

SPECIAL MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
April 28, 2014

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the special meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Kegler, Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Raymond, Ryan, Shapiro, Wassmundt

II. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Pat Suprenant, Mansfield Independent News and resident, asked for the Town's position regarding taxpayer support of charities and questioned if an appropriated item is binding forever or just the year in which the appropriation was made. Ms. Suprenant thanked the Council for their work.

Arthur Smith, Mulberry Road, spoke to uncertainties he sees in the budget and to the dearth of information provided.

1. Staff Reports/Communication

Town Manager Matt Hart updated the Council on the uncertainties regarding the State budget appropriations and recommended a conservative approach by not including \$420,000 of the \$870,000 increase to Town grants.

2. Adoption of Budget and Recommended Appropriations

Mr. Ryan moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded to approve the following resolutions:

RESOLVED: That the General Fund Budget for the Town of Mansfield, appended totaling \$36,847,734 is hereby adopted as the proposed operating budget for the Town of Mansfield for the fiscal year July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015.

RESOLVED: That the Capital Fund Budget for the Town of Mansfield, appended totaling \$6,654,020 is hereby adopted as the capital improvements to be undertaken during fiscal year 2014/15 or later years.

RESOLVED: That the proposed Capital and Non-Recurring Reserve Fund Budget for fiscal year July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015 in the amount of \$2,114,600 be adopted.

Mr. Shapiro moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to reduce the Transfer Out to Debt Service by \$25,000.

Motion to amend passed unanimously.

Mr. Ryan moved and Ms. Moran seconded a motion to consider the budget to include the following additional estimated revenues: \$444,820 (PILOT grant funding), \$8,420 (ECS grant funding) and \$15,570 (Estimated Conveyance Tax revenues)

The motion to include passed unanimously.

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded to reduce the Transfer Out to Capital/CNR for the Walkway Project by \$50,000, to reduce the Transfer Out to Capital/CNR for the Software Project by \$5,000 and to reduce the Transfer Out to Capital/CNR for IT Infrastructure in the Management Services Fund by \$15,000.

Motion to amend passed unanimously.

Mr. Marcellino moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded to reduce the CNR Fund Budget Transfer to Capital Projects by \$55,000.

Motion to amend passed unanimously.

Mr. Marcellino moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to reduce the CNR Fund Budget Transfer to Management Services by \$15,000.

Motion to amend passed unanimously.

Mr. Marcellino moved and Ms. Moran seconded to reduce the General Government Software Project by \$5,000.

Motion to amend passed unanimously.

Mr. Shapiro moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to reduce the Public Works Transportation/Walkways Project by \$50,000.

The motion to amend passed with Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Ryan and Shapiro in favor and Kegler, Raymond and Wassmundt opposed.

Mr. Ryan moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded to add \$12,000 to Grants to Area Agencies for the purpose of funding the Section 8 Housing Program.

Motion to amend passed unanimously.

Mr. Kochenburger moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded to add \$5,000 to the Transfer Out to the Parks and Recreation Fund for the purpose of funding the Challenge Program, with the understanding that the program shall be managed by the Director of Parks and Recreation, subject to all applicable Town policies and procedures.

Ms. Moran suggested the program be managed in consultation with the Department of Human Services. Accepted as a friendly amendment, the motion, as amended passed unanimously.

Mr. Ryan moved and Mr. Kochenburger seconded to reduce the Board of Education Budget by its prorated share of the \$220,000 reduction (\$126,430).

Motion to amend passed with all in favor except Ms. Wassmundt who was opposed.

Mr. Kegler moved and Ms. Raymond seconded to reduce the proposed Fire Department Budget by the additional staffing to the 2013/14 level.

The motion failed with Kegler, Raymond and Wassmundt in favor and Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Ryan and Shapiro in opposition.

Mr. Kegler moved and Ms. Raymond seconded to eliminate the proposed \$30,000 allocation for a UConn impact study until such time as the Council votes to approve the Town's financial participation.

The motion failed with Kegler, Raymond and Wassmundt in favor and Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Ryan and Shapiro in opposition.

Mr. Kegler moved and Ms. Raymond seconded to reduce the Capital Budget by eliminating the engine tanker (\$300,000).

The motion failed with Kegler, Raymond and Wassmundt in favor and Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Ryan and Shapiro in opposition.

Ms. Wassmundt moved and Mr. Kegler seconded to eliminate CIP Funding for the utility terrain vehicle (\$32,000).

The motion failed with Kegler, Raymond and Wassmundt in favor and Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Ryan and Shapiro in opposition.

Ms. Wassmundt moved and Mr. Kegler seconded to remove from the Capital Budget the \$20,000 designated for the Mansfield Tomorrow Program.

The motion failed with Kegler, Raymond and Wassmundt in favor and Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Ryan and Shapiro in opposition.

Ms. Raymond moved and Mr. Kegler seconded to eliminate, from the budget, the new position at the swap shop. The consensus of the majority of members was to look for alternative methods to keep the swap shop open and to initiate a study to that end.

Motion to amend passed unanimously.

Ms. Wassmundt moved and Ms. Raymond seconded to remove the Four Corners Water and Sewer Project (\$4,000,000) from the Capital Project Budget.

Discussion of the inclusion of the project in the Capital Improvement Budget ensued.

Mr. Ryan called the question. Seconded by Ms. Moran the motion passed with Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Ryan and Shapiro in favor and Kegler, Kochenburger, Raymond and Wassmundt in opposition.

The motion failed with Kegler, Raymond and Wassmundt in favor and Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Ryan and Shapiro in opposition.

The original motion, as amended, passed with Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Ryan and Shapiro in favor and Kegler, Raymond and Wassmundt in opposition.

The motion as amended now reads:

RESOLVED: That the General Fund Budget for the Town of Mansfield, appended totaling \$36,643,304 is hereby adopted as the proposed operating budget for the Town of Mansfield for the fiscal year July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015.

RESOLVED: That the Capital Fund Budget for the Town of Mansfield, appended totaling \$6,599,020 is hereby adopted as the capital improvements to be undertaken during fiscal year 2014/15 or later years.

RESOLVED: That the proposed Capital and Non-Recurring Reserve Fund Budget for fiscal year July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015 in the amount of \$2,044,600 be adopted.

Mr. Ryan moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded to approve the Appropriations Act as follows:

It is further resolved, that the following Appropriations Act be recommended for adoption at the annual Town Meeting for budget consideration:

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RESOLVED: That the proposed General Fund Budget for the Town of Mansfield for fiscal year July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014 in the amount of \$36,643,304 which proposed budget was adopted by the Council on April 28, 2014, be adopted and that the sums estimated and set forth in said budget be appropriated for the purpose indicated.

RESOLVED: That in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-51, the proportionate share for the Town of Mansfield of the annual budget for Regional School District No. 19 shall be added to the General Fund Budget appropriation for the Town of Mansfield for fiscal year July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015 and said sums shall be paid by the Town to the Regional School District as they become available.

RESOLVED: That the proposed Capital Projects Budget for fiscal year July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014 in the amount of \$6,599,020 be adopted provided that the portion proposed to be funded by bonds or notes shall, at the appropriate times, be introduced for action by the Town Council subject to a vote by referendum as required by Section 407 of the Town Charter.

RESOLVED: That the proposed Capital and Non-Recurring Reserve Fund Budget for fiscal year July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015 in the amount of \$2,044,600 be adopted.

The motion passed with passed with Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Ryan and Shapiro in favor and Kegler, Raymond and Wassmundt in opposition.

3. Next Steps

The Annual Town Meeting for Budget Appropriations will take place on May 13, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Mansfield Middle School.

II. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Shapiro moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.
The motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth C. Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

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