management and law enforcement activities will be closely monitored. At the conclusion of the project, the evaluation results will be shared with area property managers, policing agencies and the MCCP membership. The MCCP will recommend the strategies developed by the project for adoption by other apartment complexes that serve UConn student tenants. Moreover, the MCCP will also provide available resources to help support the property managers of these other apartment units to implement these proven strategies and to further the outcomes of improving public health and safety for UConn students and local residents alike.

Evaluation The evaluation of project activities outlined in the grant proposal will include collecting both qualitative and quantitative data. During Year-1, the student-tenant focus group will be conducted and serve as the "leadership development" tool to propel students to take a personal stake in addressing the public health and safety issues surrounding party-hosting and underage drinking. Pre- and post-focus group surveys, will assess any changes in student-tenant perceptions, attitudes, intentions and behaviors associated with party hosting activities, in addition to the strategies that can be adopted to practice responsible party hosting and prevent serving alcohol to underage students. Next, a baseline survey will be administered to all off-campus living students; Celeron student tenants are treated as the "intervention" group and non- Celeron student tenants are treated as the "comparison" group. (A true control group is not readily available, as the latter can freely visit the Celeron apartment site). This is followed by the launch of the Year-1 campaign and a post-campaign evaluation. The measurement items in the baseline survey and the post-campaign survey are similar to that of the pre- and post-focus group surveys, except for the additional measures developed for the post-campaign survey that will assess student adoption of responsible party hosting and underage-drinking prevention strategies. During Year-2, the survey-focus group procedure will be repeated before the launch of the Year-2 campaign. The Year-2 campaign will be modified (or improved) based on the Year-1 campaign evaluation outcomes and the Year-2 survey-focus group evaluation outcomes. At the end of the Year-2 campaign, a post-campaign survey will be completed to provide a comparative analysis between the Year-1 and Year-2 campaign outcomes. With regard to enforcement training evaluation, a set of qualitative and quantitative measures will be constructed to assess the enforcement training outcomes during Year-1 and Year-2. These evaluation outcomes will be utilized to help inform the campaign and enforcement strategies as well as provide a comparative analysis to indicate improve knowledge and efficacy in enforcement skills. The timeline for the evaluation plan is included in Appendix 3.

Summary The proposed *Operation Party Smart* project intends to pilot a set of community-based strategies to reduce irresponsible party hosting and underage drinking behavior. If this proposed project is funded and implemented, these community-based strategies, along with the resources committed to this project by the MCCP and UConn will be translated to other apartment complexes beyond the grant funding period. The grant hence provides the seed money needed to develop and pilot effective strategies to help reduce the negative social outcomes associated with party-hosting and underage drinking to improve the long-term health and safety outcomes of the Mansfield campus-community environment.

Town of Mansfield
Agenda Item Summary

To: Town Council
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager
CC: Maria Capriola, Assistant to Town Manager; Cynthia van Zelm, Mansfield Downtown Partnership
Date: March 14, 2011
Re: Appointment to Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board of Directors

Subject Matter/Background
My appointment to the Board of Directors of the Mansfield Downtown Partnership expires on June 30, 2011. In my role as Town Manager, I am interested in serving another term on the Board and request that the Council authorize the reappointment. If approved, the new term would run from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2014.

If reappointed, I would continue to serve with Mayor Paterson, Deputy Mayor Moran and Councilor Paulhus as the Town's representatives on the Board.

Recommendation
The following motion is suggested for your consideration:

Move, to appoint Town Manager Matthew W. Hart to the Board of Directors of the Mansfield Downtown Partnership, for a term commencing on July 1, 2011 and expiring on June 30, 2014.

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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; Gregory Padick, Director of Planning; Cynthia van Zelm, MDP Executive Director; Kathleen Paterson, MDP Special Projects Coordinator
Date: March 14, 2011
Re: Economic and Community Development Update

Subject Matter/Background
If time allows at Monday's meeting, I would like to provide Council with a brief update regarding the work that staff has been doing in the areas of economic and community development. If Monday proves unworkable for some reason, we can easily postpone this discussion.

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TOWN/UNIVERSITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE
Tuesday, February 8, 2011
Audrey Beck Municipal Building
Council Chambers

Minutes

Present: P. Barry, M. Hart, J. Hintz, Chief Hudd, J. Knecht, J. Saddlemire, W. Simpson, R. Schurin, N. Silander, W. Wendt

Staff: M. Capriola, J. Jackman, G. Padick (Town); C. van Zelm (MDP)

1) Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 4:00p.m.

2) December 14, 2010 Meeting Minutes
The minutes of December 14, 2010 were moved by Ms. Silander, seconded by Mr. Hintz and approved unanimously as presented.

3) Updates:
   a) *Police Services Study.* Mr. Hart provided a recap and update on the Town's police services study which is currently underway. Service delivery options will be presented to the Police Services Study Steering Committee in late February and to Council in late March. The study is targeted for completion in the spring.
   b) *Mansfield Community Campus Partnership.* Mr. Hintz provided a report on upcoming agenda items. MCCP has applied for a grant that would encourage/address responsible party hosting; Celeron Square apartments has agreed to participate in the pilot program should the grant be awarded.
   c) *Mansfield Downtown Partnership.* Ms. van Zelm and Mr. Padick provided an update on the Storrs Center project. The Partnership estimates that the zoning permit process will occur in the next few weeks, the building permit process will begin in March, and that groundbreaking on the project will occur in May. The Design Committee will hear an update on the Intermodal Facility in February. The 5th annual Winter Fun Day will be held February 12th at the Mansfield Community Center from 11am-2pm.
   d) *Quality of Life Committee.* Mr. Hart provided an update on the work of the Committee. The Quality of Life Committee has endorsed a nuisance house (abatement) ordinance. The Connecticut State Police legal team is currently reviewing the draft ordinance since members of their agency would be responsible for enforcement. The Committee has received but not yet discussed a draft large assembly permit ordinance.
   e) *Four Corners Project.* Mr. Hart provided an update on the water supply study being conducted for the Four Corners Area. It is estimated that 1 million gallons of water per day would be needed; various water source options are being analyzed. A preliminary draft report has been posted on the Town's website. Mr. Padick stated that the University is currently updating their water supply study and that the Town and University are working in concert with one another.

4) Report of Task Force to De-Escalate Spring Weekend

Mr. Schurin and Mr. Saddlemire provided an overview. The University plans to implement the recommendations it has control over. In particular, the University will prohibit non-University guests in the dorms and dining halls during Spring Weekend. The University will not hold events during Spring Weekend. The University Faculty Senate has endorsed the plan proposed by the De-Escalation Committee.

5) Other
Mr. Wendt reported on a new express bus service to and from the Storrs campus and New York City which is expected to begin February 18th. Similar express service to and from the Storrs campus and Boston is expected to begin later in the year.

6) Opportunity for Public to Address the Committee
None.

7) Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 5:00p.m.

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

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
Energy Education Team
Minutes of the Meeting
February 8, 2011

Present: Dan Britton (chair), Pene Williams, Sally Milius, Madeline Priest (guest), Jenna Zelentz (guest), Virginia Walton (staff)

Britton called the meeting to order at 7:13 pm.

The minutes from the January 11, 2011 meeting were approved.

Pene gave a 20by2010 clean energy google group update. Homes heated with oil will soon be paying $300, rather than $75, for a Home Energy Solutions energy audit. On February 10, 2011 there will be a webinar on wind energy. Governor Malloy is proposing to consolidate Connecticut's energy functions with the Department of Environmental Protection.

Madeline reported on the progress of Neighbor to Neighbor. 1,000 people have signed up for the Neighbor to Neighbor energy challenge. Madeline received positive support from the meetings with the United Church of Christ, EcoHouse, and UConnPIRG. A webinar on the rewards program for participating municipalities has been scheduled for Wednesday, February 16 webinar at 7 pm. The official launch of the Neighbor to Neighbor program will be scheduled for the end of March in central Connecticut. The Neighbor to Neighbor staff plans on offering three separate workshops on lighting, the Home Energy Solutions audit and deep energy retrofits.

The committee discussed having an Earth Day celebration that helps to promote the Neighbor to Neighbor program. It was suggested that the Earth Day event celebrates the hydro system initiative at the Kirby Mill. Ginny will contact the owners, Sam and Michelle Shifrin. Other ideas include a presentation on the Maple Road CSA, net zero houses or deep energy retrofits or a movie night about mountaintop removal with a motivational speaker. Neighbor to Neighbor staff will help with publicity.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 8, 2011.

The meeting was adjourned 8:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia Walton

MANSFIELD DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2010

3:00 PM

MINUTES

Present: Philip Lodewick (Chair) Tom Callahan, Barry Feldman, Matt Hart, Betsy Paterson, Steve Rhodes, Kristin Schwab, David Woods

Staff: Cynthia van Zelm

1. Call to Order

Philip Lodewick called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

2. Approval of Minutes from March 3, 2009

Tom Callahan made a motion to approve the March 3, 2009 minutes. Steve Rhodes seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. Personnel

The Committee and Cynthia van Zelm discussed her performance evaluation.

4. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:57 pm.

MANSFIELD DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP
SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Tuesday, February 8, 2011
Mansfield Downtown Partnership Office
1244 Storrs Road (behind People's United Bank in Storrs Commons)

6:00 PM

MINUTES

Present: Steve Bacon, Harry Birkenruth, Tom Callahan, Bruce Clouette, Matthew Hart, Dennis Heffley, Philip Lodewick (by phone), Frank McNabb, Betsy Paterson, Christopher Paulhus, Alex Roe, Steve Rogers, Kristin Schwab, Bill Simpson, Antoinette Webster and David Woods

Staff: Cynthia van Zelm

Guest: Gregory Padick, Mansfield Director of Planning

1. **Call to Order**

Philip Lodewick called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm. He asked Vice President Steve Bacon to run the meeting as Mr. Lodewick was calling in by telephone.

2. **Zoning Permit Application of Storrs Center Alliance, LLC and Education Realty Trust, Inc., to develop Phases 1A and 1B of the Storrs Center project**

Mr. Bacon said the only agenda item was consideration of a recommendation by the Partnership Board of Directors to the Mansfield Director of Planning that the zoning permit for Phases 1A and 1B was consistent with the Storrs Center Special Design District.

Mr. Bacon said the public hearing held on February 3, 2011 was held open for written comment until 10 am this morning (February 8).

Cynthia van Zelm said the only comments received were from David Morse and Rudy Favretti, which had been provided to the Board.

Mr. Bacon asked if there were any comments about the public hearing. Bruce Clouette said that he was happy to see that questions were asked at the public hearing about sustainability and pleased with the ready and credible answers from the development team. The answers were direct and to the point.

Mr. Bacon said the Planning and Design Committee met on January 25, 2011 and passed the following motion:

In accordance with its charge, the Planning and Design Committee of the Mansfield Downtown Partnership, Inc. has met during the last several months with representatives of Storrs Center Alliance, whose application (filed jointly with Education Realty Trust) for a zoning permit for plans to develop Storrs Center Phases 1A and 1B has been submitted to the Director of Planning for the Town of Mansfield. The Committee conducted meetings on November 16, 2010, December 15, 2010 and January 25, 2011 to review initial plans for Phases 1A and 1B, make recommendations for changes to the plans and review revised plans. Based on its review, the Committee is recommending to the Partnership Board of Directors that the zoning permit for Phases 1A and 1B meets the design guidelines adopted by the Mansfield Downtown Partnership and incorporated into the Special Design District regulations.

Mr. Bacon said after review at several meetings, the Planning and Design Committee has recommended to the full Board that the zoning permit for Phases 1A and 1B meets the design guidelines as part of the Storrs Center Special Design District regulations.

Mr. Bacon made a motion to approve the following motion:

In accordance with Mansfield Zoning Regulations Article X, Section S ("Storrs Center Special Design District regulations"), the Mansfield Downtown Partnership held a public hearing on February 3, 2011, for the purpose of hearing public comment on the consistency of the Storrs Center Phase 1A and 1B zoning permit application ("the Application") with the Storrs Center Special Design District regulations. Based on its review, and on the recommendation of the Partnership's Planning and Design Committee, and subject to the Mansfield Director of Planning's review of technical issues related to the Application, the Partnership Board of Directors finds that, to the best of its knowledge and judgment, the Application fully complies with the requirements of the Storrs Center Special Design District regulations, in general, and with the Storrs Center Design Guidelines, in particular. President Philip Lodewick is authorized

formally to convey this advisory opinion to the Mansfield Director of Planning.

Mr. Clouette seconded the motion.

Betsy Paterson asked where written comments would be considered. The Board agreed that Mr. Lodewick's letter of recommendation on the zoning permit to Mansfield Planning Director Gregory Padick would include a reference to the letters received from Mr. Morse and Mr. Favretti. The minutes will also reflect that those letters and the comments heard at the public hearing were reviewed by the Board.

The motion was approved by Mr. Bacon, Mr. Birkenruth, Mr. Callahan, Mr. Clouette, Mr. Hart, Mr. Lodewick, Mr. McNabb, Ms. Paterson, Mr. Paulhus, Ms. Roe, Mr. Rogers, Ms. Schwab, Mr. Simpson, Ms. Webster and Mr. Woods. There were no negative votes cast.

Gregory Padick said that the provisions for an administrative approval of the zoning permit give him the ability to set conditions on his approval. He expects to have some conditions as part of his review. Mr. Padick will also be reiterating conditions that the Planning and Zoning Commission placed in its approval of the Storrs Center Special Design District regulations in 2007.

Mr. Padick noted that he expected there to be a more detailed plan related to streetscape improvements including landscaping, benches, lighting, etc. Kristin Schwab echoed her interest in a comprehensive plan for streetscape elements.

Mr. Clouette said he felt the process worked well and exactly how it was envisioned in 2007.

Mr. Padick said he expected that zoning permits would be submitted by the development team in the spring for the intermodal center and the garage. More planning will be done on the town square as well.

Ms. van Zelm said that the Planning and Design Committee will meet on February 15 to review the latest plans for the garage and intermodal center. She said there will be future stakeholder meetings on the town square.

3. Adjourn

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Betsy Paterson made a motion to adjourn. David Woods seconded the motion. The motion was approved and the meeting adjourned at 6:23 pm.

Minutes taken by Cynthia van Zelm

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MANSFIELD DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Thursday, February 3, 2011

Mansfield Downtown Partnership, Inc.
1244 Storrs Road

4:00 PM

Minutes

Present: Steve Bacon, Harry Birkenruth, Tom Callahan, Matthew Hart, David Lindsay, Philip Lodewick, Frank McNabb, Toni Moran, Betsy Paterson, Christopher Paulhus, Alex Roe, Steve Rogers, Kristin Schwab, Bill Simpson, Antoinette Webster and David Woods

Staff: Cynthia van Zelm, Lee Cole-Chu

1. Call to Order

Philip Lodewick called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm. The Board welcomed Toni Moran as one of the Town Council representatives to the Partnership Board.

2. Opportunity for Public to Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of Minutes

Bill Simpson made a motion to approve the January 6, 2011 Board minutes. Betsy Paterson seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. Director's Report

Cynthia van Zelm said that Winter Fun Day is February 12 from 11 am to 2 pm. She asked if Board members could volunteer and passed around a sign-up sheet.

Ms. van Zelm referred to the list of people that EDR is proposed to meet with regarding assistance with outreach on leasing the apartments. She said the meetings were cancelled due to the weather but are being rescheduled.

5. Review and Consideration of Storrs Center Phases 1A and 1B Zoning Permit application

Steve Bacon, Chair of the Partnership's Planning and Design Committee, reviewed the Partnership's role with respect to review of zoning permits for Storrs Center.

Mr. Bacon said the Storrs Center Special Design District regulations require Mansfield's Director of Planning to review zoning permit applications to ensure they are consistent with the regulations. Prior to the Director of Planning's final review, the Partnership Board holds a public hearing to hear comments on the application. The public hearing must be scheduled within 35 days of receipt of the application. After the hearing, the Board considers any comments and renders an advisory opinion to the Director of Planning. The Director of Planning has 20 days to make his decision on the zoning permit.

The public hearing is tonight at 7 pm at the Bishop Center.

If the Board makes a recommendation to the Director of the Planning that the zoning permit is consistent with the regulations, Board President Philip Lodewick will send a letter to the Director of Planning Gregory Padick.

Ms. van Zelm passed out the Agenda for the Board's February 8 meeting, memo dated Feb. 1, 2011 from BL Companies architect Andy Graves in response to suggested changes from the Partnership's Planning and Design Committee dated February 1, 2011, and a draft motion for the Board with respect to its review of the zoning permit application review (previously sent with the Board packet).

The Board discussed process and agreed that written comments would be considered until 10 am on February 8 to hear any further comments from the public as well as from the Planning and Zoning Commission which is meeting the night of February 7.

Lee Cole-Chu suggested that a copy of all the public comments received be available in the Partnership office.

6. Committee Reports

Advertising and Promotion

Dean Woods said the Advertising and Promotion Committee will meet next week.

Finance and Administration

Tom Callahan said the Partnership and LeylandAlliance development agreement is being revised with a goal for it to be reviewed by the Finance and Administration Committee this month.

Membership Development

Frank McNabb reported that there are currently 266 members who have paid approximately $13,000 in dues. He thanked Bill Simpson for the opportunity to staff a Partnership table at the Co-op. Mr. McNabb said Committee members also staffed a table at the Community Center for one day. He thought both venues were good opportunities to update people on the Partnership and Storrs Center. Mr. McNabb said there is a lot of interest in the for sale housing.

Mr. McNabb said the Partnership will also have a presence at the UConn men's and women's basketball games at Gampel against Notre Dame.

Mr. McNabb asked Ms. Paterson if information about Storrs Center can be included in an upcoming Town mailing. Ms. Paterson will review.

Nominating

Mr. Lodewick said the Nominating Committee met prior to the Board meeting. He said that Dean Woods' term will be up in June. This also leaves the Advertising and Promotion Committee Chair position open. Committee chairs have to be Board members.

Mr. Lodewick said the Partnership annual meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 9. There was discussion at the Committee level about speakers to invite to the annual meeting.

7. Executive Director Annual Evaluation

Mr. Lodewick passed out evaluation forms for Ms. van Zelm's annual evaluation for the March Board meeting.

8. Adjourn

Dean Woods made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Callahan seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Minutes taken by Cynthia van Zelm.

MANSFIELD DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND RETENTION COMMITTEE

Thursday, November 17, 2010
5:00 PM
Conference Room C, Audrey P. Beck Building

Minutes

Present: Chair: Steve Rogers, Roger Adams, Brien Buckman, Curt Hirsch, Marty Hirschorn, Rene Schein

Staff: Cynthia van Zelm

Guest: Howard Kaufman with LeylandAlliance

1. Call to Order

Steve Rogers called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

2. Public Comment

There was no public present.

3. Approval of October 27, 2010 minutes

Rene Schein made a motion to approve the September 29, 2010 minutes. Roger Adams seconded the motion. Curt Hirsch noted that the location of the meeting should have said the Partnership office. The minutes were approved with the noted change.

4. Final Review of Committee Charge

Roger Adams thought the revised Committee charge was an improvement over the former charge.

The Committee changed the charge of providing an inventory of businesses to only apply to Storrs area businesses.

Brien Buckman made a motion to approve the revised Business Development and Retention Committee charge and present the recommendation to the Partnership Board of Directors. The motion was seconded by Ms. Schein. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Rogers said the revised charge will give the Committee a clear direction for the coming year.

5. Update on Relocation

Mr. Rogers said the Committee wants to ensure that all current tenants are being given consideration regarding relocation options. He invited Howard Kaufman to provide an update. Mr. Kaufman said that the Leyland team has been working on relocation for some time with the technical assistance of the Partnership's Executive Director and the Partnership's relocation consultant Phil Michalowski. He reviewed the status of relocation.

6. Update on Commercial Leasing

Mr. Kaufman said the Leyland team had recently brought on Charter Realty out of Westport, CT to help them with commercial leasing. He said that Charter has a good track record in retail development and owns or manages several million square feet of retail development. Mr. Kaufman said he will pass along input from the Committee to Dan Zelson, or Peter Elliott at Charter, who are the contacts working on Storrs Center tenanting.

Mr. Kaufman reiterated that there is interest in having a grocery store as part of Storrs Center. Mr. Kaufman said one of the challenges is how to fit a grocery store on the current site.

Mr. Buckman referred to a survey Leyland had done some time ago that indicated people were interested in Panera Bread for Storrs Center. Mr. Rogers and Ms. Schein said people want a good bakery.

Ms. Schein mentioned a good Indian restaurant in Vernon on Route 83 that would be a great option for Storrs Center.

6. Future meetings

The Committee agreed to meet on February 9, 2011. Agenda items will include reviewing construction logistics and current Storrs Center businesses, and reviewing any further comments on the surveys Leyland conducted a few years ago on what people wanted for commercial businesses. Ms. van Zelm passed out a November 14, 2003 summary of issues the Committee had put together about some of the needs of the current businesses as Storrs Center begins construction.

7. The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.

ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting of Tuesday, 04 January 2011
Mansfield Community Center (MCC) Conference Room

MINUTES

1. The meeting was **called to order** at 7:05p by Kim Bova. *Members present*: Jay Ames, Kim Bova, Tom Bruhn, Scott Lehmann, Blanche Serban. *Members absent:* Kelly Kochis. *Others present*: Casey Stone-Pirrie, Martin Calverly, Jay O'Keefe (staff).

2. **Martin Calverly** showed two framed and matted photographic prints and passed around an electronic photo frame with images of New England subjects from which the remainder of his winter-quarter exhibit will be chosen. The Committee approved an exhibit of approximately 23 prints, and Mr. Calverly will arrange for its installation with Jay O'K. Mr. Calverly left the meeting.

3. **Casey Stone-Pirrie** showed digital images of works (flat art and one sculpture) by E. O. Smith art students that he would like to exhibit in the display cases for the winter quarter. Jay A. and Blanche asked if more sculpture could be found, as it is difficult to display flat art to advantage in the double-sided case. Tom and Scott were not enthusiastic about including the "I want a birthday" print. Mr. Stone-Pirrie agreed to consult with his art teacher on what works would constitute a coherent show for the space and to e-mail photos of them to the Committee. Mr. Stone-Pirrie left the meeting.

4. The **minutes** of the 07 December 2010 meeting were approved, with the addition of a final "e" to "Stone-Pirri" in item 4c.

5. **MCC exhibits.**

a. The cracked shelves and door of the right-hand display case will be replaced shortly. **Michael Allison** should be contacted to remove his fragile works ahead of time (or to be on hand when the work is done).
b. Despite persistent efforts, Blanche has been unsuccessful in contacting **Reneé Raucci** concerning her proposed exhibit. The Committee will assume she has left the area or is no longer interested.
c. **Helen Dewey** plans to come to the February meeting to show (photos of) the works she proposed to exhibit.
d. Blanche will speak with Mansfield **elementary school art** teachers about organizing a student show for 15 April to 31 May.
e. Tom will urge **Suzy Staubach** to apply to show her ceramics.
f. Jay A. would like to organize a show of puppets and other items from Jagna Zahl's **Storrs Puppet Theatre** for the double-sided display case in the summer.

Exhibit Period	Entry cases		Sitting room		Hallway	
	Double-sided	Shelves	Upper (5)	Lower (3)	Long (5)	Short (2)
15 Oct – 14 Jan	*Michael Allison* (colored wooden bowls)			*DCF Heart Exhibit 10/1 – 12/31* (photos of children needing adoption)		
15 Jan – 14 Apr	*E.O. Smith student art?*			*Martin Calverly* (New England photos)		
15 Apr –31 May	*Mansfield School Art?*					
01 Jun – 15 Aug	*Storrs Puppet Theatre items?*					

5. **Vacancies.** The Committee has one vacancy, which it should try to fill, especially since Scott & Jay A. may retire at the end of their present terms in March.

6. **Committee charge.** Along with other Town Committees, the AAC has been asked to review its charge for correspondence to reality. The Committee agreed that its wording is sufficiently broad to cover what the Committee in fact does.

7. **Adjourned** at 7:58p. Next meeting: 7:00p, Tuesday, 01 February 2011.

Scott Lehmann, Secretary, 10 January 2011; approved 01 March 2011.

MANSFIELD DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP
FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2010

MINUTES

Present: Chair: Michael Allison, Phil Barry, Harry Birkenruth, Pat Carino, Mark Hammond and Frank Vasington

Staff: Cynthia van Zelm

1. Call to Order

Phil Barry called the meeting to order at 3:07 in Tom Callahan's absence.

2. Approval of Minutes from November 18, 2010

Michael Allison made a motion to approve the minutes. Mark Hammond seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with Mr. Barry and Frank Vasington abstaining.

3. Update on Storrs Center

Cynthia van Zelm said the draft Development Agreement between the Town of Mansfield and Storrs Center Alliance LLC, and Education Realty Trust, Inc., will continue to be discussed at the next Council meeting on December 27 and possibly at a follow-up meeting on January 4.

Harry Birkenruth said he thought the comments made at the public hearing on the draft Agreement were very rational. It is important to market the housing to a broad audience. He noted that Town Manager Matt Hart has done a good job of including protection for the Town in the agreement.

Mr. Barry said he heard a positive tone was set at the public hearing.

Ms. van Zelm said the goal is for plans on buildings for Phase 1A and 1B to be submitted formally to the Mansfield Planning Director in mid-January with a Partnership public hearing to follow in early February.

Ms. van Zelm said the plans for Storrs Road are moving forward toward 90 percent completion.

She said preliminary design on the parking garage and intermodal center will be presented to the Planning and Design Committee on January 25.

4. Discussion of DRAFT Budget

Ms. van Zelm reviewed the draft Budget for the Partnership for FY2011-2012 that had been previously e-mailed.

The Committee recommended that the Town and University of Connecticut contribution remain the same as last year.

Mr. Birkenruth made a motion to recommend the draft Budget for input into the Town fiscal system for the Town's deadline of January 5. Mr. Vasington seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Hammond moved to go into Executive Session pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes sections 1-200 (6) (D), 1-200 (6) (E) and 1-210 (b) (5).

Mr. Birkenruth seconded the motion.

The motion was approved unanimously.

5. Executive Session pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes sections 1-200 (6) (D), 1-200 (6) (E) and 1-210 (b) (5).

Present: Committee members Mr. Allison, Mr. Barry, Mr. Birkenruth, Mr. Carino, Mr. Hammond, and Mr. Vasington.

Also Present: Ms. van Zelm

6. Update on Four Corners Sewer and Water Advisory Committee

Ms. van Zelm said the Committee met this week with its consultant Environmental Partners. They reviewed the various water resource options. A draft report will be completed by Environmental Partners in two weeks. The next Committee meeting is January 11.

7. Adjourn

Mr. Birkenruth made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Vasington seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Minutes taken by Cynthia van Zelm

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Monday, February 28, 2011
Beck Municipal Building, Council Chambers
Minutes

Members Present: Deputy Mayor Toni Moran (Chair), Peter Kochenburger

Staff Present: Matthew Hart, Town Manager, Maria Capriola, Assistant to Town Manager, Dennis O'Brien, Town Attorney

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 p.m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
The meeting minutes of 11/8/10 were moved by Kochenburger, seconded by Moran, and adopted unanimously without objections.

2. HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS
Committee members discussed binder updates, meeting dates, and the draft work plan. Members did not have any items to add to the draft work plan of the Committee. Through consensus, the Committee agreed to resume meeting on the fourth Mondays of the month at 6pm or 6:30pm (as needed).

3. ETHICS CODE
Town Attorney O'Brien provided the Committee with a draft version of the Ethics Code which attempted to incorporate Ethics Board, Personnel Committee, and "model code" recommendations. The Committee reviewed Sections 25-1 through 25-6 of the draft code and will resume its review on March 7th (tentative). The Committee discussed a number of issues such as but not limited to: conflict of interest; personal interest/conflict; advisory board members as (or not as) public officials; financial reporting requirements of elected officials; and one year "cooling off" period after municipal employment. No action was taken on this item.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

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

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
Ethics Board
Thursday, December 2, 2010
Audrey Beck Municipal Building, Conference Room B

Minutes

Members Present: Lena Barry, David Ferrero, Saul Nesselroth, Mike Sikoski, Win Smith, Nora Stevens

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

The meeting was called to order at 4:32pm.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT
Elizabeth Wassmundt, Old Turnpike Road, spoke in regards to member appointments and terms.

II. VICE CHAIR'S REPORT
a. *Board Membership Update.* Ms. Stevens and Ms. Stanton provided updates. Mr. Nesselroth was appointed to fill the regular member vacancy. The Committee on Committees is reviewing Board member terms; the Committee on Committees review will continue at its December 20, 2010 meeting.

III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS
Mr. Smith made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ferrero to nominate Mr. Nesselroth as Chair. Mr. Nesselroth declined and the makers of the motion withdrew said motion.

Ms. Stevens made a motion to nominate Mr. Smith as Chair. Mr. Smith declined and Ms. Stevens withdrew said motion.

Mr. Smith made a motion, seconded by Mr. Nesselroth to nominate Ms. Stevens as Chair. The motion passed unanimously and Ms. Stevens accepted the Chair position.

Mr. Ferrero made a motion, seconded by Mr. Smith to nominate Mr. Nesselroth as Vice Chair. The motion passed unanimously and Mr. Nesselroth accepted the Vice Chair position.

Mr. Nesselroth made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ferrero to nominate Mr. Smith as Secretary. Mr. Smith agreed to accept the position but would intend to delegate minute taking responsibilities to staff. Concurrently, Mr. Sikoski offered to serve as secretary; subsequently, Mr. Smith made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ferrero to nominate Mr. Sikoski as Secretary. Mr. Smith asked Mr. Sikoski if his intent as secretary would be to record minutes himself; Mr. Sikoski stated his intent would be to record minutes himself and to be responsible for the audio recording of the meetings. On the motion to

nominate Mr. Smith as secretary, the vote was 2-1-2 (Nesselroth, Stevens in favor; Smith against; Sikoski, Ferrero abstaining). On the motion to nominate Mr. Sikoski as secretary, the vote was 3-1-1 (Ferrero, Nesselroth, Smith in favor; Stevens against; Sikoski abstaining).

IV. 2011 REGULAR MEETING DATES

Mr. Sikoski made a motion, seconded by Mr. Nesselroth for the Ethics Board to meet during 2011 on the first Thursday of every other month at 4:30pm beginning with January 6, 2011. The motion passed unanimously.

V. COMMUNCIATIONS

The Committee reviewed the annual report submission prepared by Ms. Stevens and Mr. Smith. Mr. Sikoski made a motion, seconded by Mr. Nesselroth, to authorize Ms. Stevens to submit the annual report to Council and the Town Clerk. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. APPROVAL OF 10/7/10 MINUTES

Mr. Smith made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ferrero to adopt the minutes of 10/7/10. The motion passed unanimously with no objections.

VIa. DISCUSSION OF ETHICS CODE

Mr. Sikoski made a motion, seconded by Mr. Smith to add discussion of Ethics Code to the agenda as item 6a. The motion passed unanimously. Ms. Capriola provided an update to the Board regarding the status of the review being conducted by the Personnel Committee. By consensus the Committee asked Ms. Stevens to follow-up with the Chair of the Personnel Committee regarding the status of the Code review.

VII.ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Smith made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sikoski to adjourn the meeting. With no objections, the meeting adjourned at 5:10pm.

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

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Monday, November 8, 2010
Beck Municipal Building, Conference Room B
Minutes

Members Present: Deputy Mayor Gregg Haddad (Chair), Chris Paulhus, Peter Kochenburger

Other Council Members Present: Denise Keane

Staff Present: Matthew Hart, Town Manager, Maria Capriola, Assistant to Town Manager

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
The meeting minutes of 9/13/10 and 9/27/10 were adopted unanimously without objections.

2. NON-UNION WAGES AND BENEFITS ADJUSTMENTS
The Committee reviewed recommendations submitted by the Town Manager regarding proposed changes to the wages and benefits for non-union employees. Discussion included a split 1.5%/1.5% wage increase (cumulative 2.25% impact), changes to health insurance plan design and employee shares of the premium, and savings generated from plan design changes and negotiated lower rates for life and disability insurances. Through consensus and without objection, the Committee concurred with the Town Manager's recommendations and will submit this to the Council for its November 22nd meeting.

3. RULES OF PROCEDURE
Pledge of Allegiance. By consensus, the Committee agreed to recommend that Rule 3c be moved to Rule 2 and the following language be added: *For select national holidays, more specifically, President's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Veteran's Day, the Council will schedule ceremonial meetings which may include traditional and appropriate activities such as a recitation of the pledge of allegiance. Council members shall participate on a voluntary basis in the planning and scheduling of such ceremonial meetings.*

Rule 9c, Council Committee Appointments. Discussion occurred but no changes are recommended at this time.

The Committee will submit recommended changes to the Rules of Procedure to the Council as a whole for review and consideration at its November 22nd or December 13th meeting.

4. OPEN AND TRANSPARENT GOVERNMENT POLICY
The Committee reviewed a draft policy and agreed to submit the draft policy to the Council as a whole for review and consideration at its November 22nd or December 13th meeting.

5. PERSONNEL RULES
The Committee continued its review and discussion of draft revisions to the personnel rules through chapter 13.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

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

Item #5

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
OFFICE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

ELIZABETH C. PATERSON, Mayor

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING
FOUR SOUTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD
MANSFIELD, CT 06268-2599
(860) 429-3336
Fax: (860) 429-6863

March 1, 2011

Eric J. Reynolds, Scoutmaster
Troop 56
127 Wormwood Hill Road
Mansfield, CT 06250

Dear Members of Boy Scout Troop 56:

On behalf of the Mansfield Town Council, I would like to thank you for presenting the colors at the Council's Presidents Day ceremony on February 14, 2011.

Presidents Day is a great time to learn more about American History and civic responsibility. We are very grateful to Boy Scout Troop 56 for assisting us with remembering and celebrating this important holiday.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Paterson

Elizabeth C. Paterson
Mayor

Cc: Town Council

PAGE
BREAK

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
OFFICE OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Item #6

GREGORY J. PADICK, DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

Memo to: Matthew W. Hart, Town Manager
From: Gregory Padick, Director of Planning
Date: March 10, 2011
Re: Roberge Property, 66 White Oak Road

As per your request, I have reviewed a letter from Roger C. Roberge Jr. to the Town Council requesting the removal of an affordable housing covenant affecting his property on 66 White Oak Road. The subject covenant was approved in 1991 in association with Planning and Zoning Commission subdivision approval. The subject affordable housing covenant was established pursuant to Mansfield's subdivision regulations and statutory provisions that authorize a subdivider to preclude any open space dedication in return for designating ten (10) percent of the lots for "affordable housing". Planning Office files document that Mr. Roberge was fully aware of the affordable housing provisions before he bought the subject property in 2007.

The Planning and Zoning Commission is the appropriate Town agency to consider any request to remove or modify an "affordable housing" covenant required in association with a subdivision approval. Zoning Agent, Curt Hirsch, and I have verbally informed Mr. Roberge that any request to alter the subject covenant should be submitted to the Planning and Zoning Commission. In his letter to the Town Council, Mr. Roberge also offered to sell his property to the Town. The subject property, which contains an existing single family house, is not considered appropriate for potential town acquisition. I do not recommend pursuing Mr. Roberge's offer.

2-14-2011

To the Honorable Members of the Mansfield Town Council,

I am the owner of 66 White Oak Road here in Mansfield. My name is Roger C. Roberge Jr. I am supportive of the town acquisition of the Penner property for open space and endangered species. Seeing the open space borders White Oak development, I am requesting that the Town Council recommend removing the covenant affordable housing on the 66 White Oak Rd. The covenant/affordable housing on this property makes it virtually impossible for it to be sold due to the potential buyers cannot qualify due to the stringent guidelines and financial institutions will not assume the liability to ensure that the covenant/affordable housing standards are continually met. If 66 White Oak Road is continually going to be assessed and taxed the same as any other cape style house, the it should not be restricted and limited on who can purchase 66 White Oak Rd. due to income restrictions severely limiting the number of buyers, if any, that could meet the guidelines. This was evident during ay attempted sale of the property during the summer/fall of 2009 which we listed 66 White Oak Rd. $20,000.00 less than 78 White Oak Rd(which is also a comparable sized cape with more land but, 66 White Oak Rd. is taxed higher than 67 White Oak Rd.) We had 6 potential buyers for 66 White Oak Rd. but none could meet the guidelines of the covenant/affordable housing or find financial institutions including FHA, VA or other government assisted programs to purchase said property.

Due to the fact that the Town Of Mansfield more than exceeds the number of areas for affordable housing but decides to retain 66 White Oak Rd. along with 78 White Oak Rd. as the only 2 house structures in the Storrs/Mansfield/Eagleville area then I would be willing to sell 66 White Oak Rd. to the town for the assessed price($262,800.00) and the Town paying 5% to Mansfield and 5% to the State of CT and all other closing costs, Attny fees and recording costs that are required by law.

Thank you for your time and I will await your decision,

Roger C. Roberge Jr
Owner of 66 White Oak Rd.

Front Do -
35 5/8 x 3'6" = 78"

INFOTUBE.net

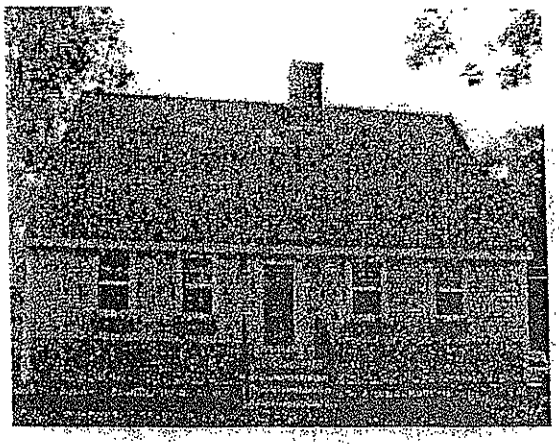
Find out more about this home at: **http://InfoTube.net/174629**

Ad# 174629

Price: [redacted]

Address:
66 White Oak Rd
Mansfield, CT 06268

Type: Single Family Home
For Sale By: Dana & Tamela Root, Homeowner.
Financing: No Preference
Phone: (860) 230-8371
Phone: (813) 786-0372



4 Bed 4 full Bath Cape Style home in Mansfield. 1778 sq.ft.home is set in quiet neighborhood on a cul-de-sac....Located between UCONN and ECSU... This spacious home includes a 16X38 Deck (with 16X29 awning) facing a private wooded area... Oil Baseboard Heat...Central Air...Fireplace...Wood Stove (hookup in basement)..42 inch Solid Oak Kitchen Cabinets...6 Panel Solid Pine Doors. (4th Bed and Bath makes a great in-law apartment with private entrance)

208-5977

Home showing by appointment only. Please call 860-230-8371

ARCHITECTURE

Style: Cape Cod
Year Built: 1994
Approx. Sq. Feet: 1,778
Construction: Frame
Exterior: vinyl siding
Roofing: architectural shingles
Driveway: gravel

INTERIOR

Total Rooms: 13
Bedrooms: 4
Bathrooms: 4
Basement: Full
Garage Type:
Garage Capacity: 0.0
Central Air: Y

PROPERTY

Parcel#:
Lot#: 11
Lot Size: .98 acre
Total Acres: 0.98

YARD & LANDSCAPING

Recently seeded...Needs some TLC...

ROOMS and AMENITIES

kitchen	13' x 28'	Solid Oak Cabinets...Ceramic Tile...Breakfast Bar
Living Room	16' x 13'	Berber Carpet...Ceiling Fan
Dining Room	15' x 13'	Berber Carpet...Fireplace...Ceiling Fan
Master Bedrooom	10' x 21'	Walk in Closet...New Berber Carpet...Ceiling Fan...Master Bath with

029562

AMENDED
DECLARATION OF COVENANTS AND RESTRICTIONS

We, CIDER MILL ASSOCIATES, of the Town of Mansfield, County of Tolland and State of Connecticut, (hereinafter referred to as Developer), fee owners of real property located in the Town of Mansfield, County of Tolland and State of Connecticut known as "Cider Farms - Section III" as shown on maps or plans entitled "Subdivision Entitled Cider Farms Section III White Oak Road Mansfield, Conn. Owner & Subdivider Cider Mill Associates c/o Michael Dilaj 132 Conantville Road Mansfield Center, Connecticut 06250 March 1, 1991, Revised: May 28, 1991, Revised August 16, 1991, Datum Engineering & Surveying 132 Conantville Road Mansfield Center, CT. 06250 456-1357", a subdivision within said Town of Mansfield, said map being recorded or to be recorded with the Mansfield Town Clerk's Office, hereby make the following declarations as to the limitations, restrictions, and uses to which land and structures on Lots #13 & #11 of said subdivision may be put.

1. HEREBY specify that such declarations shall constitute covenants to run with the land and structures, as provided by law, and shall be binding on all parties and all persons claiming under them. This declaration of covenants and restrictions being designated for the purpose of providing "Affordable housing" as defined in Section 8-39a of the Connecticut General Statutes on Lots #13 & #11 as shown on said plan. As used in this title currently, "Affordable housing" means housing for which persons and families pay thirty per cent or less of their annual income, where such income is less than or equal to the area median income for the municipality in which such housing is located, as determined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. This definition shall be basis for this Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions.

2. HEREBY specify that future buyers of Lots #13 & #11 shall qualify for "Affordable housing" as defined in Section 1. of this Declaration. To ensure that this requirement is met, all future buyers shall provide to the Mansfield Zoning Agent a written certification (hand delivered or sent by Certified Mail at least 3 business days prior to any transferal of title) from the mortgage officer of any lending institution providing mortgage funds for the subject property or from the buyer's attorney. Said certification shall specify that the buyer's annual income and the percentage of said income spent on housing costs (mortgage, interest, taxes and insurance) meet the qualifications for affordable housing as defined in Section 1. of this Declaration.

3. HEREBY inform future buyers that Lots #13 & #11 are subject to

this Declaration and that the purchase price and potentially the resale price is controlled by the definition of "Affordable housing", as defined in Section 1. of this Declaration, and that future improvements to land and structures by future Owners may not increase the sales value of the land and structures. Such information shall be disclosed by a statement in all offerings of sale, all sales contracts, and all subsequent deeds of conveyance by the following language:

"These premises are subject to a Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions (recorded in Volume , page of the Mansfield Land Records) concerning affordable housing requirements which necessitate the retention of "Affordable housing" as defined in said Declaration. These restrictions and limitations necessitate future sales of the subject property to qualified buyers as per the affordable housing definition of Section 1. of said Declaration. This requirement may affect the sales price of the subject premises and may affect the value of any subsequent improvements thereon."

In the event the disclosure required to appear in all offerings of sale and all sales contracts is not complied with, such requirement may be satisfied by a written affidavit of acknowledgment and waiver signed by the buyer and hand delivered to the Zoning Agent at least three (3) business days prior to any transferal of title.

4. HEREBY specify that future buyers of Lots #13 & #11 shall either live on the subject premises or rent said premises to persons and families who qualify for "Affordable housing" as defined in Section 1. of this Declaration.

5. HEREBY specify that future buyers of Lots #13 & #11 shall provide to the Mansfield Zoning Agent (hand delivered or sent by Certified Mail within five (5) business days of any transfer of title) a copy of the deed of conveyance.

6. Upon application of the property owner of Lot #13 & #11, these Covenants and Restrictions may be modified by the Mansfield Planning and Zoning Commission in the event of an amendment, either directly or indirectly, of Section 8-39a of the Connecticut General Statutes or in the event of other changes to state or municipal affordable housing programs.

The covenants agreed to and the terms, conditions, restrictions and purposes imposed with this Declaration of Covenants shall not only be binding upon the Grantor, but also his lessees, agents, personal representatives, successors and assigns.

Enforcement of these Covenants and Restrictions shall be by proceedings, at law or in equity, against any person or persons violating or attempting to violate such covenant or restriction and to recover any damages suffered by them from any violations thereof, and in addition, the Zoning Agent may pursue any violation of these Covenants and Restrictions as Zoning Violations pursuant to Section 8-12 of the Connecticut General Statues as amended.

It is expressly agreed that if any covenant or condition or restrictions hereinabove contained, or any portion thereof, held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or void, such invalidity shall in no way affect the validity or binding effect of any other covenant, condition or restriction of the Declaration.

The purpose of this Amended Agreement is to modify the terms and provisions of a prior Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions executed and recorded in the Mansfield Land Records, in order to remove Lot 14 from the provisions of the Declaration and substitute Lot 11 therefore.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Grantors have executed and sealed this document this day of August, 1992.

Witness:

JOAN QUARTO

SHARON TYLER

Cider Mill Associates

By: Michael Dilaj
Its General Partner

State of Connecticut:

County of Tolland : ss. Mansfield

On this 24th day of August, 1992, personally appeared Michael Dilaj, General Partner of Cider Mill Associates, signer of the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged the same to be his free act and deed and the free act and deed of said partnership, before me.

JOAN QUARTO NOTARY PUBLIC CONNECTICUT

Notary Public JOAN QUARTO
My commission expires MAR. 31, 1993

Item # 29552 Received for Record August 24, 1992
at 10:54 a.m. Attest Town Clerk

~~NOT SURE WHAT THIS REPRESENTS~~ ?

56,170 64,300 72,300 $80,300 MFI 86,200 93,170 99,670 $106,000

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HUD 03/2007
STATE:CONNECTICUT

2007 ADJUSTED HOME INCOME LIMITS

PROGRAM	1 PERSON	2 PERSON	3 PERSON	4 PERSON	5 PERSON	6 PERSON	7 PERSON	8 PERSON
Bridgeport, CT HUD Metro FMR Area								
30% LIMITS	16750	19150	21550	23950	25850	27800	29700	31600
VERY LOW INCOME	27950	31950	35950	39950	43150	46350	49550	52750
60% LIMITS	33540	38340	43140	47940	51780	55620	59460	63300
LOW INCOME	41700	47700	53650	59600	64350	69150	73900	78650
Danbury, CT HUD Metro FMR Area								
30% LIMITS	21000	24000	27000	30000	32400	34800	37200	39600
VERY LOW INCOME	35000	40000	45000	50000	54000	58000	62000	66000
60% LIMITS	42000	48000	54000	60000	64800	69600	74400	79200
LOW INCOME	41700	47700	53650	59600	64350	69150	73900	78650
Stamford-Norwalk, CT HUD Metro FMR Area								
30% LIMITS	24450	27900	31400	34900	37700	40500	43300	46050
VERY LOW INCOME	40700	46500	52350	58150	62800	67450	72100	76750
60% LIMITS	48840	55800	62820	69780	75360	80940	86520	92100
LOW INCOME	52000	59400	66850	74250	80200	86150	92050	98000
Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford, CT HUD Metro FMR Area								
30% LIMITS	16850	19300	21700	24100	26050	27950	29900	31800
VERY LOW INCOME	28100	32100	36150	40150	43350	46550	49800	53000
60% LIMITS	33720	38520	43380	48180	52020	55860	59760	63600
LOW INCOME	41700	47700	53650	59600	64350	69150	73900	78650
Southern Middlesex County, CT HUD Metro FMR Area								
30% LIMITS	19550	22300	25100	27900	30150	32350	34600	36850
VERY LOW INCOME	32550	37200	41850	46500	50200	53950	57650	61400
60% LIMITS	39060	44640	50220	55800	60240	64740	69180	73680
LOW INCOME	41700	47700	53650	59600	64350	69150	73900	78650
Milford-Ansonia-Seymour, CT HUD Metro FMR Area								
30% LIMITS	17150	19600	22050	24500	26450	28400	30400	32350
VERY LOW INCOME	28600	32700	36750	40850	44100	47400	50650	53900
60% LIMITS	34320	39240	44100	49020	52920	56880	60780	64680
LOW INCOME	41700	47700	53650	59600	64350	69150	73900	78650
New Haven-Meriden, CT HUD Metro FMR Area								
30% LIMITS	16100	18400	20700	23000	24850	26700	28500	30350
VERY LOW INCOME	26800	30650	34450	38300	41350	44450	47500	50550
60% LIMITS	32160	36780	41340	45960	49620	53340	57000	60660
LOW INCOME	41700	47700	53650	59600	64350	69150	73900	78650
Waterbury, CT HUD Metro FMR Area								
30% LIMITS	15950	18200	20500	22750	24550	26400	28200	30050
VERY LOW INCOME	26550	30350	34150	37950	41000	44000	47050	50100
60% LIMITS	31860	36420	40980	45540	49200	52800	56460	60120
LOW INCOME	41700	47700	53650	59600	64350	69150	73900	78650

Mansfield

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Mansfield Community Center

Town of Mansfield Parks and Recreation Department

Curt A. Vincente, Director

10 South Eagleville Road
Storrs/Mansfield, Connecticut 06268
Tel: (860) 429-3015 Fax: (860) 429-9773
Email: Parks&Rec@MansfieldCT.org
Website: www.MansfieldCT.org

Item #7

TO: Matthew Hart, Town Manager

FROM: Curt Vincente, Director of Parks & Recreation (CV)

DATE: March 9, 2011

SUBJECT: Pool Incident Costs and Updated Procedures

As we have discussed, the main pool backwashing incident has been fully investigated and we determined that staff error caused this regrettable situation. The staff person involved expressed great remorse for the incident and fully understands the seriousness of the problems that resulted from lack of attention to detail. Formal disciplinary action is in the process. The following direct costs have been incurred:

- $4,050.00 for pool water and delivery (see attached invoice)
- $138.60 after hours charges for water source assistance (see attached invoice)

Indirect costs to re-heat the pool water cannot be determined at this time. I have discussed this with both Cherie Trahan and Bill Hammon and there may not be a conclusive way to determine this cost.

All additional costs will be off-set in the current fiscal year both by personnel savings and the fact that the Parks & Recreation Fund has a positive fund balance.

Attached you will also find a revised procedure for backwashing the pool. We have added several steps in the process that will prevent this from happening in the future, including a second staff person being present and formally notified that the procedure has been initiated, formal notification to the Manager on Duty, and a simple timing system. We have researched possible automated systems, but that cost ranges from $16,000-$20,000. We will consider this in future capital improvement planning. There are several other filter room system upgrades that we have been considering over the years and this could possibly be included.

Please let me know if any questions or if more information is required.

Attachment: Irish Springs Pool Water Invoice
Windham Water Works Invoice
Lap Pool Backwash Procedure

Irish Springs Pool Water, LLC
33 Leffingwell Road
Uncasville, CT 06382

Voice: 860-848-4100
Fax: 860-848-4449

INVOICE

Invoice Number: 2598
Invoice Date: Feb 17, 2011
Page: 1
Duplicate

Bill To	Ship To
Mansfield Parks and Recreation 4 South Eagleville Rd. Attn: Curt Vincente Storrs, CT 06268	Mansfield Parks and Recreation 10 South Eagleville Rd. Attn: Curt Vincente Storrs, CT 06268

Customer ID	Customer PO	Payment Terms
Mansfield Parks		Net 10 Days

Sales Rep ID	Shipping Method	Ship Date	Due Date
	McKinney Truck		2/27/11

Quantity	Item	Description	Unit Price	Amount
18.00	Water	Pool Water Load(s)	75.00	1,350.00
18.00	Delivery	Hauling/Labor	150.00	2,700.00

Subtotal	4,050.00
Sales Tax	
Total Invoice Amount	4,050.00
Payment/Credit Applied	4,050.00
TOTAL	0.00

Check/Credit Memo No: MC052973

Town of Windham Water Department

P. O Box 257
Willimantic, CT 06226-0257

Invoice

Date	Invoice #
2/10/2011	1854

Bill To
MANSFIELD PARKS AND REC. DEPT. ATTN.: CURT VINCENTE 10 SOUTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD MANSFIELD, CT 06268

Terms	Due Date	Project
Net 30	3/12/2011	

Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
Charges for after hours service call on 2/9/11 to assist water hauler		138.60	138.60

PLEASE RETURN COPY OF INVOICE WITH YOUR REMITTANCE TO COLLECTOR WINDHAM WATER SEWER DEPT., P.O. BOX 257, WILLIMANTIC, CT. 06226. BALANCES OUTSTANDING 30 DAYS WILL BE CHARGED INTEREST AT 1.5%/MONTH. QUESTIONS? CALL 860-465-3086.

Total	$138.60
Payments/Credits	$0.00
Balance Due	$138.60

Mansfield Community Center

LAP POOL BACKWASH PROCEDURE (rev. 2/10/11)

NOTES:

- Do not backwash unless you have been trained and fully understand how the process works. This is only a reference checklist and does not take the place of hands on training.
- When to backwash - when the influent and effluent gages (see **LPBW 1** tag) are reading at a difference of approximately 10 or higher or if there is limited water flow. The appropriate settings are for the influent to be at 10 and effluent to be at 5. The flow meter (see **LPBW 2** tag) should normally read approximately 450, but will be increasingly less than this as the need for backwashing grows.

PROCEDURE

1. Two staff must remain on deck at all times during this procedure.
2. The MOD (manager on duty) must be notified that a backwash has been initiated. If the person initiating the backwash is the MOD, notify another staff person that the process has been started.
3. Backwashing for the lap pool should only be done at night after closing. The lap pool is on an automatic fill system that begins at 10pm every night, unlike the manual fill valve on the therapy pool.
4. This procedure should never be completed while people are in the pool.
5. Do not turn off the pump.
6. Slowly move the large backwash lever (see **LPBW 3** tag) down.
7. Open the throttle valve (see **LPBW 4** tag) all the way.
8. **Run in backwash mode for a 10 minutes minimum** – The pool water level will go down slightly but it will self correct and auto fill to the proper level over night.
9. Start the hand-held timer (which should be set for 10 minutes) and keep the timer with you so that you are reminded to re-visit the backwash cycle after the 10 minute alarm goes off.
10. Check the sight glass (see **LPBW 5** tag) to verify that after 10 minutes the water is running clear. If it is not clear, continue in backwash mode until the sight glass is clear.
11. Move the backwash lever back to vertical running position.
12. Close the throttle until the small gauge reads 20.
13. Open the air vent in top of the main filter (see **LPBW 6** tag) 1/4 turn to purge any air that has gotten trapped in the filter during the backwash process. You should hear air/water going into tube behind main filter. Close the vent when you do not hear any air, only water running through it.
14. Pool covers can go on after backwashing even though water level has been lowered.
15. Notify the MOD that the procedure was successfully completed and double check that all valves have been re-set to the normal operating position.

Mansfield Community Center

Town of Mansfield Parks and Recreation Department

Curt A. Vincente, Director

10 South Eagleville Road
Storrs/Mansfield, Connecticut 06268
Tel: (860) 429-3015 Fax: (860) 429-9773
Email: Parks&Rec@MansfieldCT.org
Website: www.MansfieldCT.org

Item #8

TO: Matthew Hart, Town Manager

FROM: Curt Vincente, Director of Parks & Recreation (CA)

DATE: March 1, 2011

SUBJECT: Response to Fee Question at Feb. 28, 2011 Town Council Meeting

This memo is in response to the question raised at the February 28, 2011 Town Council meeting about Parks and Recreation Department fees, specifically Community Center membership fees. Attached you will find a copy of the Agenda Item Summary from the September 13, 2010 Town Council meeting that clearly indicates that the fee schedule approved by the Council footnotes that "rates may vary slightly from time to time for marketing promotions". Going back to marketing campaigns before the Community Center facility opened in 2003, we have always communicated to the Town Council that in order to remain competitive locally, we must have the ability to offer incentives to attract new members from time to time. In the early years of the operation, our Marketing Consultant strongly recommended that we have that language in the fee approval because of the need to have flexibility when market conditions change within the year and when economic conditions warrant short term specials.

Please let me know if any further information is required.

Attachment: Sept. 13, 2010 Town Council Agenda Item Summary

- Page 62 last paragraph
- Page 64 annual rate note # 3
- Page 65 3-month option note # 5

APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE 9/13/10

Item #4

Town of Mansfield
Agenda Item Summary

To: Town Council
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager *Matt*
CC: Maria Capriola, Assistant to Town Manager; Curt Vincente, Director of Parks and Recreation; Cherie Trahan, Director of Finance
Date: September 13, 2010
Re: Mansfield Community Center Membership Fees

Subject Matter/Background
The Community Center will be entering its eighth year of operation this fall. Each year following the original adoption of fees for membership, the Town Council has approved a fee schedule upon recommendations from staff.

Last year, in addition to a zero percent increase in membership rates, two additional changes to the fee schedule were approved by the Council. These changes included an increase in the *enrollment fee* and a new *credit card convenience fee*. A brief summary of those changes is noted below:

- Enrollment Fee – The current enrollment fee of $30 was approved by the Council last year. Existing members are excluded from this fee provided they renew. If an existing member does not renew, and then re-joins at a later time, the enrollment fee would apply. The enrollment fee is common in the fitness industry and provides additional incentives for members to renew annually. In the first year of enrollment fee implementation (November 1, 2008 through October 31, 2009), 728 enrollment fees at $25 were processed, resulting in $18,200 in revenue. It is worth noting that during that period, 896 new memberships were received; however, promotions offering no enrollment fee were held, which resulted in the recruitment of 168 new memberships. Through the first ten months of the current operational year (Nov. 1, 2009-Aug. 31, 2010), $21,300 has been collected for 710 enrollment fees at $30 apiece. Staff believes this change has had a positive affect on revenue and has created new options for marketing initiatives.

- Credit Card Convenience Fee –Last year the Council also approved a new credit card convenience fee of three percent. Although we were able to negotiate lower fees charged to us by the credit card processor, we continue to incur considerable fees in order to allow our customers the ability to pay by credit card. In prior budget years, expenditures for credit card processing have exceeded $30,000. During the FY 2009/10 budget process, staff was negotiating with credit card processers in an attempt to reduce this expenditure. The expenditure

line item for credit card processing was then eliminated because, at the time, new regulations allowed for third party credit card processers to apply convenience fees and to handle credit card transactions as an outsourced service, thus reducing our expenditures completely. It turns out that with a third party processor transaction costs for the customer would be excessive, thus, we felt that continuing to handle this convenience fee internally was in the best interest of our customers. The credit card industry has changed in recent years and due to our high volume of credit card business (nearly $930,000 last fiscal year), it was essential that we begin to pass the credit card convenience costs on to the customer. This practice is becoming more and more common in many business sectors. Connecticut law only allows for convenience fees to be charged for on-line purchases. Credit card convenience fees collected in FY 2009/10 totaled $3,424.

Attached you will find a proposed fee schedule which represents a zero percent increase in current membership rates. As you know, after our initial rates were adopted in 2003, we had planned to increase rates incrementally each year to keep pace with inflation and typical expenditure increases rather than increase by a larger amount every two to five years. Under normal economic conditions, a nominal percentage increase of three to five percent could typically yield an additional $13,500 to $22,500 in revenue. However, due to the continued difficult economic climate in recent years, many people are making careful decisions about the use of their discretionary income for memberships and programs. As a result, staff anticipates that an increase in rates may erode the membership base, make it difficult to recruit new members and decrease participation in programs. This could negatively impact the overall financial health of the Recreation Fund and may negate any additional revenue generated through an increase in membership rates. We have looked at possible percentage increases, but have determined that the potential revenue would be minimal in comparison to potential negative fall-out from existing members. Increased revenue could instead be realized through slight growth in the over-all membership base, which is the current trend.

Although we do not recommend increases in membership rates for a third year, staff believes an **increase in the enrollment fee** is warranted and would result in positive revenue. An enrollment fee of $25 was approved by the Council in 2008 and, as highlighted above, this fee was increased by $5 last year to $30. Staff is proposing to increase this enrollment fee by another $5 to $35 per new enrollment. This is a nominal increase for new members and has no impact on existing members who continue their memberships. The fitness industry typically charges anywhere from $50 to $100 for enrollment fees. Based upon the average new enrollments we have experienced minus any special promotions we occasionally offer, this additional $5 per enrollment could yield an additional $4,200 in revenue in the coming operational year. As stated above, through the first ten months of the current operational year (Nov. 1, 2009 - Aug. 31, 2010), we have collected $21,300 in revenue from 710 enrollment fee charges.

If the recommended fees are approved, we intend to implement these new fees on November 1, 2010. As we have done in the past, in order to remain competitive locally, we will also offer incentives to attract new members from time-to-time as part of our marketing program.

*

The Recreation Advisory Committee reviewed staff's recommendations at their July 28, 2010 meeting. Although we lacked a quorum at this meeting, the committee members present unanimously endorsed staff's recommendations.

Financial Impact

The recommended increase in enrollment fees would positively affect membership revenue, with a projected increase of $4,200 in additional revenue.

Recommendation

For the reasons enumerated above, staff recommends that the Town Council approve the proposed fee schedule. If the Council concurs with the recommendation, the following motion would be in order,

Move, to approve the Community Center Fee Recommendations for the operating year beginning November 1, 2010 and ending October 31, 2011, as presented by staff in its draft dated September 13, 2010.

Attachments

1) Community Center Fee Recommendations - Year eight
2) Community Center Party Rental Forms/Rate Sheets
3) Facility Comparison Information

Proposed 9/13/10

MANSFIELD PARKS and RECREATION DEPARTMENT
Community Center Fee Recommendations
Year Eight - Effective November 1, 2010

	# in category prior year on 9/1/09	# in category as of 9/1/10	CURRENT RATES	RECOMMENDED RATES
FAMILY/HOUSEHOLD - Annual				
Resident - Full-use	537	570	590.00	590.00
Resident - Off-Peak	42	35	see note 6 below	see note 6 below
Ashford/Willington - Full-use	79	87	650.00	650.00
Ashford/Willington - Off-peak	8	7	see note 6 below	see note 6 below
Non-Resident - Full-use	187	170	685.00	685.00
Non-Resident - Off-peak	6	7	see note 6 below	see note 6 below
(includes 2 people, each addl. person age 17 & under OR FT dependent student 24 & under with proof)	1,911	1,958	30.00	30.00
additional F/H member age 18 & over, not dependent			50% off indiv. Rate	50% off indiv. Rate
ADULT/CHILD HOUSEHOLD - Annual				
Resident - Full-use	80	87	355.00	355.00
Resident - Off-Peak	0	0	see note 6 below	see note 6 below
Ashford/Willington - Full-use	10	17	390.00	390.00
Ashford/Willington - Off-peak	1	1	see note 6 below	see note 6 below
Non-Resident - Full-use	42	37	420.00	420.00
Non-Resident - Off-peak	1	1	see note 6 below	see note 6 below
(includes 1 adult and 1 child under age 14, each add'l child under age 14)	211	214	30.00	30.00
INDIVIDUAL - Annual				
Resident - Full-use	336	383	330.00	330.00
Resident - Off-Peak	60	51	see note 6 below	see note 6 below
Ashford/Willington - Full-use	61	73	355.00	355.00
Ashford/Willington - Off-peak	12	8	see note 6 below	see note 6 below
Non-Resident - Full-use	233	220	390.00	390.00
Non-Resident - Off-peak	29	20	see note 6 below	see note 6 below

ANNUAL RATE NOTES:

1) Above rates are for annual fee paid in full
2) A 3% service charge is added for monthly payments
3) Rates may vary slightly from time to time for marketing promotions
4) Proof of address/household of residence required for all members age 18 and older
5) Full year commitment required. Refunds or Cancellations offered only in extenuating circumstances
6) Off-Peak rates will be maintained for existing members who continue, but is no longer available for new members (10/1/08)

Proposed 9/13/10

MANSFIELD PARKS and RECREATION DEPARTMENT
Community Center Fee Recommendations
Year Eight - Effective November 1, 2010

	# in category prior year on 9/1/09	# in category as of 9/1/10	CURRENT RATES	RECOMMENDED RATES
FAMILY/HOUSEHOLD - 3 Month Option				
Resident - Full-use	14	34	195.00	195.00
Resident - Off-Peak	0	0	see note 6 below	see note 6 below
Ashford/Willington - Full-use	4	4	215.00	215.00
Ashford/Willington - Off-peak	0	0	see note 6 below	see note 6 below
Non-Resident - Full-use	10	22	225.00	225.00
Non-Resident - Off-peak	0	0	see note 6 below	see note 6 below
(includes 2 people, each addl. person age 17 & under OR FT dependent student 24 & under with proof)	50	110	30.00	30.00
additional F/H member age 18 & over, not dependent			50% off indiv. Rate	50% off indiv. Rate
ADULT/CHILD HOUSEHOLD - 3 Month Option				
Resident - Full-use	4	8	120.00	120.00
Resident - Off-Peak	0	0	see note 6 below	see note 6 below
Ashford/Willington - Full-use	5	2	130.00	130.00
Ashford/Willington - Off-peak	0	0	see note 6 below	see note 6 below
Non-Resident - Full-use	0	9	140.00	140.00
Non-Resident - Off-peak	0	0	see note 6 below	see note 6 below
(includes 1 adult and 1 child under age 14, each add'l child under age 14)	11	25	30.00	30.00
INDIVIDUAL - 3 Month Option				
Resident - Full-use	46	59	110.00	110.00
Resident - Off-Peak	1	1	see note 6 below	see note 6 below
Ashford/Willington - Full-use	13	20	120.00	120.00
Ashford/Willington - Off-peak	0	1	see note 6 below	see note 6 below
Non-Resident - Full-use	37	58	130.00	130.00
Non-Resident - Off-peak	0	0	see note 6 below	see note 6 below
Total Memberships - all categories (as of 9/1/09)	1,858	1,992		
Total Members - all categories (as of 9/1/09)	4,041	4,299		

3 MONTH OPTION NOTES:

1) Above rates must be paid in full
2) Conversion to annual membership will be pro-rated only within the first month
3) No refunds or cancellations for any reason
4) Proof of address/household of residence required for all members age 18 and older
5) Rates may vary slightly from time to time for marketing promotions
6) Off-Peak rates will be maintained for existing members who continue, but will no longer be available for new members

Proposed 9/13/10

MANSFIELD PARKS and RECREATION DEPARTMENT
Community Center Fee Recommendations
Year Eight - Effective November 1, 2010

	CURRENT RATES	RECOMMENDED RATES
DAILY ADMISSION		
Resident - Infant/Toddler (under age 3)	1.00	1.00
Resident - Youth (ages 3-17)	5.00	5.00
Resident - Adult (ages 18-61)	9.00	9.00
Resident - Senior Citizens (ages 62+)	7.00	7.00
Ashford/Willington - Infant/Toddler (under age 3)	2.00	2.00
Ashford/Willington - Youth (ages 3-17)	6.00	6.00
Ashford/Willington - Adult (ages 18-61)	10.00	10.00
Ashford/Willington - Senior Citizens (ages 62+)	8.00	8.00
Non-Resident - Infant/Toddler (under age 3)	3.00	3.00
Non-Resident - Youth (ages 3-17)	7.00	7.00
Non-Resident - Adult (ages 18-61)	11.00	11.00
Non-Resident - Senior Citizens (ages 62+)	9.00	9.00
Discount Book of 10 visits	10 % discount res. rate above	10 % discount res. rate above
Guest Pass (with member)	FREE	FREE
TEEN CENTER		
MISCELLANEOUS		
Insufficient Fund Fee	25.00	25.00
Freeze Fee (3 month)	20.00	20.00
Fitness Flex Program Package	225.00	225.00
Enrollment Fee	30.00	35.00
Credit Card Convenience Fee (online only)	3% per transaction	3% per transaction
FACILITY RENTAL RATES		
See attached party rental forms		
Safe Graduation - Out of Town Schools	18/person	18/person
Safe Graduation - E.O. Smith (50% discount)	9/person	9/person

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February 25, 2011

Mr. John Jackman, Fire Marshall
Town of Mansfield
Mansfield Town Hall
4 South Eagleville Road
Storrs Mansfield, CT 06268

Dear Mr. Jackman,

Mansfield Self Storage, LLC would like to continue offering assistance to our Mansfield neighbors who suffer loss or severe fire damage to their Mansfield homes for the calendar year of 2011. We will provide a 10' X 15' storage unit rent-free for 3 months. The units will be subject to availability.

Hopefully, there will not be a need for our neighbors to use this service, but in the event that they do, we felt that this would be our small way of lessening their loss.

Please let all of the appropriate Mansfield Fire Departments' personnel know of this offer. Feel free to call me if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

Marisa Houser

Marisa Houser
Manager
Mansfield Self Storage, LLC

cc: Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor
Matthew Hart, Town Manager

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MOODY'S
INVESTORS SERVICE

New Issue: MOODY'S ASSIGNS Aa2 TO MANSFIELD'S (CT) $2.8 MILLION GO BONDS

Global Credit Research - 04 Mar 2011

Aa2 AFFECTS $1.4 MILLION OF OUTSTANDING G.O. DEBT

Municipality
CT

Moody's Rating

ISSUE	RATING
General Obligation Bonds, Series 2011	Aa2

Sale Amount $2,840,000
Expected Sale Date 03/15/11
Rating Description General Obligation Bonds

Opinion

NEW YORK, Mar 4, 2011 -- Moody's Investors Service has assigned a Aa2 rating to the Town of Mansfield's (CT) $2.8 million General Obligation Bonds, Issue of 2011. Concurrently, Moody's has affirmed the Aa2 rating on $1.5 million of outstanding general obligation debt. The bonds are secured by a general obligation unlimited tax pledge.

SUMMARY RATING RATIONALE

The Aa2 rating incorporates the town's recently-improved financial position supported by reserves held inside and outside of the General Fund and management's prudent fiscal practices. The rating also factors the town's favorable debt levels and moderately sized equalized net grand list (ENGL) that benefits from a large university presence.

Proceeds from this issue will be used to fund various capital projects for both the town and the Mansfield Board of Education.

STRENGTHS

-Demonstrated commitment to the continued improvement of the town's financial position as evidenced by codified financial practices and history favorable operating results

-Stable local economy, anchored by the University of Connecticut, and moderately sized tax base with continued development

-Low debt burden

CHALLENGES

-Continued financial improvement amidst volatility in state aid revenues and ongoing spending pressures

CREDIT OPINION

CONTINUED IMPROVEMENT OF SOUND FINANCIAL POSITION SUPPORTED BY SATISFACTORY AVAILABLE RESERVES

Moody's anticipates Mansfield's sound financial position to continue to improve over the near term supported by careful fiscal management aimed at management's recent initiative to increase General Fund reserves from 5% of General Fund revenues to 10% over the next several years. The town segments operations and capital into several funds with current expenditures funded through the General Fund, capital spending through a Capital Non-Recurring (CNR) Fund and debt service through a Debt Service Fund. This management strategy is favorable in that it enables the town to better match current and long-term expenditures with similarly timed revenue sources, thus ensuring stable General Fund budgetary growth. Fiscal 2010 experienced the town's sixth consecutive operating surplus. Unreserved General Fund reserves increased to $1.9 million or 4.3% of General Fund revenues from a low of $995,000 (3.2% of General Fund reserves) at the end of fiscal year 2003. Taking into account other available funds outside the General Fund which include its capital projects funds and other internal service funds, fiscal 2010 available reserves equaled $3.2 million or 7.3% of General Fund revenues.

Fiscal 2011 experienced a 0.5% increase in spending (budget-to-budget) driven primarily by increased pension costs and contributions to its CNR Fund. As a part of the budget plan, the town was able to ameliorate some of its spending pressures without drastic reductions in services by implementing a one-year wage freeze and gaining operational efficiencies. Citing year-to-date results, the town expects its seventh year of favorable operating results due to diligent budget monitoring and adjustments to spending when necessary. The town projects total ending available reserves to be about $4.3 million or about 9.8% of General Fund revenues. Looking forward to fiscal 2012, management anticipates continued progress towards its internal General Fund balance target of 10% of revenues with increased contributions to its CNR Fund to offset decreasing state grants.

Somewhat atypical of Connecticut localities, the town is heavily dependent on intergovernmental revenues which represent 43% of fiscal 2010 General Fund revenues versus 55% for property taxes. These revenues are comprised of Education Cost Sharing (ECS) grants, the Mashantucket Pequot, and Mohegan Fund Grant and the payment-in-lieu-of-taxes (PILOTs) associated with University of Connecticut (rated Aa2, stable outlook). Reflective of state-level budgetary pressures, the town's share has decreased for three consecutive years from a high of $19.3 million in fiscal 2009 to a projected $17.6 million in fiscal 2012. While diligent monitoring and conservative budgeting of these volatile revenues have enabled the town to weather previous cuts, management's ability to continue to offset declines will be integral to management's

ability to maintain financial flexibility.

MODERATELY SIZED TAX BASE BENEFITS FROM THE PRESENCE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

Anchored by the University of Connecticut, the local economy is stable and continues to benefit from its large university presence as a source of employment (5,017 employees in 2011). However, income levels which are at 63% and 84% of state and national medians respectively, remains distorted by the town's large student and inmate population which represent about 46% of the town's estimated 25,268 residents. More reflective of the permanent town residents, median family income is above-average at 106% of the state and 139% of the nation. The town currently receives approximately $7.2 million in payment-in-lieu-of-taxes from the university as a part of its state grants.

Net taxable grand list, which does not incorporate university-owned property, increased by 4.6% in fiscal 2011 reflecting the town's recent revaluation. Five-year average annual growth grew a modest 2.2%. Equalized net grand list (ENGL) growth was a healthier 4.1% in the past five years. Moody's believes assessed values will remain stable over the near term with future grand list growth driven by completion of a new $220 million mixed-use development in the town's downtown area. Most of the building permits have been approved and construction is expected to begin in spring 2011, the project is expected to be completed in the next seven to eight years and is expected to generate additional $1.1 million in annual property tax revenue.

FAVORABLE DEBT POSITION

Mansfield's debt burden has historically been low as the town continues to favor the use of internal resources to fund capital projects. After this issue, Mansfield's debt burden will equal a low 0.3% of ENGL. The overall debt burden, which incorporates debt related to Regional School District Number 19 (rated Aa3) increases slightly to 0.5% of ENGL. Future debt needs include an approximately $24 million bond issue for consolidation of three elementary schools what will be up for voter referendum in May of this year. If passed, the additional debt would substantially increase the town's debt burden but is expected to remain average to slightly above average. Other future capital and borrowing needs for the town remain minimal and consists mostly of water and wastewater system improvements. The town is not party to any derivative agreements and all outstanding debt is in a fixed-rate mode.

WHAT WOULD MAKE THE RATING GO - UP

-Continued improvement to the town's financial reserves consistent with management's internal targets

-Sizable tax base growth resulting from ongoing developments

WHAT WOULD MAKE THE RATING GO - DOWN

-Inability to address mounting downward state aid pressures with corresponding increases in recurring revenues and/or reductions in spending

KEY STATISTICS

2009 population: 25,268

2009 Equalized Net Grand List (ENGL): $1.46 billion

Full valuation per capita: $59,480

1999 Median Family Income: $18,094 (62.9% of state, 83.8% of nation)

1999 Per Capita Income: $69,661 (106.3% of state, 139.2% of nation)

FY 2010 General Fund balance: $1.9million (3.9% of General Fund revenues)

FY 2010 Available Reserves: $3.18 million (7% of General Fund revenues)

Overall debt burden: 0.5% of ENGL, $310 per capita

Payout of principal (10 years): 74%

The principal methodology used in this rating was General Obligation Bonds Issued by U.S. Local Governments published in October 2009.

REGULATORY DISCLOSURES

Information sources used to prepare the credit rating are the following: parties involved in the ratings and public information .

Moody's Investors Service considers the quality of information available on the credit satisfactory for the purposes of assigning a credit rating.

Moody's adopts all necessary measures so that the information it uses in assigning a credit rating is of sufficient quality and from sources Moody's considers to be reliable including, when appropriate, independent third-party sources. However, Moody's is not an auditor and cannot in every instance independently verify or validate information received in the rating process.

Please see ratings tab on the issuer/entity page on Moodys.com for the last rating action and the rating history.

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Please see the Credit Policy page on Moodys.com for the methodologies used in determining ratings, further information on the meaning of each rating category and the definition of default and recovery.

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MOODY'S
INVESTORS SERVICE

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TC

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HOMELAND SECURITY

Peter J. Boynton
Commissioner

Item # 11

February 15, 2011

The Honorable Matthew Hart
Town Manager
Town of Mansfield
4 South Eagleville Road
Mansfield, CT 06268

Dear Town Manager Hart,

This letter will serve to confirm that the town of Mansfield's Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP) has been reviewed by the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) and found to be in satisfactory compliance with Federal Emergency Management Agency and National Incident Management System (NIMS) guidelines. As required by Title 28, Chapter 517 of the Connecticut General Statutes, this document has been approved.

Your municipality is required to maintain the LEOP current by conducting annual reviews and submitting updates, as necessary, to this Department via the Region 4 Office until August, 2011. At that time, a complete review and revision of the LEOP and included annexes will be required again for review and approval by this department.

At this time I wish to express my appreciation to you, your Emergency Management Director, Mr. John Jackman, and all others who contributed in the preparation of your Local Emergency Operations Plan. The quality of the document is a clear indication of the commitment to public safety in your community.

Sincerely,

Peter J. Boynton
Commissioner

PJB/dr
cc: Mr. John Jackman, Emergency Management Director
DEMHS Region 4 Coordinator

25 SIGOURNEY STREET, 6TH FLOOR, HARTFORD, CT 06106-5042
AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION/EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

PAGE
BREAK

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

February 28, 2011

Richard Miller, Director of Environmental Policy
University of Connecticut, Storrs Campus
31 LeDoyt Road, Unit 3055
Storrs, CT 06269-3055

Item #12

Re: Memorandum of Agreement / FM-2003-216
Campuswide Drainage Master Plan

Dear Mr. Miller:

This correspondence is in response to your October 15, 2010 letter concerning the Memorandum of Agreement for the Campuswide Drainage Master Plan dated September 2009. Specifically, the Department understands that the University of Connecticut is pursuing an alternative to the 55 acre diversion of stormwater runoff from the Eagleville Brook watershed to the Swan Lake and Roberts Brook watersheds as noted in item four of the agreement.

This alternative concept has been discussed with this Department and the Town of Mansfield at an August 4, 2010 meeting. During the August meeting the University offered installing various low impact development measures in lieu of modifying the culvert that conveys Eagleville Brook from the Towers section of campus, which will divert the 55 acres of stormwater runoff. The October 15, 2010 letter goes on to state that the alternative to the diversion will accomplish a comparable reduction in Eagleville Brook's flood potential, up to and including the 100 year storm event.

By way of background, and as discussed in your letter the Department has established a Total Maximum Daily Load ("TMDL") for Eagleville Brook. The TMDL concludes that stormwater runoff from impervious cover is as a major source of the impairment to the water quality of Eagleville Brook. According to your October 15, 2010 letter, UCONN is planning on improving the water quality to Eagleville Brook by reducing the amount of impervious cover in the watershed through the installation of pervious pavement, green roofs, rain gardens and other methods to reduce runoff.

Flood Management Certification, FM-2003-216, was issued to the University on October 1, 2009 was granted with certain special conditions. The conditions of the Flood Management Certification require UCONN to make certain infrastructure improvements which are outlined in the Memorandum of Agreement. Furthermore, the Memorandum of Agreement shall not be modified except through future agreements.

UCONN
Memorandum of Agreement / FM-2003-216
Campuswide Drainage Master Plan

The Department supports UCONN's approach to improving the water quality and reducing the quantity of water in Eagleville Brook through the implementation of Low Impact Development practices. The Department concurs with UCONN to temporarily suspend the improvement projects listed in the September 2009 Memorandum of Agreement. If an alternative to the 55 acre diversion is not agreed upon between the two agencies within one year of the date of this letter than the schedule for the proposed improvement projects shall resume. Any alternative project must retain the equivalent of stormwater runoff from the 55 acres under 2, 10 and 100 year storm return frequencies.

As you are aware permits have already been issued for construction of outlet and channel protection at the Swan Lake discharge watercourse which is listed in the Memorandum of Agreement. The Department requests that the University continue to hold off on the Swan Lake project until an agreement has been reached on the modification of the Campuswide Drainage Masterplan and any conceptual plans that affect drainage and wetlands has been discussed with the Mansfield Planning Department.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter please feel free to contact Jeffrey Caiola of my Inland Water Resources Division staff at telephone number (860) 424-4162.

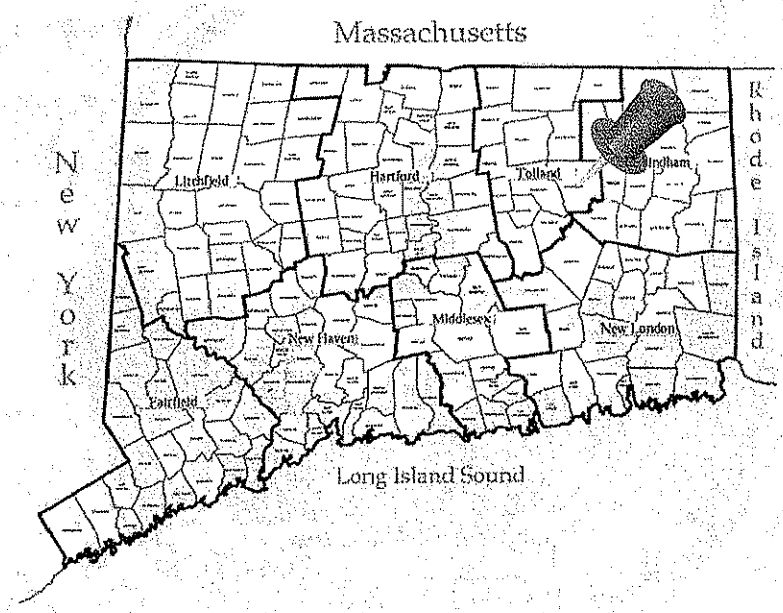
Sincerely,

Betsey Wingfield
Bureau Chief
Bureau of Water Protection & Land Re-Use

cc: Gregory Padick, Mansfield Director of Planning
Quentin Kessel, Mansfield Conservation Commission
Joseph Bushey, UCONN
Christopher Bellucci, DEP
Eric Thomas, DEP
Denise Ruzicka, DEP
Jeffrey Caiola, DEP
MaryAnn Nusum Haverstock

Town of Mansfield, Connecticut
Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2009-2010



www.MansfieldCT.gov

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Mansfield Facts 3
Annual Reports 4
- Animal Control 6
- Board of Education 7
- Building and Housing Inspection 8
- Downtown Partnership 9
- Eastern Highlands Health District 11
- Emergency Management 12
- Facilities Management 13
- Finance 14
- Fire and Emergency Services 18
- Fire Marshal 19
- Housing Authority 20
- Human Services 21
- Information Technology 25
- Library 26
- Parks and Recreation 27
- Planning and Zoning 28
- Police Services 29
- Public Works 31
- Registrars of Voters 32
- Town Clerk 32
- Town Council 4
- Town Manager 5

Committees, Boards and Commissions 35
- Members 49

Upcoming Town Events 52
Organizational Chart 53
Directory 54
Map of Mansfield ..... center

For current Town of Mansfield information, news and announcements:

- Check us out on Facebook! (Town of Mansfield, Connecticut)
- Tune in to Cable Channel 13
- Check out our website www.MansfieldCT.gov
- Subscribe to QNotify Email Notice Lists

  (It's easy! Just go to our website to sign up and have the latest agendas, minutes, press releases etc. emailed directly to you!)

Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
4 South Eagleville Road
Mansfield, CT 06268

HOURS
M/T/W...8:15am to 4:30pm
Thursday...8:15am to 6:30pm
Friday...8:00am to 12:00pm

The Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building is located at the junction of Route 195 and Route 275, one-quarter mile south of the University of Connecticut campus.

The Mansfield Public Library, the Mansfield Board of Education, the Mansfield Community Center, the Animal shelter, the Mansfield Senior Center and the Mansfield Public Works Garage follow their own established schedule of operations.

MANSFIELD FACTS

Area: Mansfield is 45.5 square miles.

Population: In 2010, Mansfield had an estimated population of 24,622.

Registered Voters: As of January 2011, Mansfield had 11,846 registered voters: Democrats - 4,846; Republicans - 1,495; Unaffiliated - 5, 465; Other - 70.

Form of Government: Mansfield has a Town Council -Town Manager form of government, in addition to an annual town meeting. (The 2011 Annual Town Meeting will be held on May 10, 2011 at 7:00PM in the Mansfield Middle School Auditorium.)

Tax Rate: The mill rate for Fiscal Year 2009/10 was 25.71 mills.

Net Grand List: In Fiscal Year 2009/10 Mansfield's net grand list was $968,670,393.

Fire Protection: Mansfield has 3 fire stations with a combination of volunteer and paid personnel.

Police Services: Mansfield provides police services with nine state troopers and three part-time town officers.

Schools: Mansfield has 3 elementary schools (PK-4), Goodwin, Southeast and Vinton; one middle school (5-8), Mansfield Middle School; and one regional high school (9-12), E.O. Smith High School.

Student Enrollment: In October 2010, Mansfield had a total enrollment of 1,325 in grades PK-8 and 1,135 in grades 9-12 (623 Mansfield residents).

TOWN COUNCIL

Elizabeth C. Paterson, Mayor

The Town of Mansfield operates under the Council-Manager form of local government, with the Town Council acting as the legislative and policy-making body and exercising all powers of the Town except those specifically vested elsewhere by town charter or state statutes. The nine-member Town Council is elected biennially on an at-large basis. Council members serve without pay and elect one of their fellow members to serve as Mayor. The Town Council conducts its regular meetings on the second and fourth Monday of each month, and holds special meetings as needed. The Council also has three standing committees - Committee on Committees, Finance and Personnel. Ad hoc committees are appointed to review particular issues and submit recommendations to the full Council.

The Town of Mansfield is a member of the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities, the Eastern Highlands Health District, the Mansfield Downtown Partnership, the National League of Cities, and the Windham Region Council of Governments.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Maintained active involvement with the Mansfield Downtown Partnership (three council members currently sit on the Partnership's Board of Directors)
- Established Ordinance Review Committee and the Parking Steering Committee. Continued to serve on a number of Council advisory committees
- Continued to help lead the Mansfield Community-Campus Partnership (MCCP). The MCCP's mission is to improve the quality of life for all members of the community, and to promote positive community-campus relations
- Revised the special police services ordinance. Reviewed the feasibility of adopting a parking ordinance and farm building tax exemption ordinance. Adopted the fire prevention fee structure
- Adopted revised *Planning, Acquisition and Management Guidelines* for Mansfield open space
- Purchased three key open space parcels: 55-acre Dorwart property; 69-acre Mansfield recreation Park (Lions Club); and 135-acre Moss Sanctuary
- Co-sponsored several successful community events, including the *Tour de Mansfield* (bike tour), *Festival on the Green* and *Winter Fun Day* in collaboration with the Mansfield Downtown Partnership
- Monitored various community developments and issues affecting Mansfield residents such as UConn Landfill, proposed UConn compost facility and water/wastewater issues
- Published a *Citizen's Guide to the Budget – 2010 Edition.* 2009 edition was awarded an Honorable Mention in the CABE Award of Excellence for Educational Communications

Plan for FY 2010-2011

- Embrace sustainability and use as a principle in decision making
- Make progress on the physical components of the Mansfield Downtown Partnership "Storrs Center" project
- Make a decision on the school renovation project that protects the quality of our educational system
- Improve active recreation facilities for youth
- Remediate environmental issues
- Continue to support and improve senior services
- Maintain core services despite declining revenues
- Improve quality of life for residents of neighborhoods close to the UCONN campus

- Improve tradition of open and transparent government
- Improve active recreation facilities for youth
- Remediate environmental issues
- Continue to support and improve senior services

TOWN MANAGER'S OFFICE

Matthew W. Hart, Town Manager

The Town Manager is appointed by the Town Council to serve as the chief executive officer of the Town, and is charged with implementing Council policy and overseeing the work of all Town departments. In addition, the Town Manager serves as the Director of Public Safety, the Personnel Officer and the legal Traffic Authority. The Town Manager's staff is directly responsible for human resources and risk management and provides staff support to the Town Council and various advisory boards and committees.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- *Budget:* worked with Town Council and key stakeholders to prepare FY 2009/10 Budget designed to fund core and other important services while controlling expenditures to meet challenging economic conditions
- *Capital projects:* completed Hunting Lodge Road Bikeway project; completed base middle school fuel conversion project. Continued to serve as active member of school building committee and assisted in preparation of committee's report and recommendations. Served as member of Four Corners Water and Sewer Advisory Committee and prepared capital budget recommendation to finance design and permitting related to the project
- *Community-campus relations:* continued to work with public safety, university and landlord representatives to mitigate the impact of parties and related activity at student housing complexes adjacent to campus. Coordinated drafting and adoption of special public safety services ordinance. Worked with the President's Office at UCONN to coordinate restructuring of town-university relations committee to include spring weekend oversight duties; in fall of 2009, issued first joint town-university report on spring weekend. Worked cooperatively with UCONN to connect students with work experience opportunities in Mansfield; students completed a number of work assignments and projects for the Town at no (direct) cost to the Town.
- *Committee support:* assisted and supported the work of several new and reactivated committees such as the Storrs Center Parking Steering Committee, ad hoc Regionalization Committee, Ordinance Review Committee and the Ethics Board. Continued to support existing committees such as Public Safety, Personnel Committee, Mansfield Community Campus Partnership, and the Committee on Community Quality of Life
- *Community development:* completed the $500,000 small cities community development grant for the installation of sprinklers and fire safety improvements at Juniper Hill Village (senior housing); utilized program income to initiate several small scale small cities community development projects
- *Economic development:* executed agreement with Department of Economic and Community Development to provide $10 million in urban action grant funding to finance construction of Storrs Center intermodal center; assisted in establishment of Storrs Center parking steering committee; initiated design work for Storrs Road improvement project; continued negotiations with LeylandAlliance to prepare proposed Storrs Center development agreement. Assisted with coordination of WINCOG region economic development plan.

- *Freedom of Information:* worked cooperatively with Town Clerk's Office to implement a Freedom of Information (FOI) policy and set of procedures for processing and tracking requests. Developed and distributed a *Freedom of Information Guidelines* brochure to advisory committees and elected boards
- *Police study:* initiated a police services study to determine present and future needs as well as options for providing police services in Mansfield.
- *Regionalism:* provided staff support to new Council regionalism committee. Participated in various regional and state efforts to promote regional service delivery options
- *Senior services:* initiated hiring process to fill key vacancies; assist staff, commission on aging, senior center association and other key stakeholders to develop volunteer transportation program
- *Strategic planning:* continued to assist Council with prioritization and implementation of the strategic plan; completed work on developing the government vision point and action steps. Facilitated comprehensive orientation for new Town Council, including goal-setting to help shape future policy
- *Sustainability:* completed purchase of three key open space parcels - 55-acre Dorwart property, 69-acre Mansfield recreation Park (Lions Club) and 135-acre Moss Sanctuary. Participated as member of sustainability advisory committee and helped oversee preparation of greenhouse gas emissions inventory

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- *Budget:* develop proposed FY 2011/12 budget
- *Capital projects:* assist Town Council with its review of proposed school renovation project. Complete alternates to Mansfield Middle School fuel conversion project; complete Birch Road bikeway project. Assist advisory committee with Four Corners water and sewer project
- *Committee support:* continue to support the work of assigned advisory committees and the Town Council
- *Community-campus relations:* continue efforts to promote quality of life and positive community-campus relations, including the implementation of additional regulatory measures
- *Community development:* prepare application to Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program
- *Economic development:* complete negotiation of proposed development agreement with Storrs Center preferred developer; continue preparation of Storrs Center parking management plan; continue Storrs Road improvements project. Assist in implementation of WINCOG region economic development plan. Work with staff committee and other key stakeholders to develop more comprehensive economic development program focused on business retention and recruitment
- *Police study:* complete the police services study
- *Senior services:* complete hiring process to fill key vacancies; assist staff, commission on aging, senior center association and other key stakeholders to develop volunteer transportation program
- *Strategic planning:* continue implementation of various aspects of the *Mansfield 2020: A Unified Vision* strategic plan

ANIMAL CONTROL

Noranne Nielsen, Animal Control Officer

The Animal Control Department consists of a full-time Animal Control Officer, a part-time Assistant Animal Control Officer and one seasonal part-time kennel cleaner. The department is responsible for the enforcement of State Statutes concerning canines, felines and sick wildlife, and for managing the Mansfield Animal Shelter. Animal Control responds to complaints from residents

concerning dog problems, any animal bites and/or scratches to humans and impounding of stray dogs. The department also issues infractions, misdemeanors, written warnings, notices to license dogs, notices to vaccinate animals against rabies, notices to spay or neuter cats, strict confinement orders, close observation orders, quarantine orders, restraining orders, and disposal orders. In addition, Animal Control is responsible for the redemption of impounded animals and the adoption or disposal of unclaimed animals. Each year a door-to-door canvas covering one-fifth of the town is conducted in search of unlicensed dogs and unvaccinated and unaltered cats. The main purpose of this survey is to get as many pets as possible vaccinated for rabies. Vaccinating pets places a barrier against rabies between wildlife and humans.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Responded to approximately 2,000 complaints, issued 409 warnings, 141 notices to license and 16 infractions
- Quarantined 8 dogs and 1 cat. Impounded 247 animals of which 69 were reclaimed, 150 were adopted out to new owners, 10 were struck by vehicles, and 20 were too sick or aggressive to place
- The town of Mansfield adopted a mandatory cat spay neuter ordinance effective June 16 2006 to decrease the cat overpopulation. The ordinance is successfully enforced; 9 notices to spay/neuter were issued.

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Continue with the volunteer and community service/senior projects program on a time available basis
- Design and implement software for financial reports
- Continue education to the public and school children. School topics include dog bite prevention, dangers of rabies and humane treatment of animals.
- Conduct the door-to-door canvas for unlicensed and unvaccinated pets and unaltered cats

MANSFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION

Frederick A. Baruzzi, Superintendent

The Public Schools of Mansfield value the important contributions of students and teachers from diverse racial, ethnic and economic backgrounds. As a culturally and socio-economically diverse school district, the Mansfield Public Schools make every effort to provide equal opportunity for all students. We are dedicated to ensuring that all students have access to every program through heterogeneously-grouped classes and multiple levels of access.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Our elementary schools offer the Spanish language in grades 2 through 4, placing strong instructional emphasis on the cultures of the Hispanic world.
- At Goodwin School, a Student Backpack Brigade fills backpacks and donates them to area shelters and the PTO organizes Diversity Mixers culminating in an International Potluck Dinner.
- At Southeast School, there are cultural, musical, and artistic assemblies and community service projects to raise money and/or collect food, clothing, blankets and toys to donate to needy families.
- At Vinton School, the PTA provides monthly access to cultural, artistic, and musical assemblies and on-site museum programs bring enrichment opportunities to children regardless of economic background.
- Mansfield Middle School is unique in offering four different world languages (French, Spanish,

German and Latin), a German and Chinese student exchange program. Afterschool programs offer exploratory and enrichment opportunities outside the regular classroom.

- All schools participate in integrated art and dance programs, all schools participate in an inter-district summer Academy of International Arts and Science Studies, a ten-school-district summer camp program that has helped to reduce racial, ethnic and economic isolation.
- Our elementary and middle school students perform well on the Connecticut Mastery Test. We continue to analyze any changes in student performance data, as well as individual student longitudinal test results, to identify needs for program adjustments.
- On the 2010 CMT, Mansfield Public Schools students achieved State Goal at the following rate:
    - Mathematics: Grade 8 – 81.2%, Grade 7 – 80.4%, Grade 6 – 79.5%, Grade 5 – 81.5%, Grade 4 – 83.8%; Grade 3 – 75.9%
    - Reading: Grade 8 – 84.2%, Grade 7 – 88.8%, Grade 6 – 83.6%, Grade 5 – 66.9%, Grade 4 – 81.5%, Grade 3 – 70.5%
    - Writing: Grade 8 – 81.6%, Grade 7 – 79.7%, Grade 6 – 78.8%, Grade 5 – 77.2%, Grade 4 – 80.9%, Grade 3 – 59.8%
    - Science: Grade 8 – 84.2%, Grade 5 – 78.1%

Improvement plans for all four schools include an assessment protocol being implemented for the third year to more closely monitor student achievement. Specific goals focus on moving more students from Level 3 to Level 4 (State Goal) in all four areas of the Connecticut Mastery Test, by intervening early through increased instructional time (through full-day kindergarten), to differentiated instruction, more efficient use of support services, and align instruction with curricular goals for greater student achievement.

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Help every student to be a confident and successful learner
- Attract, hire, and retain qualified and motivated professional staff
- 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
- Continue to improve the effectiveness of the Board of Education
- Reduce energy consumption and minimize the District's environmental impact

The Mansfield Board of Education has a long-established tradition of equitable distribution of resources to ensure that each school in the district receives the same level of material and financial resources. Assurance that resources are equally shared is fundamental to the purpose of American public education and the Mansfield Public Schools are proud stewards of this national commitment to equity.

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING AND HOUSING INSPECTION

Michael E. Ninteau, Director

The Department is responsible for the administration and enforcement of the Connecticut Building Code, Demolition Code as well as the Town Housing Code, Litter ordinance and Residential Parking ordinance. The Building division accepts and reviews construction documents for all construction projects within the Town with the exception of those on state and federal property. Documents are reviewed to determine compliance with the State Building Code. Staff also coordinates and directs applicants to all other applicable Town departments. Periodic site inspections are conducted to confirm compliance with the submitted documents and the Building Code. Reports

are issued if violations are noted and follow-up inspections are conducted to assure code compliance. Upon completion of projects a certificate of occupancy or approval is issued pursuant to State statutes. The department is also on call 24 hours a day to inspect structures and equipment damaged by fire or accident to determine what if any action is necessary. The Housing division enforces the Property Maintenance Code as adopted for rental dwelling units within Town. The department responds to complaints on a town wide basis and inspects approximately 1190 units within the overlay zone that includes 75% of the rental dwelling units in Mansfield. Complaints are investigated and if violations are observed proper action is taken to assure the abatement of the violation(s) pursuant to the provisions of the Property Maintenance Code. The rental units within the overlay zone are inspected once every 2 years as determined by the implementation schedule of inspection. If the unit is in compliance a certificate is issued when the $150 fee has been paid. If violations are found proper action is taken pursuant to the code.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- All inspectors attended required educational seminars to maintain State licenses.
- Continued daily Department activity of permitting, plan review and inspection
- Maintained Landlord Registry & Rental Certification zone documentation
- Staff continued work with the MCCP committee including site visits and attendance at the annual Housing Fair.
- Worked on enactment of the Residential Parking Ordinance
- Implemented new "Microsoft Access" database to streamline administrative duties
- Continued blight patrols to enforce Litter ordinance
- Implemented the increased educational fee charged on all building permits
- Worked on selection committee to choose designers for the parking garage and intermodal facility

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Continue to implement enforcement of the Housing Code
- Continue normal Building Department functions i.e. permitting, plan review, inspections etc
- Implement the Residential Parking Ordinance
- Work with the Community Quality of Life committee as directed to explore implementation of new regulations and changes to the current Housing Code and other quality of life issues
- Continue to work with MCCP committee
- Continue to work with staff to make new database run efficiently
- Continue to work on selection of designers for the parking garage and intermodal facility

MANSFIELD DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP, INC.

Cynthia van Zelm, Executive Director

The Mansfield Downtown Partnership, Inc. is an independent, non-profit organization. Its mission is to strengthen and revitalize the three commercial areas of Storrs Center, Mansfield Four Corners, and King Hill Road by retaining and improving existing businesses, attracting new business, and initiating real estate development and public improvements that are consistent with physical master plans. In addition, the Partnership will hold special events and acts as an advocate for the three commercial areas. As a public-private partnership, the organization is composed of representatives from the community, business, Town of Mansfield, and the University of Connecticut.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Worked with the Town and BL Companies on the design of improvements to Storrs Road

- Received third Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) Grant for $200,000 for professional parking consultant and infrastructure for Phase 1A of Storrs Center
- Worked with the Town to develop and release a Request for Qualifications for design of the parking garage
- Worked with the Town to develop a Request for Qualifications for design of the intermodal center
- Worked with master developer LeylandAlliance to solicit businesses for Storrs Center. Ten letters of intent to be part of the first phase of Storrs Center were signed as of June 30, 2010
- Formed parking steering committee with the Town of Mansfield to develop comprehensive parking management plan for Storrs Center; meetings began in November 2009
- Received Connecticut Main Street Center 2010 Award of Excellence in the "Special Event" category for the *Festival on the Green*
- At the request of the owners of the Vanilla Bean Cafe and 85 Main restaurants, prepared and initiated a survey to determine dining preferences, hours of operation, and entertainment possibilities for their new restaurant ("Dog Lane Café") in Storrs Center. Over 500 responses to the survey were received.
- With Joshua's Trust, led second walk of Storrs Center as part of annual CT Trails Day in June
- Organized first annual "Celebrate Mansfield Weekend" which included the 6th Annual *Festival on the Green*, featuring the James Montgomery Band, children's events, a juried art exhibit, and the Celebrate Mansfield Parade; a wine tasting benefit hosted by the Altnaveigh Inn and Restaurant; and the all-town community picnic, Picnicpalooza!, with musical entertainment by Bruce John and the Eagleville Band
- Held 4th annual Winter Fun Day in partnership with the Town of Mansfield and the Mansfield Community Center
- Produced ninth and tenth Partnership newsletters highlighting the *Festival on the Green*, the design of Storrs Road improvements and the tenanting for Storrs Center
- Assisted Town Manager's Office with the 4th Annual Tour de Mansfield: Village to Village Bike Tour in July
- Continued public outreach to the community through meetings, presentations, and media including print, website, radio, and TV, about plans to revitalize downtown Mansfield. In 2010, added Mansfield Downtown Partnership Facebook page to promote the Partnership and Storrs Center.

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Complete design and construction of Storrs Road
- Complete design and begin construction of parking garage
- Design and begin construction of infrastructure (roads, utilities) and buildings for first phase of Storrs Center
- Complete parking management plan for Storrs Center
- Pursue local, state, federal, and private grant opportunities for planning and construction at Storrs Center, and projects and events
- Monitor solicitation of commercial businesses by master developer LeylandAlliance; assist with marketing strategies
- Hold a focus group as next step in soliciting input for new Dog Lane Café restaurant in Storrs Center
- Work with Town of Mansfield to hold 5th Annual Tour de Mansfield in July 2010
- Coordinate Celebrate Mansfield Weekend events and publicity and hold 7th annual *Festival on the Green* in Storrs Center in September 2010
- Hold 5th annual Winter Fun Day in February 2011

- Prepare area-wide arts events brochure for spring 2011
- Produce newsletter in September 2010 and spring 2011
- Continue outreach through publications including continual update of website, electronic mail, speaking engagements, involvement on Town of Mansfield, University of Connecticut, and other organizational committees

EASTERN HIGHLANDS HEALTH DISTIRCT

Robert Miller, Director

The Towns of Bolton, Coventry, and Mansfield established the Eastern Highlands Health District on June 6, 1997 as a cooperative effort to pool their resources and create a regional full-time professional health department. Reducing costs and improving both the scope and quality of public health services in the community were the objectives of establishing the District. Seven more towns joined between 2000 and 2005. They are Andover, Ashford, Chaplin, Columbia, Scotland, Tolland and Willington. The mission of the Eastern Highlands Health District is to prevent illness and promote wellness in the communities it serves. The pursuit of this mission is realized by assuring that other community agencies provide certain public health services within the region and by providing specific public health services directly. The services directly provided include a communicable disease control program, public health education, community assessment and public health planning, emergency preparedness and a comprehensive environmental health program. The main components of the environmental health program include on-site subsurface sewage disposal permitting, complaint investigation program, food establishment licensing and inspection, and environmental monitoring program.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Board of Directors adoption of an operating budget of $719,290 for FY 10/11, which is a 1.3% reduction from the previous fiscal year
- Activated EHHD Pandemic Response Plan in response to the 2009 H1N1 Influenza A outbreak. Activities included risk and public health education communications, regular updates to community stakeholders, active surveillance, and the administration of 9,360 vaccinations (primarily to school aged children) in all ten health district communities
- Health promotion activities this fiscal year included the reinvigoration of the Matters of the Heart Partnership funded by grants from the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors, and the expansion of the employee wellness program, BeWell.
- Septic plan review and approval process was updated and streamlined
- The food protection program for non-profit entities was updated to provide greater options and improved ease for applicants.
- The fee schedule was expanded to accommodate farmers' market initiatives to include food service activities.
- Communicable disease control activities included review of and follow up (as needed) with 1,200 case reports; and conducting 10 outbreak, or individual case investigations.
- The main FY 09/10 indicators for environmental health district activity in Mansfield include: 160 site inspections for septic systems; 46 septic permits issued; 30 well permits issued; 46 complaints investigated;15 environmental samples taken for lab analysis; 286 food establishment inspections and other health inspections; 121 B100a building permit reviews; and, 152 test pits and/or perk tests.

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Continue to update and exercise local emergency response plans. Develop a funding strategy for long-term program continuation in anticipation of federal funding reductions

- Continue to pursue other funding sources to maintain existing scope of quality services and possibly expand health promotion programs
- Expand Be Well employee wellness program to other employers in the community
- Develop and implement policy and environmental changes that promote healthy behaviors
- Address the individual public health needs of member towns as they arise

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

John Jackman, Director

The goals of the Office of Emergency Management are to: prevent and minimize the loss of life and property due to a natural or technical disaster; reduce the amount of personal hardship; ensure that essential services are provided to all residents during and after an emergency or disaster; and encourage the use of preplanning and preparedness to mitigate the effects of disasters and emergencies. To accomplish these goals the Office of Emergency Management reviews plans and seeks guidance from the Emergency Management Advisory Council, holds drills, develops Emergency Operations Plans, and coordinates the Town's response to emergencies or disasters. In addition the Office of Emergency Management administers the Town's Hazardous Materials Right To Know Program & Chemical Emergency Plans, and Voice Communications Fund.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Received a FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) SRL (Severe Repetitive Loss) Grant in the amount of $159,752.25 to elevate a single family dwelling on Thornbush Road that had repeatedly been flooded by the Willimantic River
- The Mansfield EOP (Emergency Operations Plan) was reviewed and audited by the DEMHS (Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security). The audit found the Mansfield EOP to be current and consistent with State and Federal guidance.
- Several Emergency Management Advisory Council were held
- Worked with the DEMHS Region IV Regional Emergency Planning Team to revise the regional spending plan and implement the regional spending plans for Federal FYs 08 and 09 and to update the regional Emergency Operations Plan
- Staff completed several emergency management training programs (National Incident Management System, National Response Plan and responding to and recovering from terrorism incidents).
- Staff continued to assist and support the Eastern Highlands Health District with planning for health emergencies.
- Staff participated in the DEMHS Region IV all hazard, multi discipline regional EOP planning initiative.
- Staff participated in the annual DEHMS Region IV regional emergency operations drill.
- Prepared for and assisted with the Town's response to UConn's Spring Weekend
- Conducted CPR and AED training for staff
- Closed out the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Fiscal 2007 Grant Program
- Conducted an inventory and audit of the Town's communications systems

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Work with the DEMHS Region IV Regional Emergency Planning Team to implement the Federal FY 10 regional spending plan and to update the regional Emergency Operations Plan
- Close out the SRL Grant to elevate a single family dwelling on Thornbush Road above the 100 year flood plane of the Willimantic River
- Seek a new SLR Grant for an additional single family dwelling on Thornbush Road
- Revise and update the Town's Emergency Operations Plan and Annexes to ensure that the

EOP is consistent with the newly developed regional plans
- Conduct an Emergency Management table-top exercise
- Continue to administer the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Fiscal Year Grant Programs
- Continue to seek funding opportunities

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

William Hammon, Director

The department is responsible for the maintenance and repair of Town buildings and equipment, including the Audrey Beck Municipal Building, Mansfield Public Library, three Fire Stations, Senior Center, Wellness Center, Public Works buildings, Mansfield Community Center, Bicentennial Pond buildings, Dog Pound, Landfill buildings, Mansfield Discovery Depot, Mansfield Downtown Partnership, Eagleville School House, Joshua's Trust, Maintenance Shop, Old Town Hall, School Bus Garage, Lion's Park Concession building and the former Town Office building, along with the four schools. Specific duties include septic tank maintenance; boiler and oil burner maintenance and repairs; well maintenance; electrical, plumbing and roof repairs; general building repairs; and vandalism and building equipment repairs. The department is staffed with full and part-time custodial personnel and skilled maintenance personnel. The department also maintains contracts with various vendors to provide annual service on fire and burglar alarms, hood systems, emergency generators, boiler cleaning and fire extinguishers, as well as providing exterminator service. The department has established an in-house preventative maintenance program to ensure that all buildings and related equipment are kept in good repair. Adequate maintenance parts and custodial supplies are kept on hand to guarantee uninterrupted use of the facilities.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Co-gen at Mansfield Community Center has been fine tuned and is awaiting final approval.
- A/C equipment for Daycare has arrived. Installation is completed by our staff.
- Started work at Mansfield Middle School for heating project
- Gas line for MMS is completed
- Continued to complete work orders; approximately 150 per month
- Completed custodial handbook and delivered them to everyone
- Completed contract negotiations with new union
- Received OPM grant for energy efficient projects ($97,000.00)
- Continued to work on 4 schools building project
- Received 35,000 dollars for energy efficient devices at MMS
- Completed projection room in Council chambers
- Received quotes for 97,000 energy efficiency grant
- Issued purchase orders for Office of Policy and Management Grant for energy efficient projects
- Received another $15,000.00 in grant money for energy efficient devices at Mansfield Middle School
- Consolidated employees at Mansfield Community Center into the union
- Purchased one used utility truck for maintenance staff use
- Continued to support School Building Committee
- New roof on Senior Center building is complete
- Completed at Mansfield Community Center
    - New partitions in locker rooms
    - Co-gen finally operating as expected
    - Properly trained custodial staff on cleaning tasks

    - Head custodian and maintenance staff trained as commercial pool certified operators
    - New shower heads in locker rooms
- Major roof repair at Mansfield Daycare
- Completed April safety training of entire custodial/maintenance staff
- Roof at Fire Station #107 annex has been replaced
- Co-gen at Mansfield Middle School is operating at 75% power until we can determine demand.
- Installation for additional cooling and heating in Eastern highlands Health Dept. offices at Town Hall is complete.

Plans for FY 2009-2010

- Complete wiring for the Salt Shed at Public Works, saving the town $10,000, which was the contractor quote. We will also be using the most energy efficient lights available for this application.
- Complete the engineering work necessary to install a new heating system at Fire Station #107. The existing system is old and inefficient. We will do this work in-house after the heating season.
- Continue towards the goal of maintaining ninety percent completion of all incoming work orders
- Continue to keep the town "green" in all ways possible
- Interested in having input into the town's Sustainability Committee. Almost everything we do is to help the town reduce its carbon footprint. Our energy expertise might be a valuable asset to this committee.
- We will continue to work with and support the School Building Committee with the new school projects.
- We continue to look for energy saving projects, including additional free solar power installations and new energy efficient boilers.
- Keep our department under our present budget

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

Cherie Trahan, Director

The Department of Finance provides centralized financial management services for the Town of Mansfield, the Mansfield Board of Education, Mansfield Discovery Depot daycare center, the Mansfield Downtown Partnership and by contract for the Region 19 School District, and Eastern Highlands Health District. The Director of Finance oversees, directs, and coordinates the activities of the divisions of Accounting and Disbursements, Revenue Collection, Property Assessment, Central Services, and Treasury Management.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Received Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for both the Town and Regional School District 19
- Prepared the fiscal year 2008-2009 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Town of Mansfield, Regional School District No. 19 and Eastern Highlands Health District
- Provided fiscal analysis and guidance for 2010-11 budget in light of declining State revenues
- Assisted the Town Manager in negotiating the Storrs Center development agreement
- Continued the new collection agency process, sending all motor vehicle tax bills to the collection agency upon delinquency.
- Maintained a 98.4% overall collection rate during very difficult economic times
- Completed incorporating digital photos into the property record system
- Completed the 2009 Town-wide revaluation project

- Began the migration to a Window-based financial management system for more efficient and timely processing and reporting

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Continue work with our State Representative to restore funding to Mansfield
- Issue General Obligation Bonds to fund various projects, including the Mansfield Middle School Heating Conversion Project and infrastructure improvements
- Prepare the fiscal year 2009-2010 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Town, Region 19 and Eastern Highlands Health District
- Apply for Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting and for Distinguished Budget Presentation Award
- Provide financial reporting and monitoring for the various state and federal grants received for the Storrs Center Project
- Continue effective cash management and provide accurate and timely financial reporting for all entities
- Provide various reports, analysis and schedules for the 2011-2012 proposed budget again in light of declining State revenues
- Complete the migration to a Window-based financial management system for more efficient and timely processing and reporting
- Investigate an upgrade to the tax collection system to increase efficiency
- Continue to update UConn building information onto the Assessor's database system

Expenditures 2009-2010	Amount	% of Total
General Government	$2,238,254	5.4%
Public Safety	2,664,502	6.5%
Public Works	1,848,814	4.4%
Community Services	1,462,500	3.5%
Community Development	452,093	1.1%
Town-wide	2,425,180	5.8%
Transfers to Other Funds	1,699,660	4.0%
Education	28,963,231	69.4%
Total	41,754,234	100.0%

Revenues 2009-2010	Amount	% of Total
Property Taxes	$23,926,632	57.2%
Federal/State	$16,936,204	40.5%
Investments	$28,601	0.1%
Other Local	$903,988	2.2%
Total	$41,795,425	100.0%

Top Ten Taxpayers
October 1, 2009 Grand List

The list percentages are calculated by dividing the individual property assessment by the October 1, 2009 Net Grand List Total of $969,090,991.

Property Owner	Description	Assessment	% of Taxable Grand List
Connecticut Light & Power	Public Utility	$ 11,611,554	1.20%
Eastbrook F LLC	Eastbrook Mall	9,242,310	0.95%
ING US Students No 8 LLC	Apartments	8,583,400	0.89%
Celeron Square Associates	Apartments	7,360,360	0.76%
Colonial BT LLC	Apartments	6,342,280	0.65%
New Samaritan Corp	Nursing Home	5,362,770	0.55%
Glenn Ridge Cooperative Inc	Housing Co-op	5,306,770	0.55%
Carriage Polo Run LLC	Apartments	4,895,240	0.51%
Hayes-Kaufman Mansfield Assoc.	Shopping Plaza	4,825,600	0.50%
ING US Students No 1 LLC	Apartments	4,606,910	0.48%
Total Top Ten Assessments		$ 68,137,054	7.03%

General Fund
Schedule of Changes in Fund Balance—Legal Basis
For the Year Ended June 30, 2010

	Original Budget	Amend-ment	Final Budget	Actual	Budget Comparison	
Designated for 2009/2010 Budget						
Undesignated						$ 1,824,737
Fund Balance, July 1, 2009						$ 1,824,737
Total revenues and transfers in	$ 43,010,137	$ 350,000	$ 43,360,137	$ 43,232,158	$ (127,979)	
Appropriation of fund balance						
Total appropriation, transfers in	43,010,137	350,000	43,360,137	43,232,158	(127,979)	
Total expenditures and transfers out:						
Town	12,489,750	350,000	12,839,750	12,791,003	(48,747)	
Mansfield Board of Education	20,595,570		20,595,570	20,475,147	(120,423)	
Contribution to Reg. #19 Board of Ed	9,924,817		9,924,817	9,924,817	-	
Total expenditures	43,010,137	350,000	43,360,137	43,190,967	(169,170)	
Results from budgetary operations	-	-	-	41,191	41,191	41,191
Fund balance, June 30, 2010						$ 1,865,928
Fund balance:						
Unreserved:						
Designated for 2010/11 budget						
Undesignated						1,865,928
Total Fund Balance						$ 1,865,928

FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

David J. Dagon, Fire Chief

The Town of Mansfield Division of Fire and Emergency Services provide Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to the Town of Mansfield. Mansfield Fire and Emergency Services is a municipal department with a combination workforce; consisting of both career and volunteer firefighters. The Mansfield Firefighters Association is the organization made up of dedicated firefighters that provide support to the municipal fire department.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- The fire departments responded to a total of 1,869 calls for service. The breakdown of incidents is as follows: Fires 78; Rescue/EMS 1361; False Alarms 107; Hazardous Materials 74; Service Call 151; All Other Responses 98
- Conducted an entry-level hiring process for Full Time and Part Time Firefighters to improve shift staffing of department positions. Two Full Time Firefighters were hired to fill vacant positions.
- Willard Cornell was promoted to the position of fire captain. Captain Cornell successfully completed the State Department of Public Safety Deputy Fire Marshal certification program.
- An EMS Duty Crew program continues to be staffed during periods of anticipated peak demand for EMS services. The department's group of dedicated volunteers staffs the department's second ambulance.
- Initiated electronic patient care reporting. The new program will enable the department to more effectively evaluate quality of services being provided to patients and expedite revenue recovery from ambulance transport fees.
- Instituted a regular training schedule to provide consistency in the scheduling of program deliveries. The new member/entry-level training academy continues for all prospective members of the Mansfield Firefighters Association; the academy qualifies new members to respond to calls for service as soon as possible after being sworn in as new members.
- Standardization of two Engine Tanks (ET 207 and ET 307) enhanced the apparatus' capacity by adding hydraulic rescue equipment. The standardization allows the department to enhance the safety of accident victims and firefighters when it responds to motor vehicle accidents by providing additional rescue capability and firefighting foam.
- The department continues work on a GIS (Geographic Information System) mapping project being coordinated by Captain Lavitt. The project will provide information on infrastructure such as water sources, utilities, landing zones, etc... that will be important for planning and operational response purposes.
- Two members of the department's explorer program, Shane Enright and Mitch Vildavs, attended a week long Introduction to the Fire Service program at the Connecticut Fire Academy. The program is an intense introduction into firefighting techniques and evolutions that exposes attendees to what is involved in a fire service career.
- Fire and EMS were provided during UConn's annual "Spring Weekend". The department has partnered with the UConn Fire Department to utilize available resources. This year a Unified Command Post was established at the UConn Public Safety Complex. Spring Weekend continues to challenge the fire departments' capacity to deliver services to both off campus housing complexes and the rest of the town.

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- A study is underway to evaluate staffing levels and assignment of resources specific to the Division of Fire and Emergency Services.
- Replace Marine 307
- Conduct officer promotional processes to adequately staff the Division's rank structure
- Geographic Information System – work to create a number of basic map layers that identify a variety of fire department related features. This effort will assist in planning for future fire service related infrastructure improvements.
- Continue professional development of members through support for targeted training opportunities
- Continue the review and evaluation of Fire Department safety policies and procedures

OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL

John Jackman, Fire Marshal

The goals of the Office of the Fire Marshal are to: prevent hostile fires and if a fire starts to reduce its impact; enforce the fire codes; develop fire safe behavior in our population; encourage the use of built-in fire protection devices; and provide fire protection resources and expertise to the community. To accomplish these goals the Office of the Fire Marshal inspects public buildings, provides Fire Prevention and Safety Education Programs, investigates fires, investigates complaints, and provides voluntary home safety surveys to residents. In addition, the Office of the Fire Marshal administers the Town's Open Burning Program and Underground Petroleum Storage Tank Program.

Accomplishments for FY 2008-2009

- To date all of the fire department shift Captains have successfully completed the State of Connecticut Deputy Fire Marshal pre-certification program and were appointed as Deputy Fire Marshals.
- Developed a revision of the Fire Preventions Fees Ordinance for the Town Council's consideration
- Staff performed 909 fire code inspections.
- Staff performed 79 fire and complaint investigations.
- Staff issued 110 Open Burning Permits.
- Staff performed 34 plan reviews.
- Implemented an ePCR (electronic Patient Care Report) system as required by the Connecticut Department of Health and upgrade the Mansfield Fire Department Records Management System
- Staff received training on the 2010 Connecticut Fire Prevention Code. This is a new code for Connecticut.
- Staff continued to serve on the State of Connecticut Fire Prevention Code Advisory Committee.
- Staff was appointed to the Department of Public Safety Codes and Standards Committee.
- Staff delivered the Fire Prevention and Life Safety Education Programs to the elementary schools, middle school, and daycare providers.
- Continued to administer the Fire Department Records Management System
- Updated E911 system and related database

Plans for FY 2010/2011

- Continue to enhance and expand the fire and life safety education programs that are offered to the community

- Continue to provide field training for the newly certified Deputy Fire Marshals
- Monitor fire safety laws and regulations
- Continue to serve on the Connecticut Fire Prevention Code Advisory Committee and the Codes and Standards Committee
- Continue to provide training for the 2010 Connecticut Fire Prevention Code

MANSFIELD HOUSING AUTHORITY

Rebecca Fields, Executive Director

Serving the towns of Mansfield, Coventry, Ashford, Willington and Chaplin, the Housing Authority of the Town of Mansfield provides housing assistance to its residents through three programs. It administers a federal housing assistance program through the Department of Housing and Urban Development and owns and manages two state financed housing communities: a moderate income housing community designed for families, and a low income senior housing community designed for those over 62 years of age or disabled.

Section 8 Housing Assistance Program

The federal Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program can assist a monthly average of up to149 low-income families by sharing in the cost of their rental payments to private landlords. This program requires annual inspections of each unit to ensure that both families and owners are keeping the unit in good repair and complying with HUD regulations. The Housing Authority is able to assist the towns with the collection of taxes from delinquent landlords, as HUD requires all landlords receiving federal monies to be current with their property taxes.

The utilization rate of the vouchers (number of monthly vouchers under contract versus number of monthly vouchers available for contract) for the fiscal year ending December 2010 is expected to be 90.72%. This represents an increase over the 2009 utilization rate which was 89.49%. The waiting list was opened in November 2008. Approximately 1300 applications were received and 250 families were placed on the list via a lottery system. The list is expected to be exhausted by the end of 2010 at which time the waiting list will reopen.

The estimated average number of vouchers used this year is 135 per month. This year has been especially difficult due to unemployment and or underemployment of families. The estimated average amount of rental assistance per family this year is $670 per month versus HUD funding of only $557 per month. The Housing Authority will make approximately $1,085,627 in rental assistance payments, on behalf of our participants, by the end of 2010. To utilize all 149 vouchers, more federal funding or lower costs per family would have to be realized.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010.

Holinko Estates

- Holinko Estates is a state financed housing community for moderate income families. It consists of 35 rental units for moderate income families which include 21 two (2) bedroom units, 13 three (3) bedroom units and 1 four (4) bedroom unit. Eight of the two (2) bedroom units and one of the three (3) bedroom units are flats with the remaining units being townhouse style apartments. Stoves and refrigerators continue to be purchased as units turn over and will part of the leased unit in the future. Previously, tenants were required to provide stoves and refrigerators which do not reflect the market.
- The waiting list was opened in July 2010 and is currently open. There are 27 families on the waiting list. The average turnover rate for this housing community is 7 to 8 units per year. It is

expected that the turnover rate for 2010 will be 9 units.

- The Housing Authority Board of Commissioners continues to discuss possible avenues to add additional moderate and low income housing to the community. In September, the Board placed an unsuccessful bid on 231 apartment units that, by a loan default, became available through the Department of Housing and Urban Development. There are continued discussions with the successful bidder regarding these properties.

Wright's Village

- Wright's Village is a state financed housing community for moderate and low income senior and younger disabled individuals. It consists of 40 one (1) bedroom units. Thirty units were built in 1979/1980 and ten were built in 1984/1985. There have been considerable upgrades and repairs or replacements made to this community over the past ten (10) years including, new roofs and gutters, interior and exterior lighting replacement, bathtub conversions to walk-in showers in 13 units, kitchen cabinets and countertop replacement, and refrigerator and stove replacement.
- The Housing Authority is the recipient of two grants provided by the Department of Economic and Community Development. The Resident Service Coordinator grant funds a 4-5 hour per week position. The Rental Assistance Program grant supplements the monthly rental costs for residents that would otherwise be required to pay more than 30% of their monthly adjusted income in rent. For the past two years, this grant has been restricted to those who were previous recipients and no new participants can be added to this program.
- The waiting list was opened in April of 2009 and remains open today. It will remain open until the list reaches 35. The average turn over rate for this housing community has been 4 to 5 units per year. This will be an above average year with an expectation of 7 units turning over.
- The Board of Commissioners submitted a Letter of Intent to Sunlight Solar along with an application to the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund (CCEF) in December of 2008 for the purchase and installation of solar panels to help control future electric costs for the office and the site lighting at Wright's Village. In January, the CCEF informed the Housing Authority that grant funds were available and the solar panel installation was completed at the end of August. The total project cost was approximately $100,000 with the Housing Authority's portion of the project cost being approximately $30,000. The solar panel project could not have been realized without the grant from the CCEF. The Housing Authority and its tenants are pleased to be part of the clean energy solution.

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Evaluate Historic Preservation Grant funding and, if money is available in the FY2011/2012 cycle, prepare a grant submission for the next stage in the Record Management Plan
- Create additional inventories of record material to facilitate ease of filing and retrieving and continue to compile electronically available databases for staff reference
- Investigate options for Mylar map filings and plan for future storage needs in the vault
- Compile list of current and past members of Mansfield's volunteer boards and commissions for historic reference
- Continue to make customer service our highest priority

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Kevin Grunwald, Director

The Department of Human Services assists residents through three service divisions - Adult Services, Senior Services and Youth Services. Citizen guidance is provided by the Youth Service Bureau Advisory Committee, Mansfield Senior Association, Commission on Aging, Mansfield Advisory Committee on the Needs of Persons with Disabilities and Mansfield Advocates for Children

(formerly the Mansfield School Readiness Council). General fund expenditures are supplemented by grants and contributions from many public and private sources that provide support for several programs as well as individuals with emergency financial needs.

Adult Services

Adult services include information, referral and counseling relating to a wide range of concerns and problems. Emergency financial assistance is provided from the Special Needs Fund, which is supported by private donations. Staff serve as the Municipal Agent for the Elderly, Fair Housing Officer, Tenant/Landlord Advisor and the Salvation Army Service Unit.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Assisted 254 persons who are elderly or disabled to apply for State tax relief programs; a 16% increase from last year
- Coordinated the following community giving programs:
  - 20 Thanksgiving baskets from Storrs Congregational Church; 26 sponsored by the Town of Mansfield; 7 sponsored by others
  - 20 Holiday dinners from Storrs Congregational Church
  - 64 Families sponsored for Holiday gifts by 58 sponsors
  - 22 families received Easter baskets
  - 19 families received summer baskets
  - 60 children received backpacks and Payless Shoe gift cards through this Salvation Army sponsored program
- Provided emergency financial assistance (Special Needs Fund) and food pantry assistance for a total of 181 incidents
- Provided counseling, referral and direct assistance to 308 residents
- Completed work on the DMHAS Strategic Prevention Framework-State Improvement Grant (SPF-SIG), which resulted in the formation of the Tri-Town Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking
- The Adult Services Social Worker attained certification as a CHOICES counselor. CHOICES is a program that is designed to assist Medicare recipients to understand their Medicare coverage and healthcare options.

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Continue to work with the Town's "preferred developer" to facilitate the building of an independent/assisted living facility for seniors
- Provide support for the implementation of Mansfield's Plan for Young Children, and ensure that it is integrated with the priorities identified in Mansfield 2020
- Convene an informational summit on the issue of affordable housing
- Explore the development of specialized services for families who are dealing with unemployment, eviction and foreclosure

Senior Services

Senior Services provides opportunities for seniors aged fifty-five and over to maintain and improve their physical, mental, social and emotional well-being so that life is stimulating, full and enjoyable. Seniors are involved in various creative, educational, recreational and social activities at the Mansfield Senior Center. The Center offers a wide range of activities including support groups, computer classes, health programs, exercise classes, bingo, art classes, chorus, meals, trips and volunteer opportunities. The Wellness Center also offers health screenings, immunization, social services, case management and medical services through a variety of programs.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Seventy seniors became members of the Mansfield Senior Center Association during this year. There are 1336 registered members of the Mansfield Senior Center Association.
- The MySeniorCenter data system continues to be used for registration and client tracking allowing for improved efficiency and collection of accurate statistical information.
- Four hundred and fifty people subscribe to the monthly Sparks newsletter in the mail through bulk and first class mail. Others access the newsletter through the Town's website or receive a copy from various sites throughout Mansfield.
- Volunteers provided 6,124 hours of volunteer time from July to June 30, 2010.
- The Senior Center served 7814 congregate subsidized meals to seniors through Thames Valley Community Council. 173 additional meals were provided through other sources. 3722 meals were delivered to homebound seniors through the meals-on-wheels program.
- Intergenerational activities were held in cooperation with E.O. Smith High School, Mansfield Middle Schools and The University of Connecticut.
- Sponsored a Veterans' Day Celebration with 120 in attendance
- 128 seniors received assistance with tax preparation.
- Three hundred seventy seven seniors received flu shots.
- Offered health assessments, screenings and preventative care at the Wellness Center. The VNA East provided care to 151 patients; the podiatrist treated 223 patients; our reflexologist saw 49 clients; 8 clients received therapeutic massage; dental screenings numbered 7. Many seniors took advantage of free legal services and several free screenings: hearing, balance, cholesterol and skin cancer.
- Interim Healthcare funded blood pressure screenings twice a month. On average, 25 seniors receive blood pressure checks at each clinic.
- One undergraduate student interned at The Mansfield Senior Center and several students volunteered on a weekly basis.
- In addition, the Senior Social Worker has: received training as a facilitator to offer six-week "It's Your Life, Live It Well" program; obtained certification from the Alzheimer's Association to lead a support group; visited Glen Ridge and Jensen's Mobile Home to explain the job duties of the Senior Social Worker and to provide information on ConnPACE and Medicare Savings Program; assisted with Senior Center operations in the absence of a full-time Coordinator; and offered youth volunteers to seniors in the community to assist with a variety of chores.

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Work with the Commission on Aging to implement the Long Range Plan for seniors, focusing on the identified priorities of transportation, information dissemination, access to public meetings, and senior center space needs
- Promote increased health by offering health screening clinics to detect early signs of disease processes, such as hearing, vision and osteoporosis screenings and by presentations of health promotion talks
- Support the Town of Mansfield in facilitating the development of a new independent/assisted living facility
- Continue to offer resource information and improved access to financial information by updating the Town's website and with improved marketing and publicity
- Complete the implementation of a Volunteer Driver Program for seniors

Youth Services

The Youth Service Bureau's mission is to promote and support the social and emotional well-being

of our town's youth and their families. We provide clinical services that include psychiatric assessment, treatment, and referral. Our services are offered to all children and families and our objective is the development of youth as responsible contributing members of our community. We accomplish this working in close collaboration with the public schools and community agencies. Our professional staff consists of master's level therapists with degrees in social work and psychology and a board certified child psychiatrist. All of our staff have years of experience working with children and families. Several initiatives also focus specifically on the needs of families with young children including school readiness, information and referral, and community planning.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Services were provided to approximately 360 youth for over 3,100 units of service, which included counseling sessions, group programming, and case management. These individuals often participated in multiple programs and were supported throughout the year.
- Assisted elementary school students deal with losses through our COPE program and enhanced the program model with the addition of a Ph.D. candidate from UConn
- Extended transition programming for students entering middle school and high school
- Initiated a successful girl's group for girls living without their mothers. We used the Girls Circle Curriculum, and followed up the group with an overnight 4-H camp trip, which was a first-time experience for the girls.
- Weekly summer dinners were provided for single mothers during which group discussions helped to alleviate crises for these participants and their families and helped to provide support services and skill-building.
- Developed an ongoing graduate social work internship program and involved many volunteers from area colleges and high schools in programming
- Improved systems for data collection and outcome measures
- Received a $50,000 grant from the William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund and the Children's Fund of Connecticut to support implementation of Mansfield's Plan for Young Children
- Coordinated the twelfth year of the Mansfield School Readiness Program, supporting fourteen children receiving care at one of four nationally accredited centers
- Worked with the Mansfield Public Schools and Mansfield Advocates for Children on the ninth year of the Discovery Grant from the William C. Graustein Memorial Fund.
- Coordinated the fourth celebration of the Week of the Young Child in April of 2010.

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Continue to develop systems for data collection, record-keeping, and grant-reporting.
- Develop a boy's group using the Boys Council: "For Boys and Young Men" program.
- Expand COPE's reach to involve family and school participation in order to help generalize skills taught in COPE beyond the group setting
- Explore the possibility of raising funds for students to attend the 4-H overnight camp
- Work together with the Willington, Ashford, and Coventry Youth Services to develop a regional approach to support families and youth.
- Explore the use of the Mansfield Middle School ropes course to help YSB clients develop increased confidence, cooperation, team work, and physical strength
- Continue implementation of the strategies contained in the Plan for Mansfield's Young Children, including conducting a survey on the issue of "community connectedness" and hosting a Community Conversation on the plan
- Continue to enhance and strengthen the relationship between local early care centers and the Mansfield public schools with meetings for principals, directors and superintendent, as well as visits between kindergarten teachers and center teachers.

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Jaime L. Russell, Director

The mission of the Information Technology Department is to develop and maintain efficient and cost effective information systems for the Town and Schools, and to develop and provide customer-centric support services to its user base to assure the successful utilization of town owned equipment. These technologies include computer hardware, software, and network services across eighteen Town and School buildings, as well as our website presence and telecommunications. In total, this encompasses 1,500 computers. The network includes over 3,000 staff and student users, as well as certain computer services used by the citizens in our community.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Partnered with the Maintenance Department and the Town Manager's Office to implement the Council Media Project. The project included three major components: (1) Update the audio in the Council Chambers; (2) Enhance the video broadcast; and (3) Add assistive listening devices. Town Council meetings are now broadcast live on Channel 13 as well as on a recorded schedule. Additionally, the audio from the meeting can be accessed on-demand at anytime on the Town website and a copy of each meeting's DVD is available for borrowing from the Mansfield Public Library.
- Expanded the network of public wireless hotspots in Mansfield. New locations included the Mansfield Public Library, the Discovery Depot (funded separately by the Discovery Depot budget), and expanded coverage at the schools. The wireless network covers the Community Center (and outdoor grounds), Town Hall (and outdoor grounds), Senior Center, Public Library, Discovery Depot, and all Mansfield Schools (and some of their outdoor grounds).
- Implemented an enhanced website design and content management system to increase use of the website for communicating with citizens. The new website has been positively received and improves our communications effort through an intuitive interface that makes it easier for citizens to obtain municipal information. This effort was accomplished through the input of citizens and staff at formal meetings and via informal gatherings of input. In particular, the citizen Communications Advisory Committee and the staff Website Committee provided significant assistance and input. The Town's website is frequently updated with new information to support communication with citizens.
- Completed the required replacement cycle for the telephone system at the Mansfield Senior Center and Mansfield Wellness Center buildings. Both buildings' phone systems were installed 10 years prior and were at the end of their useable lifecycle. The deployment integrated VOIP (voice-over-Internet-protocol) technology to limit ongoing telephone costs while still maintaining reliable and effective phone service. VOIP allows us to route non-911 calls via our existing internal fiber connection and thereby better control ongoing costs incurred by telephone service providers.
- Collaborated with the Facilities Management Department to implement a school security project funded by the Connecticut Department of Homeland Security and the Connecticut Department of Education. The project included door access security and video security technologies that integrate with the computer network.
- Coded programming changes in each of our eleven phone systems to meet the requirements of ten digit dialing and the addition of two new area codes. The Department of Public Utility Control mandated this change in Connecticut to meet the growing need for additional phone numbers. Using in-house IT staff to code these programming changes in each building saved the cost of paying an outside vendor to complete the mandated work.
- Deployed technology while considering the impact on the environment. For example, selected

replacement hardware that met the environmentally sensitive EPEAT national standards (promoted by the Federal Environmental Protection Agency) and increased use of virtualization technology to decrease energy consumption and decrease raw material waste.

- Partnered with the Finance Department to implement the interface changes to the ADMINS financial database. The two Departments coordinated their efforts to ensure an effective process.

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Design and implement website sub-templates for the Schools, Parks & Recreation / Community Center, Mansfield Downtown Partnership, and the Eastern Highlands Health District
- Enhance citizen access to online information by increasing posted content through department access to content management tools and improved search and access capabilities for citizen users
- Implement student academic assessment database at the schools to collect achievement data and use it to inform instruction and programs
- Partner with the Finance Department to implement year two of the capital budget project for the financial and management databases
- Integrate the eight main municipal and school HVAC systems to enhance energy efficiency and support maintenance staff direct access for repairs and monitoring

MANSFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY

Louise Bailey, Director

Mansfield Public Library serves as the popular materials library for the Town of Mansfield, providing recreational reading materials and information resources in a wide variety of formats. Available 24 hours a day is the Library's website, www.mansfieldpubliclibraryct.org. Serving as an electronic branch library, people may reserve and renew items, apply online for Buchanan Auditorium reservations, and access information about Book Sales, reading recommendations, and a calendar of library programs for all ages. Mansfield residents with a valid library card can also access subscription resources unavailable to non-residents:

- ***BookFlix*** provides children from 3 – 8 years old with an animated film of a quality children's book plus related nonfiction eBooks.
- ***e-Audiobooks*** gives residents access to thousands of audiobooks, narrated by professional actors, which may be listened to on personal computers, mp3 players, or iPods.
- ***Ebsco*** MasterFILE Elite, a multidisciplinary database, provides full text for more than 1,050 magazines with coverage dating as far back as 1984. Also included are 52 full text reference books and an image collection of 341,655 photos, maps and flags.
- ***Mango*** is an easy-to-use online language-learning system with 22 foreign languages and 14 English as a Second Language (ESL) courses. Unique about Mango is the appreciation for cultural nuance and real-world application.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Continued participation in the Mansfield Schools "Books on Buses" summer program by providing books and coordinating technical support for circulation, cataloguing and statistics. Funding for the public library books came from the Friends of the Mansfield Library.
- Revised library hours to meet the needs of library patrons, using surveys online and within the library to determine the most effective use of staff time
- Reinstated "Toddler Time" in September 2010, with an average attendance that equaled the number before the yearlong hiatus
- Mansfield Public Library provided great value for a community of voracious readers:

Quantity of Use	Library Services	Retail Value (estimated)	Based On	Value of Services
160,709	Books Borrowed	$25.00	Baker & Taylor 2010	$ 4,017,725.00
6,107	Magazines Borrowed	$5.00	MA Library Association estimate	$30,535.00
36,438	Entertainment DVD's Borrowed	$4.00	Blockbuster average	$145,752.00
27,779	Audiobooks Borrowed	$10.00	Audible.com download average	$ 277,790.00
603	Museum Passes Borrowed	$26.00	Average savings for family of 4	$15,678.00
12,984	Interlibrary Loan	$25.00	Average mazon.com average price plus shipping	$324,600.00
374	Programs Attended	$10.00	Average museum admission fee	$ 3,740.00
15,362	Hours of Computer Use	$12.00	FedEx-Kinko's price	$ 184,344.00
14,288	Reference Questions Asked	$7.00	MA Library Association estimate	$100,016.00
	Total Value*			$5,100,180.00

*Please note: does not include value from database subscriptions

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Assist the Friends of the Mansfield Library in promoting membership, volunteerism, and donations to their Book Sales. About 50% of our materials budget was donated by the Friends of the Mansfield Library, compared to 15% in years before the economic downturn.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Curt Vincente, Director

The mission of the Parks and Recreation department is to enhance the quality of life of the total community by providing a variety of leisure opportunities, promoting health and wellness, increasing cultural awareness, protecting natural resources and developing the recreational needs and interests of area residents. The Parks and Recreation Department provides Mansfield residents the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of active and passive activities for preschool age through senior citizens. Program information is available four times per year in July, November, March and May via program brochures distributed to area residents. Programs and publicity are greatly enhanced by the generous commitment and support of local businesses.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Oversaw Community Center operations, program development, membership services, and implemented comprehensive marketing program
- Held 6th Anniversary Celebration of the Community Center on November 1, 2009
- Community Center visitations, July 1, 2009-June 30, 2010, totaled 225,817, an average of 18,818 per month.
- Continued popular "Family Fun Night" activity at the Community Center
- The 2009-10 year included a total of 2,302 programs with 15,734 participants.
- Administered comprehensive Youth Basketball and Youth Baseball programs and required local volunteer coaches to be certified in the National Youth Sports Coaches Association in order to provide a positive experience for all participants
- Continued a back-ground check procedure for volunteer coaches

- Continued emphasis on quality daytime programs for children of working parents. In addition to the popular summer day camp, day-long programs are offered on school common curriculum days and vacation weeks.
- Major special events included the Know Your Towns Fair, Halloween Party, Member Appreciation Week, Winter Fun Day, Kids Flea Market, Bike Tour, and a series of four summer concerts.
- Many residents enjoyed a successful season at Bicentennial Pond.
- Continued offering a successful year-round swim lesson program

Plans for FY 2010-11

- Continue Community Center facility supervision; oversee program development, facility planning, staff hiring and training and marketing
- Provide staff support for Agriculture, Arts Advisory, Open Space Preservation, Parks Advisory, and Recreation Advisory Committees; continue support for co-sponsored organizations
- Conduct comprehensive youth sports program and training clinics to certify youth sport coaches in the National Youth Sports Coaches Association program
- Conduct background check procedure for all youth sport coaches
- Operate comprehensive summer day camp program and Bicentennial Pond facility
- Provide a variety of special events and programs, activities and courses for all age groups
- Apply for open space and/or trail grants when available
- Promote community health and wellness through quality programs
- Upgrade Department website for use as a more viable marketing tool

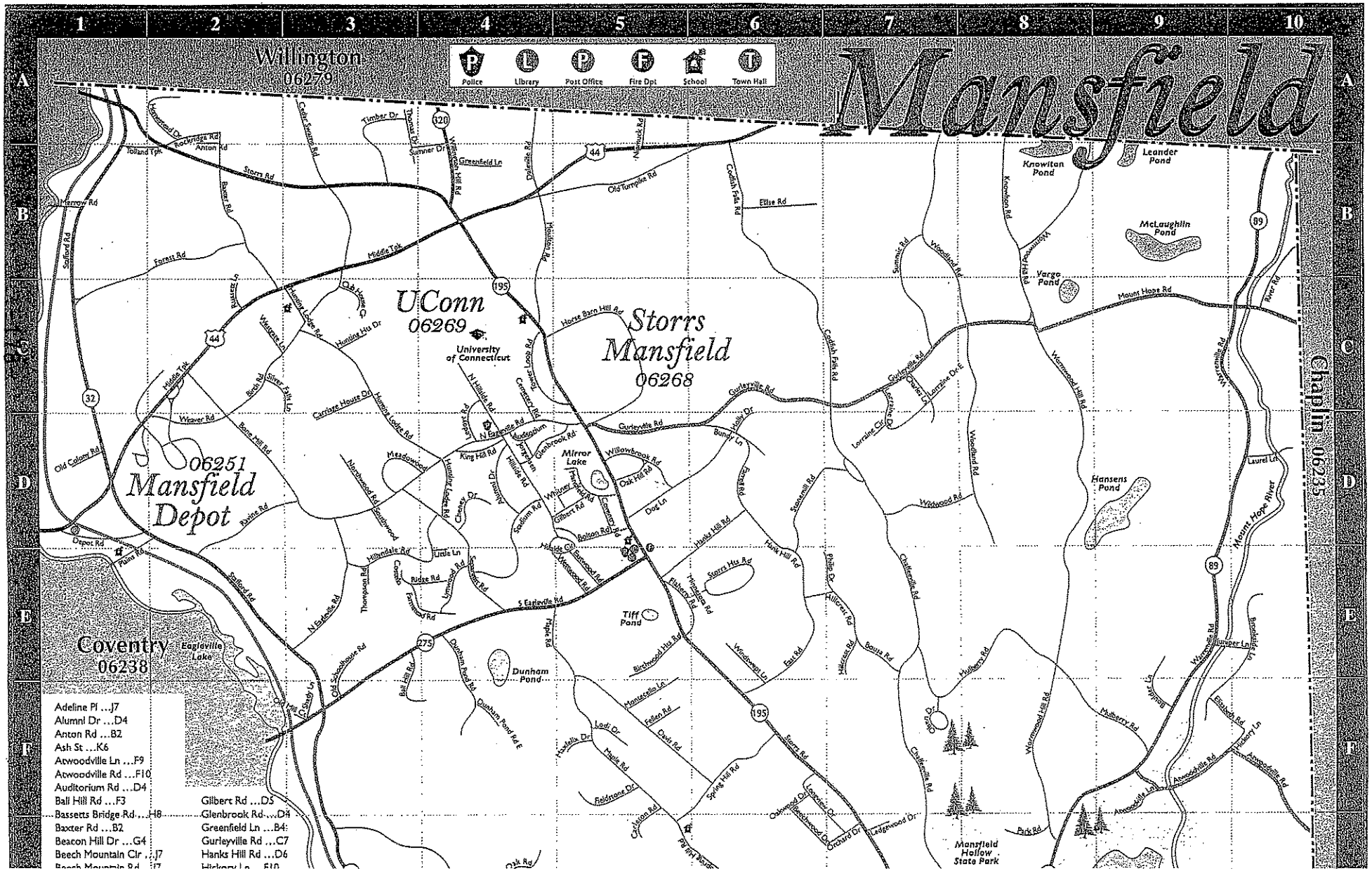
PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT

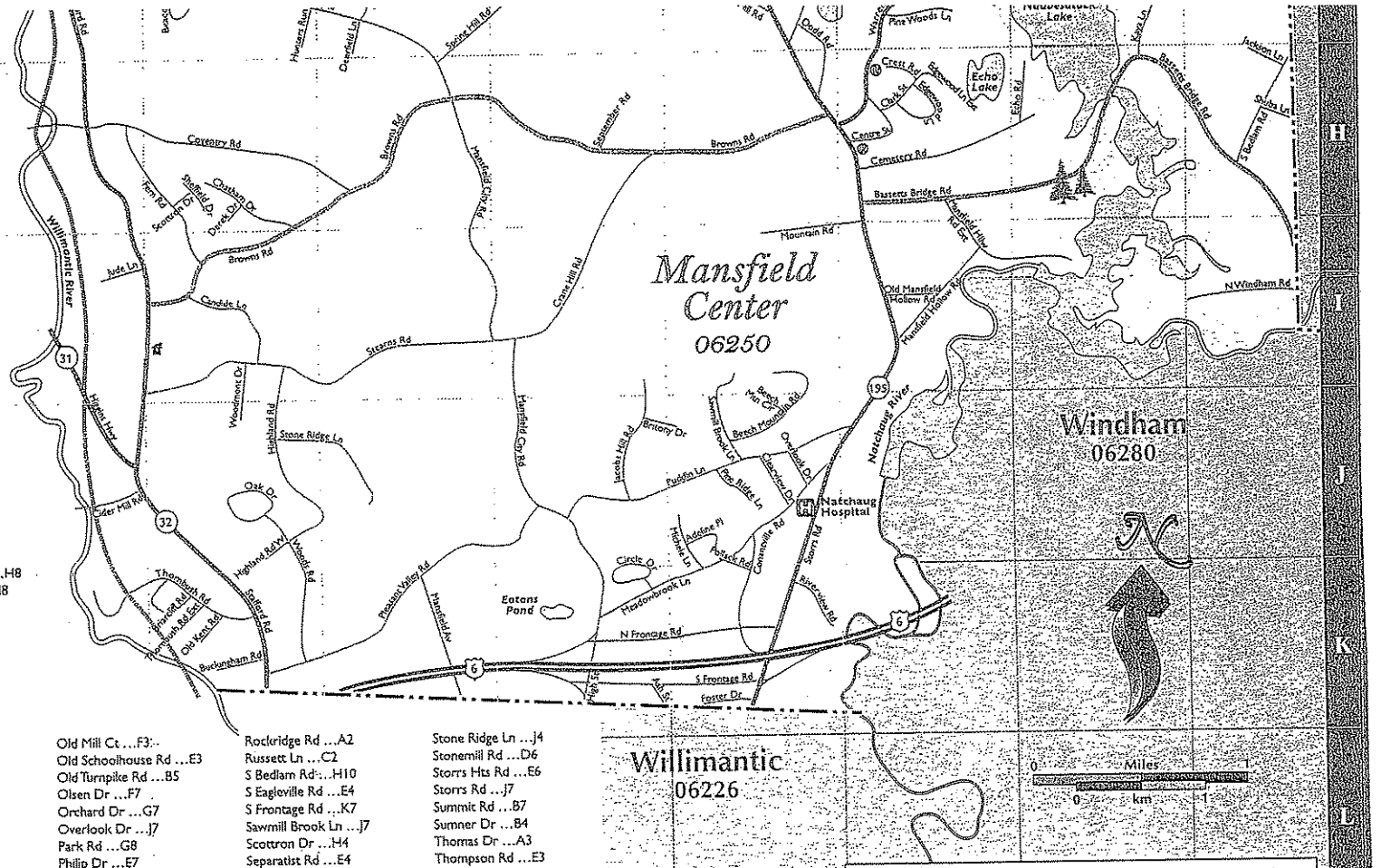
Gregory Padick, Director
Curt Hirsch, Zoning Agent

The Director of Planning and Zoning Agent play key roles in stimulating, coordinating and administering the responsibilities of the Town's planning and development functions.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Assisted the Planning and Zoning Commission and Inland Wetland Agency with their review of new land use applications, regulation and zone classification revisions, modifications, bonding issues and enforcement issues. Some specific projects are referred to in the PZC/IWA Annual Report.
- The Zoning Agent issued Zoning Permits for 13 new single-family homes. A total of 143 Zoning Permits were issued. Additionally, 134 zoning enforcement letters, 36 violation notices and 47 Zoning Citations were issued.
- The Director of Planning served as Mansfield's representative on three UConn advisory committees: The Capital Projects Advisory Committee, which helps plan and monitor new development on the Storrs campus; The Water and Waterwater System Committee, which reviews operational and service request issues and recommends actions as appropriate; and the Willimantic River/Wellfield Technical Advisory Committee, which monitored a comprehensive study of the wellfield to determine environmentally appropriate withdrawals. When evaluating UConn projects particular attention is given to infrastructure issues and potential traffic, drainage and neighborhood impact issues.
- The Director of Planning participated in various facets of Mansfield's Open Space Acquisition and Management programs, including the review of draft management plans and potential property acquisitions.
- The Director of Planning participated in various aspects of the ongoing Storrs Center Down-


Mansfield
Police
Library
Post Office
Fire Dpt
School
Town Hall
Willington
06279
UConn
06269
University of Connecticut
Storrs
Mansfield
06268
06251
Mansfield
Depot
Coventry
06238
Eagleville Lake
Chaplin
06235
Knowlton Pond
Leander Pond
McLaughlin Pond
Vargo Pond
Hansens Pond
Mirror Lake
Tiff Pond
Dunham Pond
Mansfield Hollow State Park
Mount Hope River
Adeline Pl ...J7
Alumni Dr ...D4
Anton Rd ...B2
Ash St ...K6
Atwoodville Ln ...F9
Atwoodville Rd ...F10
Auditorium Rd ...D4
Ball Hill Rd ...F3
Bassetts Bridge Rd ...H8
Baxter Rd ...B2
Beacon Hill Dr ...G4
Beech Mountain Cir ...J7
Gilbert Rd ...D5
Glenbrook Rd ...D4
Greenfield Ln ...B4
Gurleyville Rd ...C7
Hanks Hill Rd ...D6



Birchwood Hts Rd ...E3
Blake Ln ...G5
Bolton Rd ...D5
Bone Mill Rd ...D2
Boulder Ln ...F9
Bousa Rd ...E7
Bousa Rd ...E7
Briarcliff Rd ...K4
Britony Dr ...J6
Brookside Ln ...E10
Browns Rd ...H7
Buckingham Rd ...K4
Bundy Ln ...D6
Candide Ln ...I4
Carleton Rd ...G4
Carriage House Dr ...C3
Cedar Swamp Rd ...A3
Cemetery Rd ...C4
Cemetery Rd ...H8
Centre St ...H8
Chaffeeville Rd ...E7
Charles Ln ...C7
Chatham Dr ...H4
Cheney Dr ...D4
Cider Mill Rd ...J3
Circle Dr ...J6
Clark St ...H8
Clearview Dr ...J7
Clover Mill Rd ...G6
Club House Cir ...C3
Codfish Falls Rd ...B6
Conantville Rd ...J7
Costello Cir ...E3
Coventry Rd ...D5
Crane Hill Rd ...I6
Crest Rd ...H8
Daleville Rd ...B4
Davis Rd ...F5
Deerfield Ln ...G4
Depot Rd ...D1
Derek Dr ...H4
Dodd Rd ...G7
Dog Ln ...D5
Dunham Pond Rd ...E4
Dunham Pond Rd E ...F4
East Rd ...E6
Eastwood Rd ...E5
Echo Rd ...H9
Edgewood Ln ...H8
Edgewood Ln Ext ...H8
Elizabeth Rd ...F9
Ellise Rd ...B6
Fairfield Dr ...D4
Farmstead Rd ...E3
Farrell Rd ...D6
Fellen Rd ...F5
Fern Rd ...H4
Fieldstone Dr ...F5
Flaherty Rd ...E5
Forest Rd ...B2
Foster Dr ...K7
Highland Rd W ...J4
Hillcrest Rd ...E7
Hillside Cir ...E5
Hillside Rd ...D4
Hillyndale Rd ...E3
Holly Dr ...D6
Homestead Dr ...A2
Horse Barn Hill Rd ...C5
Hunters Run ...G3
Hunting Hts Dr ...C3
Hunting Lodge Rd ...C3
Jackson Ln ...H10
Jacobs Hill Rd ...J6
Jonathan Ln ...G5
Jorgensen Rd ...D4
Jude Ln ...I3
Juniper Ln ...E10
Kaya Ln ...G9
King Hill Rd ...D4
Knowlton Rd ...B8
Laurel Ln ...D10
Ledgewood Dr ...G7
Ledoyt Rd ...D4
Little Ln ...E4
Lodi Dr ...F5
Longview Dr ...F6
Lorraine Cir ...D7
Lorraine Dr ...C7
Lorraine Dr E ...C7
Lynwood Rd ...E4
Mansfield Av ...K5
Mansfield City Rd ...G3
Mansfield Hllw Rd Ext ...H8
Mansfield Hollow Rd ...I8
Mansfield Rd ...D5
Maple Rd ...E4
Maxfelix Dr ...F5
Meadowbrook Ln ...K6
Meadowood ...D3
Merrow Rd ...B1
Michele Ln ...J7
Middle Tpk ...B3
Minnesota Rd ...E6
Montecello Ln ...F5
Moulton Rd ...B4
Mount Hope Rd ...C9
Mountain Rd ...I7
Mulberry Rd ...E8
N Eagleville Rd ...D4
N Frontage Rd ...K6
N Hillside Rd ...C4
N Windham Rd ...I10
Nipmuck Rd ...A5
Northwood Rd ...D3
Oak Dr ...J4
Oak Hill Rd ...D5
Oakwood Dr ...F6
Old Colony Rd ...D1
Old Kent Rd ...K4
Old Mansfield Hollow Rd ...I8
Old Mill Ct ...F3
Old Schoolhouse Rd ...E3
Old Turnpike Rd ...B5
Olsen Dr ...F7
Orchard Dr ...G7
Overlook Dr ...J7
Park Rd ...G8
Philip Dr ...E7
Pine Ridge Ln ...J7
Pine Woods Ln ...G8
Plains Rd ...E1
Pleasant Valley Rd ...K5
Pollack Rd ...J7
Puddin Ln ...J7
Ravine Rd ...D2
Ridge Rd ...E4
River Rd ...C10
Riverview Rd ...K7
Rockridge Rd ...A2
Russett Ln ...C2
S Bedlam Rd ...H10
S Eagleville Rd ...E4
S Frontage Rd ...K7
Sawmill Brook Ln ...J7
Scottron Dr ...H4
Separatist Rd ...E4
September Rd ...H7
Shady Ln ...F3
Sheffield Dr ...H4
Shuba Ln ...H10
Silver Falls Ln ...C2
Southwood Rd ...D3
Spring Hill Rd ...F6
Stadium Rd ...D4
Stafford Rd ...B1
Stearns Rd ...I5
Stone Ridge Ln ...J4
Stonemill Rd ...D6
Storrs Hts Rd ...E6
Storrs Rd ...J7
Summit Rd ...B7
Sumner Dr ...B4
Thomas Dr ...A3
Thompson Rd ...E3
Thornbush Rd ...K4
Thornbush Rd Ext ...K4
Timber Dr ...A3
Tolland Tpk ...B1
Tower Loop Rd ...C4
Warrenville Rd ...C9
Weaver Rd ...D2
Westgate Ln ...C2
Westwood Rd ...E5
White Oak Rd ...G3
Whitney Rd ...D5
Wildwood Rd ...D7
Willington Hill Rd ...B4
Willowbrook Rd ...D5
Windswept Ln ...E6
Woodland Rd ...B7
Woodmont Dr ...I4
Woods Rd ...J4
Wormwood Hill Rd ...B8

Your Town Community Guide

The information used to produce this map is obtained from various reliable sources. If you should find an inaccuracy, please contact us so that we may correct it when printing our next issue. www.YTCG.com

Some roads may have been omitted because of size restrictions.

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town project. During this period, particular attention has been given to phasing, parking, streetscape and infrastructure issues.

- The Director of Planning and Zoning Agent provided information and assistance to town and State officials, property-owners and their representatives on a wide range of land use issues, including the Town's Strategic Plan, Mansfield's Assisted Living Initiative, the Four Corners Sewer and Water Project and student housing issues. The Director of Planning provided assistance to the Community Quality of Life Committee, the School Building Committee, the Conservation Commission and the Town/University Relations Committee.
- During the fiscal year the Director of Planning has spent considerable time on the following projects or studies: The WINCOG Regional Economic Development Plan, the CL&P Interstate Reliability Project, the Natchaug River Basin Conservation Study, and EHHD's Action Communities for Health, Innovation and Environmental Change (ACHIEVE) project.

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Assisting the Planning and Zoning Commission with application-related responsibilities and the continued implementation of Plan of Conservation and Development recommendations. Implementation will require the analysis and drafting of revisions to Mansfield's Zoning Map and land use regulations. Priority will be given to refining existing agricultural regulations, updating Mansfield's Subdivision Regulations and refining Storm Water Management and Site Development Regulations.
- Enforcement of existing land use regulations with particular attention on student occupancy violations
- Assisting the Town Council, Planning and Zoning Commission and Community Quality of Life Committee with new initiatives to address student housing issues, particularly new student rentals in residential neighborhoods proximate to the UConn campus
- Assisting town officials with an ongoing Four Corners Sewer and Water Study and the review of recent, ongoing and potential UConn projects and studies including the potential use of wastewater to cool campus generators, UConn's Water Supply Plan update, a proposed USDA Animal Health Research Facility to be built on the Depot Campus and various Storm Water Management projects
- Assisting town officials with the implementation of various elements of the Storrs Center Downtown including phasing and parking elements and the approval of specific construction plans

POLICE SERVICES

Sergeant James Kodzis, Resident State Trooper's Office

The Town of Mansfield contracts with the State Police for services of eight Resident State Troopers, one of whom is a State Police Sergeant. The town also employs three part-time Mansfield Police Officers. Police coverage is also augmented by State Police patrols working out of the Troop C barracks in Tolland.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- There have been: 10,515 total calls for police service in the Town of Mansfield; 561 criminal investigations conducted; 412 accident investigations conducted; 2,308 motor vehicle citations issued; 1,696 motor vehicle warnings issued. Responded to 5,638 non emergency calls for service. 57 DWI arrests have been made in town during the past fiscal year.
- Issued 184 town citations (to date in FY10/11) for town ordinance violations (primarily for alcohol and quality of life issues in the off campus housing areas)
- Conducted the "D.A.R.E" program at the Mansfield Middle School

- Seven Resident Troopers are currently certified for police bicycle patrols. These patrols have been very effective during special events such as "Fall and Spring weekends" as well as patrolling Mansfield Parks, the business along Rte 195, and off campus apartment complexes.
- This office, along with the Commanding Officer of Troop C, was instrumental in the planning and execution of State Police operations at UConn's annual Spring Weekend event.
- Continued to work with the owners of the various apartment complexes including Carriage House in maintaining order and civility through dedicated patrols and strict enforcement of Town ordinances and state laws.
- Participated in community policing efforts such as the MCCP outreach visits, Festival on the Green, "Know Your Town Fair", Child Safety Fairs, and speaking engagements at local organizations
- Obtained $22,425 grant funding for DUI patrols
- Worked with the Department of Liquor and Tobacco Control in joint operations targeting the illegal sale of alcohol / tobacco to minors
- Conducted multiple "undercover" operations targeting the illegal possession and sale of alcohol and narcotics
- Expanded the hours of Resident Trooper coverage to include the midnight shift in an attempt to address the increased volume and severity of calls received during this time period

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Continue to participate in the "D.A.R.E" program at the Mansfield Middle School
- Continue to apply for grant funding to address issues such as DWI, speed enforcement, as well as equipment purchases
- Continue to work with the owners of the various apartment complexes including Carriage House Apartment in maintaining order and civility through dedicated patrols and strict enforcement of town ordinances and state laws
- Prepare and provide police coverage during UConn's annual "Spring Weekend" and "Fall weekend" events
- Continue in a coordinated effort with UConn, Town government, area business leaders, and community leaders to address substance abuse and quality of life issues on and around the UConn campus
- Continue to develop new and innovative efforts to address and eventually curtail spontaneous large gatherings at off-campus locations. Theses efforts will include but are not limited to: undercover operations, DUI enforcement operations, increased efforts to enforce Town ordinances and liquor violations.
- Continue to work with the UConn Dean of Students to address quality of life issues that arise from off campus housing
- Continue to provide the most professional and effective police coverage possible, within our current economic climate, to meet the needs of this growing community
- Apply for a DOT funded grant for DUI enforcement
- Obtain a NECASA grant for alcohol compliance checks
- The Town of Mansfield is currently using an independent research firm to evaluate the present policing model as well as the projected police needs of the Town. The evaluation will help the Town to effectively address the policing needs of a growing community. Proposed major Initiatives could be modified or adjusted depending on the findings of this study.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Lon Hultgren, Director

The Department of Public Works provides for the maintenance and repair of the Town's infrastructure – the roads, bridges, solid waste and recycling facilities, park and recreation areas and its limited sewer and water facilities. The Engineering Division of the Department also assists other Town departments and residents in mapping and the development process through its work in reviewing site, subdivision and improvement plans. The administrative office also assists the Town in its energy conservation and sustainability efforts.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Completed the construction of a bikeway/walkway on Hunting Lodge Road between North Eagleville Road and Carriage House Drive
- Completed the construction of a new burying ground (for cremations only) behind the existing cemetery on Gurleyville Road (the Riverside Burying Ground)
- Placed the newly constructed 4th and final soccer field at the Lions Club "Ward Cornell" memorial recreation complex in use
- Continued the engineering effort to bring sewer and water systems to the Four-Corners area in Northern Mansfield – hired consultants specializing in water and sewer work to assist with bringing water into the area and designing a sewage pump station
- Coordinated the low-waste efforts for the Town's fall Festival on the Green
- Coordinated the school lunch composting programs at all of the Town's schools
- Completed the EPA's clean diesel grant that retrofitted the school busses used in Mansfield with particulate filters and filter maintenance for the next 2 to 3 years
- Continued to assist the Mansfield Downtown Partnership with the engineering efforts for the public components of the Storrs Center project – after receiving an additional $4.9M under the federal "livability grant program", began the state and federal hiring procedures to select designers for the parking garage, intermodal center and transit pathways for the project
- Successfully submitted two projects for stimulus (ARRA) funding: the completion of the Birch Road Bikeway and paving the south end of Mansfield City Road
- Coordinated design efforts for priority Town walkways on North Eagleville Road and South Eagleville Road. (Established a funding program for North Eagleville with UConn; applied for Small Cities funds for South Eagleville)
- Continued the coordination of design efforts for the replacement Stone Mill Road and Laurel Lane bridges (federal grant projects). Construction is targeted for 2011.
- Resolved the dispute with Windham over Mansfield's share of their wastewater treatment plant upgrade. Negotiated and signed a new sewer agreement with Windham
- Installed a gas main within Davis Road to feed the Middle School fuel conversion project
- Plowed and sanded roads and parking lots; swept and resurfaced Town roads; mowed roadsides and trimmed vegetation at intersections; graded gravel roads; patched pot holes; repaired signs and guideposts; cleaned waterways, catch basins and culverts; repaired curbs and driveway lips; reconstructed the sand rack at the Town garage; removed fallen and hazardous trees from Town roads
- Mowed, striped, fertilized and overseeded Town and school soccer, baseball/softball, football and field hockey fields; weeded Town flower beds; hauled trash from Town parks and recreation areas
- Coordinated Town's mapping and parcel updates for the graphic information system (GIS) Repaired Bassetts Bridge Road flooding damage caused in the filling of the Mansfield Hollow Reservoir in the spring of 2010

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Construct the new salt shed at the Town garage (Town crew will complete the site work)
- Coordinate the consultants' work for water and sewer at the Four-Corners area; continue the staff's design work for the bulk of the design work for the sewer and water piping systems
- Begin construction of the Dodd Road bridge replacement project
- Complete the construction work for the Town's two ARRA projects: Oversee the construction of the remaining section of the Birch Road bikeway and the paving of Mansfield City Road
- Oversee the design work for Route 195 and Dog Lane in the Storrs Center project area; bid the road work for construction
- Bid the Stone Mill Road and Laurel Lane bridge replacement projects and coordinate the construction
- Perform the usual routine road and grounds maintenance work (as detailed above)
- Continue efforts to fund and construct walkways on North Eagleville and South Eagleville roads
- Continue to work with the Town's sustainability committee in coordinating the Town's multi-faceted sustainability efforts

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

Bev Miela and Andrea Epling, Registrars

The Registrars of Voters, under 9-32 of the Connecticut General Statutes, are mandated to maintain the voting registration records for the Town of Mansfield. Their duties include conducting the annual canvass of registered voters, managing elections, primaries and referenda, securing and training poll workers, responding to requests for voter registration and education, and processing mail-in and cross town registrations. The Registrars of Voters work to further ensure the accuracy of the official registry list. They also expanded voter outreach in the local schools and university.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Conducted the annual canvass of voters using the National Change of Address System
- Conducted the Region 19 Budget Referendum in May 2010, the Town Budget Referendum in June 2010, the Democratic Primary and the Republican Primary in August 2010, the EOSmith Athletic Facilities Referendum in September 2010 and the State Election in November 2010 .
- Conducted and will continue to conduct training sessions and informational sessions for the OpticalScan Voting system
- Attended mandatory instructional meetings conducted by the Secretary of the State's office concerning the voting system
- Attended the Spring and Fall ROVAC Conferences and the Regional County Meetings
- Registered new Mansfield and UConn voters

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Anticipating an E.O. Smith Budget Referendum in May 2011, a Town Budget Referendum in June 2011 and a Municipal Election in November 2011

TOWN CLERK

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

The Town Clerk's office records all land records, maps, vital statistics, and maintains all minutes for the major boards and committees. Marriage and Civil Union licenses are available in the office. All sport licenses for inland and marine fishing, hunting, trapping, pheasant tags, deer tags, migratory bird stamps, and hip permits are sold from this office. In June of each year all dogs must be

licensed by the Clerk's office. This office has staff, who are notary publics, and will notarize documents as authorized by the Town. Certified copies of records recorded in the office may be purchased and other Town records may be viewed in the office or copies purchased in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act. Veterans' Discharges are recorded in the office as well as notary publics, liquor permits, trade names and a current list of Justices of the Peace. The Town Clerk assists town organizations in setting up raffles and games of chance. All notices of town meetings, committee meetings and public hearings are posted on the signpost outside the Clerk's office within time limits set by the Freedom of Information Commission. All election materials and procedures for holding elections are arranged in collaboration with the Registrar of Voters. Absentee ballots and Presidential ballots are issued from this office. The Town Clerk serves as clerk to the Town Council and as staff support for the Committees on Committees and the Cemetery Committee. An Assistant Town Clerk serves as secretary to the Zoning Board of Appeals. The Clerk's office approves the scheduling of most meeting rooms in the Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building, processes the mail, and the staff serves as the Municipal Records Managers for the Town.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Total Land Records recorded 2332: Maps recorded 101; Marriage Licenses issued 70; Civil Union Licenses issued 0; Deaths recorded 104; Births of residents recorded 94
- Dog Licenses issued July 1, 2009-June 30, 2010 were 1,690 and 2 Kennels
- Sport Licenses sold 519
- The Municipal Election was held on November 3, 2009 with 2356 (20%) of registered voters in Town voting. The Town Clerk's office distributed 93 absentee ballots. A vote on the E.O. Smith Budget was approved at referendum on May 3, 2010 with 488 (4.6%) citizens voting and a referendum on the Town's Budget was approved, as voted on at the Town Meeting, on June 22, 2010 with 1,032 (9.9%) citizens voting. In addition to the issuance of absentee ballots, the Town Clerk's office is responsible for certifying petitions, all legal notices, ballot preparation, and election data summaries. All newly elected members of Town boards and commissions were sworn into office.
- Conducted Town Clerks' responsibilities for the Annual Town Meeting for Budget Consideration and the Special Town Meeting for approval of the Hunting Lodge Road bikeway/walkway and the Public Work's salt shed. Duties include publication of all legal notices and warnings, coordinating the set up for the Town meetings and the recording and issuance of the minutes.
- Certified petition signatures calling for the repeal of An Ordinance Regarding Off Street Parking on Residential Rental Property. The Town Meeting held on July 12, 2010 voted to sustain the action of the Council by a vote of 218 in favor of the ordinance and 108 opposed.
- Worked with the Assistant to the Town Manager to address 123 Freedom of Information Requests and prepared and testified in 4 Freedom of Information cases that were filed against the Town
- Prepared, submitted and received a Historic Preservation Grant for the 2010/2011 fiscal year. This grant will begin to address the organization and management of capital project files. Achieved the goals and projects as outlined in the 2009/2010 Historic Preservation Grant
- Continued the process of re-indexing all filed boundary and subdivision maps currently in the Town in anticipation of changing our current laminated map filing system to a disk based one
- Created an electronic file of burial permits filed in the Town and cemetery deeds for Town owned cemeteries
- Included funds for the implementation of the land record scanning component of the POS system in the Capital Improvement Project Budget. This would allow citizens to review Town land records on line in our office.
- Designed and prepared a new brochure of the Cemetery rules and regulations as approved by

the Cemetery Committee including information on the new Riverside Burying Grounds. The Town Council approved the fees recommended by the Committee.

- Created an index for record material stored in the vault

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Evaluate Historic Preservation Grant funding and, if money is available in the FY2011/2012 cycle, prepare a grant submission for the next stage in the Record Management Plan
- Create additional inventories of record material to facilitate ease of filing and retrieving and continue to compile electronically available databases for staff reference
- Investigate options for Mylar map filings and plan for future storage needs in the vault
- Compile list of current and past members of Mansfield's volunteer boards and commissions for historic reference
- Continue to make customer service our highest priority

Committees, Boards and Commissions

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITES ACT GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

The purpose of the ADA Grievance Committee is to hear and to investigate grievances and other concerns filed against the town under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Upon completing its investigation of a particular case or incident, the committee renders a decision regarding its findings and may provide a recommendation to resolve the matter. The committee only hears claims filed with the town, and does not get involved with claims filed in a court or another outside forum.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE NEEDS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

The Committee on the Needs of Persons with Disabilities was founded in 1976 and became an official town committee in 1982. The Committee has been instrumental in improving conditions related to accessibility and inclusion for all residents of Mansfield.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Advocated for improved accessibility to buildings and recognized two local businesses for their efforts to comply with accessibility issues related to parking
- Responded to accessibility issues brought to the Committee by residents
- Advocated successfully for creation of an additional accessible changing room at the Mansfield Community Center
- Assumed responsibility as the town's ADA Grievance Committee
- Increased awareness regarding the issue of accessible parking violations and successfully advocated for an increase in fines and signage for violations

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Continue to provide advocacy and oversight regarding the needs of residents with disabilities, focusing on access to buildings and services, transportation and overall quality of life
- Advocate for the development of the Storrs Downtown area as a fully accessible area
- Develop and distribute a brochure for the Committee to increase community awareness regarding role and accomplishments

AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

The Agriculture Committee advises the Town Council and other bodies on matters related to preserving farmland and agricultural activity in Mansfield.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Produced the 2010 "Mansfield Grown" brochure
- Provided information to farm community about farm grant programs
- Provided Input to Mansfield's Zoning Related to Agriculture
- Began to develop an analysis of Tax Incentives to Protect Family Farms
- Developed a Presentation to the Town Council regarding agriculture in Mansfield and the work of the committee
- Reviewed Mansfield agriculture leases on Town-owned property
- Provided input to development proposals on or adjacent to prime farmland
- Revised committee charge
- Produce the 2011 "Mansfield Grown" brochure

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Provide information to farm community about farm grant programs
- Provide input to development proposals on or adjacent to prime farmland
- Review Mansfield's policy regarding agriculture leases on Town-owned property
- Work with the Planning and Zoning Commission on regulations regarding the keeping of farm animals and other agricultural issues and other regulations related to agriculture
- Host an input session and survey the agricultural community to better understand their needs so the committee can best serve them
- Present findings from Tax Incentives Analysis

ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Arts Advisory Committee is charged with advising the Town Council and Manager on issues related to the arts. The committee looks to promote and encourage interest and participation in the arts and may work to compliment activities and events sponsored by private organizations having the same purpose and goal.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Arranged rotating art displays at the Mansfield Community Center (MCC):

Dates	Entry-way display cases	Hanging art
07/15/09 – 10/14/09	Festival on the Green advertising & art show winners	Works in various media by Liviu Cupcenacu
10/15/08 – 01/14/10	Found-object sculpture by William Stallman	Paintings by Jay Ames; water media works by Sylvia Smith
01/15/10 – 04/14/10	Ceramics by Patty Vinsonhaler	Collage painting and drawing by Ashleigh Kay
04/15/10 – 05/31/10	Student art from Mansfield's Elementary Schools	
06/01/10 – 08/15/10	Ballard Institute puppets	Paintings by Nancy Bergeron

- Posted the MCC exhibit calendar and artist information on the Town's website (www.mansfieldct.org/town/current/recreation/art_online/)
- Sponsored a reception for Ashleigh Kay in conjunction with her MCC exhibit
- Approved art exhibits at the Mansfield Library by Martin Bloom, Ashleigh Kay, and Blanche Serban
- Assisted in setting up and taking down the 09/13/09 Festival on the Green's Art Show and arranged for display of prize-winning works at the MCC
- Re-designed the "Opportunities for Mansfield Artists" brochure and printed copies for distribution
- Participated in Know Your Towns Fair at the MCC on 09/12/09
- Prepared a "Local Arts Directory" for distribution at the Fair and posting on Town's website

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Continue to arrange rotating art displays at MCC
- Advertise opportunities to display art at the MCC and other venues to local artists
- Pursue broadening arts activities at the MCC to include readings and performances by local writers and artists

- Continue to advocate an arts presence in the proposed Storrs Center development and to assist the Festival on the Green Committee in planning its Festival Art Show

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

The purpose of the Beautification Committee is to improve the aesthetic appearance of Mansfield by reducing unattractive areas. The Committee places flowering plants in key locations and recognizes individuals and businesses that contribute to the beautification of Mansfield.

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

The Board of Assessment Appeals hears appeals related to the assessment of motor vehicles and other property. The Board adjusts the assessment, valuation, etc. of personal property when appropriate and adds taxable property to the grand list when it has been wrongly omitted.

BOARD OF ETHICS

The Board of Ethics issues guidelines on matters related to ethics (i.e. ex parte communication) and establishes procedures for the public to initiate complaints alleging violations of Mansfield's Code of Ethics. The Board holds hearings concerning the application of the Code and its violation and makes recommendations for action to the Council when the Code has been violated.

BUILDING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Building Board of Appeals hears appeals regarding decisions made by the Building Official and renders decisions upon the appeal.

CATV ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The CATV Advisory Committee intervenes in any contested case before the department involving the CATV company which the Council is advising. The Committee reviews all community access programming that has been the subject of a complaint.

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

The Cemetery Committee advises the Town Manager in the management, care and maintenance of public cemeteries and provides assistance in the maintenance and care of cemeteries controlled by private associations, if such help is requested. The Committee, within the framework of an approved Town budget, advises the Town Manager in the expenditure of Town funds to have burial grounds cleared of weeds, briars and brush, grass mowed, fences and walls repaired and monuments straightened and repaired. The Committee also studies the need for and makes recommendations to the Town Manager for the enlargement of present cemeteries and for the acquisition of land for new cemeteries as permitted under the Town's ordinances and advises the Town Manager in the development of a budget for implementing the above programs.

COMMISSION ON AGING

The Commission on Aging is charged with responsibility to study the conditions and needs of elderly residents and to evaluate and recommend programs to assist them, also to serve as a resource and to furnish information to those concerned with elderly services.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Formed a committee to assist in developing a volunteer transportation program
- Advocated for the formation of a local chapter of TRIAD to focus on senior safety issues
- Advocated for the installation of a bus shelter at the Wright's Way bus stop
- Representatives participated in hiring panels for the Senior Service Social Worker and Senior Center Coordinator positions.

- Members reviewed applications for funding from non-profit agencies and made recommendations to the Town Manager.

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Continue to ensure that the needs of seniors are represented in the Town's strategic planning initiative
- Promote the development of a new Senior Center as a future initiative for the Town Council to consider
- Update Mansfield's Long-Range Plan for Seniors, with a continued focus on priority issues of transportation, information dissemination, senior center space needs, and access to public meetings
- Ensure the implementation of the Volunteer Driver Program
- Continue to advocate for the installation of bus shelters at Wrights' Way and at the Rt. 275/ Community Center bus stops

COMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Communications Advisory Committee is a seven member committee composed of Mansfield citizens. Additionally, guest speakers, elected officials, staff, and citizens may attend meetings as well. The Committee was formed by the action of the Town Council in 2008 and advises the Town on communications efforts. The Committee meets regularly throughout the year and focuses its efforts on reviewing current and past Town communications efforts, as well as formulating advice for improving future communication practices.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Mansfield Conservation Commission is charged with advising the Town Council, the Planning and Zoning Commission, and other Town agencies and officials on policies and issues relating to the development, conservation, supervision, and regulation of natural resources (including water resources) within the Town of Mansfield.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Assisted with open space and parks management issues including revisions to the Town's Planning, Acquisition and Management Guidelines, and various grant applications
- Commented on numerous Inland Wetland Agency and Planning and Zoning Commission applications and violation issues
- Commented on proposed Zoning Map and Zoning and Subdivision Regulation revisions affecting aquifer protection, invasive species, pre-application reviews and land south of Pleasant Valley Road
- Commented on proposed revisions to the Mansfield Inland Wetlands Regulations
- Reviewed and provided input regarding the Eagleville Brook Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Study and the Natchaug Basin Study Committee initiative
- Reviewed and provided input regarding various UConn land use projects including: a new compost facility, the University Drainage Master Plan and particularly, the proposed Swan Lake drainage outfall work, a proposed diversion to the Fenton River drainage basin and a proposed Mirror Lake dredging project; and the Agronomy Farm Irrigation project
- Continued to provide input to municipal and state officials regarding local and regional water supply issues and proposed stream flow standards

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Assist with open space and parks management issues

- Comment on existing and potential Inland Wetland Agency and Planning and Zoning Commission applications and proposed regulation revisions
- Review and provide input to the Town Council regarding significant UConn projects and other projects that would impact Mansfield
- Provide input to the municipal aquifer protection agency
- Monitor Town-owned conservation easements

CONSTABLES

Mansfield Town Constables serve under State statues. They have the power to serve and execute all lawful process legally directed to them.

DAY CARE CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Day Care Center Board of Directors is responsible for the administration of the Mansfield Discovery Depot. The purpose of the Board is to maintain, regulate, manage and operate a high-quality day care center in the Town of Mansfield primarily for the residents of and those who work in Mansfield.

DESIGN REVIEW PANEL

The five person Design Review Panel is appointed by the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) to provide independent citizen review comments on Site Plan and Special Permit applications pending before the PZC. Members serve two year terms and are selected based on backgrounds in landscape architecture, engineering, historic preservation, architecture/design, business/ construction or a related field.

EASTERN HIGHLANDS HEALTH DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Eastern Highlands Health District Board of Directors is the governing body for the Health District, which is an independent entity of local government. The individual members are appointed by the legislative body of each member town. The Board appoints and supervises the local Director of Health, subsequent to a public hearing approves an annual budget, sets Health District policy and promulgates local rules and regulations for the promotion of local public health.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Emergency Management Committee is established by Ordinance and is consistent with CGS § 24-7. The Committee's charge is to offer advice to the Town Manager and the Director of Emergency Management on emergency management issues.

ETHICS BOARD

The Ethics Board's primary charge since it was reconstituted in 2008 has been to review the Ethics Code adopted by the Town Council in 1995 and provide recommendations for revisions to the Code. Meetings were often spent identifying articles of the Code that could be clarified, improved, and/or expanded. The Board also identified ways to make the Code more accessible to the public.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Submitted recommended revisions to the Code to the Town Council. The Code is currently being reviewed by the Personnel Committee.
- Received and resolved three conflict of interest complaints
- Attended an accountability and conflict of interest workshop sponsored by the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities

- Participated in freedom of information hearings in Hartford
- Created a *Town of Mansfield Ethics Board Frequently Asked Questions* pamphlet, which now includes information needed to contact the Board directly
- Posted information about the Board and the Code on the Town's official website

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Continue to work on revisions to the Code as directed by the Town Council and the Personnel Committee
- Provide assistance (if needed) to the Town Council with the adoption process of revisions to the Ethics Code (ordinance)
- If a revised Code is adopted, educate officials and employees on the changes to the Code.
- If a revised Code is adopted, update the Board's rules for complaint procedures.
- Address advisory opinion requests and complaints in a fair and timely manner

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

The Mansfield Historic District Commission was established by ordinance to promote the educational, cultural, economic and general welfare of the Town of Mansfield through the preservation and protection of buildings and places of historic interest by maintenance of such landmarks in the history of architecture and of the Town of Mansfield, and through the development of appropriate settings for such buildings, places and districts.

HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Housing Authority Board of Directors is comprised of commissioners that serve as governing officers or directors of the Housing Authority. Once appointed by the Town Council, commissioners are independent, non-partisan public servants. They are responsible for major policy and leadership decisions. The Executive Director they hire is responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Housing Authority and its programs. A commissioner may, and commonly does, serve many terms in providing this service.

HOUSING CODE BOARD OF APPEALS

The Housing Code Board of Appeals consists of 3 electors of the community that serve overlapping 3 year terms. The members must, in the view of the Town Council, possess the experience, capability and judgment to pass on matters pertaining to the code. There are 2 alternates which must have the same qualifications of the full board members. It is the board's duty to hear appeals from an aggrieved party, when in the appellant's opinion, the code has been misinterpreted by the Code Official. A written appeal must be filed with the Housing secretary who also acts as secretary of the appeals board. An application fee of $100 is due upon filing. The board must meet within 20 days of the appeal being filed. The board will consider evidence at the hearing and render a decision to either modify or reverse the inspector's decision upon a concurring majority vote. The appellant may request review by the Superior Court if they do not agree with the board's decision.

HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Human Services Advisory Committee meets with the Director of Human Services to review and provide guidance regarding department programs and budgets.

JUDGE OF PROBATE

Claire Twerdy, Judge

Connecticut's probate courts have jurisdiction to hear and decide the following matters: adoptions (minors and adults); appointment of a temporary guardian of a minor child; award of temporary

custody of a minor and appointment of guardian of a minor (following removal); termination of parental rights of a minor; emancipation of a minor; determination of paternity; appointment of a guardian of a person with mental retardation; appointment of trustee for property of mission person; involuntary commitment of a person with psychiatric disabilities to a mental hospital and related matters (adults and minors); change of name (minors and adults); custody of remains of a deceased; decedents estates; trusts and certain accounts; conservatorships; and, estates of minors. The court also processes passport applications. Mansfield's probate court office is now located in the Tolland Town Hall (21 Tolland Greed, Tolland, CT 06084).

LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

The Mansfield Public Library Board consists of nine members who serve without compensation for terms of three years, and as much as possible, represent a cross section of the Town of Mansfield. All members are residents of the town. The Town Manager and the Town Librarian are ex officio members of the Board. The Library Advisory Board met September 16, 2009, December 1, 2009, February 2, 2010, May 4, 2010, July 13, 2010 and November 9, 2010.

The Board provides advice "in formulating library policies and objectives, recommending new library programs and publicizing library programs, reviewing the proposed library budget, enlisting public cooperation and understanding for library programs, assisting with cultural activities associated with the library and making recommendations concerning acceptance of any bequest, devise, gift or endowment" (Code of the Town of Mansfield, Connecticut, Chapter 51).

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Reviewed and provided feedback on the proposed library budget for FY 2010 -11
- Appraised the effects of reduced staff hours with no concurrent change in library hours of operation (decreases in work measurements and reduction in programs for very young children)
- Appeared before the Town Council to recommend return to past practice in determining the library's hours of operation
- Re-examined options for reducing library hours based upon surveys and statistics, and recommended revised hours of operation

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Review options for funding that are sustainable and that do not assume donations, or levels of donations, from private volunteer organizations
- Continue to receive reports and to advise and recommend various policies, procedures, and objectives as needed

MANSFIELD ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN

Mansfield Advocates for Children-MAC, (formerly the Mansfield School Readiness Council) is an advisory committee composed of volunteers who are appointed by the Town Council and Mayor of Mansfield. The mission of this body is: "To contribute to the positive development of all young children in Mansfield." MAC maintains a relationship with the Mansfield Board of Education, the Town Council and the Mayor. These relationships are important to sanction the work and vision of this group. The connections between Town leadership and MAC represent a clear and valuable commitment to the issues of early care and education by the Town and school district leadership. Regular communication between MAC and these entities is a priority for MAC.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Served as the School Readiness Council for the Mansfield School Readiness Program in its

twelfth year of operation, supporting fourteen 3 and 4-year olds enrolled in one of four nationally accredited early care centers

- Worked with the William C. Graustein Memorial Fund in our ninth grant year as a Discovery Community
- Published the second edition of the Mansfield Family Resource Guide for use by newcomers or new parents in Town
- Coordinated events as part of week-long celebration in April for "Week of the Young Child"
- Worked with staff to implement "Mansfield's Plan for Young Children"
- Supported efforts to institutionalize the position of School Readiness Coordinator in the Department of Human Services

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Continue to implement strategies in "Mansfield's Plan for Young Children" with support from the William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund, the Town of Mansfield and the Mansfield Discovery Depot
- Continue to develop and implement activities during the Week of the Young Child
- Host a Community Conversation on "Mansfield's Plan for Young Children" to update community members on the status of the plan and to solicit feedback
- Conduct a survey on the issue of "community connectedness" to generate baseline data to be utilized in the implementation of our plan
- Participate in an ad hoc committee focused on creation of a play space in the new Storrs Downtown development.

MANSFIELD DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The MDP Board of Directors is made up of 18 representatives from the Town of Mansfield, surrounding communities, and the University of Connecticut. The Board of Directors establishes policy for the Partnership, oversees the development of the Storrs Center downtown project, and develops projects to promote the Town of Mansfield.

OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

The Open Space Preservation Committee serves as a resource to the Town Council concerning open space issues. Following guidelines in the Town Plan of Conservation and Development, the committee evaluates various properties, reports on their suitability for preservation and makes contact and works with landowners and developers in order to suggest and discuss ways in which open space can be preserved.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Continued to review properties for their suitability for preservation according to the Mansfield Plan of Conservation and Development
- Continued to review subdivision and zoning proposals
- Provided input to Planning and Zoning Commission regarding the subdivision regulations
- Prepared and completed a presentation regarding Open Space Program to the Town Council

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Continue to review properties for their suitability for preservation according to the Mansfield Plan of Conservation and Development
- Continue to review subdivision and zoning proposals
- Provide input to Planning and Zoning Commission regarding the subdivision regulations

PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Parks Advisory Committee (PAC) is charged with identifying and evaluating park needs as well as making recommendations for the acquisition and operation of parks and community gardens. The Committee also reviews annual budget requests concerning parks and makes recommendations thereon.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Involved the community in Mansfield Parks by continuing to offer environmental education programming and an organized, supervised natural areas volunteers program, some co-sponsored with Joshua's Tract Conservation and Historic Trust
- Led several free parks programs in conjunction with Walktober and CT Trails Day
- Continued the annual land management review process
- Provided input on subdivision proposals, open space acquisition, grant proposals, Parks and Recreation budget, and a property to parks procedure

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Develop trail system for Dorwart Preserve, Lions Memorial Park, and Torrey Preserve
- Improve public awareness and accessibility of the Albert E. Moss Sanctuary
- Prepare trail guides for the Torrey Preserve, Dorwart Preserve, Lions Memorial Park, and the Moss Sanctuary
- Assist with the official dedication of the Torrey Preserve, Dorwart Preserve, Lions Memorial Park, and the Moss Sanctuary
- Continue to offer environmental education programs co-sponsored with Joshua's Tract Conservation and Historic Trust
- Continue annual land management review process
- Provide input on subdivision proposals, open space acquisition, grant proposals, Parks and Recreation budget, and a property to parks procedure
- Continue to improve public information about Mansfield Parks and Preserves
- Prepare, in conjunction with staff, management plans for Town-owned properties
- Host an informational forum for the Town Council and other members of community regarding the work of the committee
- Continue to lead walks and parks awareness programs in conjunction with Walktober and CT Trails Day

PERSONNEL APPEALS BOARD

The Personnel Appeals Board assures that the employment system of the town is fair and equitable and serves the interest of the Town while respecting the proper claims of the employees.

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION AND INLAND WETLAND AGENCY

The Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) and Inland Wetland Agency (IWA) take pride in trying to ensure the future of Mansfield as a desirable place to reside and visit. In reviewing all aspects of development, the PZC and IWA consider impacts on traffic, neighborhood compatibility, natural and historic resources, inland wetland areas, water supply, waste disposal, fire safety and aesthetics such as landscaping and architecture. The sites of all pending applications are visited by members to observe these factors in the field.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Held twenty-three PZC meetings, seventeen (18) IWA meetings, eleven (7) joint field trips,

held numerous committee meetings

- The IWA reviewed over twenty-two (22) applications or enforcement actions involving activities within regulated inland wetland/watercourse areas.
- The PZC approved over twenty (20) revisions to the Zoning and Subdivision Regulations. Revisions include new home occupation provisions for limited storage or parking of vehicles, equipment and/or materials; refined subdivision yield plan submission and approval requirements; a new limited live music permit; refinements of dimensional requirements for satellite dish antennae and wind turbines; and revisions to regulations regarding efficiency units, community wells, mobile home park expansions, travel trailers, bonding and lots located in more than one town.
- The IWA approved a comprehensive revision of Mansfield's Inland Wetland Regulations.
- The PZC presented at Public Hearings and subsequently approved potential zone and regulation revisions for an existing Industrial Park zone south of Pleasant Valley Road, revisions to the Town's Political Sign Regulations, revisions to the Zoning definitions of family and boarding house, revisions to prevent the use of invasive plant species and revisions to enhance the protection of aquifers and public drinking waters supplies.
- The PZC approved zone change and special permit applications for a thirty-two (32) unit condominium development off of Meadowbrook Lane (Whispering Glen). The subject project will include seven (7) affordable units for low/moderate income households. Construction has not yet started.
- The PZC reviewed and approved special permits for a new fitness center at the East Brook Mall; a new restaurant at Storrs Commons; a permanent farm stand on Browns Road; a new retail store on North Eagleville Road and a residential conversion on Storrs Road. In addition, special permit renewals were granted for three (3) gravel/rock removal operations and four (4) live music permits. The PZC/IWA also acted on numerous use and site improvement modifications, Town Council referrals and bonding arrangements.

Plans for FY 2010-11

- Continue thorough review of all land use applications and enforcement of existing regulations
- Continue review and updating of Mansfield's Zoning Map and land use regulations
- Continue monitoring of University of Connecticut land use activities

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

As set out within statute, the mission of Mansfield's Public Safety Committee is to review safety and security concerns related to our local correctional facility, the Donald T. Bergin Correctional Institution. The membership of the Committee is comprised of Warden Eileen Higgins of Bergin CI, as well as eleven citizen representatives appointed by the Mayor. The Committee meets quarterly during the months of January, April, July and October.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Notified citizens that the emergency notification phone system would be tested
- Tested the emergency notification system; the test was a success with over 90% of calls completed
- Toured the DBCI facility including dormitory facilities, the job center, and programming space; observed programming and interacted with staff and inmates
- Maintained a good working relationship between the community and DBCI; the Committee appreciates and supports the outreach program
- Mansfield and Bergin staff worked cooperatively to provide inmate work crews to the Town to help with litter pick-up

- No escapes occurred from DBCI.

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Monitoring the inmate population with regard to its impact upon the community and Bergin CI
- Touring the DBCI facility
- Re-testing the emergency notification phone system
- Introducing new DBCI command staff to the Public Safety Committee

QUIET CORNER COMMITTEE

The purpose of the Quiet Corner Committee is to promote tourism in the North East section of Connecticut. Twenty-one towns in North Eastern Connecticut make up the Quiet Corner tourism region. A wide variety of informational pamphlets are published and distributed as part of this Committee's duties.

RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC) is charged with identifying and evaluating recreational needs as well as making recommendations for the institution and operation of programs. RAC continues to support the implementation, development and expansion of program offerings in order to meet the recreational needs of the community.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Continued the annual review of co-sponsored organizations
- Endorsed National Youth Sports Coaches Association (NYSCA) Certification Program
- Made on-going recommendations to the Parks and Recreation Department on policies and programs
- Continued review of and support for Community Center operations

Plans for 2010-2011

- Annual review of co-sponsored organizations, including Mansfield Junior Soccer Association, Mansfield Little League, and Tri-Town Youth Football and Cheerleading Association
- Advise on Community Center operations and other department programs
- Implement Management Plans for Lion's Memorial Park, Southeast Park, and Sunny Acres Park
- Support Community Center membership initiatives

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #19

The Constitution of the State of Connecticut requires that free public education be made available to all citizens. The state's legislature has delegated this responsibility to local and regional school boards. The Regional School District #19 Board of Education accepts this obligation. Its mission is to represent the interests of all residents of the district in providing for the educational needs of young men and women of senior high school age. The board seeks to accomplish this by securing community support, providing for the employment of competent faculty and staff and developing effective policy. In accomplishing its mission, the board intends to meet all legal requirements and to efficiently utilize the resources made available to the district.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT/ RECYCLING COMMITTEE

The Solid Waste Advisory Committee acts as a community sounding board for the Town's solid waste policies. These policies include issues relating to residential refuse and recycling service,

transfer station operations, promotion of recycling and waste prevention, hazardous waste disposal, and bulky waste disposal. This is the nineteenth year that user fees have funded the Town's volume-based waste collection (pay-per-bag of garbage). In July 2009, the Town began single-stream recycling, where cans, plastic, glass containers are grouped with paper and cardboard. Over the year, 33% of all residential waste was recycled- single-family residences recycled 39% of their waste and multi-family residences recycled 11% of their wastes. Multi-family residences are those that have dumpster service and their recycling rate remains low in spite of efforts to reverse this trend. Trash and recycling service is contracted to Mayo & Sons for single-family residences and Willimantic Waste Paper, Inc. for multi-family residences.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- The Mid Northeast Recycling Operating Committee (Mid-NEROC), of which Mansfield is a member town, continued its operations of the Regional Household Chemical Waste Drop-Off Facility.
- Managed the Mansfield schools' composting programs for the twelfth year with each school having their own compost bins. E O Smith High School began a composting program through a student group, The Green Teens.
- Worked with Festival on the Green to create low-waste Festival event. Reduced waste by 89%
- Worked with UConn student outreach to regularly collect litter along the Hunting Lodge/ North Eagleville Road corridor
- Continued to enforce the litter ordinance
- Presented classes on waste issues (toxic household products, green building design and recycling) in the schools
- Staffed the Energy Education Team in order to expand residential support for renewable energy and move the Town forward on its 20% by 2010 commitment
- The Energy Education Team conducted a Mansfield Energy Challenge with fourteen households participating in energy audits, consultations and resources to improve energy efficiency.
- For the second year, worked with UConn to collect usable items during spring move-out, called "Give and Go". Collected 7 tons of material that were given to local charities
- Completed the EPA Clean School Bus grant. Twenty retrofitted buses had their first round of diesel particulate filter cleanings. Part of the grant included promoting "no-idling" to the school community. This promotion was done through parking lot signage, assemblies, school newsletters, staff meetings, open houses and fairs.
- Staffed the newly formed Sustainability Committee
- Educated and disseminated information to residents on sustainability-related issues
- Administered Dept. of Energy grant "Neighbor to Neighbor Energy Challenge"
- Continued work with the Energy Education Team and Sustainability Committee

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Sustain school wide composting programs and manage refuse contracts
- Continue working with Festival on the Green committee to create a low-waste Festival event
- Continue working with Give and Go
- Continue enforcing the litter ordinance in problem areas of Town
- Continue offering classes to the schools on waste and energy issues
- Continue advocating for recycling-related state legislation

SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

The Sustainability Committee is charged with maintaining a general overview of the sustainability of the Town, to specifically include the following responsibilities: provide guidance and proposals

to the Town Council regarding sustainability principles to be adopted by the Town Council or to be administratively implemented; monitor implementation of principles and policies as adopted by the Town Council and administrative programs, and report to the Town Council annually; coordinate and collaborate with Town boards and commissions, organizations, regional and state agencies to advance sustainability principles, plans, and policies established; and seek information from other organizations to aid in the development of strategies, programs and initiatives that will further the sustainability goals established by the Council by policy or budgetary support of administrative programs.

TOWN HISTORIAN

The Town Historian is an invaluable resource. The voluntary position was created in August 1991 to provide information and advice on the Town's history to the community, historical societies and local government. All books and materials published by the Mansfield Historical Society are reviewed and worked on by the Town Historian. The position is a labor of love and is research intensive. Those interested in serving as the next Town Historian are asked to call 860-429-3336.

TOWN/UNIVERSITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The Town/University Relations Committee was established in 1992 with a mission to promote and sustain positive relations between the University of Connecticut and the larger Mansfield community. The committee is comprised of representatives from both the town and the university, and is co-chaired by the Mayor and a university representative. The committee meets the second Tuesday of every month at 4:00 p.m. Members of the public are encouraged to attend, and the committee provides an opportunity for public comment at each meeting.

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Transportation Advisory Committee is composed of Town Council members, Planning and Zoning Commission members, staff members and citizens at large. The Committee helps advise the Council and staff in Town and Regional transportation matters.

YOUTH SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

The Youth Service Advisory Board was established in 1978 with a mission to provide advocacy, leadership and direction. The Committee meets monthly with staff of the Youth Service Bureau and the Director of Human Services to review and provide guidance regarding program activities. Membership of the Committee includes students, school administrators, Mansfield Police, and residents.

Accomplishments for FY 2009-2010

- Provided advocacy, leadership and direction for YSB programs, activities and grants
- Advocated for an expanded budget and succeeded in having the Mansfield Board of Education provide matching funds for the Youth Work Employment Program
- Successfully engaged the Mansfield Board of Education and Region 19 superintendents in working together to financially support The Mansfield Challenge Program. The superintendents provided matching funds to meet the deficit from reductions made in the previous fiscal year.
- Assisted in the development of a now successfully established Graduate Social Work program
- Increased board membership, community input, and student representation
- As per the town manager's request, regional cooperation and participation of Willington, Ashford, and Coventry Youth Service Bureaus has been established.

Plans for FY 2010-2011

- Advocate for an expanded budget for programming for youth and families
- Reestablish police representation, as Jerry Marchon has retired from the police department. Mr. Marchon will continue to service on the board as a community member.
- Provide oversight to ensure that comprehensive services are provided to YSB clients through the human service department
- Support the mission of a Regional YSB with Willington, Ashford, and Coventry
- Explore the use of the Mansfield Middle School ropes course to help YSB clients develop increased confidence, cooperation, team work, and physical strength

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) is established by state statute to hear appeals and to vary the application of Zoning Regulations in cases where enforcement of the regulations would result in exceptional difficulty or unusual hardship. However, variances granted by the ZBA must always be in the "spirit" of the Zoning Regulations, and courts have ruled that that the ZBA cannot consider economic hardship as a possible justification for granting a variance.

The ZBA has five members elected at-large to four-year staggered terms, as well as three alternatives appointed by the Town Council to serve two-year terms. Hearings are normally held once a month, and anyone needing a hearing must first obtain a referral from the Zoning Agent. Because of legal notice requirements, applications should be submitted at least 16 days prior to a scheduled meeting date.

Although the ZBA rules on appeals from the decisions of the Zoning Agent, appeals from decisions of the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) itself are not heard by the Board and are made directly to Connecticut Superior Court. As a quasi-judicial body, the ZBA must conduct public hearings before ruling on an application, and four of its five members must concur for most actions. Persons wishing to appeal a decision of the ZBA may take the appeal directly to Superior Court.

Members and Staff of Elected and Appointed Committees, Boards and Commissions

Advisory Committee on Persons with Disabilities
Gloria Bent
Jane Blanshard
Michael Collins
Cristina Colon-Semenza
John DeWolf
Wade Gibbs
Denise Hounman
Joan Seliger Sidney
Jennifer Tanner
Kevin Grunwald (Staff)

Agriculture Committee
Wesley Bell
Al Cyr
Chrissy Dittrich
Charles Galgowski
Larry Lombard
William Palmer
Kathleen Paterson
Carolyn Stearns
Edward Wazer
Vicky Wetherell (OSPC)
Jennifer Kaufman (Staff)

Arts Advisory Committee
Jay Ames (C)
Kim Bova Kaminsky
Thomas Bruhn
Kelly Kochis
Scott Lehmann
Blanche Serban
Jay O'Keefe (Staff)
Curt Vincente (Staff)

Board of Assessment Appeals
Anne Greineder
Eric Holinko
Carol Thomas

Beautification Committee
Isabelle Atwood
Carol Enright
Brian Krystof (C)
Patricia Maines
Richard Norgaard
Jennifer Thompson
Frank Trainor

Board of Education
Martha Kelly
Mark Laplaca
Min Lin
Holly Matthews
Shamin Patwa
Katherine Paulhus
Carrie Silver-Bernstein
Randall Walikonis
Fred Baruzzi (Staff)

Board of Ethics
Lena Barry (Alt)
David Ferraro
Saul Nesselroth
Michael Sikoski
Winthrop Smith
Nora Stevens
Maria Capriola (Staff)

Building Board of Appeals
Charles Lowe
James Silva
Tom Ward
Gregory Zlotnick (C)
Mike Ninteau (Staff)

Cemetery Committee
Isabelle Atwood (C)
Barry Burnham
Rudy Favretti
Winston Hawkins
Mary Landeck
Ethel Larkin
Jane Reinhardt
Lon Hultgren (Staff)
Mary Stanton (Staff)
Mary Landeck-Sexton (Staff)

CATV Advisory Committee
Fred Baruzzi (BOE)
Grace Enggas
Ida Millman

Commission on Aging
Wilfred Bigl
Kenneth Doeg
Sam Gordon
April Holinko
Carol Pellegrine
Carol Phillips
Joan Quarto
Timothy Quinn
Mary Thatcher
Kevin Grunwald (Staff)

Communication Advisory Committee
Aline Booth
Leila Fecho
Patrick McGlamery
Richard Pellegrine
Ron Schurin
Jaime Russell (Staff)

Community Quality of Life Committee
Jane Fried
John Riesen
Denise Keane (Council)
David Morse
Toni Moran (Council)
Elizabeth Paterson (Mayor)
Stephen Rhodes (UConn)
Matthew Hart (Staff)
Maria Capriola (Staff)
SGT James Kodzis (Staff)
Gregory Padick (Staff)
Curt Hirsch (Staff)
David Dagon (Staff)
John Jackman (Staff)
Mike Ninteau (Staff)
Jim Hintz (Staff) (UConn)

Conservation Commission
John Buck (Alt)
Robert Dahn
Peter Drzewiecki
Neil Facchinetti (Alt)
Quentin Kessel (C)
Scott Lehmann
John Silander
Joan Stevenson
Frank Trainor
Grant Meitzler (Staff)

Design Review Panel
Isabelle Atwood
Lee Forrest Cox
Robert Gillard
John Lenard
Peter Minutti

Discovery Depot Board of Directors
Terry Berthelot
Anjana Bhat
Susan Collette
Blagoje Filipovic
Kim Girard
Jane Goldman
Gregory Haddad (TC)
Heather Hintz
Megan Nolan
Bing Wang
Mary Jane Newman (Staff)

Eastern Highlands Health District Board of Directors
Frederick Daniels
John Elsesser
Ralph Fletcher
Matthew Hart
Michael Kurland
Johnathan Luiz
Christina Mailhos (Alt)
Elizabeth Paterson (C)

Paul Schur
Joyce Stille
Tierney Tully
Steve Werbner
Deb Walsh
Mike Zambo (Alt)

Emergency Management Advisory Council
Michael Kurland
Elizabeth Paterson
Frederick Baruzzi (Staff)
Matthew Hart (Staff)
Lon Hultgren (Staff)
John Jackman (Staff)
William Jordan (Staff)
Sgt. James Kodzis (Staff)
Robert Miller (Staff)

Four Corners Sewer Study Advisory Committee
Pat Ferrigno
Matthew Hart (staff)
Lon Hultgren (staff)
Gene Nesbitt
Christopher Paulhus
Peter Plante
Kenneth Rawn
Meg Reich
Carl Schaefer
Tim Tussing

Historic District Commission
Isabelle Atwood
Anita Bacon
Gail Bruhn (C)
Hamilton Holt (Alt)
Jason Andrew McGarry
James Nardi (Alt)
David Spencer

Housing Authority Board of Directors
Joan Christison-Lagay
Dexter Eddy
Gretchen Hall
Richard Long (C)
William Simonsen

Housing Code Board of Appeals
Will Bigl
Bill Briggs
Brian McCarthy
Richard Pellegrine
David Spencer (Alt)

Judge of Probate
Claire Twerdy

Library Advisory Board
Eva Bar-Shalom
Edmond Chibeau
Sheila Quinn Clark (C)
James Greene
Heidi Hand
William Hare
Barbara Katz
Rita Pollack
Dale Truman
Louise Bailey (Staff)

Mansfield Advocates For Children
Gloria Bent (C)
Anne Bladen
Patricia Braithwaite
Liz Bucznski
Lisa Dahn
Susan Daley
Vicki Fry
Jane Goldman
James Greene
Cindy Guerreri
Jessica Higham
Mark LaplaCa
Becky Lehmann
Donna McLaughlin
Mary Jane Newman
Katherine Paulhus
Esther Soffer Roberts
Lisa Young
Judith Stoughton (staff)
Sandy Baxter (staff)
Ande Bloom (staff)
Rachel LeClerc (staff)

Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board of Directors
Stephen Bacon
Harry Birkenruth
Thomas Callahan
Bruce Clouette
Barry Feldman
Matthew Hart
Dennis Heffley
David Lindsay
Philip Lodewick
Frank McNabb
Toni Moran
Elizabeth Paterson
Christopher Paulhus
Steve Rogers
Alexandria Roe
Kristin Schwab
William Simpson
Antoinette Webster
David Woods
Cynthia van Zelm (Staff)

Open Space Preservation Committee
Michael Allison
Kenneth Feathers
Quentin Kessel
James Morrow (C)
Vicky Wetherell
Susan Westa (Alt)
Jennifer Kaufman (Staff)

Parking Steering Committee
Paul Aho
Karla Fox
Martha Funderburk
Manny Haidous
Matthew Hart (staff)
Andy Hill
Lon Hultgren (staff)
Meredith Lindsey
Ralph Pemberton
Melinda Perkins
Macon Toledano

Parks Advisory Committee
Ethan Avery
Julianna Barrett
Michelle Baughman
Susan Harrington (C)
Tom Harrington
Eric Kruger
Alfred Montoya
Penny Potter
Jennifer Kaufman (Staff)

Personnel Appeals Board
Donald Nolan
Lee Terry
Crayton Walker

Planning and Zoning Commission
Michael Beal
Rudy Favretti (C)
Joann Goodwin
Roswell Hall III
Katherine Holt
Gregory Lewis
Fred Loxsom (Alt)
Peter Plante
Barry Pociask
Kenneth Rawn (Alt)
Bonnie Ryan
Vera Stearns (Alt)
Gregory Padick (Staff)

Members and Staff of Elected and Appointed Committees, Boards and Commissions

Public Safety Committee
Audrey Barberet
Major Ronald Blicher
George Cole (Citz)
Dennis Keane
Claie Lary
Christopher Paulhus
Richard Pellegrine (VC)
Warden Monica Rinaldi
Lieut. Walter Solenski, Jr. (Coventry)
Wunderly Stauder (C)
Susanna Thomas
Maria Capriola (Staff)
Sgt. James Kodzis (Staff)

Recreation Advisory Committee
Darren Cook
Terry Cook
Sheldon Dyer (C)
Donald Field
Michael Gerald
Frank Musiek
Howard Raphaelson
Anne Rash
Curt Vincente (Staff)

Quiet Corner Committee
Anne Smith

Regional Board of Education
Francis Archambault, Jr. (C)
Herbert Arico
Janice Chamberlain
Robert Jellen
Frank Krasicki
Robert Kremer
Jim Mark
Elizabeth McCosh-Lilie
John Meyers
Timothy P. Nolan Sr.
Elizabeth Peczuh
Michael Sibiga
Bruce Silva (Staff)

Solid Waste Management/ Recycling Committee
Andrea Ames
Robert Coughlin
Jane Knox
Sarah Milius
Dennis Roberts
Anne Smith
Virginia Walton (Staff)

Sustainability Committee
Leigh Duffy
Matthew Hart
William Lennon
Holly Matthews
Richard Miller
Bonnie Ryan
Lisa Stafford
Lynn Stoddard
Lon Hultgren (Staff)
Virginia Walton (Staff)

Town Council
Denise Keane
Peter Kochenburger
Meredith Lindsey
Antonia Moran
Elizabeth Paterson (Mayor)
Christopher Paulhus
William Ryan
Carl Schaefer
Paul Shapiro
Maria Capriola (Staff)
Matthew Hart (Staff)

Town Historian
Roberta Smith

Town/University Relations Committee
Philip Barry
Michael Beal
Thomas Callahan
Barry Feldman
James Hintz
Robert Hudd
Jake Knecht
Richard Miller
Elizabeth Paterson
Clive Richards
John Saddlemire
Ronald Schurin
William Simpson
Maria Capriola (Staff)
Matthew Hart (Staff)
John Jackman (Staff)
Greg Padick (Staff)
Cynthia van Zelm (Staff)

Transportation Advisory Committee
Paul Aho
Greg Frantz
Janet Freniere
Ross Hall
Meredith Lindsay
Alex Marcellino
Dennison Nash
William Ryan
Michael Taylor
Kevin Grunwald (Staff)
Matthew Hart (Staff)
Lon Hultgren (Staff)
Grant Meitzler (Staff)
Greg Padick (Staff)
Tim Veillette (Staff)

Youth Service Advisory Board
Jennifer Abele
Steve Angacian
Eileen Griffin
Jane Griffin
Teri Herbert
Rachel Leclerc
Ethel Mantzaris
Jerry Marchon
Candace Morrell
Christopher Murphy
Jay O'Keefe
Frank Perrotti
Sheila Riffle
Kevin Grunwald (Staff)
Pat Michalak (Staff)

Zoning Board of Appeals
Sarah Accorsi (Alt)
Suzanne Singer-Bansal
Jack Clauson (Alt)
Martha Fraenkel
Beverly Gotch
Shirley Katz
Carol Pellegrine (C)
Lyle Scruggs (Alt)
Curt Hirsch (Staff)
Sharon Tyler (Staff)

UPCOMING TOWN EVENTS
Save the date!

STORRS FARMERS MARKET
Opens the first Saturday in May through the last Saturday before Thanksgiving and the second and fourth Saturdays from December through April.
www.storrsfarmers.org

REGION #19 BUDGET REFERENDUM
May 3, 2011; Polls open 6:00 AM—8:00 PM; Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building, Council Chambers

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
May 10, 2011; 7:00 PM; Mansfield Middle School Auditorium

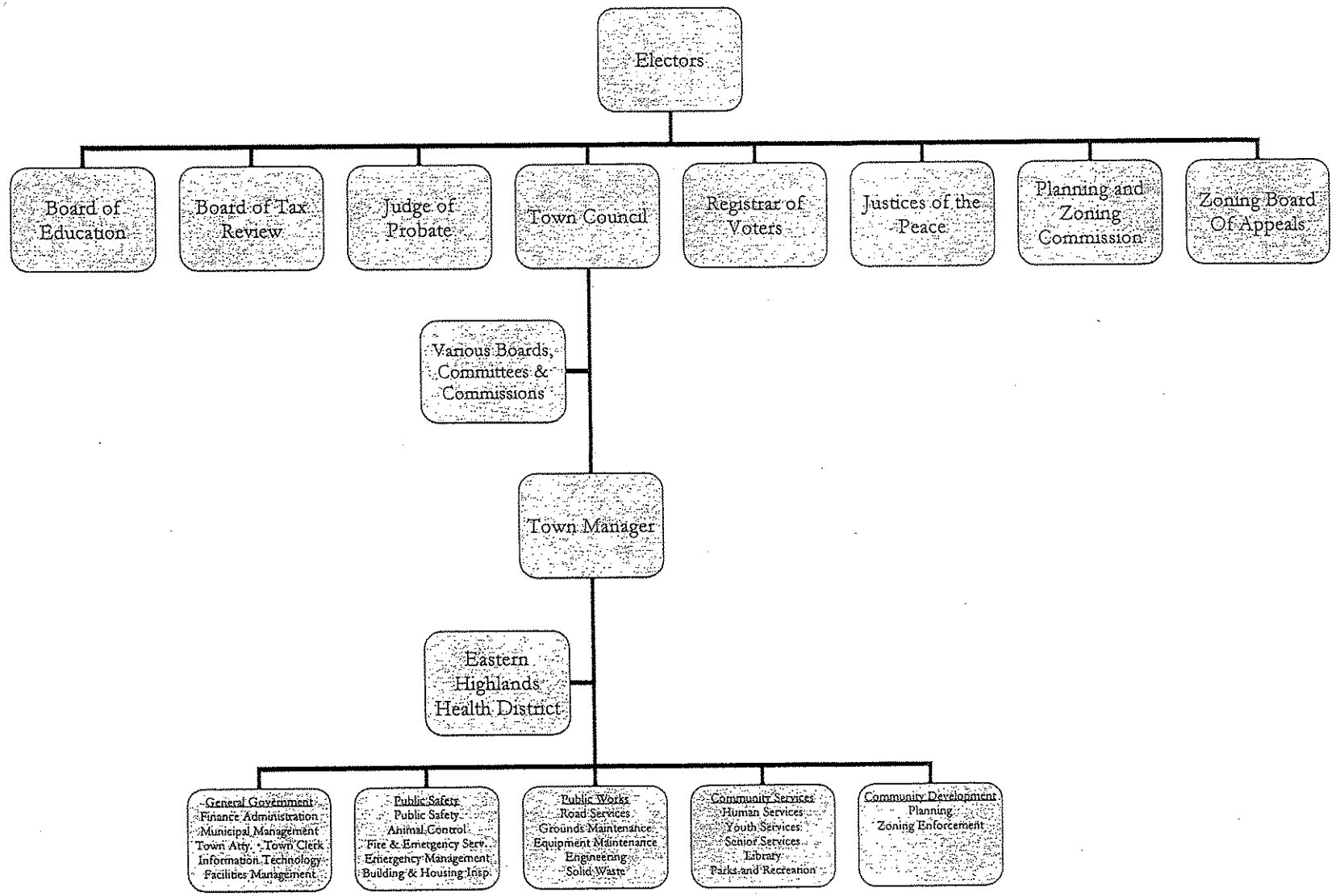
MEMORIAL DAY PARADE
May 30, 2011; 9:00 AM; Bassetts Bridge Road/Rt. 195 to Mansfield Center Cemetery

TOUR de MANSFIELD
July 2011; Mansfield Community Center (date TBA)

CELEBRATE MANSFIELD WEEKEND
September 23 - 25, 2011; Mansfield Commercial District, Storrs Road

Town of Mansfield

Organizational Chart



DIRECTORY

For Information On	Call	Phone
Accounts Payable	Finance	860-429-3345
Administration	Town Manager	860-429-3336
Assessment	Assessor	860-429-3311
Birth Certificates	Town Clerk	860-429-3302
Building Permits	Building Office	860-429-3324
Cemetery (Town)	Sexton	860-456-0176
Community Center	Parks & Recreation	860-429-3015
Death Certificates	Town Clerk	860-429-3302
Demolition Permits	Building Office	860-429-3324
Dog Licenses	Town Clerk	860-429-3302
Dog & Animal Problems	Animal Control Officer	860-487-0137
Drainage Problems	Engineering	860-429-3334
Electrical Permits	Building Office	860-429-3324
Elderly Dial-A-Ride	Dial-A-Ride	860-456-1462
Elderly Municipal Agent	Human Services	860-429-3315
Emergency Management	Emergency Management	860-429-3324
Employment	Human Resources	860-429-3336
Engineering	Engineering	860-429-3334
Finance	Finance Director	860-429-3344
Fire Emergencies	Fire Department	911
Fire - Non-Emergencies	Fire Department	860-429-3323
Fire Marshal/Fire Prevention	Fire Marshal	860-429-3328
Health Matters (Public)	Health Department	860-429-3325
Highways	Public Works	860-429-3331
Housing Authority	Housing Authority	860-487-0693
Housing Inspection	Housing Inspection	860-487-4440
Human Services	Human Services	860-429-3315
Information Technology	Information Technology	860-429-3355
Inland Wetlands	Engineering	860-429-3334
Landfill Permits	Engineering	860-429-3334
Land Records	Town Clerk	860-429-3302
Library	Mansfield Public Library	860-423-2501
Marriage Licenses	Town Clerk	860-429-3302
Parking Tickets	Tax Collector	860-429-3374
Parks	Parks and Recreation	860-429-3015
Planning	Planning & Zoning Office	860-429-3330
Plumbing & Heat Permits	Building Office	860-429-3324
Police Emergencies	Police Department	911
Police - Non-Emergencies	Police Department	860-429-3360
Probate Court	Judge	860-871-3640
Purchasing	Finance	860-429-3345
Recreation	Parks and Recreation	860-429-3015
Refuse & Recycling	Engineering	860-429-3333
Registration of Voters	Registrar of Voters	860-429-3368
Sanitary Inspection	Health Department	860-429-3325
School Business Manager	Finance Director	860-429-3344
Senior Center	Senior Center	860-429-0262
Snow Removal & Streets	Public Works Garage	860-429-3676
Taxes	Collector of Revenue	860-429-3306
Town History	Town Historian	860-429-9789
Tree Warden	Public Works Dept.	860-429-3331
Voting	Registrar of Voters	860-429-3368
Welfare	Human Services	860-429-3315
Youth & Family Services	Youth Services	860-429-3317
Zoning Enforcement	Zoning Agent	860-429-3341

DIRECTORY

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Central Office	Contact Person	Phone
Superintendent of Schools	Fred Baruzzi	860-429-3350
Superintendent RSD #19	Bruce Silva	860-487-1862
Annie E. Vinton		
Principal	Dr. James Palmer	860-423-3086
E.O. Smith High School		
Principal	Louis F. DeLoreto	860-487-0877 x2434
Goodwin School		
Principal	Debra Adamczyk	860-429-6316
Mansfield Middle School		
Principal	Jeffrey Cryan	860-429-9341
Southeast School		
Principal	Norma Fisher-Doiron	860-423-1611

TOWN OF MANSFIELD EMAIL ADDRESSES

Department	Email Address
Animal Control	ACO@mansfieldct.org
Building	NinteauME@mansfieldct.org
Downtown Partnership	vanZelmCA@mansfieldct.org
Eastern Highlands Health District	EHHD@mansfieldct.org
Emergency Management	JackmanJE@mansfieldct.org
Facilities Management	HammonWD@mansfieldct.org
Finance	FinanceDept@mansfieldct.org
Fire and Emergency Services	DagonDJ@mansfieldct.org
Fire Marshal	FireMarshal@mansfieldct.org
Human Resources	HR@mansfieldct.org
Human Services	HumanServ@mansfieldct.org
Information Technology	ITdept@mansfieldct.org
Library	BaileyLA@mansfieldct.org
Parks and Recreation	Parks&Rec@mansfieldct.org
Planning and Zoning	PlanZoneDept@mansfieldct.org
Public Works	PublicWorks@mansfieldct.org
Registrars of Voters	RegVoters@mansfieldct.org
Town Clerk	TownClerk@mansfieldct.org
Town Manager	TownMngr@mansfieldct.org
Youth Services	YouthServ@mansfieldct.org

TOWN COUNCIL

Town Council Members	Party	Phone	Email
Denise Keane	R	860-786-8147	DeniseKeane2009@gmail.com
Peter Kochenburger	D	860-487-9426	peterkochenburger@yahoo.com
Meredith Lindsey	R	860-465-6533	LindseyM@MansfieldCT.org
Antonia Moran	D	860-429-0798	morantt@earthlink.net
Mayor Elizabeth Paterson	D	860-456-8553	PatersonE@MansfieldCT.org
Christopher Paulhus	R	860-487-5223	PaulhusCR@MansfieldCT.org
William Ryan	D	860-423-6643	bonbill@charter.net
Carl Schaefer	D	860-423-9427	SchaeferC@MansfieldCT.org
Paul Shapiro	D	860-429-9595	ShapiroP@MansfieldCT.org

DIRECTORY

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

Name	Phone
Brian Ahern	860-429-5233
Stephen Bacon	860-487-1842
Judith Blei	860-423-9613
Fred Cazel, Jr.	860-429-2637
Andrea Epling	860-429-2702
Sharry Goldman	860-423-2381
Roswell G. Hall III	860-456-1027
April A. Holinko	860-429-4449
Allan Maines	860-429-5050
James R. Mark	860-465-2788
Richard Meehan	860-429-6905
Stanley Miela	860-429-8380
Joseph Pandolfo	860-423-2646
Joyce Passmore	860-429-6799
Carol Pellegrine	860-429-9598
Richard Pellegrine	860-429-9598
Doryann Plante	860-450-0696
Peter Plante	860-450-0696
Holly Rawson	860-429-5233
Chandler H. Rose	860-423-3700
Dot Shaw	860-456-1060
Judith Ann Stein	860-487-0422
Robin Tracey	860-429-7160

PAGE
BREAK

Letters to the Editor

Editor: 2/23

As a current University of Connecticut undergraduate and lifelong Storrs resident, I would like to protest the sentiments expressed in the Feb. 16 editorial "Share the costs of Spring Weekend."

I acknowledge the event is a problem, and it needs to be stopped, especially in the light of last year's fatality, but I do not believe that the column's proposed solution is a good one.

The Chronicle acknowledges the greatest problem with the event is the uninvited guests and yet proposes that every single UConn student be charged for the event.

This is flawed logic because those who are the greatest problem will still be let off free, and it's unfair to students such as myself who avoid Spring Weekend and would have done so even without an ineffectual moratorium.

I acknowledge that the proposed payment would be a mere trifle, but I would not enjoy recompensing the university for the acts of irresponsible people. It is true the current situation of charging the taxpayers is unfair and terribly costly, but that shows the need for more drastic measures against the event by both the university and the Town of Mansfield.

I do not know or claim to know what the solution is, but I do not think that punishing each and every student is a valid one.

Daniel Allie
Storrs

(Editor's note: As long as the students at UConn do not honor the moratorium, and insist on having Spring Weekend, they should pay for the related costs. If there is no Spring Weekend, the outsiders won't come.)

PAGE
BREAK

Mansfield Town Council wants school vote in May

By MIKE SAVINO 2/23
Chronicle Staff Writer

MANSFIELD — While most members of the town council agreed Tuesday to send some form of a building project to referendum in the spring, they could not come to terms on the proposal's details.

After passing a referendum last November, the town council has been working for months in the hopes of having a proposal ready for a vote in May.

Current possibilities include renovating the existing three elementary schools or building one or two new elementary schools, with all plans calling for varying degrees of renovations to Mansfield Middle School.

While all of the councilmen present for Tuesday's discussion said they wanted to build two schools, most said they were worried the project was too expensive and residents would not support the project at this time.

(Mansfield Town Council, Page 4)

Mansfield Town Council wants school vote in May

(Continued from Page 1)

Councilmen Meredith Lindsey and Carl Schaefer were not present Tuesday.

They grew further concerned after seeing the impact of Gov. Dannel P. Malloy's proposed budget, which would reduce the reimbursement rate for any school projects involving new construction.

The proposed change would mean an increase of between $5.47 million and $6.22 million in the town's share of a new school project, depending on the proposal.

Tom Dimauro, the project's construction manager from Newfield Construction, said there is no way the town could submit its proposal in time to receive the current reimbursement rates.

The current rates apply to any project breaking ground before April 1, 2012, but Dimauro said approval from the legislature and state officials would hold up a project in Mansfield until the fall of 2012.

After seeing the fiscal impact, Mansfield Mayor Elizabeth "Betsy" Paterson and councilmen Antonia Moran, Bill Ryan and Denise Keane all said they supported something other than a two-school option because of the costs.

"I think, in the end, it will hurt the town and it will hurt the education (system)," Ryan said, adding the budget would need to be cut to accommodate debt for the project.

Paterson, Keane and Moran said they originally supported the two-school option to varying degrees, with Paterson admitting she was still on the fence, but said cost was the final determining factor in their stances.

A proposal for two new schools and a renovated MMS would cost an estimated $59.58 million and, under Malloy's proposal, Mansfield would need to pay $33.07 million after reimbursements.

A revised proposal, which includes fewer renovations and downsized new schools, would cost $55.98 million, with town responsible for $29.6 million.

Finance Director Cherie Trahan said the owner of a home assessed at $168,350, the median assessment, would pay an average $315 annually in taxes for the full, two-school option annually, and $268 for the revised plan.

Ryan, Moran and Paterson all supported a plan to build one school and renovate MMS, which would cost $48.04 million, with the town's share being $24.53 million under Malloy's proposal.

They said the town still needed

to do something to upgrade the current schools, but Paterson said it would be "fiscally irresponsible" to build two.

Trahan's figures said the project would mean an average of $177 in new taxes just for the project for the owner of a median assessed home.

But Keane said the town needed to separate needed "improvements" from "wants," and voiced support for a plan to renovate the existing schools over the next 20 years, with funding in the town's budget.

Funding the project with cash would result in a price tag of $20.83 million, with a town's share of $13.3 million and a tax impact of $106 annually on a median assessed home.

Keane also urged the council to consider other projects on the horizon and declining state revenues when proposing a project, as residents "don't know the whole picture the way we know it."

She expressed concern residents might see the tax impact as small because they cannot see all of the things impacting the town's mill rate when voting on a project.

Councilmen Christopher Paulhus and Paul Shapiro said they supported the two-school option, saying they believed the project would improve the school system.

Paulhus also said a tax increase hurts in any economy. "It's never a good time to build anything," he said.

Shapiro, though, said he would agreed with Keane if residents rejected a two-school proposal because the schools have pressing needs, especially security.

Councilman Peter Kochenburger, meanwhile, urged colleagues to simply wait until the town has a better financial situation and firm numbers from the state.

He also said he did not want to simply pass a less expensive option because it would not improve the school system as much as intended.

"I don't want to build (a school) that's better, I want to build on that's substantially better," he said.

School Superintendent Frederick Baruzzi, though, said either new school proposal would meet the town's needs for "40 or 50 years."

The rest of the council disagreed with Kochenburger, voting 6-1 by consensus to send some form of a project to referendum in the spring.

Councilmen said they did not want to keep pushing off needed improvements, while Dimauro said construction costs are already starting to rise.

PAGE
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Mansfield, union reach deal

By MIKE SAVINO 2/23
Chronicle Staff Writer

MANSFIELD — Town officials said some changes to health insurance contributions and other measures helped offset increased wage costs in a new union contract for professional and technical employees.

The new contract, unanimously approved by the town council Feb. 14, applies to a "broad range" of employees, including the assessor, youth services coordinator and clerical employees, Town Manager Matthew Hart told the council.

Assistant Town Manager Maria Capriola added the Connecticut State Employees Association represents 44 town employees and Hart said the group accounts for about 28 percent of the town's total salaries.

The contract begins with the current fiscal year, which started on July 1, 2010, and will run through June 30, 2013, the end of the 2012-13 fiscal year.

The town's representative to CSEA Local 2001 could not be reached for comment. Hart told the council in a memo that the union ratified the agreement Feb. 1.

The contract includes split pay raises over the first two years, a move Hart and Capriola said saves the town money.

The employees will received a 1.5-percent wage increase on July 1 of each of the first two fiscal years, followed by another 1.5-percent increase on Jan. 1 of the first two fiscal years.

Hart estimated the total salaries would increase by $24,430, or 1.6 percent, in the current fiscal year and $49,410, or 2.1 percent, next fiscal year.

The contract calls for negotiations to re-open for wages for the 2012-13 fiscal year, so Hart did not estimate a wage for that year.

Under the contract, the lowest step calls for a salary of $20,517 as of July 1, 2010, while the highest the step calls for a salary of $108,524.

By Jan. 1, 2012, the last salary requirements before negotiations re-open, the lowest step would increase to $21,449, while the highest step would increase to $113,475.

But Hart said the town's contributions for employee health insurance plans also dropped by $18,675, of 4.5 percent, from the previous fiscal year to the current one. He said the town was able to realize savings in health insurance costs by increasing employees' shares for premiums and co-pays, although the changes vary based on each employee's plan.

Hart also said the town was able to lower its costs for life, short-term and long-term disability insurance packages offered to employees.

PAGE
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Editor: 2/25

In hard fiscal times like these, all taxpayers are asked to pay more taxes and expect fewer services. But there is one group of taxpayers who is also asked to have their salaries lowered, there benefits reduced and some must also give up their jobs.

Yes, I'm talking about state and municipal workers. Do we all, the state's citizens, share the pain equally? You could say yes, but to paraphrase George Orwell: some taxpayers are more equal than others.

Zoe Leibowitz
Storrs

PAGE
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Public hearing Monday on reducing senior fees

By MIKE SAVINO
Chronicle Staff Writer 2/25

MANSFIELD — The town council will hold a public hearing Monday to receive input on a proposal to include senior center program fees among those eligible for a waiver.

The public hearing will be part of the council's regular meeting, which is scheduled to being at 7:30 p.m. in the Audrey P. Beck Municipal Office Building.

The town's current fee waiver program, and the proposed changes, are available on the town's web site, www.mansfieldct.gov, and at the town clerk's office.

If approved, the change would make seniors eligible for fee waivers for programs at the senior center if they meet certain financial criteria.

Fees currently included in the ordinance include those for certain recreation programs, solid waste disposal and recycling, ambulance services, the parks and recreation department's after-school program and membership and programs at the Mansfield Community Center.

Residents currently receiving Medicaid are eligible for a 90 percent fee waiver, as are those households whose family adjusted gross income exceeds the federal poverty level by no more than 130 percent.

The federally determined poverty level in the contiguous 48 states in 2011 is $10,890 for an individual, $14,710 for a family of two and $22,350 for a family of four.

Those whose family or household adjusted gross income is no more than 185 percent of the federal poverty level are eligible for a 50 percent fee waiver.

PAGE
BREAK

Council still supports Masonicare

By MIKE SAVINO 3/1
Chronicle Staff Writer

MANSFIELD — The town council agreed Monday to support a letter to Masonicare pledging its help to secure water for a possible senior-living complex, although some councilmen also reiterated they did not want to make any firm commitments.

The council supported the letter, written by Town Manager Matt Hart, which states the town is "committed to supporting the development" of a senior complex, including the issue of water supply.

Masonicare is currently looking to build a senior living complex, which could include assisted-living units, in town and has a purchase option for a 40-acre property on Maple Road.

The council selected Masonicare, a nonprofit health-care provider based in Wallingford, as its preferred developer for the project in July 2008.

But Masonicare has had difficulty securing a water supply. A water test at the proposed site showed the location did not have enough ground water to support a community well.

The University of Connecticut, meanwhile, told the developer in February it could not provide water from its current system.

But Hart noted in his letter that Mansfield and UConn are currently looking at potential water supplies for future developments, and the town may be able to provide for Masonicare's potential need.

The council agreed to support the letter, but not before questioning whether Masonicare could target another property with more available water.

Council Deputy Mayor Antonia Moran asked if Masonicare could target a property in the southern section of town near the Windham/Willimantic border.

Masonicare spokesman Margaret Steeves, though, said this morning proximity to the senior center, Mansfield Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation, UConn and other attractions is important.

"Really, the allure for most people ... is the lifestyle," Steeves said of potential tenants, adding Windham Community Memorial Hospital is still nearby.

Steeves said seniors interested in a complex like the one proposed by Masonicare want to be near those attractions, which is why Masonicare is targeting the Maple Road site.

She also said Masonicare has extended its purchase option for the site, which expired Monday, until March 31 while it explores options, including working with the town on a possible water supply.

Councilman William Ryan said he supported the language of Hart's letter, but he and others on the council also wanted to clarify the town was not committing to supply water in the future.

"We can't promise that at this point," he said.

Mansfield is currently looking at water options to help spark development at the Four Corners area near the intersection of routes 44 and 195.

Town officials have said the goal is to find an alternative capable of providing water to other developments in town, as well as possibly allowing the town to work with UConn on its needs for additional water.

PAGE
BREAK

Editor: 3/2

In reference to an upcoming vote on the Mansfield school building project, town councilor Denise Keane urged the council to consider other projects on the horizon and declining state revenues when proposing a project. She was quoted as saying, "Residents don't know the whole picture the way we know it." I imagine that is true.

So what is the whole picture? Would she or any other Mansfield councilor provide that information, or at least a capsule version of it, to help us make these important voting decisions? A write up in *the Chronicle* would be appreciated — the sooner the better since there's so much to think about and try to discern what is best.

Nancy Tomastik
Storrs

PAGE
BREAK

Mansfield OK's land deal

By MIKE SAVINO 3/2
Chronicle Staff Writer

MANSFIELD — The town is now poised to purchase a 3.9-acre property if it is not sold at a tax sale after the town council approved a possible expenditure last week.

After hearing no opposition during a public hearing Feb. 14, the council unanimously approved the property deal in hopes of preserving wildlife in the area.

The property, owned by the estate of Lawrence J. Penner Jr., is slated for a tax sale in the near future and the town could acquire the site if it receives no bids.

The current owners of the property, with an assessed value of $10,220, have not paid taxes to the town for 10 years and currently owe $3,240 in taxes.

The town has attempted to contact the owners to collect taxes or negotiate a transfer, but have not been successful because the owners currently live out of state.

The land — which is located in between Jonathan Lane and White Oak and Fieldstone drives — contains a portion of an Atlantic White Cedar Swamp.

Kenneth Metzler, an ecologist with the state Department of Environmental Protection, said in a letter to the town the swamp area offers habitat for "state-listed species" or those considered endangered or rare.

Mansfield Open Space Preservation Committee Chairman Jim Morrow told the council the site is home to some "very important wildlife," but also said the DEP does not release specific information about an endangered species.

The town did not hear any objections to the possible purchase during the hearing, but one resident offered to sell the town another parcel of property in the vicinity of the Penner property.

The resident, Robert Roberge, said the town currently has an affordable housing covenant on a property he owns on White Oak Drive.

He said the covenant has made it difficult for him to sell the parcel.

Roberge asked the council to either remove the covenant or purchase the roughly 1-acre property.

Town Manager Matthew Hart said in a memo to the council the town is currently scheduling a tax sale for the Penner property and state law prohibits the town from bidding on the site during the sale.

The town can choose to acquire the property after the tax sale if it receives no bids and Hart said in the memo the acquisition, including attorney's fees, would cost approximately $5,000.

PAGE
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Tuesday, March 2, 2011 Newsstand 75 Cents

Town wants two new schools

Mansfield council OKs plan, but no sites

By MIKE SAVINO
Chronicle Staff Writer

MANSFIELD — Town councilors have approved a two-school concept for a referendum in May, but stopped short of saying where those two proposed elementary schools would go.

During Monday's council meeting, Councilman William Ryan's motion to send the two-school option to a referendum passed by a 6-3 vote.

But, it was based "on the provision" the council select the two sites by its March 14 meeting.

But after failing to get a majority on two of the three scenarios presented, the council decided to adjourn the meeting after four hours and reconsider the sites before forcing a decision.

School board Chairman Mark LaPlaca urged the council to consider the three scenarios for a site before making a vote, saying each location has its "pluses and minuses."

Council members also said they wanted to seek public input from residents.

The proposed location of the two new elementary schools would impact the price tag because the town would need to purchase more land if it wanted to place a school at the Dorothy C. Goodwin site, raising the proposal by $450,000.

The other sites discussed are the current locations of Annie E. Vinton and Southeast elementary schools.

Without the purchase of land around Goodwin, located on Hunting Lodge Road, the two-school project currently has an estimated price of $57,629,000.

The project would also include renovations to Mansfield Middle School.

Current projections call for a state reimbursement grant of 58.4 percent, meaning the town would be responsible for $23.98 million of construction costs.

With bonding costs, the project would have a $37.49 million price tag for the town, but also would have more than $15.6 million in savings after consolidating the three elementary schools into two.

The council learned Monday it could get the current reimbursement rate from the state if residents approve a project in May, not the reduced rate in Gov. Dannel P. Malloy's budget.

Councilmen Christopher Paulhus, Meredith Lindsey and Denise Keane — participating via phone — all voted against the proposal, saying they were

(Town, Page 4)

Town wants two new schools

(Continued from Page 1)

worried about the costs of the project.

Lindsey said the council needed to balance educational and financial obligations, and all three supported renovating the three elementary schools and MMS over 20 years, funding the project with cash and not through bonding.

But that motion was defeated by a 3-6 vote.

The three Republican councilmen, though, pointed to a possible budget forecast from Town Manager Matthew Hart and Finance Director Cherry Trahan that looked at other possible projects and expenses in the future.

Hart noted the town is also looking at other issues in town, including water service for the area around the intersection of routes 44 and 195, increases in funding for the fund balance and capital improvement plan, and possible additions to the town's resident trooper program.

Council Vice Chairman Antonia Moran pressed Hart for his own view, and Hart, a member of the school building committee, noted he had endorsed an option to build one large elementary school in March 2010.

The forecast, based on the two-school option, calls for the budget to increase to $52.4 million in the 2015-16 fiscal year, a projected increase of 7.9 percent over the previous year, and a corresponding 11.06 percent tax increase.

Under the forecast, the budget would reach $60 million in the 2020-21 fiscal year, with a projected tax rate of 38.48 mills.

Councilman Peter Kochenburger said the forecast was based on a "wish list" of items for the town and the council likely would not complete all the projects and upgrades.

LaPlaca and some councilmen, meanwhile, said they expected the Storrs Center project to produce more than a 1 percent increase in the grand list annually, the rate Hart and Trahan used to calculate mill rates.

Councilmen favoring the two-school option said they wanted to take advantage of the current state reimbursement rate after learning they could get the rate with referendum approval by May.

Project architect Rick Lawrence, of The Lawrence Associates, provided the council with an e-mail from the state Bureau of School Facilities saying current legislation says the town gets the rate in place at the time a project is approved by residents.

The town would then need approval from the state legislature and the school facilities bureau, but the e-mail states the town would be locked into the 58.4 percent rate under current legislation.

Lawrence said many other towns have approved projects in recent months and would be on the same timeline as Mansfield.

He said he finds it unlikely the state would pass legislation and retroactively reduce rates for those projects.

Councilmen, meanwhile, noted they could pull the project back if the state does change the rates and substantially increases the town's costs.

Malloy's proposed rate of 47.4 percent would mean $6.35 million less in state aid for a two-school project, and many councilmen originally opposed to the price tag under Malloy's figure supported it Monday night.

LaPlaca, meanwhile, noted a move to build two new schools would result in roughly $11 million in staffing reductions and $4.6 million in maintenance savings, which Trahan said would equate to $821,600 in savings annually over the 20-year bond.

Ryan was the only councilman voicing support for the one-school option, but also voted in favor of two schools after the council first voted 8-1 to abandon the one-school option.

The one-school option would cost $50.1 million, with the town's share being $19.85 million.

Despite being less costly, the one-school option was not endorsed by town and education officials, citing a desire for the smaller neighborhood school concept.

Residents appeared split on whether to build two new elementary schools or renovate the existing structures, but agreed during the public comment portion of Monday's meeting they did not want one large school.

Ryan and others on the council also agreed they did not want to send a project to referendum without specifying the location of the two schools.

Ryan and Moran expressed concerns about the increased costs and uncertainty going forward if the town targeted the Goodwin site, as the town does not have the additional needed property yet.

But Kochenburger, Keane and Lindsey said they did not want a proposal resulting in no new school in the northern side of town for various reasons.

The council did vote against motions to place the schools at the Southeast and Goodwin sites, as well as at the Vinton and Southeast sites, but Town Clerk Mary Stanton said those motions can be made again.

Mansfield ed budget comes in smaller

By MIKE SAVINO
Chronicle Staff Writer 3/3

MANSFIELD — With a projected savings in both energy and special education tuition costs, the school board is hoping residents will approve a budget with a $15,990 decrease for the next school year.

The school board approved a $20,572,170 budget proposal during its meeting last month, a figure that would represent a .08 percent decrease over the current $20,588,160 spending plan.

Board of education member Ed Neumann abstained while the rest of the board approved the proposal.

Superintendent Frederick Baruzzi told the council in a letter last month the proposed spending plan includes an additional $208,230 in salaries and benefits, an increase of 1.22 percent over the current fiscal year.

Certified salaries would increase by $46,520 — primarily due to increases for administrative salaries, non-certified salaries would increase by $91,510 — mainly for contractual increases and an administrative aid at the middle school and benefit costs would rise by $70,200.

The 2011-12 fiscal year is also the beginning of a new agreement with the school board and teachers union, which calls for a hard pay freeze for teachers in the first year.

Baruzzi said the school district has also only had to use $156,230 from its federal Education Jobs Fund grant and the budget proposal would use the remaining $234,721 in 2011-12.

But the increases for salaries and benefits would be offset by $224,220 in savings elsewhere in the board of education's proposal.

Tuition costs would decrease by $175,240, or 79.65 percent, down to just $44,760 in the proposed budget, and Baruzzi said the board would use $325,245 from a reserve account to cover special education tuition.

School board Chairman Mark LaPlaca said the school board has maintained the fund to cover unexpected costs arising in the middle of a school year, but has not had to seriously use the account in recent years.

The board decided to use some of the money accrued in the account to help offset special education costs this year.

The budget proposal also includes $64,930 in savings and Baruzzi said much of the savings is due to a new contract for natural gas and a project to convert Mansfield Middle School from electric heat to natural gas.

LaPlaca said he is "very proud" the budget is able to maintain current services while proposing a slight budget reduction for next year.

"It really speaks to the hard work and creativeness" of Baruzzi, teachers and staff in the school district, he said.

But he also said the board has been able to keep costs down partly because it has not funded technology upgrades while it waits for the council to make a decision on a possible school building project.

PAGE
BREAK

Opinion 3/7

Chronicle

Lucy B. Crosbie *President* | Kevin Crosbie *Publisher* | Charles C. Ryan *Editor*

Editorial

We offer these threads, needles

Threads to **Mansfield school officials** and administrators for proposing a 2011-12 education budget that is actually less than the current one. Thanks to savings in special education tuition and energy costs, Mansfield was able to unveil an initial school budget that — at $20.57 million — is actually 0.08 percent smaller than current spending. That's not a lot, but in an economic climate of skyrocketing staff and insurance costs, it represents some savvy budgeting. Time will tell if this is enough, as Mansfield will go to the polls later in the spring. Still, it's a good start.

Michalak says that the sense of community, as well as the discussions and exercises included in the program, help those in need through the healing process.

"This group is different in that it starts and ends together," Michalak said.

The group begins its journey on today, March 6 and meets for a total of five sessions. Each meeting begins with a secular lighting candle ceremony in remembrance of lost loved ones, followed by introductions and a group question, often asking participants to share a memory or experience. The large group then breaks down according to age to draw, talk or engage in other expressive activities. The group reconvenes for a final discussion and an informal dinner.

Grief Matters has become a thriving success over the past five years, with many former members such as Caro, coming back to participate and mentor newcomers. And while the group helps heal and provides comfort for its members, Caro says that there will always be a need for grief groups.

"Grief is constant, but it does get better as it goes along," she said.

The new Grief Matters session begins on Sunday, March 6 at 5:30 p.m. at the Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building. You may call Michalak at 860-429-3319 for more information.

Interested in a follow-up to this article?

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