

REGULAR MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
October 22, 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: Freudmann, Keane, Kochenburger, Moran, Paterson, Paulhus, Ryan, Schaefer, Shapiro

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Schaefer moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to approve the minutes of the October 9, 2012 meeting as presented. The motion passed with all in favor except Ms. Keane and Mr. Kochenburger who abstained. Mr. Shapiro moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to approve the minutes of the October 4, 2012 Special meeting as presented. The motion passed with all in favor except Ms. Keane who abstained.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Ric Hossack, Middle Turnpike, reported on two pedestrian incidents in Storrs Center involving the ongoing construction and urged the Council to require lighting to be placed in the area. Mr. Hossack also questioned whether the Town or the developer is liable in the event of an incident.

IV. REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER

In addition to his written report, the Town Manager reminded members that the Council's Veterans Day Commemoration is scheduled for November 13, 2012.

In response to a question from Ms. Keane, the Manager reported the Ad hoc Committee for Responsible Contracting will be inviting a variety of experts and interested parties to future meetings, including representatives of the Department of Labor, the Associations of Builders and Contractors, trade unions, local contractors and others. There will also be a public comment section at the beginning of each meeting.

V. REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Paterson reported she participated in a walkthrough of the Storrs Center area this afternoon with Congressman Courtney and other elected officials.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Storrs Center Update

The Town Manager announced two additional new businesses have opened in Storrs Center, Husky Pizza and Insomnia Cookies. He also noted that he is aware of one serious fall in the construction area and has requested the developer install temporary lighting until the permanent fixtures are in place. Additionally, the developer has asked tenants to leave their lights on at night to further illuminate the area. The sidewalks are under the developer's control and they have contacted the injured party. The Town is responsible for the streets and right of ways and is insured by CIRMA.

Mr. Freudmann requested an update at a future meeting regarding the status of the Tax Abatement Fund (Page 15 of the 10/22/2012 Town Council Packet). The Town Manager will provide updated information in December.

2. Community/Campus Relations

Since the first of November is usually the end of fall party activity at UConn, the Town Manager suggested inviting Sergeant Cournoyer to the next meeting to discuss the fall activity and the future of events at Carriage House.

Ms. Keane requested the future of what used to be known as Spring Weekend be discussed at an upcoming meeting. Town Manager Matt Hart stated that there has

been no official lifting of the measures recently imposed by UConn, including guest limitations and parking restrictions. The item will be put on a future agenda.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

3. Successor Collective Bargaining Agreement with IAFF (Firefighter Employees)
Assistant Town Manager Maria Capriola and Fire Chief Dave Dagon outlined the highlights of the ratified agreement. The Personnel Committee did review the agreement.

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded, effective October 22, 2012, to authorize the Town Manager to execute the proposed successor collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town of Mansfield and the Uniformed Professional Fire fighters Association, Local 4120, International Association of Fire Fighters, which agreement shall enter into effect on July 1, 2012 and expire on June 30, 2014.

The motion passed with all in favor except Mr. Freudmann, Ms. Keane, and Mr. Paulhus who were opposed.

4. Appointments to Zoning Board of Appeals

Ms. Keane moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded, effective October 22, 2012, to appoint Mr. Paul Hammer as a full member of the Mansfield Zoning Board of Appeals for an initial term to expire on November 18, 2013.

Motion passed unanimously.

5. Town Council Meeting Schedule for 2013

Mr. Ryan moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded, effective October 24, 2012, to adopt the Town Council Meeting Schedule for 2013, as presented by the Town Clerk.

Mr. Shapiro thanked the Town Manager's office for requesting input on how to best accommodate the two successive nights of the Passover Seder.

6. S. Eagleville Walkway Project – Bond Authorization Discussion

Chair of the Finance Committee Bill Ryan explained the current status of the South Eagleville Walkway Project. The initiative was sent to referendum but failed because the vote in the affirmative did not reach the 15% threshold required by the Charter. The project was approved at Town Meeting and will expire in three years if no future action is taken. The Finance Committee did not express any interest in moving forward but recommended referring the project to the Town Council for discussion.

Mr. Ryan moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to send to the Transportation Advisory Committee the issue of the South Eagleville Walkway Project and to ask the Committee to report back regarding their interest in going forward with the project in the near future.

Council members discussed the need for public input on the project's future, the value of further prioritizing the various sidewalk projects, and the role of the Transportation Committee in reviewing the project within the context of the larger walkway plan.

The motion passed unanimously.

7. Small Cities Grant Award for Housing Rehabilitation Program

Ms. Moran moved and Ms. Keane seconded to approve the resolution found on pages 94 and 95 of the October 22, 2012 Town Council packet which would approve the acceptance by the Town of the grant award and commit the Town to abiding by nondiscrimination laws in its application.

The motion passed unanimously.

8. EPA Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities: Technical Assistance Opportunities

Director of Planning and Development Linda Painter described the recommended technical workshops which will support and supplement the work being done through the HUD Community Challenge Planning Grant.

Mr. Shapiro moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded, effective October 22, 2012, to authorize the Town Manager to submit Letters of Interest for technical assistance workshops sponsored by the EPA Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities Program.

The motion passed by all except Mr. Freudmann who voted in opposition.

VIII. DEPARTMENTAL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

No comments offered.

IX. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Chair of the Committee on Committees Peter Kochenburger noted the unanimous support expressed by the Committee for the Town Manager's appointments to the reconstituted Economic Development Commission. The first meeting will take place on October 25, 2012.

Mr. Kochenburger also offered the following recommendations:

Mark Mogayzel to the Cemetery Committee for a term ending July 1, 2013.

Susan Harrington to the Parks Advisory Committee for a term ending August 1, 2013.

Alfred Montoya to the Parks Advisory Committee for a term ending August 1, 2015.

Ethan Avery as an alternate to the Parks Advisory Committee for a term ending August 1, 2013.

Dan Vitullo as an alternate to the Parks Advisory Committee for a term ending August 1, 2013.

Anne Bladen, Susan Daley and Gloria Bent to the Mansfield Advocates for Children for terms ending June 30, 2015.

Jane Goldman to the Mansfield Advocates for Children for a term ending June 30, 2013.

Lisa Young to the Mansfield Advocates for Children for a term ending June 30, 2014.

William Waite and Terry Cook to the Mansfield Advocates for Children for terms ending June 30, 2015.

The motion to approve the recommendations passed by all.

Denise Keane, Chair of the Ordinance Development and Review Committee regarding the Building and Fire Permit Fees, reported the Committee met and will be presenting their recommendations at the next meeting.

Toni Moran, Chair of the Personnel Committee, updated the Council on the discussions regarding the defined benefit program offered to Town employees (MERS). After reviewing the health of the pension system, the average cost to the Town, and the legislative requirements to withdraw from the program, the Committee agreed to take no action. The Committee, however, has asked the Town Manager to support and monitor changes to the law which limits employee contributions to MERS. Town Manager Matt Hart remarked that CCM has included in their legislative agenda a plan to increase the employee contribution to MERS by 1% per year for the next 3 years.

X. PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

9. J. Brown re: Southeast School

10.M. Hart re: Appointment to Mansfield Youth Services Advisory Board

11. Legal Notice: Mansfield Zoning Board of Appeals

12.B. Henry re: Appointment of Executive Director to Connecticut Council of Small Towns

13.J. Finley re: CCM's Candidate Bulletins, the Election and You

XI. FUTURE AGENDA

October 22, 2012

Previously suggested items include an update at a future meeting on the status of the Tax Abatement Fund (Page 15 of the 10/22/2012 Town Council Packet) and the future of what used to be known as Spring Weekend.

Ms. Keane noted that the appointment of a Charter Review Committee has been suggested as a future agenda item.

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded to move into Executive Session to discuss personnel in accordance with CGS§1-200(6) (A) (to include Town Manager Matt Hart), and sale or purchase of real property, in accordance with CGS§1-200(6) (D) (to include Town Manager Matt Hart)

The motion passed unanimously.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Personnel in accordance with CGS§1-200(6) (A)

Present: Freudmann, Keane, Kochenburger, Moran, Paterson, Paulhus, Ryan, Schaefer, Shapiro

Also included: Town Manager Matt Hart, when asked to join the Council.

Sale or purchase of real property, in accordance with CGS§1-200(6) (D)

Present: Freudmann, Keane, Kochenburger, Moran, Paterson, Paulhus, Ryan, Schaefer, Shapiro

Also included: Town Manager Matt Hart

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Ryan moved and Mr. Schaefer seconded to adjourn the meeting.

The motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth C. Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

October 22, 2012