

REGULAR MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
May 29, 2012

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

I. ROLL CALL

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

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2012 special meeting. Motion passed by all except Ms. Keane who abstained. Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2012 meeting as amended. Motion passed by all except Ms. Keane who abstained.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Bill Jordan, Chaplin, spoke in favor of the Town looking at a Responsible Contractors' Ordinance commenting such an ordinance would increase local hires and support local taxes and businesses.

Saul Nesselroth, Hillyndale Road, thanked Council members for all their work to make the Town a better place to live. Mr. Nesselroth also voiced support for the comments of the previous speaker and urged the Council not to prohibit members of the Ethics Board from endorsing candidates, thereby limiting their free speech.

Karl Nagy Jr., Pleasant Valley Road, voiced his support for the proposed new schools and for contractors who have apprentice programs which allow apprentices to graduate to journeymen. He urged the Town to support these efforts.

Carol Lewis, Hillyndale Road, seconded Mr. Nesselroth's remarks and thanked the Council for contributing to the Town's quality of life. Ms. Lewis also thanked the staff and management for being efficient, courteous, and responsive to the needs of the citizens.

Lyle Scruggs, Thomas Drive, spoke in support of a Responsible Contractors' Ordinance stating it would keep resources in Town.

Betty Wassmundt, Old Turnpike Road, requested an additional public hearing on the Ethics Ordinance since more changes have been made since the last one. Ms.

Wassmundt urged the Council to include the concept of "personal interest", to eliminate the inclusion of "written town policy" in the Code, and to include Board of Education employees.

IV. REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER

In addition to his written remarks the Town Manager spoke to the recent Memorial Day Observance and noted he was, as a veteran, honored to speak at the event. Mr. Hart reported the Traffic Authority met with Willowbrook Road residents and agreed to provide signage discouraging through traffic and to look at additional mitigating measures. Leslie McDonough, the new Librarian, will meet with the Council during the second meeting in June. Mr. Hart noted Item 6, Parking Management Agreement between Town of Mansfield and Leyland Storrs, LLC, should be an item of Old Business. The Town Manager also reported the University is considering expanding the Town/University water EIE to include the MDC as an additional interconnection option. A public hearing is required to amend the scope of the EIE. Mr. Hart will keep Council members updated. Ms. Lindsey moved and Ms. Moran seconded to move Item 6, Parking Management Agreement between Town of Mansfield and Leyland Storrs, LLC, as Item 4a under Old Business. The motion passed unanimously.

V. REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Paulhus thanked citizens for coming out to honor veterans at the Memorial Day Parade, thanked Matt Hart for his speech, Paul Shapiro for reading the proclamation and

Curt Vincente and Sara Ann Bourque for organizing the event. Mr. Paulhus was honored to fill in for the Mayor and present the welcoming remarks.

Ms. Moran reported that she was invited by citizens to join them in a discussion of a Responsible Contractors' Ordinance.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Storrs Center Update

Mr. Hart reported on the gas leak which happened last week. He and Lon Hultgren have spoken to the contractor and have reviewed the processes used.

The Town Manager discussed his interactions with representatives of local labor organizations and a group of UConn professors who are interested in gathering information regarding a Responsible Contracting Ordinance. Mr. Hart was asked by the groups to attend these meetings and will forward all information to the Council. The Council, if it wishes, could add this item to a future agenda. Ms. Moran, a member of the Downtown Partnership Board of Directors, has also attended some of these meetings. Ms. Keane questioned whether or not a member of the minority party should have been included. Council members stated they often meet with residents on a variety of subjects.

2. License Request: Common Fields at Bassetts Bridge Road

Mr. Shapiro moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to authorize the Town Manager to execute a license agreement to permit Mr. Michael C. Healey's use of a portion of the Common Fields at Bassetts Bridge Road for use as overflow parking in conjunction with Mr. Healey's adjacent banquet use. Such license shall not be drafted or executed until the Planning and Zoning Commission has reviewed and approved a special permit request for a banquet hall/assembly venue at 476 Storrs Road. The license agreement shall incorporate any conditions required by the Planning and Zoning Commission as part of the special permit process, including but not limited to: the final size/boundary of the license area, frequency of use, requirements regarding public access, and maintenance of both the license area and the access road. Such license may be terminated by the Town at any time, at the discretion of the Town Manager with the approval of the Town Council.

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Revisions to Ethics Ordinance

Ms. Moran, Chair of the Personnel Committee moved, effective May 29, 2012, to repeal Chapter 25 of the Mansfield Code of Ordinances (Code of Ethics) and to replace this Chapter in its entirety with the proposed Ethics Ordinance (Code of Ethics) dated April 16, 2012, as endorsed by the Personnel Committee, which Ordinance shall become effective 21 days after publication in a newspaper having circulation within the Town of Mansfield.

Ms. Moran stated all the issues raised during the public hearing were discussed by the Personnel Committee. Strengthened whistleblower protection has been incorporated in the April 16, 2012 draft. The inclusion of Board of Education employees, the addition of "personal interest" and a requirement for financial disclosures were not included in the draft.

Members discussed the inclusion of Board of Education members and the addition of "personal interest" with Town Attorney Dennis O'Brien.

Mr. Schaefer called the question. Seconded by Ms. Moran the motion failed.

Mr. Kochenburger moved to amend the motion by changing the definition of public employee to read as follows: Any person or contractor of the Town of Mansfield, including the employees of the Board of Education to the extent permitted by law, full or part time, receiving wages or other compensation for services rendered.

Seconded by Ms. Keane the amendment passed with all in favor except Ms. Moran, Mr. Schaefer and Ms. Paterson opposed.

The motion as amended passed with all in favor except Ms. Keane.

4. UConn Landfill, Long-Term Monitoring Program
No comments

4a .Parking Management Agreement between the Town of Mansfield and Leyland Storrs, LLC

Mr. Shapiro moved and Mr. Kochenburger seconded that the Town Manager be authorized to execute for the Town of Mansfield the proposed Parking Management Agreement, as presented by staff in its draft dated May 24, 2012, by and between the Town of Mansfield and Leyland Storrs, LLC.

Ms. Lindsey requested the change made in Section 4 (P) read "shall" instead of "will". Accepted as a friendly amendment the motion passed.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

5. Neighborhood Assistance Acts Program

Mr. Paulhus moved and Ms. Moran seconded to schedule a Public Hearing for 7:30 PM on June 11, 2012 to receive public comment regarding potential program applications for the Neighborhood Assistance Program.

Director of Planning and Economic Development Linda Painter reported letters have been sent to businesses and organizations. Ms. Painter will also contact members of local non-profits for project ideas.

Motion passed unanimously.

6. Moved to 4a.

7. Appointment of Council Member

Council members thanked Meredith Lindsey for her work on the Council.

Ms. Keane moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded, effective May 29, 2012, to appoint David Freudmann to serve as a member of the Town Council, to fill the vacancy created by Meredith Lindsey's resignation from the Council for the term ending November 5, 2013.

Council members welcomed Mr. Freudmann. Councilor Freudmann was sworn in by the Town Clerk.

VIII. DEPARTMENTAL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Town Manager noted Quarterly Reports are now posted on the website and asked Council members to comment on the new format. Ms. Keane requested State Police statistics be reported in their entirety.

IX. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Mr. Schaefer reporting for the Ad Hoc Committee on the Naming of Streets and Building stated that the Committee is considering naming the streets after early founders of the Town, but no decisions have yet to be finalized.

Mr. Kochenburger requested the handout titled, "Ten Fundamental Principles of Smart School Siting" be forwarded to the Board of Education and commented this organization is willing to assist the Town. The document will be included as a communication in the next packet.

X. PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATONS

8. Annual Town Meeting Minutes

9. Legal Notices

10. Chamber Community News, May 16, 2012

11. Connecticut Association of Housing Code Enforcement Officials, Inc

12. Regional School District 19 Reapportionment Committee

XI. FUTURE AGENDA

Mr. Kochenburger requested an update on Masonicare's project.
XII. ADJOURNMENT
Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 p.m.

Elizabeth C. Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

May 29, 2012