

Sept 9, 2013

To: Town Council

From: Betty Wassmundt, candidate for Council  
Old Turnpike Rd, Storrs

I want to remind you and all other townspeople that there is a very important public hearing tomorrow. This is about the University's extension of North Hillside Road which will be home to the planned Tech Park. Specifically it is about a water diversion permit and a wetlands permit but it will provide the public an opportunity to see what is planned and to ask questions. This is a project that will have great impact on this town; everyone should be interested. At 1:00 there will be an on-site walk through the area of the planned roadway; meet on North Hillside Road. I'm going; I want Uconn to show me on-site what forest lands and wetlands will be lost. This is an area with extensive wetlands. I hope to see many townspeople there. At 5:00 there will be a presentation of the project and then the public hearing starts at 6:00. The public hearing is in Room 146 at the Bishop Center. If you have questions, please phone me.

About water, Uconn, the town and CWC: there is no reason for Mansfield to be under any time constraint to make any contract about water with anyone.

Before talk of contracts with CWC, this <sup>council</sup> town needs to know what the townspeople want to do about water and sewers. People need to know the cost to them of such a project. People need to know if there is a market driven need to provide water and sewer to new parts of town.

An election is coming up in November, this is the perfect opportunity to ask advisory questions of the public before committing to contracts and large expense. Ask the public via questions on the ballot for their opinion. Involve the general public. Give the public the information they need and listen to your constituents.

As an aside, this town really planted invasive trees in the Downtown/Route 195 streetscapes. These pear trees are going to damage our environment. Already we battle invasive barberry and bittersweet. Now this town has given us invasive pear trees. These pears will look beautiful when in bloom but be forewarned, soon we will see them all over the place. What happens with the invasives is that where they exist, native growth is retarded and then the entire ecosystem changes. I am nonplussed to learn of these trees.

Thank you.

To: Town Council  
From: Emile Poirier  
8 Valley view dr.  
Date: September 9, 2013  
Re: Social Impact of Water issues on Rolling Hills Mobile Home Park

Much has been discussed and written about the water and sewer lines coming to The University of Connecticut and the Four Corners area. However, there has not been much discussed regarding the impact of these changes to the residents in the four corners, particularly those in Rolling Hills.

It is my understanding that Jensen's is one of the biggest sources of revenue for the town. So I believe that it is imperative that the impact on those residents be taken in account. It is not clear from the August 24, minutes what rights the town will have vs. the University's rights. I feel very strongly that the town should have more control over the water, sewer and development of the North Hillside road extension because of the Jensen's Rolling Hills 55 and older community located adjacent to the site. I realize that Storrs/Mansfield is a University town, but the University is not the sole consideration here.

One of the major concerns for residents of Rolling Hills is the probable increase of land value and the attendant rise of taxes on both the Rolling Hills property and the individual homes. Another tax rise would adversely affect a large portion of residents. Many would be forced out or be in need of town assistance to remain in their homes

Another concern is the possibility of growth along the access road, as this would negatively impact the quiet, rural lifestyle that we now enjoy. There is also concern about noise. During Homecoming and Spring weekend the noise is overwhelming. How much worse would it be if more apartments were ever constructed along the access road?

The Route 44 terminus of the access road will impact our seniors, making it difficult to get into and out of our community due to increase traffic flow.

We will all (hopefully) grow old and after a lifetime of work we should be allowed to enjoy are remaining years in peace. We would like to see that access road remain as open and rural as possible.

Thank You  
Emile Poirier  
8 Valley View Dr.  
Storrs/Mansfield ct. 06268

I have series of questions:

1. If UConn's Master Planner Cruickshank and Vice Provost Reis are here, I would like to greet them and ask some questions:

- Did the university and the legislature study the negative effects of NextGen and Tech park projects on Mansfield and how to mitigate them before they crafted the bills?

If yes, could they share this information with us?

- If there is no such a study, why do they want us to cooperate with them?

Can we get a definite answer this evening? This question is also directed to our town management.

- My other question to the university officials is: Why are they insisting that both Tech Park and Nextgen be implemented in Storrs, a small town with no adequate water and no direct access to the highways?

2. I agree with the Conservation Commission's question about *Senate Bill No. 1242 Public Act No. 11-57 67 of 85 regarding: university's "charge and supervision.... supervision shall extend to any off-campus improvements..."* This needs to be spelled out very clearly which improvements, which locations, and if there is a conflict who will have the final decision?

3. It seems the town will get water from CWC. What happened to the environmentalists' warning about the negative effects of interbasin transfer on the rivers and who will monitor it and seek remediation?

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