



**TOWN OF MANSFIELD
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, May 11, 2015
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
AUDREY P. BECK MUNICIPAL BUILDING
7:30 p.m.**

AGENDA

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ROLL CALL	
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FUTURE AGENDAS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

SPECIAL MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
April 22, 2015

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

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Kegler (6:35 p.m.), Kochenburger (7.25 p.m.), Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Raymond, Ryan, Shapiro, Wassmundt

Staff Present: Town Manager Matthew Hart, Director of Finance Cherie Trahan, Director of Public Works John Carrington, Director of Parks and Recreation Curt Vincente, Executive Director of the Downtown Partnership Cynthia van Zelm and Public Works Operation Manager Brian Lavoie

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to move the first item of business, Staff Reports/Communications, to the last item of business.

The motion passed unanimously.

1. Staff Reports/Communications

The Director of Finance distributed replacement pages for the budget manual, provided requested information and addressed questions raised by Councilors and members of the public.

2. Budget Review

- Town Aid Road Fund

The Director of Public Works explained that this fund now reflects snow removal cost only; all other expenditures have been moved to other accounts.

- Parks and Recreation Program Fund

The Director of Parks and Recreation presented highlights of the fund and discussed a proposed small reduction in operating hours. The Finance Committee will discuss whether or not to consolidate the operating transfers into a single entry in future budgets.

- Mansfield Discovery Depot Fund

The Director of Finance noted that the Town has a management agreement with the MDD but that the organization submits and approves its own budget. Ms. Wassmundt, the Town Council's appointment to the Discovery Depot, noted the Board has been looking at ways to increase revenues.

- Other Operating Fund

The Director of Finance reviewed the 270 funds which receive General Fund contributions and described some of the funding sources and expenditures for other accounts.

Request for Information – Staff will provide information on the expenditures for the Graustein Discovery Grant.

- Debt Services Fund

The Director of Finance reviewed the Town's current debt position which she described as very favorable. Ms. Trahan noted this information does not include authorized but not yet issued debt.

April 22, 2015

Request for Information – Provide information on 2015/16 FY expected expenditures for consultants for capital projects.

- Enterprise Fund

The Director of Public Works and Finance Director reviewed the Willimantic and UConn Sewer Funds, the Solid Waste Management Fund and the Transit Fund.

The Town Manager presented a conceptual plan for the oversight of the Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center which the Council will have an opportunity to review at a later date.

Request for Information - Staff will prepare a graphic which shows the distribution of the income for the parking garage and who is responsible for which expenses.

The Town Manager and Councilor Marcellino provided an update on the progress being made at WRTD including personnel and management service changes. Mr. Marcellino congratulated Mr. Hart on his efforts.

3. Discussion of Proposed Budget/Council Questions

The Town Manager requested Council members let staff know as soon as possible if they would like the numbers run for specific budget scenarios.

By consensus the Council agreed to change the special meeting scheduled for April 27, 2015 be changed to April 28, 2015 beginning at 7:30 p.m.

II. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Shapiro moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 p.m.

The motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth C. Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

April 22, 2015

SPECIAL MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

April 23, 2015

DRAFT

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

I. ROLL CALL

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

Excused: Kochenburger

Staff Present: Town Manager Matthew Hart, Director of Finance Cherie Trahan, Director of Information Technology Jaime Russell, Emergency Services Director and Deputy Fire Marshal Fran Raiola

By consensus the Council agreed to discuss Item 2, Budget Review, as the first order of business.

1. Staff Reports/Communications

- Payment in Lieu of Taxes

The Finance Director reviewed a handout on the statutory structure of the PILOT grant and the factors that affect the amount each town receives.

2. Budget Review

- Internal Service Fund

The Town Manager and Director of Finance discussed the Health Insurance Fund and the Worker's Compensation Fund and outlined the Town's ongoing efforts to restrain costs. The Director of Information Technology and the Emergency Services Director reviewed the Management Services Fund which includes, among other things, computer technology and voice communications.

Request for Information – Provide the amount, in total, that is paid to Charter Communications.

- Cemetery Fund/Long Term Investments

The Director of Finance reviewed the budget figures for the Cemetery Fund and the Town's Long Term Investments.

- Eastern Highlands Health District Fund

The Director of Finance briefly reviewed the Eastern Highlands Health District Fund. This budget is approved by the District's Board of Directors

- Mansfield Downtown Partnership Fund

The Director of Finance reviewed the Mansfield Downtown Partnership Fund. Council members discussed the future plans of the Partnership and the role of public participation. Request for Information – The Town Manager will send Q-Notify options to Council members and will check to make sure the program is functioning correctly.

- Supplementary Data

3. Discussion of Proposed Budget/Council Questions

Staff will provide budget information for the following adjustment scenarios:

- Adjust staffing in the budget to current levels
- Increase the contribution to Fund Balance by reducing costs elsewhere
- Reduce the amount of the Board of Education Budget by the cost of the proposed new positions

April 23, 2015

- Eliminate the improvements to the playground at Lion's field

II. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Moran moved and Ms. Raymond seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.
The motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth C. Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

April 23, 2015

SPECIAL MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

April 27, 2015

DRAFT

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the special meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 5:30 p.m. in Room B of the Audrey P. Beck Building

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Moran, Paterson, Raymond, Shapiro, Ryan, Wassmundt

II. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion of Superintendent of Schools Search with Mansfield Board of Education Consultant.

Kay Griffin, of Cooperative Educational Services, facilitated a discussion regarding the search for a new superintendent of schools.

III. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Elizabeth C. Paterson, Mayor

April 27, 2015

REGULAR MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
April 27, 2015
DRAFT

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

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded to approve the minutes of the April 9, 2015 special meeting as presented. The motion passed with all in favor except Mr. Ryan and Ms. Wassmundt who abstained. Mr. Ryan moved and Ms. Moran seconded to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2015 minutes as presented. The motion passed with all in favor except Ms. Wassmundt who abstained.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Ric Hossack, Middle Turnpike, provided responses to points made in a letter to the editor from the Mayor which was in response to his letter to the Chronicle.

Gary Bent, Mansfield Hollow Road, presented an additional 100 signatures on the petition requesting state legislators to oppose the expansion of the Algonquin Pipeline through Mansfield and asked the Council to pass a resolution which would begin the process of stopping the expansion. (Statement attached)

Don Hoyle, Bassetts Bridge Road, described the expansion of the use of fossil fuels as a moral issue and urged the Council to take a new look at where energy is coming from. Marjorie Mollar, Olsen Drive, expressed concern for future generations who will have to contend with significant changes in the climate in the next 25 year if people do not take steps now to limit the use of fossil fuels. (Statement attached)

Peter Millman, Dog Lane, urged the Council to pass a resolution stopping the expansion of infrastructure which will lock us into a technology which is not the future. Mr. Millman submitted materials which outlined many of the reasons it is necessary to reign in greenhouse gas emissions. (Submitted materials will be listed as a communication in the May 11, 2015 packet)

Brian Coleman, Centre Street, spoke about the quiet Spring Weekend, the recruitment of prospective employees, and concerns about the construction process of additional pipelines. Mr. Coleman stated that the construction process is not up to the State or the Town but efforts at conservation are within the Town's purview.

George Rawitscher, Codfish Falls Road, stated that the expansion of the pipeline will retard the development of renewable energy and will result in the additional use of fossil fuels.

Miriam Kurland, Wormwood Hill Road, commented that to stop climate change many steps including conservation, efficiency, and stopping the use of fossil fuel will be necessary. Ms. Kurland stated that the pipeline infrastructure needs to be fixed and that expansion will cost all residents.

David Freudmann, Eastwood Road, stated efforts to stop the pipeline expansion is an exercise in futility and that the energy companies are the ones taking the risk as you can't force someone to buy energy.

April 27, 2015

Julia Sherman, Pinewoods Road, stated that one of the unintended consequences of expansion of the pipeline is the cost of cleanup and asked the Council to show the State where we stand regarding future energy needs.

IV. REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER

In addition to his written report, the Town Manager reviewed the following budget information attached to the report:

- Requested Council scenario adjustments for the proposed FY 2015/16 budget
- Clarification that the net number of Board of Education employees in the proposed budget has decreased by one
- Impact of the proposed mill rate on residential properties following the revaluation

V. REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

No comments offered

Mr. Shapiro moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to move Item 4, Algonquin Pipeline Expansion, as the next item of business.

Motion passed unanimously.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Storrs Center Update

- Downtown Logo
Mansfield Downtown Partnership Executive Director Cynthia vanZelm provided copies of the Partnership's new Downtown Storrs logo and described the areas included in the Downtown Storrs area of focus. Ms. vanZelm noted a number of ways the areas activities are being promoted and marketed including an event calendar, the expansion of various activities, and the use of multiple types of social media.
- Town Square Update
Ms. vanZelm reported the Town Square will be completed this week and invited members to the ribbon cutting ceremony on May 29, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. Other planned events are planned for the summer including live music on Wednesdays in June and July, and a Puppetry Festival in August.
- Other
The Executive Director reported that Hair Cuttery and Wing Stop will be opening this spring/summer and Educational PlayCare will be opening in the fall.

2. Community/Campus Relations

Town Manager Matt Hart reviewed the activities of Spring Weekend 2015. Mr. Hart will be meeting with the State Police and University Personnel to debrief the event and will emphasize the value of the restrictions currently in place. Mr. Shapiro requested that the most recent Spring Weekend 2015 activities be compared to those of a non-Spring Weekend and that the impact on the Town of the weekend before Spring Weekend 2015 be addressed. The Town Manager will provide more data on non-Spring Weekends during both the fall and spring semesters. UConn representatives will be invited to a future meeting to make a presentation on future plans for the Depot Campus.

April 27, 2015

3. Draft: Mansfield Tomorrow Plan of Conservation and Development
Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded, effective April 27, 2015, to endorse the December 2014 Public Hearing Draft of the Mansfield Tomorrow Plan of Conservation and Development, with the changes recommended at the April 9, 2015 Special Town Council meeting and reflected in the minutes of said meeting.
The motion passed with all in favor except Ms. Wassmundt who abstained.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

4. Algonquin Pipeline Expansion

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded that the Town's legislative representatives be sent the following statement:

The Mansfield Town Council wishes to express its concern with the increased use of fossil fuels proposed by the Algonquin Pipeline expansion and by the pollution caused by escaping methane gas. We ask the legislature to consider ways of moderating these impacts.

Members discussed their lack of knowledge on the subject, the concern expressed regarding increased escaping methane gas, the role the Town can play and the Town's carbon footprint impact. Councilors thanked residents for their input.

Mr. Kochenburger requested the last sentence be changed to read: We request that the State Legislature urge regulatory authorities to stay further construction of the pipeline pending additional review.

Accepted as a friendly amendment the motion, as amended, passed with Kochenburger, Moran, Paterson, Ryan, and Shapiro in favor and Kegler, Raymond and Wassmundt opposed.

Mr. Shapiro moved and Ms. Moran seconded to convene as the Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) for the purpose of consideration of the sewer and water sewer budgets.

The motion passed unanimously.

5. WPCA, FY 2014/15 Willimantic Sewer Budget

Mr. Shapiro moved and Mr. Ryan seconded, effective April 27, 2015, to adopt the FY 2014/15 Willimantic Sewer Budget as prepared by town staff. The Finance Director explained the increase and the timing of the budget.

The motion passed unanimously.

6. WPCA, FY 2014/15 UConn Water and Sewer Budget

Mr. Shapiro moved and Mr. Ryan seconded, effective April 27, 2015, to adopt the FY 2014/15 UConn Water and Sewer budget as prepared by town staff.

The Town Manager will verify that Storrs Center is being billed and paying UConn directly for sewer and water usage.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Shapiro moved and Ms. Moran seconded to end the Council's roles as the Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) and reconstitute as the Council.

The motion passed unanimously.

7. Approval of License Agreement between the Town and the Mansfield Downtown Partnership for Office Space

Mr. Ryan moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded to authorize the Town Manager to execute the proposed License Agreement with the Mansfield Downtown Partnership for the use of 820 square feet of office space in the Nash-Zimmer Transportation

April 27, 2015

Center, at an annual rent payment of \$13,120, for the period from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2017

Council members discussed the following concerns in the wording of the License Agreement:

- Item 1. Premises – clarification of the meaning of the phrase, “... which may include any number of parking spaces in the Building...”
- Item 5 License Fee – clarification of the fee which should be \$26,240 for the initial term (initial term is for two years)
- Item 9 Compliance with law; Indemnity – change “personal injury” to “bodily injury”

Mr. Ryan withdrew his motion and the issue will be considered at the next Council meeting.

VIII. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

No comments offered.

IX. DEPARTMENTAL AND COMMITTEE REPORT

No comments offered.

X. PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

8. A. Chandu/F. Huang/M. Lin (04-14-15)

9. Planning and Zoning Commission re: 2015-16 Capitol Improvement Budget

10. W. Rose/M. Hart re: Interlocal Agreement

11. Office Hours with Senator Flexer and State Representatives Haddad & Orange

12. State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection re: funding allocation – Mr. Hart highlighted the receipt of this grant.

13. ICMA Center for Performance Analytics – Inaugural 100 Communities – Mr. Hart noted that Mansfield is one of only a 100 communities who have adopted the ICMA Insights performance evaluation system. Jay Ghassem-Zadeh, the intern who worked on implementation of these standards, will make a presentation to the Council in late May.

14. Town of Mansfield 2013-2014 Annual Report (www.MansfieldCT.gov)

XI. FUTURE AGENDAS

No items identified

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Shapiro moved and Ms. Raymond seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:36 p.m.

The motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

April 27, 2015

Box 486
Mansfield, CT 06250
April 27, 2015

To: Mansfield Town Council

Last Thursday, Governor Malloy and other New England governors had an energy summit in Hartford. As part of this, the Connecticut Consumer Counsel warned of blackouts if natural gas capacity was not increased. Malloy talked about needing more natural gas transmission capacity to run New England power plants. The Malloy administration is pushing the expansion of natural gas use through Connecticut and in Connecticut. Eversource says that more natural gas is needed to keep energy prices down.

There are several things that contradict these statements. First there is a bill pending, SB 1078 that would pass the cost of Eversource obtaining more natural gas capacity to every electric ratepayer in Connecticut. The concern for energy prices for consumers is not apparent there.

Last Wednesday, the Malloy administration recommitted to an energy goal of cutting greenhouse gas emissions to 80 % of 2001 levels by 2050. Malloy is creating a Governor's Council on Climate Change to meet this challenge. An independent report says this will be difficult to accomplish.

It is going to be difficult because natural gas is not clean energy. Unlike coal and oil, natural gas is a greenhouse gas. The gas companies are not concerned about gas leakage and freely vent natural gas into the air at their compressor stations and metering and regulation stations. When natural gas is burned, it produces carbon dioxide that is also a greenhouse gas. Several scientific reports show that the planned gas expansion across the country will increase global warming by 2050.

The Malloy administration is planning to add 300,000 new natural gas customers in Connecticut. This plan shows that the natural gas expansion is not about keeping power plants running. The planned expansion of natural gas transmission includes increasing the capacity to carry gas to ports on the east coast and Canada where companies are already applying for licenses to export this gas overseas.

Stopping this expansion will not be easy, but it is worth the attempt. Perhaps we should not care that most of this gas that will be transported across Connecticut comes from hydraulic fracking in other parts of this country which contaminates the air and water in those locales. That will not happen here. We should care that this expansion will increase global warming that affects everyone on the planet.

The Algonquin Pipeline expansion is to be done in at least three projects called AIM, Atlantic Bridge, and Access North. We may not be able to stop the first project that has been approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). However, the other two have not been approved, and we can have an impact on whether they ever proceed. I ask the Mansfield Town Council to pass the resolution in the petition to begin the movement to stop the expansion. Nobody thought the people of New York could stop hydraulic fracking from occurring, but they did.

Sincerely yours,

Gary Bent

To: Mansfield Town Council
From: Marjorie Mollar
April 27, 2015

I have been a resident of Mansfield for the past ten years and a resident of this planet for seventy four years. In the time I have lived here in Connecticut, I have learned that ten years barely gets you in the door. But seventy four years on the planet may carry more weight.

I am not a scientist. I rely on those with more credentials, whom I trust, to help me understand what is happening to the essence of the life of all living things on this earth. I have learned enough to hold within me deep concerns for the not so distant future as it will affect mine and your children and grandchildren.

To the best of my understanding, unless we make significant changes now, within twenty five years or less, we will be dealing with extremes in the climate that will pose a threat to all forms life as we know it.

I know that I, by myself, cannot do everything. But I want to be able to look at my grandchildren and say, "This is what I tried to do." I think you would like to be able to do the same.

I recently learned of some of the problems associated with a local project, the proposed expansion of the natural gas pipelines that go through our town. I'm here tonight to ask you to do what you can to stop this project.

The problems with the Algonquin pipeline are numerous:

- * An increase in methane emissions and other gases represent a threat to the health of people in the area.

- *Our electric rates will be increased when the ratepayers will be required to pay the costs of this expansion

- *The increased reliance on natural gas decreases our efforts to develop renewable sources of energy.

For these reasons I ask you to please pass a resolution asking our state representatives to oppose the expansion of the pipelines.

SPECIAL MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
April 28, 2015
DRAFT

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the special 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: Kegler, Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Raymond, Ryan, Shapiro, Wassmundt

II. STAFF REPORTS

The Director of Finance provided information previously requested by Councilors, staff responded to questions on the updates. The Town Manager reported that he will have information on the fully built out value of Storrs Center's Phase 2 and Phase 3 in the near future.

III. ADOPTION OF BUDGET AND RECOMMENDED APPROPRIATIONS

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

RESOLVED: That the General Fund Budget for the Town of Mansfield, totaling \$38,644,100 is hereby adopted as the proposed operating budget for the Town of Mansfield for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016.

RESOLVED: That the Capital Fund Budget for the Town of Mansfield, totaling \$2,478,900 is hereby adopted as the capital improvements to be undertaken during fiscal year 2015/16 or later years.

RESOLVED: That the proposed Capital and Non-Recurring Reserve Fund Budget for fiscal year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 in the amount of \$2,240,470 be adopted.

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

RESOLVED: That the proposed General Fund Budget for the Town of Mansfield for fiscal year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 in the amount of \$38,644,100 which proposed budget was adopted by the Council on April (to be determined), 2015, be adopted and that the sums estimated and set forth in said budget be appropriated for the purpose indicated.

RESOLVED: That in accordance with the 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, 2015 to June 30,

April 28, 2015

2016 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, 2015 to June 30, 2016 in the amount of \$2,478,900 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, 2015 to June 30, 2016 in the amount of \$2,240,470 be adopted.

Mr. Ryan moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded to amend the motion to add \$148,000 to the Fund Balance Budget.
The motion passed with Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Ryan, and Shapiro in favor and Kegler, Raymond and Wassmundt opposed.

Mr. Kegler moved and Ms. Raymond seconded to amend the motion by eliminating the three additional positions in the Town Government budget.

Mr. Shapiro moved and Ms. Moran seconded to divide the question and consider each position separately.
The motion to divide passed with Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Ryan, Shapiro and Wassmundt in favor and Kegler and Raymond opposed.

The motion to further amend the motion by eliminating the Finance position failed with Kegler, Raymond and Wassmundt in favor and Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Ryan and Shapiro in opposition.

The motion to further amend the motion by eliminating the Public Works Specialist position failed with Kegler, Raymond and Wassmundt in favor and Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Ryan and Shapiro in opposition.

The motion to further amend the motion by eliminating the fulltime Firefighter position failed with Kegler, Raymond and Wassmundt in favor and Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Ryan and Shapiro in opposition.

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to amend the amended motion by not filling the Firefighter position earlier than January 1, 2016. The motion passed with Kegler, Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Raymond, Ryan, and Shapiro in favor and Wassmundt opposed.

Mr. Shapiro moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to amend the amended motion by reducing the General Fund contribution to Capital for the playground account in the amount of \$40,000. The motion passed unanimously.

April 28, 2015

Mr. Shapiro moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to amend the amended motion by reducing the Engineering account for Dam EAP by \$17,800. The motion passed unanimously.

The Director of Finance provided the new amounts for the General Fund, Capital Fund and Capital and Non-Recurring Reserve Fund and estimated the resulting mill rate will be 30.13.

The Fiscal Year 2015/2016 Budget, as amended, passed with Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Ryan, and Shapiro in favor and Kegler, Raymond and Wassmundt opposed.

The motion now reads:

RESOLVED: That the General Fund Budget for the Town of Mansfield, totaling \$38,553,720 is hereby adopted as the proposed operating budget for the Town of Mansfield for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016.

RESOLVED: That the Capital Fund Budget for the Town of Mansfield, totaling \$2,438,900 is hereby adopted as the capital improvements to be undertaken during fiscal year 2015/16 or later years.

RESOLVED: That the proposed Capital and Non-Recurring Reserve Fund Budget for fiscal year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 in the amount of \$2,200,470 be adopted.

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

RESOLVED: That the proposed General Fund Budget for the Town of Mansfield for fiscal year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 in the amount of \$38,553,720 which proposed budget was adopted by the Council on April 28, 2015, be adopted and that the sums estimated and set forth in said budget be appropriated for the purpose indicated.

RESOLVED: That in accordance with the 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, 2015 to June 30, 2016 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, 2015 to June 30, 2016 in the amount of \$2,438,900 be adopted provided that the portion proposed to be funded by bonds or notes shall, at the appropriate times,

April 28, 2015

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, 2015 to June 30, 2016 in the amount of \$2,200,470 be adopted.

IV. NEXT STEPS

The Town Manager outlined the Town's efforts to publicize the upcoming Town Meeting and budget information including an expanded version of the Mansfield Minute to be mailed to all residents, Q-Notify, ads, and bill boards around Town. There will also be a Council Information Session held on May 6, 2015 in the Council Chamber.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Shapiro moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:01 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth C. Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

April 28, 2015

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BREAK



**Town of Mansfield
Agenda Item Summary**

To: Town Council
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager *MWH*
CC: Maria Capriola, Assistant Town Manager; Cherie Trahan, Director of Finance; Cynthia van Zelm, Executive Director, Mansfield Downtown Partnership
Date: May 11, 2015
Re: Approval of License Agreement between Town and the Mansfield Downtown Partnership for Office Space

Subject Matter/Background

Attached please find a proposed two-year License Agreement between the Town and the Mansfield Downtown Partnership (MDP) for the Partnership's use of office space at the Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center (NZTC). The term of the agreement would run from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2017.

On September 9, 2013, the Town Council approved an operations plan for the NZTC, which included rental of the 2nd floor space by the Partnership. The MDP moved in on April 1, 2014 and began paying rent of \$1,000 a month, including utilities.

The Partnership office will remain in the Transportation Center for the foreseeable future. Staff proposes the Partnership be charged at a rate of \$20 per square foot for 820 feet of office space, with a discount rate of 20% as the Town's municipal development agency for Storrs Center. This would translate to rent of \$24,240 over the two-year term or \$13,120 per year. The proposed rent represents a 9.3% increase over the current rent of \$12,000 per year. Staff reviewed the proposed rate with the Partnership's Finance and Administration Committee, which has incorporated the proposed rent into the Partnership's FY 2015/16 operating budget.

The Town Council reviewed the proposed license agreement at its regular meeting on April 27, 2015 and identified the following concerns:

- Par 1. Premises – clarify the meaning of the phrase, "... which may include any number of parking spaces in the Building...". Staff has revised the language to clarify the Partnership shall make its own arrangements for parking.

- Par. 5. License Fee – clarify that the fee should read \$26,240 for the initial term (initial term is for two years). Staff has made this revision.
- Par. 9. Compliance with law; Indemnity – change “personal injury” to “bodily injury.” Staff has made this revision.

In addition, I have made the following modifications for your consideration:

- Par. 3. Termination - extended the notice period from 1 to six months
- Par. 7. Utilities and Maintenance - clarified the responsibilities of the parties for interior and exterior maintenance

Legal Review

Town Attorney Kevin Deneen has approved the form of the Agreement.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Council authorize me to execute the proposed License Agreement with the Mansfield Downtown Partnership.

If the Town Council concurs with staff's recommendation, the following motion is in order:

Move, to authorize the Town Manager to execute the proposed License Agreement with +the Mansfield Downtown Partnership for the use of 820 square feet of office space in the Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center, with a rent payment of \$24,240 for the 24-month Term commencing on July 1, 2015 and expiring on June 30, 2017.

Attachments

- 1) License Agreement (revised)

LICENSE AGREEMENT

This License Agreement is entered into by and between the **TOWN OF MANSFIELD**, a municipal corporation organized and existing under the law of the State of Connecticut, with a principal mailing address at the Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building, Four South Eagleville Road, Mansfield, CT 06268 ("Licensor"), and the **MANSFIELD DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP, INC.**, organized and existing under the law of the State of Connecticut, with a current principal mailing address at 23 Royce Circle, P.O. Box 513, Mansfield, CT 06268 ("Licensee").

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, the Licensor is the owner of property and premises located at **23 Royce Circle, Mansfield, CT 06268**, ("the Property") upon which lies the building commonly known as the Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center ("the Building"); and the Licensee is the Municipal Development Agency of said Licensor, the Town of Mansfield, ("Property");

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the promises and of the mutual covenants and agreements herein contained, and other valuable considerations, the sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Licensor hereby agrees to license the Licensee to occupy a portion of the Property as follows:

1. **Premises.** The Licensor agrees to permit the Licensee to occupy and use that portion of the Building as outlined in Exhibit "A" (herein called "Premises") a total of approximately 920 square feet gross and 820 square feet net, which will also include access to and use of common areas, rest rooms and meeting rooms. Licensee will be responsible for making its own arrangements for parking.
2. **Term.** This License shall have a term of twenty-four (24) months , commencing on July 1, 2015 and expiring at midnight on June 30, 2017. If there is to be any subsequent term, it shall be negotiated by the parties and memorialized in writing prior to the end of the additional term.
3. **Termination.** Either Party may terminate this license with or without cause upon six (6) months' written notice to the other party.
4. **Space "As Is".** Licensee has inspected the Premises to be licensed and agrees the area to be licensed is in good repair and order and takes the Licensed Area "As Is". Licensor makes no warranty, express or implied, as to the suitability of the licensed premises for the Licensee's intended use or purpose and expressly disclaims any such warranty.
5. **License Fee.** The Licensee will pay to Licensor a fee equal to \$26,240 13,120 during the initial Term ("License Fee"). The Fee will be paid in equal monthly installments of

\$1,100.00, due on or before the first day of each month ("Monthly License Fee"). Utilities, including the provision of water, electricity, heat, hot water, and internet are included in said Monthly License Fee. At its option, the Licensee may pay the total License Fee for any term in advance.

6. **Payment.** Payments should be presented to: **Town of Mansfield, Finance Department, ATTN: Cherie A. Trahan, Director of Finance, 4 South Eagleville Road, Mansfield, CT 06268**, or to such address as the Licensor shall from time-to-time provide the Licensee.
7. **Utilities and Maintenance.** Utilities and maintenance are included in the License Fee. Licensee agrees that during the term of this License it shall assume responsibility to keep the Premises neat and orderly, and shall not make, suffer or permit any waste of the Premises.

The Licensor shall maintain any landscaping and plow out exterior parking spaces, sidewalks and other areas under its control. The Licensor shall perform daily and periodic maintenance, and pick up garbage and recyclables from dumpsters on the Premises.

Licensee shall not be responsible for major repairs or structural maintenance and/or capital replacement of the roof, walls, windows, heating apparatus, water pipes, electrical system, or other utility systems (not of the fault of the Licensee and its invitees).

8. **Licensor's Occupancy in Building and Premises.** The Licensee knows that the Licensor, or its other tenants or licensees, occupies the remainder of the Building and Property and Licensee will not interfere with Licensor's use or uses of the remaining Property and Building.
9. **Compliance with law; Indemnity.** Licensee, and its officers, directors, members, employees, volunteers, invitees, servants, agents, representatives, contractors, subcontractors, successors and assigns (collectively "Licensee Indemnitors"), shall not do or permit any act or thing to be done upon the Property and/or in connection with this License which violates any governmental law, statute, code, rule, regulation, grant, ordinance or order, including those of any federal, state, county or Mansfield entity, commission, department, board, agency or official (collectively "Laws"). Licensee, on behalf of itself and all Licensee Indemnitors, shall indemnify, defend and hold Licensor and all Licensor Indemnitees harmless from and against any and all Claims which may be directly and/or indirectly imposed upon, incurred by or asserted against Licensor and/or any Licensor Indemnitee, (except for Claims arising solely out of the gross negligence, reckless and/or willful or intentional misconduct of Licensor and/or any Licensor Indemnitee), arising out of, related to and/or in connection with use and occupancy of the Property. Licensee shall obtain and maintain in force for the benefit of itself and Licensor general public liability insurance in the amount of not less than

\$1,000,000.00 combined single limit coverage against claims for bodily injury, death, or property damage.

10. **Inspection.** Upon reasonable notice, the Licensor, by its authorized personnel, may enter upon the Premises at any reasonable time and in a manner consistent with the Licensee's policies, for any purpose necessary, incidental to or connected with the performance of the provisions of this License Agreement or in the exercise of its governmental functions. In the event of an emergency or threat thereof, as reasonably determined in the Licensor's sole discretion, the Licensor shall have the right to immediately enter the Premises.
11. **Surrender of Possession.** Upon the expiration or other termination of this License Agreement, the Licensee's authority to use and occupy the Premises and Property and any structures and/or improvements thereon shall cease and the Licensee shall, upon such expiration or termination, promptly surrender the Premises and any structures and/or improvements thereon to the Licensor. Personal Property of the Licensee not removed upon the expiration or termination of the leasehold and surrender of the Premises shall be considered abandoned, and Licensor shall have the fair authority of Licensee to dispose of said property at the full discretion of the Licensor.
12. **Assignment and Subletting.** The Licensee shall not, at any time, assign this License Agreement or any part hereof, nor shall the Licensee sublicense the Property or any part thereof, nor shall the Licensee grant any licenses or concessions in connection with the Property, without the prior written consent of the Licensor.
13. **Quiet Enjoyment.** The Licensor agrees that, on payment of the License Fee, performance of the agreements required hereunder on the part of the Licensee, the Licensee shall peaceably have and enjoy the Premises and the rights granted herein during the Term of this License Agreement, subject to other uses of the property stated in paragraph 9.
14. **Modifications.** This License Agreement contains all understandings, covenants, and agreements between the parties hereto, and the provisions herein contained shall be modified or amended only by written agreement duly executed by the Licensor and the Licensee.
15. **Notices.** Notices to the Licensor shall be sufficient if addressed to: **Matthew W. Hart, Town Manager, Town of Mansfield, Four South Eagleville Road, Mansfield, CT 06268;** with a copy sent to: **Kevin Deneen, Esquire, O'Malley, Deneen, Leary, Messina & Oswecki, 20 Maple Avenue, Windsor, CT 06095.** Notices to the Licensee shall be sufficient if addressed to: **Cynthia van Zelm, Executive Director, Mansfield Downtown Partnership, Inc., Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center, P.O. Box 513, 23 Royce Circle, Mansfield, CT 06268;** with a copy sent to: **John Zaccaro, Cipparone & Zaccaro, P.C., 261**

Williams Street, New London, CT 06320. If not hand delivered, such notices must be sent by registered or certified mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, or by nationally recognized messenger or courier service guaranteeing overnight delivery, postage prepaid.

16. **Severability.** Each provision hereof shall be separate and independent and the breach of any such provision by the Licensor or Licensee shall not discharge or relieve the other party from its obligations to perform each and every covenant to be performed hereunder. If any provision hereof or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall to any extent be invalid or unenforceable, the remaining provisions hereof, or the application of such provision to persons or circumstances other than those to which it is invalid or unenforceable, shall not be affected thereby, and each provision hereof shall be valid and enforceable to the extent permitted by law. All provisions contained in this License Agreement shall be binding upon, inure to the benefit of, and be enforceable by, the respective successors and assigns of the Licensor and Licensee to the same extent as if each such successor and assign were named as a party hereto.
17. **Governing Law.** This License Agreement shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of Connecticut.
18. **Counterparts.** This License Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which as executed shall be deemed to be an original, but all such counterparts shall constitute one and the same instrument.

[SIGNATURES AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS COMMENCE ON NEXT PAGE]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Town of Mansfield has caused this License Agreement to be executed in its name by the Town Manager and affixed its official seal, and the said Licensee has caused this License Agreement to be duly executed, this _____ day of _____, 2015.

Signed, Sealed and Delivered
In the presence of:

LICENSOR: TOWN OF MANSFIELD

Witness: _____

By _____

Matthew W. Hart
Its Town Manager
Duly Authorized

Witness: _____

LICENSEE: MANSFIELD
DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP, INC.

Witness: _____

By _____

Cynthia van Zelm
Its Executive Director
Duly Authorized

Witness: _____



**Town of Mansfield
Agenda Item Summary**

To: Town Council
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager *MWH*
CC: Maria Capriola, Assistant Town Manager; John Carrington, Director of Public Works; Transportation Advisory Committee
Date: May 11, 2015
Re: Proclamation Recognizing National Bike Month 2015

Subject Matter/Background

During the month of May 2015, the League of American Bicyclists, Bike Walk Connecticut, bicycle clubs, schools, parks and recreation departments, police departments, hospitals, companies and civic groups throughout Connecticut will be promoting bicycling as a leisure activity as well as an environmentally-friendly alternative to the automobile.

Connecticut and Mansfield's road and trail systems attract many bicyclists each year. These bicycling activities and attractions have great potential to have a positive impact on the local and regional economy and tourism industry, and to stimulate economic development by making the state and Town attractive to businesses and citizens who enjoy the outdoors and healthy lifestyles. Creating bicycle-friendly communities has been shown to improve citizens' health, well-being, and quality of life, to boost community spirit, to improve traffic safety, and to reduce pollution and congestion.

In recognition of National Bike Month 2015, the Transportation Advisory Committee has requested the Town Council issue the attached proclamation.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Council authorize Mayor Paterson to issue the attached proclamation. If the Town Council concurs with this recommendation, the following motion is in order:

Move, to authorize the Mayor to issue the attached Proclamation Recognizing National Bike Month 2015.

Attachments

- 1) Proclamation Recognizing National Bike Month 2015



Town of Mansfield
Proclamation Recognizing National Bike Month 2015

WHEREAS, the bicycle is a viable and environmentally sound form of transportation and an excellent form of recreation; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Nutmegers will experience the joys of bicycling during the month of May through educational programs, races, commuting events, trail work days, helmet promotion, charity events, or just getting out and going for a ride; and

WHEREAS, Connecticut and Mansfield's road and trail systems attracts many bicyclists each year, providing economic, health, and scenic benefits to citizens of Connecticut and Mansfield; and

WHEREAS, these bicycling activities and attractions have great potential to have a positive impact on the local and regional economy and tourism industry and to stimulate economic development by making the state and Town attractive to businesses and citizens who enjoy the out of doors and healthy lifestyles; and

WHEREAS, creating bicycle-friendly communities has been shown to improve citizens' health, well-being, and quality of life, to boost community spirit, to improve traffic safety, and to reduce pollution and congestion; and

WHEREAS, May has been declared National Bike Month for each of the last 54 years, and is so again in 2015; and

WHEREAS, the League of American Bicyclists, Bike Walk Connecticut, bicycle clubs, schools, parks and recreation departments, police departments, hospitals, companies and civic groups throughout Connecticut will be promoting bicycling as a leisure activity as well as an environmentally-friendly alternative to the automobile during the month of May 2015; and

WHEREAS, the education of bicyclists and motorists as to the proper and safe operation of bicycles is important to ensure the safety and comfort of all users; and

WHEREAS, Bike Walk Connecticut, Bike Mansfield and other organizations across the state will promote bicycle safety during the month of May 2015:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of the Mansfield Town Council concurring therein, hereby recognize the month of May 2015 as National Bike Month and Bicycle Safety Month, and the week of May 11-15, 2015, as Bike to Work Week; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council urges all who support bicycling to participate in the events planned and urges all road users to share the road safely with bicyclists.

Elizabeth C. Paterson
Mayor, Town of Mansfield



**Town of Mansfield
Agenda Item Summary**

To: Town Council
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager *MH*
CC: Maria Capriola, Assistant Town Manager; Linda Painter, Director of Planning and Development; Curt Vincente, Director of Parks and Recreation; Jessie Richard, Community Development Assistant
Date: May 11, 2015
Re: Neighborhood Assistance Act Programs

Subject Matter/Background

The Connecticut Department of Revenue Services has issued a solicitation for program applications for the 2015 Neighborhood Assistance Act Program. This program provides funding for community programs conducted by either a municipal government or tax exempt agency through a corporation tax credit to businesses that make cash contributions to the town. The community program must be approved by both the municipal agency and the Department of Revenue Services. Businesses can receive a Connecticut Tax Credit for their contributions to municipal programs that are approved by the Department of Revenue Services. The amount of the tax credit is determined by the type of project in which the business invests. The minimum investment required is \$250; the maximum investment for a business in any calendar year is \$150,000.

Eligible Programs

The following types of projects and community programs would be eligible for funding through the Neighborhood Assistance Act:

- *Energy Conservation Projects* (Tax Credit of 100% of cash invested) including projects to promote energy conservation that are directed toward properties occupied by low-income persons or properties owned or occupied by charitable organizations, foundations, trusts or other entities.
- *Community Programs* (Tax Credit of 60% of cash invested) including programs that provide community-based alcoholism prevention or treatment programs; neighborhood assistance; job training; education; community services; crime prevention; construction or rehabilitation of dwelling units for families of low and moderate income in the state; funding for open space acquisitions; child day care facilities (must be primarily for children of employees of the sponsoring business); and any other program

that serves persons at least 75% of whom are at an income level not exceeding 150% of the poverty level for the preceding year.

In 2012, the Town received partial funding for energy efficiency improvements through the Town's housing rehabilitation program, and in 2012, 2013 and 2014 the Town received funding for a water harvesting project at the Mansfield Community Center. Based on those awards and the criteria identified above, we would recommend resubmission of the following projects.

- *Water Harvesting at Mansfield Community Center.* This project includes installation of a system to collect, filter, store, and re-use rainwater from building roof areas. This project will make the facility more sustainable by reducing or eliminating the need for water from the local water supply system (UConn water system managed by Connecticut Water). Based on conversations with the Department of Revenue Services, we believe this project could qualify for the 100% tax credit for energy conservation programs. (2012 Funding: \$12,894.71)

- *Playground Construction at Mansfield Community Center.* The proposed community playground will be centrally located near downtown, Town Hall and the Community Center, and provide an accessible playscape for kids and families of all ages and abilities.

Pursuant to program guidelines, we are required to hold a public hearing regarding proposed program applications. Additional projects could be identified through the public hearing by members of the community as well as local non-profit organizations. A solicitation was sent out to local non-profits on April 28th, asking for submission of proposed projects by May 29, 2015 for consideration at a June 8, 2015 public hearing. The Town Council must vote to approve the programs prior to application, including those submitted by non-profit organizations.

Timeline

Applications for municipal programs must be submitted to the Department of Revenue Services by July 1, 2015. The Department will issue a list of approved programs by September 1, 2015. Businesses interested in funding any of the approved programs must submit a Neighborhood Assistance Business Act Application to the Department of Revenue Services between September 15 and October 1, 2015.

Financial Impact

The financial impact would depend on the program. Draft project applications including budgets identifying funding sources and expenses for each project will be presented at the public hearing.

Legal Review

No legal review is required at this time.

Recommendation

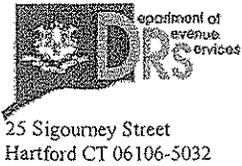
Staff recommends that the Council schedule a public hearing for June 8, 2015 to receive public comment regarding potential program applications for the Neighborhood Assistance Program.

If the Town Council agrees with this recommendation, the following motion is in order:

Move, to schedule a public hearing for 7:30 PM at the Town Council's regular meeting on June 8, 2015, to solicit public comment regarding potential program applications to the Neighborhood Assistance Program.

Attachments

- 1) Neighborhood Assistance Act Information Sheet



25 Sigourney Street
Hartford CT 06106-5032

INFORMATIONAL PUBLICATION

The Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit Program

Purpose: This Informational Publication explains the Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) Tax Credit Program.

Effective Date: Upon issuance.

Statutory Authority: Conn. Gen. Stat. §12-630aa et. seq.

Definitions: For purposes of the NAA tax credit program:

Business firm means any business entity authorized to do business in Connecticut and subject to any of the following taxes:

- Insurance Companies and Health Care Centers (Chapter 207);
- Corporation Business (Chapter 208);
- Air Carriers (Chapter 209);
- Railroad Companies (Chapter 210);
- Certified Competitive Video Service Companies (Chapter 211);
- Community Antenna Television System Companies (Chapter 211);
- Satellite Companies (Chapter 211);
- Utility Companies (Chapter 212); or
- Business Entity (Chapter 213a). For purposes of a business entity subject to the Business Entity Tax, the credit may only be used by the members or partners of the entity that are subject to the Corporation Business Tax.

Donation of money to an open space acquisition fund means money contributed to an open space acquisition fund of any political subdivision of the state or any nonprofit land conservation organization.

The money must be used for the purchase of land, interest in land, or permanent conservation restriction on land to be permanently preserved as protected open space.

Energy conservation projects means programs to promote energy conservation that are directed toward properties where at least 75% of occupants are at an income level not exceeding 150% of the poverty level for the year immediately preceding the year during which the tax credit is to be granted or at properties owned or occupied

by charitable corporations, foundations, trusts, or other entities. Such projects include, but are not limited to:

- Energy conserving modification or replacement of windows and doors;
- Caulking and weather-stripping;
- Insulation;
- Automatic energy control systems;
- Hot water systems;
- Equipment required to operate variable steam, hydraulic, and ventilating systems;
- Replacement of burners, furnaces, or boilers;
- Electrical or mechanical furnace ignition systems; or
- Replacement or modification of lighting fixtures.

The Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit Program: The NAA Tax Credit Program provides a tax credit to business firms that make cash investments in qualifying community programs conducted by tax exempt or municipal agencies.

The credit may be applied against the following taxes:

- Insurance Companies and Health Care Centers (Chapter 207);
- Corporation Business (Chapter 208);
- Air Carriers (Chapter 209);
- Railroad Companies (Chapter 210);
- Certified Competitive Video Service Companies (Chapter 211);
- Community Antenna Television System Companies (Chapter 211);
- Satellite Companies (Chapter 211); and
- Utility Companies (Chapter 212).

The community programs must be approved by both the municipality in which the programs are conducted and by the Department of Revenue Services (DRS).

Community Programs That Qualify for the NAA Tax Credit Program: Listed below are examples of the types of programs that qualify for the NAA tax credit and the amount of the available credit.

A tax credit equal to 100% of the cash invested is available to business firms that invest in energy conservation projects.

A tax credit equal to 60% of the cash invested is available to business firms that invest in programs that provide:

- Neighborhood assistance;
- Job training;
- Education;
- Community services;
- Crime prevention;
- Construction or rehabilitation of dwelling units for families of low and moderate income in the state;
- Donation of money to an open space acquisition fund;
- Child day care facilities;
- Child care services;
- Employment and training programs directed at handicapped persons;
- Employment and training programs for unemployed workers who are 50 years of age or older;
- Education and employment training programs for recipients in the temporary family assistance program;
- Community-based alcoholism prevention or treatment;
- or
- Any other program which serves a group of individuals where at least 75% of the individuals are at an income not exceeding 150% of the poverty level for the year immediately preceding the year during which the tax credit is to be granted.

Obtaining Approval for the NAA Tax Credit Program:

Tax exempt entities and municipal agencies desiring to obtain benefits under the NAA must complete **Form NAA-01, Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act Program Proposal**, Parts I, II, and III and submit the form to the municipal agency overseeing the implementation of the proposal. The overseeing municipal agency then completes Form NAA-01, Part IV and submits the form to DRS on or before July 1 of each year. Prior to submitting Form NAA-01 to DRS, each municipality must hold a public hearing on all program applications. The governing body of the municipality must vote to approve the programs. Copies of the public hearing notice and minutes of the meeting approving the programs must be submitted by the municipality to DRS with the approved program proposals.

Limits on the Amount of Contributions That May Be Made or on the Amount of Tax Credit Available: The NAA Tax Credit Program has several statutory limits which must be observed, including the following:

- A business firm is limited to receiving \$150,000 in tax credits annually; however, the amount of tax credit allowed any business firm for investments in child day care facilities for any income year may not exceed \$50,000.

- The minimum contribution on which a tax credit can be granted is \$250.
- Any organization conducting a program or programs eligible for funding under the NAA is limited to receiving an aggregate of \$150,000 of funding for any program or programs for any fiscal year.
- The total amount of all tax credits allowed in any fiscal year is \$5 million, which, if exceeded, results in prorating the approved tax credits among the approved organizations.

Business Applications Deadlines: Each business firm requesting a tax credit under the NAA Tax Credit Program must complete a separate **Form NAA-02, Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) Business Application**, for each program it wishes to sponsor. Form NAA-02 must be submitted to DRS on or after September 15 but not later than October 1 of each year. Business firms may electronically submit their application by emailing a signed Form NAA-02 to NAAProgram@ct.gov. Any application that is not electronically submitted may be mailed or hand-delivered to DRS.

Claiming the Tax Credit: DRS issues an NAA program approval letter to business firms that make cash investments in qualified community programs. The letter indicates the tax credit amount that may be claimed on the applicable business tax return. The tax credit amount must also be entered on **Form CT-1120K, Business Tax Credit Summary**, and/or **Form CT-207K, Insurance/Health Care Tax Credit Schedule**.

Carry Back Provisions: The amount of tax credit that is not taken on the tax return of a business firm for the income year beginning during the calendar year in which the program proposal was approved may be carried back to the two immediately preceding income years (beginning with the earlier of the years). No carry forward is allowed.

Obtaining Additional Information: Direct inquiries to:

Department of Revenue Services
Research Unit
25 Sigourney St Ste 2
Hartford CT 06106

Call: 860-297-5687

Email: DRS.TaxResearch@po.state.ct.us

Effect on Other Documents: Informational Publication 2013(9), The Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act Tax Credit Program, is superseded and may not be relied upon after the date of issuance of this Publication.

Effect of This Document: An Informational Publication issued by DRS addresses frequently asked questions about a current position, policy, or practice, usually in a less technical question and answer format.

Related Forms and Publications: Request the most recent edition of the following forms: **Form NAA-01**, *Neighborhood Assistance Act Program Proposal*, and **Form NAA-02**, *Neighborhood Assistance Act Business Application*.

For Further Information: Call DRS during business hours, Monday through Friday:

- 1-800-382-9463 (Connecticut calls outside the Greater Hartford calling area only); or
- 860-297-5962 (from anywhere).

TTY, TDD, and Text Telephone users only may transmit inquiries anytime by calling 860-297-4911.

Forms and Publications: Visit the DRS website at www.ct.gov/DRS to download and print Connecticut tax forms and publications.

Paperless Filing/Payment Methods (fast, easy, free, and confidential): Business and individual taxpayers can use the **Taxpayer Service Center (TSC)** at www.ct.gov/TSC to file a variety of tax returns, update account information, and make payments online.

File Electronically: You can choose first-time filer information and filing assistance or log directly into the **TSC** to file returns and pay taxes.

Pay Electronically: You can pay taxes for tax returns that cannot be filed through the **TSC**. Log in and select the *Make Payment Only* option. Designate a payment date up to the due date of the tax and mail a paper return to complete the filing process.

DRS E-Alerts Service: Get connected to the latest news from DRS. Receive notification by email of changes to legislation, policies, and procedures. **DRS E-Alerts** provide information for employer's withholding tax, News – Press Releases, and Top 100 Delinquency List. Visit the DRS website at www.ct.gov/DRS and select *Sign up for e-alerts* under *How Do I?* on the gold navigation bar.



**Town of Mansfield
Agenda Item Summary**

To: Town Council
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager *MWH*
CC: Maria Capriola, Assistant Town Manager; Cherie Trahan, Director of Finance; Amy Meriwether, Accounting Manager
Date: May 11, 2015
Re: BlumShapiro Operational and Financial Controls Review

Subject Matter/Background

Attached please find the reports and related information provided by BlumShapiro as part its Operational and Financial Controls Review. The Finance Committee will discuss the reports in detail at its May 11th meeting and will be asked to recommend that the full Council accept the review and authorize management to implement the consultant's recommendations.

Recommendation

If the Finance Committee wishes to recommend that the full Council accept the review and authorize management to implement the recommendations, the following motion is in order:

Move, effective May 11, 2015, to accept the Operational and Financial Controls Review performed by the firm of Blum, Shapiro & Company, P.C. and to authorize management to implement the recommendations set out in the report.

Attachments

1) See attachments in 05/11/15 Finance Committee Packet

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**Town of Mansfield
Agenda Item Summary**

To: Town Council
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager *MH*
CC: Maria Capriola, Assistant Town Manager; Cherie Trahan, Director of Finance; Amy Meriwether, Accounting Manager
Date: May 11, 2015
Re: Appointment of Auditor to Conduct Financial Audit for Fiscal Year 2014/15

Subject Matter/Background

Section 7-392(c) and 4-232 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, requires that each municipality annually designate an independent public accounting firm to audit the books and accounts of that government. This audit was performed last year by Blum, Shapiro & Company, P.C., as the third year of a three-year contract (with an option to extend two years).

Staff recommends the Town Council extend the contract and appoint BlumShapiro to conduct the audit for FY 2014/15. The Finance Committee will review staff's recommendation at its meeting on May 11th in advance of the regular Council meeting.

Financial Impact

The Proposed FY 2015/16 budget includes funds to cover the audit fees of \$46,810.

Recommendation

If the Finance Committee wishes to recommend the appointment of BlumShapiro to the Town Council, the following motion is in order:

Move, to appoint Blum Shapiro and Company, P.C. as the auditing firm for the Town of Mansfield for Fiscal Year 2014/15.

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Petition to Stop the Algonquin Pipeline Expansion

Mansfield Town Council:

- Whereas global warming is damaging the health and well-being of people throughout the world and will do much more damage in the future if the burning of fossil fuels is not stopped,
- Whereas natural gas is a greenhouse gas that contributes to global warming and traps 34 times more heat than carbon dioxide,
- Whereas natural gas leakage from natural gas production and transmission are 25% to 33% of all emissions of natural gas into the air which is equivalent to releasing 50 million tons of carbon dioxide into the air every year,
- Whereas the burning of natural gas produces carbon dioxide that remains for 300 to 1000 years in the air,
- Whereas the AIM and Access Northeast expansions of the Algonquin Pipeline will increase the amount of natural gas transmitted through Connecticut,
- Whereas the expansion of the Pipeline will increase the production of natural gas from hydraulic fracking in Pennsylvania,
- Whereas a recent scientific study shows that expanding natural gas production could increase carbon dioxide emissions by 11% by 2050,
- Whereas climate scientists are in agreement that the temperature increase since the year 2000 cannot exceed two degrees Fahrenheit without catastrophic damage to our planet,
- Whereas a scientific study shows that 50% of all natural gas reserves need to be unused from 2010 to 2050 to avoid exceeding two degrees Fahrenheit,

We the undersigned ask the Town of Mansfield to pass a resolution calling upon our state legislators to oppose the expansion of the Algonquin Pipeline through Mansfield including increasing the capacity of the Chaplin Compressor Station at 530 Tower Hill Road.

Petition to Stop the Algonquin Pipeline Expansion

Mansfield Town Council:

We the undersigned ask the Town of Mansfield to pass a resolution calling upon our state legislators to oppose the expansion of the Algonquin Pipeline through Mansfield including increasing the capacity of the Chaplin Compressor Station at 530 Tower Hill Road.

Name	Phone	Email	Address	Town
Jeremy Haddad	860-341-6005	haddadjer@my.easternct.edu	108 Crane Hill Road	Storrs
Barry Boyle	860 558 5396	—	108 Crane Hill Rd	Storrs
Doug Perkins	860 933 8855	perkinsdn@gmail.com	920 Storrs Rd	Storrs
Shewlette R	860 429 5869		10 Codfish Eds Rd	Storrs

Petition to Stop the Algonquin Pipeline Expansion

Mansfield Town Council:

- Whereas global warming is damaging the health and well-being of people throughout the world and will do much more damage in the future if the burning of fossil fuels is not stopped,
- Whereas natural gas is a greenhouse gas that contributes to global warming and traps 34 times more heat than carbon dioxide,
- Whereas natural gas leakage from natural gas production and transmission are 25% to 33% of all emissions of natural gas into the air which is equivalent to releasing 50 million tons of carbon dioxide into the air every year,
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- Whereas the AIM and Access Northeast expansions of the Algonquin Pipeline will increase the amount of natural gas transmitted through Connecticut,
- Whereas the expansion of the Pipeline will increase the production of natural gas from hydraulic fracking in Pennsylvania,
- Whereas a recent scientific study shows that expanding natural gas production could increase carbon dioxide emissions by 11% by 2050,
- Whereas climate scientists are in agreement that the temperature increase since the year 2000 cannot exceed two degrees Fahrenheit without catastrophic damage to our planet,
- Whereas a scientific study shows that 50% of all natural gas reserves need to be unused from 2010 to 20250 to avoid exceeding two degrees Fahrenheit,

We the undersigned ask the Town of Mansfield to pass a resolution calling upon our state legislators to oppose the expansion of the Algonquin Pipeline through Mansfield including increasing the capacity of the Chaplin Compressor Station at 530 Tower Hill Road.

Petition to Stop the Algonquin Pipeline Expansion

Mansfield Town Council:

We the undersigned ask the Town of Mansfield to pass a resolution calling upon our state legislators to oppose the expansion of the Algonquin Pipeline through Mansfield including increasing the capacity of the Chaplin Compressor Station at 530 Tower Hill Road.

Name	Phone	Email	Address	Town
Kina Miner	860 878 7123	tinaminner@gmail.com	391 N Eagleville	Storrs.
Ross Miner	860 878-1799	TSURACING@gmail.com	"	"
Margaret Hynes	860 933 7428	hynem@m@sbcglobal.net	35 Woodmont Dr Mansfield	Mansfield
Rob Baker	860-423 9089	Bochy B2@clark.net	48 Chatham Storrs, CT	Mansfield
Ari Fischer	978-647-4101	ari.fischer@sbcglobal.net	293A Gurleyville Rd	Mansfield
Lawrence Ash-Morgan	860-429-8664	lgln53@hotmail.com	377 Warrenville Rd, Mansfield Center	Mansfield Center 06250
Abelle Sawtelle	860 450 9200	timothysawtelle@att.net	74 Browns Rd	Storrs
William Stallman	860 841 7933		Westford Rd	Storrs
Lena Ledion	"		"	"
Nancy Sawicki	860-423-5226	nkrtsmith@gmail.com	389 STEARUS RD	MANSFIELD CT
Al Wilkerson	860 456 2225	msalmw45@gmail.com	6018 Kent Rd Mansfield center	Mansfield
Genevieve Rigler	860-881-8850	genevieve.rigler@uconn.edu	84 wood Rd Mansfield CT 06250	Mansfield

m

Name	Phone	Email	Address	Town
Cynthia Larsen	860 423-5195	omyx849553@mypacks.net	84 Warrenville Rd	Mansfield Ctr.
Grace Damio	860 617 1504	grace.damio@smuel.com	8 Wood Rd	Mansfield Center
Joe McKenna	429 2459		66 Ball Hill	STORRS
Ken & J Blumson	860 688 9870	johnson@mansfieldvt.com	14 Adelaine Pl	Mansfield Center
Tim Gorin	860-428 9454	tgorin@gmail.com	667 Chaffinville	Mansfield
Beverly Rigler	978 228-7238	openwindowstudio@csbcglobal.net	84 Woods Rd	Mansfield
EUGENE R RIGLER	978 228-7238	97 JERUSALEM @GMAIL.COM	84 WOODS ROAD	MANSFIELD
Deanna Crockett			136 Concord Pike	Mansfield Cent
Eric Goldberg	(860) 429-7447	epgstorrs@aol.com	481 N. Eagle Hill Rd	Mansfield, CT
Jay Ames	(860) 429 6925	jaywames@gmail.com	12 Old Mill Court STORRS CT.	Mansfield
Leila Bann	860 423-9301		23 Mansfield Hollow Rd	Mansfield
Nicole Dove	800 429 6374		377 S. Eagle Hill Rd STORRS CT.	Mansfield

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Name	Phone	Email	Address	Town
Toni Kus			1052 Warrenville Rd.	Mansfield 06250
Pat Koles			744 Stafford Rd	Storrs CT 06268
Virginia Stallman			1 Westwood Rd.	Storrs 06268
Aydon Cumie			9 Timber Drive	Storrs 06268
Grayson Grimes			4 Timber Drive	Storrs 06268
Zed Vasmick			9 Timber Drive	Storrs 06268
Catherine Conte			1 Dog Lane	Storrs 06268
RM Conte			98 Dog Lane	06268
Elizabeth Kelly			29 Bundy Lane	Storrs 06268
Ron Kelly			Guared Alley	
Kathleen Higgins			828 Warmwood Hill Road	06268
Sc Beal			828 Warm Hill Road	06268

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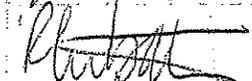
Name	Phone	Email	Address	Town
MICHAEL QUARTO	860 429 4288	michaelgman@yahoo.com	45 OLD TURNPIKE RD	STORRS CT
Laurie Quarto	Same as above	ll	ll	ll
Maye Henning	860-576-1043	maye.henning@gmail.com	166 Houlton Rd 93 Old Turnpike Rd	STORRS, CT
Barbara Depray	860 429 6969	bdepraye@mindspring.com	Storrs	Storrs CT
Denise Abercrombie	860-933-2389	abercrombie.denise@gmail.com	185 Old Turnpike Rd	Storrs CT
Jon Andersen	860 487 4287	stomp sing@yahoo.com	185 Old Tpk Rd	Storrs CT
George Tom	860 429 7698		90 CODFISH FALLS RD	Storrs, CT 06268
Dorothy Doren	860 429 7698		90 CODFISH FALLS RD,	Storrs, CT 06268
Gregory F. Cichowski	860-429-8269		53 Old Turnpike Rd	Storrs, CT 06268
Betty Wassmundt	860-429-8308		54 OLD TURNPIKE RD	STORRS, CT 06268
Sarah Carr	860-371-5798	Dog Days Services@gmail.com	117 Dog Lane	Storrs CT 06268
Frances Cichowski	860-487-3999			

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Mansfield Town Council:

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Maureen Brand (Marina Demo Brand) 410 Gorteyville Storrs

Name	Phone	Email	Address	Town
Shoshana Brown	860-429-4627	eatwell@gmail.com		Storrs
Ron Murphy	860(202-2955)	murphy@aol	799A MIDDLE TPK	STORRS
Patricia R. Murphy	860-429-2774	miriff@aol.com	799A Middle Tpk	Storrs, CT
Kathryn James-Stebbins	860-429-8198	james-stebbins@sbcglobal.net	191 Brookside Lane Mansfield Center, CT 06250	
	860-429-9572	OUTLOOK.COM BADEFOOTDESIGNSC	811 MIDDLE TPK	STORRS, CT 06268
George Jacob			Woodmont Dr	Mansfield CT
James			Drumkill road	Storrs
Maria E. Cantano	860-429-0567	marie.cantano@gmail.com	122 Dog Lane	Storrs
			386 Gorteyville Rd	STORRS
Marlene Duter		xukondatra@yahoo.com	202 Bayberry Lane	Storrs Ct 06268
Blanche Johnson	860 429-5477	m-blanche-johnson@yahoo.com	20 LYNNWOOD ROAD	STORRS 06268
Peter Gogart	860 429 3098	gogart@gmail.com	968 Warrington Rd	Mansfield CT 06250
Daind Macrae	860 429 4467	dairdmacrae@gmail	149 Dog Ln	Storrs Mansfield CT 06268
Blair Johnson	860 429 5477	blair.t.johnson@gmail	70 Lynnwood Rd	STORRS
isabel irris. dale	860 429 4467	isabelirrisdale@yahoo.com		Storrs

Petition to Stop the Algonquin Pipeline Expansion

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Name	Phone	Email	Address	Town
Rebecca Raney	(860) 429-6007		399 Middle Tpk	Storrs Mansfield
George N. Raney	(860) 429-6007		399 Middle Tpk	Storrs
Dan Hadden	860-576-1122		176 Bone Mill Rd	STORRS
Jorge Mendez	860-576-1122		304 Cand. Ave	Storrs
SAM GORDON	860-429-5675		18 W. Main St	STORRS
Robert T. Hildner	860-429-2235		22 Southwood Rd	Storrs
Suleiman D. Zalotino			37 Westgate Ln, Storrs	
Bruce Deegen	800-429-1504		166 Moulton	Storrs
Ryan Truitt	631-681-8485		146 Moulton Rd	Storrs
Pat Raynor	860-429-5626		55 Moulton Rd	Storrs

Name	Phone	Email	Address	Town
Near A. Lewis	860-450-1626		149 Thornbush Rd	Mansfield
Julia Chapel	860 450-1626		149 Thornbush Rd	Mansfield
Thathy White	860-208-7651		105 Stonemill Rd	Storrs
Alan Levy	860-420-6895		111 River Rd	Mansfield
Carol Moulton			79 Atwoodville Rd	Mansfield

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UConn Students Living in Mansfield, CT

Name	Phone	Email	Address	Town
Emily McInerney	(860) 748-5204	emily.mcinerney@uconn.edu	105 Tall Timbers Lane	Glastonbury
Brianna Church	(860) 550-2434	bric13@gmail.com	29 Joseph Circle	Higganum
Kerrin Kinnear	(203) 273-1459	kerrin.kinnear@uconn.edu	2 Cedar Hill	Greenwich
Caitrin O'Donnell	804-512-2355	caitrin.m.o'donnell@uconn.edu	104 Spring Manor	Storrs
Gabe DeRosa	203-464-7932	gabriel.derosa@uconn.edu	Same ↑	Storrs
Colin Ng	(203) 993-4928	colin.ng@uconn.edu	305 Shore drive	Coventry
Jessica August	850 905 8019	jessica.august@uconn.edu	213 Sprague Hall	Storrs
Jennifer Bourque	800-634-4119	jennifer.bourque@uconn.edu	223 Sprague Hall	Storrs
Fabio Vthel	609-401-0142	Fabio.vthel@uconn.edu	509 Belvidere Hill	Storrs
Matthew McCann	(860) 227-7135	matthew.mccann@uconn.edu	402 Route 148	Killingworth
Cornelius Lacey	(503)-769-9095	Cornelius.lacey@uconn.edu	88 Cambridge House Dr.	Storrs
Stephanie Lendroth	(203)-859-4246	stephanie.lendroth@uconn.edu	155 Gannett 156 Laurel St	East Haven

Petition to Stop the Algonquin Pipeline Expansion

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Name	Phone	Email	Address	Town
Berett Garbus	203-803-7828	Berett.Garbus@uconn.edu	180 Belden Hill Rd	Wilton, CT
Christen Bellucci	631-374-6120	christen.bellucci@uconn.edu	9 Fairview Rd	Hampton Bays, NY
Katie Mae Main	203-496-6252	Katie.main@uconn.edu	92 Shortwoods Rd	New Fairfield, CT
Adrianna Antigiovanni	860-992-2095	adrianna.antigiovanni@uconn.edu	16 Hyde Rd.	Farmington, CT
Edward McInerney	860-657-6676	edward.mcinerney@uconn.edu	103 Tall Timbers Ln	Glastonbury, CT
Benjamin Breslau	(856) 745-9224	benjamin.breslau@uconn.edu	1821 Russett Drive	Cherry Hill, NJ
Erin Davies	203-942-4523	erin.davies@uconn.edu	12 Goodsell Hill Rd	Redding
Shilpa Kolli	203-918-5634	shilpa.kolli@uconn.edu	23 Shadow Ridge Rd.	Stamford, CT
Kelly Morrissey	860 921 6730	kelly.morrissey@uconn.edu	72 Turnbull Rd	New Hartford CT

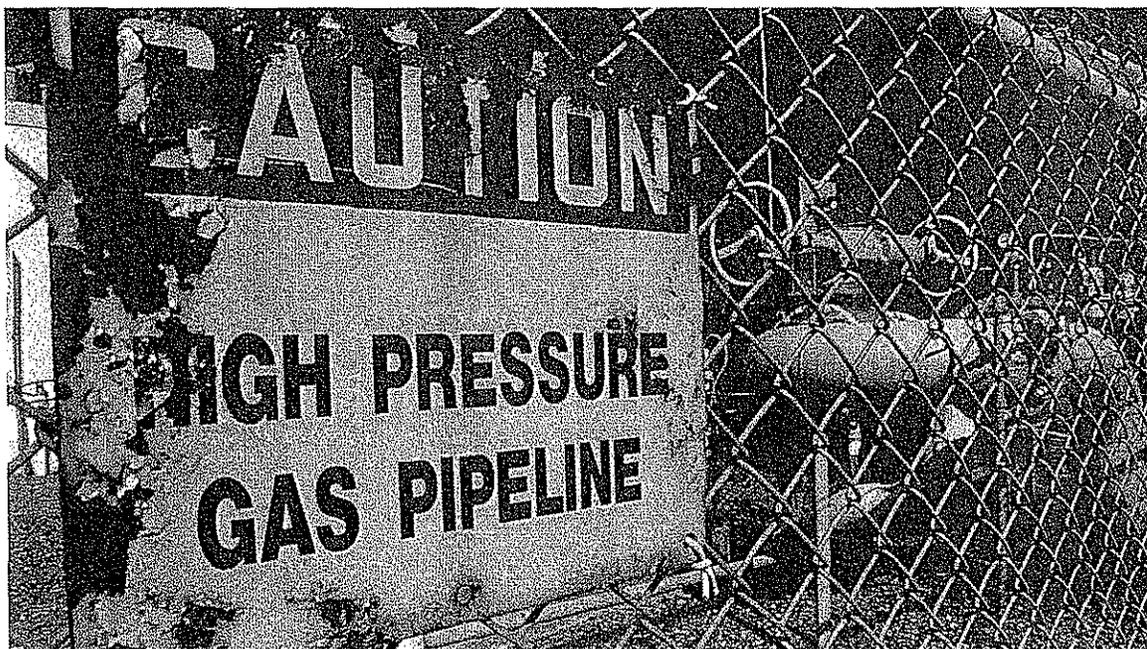
NOVA Next

The EPA's Natural Gas Problem

By Phil McKenna on Wed, 11 Feb 2015

When U.S. President Barack Obama recently announced plans to reign in greenhouse gas emissions from the oil and gas production, the opposing drum beats from industry and environmental groups were as fast as they were relentless. The industry group America's Natural Gas Alliance bombarded Twitter with paid advertisements stating how little their industry actually emits. Press releases from leading environmental organizations deploring the plan's reliance on largely voluntary actions flooded email inboxes.

Opposition to any new regulation by industry, however, isn't as lockstep as its lobbying groups would have us believe. At the same time, environmentalists' focus on voluntary versus mandatory measures misses a much graver concern.



The White House and EPA are seeking to regulate methane emissions from the oil and gas industry.

The joint White House and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency proposal would reduce emissions of methane, the primary component of natural gas, by 40–45% from 2012 levels in the coming decade. It's a laudable goal. While natural gas is relatively clean burning—emitting roughly half the amount of carbon dioxide per unit of energy as coal—it is an incredibly potent greenhouse gas if it escapes into the atmosphere unburned.

Methane emissions from the oil and gas sector are estimated to be equivalent to the pollution from 180 coal-fired power plants, according to studies done by the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF), an environmental organization. Yet there is a problem: despite that estimate, no one, including EDF, knows for certain how much methane the oil and gas industry actually emits.

The EPA publishes an annual inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas emissions, which it describes as “the most comprehensive accounting of total greenhouse gas emissions for all man-made sources in the United States.” But their estimates for the natural gas industry are, by their own admission, outdated, based on limited data, and likely significantly lower than actual emissions.

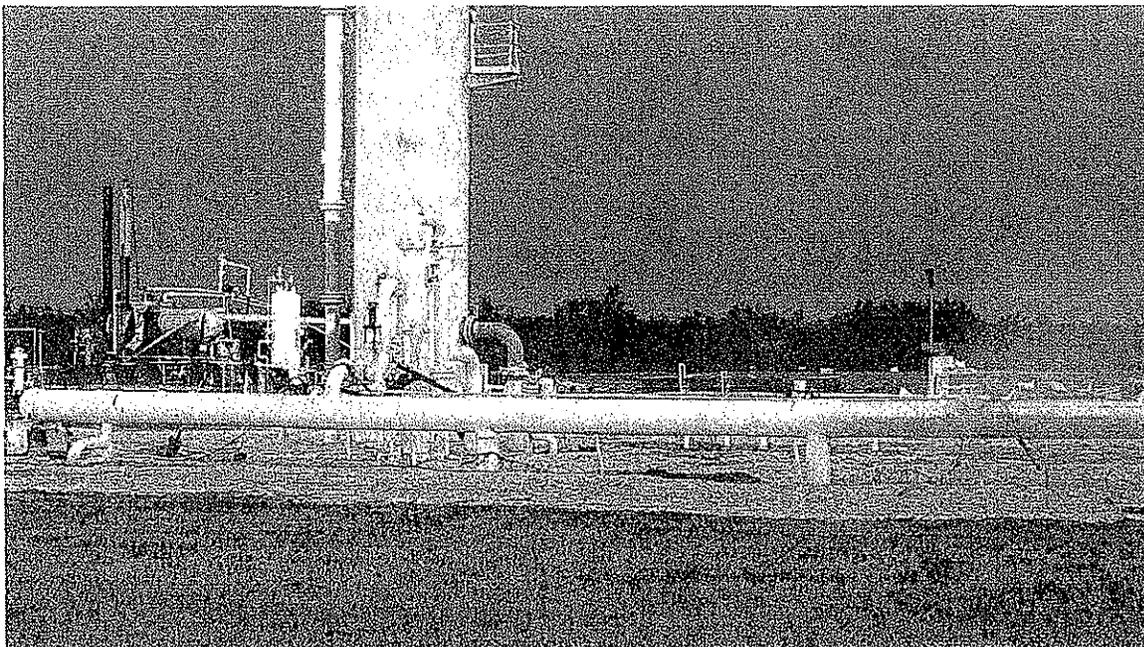
The Baseline

Getting the number right is extremely important as it will serve as the baseline for any future reductions. “The smaller the number they start with, the smaller the amount they have to reduce in coming years by regulation,” says Anthony Ingraffea, a professor of engineering at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. “A 45% reduction on a rate that is too low will be a very small reduction. From a scientific perspective, this doesn't amount to a hill of beans.”

Ingraffea says methane emissions are likely several times higher than what the EPA estimates. (Currently, the EPA says that up to 1.8% of the natural gas distributed and produced in the U.S. escapes to the atmosphere.) Even if Ingraffea is right, its still a small percentage, but methane's potency as a greenhouse gas makes even a small release incredibly significant. Over 100 years, methane traps 34 times more heat in the atmosphere than carbon

submitted by Peter Mellman 4/27/15

dioxide. If you are only looking 20 years into the future, a time frame given equal weight by the United Nation's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, methane is 86 times more potent than carbon dioxide.



After being damaged during Hurricane Ike in September 2008, a natural gas tank spews methane near Sabine Pass, Texas.

If Ingraffea is right, the amount of methane released into the atmosphere from oil and gas wells, pipelines, processing and storage facilities has a warming affect approaching that of the country's 557 coal fired power plants. Reducing such a high rate of emissions by 40–45% would certainly help stall climate change. It would also likely be much more difficult to achieve than the cuts industry and environmental groups are currently debating.

Ingraffea first called attention to what he and others believe are EPA underestimates in 2011 when he published a highly controversial paper along with fellow Cornell professor Robert Howarth. Their research suggested the amount of methane emitted by the natural gas industry was so great that relying on natural gas was actually worse for the climate than burning coal.

Following the recent White House and EPA announcement, industry group America's Natural Gas Alliance (ANGA) stated that they have reduced emissions by 17% since 1990 while increasing production by 37%. "We question why the administration would single out our sector for regulation, given our demonstrated reductions," the organization wrote in a press release following the White House's proposed policies. ANGA bases its emissions reduction on the EPA's own figures and stands by the data. "We like to have independent third party verification, and we use the EPA's figures for that," says ANGA spokesman Daniel Whitten.

Shifting Estimates

But are the EPA estimates correct, and are they sufficiently independent? To come up with its annual estimate, the EPA doesn't make direct measurements of methane emissions each year. Rather they multiply emission factors, the volume of a gas thought to be emitted by a particular source—like a mile of pipeline or a belching cow—by the number of such sources in a given area. For the natural gas sector, emission factors are based on a limited number of measurements conducted in the early 1990s in industry-funded studies.

In 2010 the EPA increased its emissions factors for methane from the oil and natural gas sector, citing "outdated and potentially understated" emissions. The end result was a more than doubling of its annual emissions estimate from the prior year. In 2013, however, the EPA reversed course, lowering estimates for key emissions factors for methane at wells and processing facilities by 25–30%. When reached for comment, the EPA pointed me to their existing reports.

"The main driver for the 2013 reduction in production emissions was a report prepared by the oil and gas industry."

The change was not driven by better scientific understanding but by political pressure, Howarth says. "The EPA got huge pushback from industry and decreased their emissions again, and not by collecting new data." The EPA states that the reduction in emissions factors was based on "a significant amount of new information" that the agency received about the natural gas industry.

However, a 2013 study published in the journal *Geophysical Research Letters* concludes that "the main driver for the 2013 reduction in production emissions was a report prepared by the oil and gas industry." The report was a non-peer reviewed survey of oil and gas companies conducted by ANGA and the American Petroleum Institute.

The EPA's own inspector general released a report that same year that was highly critical of the agency's estimates of methane and other harmful gases. "Many of EPA's existing oil and gas production emission factors are of questionable quality because they are based on limited and/or low quality data." The report concluded that the agency likely underestimates emissions, which "hampers [the] EPA's ability to accurately assess risks and air quality impacts from oil and gas production activities."

Underestimated

Soon after the EPA lowered its emissions estimates, a number of independent studies based on direct measurements found higher methane emissions. In November 2013, a study based on direct measurements of atmospheric methane concentrations across the United States concluded actual emissions from the oil and gas sector were 1.5 times higher than EPA estimates. The study authors noted, "the US EPA recently decreased its methane emission factors for fossil fuel extraction and processing by 25–30% but we find that [methane] data from across North America instead indicate the need for a larger adjustment of the opposite sign."

In February 2014, a study published in the journal *Science* reviewed 20 years of technical literature on natural gas emissions in the U.S. and Canada and concluded that "official inventories consistently underestimate actual CH₄ emissions."

"When you actually go out and measure methane emissions directly, you tend to come back with measurements that are higher than the official inventory," says Adam Brandt, lead author of the study and an assistant professor of energy resources engineering at Stanford University. Brandt and his colleagues did not attempt to make an estimate of their own, but stated that in a worst-case scenario total methane emissions from the oil and gas sector could be three times higher than the EPA's estimate.

On January 22, eight days after the White House's announcement, another study found similarly high emissions from a sector of the natural gas industry that is often overlooked. The study made direction measurements of methane emissions from natural gas pipelines and storage facilities in and around Boston, Massachusetts, and found that they were 3.9 times higher than the EPA's estimate for the "downstream" sector, or the parts of the system which transmit, distribute, and store natural gas.



Most natural gas leaks are small, but large ones can have catastrophic consequences. The wreckage above was caused by a leak in San Bruno, California, in 2010.

Boston's aging, leak-prone, cast-iron pipelines likely make the city more leaky than most, but the high volume of emissions—losses around the city total roughly \$1 billion worth of natural gas per decade—are nonetheless surprising. The majority of methane emissions were previously believed to occur "upstream" at wells and processing facilities. Efforts to curb emissions including the recent goals set by the White House have overlooked the smaller pipelines that deliver gas to end users.

"When you measure emissions directly, you come back with measurements that are higher than the official inventory."

"Emissions from end users have been only a very small part of conversation on emissions from natural gas," says lead author Kathryn McKain, an atmospheric scientist at Harvard University. "Our findings suggest that we don't understand the underlying emission processes which is essential for creating effective policy for reducing emissions."

The Boston study was one of 16 recent or ongoing studies coordinated by EDF to try to determine just how much methane is actually being emitted from the industry as a whole. Seven studies, focusing on different aspects of oil and gas industry infrastructure, have been published thus far. Two of the studies, including the recent Boston study, have found significantly higher emission rates. One study, conducted in close collaboration with industry, found lower emissions. EDF says it hopes to have all studies completed by the end of 2015. The EPA told me it will take the studies into account for possible changes in its current methane emission factors.

Fraction of a Percent

EDF is simultaneously working with industry to try to reduce methane emissions. A recent study commissioned by the environmental organization concluded the US oil and gas industry could cut methane emissions by 40% from projected 2018 levels at a cost of less than one cent per thousand cubic feet of natural gas, which today sells for about \$5. The reductions could be achieved with existing emissions-control technologies and policies.

"We are talking about one third or one fourth of a percent of the price of gas to meet these goals," says Steven Hamburg chief scientist for EDF. The 40-45% reduction goal recently announced by the White House is nearly identical to the level of cuts analyzed by EDF. To achieve the reduction the White House proposes mandatory changes in new oil and gas infrastructure as well as voluntary measures for existing infrastructure.

Thomas Pyle, president of the Institute for Energy Research, an industry organization, says industry is already reducing its methane emissions and doesn't need additional rules. "It's like regulating ice cream producers not to spill any ice cream during the ice cream making process," he says. "It is self-evident for producers to want to capture this product with little or no emissions and make money from it."

Unlike making ice cream, however, natural gas producers often vent their product intentionally as part of the production process. One of the biggest sources of methane emissions in natural gas production is gas that is purposely vented from pneumatic devices which use pressurized methane to open and close valves and operate pumps. They typically release or "bleed" small amounts of gas during their operation.

Such equipment is widely used throughout natural gas extraction, processing, and transmission process. A recent study by Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) estimates natural gas driven pneumatic equipment vents 1.6-1.9 million metric tons of methane each year. The figure accounts for nearly one-third of all methane lost by the natural gas industry, as estimated by the EPA.



A natural gas distribution facility

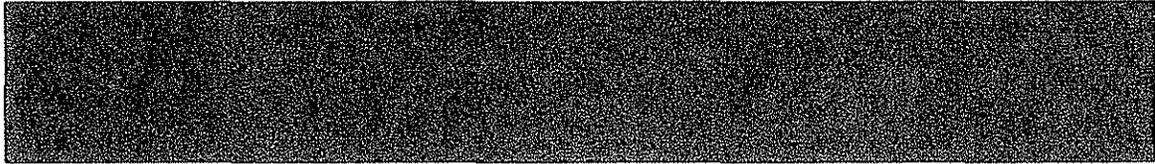
"Low-bleed" or "zero-bleed" controllers are available, though they are more expensive. The latter use compressed air or electricity to operate instead of pressurized natural gas, or they capture methane that would otherwise be vented and reuse it. "Time and time again we see that we can operate this equipment without emissions or with very low emissions," Hamburg says. Increased monitoring and repair of unintended leaks at natural gas facilities could reduce an additional third of the industry's methane emissions according to the NRDC study.

Environmentalist organizations have come out in strong opposition to the lack of mandatory regulations for existing infrastructure, which will account for nearly 90% of methane emissions in 2018 according to a recent EDF report.

While industry groups oppose mandatory regulations on new infrastructure, at least one industry leader isn't concerned. "I don't believe the new regulations will hurt us at all," says Mark Boling an executive vice president at Houston-based Southwestern Energy Company, the nation's fourth largest producer of natural gas.

Boling says leak monitoring and repair programs his company initiated starting in late 2013 will pay for themselves in 12 to 18 months through reduced methane emissions. Additionally, he says the company has also replaced a number of pneumatic devices with zero-bleed solar powered electric pumps. Southwestern Energy is now testing air compressors powered by fuel cells to replace additional methane-bleeding equipment Boling says. In November, Southwestern Energy launched ONE Future, a coalition of companies from across the natural gas industry. Their goal is to lower the industry's methane emissions below one percent.

Based on the EPA emissions rate of 1.8% and fixes identified by EDF and NRDC, their goal seems attainable. But what if the actual emissions rate is significantly higher, as Howarth and Ingraffea have long argued and recent studies seem to suggest? "We can sit here and debate whose numbers are right, 'Is it 4%? 8%? Whatever,' " Boling says. "But there are cost effective opportunities out there to reduce emissions, and we need to step up and do it."



PAGE
BREAK

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

May 5, 2015

Senator Mae Flexer
Legislative Office Building, Room 2704
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Re: Algonquin Pipeline Expansion

Dear Senator Flexer:

The Mansfield Town Council passed the following motion on April 27, 2015:

The Mansfield Town Council wishes to express its concern with the increased use of fossil fuels proposed by the Algonquin Pipeline expansion and by the pollution caused by escaping methane gas. We request that the State Legislature urge regulatory authorities to stay further construction of the pipeline pending additional review.

If you would like to see the materials reviewed by the Council in consideration of this motion including the citizen petition, please go to www.MansfieldCT.gov and view the meeting packet from the April 27, 2015 regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or require any further information.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth C. Paterson
Mayor

CC: Town Council
Matt Hart, Town Manager

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

May 5, 2015

State Representative Linda Orange
Legislative Office Building, Room 4109
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Re: Algonquin Pipeline Expansion

Dear Representative Orange:

The Mansfield Town Council passed the following motion on April 27, 2015:

The Mansfield Town Council wishes to express its concern with the increased use of fossil fuels proposed by the Algonquin Pipeline expansion and by the pollution caused by escaping methane gas. We request that the State Legislature urge regulatory authorities to stay further construction of the pipeline pending additional review.

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Sincerely,

Elizabeth C. Paterson
Mayor

CC: ✓ Town Council
Matt Hart, Town Manager

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

May 5, 2015

State Representative Gregory Haddad
Legislative Office Building, Room 4115
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Re: Algonquin Pipeline Expansion

Dear Representative Haddad:

The Mansfield Town Council passed the following motion on April 27, 2015:

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Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or require any further information.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth C. Paterson
Mayor

CC: ✓ Town Council
Matt Hart, Town Manager

PAGE
BREAK

2014 Affordable Housing Appeals List - Exempt Municipalities							
Town	Total Housing Units 2010 Census	Governmentally Assisted	Tenant Rental Assistance	Single Family CHFA /USDA Mortgages	Deed Restricted Units	Totally Assisted Units	Percent Affordable
Ansonia	8,148	371	642	112	9	1,134	13.92%
Bloomfield	9,019	591	149	311	0	1,051	11.65%
Bridgeport	57,012	5870	3779	1036	20	10,705	18.78%
Bristol	27,011	1633	823	1065	0	3,521	13.04%
Brooklyn	3,235	231	12	135	0	378	11.68%
Danbury	31,154	1587	904	344	296	3,131	10.05%
Derby	5,849	275	314	69	0	658	11.25%
East Hartford	21,328	1700	1054	952	0	3,706	17.38%
East Windsor	5,045	559	43	119	14	735	14.57%
Enfield	17,558	1340	211	581	7	2,139	12.18%
Groton	17,978	3589	76	369	10	4,044	22.49%
Hartford	51,822	10,299	7812	1523	0	19,634	37.89%
Killingly	7,592	495	107	488	0	1,090	14.36%
Manchester	25,996	1834	977	923	36	3,770	14.50%
Mansfield	6,017	417	125	117	2	661	10.99%
Meriden	25,892	2027	1033	1065	11	4,136	15.97%
Middletown	21,223	2974	1047	614	25	4,660	21.96%
New Britain	31,226	3421	1602	1192	382	6,597	21.13%
New Haven	54,967	8880	5336	1188	581	15,985	29.08%
New London	11,840	1685	674	487	98	2,944	24.86%
Norwalk	35,415	2334	997	261	599	4,191	11.83%
Norwich	18,659	2109	721	554	0	3,384	18.14%
Plainfield	6,229	377	166	460	0	1,003	16.10%
Putnam	4,299	383	69	208	0	660	15.35%
Stamford	50,573	4862	1732	326	1295	8,215	16.24%
Torrington	16,761	1112	277	639	17	2,045	12.20%
Vernon	13,896	1387	391	374	12	2,164	15.57%
Waterbury	47,991	5171	3074	2327	326	10,898	22.71%
West Haven	22,446	1024	1451	429	0	2,904	12.94%
Winchester	5,613	348	444	187	0	979	17.44%
Windham	9,570	1862	541	575	0	2,978	31.12%

2014 Affordable Housing Appeals List - Non-Exempt Municipalities

Town	Total Housing Units 2010 Census	Governmentally Assisted	Tenant Rental Assistance	Single Family CHFA /USDA Mortgages	Deed Restricted Units	Totally Assisted Units	Percent Affordable
Andover	1,317	24	1	32	0	57	4.33%
Ashford	1,903	32	2	50	0	84	4.41%
Avon	7,389	244	8	26	0	278	3.76%
Barkhamsted	1,589	0	4	13	0	17	1.07%
Beacon Falls	2,509	0	2	31	0	33	1.32%
Berlin	8,140	556	43	94	6	699	8.59%
Bethany	2,044	0	0	2	1	3	0.15%
Bethel	7,310	252	15	66	64	397	5.43%
Bethlehem	1,575	24	0	1	0	25	1.59%
Bolton	2,015	0	3	23	0	26	1.29%
Bozrah	1,059	0	2	34	0	36	3.40%
Branford	13,972	243	56	179	0	478	3.42%
Bridgewater	881	0	0	2	0	2	0.23%
Brookfield	6,562	35	7	48	70	160	2.44%
Burlington	3,389	27	0	34	0	61	1.80%
Canaan	779	25	3	30	1	59	7.57%
Canterbury	2,043	76	0	79	0	155	7.59%
Canton	4,339	211	17	68	32	328	7.56%
Chaplin	988	0	0	36	0	36	3.64%
Cheshire	10,424	277	12	78	17	384	3.68%
Chester	1,923	23	3	12	0	38	1.98%
Clinton	6,065	84	9	47	0	140	2.31%
Colchester	6,182	364	34	145	0	543	8.78%
Colebrook	722	0	0	10	1	11	1.52%
Columbia	2,308	24	3	63	0	90	3.90%
Cornwall	1,007	18	2	3	0	23	2.28%
Coventry	5,099	103	1	176	20	300	5.88%
Cromwell	6,001	212	13	203	0	428	7.13%
Darien	7,074	136	7	1	95	239	3.38%
Deep River	2,096	26	24	26	0	76	3.63%
Durham	2,694	36	4	14	0	54	2.00%
Eastford	793	0	0	24	0	24	3.03%
East Granby	2,152	72	2	35	0	109	5.07%
East Haddam	4,508	73	1	47	1	122	2.71%
East Hampton	5,485	70	5	98	25	198	3.61%
East Haven	12,533	542	141	307	0	990	7.90%
East Lyme	8,458	396	10	95	19	520	6.15%
Easton	2,715	0	0	0	11	11	0.41%
Ellington	6,665	260	9	106	0	375	5.63%
Essex	3,261	36	5	12	0	53	1.63%
Fairfield	21,648	241	94	34	116	485	2.24%
Farmington	11,106	496	110	123	155	884	7.96%
Franklin	771	27	0	16	0	43	5.58%
Glastonbury	13,656	583	37	124	2	746	5.46%
Goshen	1,664	1	0	9	0	10	0.60%
Granby	4,360	85	1	47	5	138	3.17%
Greenwich	25,631	839	334	2	54	1,229	4.79%

2014 Affordable Housing Appeals List - Non-Exempt Municipalities

Town	Total Housing Units 2010 Census	Governmentally Assisted	Tenant Rental Assistance	Single Family CHFA /USDA Mortgages	Deed Restricted Units	Totally Assisted Units	Percent Affordable
Griswold	5,118	153	67	237	0	457	8.93%
Guilford	9,596	177	7	36	0	220	2.29%
Haddam	3,504	22	0	25	0	47	1.34%
Hamden	25,114	903	545	477	4	1,929	7.68%
Hampton	793	0	2	42	0	44	5.55%
Hartland	856	2	1	8	0	11	1.29%
Harwinton	2,282	22	0	36	0	58	2.54%
Hebron	3,567	58	3	46	0	107	3.00%
Kent	1,665	52	4	4	0	60	3.60%
Killingworth	2,598	0	0	11	5	16	0.62%
Lebanon	3,125	26	5	88	0	119	3.81%
Ledyard	5,987	32	5	204	0	241	4.03%
Lisbon	1,730	2	0	57	0	59	3.41%
Litchfield	3,975	140	5	28	29	202	5.08%
Lyme	1,223	0	0	2	8	10	0.82%
Madison	8,049	90	1	10	29	130	1.62%
Marlborough	2,389	24	2	23	0	49	2.05%
Middlebury	2,892	77	3	15	20	115	3.98%
Middlefield	1,863	30	2	13	1	46	2.47%
Milford	23,074	726	212	220	107	1,265	5.48%
Monroe	6,918	32	3	23	1	59	0.85%
Montville	7,407	81	28	240	0	349	4.71%
Morris	1,314	20	4	1	0	25	1.90%
Naugatuck	13,061	537	368	311	0	1,216	9.31%
New Canaan	7,551	163	9	2	31	205	2.71%
New Fairfield	5,593	0	0	27	13	40	0.72%
New Hartford	2,923	12	5	46	15	78	2.67%
Newington	13,011	537	148	390	36	1,111	8.54%
New Milford	11,731	269	27	147	16	459	3.91%
Newtown	10,061	134	3	29	15	181	1.80%
Norfolk	967	28	2	9	0	39	4.03%
North Branford	5,629	62	10	62	0	134	2.38%
North Canaan	1,587	138	1	8	0	147	9.26%
North Haven	9,491	343	36	76	1	456	4.80%
North Stonington	2,306	0	2	22	0	24	1.04%
Old Lyme	5,021	64	2	9	3	78	1.55%
Old Saybrook	5,602	50	7	19	20	96	1.71%
Orange	5,345	46	6	10	6	68	1.27%
Oxford	4,746	36	3	12	0	51	1.07%
Plainville	8,063	242	21	311	22	596	7.39%
Plymouth	5,109	178	18	224	0	420	8.22%
Pomfret	1,684	32	1	28	0	61	3.62%
Portland	4,077	185	82	64	0	331	8.12%
Preston	2,019	40	5	44	0	89	4.41%
Prospect	3,474	0	4	38	0	42	1.21%
Redding	3,811	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Ridgefield	9,420	179	1	9	48	237	2.52%
Rocky Hill	8,843	235	30	179	0	444	5.02%

2014 Affordable Housing Appeals List - Non-Exempt Municipalities

Town	Total Housing Units 2010 Census	Governmentally Assisted	Tenant Rental Assistance	Single Family CHFA /USDA Mortgages	Deed Restricted Units	Totally Assisted Units	Percent Affordable
Roxbury	1,167	19	0	1	0	20	1.71%
Salem	1,635	1	0	34	0	35	2.14%
Salisbury	2,593	16	2	7	12	37	1.43%
Scotland	680	0	0	13	0	13	1.91%
Seymour	6,968	262	18	97	0	377	5.41%
Sharon	1,775	20	2	4	0	26	1.46%
Shelton	16,146	344	34	87	82	547	3.39%
Sherman	1,831	0	2	3	0	5	0.27%
Simsbury	9,123	241	19	62	0	322	3.53%
Somers	3,479	146	12	31	0	189	5.43%
Southbury	9,091	90	4	18	0	112	1.23%
Southington	17,447	609	67	295	51	1,022	5.86%
South Windsor	10,243	427	49	239	0	715	6.98%
Sprague	1,248	20	13	47	0	80	6.41%
Stafford	5,124	178	13	231	0	422	8.24%
Sterling	1,511	0	6	61	0	67	4.43%
Stonington	9,467	297	15	71	0	383	4.05%
Stratford	21,091	524	381	278	33	1,216	5.77%
Suffield	5,469	212	3	64	15	294	5.38%
Thomaston	3,276	104	4	115	0	223	6.81%
Thompson	4,171	151	25	133	0	309	7.41%
Tolland	5,451	98	2	93	3	196	3.60%
Trumbull	13,157	315	15	36	317	683	5.19%
Union	388	0	0	12	0	12	3.09%
Voluntown	1,127	20	4	38	0	62	5.50%
Wallingford	18,945	481	115	310	35	941	4.97%
Warren	811	0	0	5	0	5	0.62%
Washington	2,124	14	6	7	23	50	2.35%
Waterford	8,634	123	20	239	0	382	4.42%
Watertown	9,096	205	18	145	0	368	4.05%
Westbrook	3,937	140	7	17	24	188	4.78%
West Hartford	26,396	621	832	316	287	2,056	7.79%
Weston	3,674	0	1	0	0	1	0.03%
Westport	10,399	246	45	2	20	313	3.01%
Wethersfield	11,677	615	134	231	0	980	8.39%
Willington	2,637	160	1	46	0	207	7.85%
Wilton	6,475	136	7	7	100	250	3.86%
Windsor	11,767	154	297	401	26	878	7.46%
Windsor Locks	5,429	137	153	187	0	477	8.79%
Wolcott	6,276	313	4	131	0	448	7.14%
Woodbridge	3,478	30	5	6	0	41	1.18%
Woodbury	4,564	59	2	25	0	86	1.88%
Woodstock	3,582	24	3	72	0	99	2.76%
Total	1,487,891	91,251	41,637	29,874	5,893	168,655	11.34%

Sara-Ann Bourque

From: CT Main Street Center <info@ctmainstreet.org>
Sent: Friday, May 01, 2015 9:02 AM
To: Matthew W. Hart
Subject: CMSC Announces 2015 Awards of Excellence Winners

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Connecticut Main Street Center

For Immediate Release
 May 1, 2015

Contact: [Christine Schilke](#)
 860.280.2356

Connecticut Main Street Center Announces 2015 Awards of Excellence Winners

(Hartford, CT - May 1, 2015) - A high school AP economics class that engages students in proactive land-use planning and the owners of a downtown Segway tour company that let the community help name their new business are just two of the initiatives chosen to receive a 2015 Award of Excellence from the Connecticut Main Street Center (CMSC).

In total seven recipients were selected for the prestigious award including organizations and initiatives from Mansfield, New London, Putnam, Simsbury, Waterbury, and Upper Albany, Hartford. The other winning entries included a First Fridays series that draws thousands of visitors with its hands-on arts and cultural events; a massive, multi-cultural downtown gathering of dozens of ethnic groups to celebrate a common community pride; a multi-year, multi-million dollar public/private partnership to design and build a brand-new town center; and a local merchant who remains committed to the neighborhood and the state despite becoming an international success.

For the first time in the history of the awards program, a state agency was also selected to receive an award. The CT Department of Transportation received a special award for *Starting a Revolution: Integration of Land Use and Transit* in recognition of the progressive nature of CTfastrak, the bus rapid transit system opened earlier this year. The awards jury that selected the winners gave the award because they felt the new busway represents a

cultural shift in how Connecticut views transit, and wanted to acknowledge the future promise of transit oriented development that will hopefully result around the station locations.

"Our downtowns and town centers represent what's unique about Connecticut - combining historic charm and stalwart character with the modern amenities that will help us thrive into the future," said Governor Dannel P. Malloy. "I applaud the award winners for how they're embracing that challenge - involving the community in the success of their downtowns through patronage of local businesses, acting as community leaders and building places for us to live, work and raise our families. The people behind these winning initiatives know that when we strive together, we thrive together - not just today, but for years to come."

"Our members continue to impress us with how they support, encourage and implement new ideas from the ground up," said CMSC President & CEO John Simone. "They're constantly forming partnerships with new groups, working to sustain local merchants, and tirelessly promoting how wonderful our downtowns and Main Streets are. We're proud of their efforts and excited to share their achievements with everyone else."

The Connecticut Main Street Awards of Excellence were created in 2003 to recognize outstanding projects, individuals and partnerships in community efforts to bring traditional downtowns and neighborhood commercial districts back to life, socially and economically. The Connecticut Main Street Awards annually celebrate and communicate the most successful and innovative efforts in Main Street revitalization in Connecticut. A jury comprised of industry-related professionals and CMSC staff judged the submissions on criteria that included innovation, replication, representation, partnerships utilized, and outcomes.

The awards will be presented at the 2015 Connecticut Main Street Awards Gala on June 8th at Trinity-on-Main in downtown New Britain. This year's event will feature guided tours of downtown New Britain, including a **Downtown Arts, Heritage & Culture** tour, a tour of **Walnut Hill Rose Garden & New Britain Museum of American Art**, and a tour of **CTfastrak in New Britain: Transportation, Housing & Main Street**.

The full list of 2015 Awards of Excellence winners is as follows:

2015 Connecticut Main Street Awards of Excellence

Main Street Partnership

- Award of Excellence for *Simsbury High School AP Economics Course*, to Simsbury Main Street Partnership and Simsbury High School.

Planning

- Award of Excellence for *Step by Step: Building a Downtown from Scratch (Storrs Center)*, to Mansfield Downtown Partnership, the Town of Mansfield, UConn, LeylandAlliance and the Citizens of Mansfield.

Events & Programming - Sponsored by Webster Bank

- Award of Excellence for *The Gathering (Downtown Waterbury)*, to the City of Waterbury, the Waterbury Observer, and Main Street Waterbury.

Award of Merit for Events & Programming

- Award of Excellence for *First Fridays (Downtown Putnam)*, to the Town of Putnam, Putnam Business Association, and the Putnam Arts Council.

Business Owner of the Year

- Award of Excellence to *Dawn & Kristin Harkness / Wheeling City Tours (New London)*, Submitted by New London Main Street.

2015 Main Street Pioneer: Outstanding Commitment to The Avenue - Sponsored by Webster Bank

- Award of Excellence to *Vivian Akuoko / Evay Cosmetics (Upper Albany Avenue, Hartford)*, Submitted by Upper Albany Main Street.

Starting a Revolution: Integration of Land Use and Transit

- Award of Excellence for *CTfastrak*, to the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation and the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG).

2015 Nationally Accredited Main Street Programs

- New London Main Street
- Simsbury Main Street Partnership
- Upper Albany Main Street (Hartford)
- Main Street Waterbury

CMSC would also like to thank our generous Awards Gala sponsors:

Taste of New Britain Reception Sponsor

UIL Holdings

Downtown New Britain Tour Sponsors

Baywater Properties CWPM Downes Construction Company Fuss &
O'Neill McPhee Electric LTD

Award Sponsors

Webster Bank

Colliers International Farmington Bank Liberty Bank Richter & Cegan

Main Street Sponsors

CDM Smith CEDAS Corporation for Independent Living Express Strategies
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About Connecticut Main Street Center

The mission of CT Main Street Center is to be the champion and leading resource for vibrant and sustainable Main Streets as foundations for healthy communities. CMSC is dedicated to community and economic development within the context of historic preservation, and is committed to bringing Connecticut's commercial districts back to life socially and economically.

The Main Street initiative is one of the most successful economic development programs in the country. For every \$1 spent on a local Main Street program, over \$71 is reinvested in Connecticut Main Street downtowns. CMSC is supported by its Founding Sponsors, the Department of Economic & Community Development (DECD) and Eversource. CMSC is also supported by its Growth Sponsors, UIL Holdings and the State Historic Preservation Office. More information is available at www.ctmainstreet.org.

Contact:

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Connecticut Main Street Center

c/o Eversource, PO Box 270
Hartford CT 06141
www.ctmainstreet.org

PAGE
BREAK



2014 ANNUAL REPORT

Forming and Transforming Connecticut's Downtowns

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On the cover and this page, The new Town Square in the heart of Storrs Center. Cover: photo by Fernanda Sabile. This page: photo by Don Courina.



THE MISSION

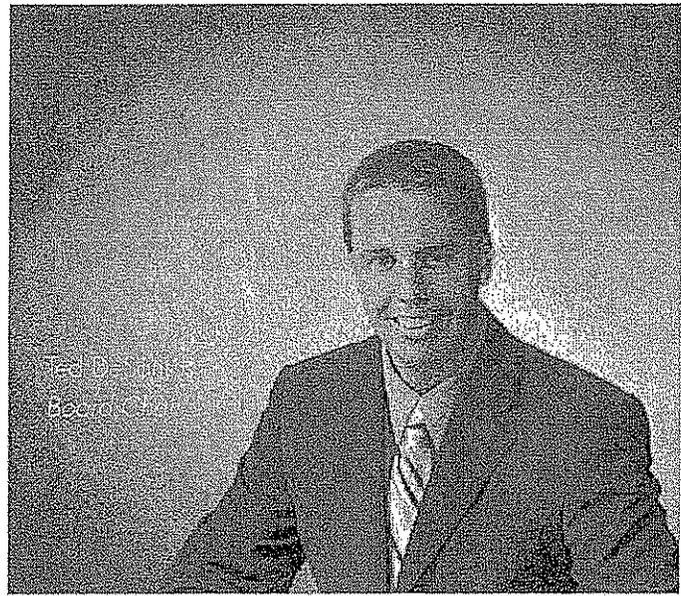
of Connecticut Main Street Center is to be the champion and leading resource for vibrant and sustainable Main Streets as foundations for healthy Connecticut communities.

CMSC works at both the local and State level to create and implement successful downtowns that meet the needs of residents and visitors. A successful downtown is one that incorporates housing, retail, social and business opportunities with transportation options for all users – walkers, cyclists, motorists and more. We encourage these types of healthy downtowns through education, technical assistance and advocacy.

- » We provide our member communities with a customized plan using a proven Four-Point Approach® on how to manage, grow and develop their downtown. We guide them through the creation, revitalization and maintenance of these critical downtown infrastructures.
- » We administer a variety of programs that provide opportunities for Main Streets to change and improve their physical spaces for the betterment of residents and visitors.
- » We foster the promotion of new ideas and best practices by collaborating with like-minded professional associations to host networking and educational events through our annual Awards Gala, Downtown Revitalization Institute and more.
- » At the state level, we are the voice for programs and policies that advance the Main Street way of life in Connecticut. We partner with State agencies, meet with lawmakers and participate on legislative task forces to encourage support for our downtowns.

A LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

ENABLING GREAT DOWNTOWNS



At CMSC we constantly renew our devotion to downtown revitalization and push for implementation through partnership and collaboration with municipalities to create vibrant, mixed-use centers in their own community.

CMSC is here to help talented people succeed against the odds in a sometimes difficult economic climate. This year we helped our towns create and re-create wonderful neighborhoods. We worked with our member network and other towns/cities to provide education, tools and technical capacity at the local level, to showcase their success broadly to state agencies, elected and government officials, and to advocate for statewide smart growth policies and funding. The net result of these efforts is an impressive increase in smart growth investments in Connecticut. Select examples from the past year follow:

CMSC continued working with Young Energetic Solutions (YES), participating on the statewide Steering Committee as it works to empower young people to create vibrant neighborhoods. We also began meeting with the Legislative Commission on Aging to see how we can collaborate on our mutual goal of creating livable communities which provide amenities for a range of residents, including our elder citizens.

The Town of Newtown engaged CMSC to coordinate an economic recovery consultancy for Sandy Hook Village. CMSC worked closely with the Sandy Hook Organization for Prosperity (SHOP) and the Town to

examine the market for shopping, dining and gathering in the Village and define actions to entice more people to the downtown. Our work included a market assessment, branding campaign, a plan to increase SHOP's organizational capacity and fund development, and assistance hiring a Marketing Coordinator.

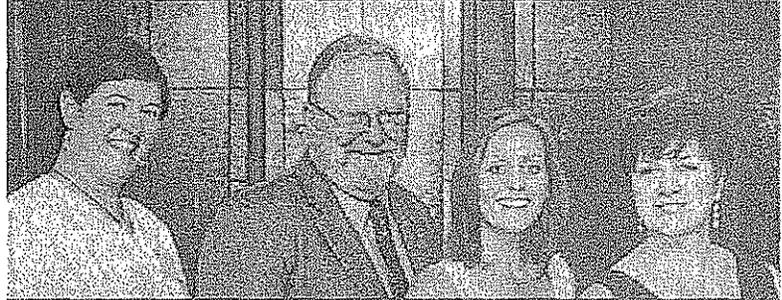
"56% of Millennials and 46% of Baby Boomers would prefer to live someday in a walkable community according to the American Planning Association."

In collaboration with the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority (CHFA), CMSC is advancing integrated mixed-use building projects through the Come Home to Downtown Program. The CMSC team works with individual property owners to plan and design a mix of housing and other uses for their multi-story building, quantify and fill financing gaps and offer guidance to local officials on how to facilitate mixed-use development in their downtown. CMSC also shares lessons learned from the program in order to facilitate this type of mixed-use redevelopment in other towns. The CT Chapter of the American Planning Association (CCAPA) recently recognized CMSC's efforts with their annual Education and Outreach Award.

It is my unabashed belief that CMSC provides a valuable service to the State of Connecticut, and I join my fellow Board members in commending the talented CMSC Staff for an impressive year of accomplishments. My personal gratitude is extended to our funding sponsors, the members of the Board, and our non-profit partners in smart growth advocacy who enable, inspire, and keep the fires lit so that CMSC is forever green and growing. Our work together is meaningful and I am grateful for the chance to work with all of you. Here is looking forward to a bright future!



Ted DeSantos
Board Chair



RL Susan Westa, John Simone, Christine Schilke, and Kimberley Parsons Whitaker. Photo by Allegra Anderson Photography.

SUPPORTING THE MISSION

Connecticut Main Street Center

The people who work at CMSC are diligent and enthusiastic in their efforts to inspire Connecticut downtowns that are healthy, green, vibrant and offer a variety of housing, retail, business, social and transportation choices.

John Simone
President & CEO

Kimberley Parsons Whitaker
Associate Director

Christine Schilke
Communications & Office Manager

Susan Westa
Community Engagement Director



"Our downtowns are important economic and social centers, and should be accessible, useful and attractive to a multitude of users."

Lunch by the Wrey Station food truck was a hit at our Placemaking Workshop.

CREATING OUR FUTURE

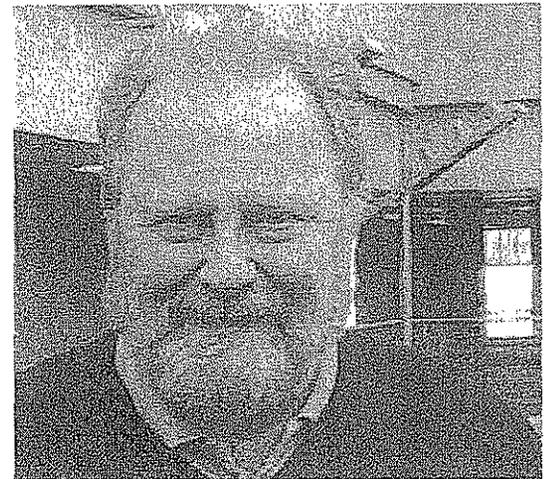
We're thrilled with the growing recognition that our downtowns are important economic and social centers, and should be accessible, useful and attractive to a multitude of users. Happily, this recognition was reflected in several ways last year, notably with the hundreds of apartments that were developed and opened in Connecticut's major cities, welcoming two valuable components of downtown revitalization – residents and mixed-use development. The state General Assembly also passed new legislation that promotes increased safety for pedestrians, bicyclists and other non-motorists who share our roads, referred to as the Vulnerable User law. And of course, Connecticut continued to invest in its future by making significant progress on the new bus rapid transit system, CTfastrak, and the New Haven/Hartford/Springfield rail line.

At CMSC, we spent much of the past year educating communities on how to build on these successes, incorporating them into their downtown renewal process. Of equal importance was helping communities understand how to manage these spaces so they remain economically and socially robust for the long term. Holding our Downtown Revitalization Institute

workshops, hosting networking events that showcased these kinds of transformations in our member downtowns, and continuing to participate in Corridor Advisory Committee meetings (a convening of the municipal leaders from the towns along the CTfastrak and New Haven/Hartford/Springfield rail lines) are just a few of the many activities we undertook last year in our pursuit of inspiring great Connecticut downtowns and Main Streets.

Looking forward to the coming year, we're enthusiastic about building on these efforts. Our Come Home to Downtown Program, which promotes small-scale mixed-use development, moves into its third year. This award-winning program provides small property owners and municipalities with realistic financing and downtown management guidelines for transforming under-utilized buildings into a mix of housing above commercial space. In addition to taking on two to three new buildings, we'll also pursue legislative changes to increase the availability of tax increment financing for these developments.

We'll also closely examine the services we provide our members



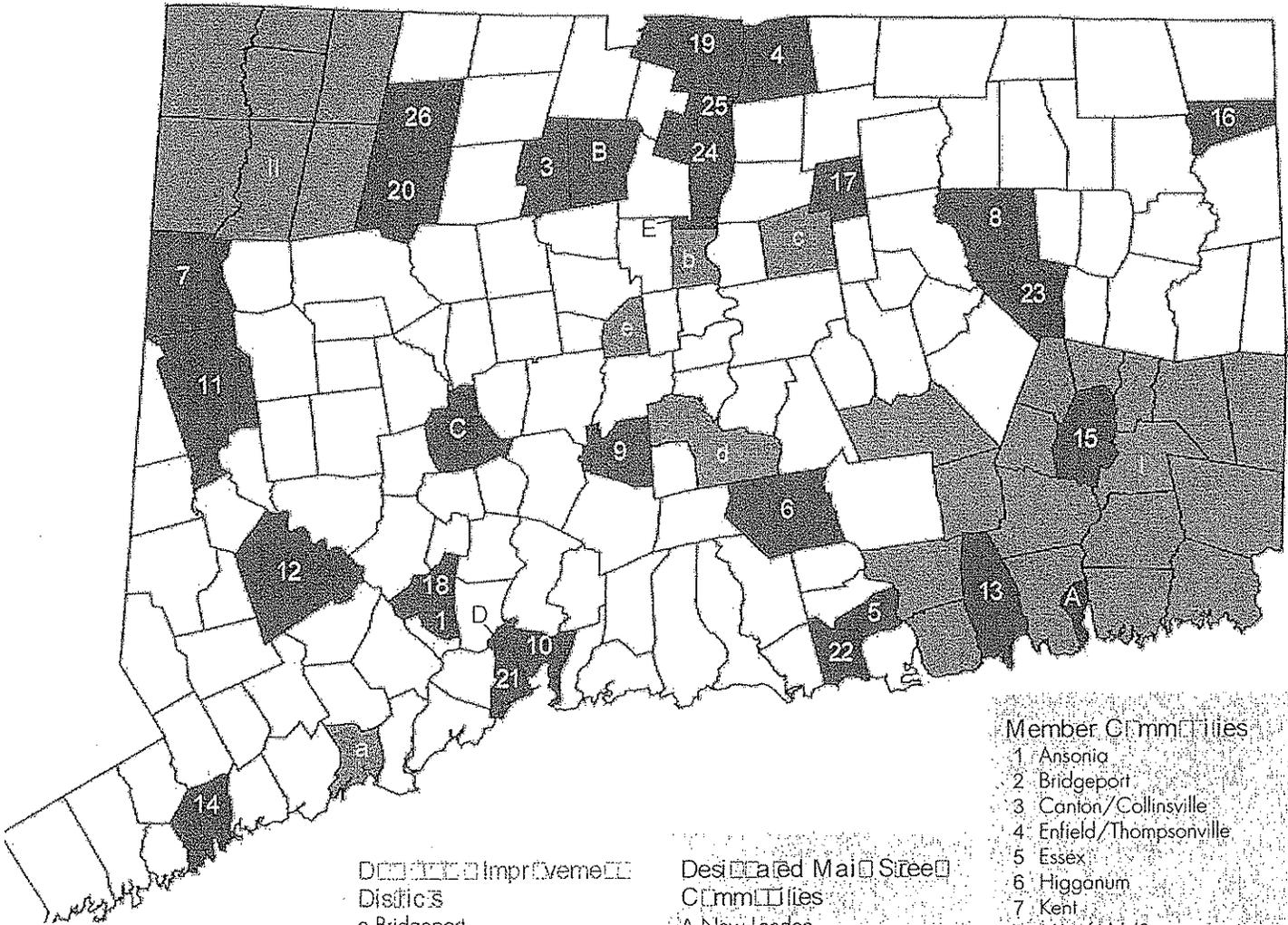
John Simone, President & CEO

by convening a task force of CMSC Board members, industry colleagues and our members. Together we'll assess how CMSC can better empower our members to create dynamic town centers that are sustainable, authentic and economically vibrant. We'll share key ideas and best practices from around the state and nation in our Downtown Revitalization Institute, while continuing to promote our members and championing downtown policies in our newsletters, publications and social media. As always, we'll keep a mindful eye on our finances, maintaining a balanced budget while pursuing new resources to grow our mission.

*John Simone
President & CEO*



CONNECTICUT MAIN STREET NETWORK



Regional Members
 I SeCTer
 II NW CT Regional Planning Collaborative

Designated Improvement Districts
 a Bridgeport
 b Downtown Hartford
 c Manchester
 d Middletown
 e New Britain

Designated Main Street Communities
 A New London
 B Simsbury
 C Waterbury
 D Westville Village (New Haven)
 E Upper Albany (Hartford)

Member Communities

- 1 Ansonia
- 2 Bridgeport
- 3 Canton/Collinsville
- 4 Enfield/Thompsonville
- 5 Essex
- 6 Higganum
- 7 Kent
- 8 Mansfield/Storrs
- 9 Meriden
- 10 New Haven
- 11 New Milford
- 12 Newtown/Sandy Hook
- 13 Niantic
- 14 Norwalk
- 15 Norwich
- 16 Putnam
- 17 Rockville/Vernon
- 18 Seymour
- 19 Suffield
- 20 Torrington
- 21 West Haven
- 22 Westbrook
- 23 Willimantic
- 24 Windsor
- 25 Windsor Locks
- 26 Winsted

CMSC helps all of its members analyze core issues and set attainable objectives through education and training, resources, tools and advocacy.

CMSC's network of member cities is broken into several categories. Designated Main Street Programs and Member Communities

DESIGNATED PROGRAMS

Communities with a professionally managed downtown including a board of directors and chief executive officer and often additional staff. These organizations must adhere to national standards before receiving Designated Main Street status.

MEMBER COMMUNITIES

These are qualified municipalities and non-profit organizations that are effective in establishing and maintaining partnerships in an effort to bring their main streets back to life. CMSC's member communities are comprised of:

• MEMBER COMMUNITIES

Qualified municipalities and non-profit organizations that work to maintain and rejuvenate their main street districts.

• REGIONAL MEMBERS

Communities participate in CMSC membership through an umbrella organization that represents a specific region.

• DOWNTOWN IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS

In some towns, property owners within a specified area of the downtown form a group to govern their activities related to revitalizing the area.

STRENGTHENING OUR MAIN STREETS

PROVIDING SERVICES TO OUR MEMBERS

Our members are the on-the-ground resource for revitalizing Connecticut's downtowns and Main Streets. CMSC was very active this year providing our members with assistance to perform at their best. We added several new members to our network while offering in-depth guidance and providing opportunities to learn from each other at networking events. Below are a few highlights of our activities for the year.

NEW MEMBERS

CMSC welcomed the following new members:

- □ Higganum Vision Group
- □ Norwich Community Development Corporation
- □ Town of Newtown/Sandy Hook Village
- □ Town of Vernon
- □ City of New Haven

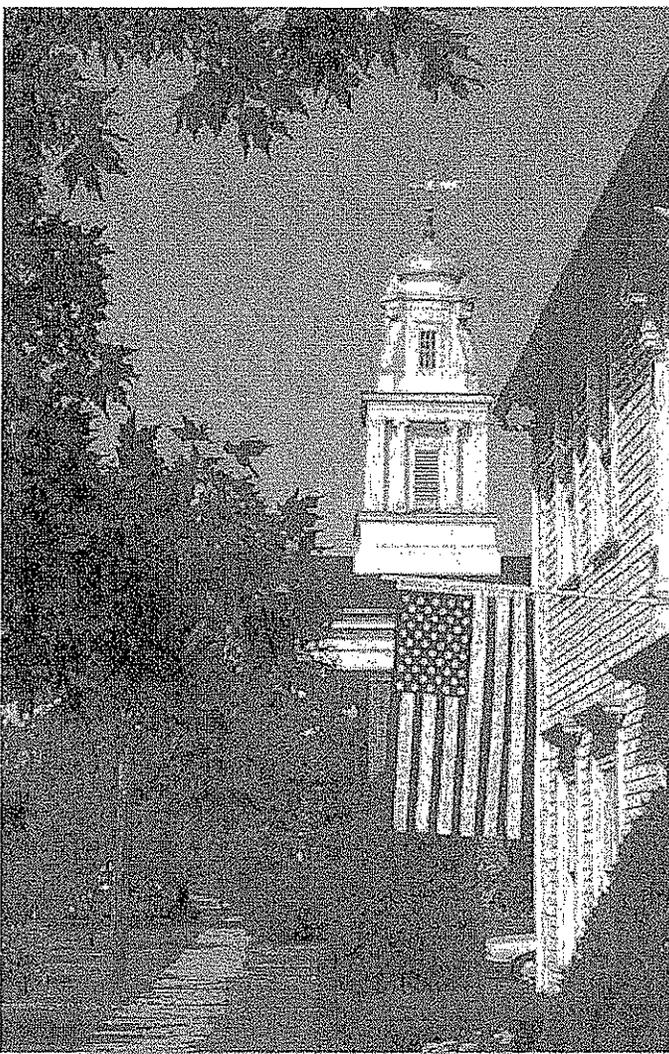


CMSC board member David Sousa, CDM Smith, leads Torrington stakeholders on a Downtown Walkability Audit.

MEMBER ASSISTANCE

TORRINGTON

CMSC provided guidance to Torrington as they form a new downtown management function, Main Street Torrington. CMSC advised on Board Governance, helping identify the qualities needed from their board. Although still in the early stages, Main Street Torrington is supported by the Mayor's office and enjoys a good relationship with municipal planning and economic development staff, as well as enthusiastic support from Torrington Downtown Partners, the property owner team of nine key downtown buildings.



Picturesque Suffield boasts a traditional New England Town Center.

NEW LONDON MAIN STREET

This year New London Main Street implemented their Preservation of Place grant-funded consultancy with NetMark Associates on board, organizational, partnership, and revenue development. CMSC provided guidance, advice and support as NLMS worked with the consultants on a plan to increase revenue and staff. NLMS leadership also visited Main Street Waterbury for a guided walking tour of downtown and were guests at a MSW board meeting.

WATERBURY

CMSC assisted Main Street Waterbury in developing a new organizational vision and mission by conducting a visioning session with the MSW Board of Directors.

THREAD CITY DEVELOPMENT: WILLIMANTIC

Thread City Development completed its consultancy in board and revenue development with NetMark Associates. At the close of the fiscal year there was a lot of positive activity on the ground in downtown Willimantic, and it is hoped this momentum will assist Thread City in their continued revenue development.

ANSONIA

CMSC met with the economic development director for the City of Ansonia to discuss their economic development priorities including redevelopment of a key industrial building at the downtown gateway for future residential use, and a branding and marketing program for downtown. CMSC will continue to offer input on applying Main Street principles in the downtown area.

ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE

CMSC continued to meet with individual members, their boards and local commissions to provide an overview of the Main Street approach and CMSC's services, as well as offering guidance on how our members can create their own workplans for managing their downtowns and village centers.

MEMBER NETWORKING EVENTS

BEHIND THE SCENES TOUR OF STORRS CENTER

CMSC and Connecticut Economic Development Association (CEDAS) network members came together in late September for a behind the scenes look at the new Storrs Center. Hosted by CMSC member community Mansfield Downtown Partnership, the event featured a panel discussion with MDP Executive Director Cynthia Van Zelm, Mansfield Town Manager Matthew Hart and LeylandAlliance Principal Lou Marquet. Together they explained how they are successfully executing the multi-year, multi-million dollar mixed-use development in the heart of downtown, noting the importance of "the 3P's" – public/private partnerships. The owners of Sweet

Emotions Candy and Dog Lane Café also spoke of their eagerness to open new businesses in such a prime location.

Afterwards, CMSC and CEDAS members were treated to a private tour of the new Storrs Center, exploring the streets for a firsthand view of the newly constructed apartments and businesses, as well the sites of the future Town Square, residential condos, and the Intermodal Transportation Center,

followed by a reception at Dog Lane Café and a stop at Sweet Emotions Candy.

THE RENAISSANCE OF DOWNTOWN WATERBURY

CMSC again collaborated with CEDAS on this member networking event in March. The popular event featured a brief panel presentation from Main Street Waterbury, representatives from Mayor Neil

M. O'Leary's Office, the Waterbury Regional Chamber and the Waterbury Development Corporation on how they interact and collaborate with each other. A guided tour of a luxury condo model unit in the historic Apothecaries Hall Building on Bank Street was provided, followed by attendance at the CONNflection event at the Palace Theater which showcased Connecticut grown food and wine.

Several members of the community join Annah Perch, New London Main Street Executive Director, to celebrate the annual tree lighting in downtown New London.



2014 AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE WINNERS

Award Category	Winners	Project or Program Description
Main Street Partnership	First Niagara Bank, Manchester Community College, Town of Manchester	Axis901 and MCC on Main, Downtown Manchester
Marketing & Communications	Northwestern CT Regional Planning Collaborative, Studio Two	Discover NWCT
Events & Programming	Main Street Waterbury	Wine on Main St., Downtown Waterbury
Renewed Commitment to Main Street	Seymour Economic Development Commission, Seymour Downtown Committee, Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce, Naugatuck River Greenway Steering Committee, Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments, Downtown Merchants Association, Planimetrics, Milone & MacBroom, State of CT DEEP and NOAA	Seymour Downtown Action Strategy Master Plan for Seymour Greenway & Upland Trail
Public Space <i>Sponsored by Jasko Development and Webster Bank</i>	Downtown Streetscape Working Group, City of New Britain, New Britain Downtown District, Polonia Business District, CCSU & ITBE, CRCOG, and the Project Consultant Team	Complete Streets Master Plan for Downtown New Britain
Economic & Business Development <i>Sponsored by Webster Bank</i>	The Dutch Flower Lady, Technology Forensics, John Bale Book Company, Fine Craft Jewelers, Dottie's 2, Princess Lingerie, Brass City Market on Field, and Fashion Addict	The Business Women of Grand Street, Downtown Waterbury
The C&P Award for Outstanding Contributions to Main Street	William Warner, AICP	Former Middletown Director of Planning, Conservation & Development, who helped transform the downtown into one of the state's premier dining and entertainment centers.
10 Year Award	Carl Rosa, CEO Main Street Waterbury	Guided the revitalization of downtown Waterbury by creating public and private partnerships.

MAIN STREET BOARD MEMBERS of the Year

Rebecca Fisher	New London Main Street
Grace Collins	Simsbury Main Street Partnership
Eileen Maloney	Main Street Waterbury
Eric Epstein	Westville Village Renaissance Alliance

MAIN STREET VOLUNTEERS of the Year

Jordan Apple	New London Main Street
Michelle Mordant	Simsbury Main Street Partnership
Robert Gardner	Main Street Waterbury
Kathleen Bradley	Westville Village Renaissance Alliance

GUIDING THE ACHIEVEMENT OF GOALS

AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

The impressive and impactful work of our members is highlighted at CMSC's annual Awards Gala where we present our Awards of Excellence. CMSC also bestows the distinguished CL&P Award to recognize individuals and organizations who dedicate themselves to promoting an awareness of the necessity of a comprehensive management approach to the revitalization of Connecticut's historic downtowns and neighborhood commercial districts.



The 2014 CT Main Street Awards Gala, at the spectacular Roia Restaurant in downtown New Haven, hosted a large audience from throughout the state. Photos by Allegra Anderson Photography.

"Connecticut's downtowns provide the cornerstone for economic growth and prosperity, social opportunity, and communal spirit. I applaud this year's winners for the innovative way they're creating downtowns that will meet our future needs while preserving our natural and historic assets."
- GOVERNOR DANIEL P. MALLOY

2014 National AL Main Street Program RAMS

National Main Street Program Accreditation, a partnership between CT Main Street Center and the National Main Street Center, annually recognizes the highest-performing Main Street programs throughout the country. Main Street programs that receive this honor have reached or exceeded established performance standards for local Main Street programs.

The following Designated Communities received accreditation in 2014:

- Simsbury Main Street Partnership
- Upper Albany Main Street Hartford
- Main Street Waterbury
- Westville Village Renaissance Alliance, New Haven

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

COME HOME TO DOWNTOWN

CMSC was contracted by the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority in 2012 to administer a program aimed at bringing more housing downtown by assisting the owners of small downtown properties to redevelop their underutilized buildings into housing above commercial space. To implement this program, CMSC convened a team of consultants to provide customized technical assistance to select property owners of small downtown buildings and municipal officials.

YEAR 1

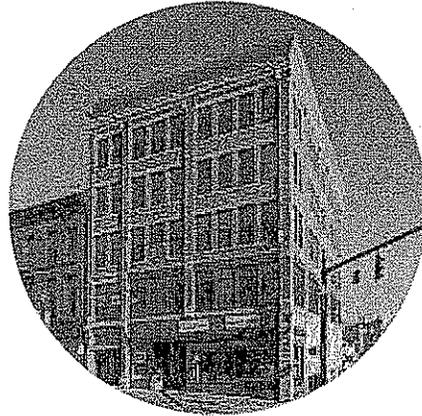
CMSC chose three communities for its inaugural year: Middletown, Torrington and Waterbury, during which CMSC worked with local stakeholders and the chosen property owners. This past year CMSC completed Year 1 of the program, culminating in a final report that provided an overview of the technical assistance provided to the three pilot communities and the property owners. A downtown development audit, analysis of the model building and redevelopment options, recommendations to enhance the downtown management function's capacity and an assessment of the downtown's walkability were all included. The report also identified seven key findings outlining the obstacles and opportunities for creating mixed-use development in Connecticut.

As a result of its community education efforts through Come Home to Downtown, CMSC was awarded the 2013 Education & Outreach award from the Connecticut Chapter of the American Planning Association (CCAPA). In an effort to increase awareness about the challenges of developing this type of mixed-use development, CMSC continued to share the lessons learned from the program's first year, presenting the program at the American Planning Association's national conference in Atlanta and at the

Southern New England American Planning Association (SNEAPA) conference in Worcester, Massachusetts.

YEAR 2

CMSC also began Year 2 of the Come Home to Downtown program, selecting two new communities, Meriden and New Britain, to participate in the program. Over the course of the year, CMSC's team of expert consultants worked with the property owners, municipal officials and local stakeholders to provide redevelopment options for the buildings, hosted a public meeting on the interest and opportunities for downtown living, and performed an audit of the zoning and regulations for downtown development.



MERIDEN

Owner: Christine Bonito | Location: 1-3 Colony Street

Located at the corner of Colony and West Main Street, this five-story building has 19,000 square feet of space. CMSC's work with the municipality and property owner regarding redeveloping upper floors into residential space will complement transit-oriented development efforts already underway in Meriden. Meriden recently adopted new land use regulations for the city center and a half-mile radius surrounding the Meriden Transit Center that will help promote pedestrian-friendly, compact, mixed-use development.



NEW BRITAIN

Owner: Avner Krohn

Location: 99 West Main Street

With CTfastrak (the bus rapid transit) nearing completion, an expansion of Central Connecticut State University in the downtown and a Bike Connectivity Plan recently implemented, this is an exciting time for New Britain as they invest in neighborhoods full of a variety of housing, retail and transportation choices. CMSC's Come Home to Downtown efforts will complement these initiatives perfectly, as the building chosen for the program is located in the heart of it all on West Main Street. The owner has already improved the façade and remodeled the ground floor into commercial space and is now seeking assistance converting the upper floors to residential housing.

SANDY HOOK ECONOMIC RECOVERY INITIATIVE

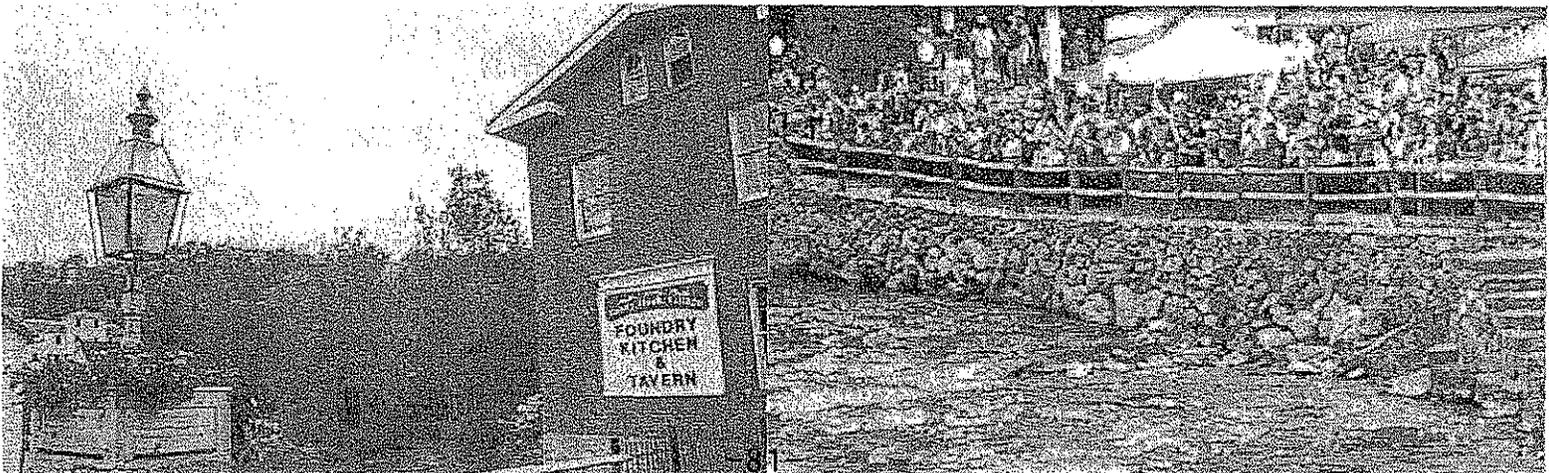
In 2013, a team organized by CMSC was chosen by the Town of Newtown to coordinate an economic recovery consultancy for Sandy Hook Village. CMSC collaborated with Arnett Muldrow & Associates of Greenville, SC, and with NetMark Associates of Canton,

CT, to work closely with the Town and Sandy Hook Organization for Prosperity (S.H.O.P.). The goal was to assist Sandy Hook Village businesses and property owners with an economic recovery plan while helping ensure a vibrant social center that reflected the true nature of the community.

The CMSC team worked with S.H.O.P. and the Town throughout the year, hosting a visioning workshop, meeting with local stakeholders, holding a partnership development workshop, and regularly communicating with local officials and the S.H.O.P. board. The CMSC team also completed an assessment of the market for shopping, dining and entertaining in Sandy Hook Village. A proactive branding campaign was then presented, offering a marketing and promotional toolkit for the Village to better showcase its assets with residents and visitors. CMSC guided S.H.O.P. leadership through a search and hiring process for a marketing coordinator to implement the new branding campaign. The marketing coordinator is now working directly with the Village's small business owners to help them on events and marketing materials that engage the community and promote local merchants.

As part of CMSC's consultancy, a plan to increase S.H.O.P.'s organizational capacity and fund development was also presented to the Town. At the close of the year, CMSC was assisting S.H.O.P. and the Town of Newtown to implement the recommendations identified during the consultancy, and will continue to do so until completion of the consultancy in the fall of 2014.

Below left: An iconic view of Sandy Hook Village – a place within us all. Photo by Ben Muldrow. Below Right: Newtown Lions Club hosts the Great Poolatuck Duck Race in Sandy Hook Village.



NEW HAVEN CITYWIDE FEASIBILITY ASSESSMENT

The City of New Haven, through Mayor Toni Harp's office and the Economic Development Corporation of New Haven, contracted CMSC to assist in determining the feasibility of implementing a neighborhood commercial district revitalization program. To build and sustain such a program, the City would partner with neighborhood leaders, stakeholders, and key institutions.



New Haven Mayor Toni Harp discusses the City's interest in utilizing the Main Street Approach to improve several neighborhoods.

To make the determination, the City identified four areas to serve as a representative sampling of neighborhood commercial districts. CMSC engaged downtown development consultant Kent Burnes of Burnes Consulting, and together visited each the four districts: Grand Avenue, Whalley Avenue, Congress Avenue and Dixwell Avenue. They spent a week walking each neighborhood, engaging in "community conversations" and meeting with over 300 hundred residents and local stakeholders

including neighborhood associations, businesses, anchor institutions and residents.

CMSC concluded that New Haven does indeed have the capability to begin a revitalization program and presented the City with a final report outlining several recommended next steps, including convening a Neighborhood Revitalization task force within City Hall, creating a New Haven Neighborhood Revitalization Center and building local leadership and capacity.

PRESERVATION OF PLACE GRANT PROGRAM

The Preservation of Place (POP) Grant Program provides funding for new initiatives that can be integrated into, and leverage, more comprehensive preservation and revitalization programs. CMSC receives support for this program from the State Historic Preservation Office with funds from the Community Investment Act. Since 2008, CMSC has awarded \$446,130 through the Preservation of Place grant program to 24 Connecticut communities, leveraging \$1,092,399 in local Main Street initiatives.

CMSC administered \$70,000 for the competitive 2014 round. Demand for these funds reached an all-time high this year as CMSC received a record number of applications. The following seven organizations and municipalities were awarded funds to increase their capacity to plan for preservation and revitalization initiatives in their downtowns and neighborhood commercial districts.

2014 PRESERVATION OF PLACE GRANT RECIPIENTS

Bridgeport Downtown Special Services District

– Awarded \$10,000 for the creation of a plan that will use open space to facilitate creative placemaking in downtown Bridgeport.

Town of Canton – Awarded \$10,000 for the creation of Gollinsville Village Zoning and Design Regulations

Town of Essex – Awarded \$10,000 for a Visioning & Action Plan for Centerbrook Village

New London Main Street – Awarded \$10,500 for an organizational leadership and revenue development plan

Norwalk 2.0 – Awarded \$5,000 for a Freese Park Artist Village Plan

Northwestern CT Regional Planning Collaborative – Awarded \$10,000 for 'Activate Main Street: Enlivening Village Center Public Spaces'

Thread City Development (Willimantic) – Awarded \$14,500 for an organizational and revenue development plan.



INFLUENCING GREAT DOWNTOWNS

EDUCATION & ADVOCACY

We utilize our resources in pursuit of a critical component to downtown revitalization and management: knowledge-building. Whether bringing expert ideas to our members through training and workshops, or promoting the importance of Main Streets among state and local officials, we effectuate change through education and advocacy.

DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION INSTITUTE

The Downtown Revitalization Institute (DRI) provides advanced training in the Main Street Four Point Approach™ to Downtown Revitalization. Held throughout the year, our popular DRI workshops are routinely well-attended and highly regarded. That's because our presenters are leaders in their field, with opportunities for participants to learn from and network with others.

Of note this year was our growing partnership with the CT Chapter of the American Planning Association (CCAPA). As a result, we were able to offer continuing education credits to planners at several of our workshops.

Over 170 people attended the following sessions, learning from our presenters and each other how we can work together to create great downtowns:

» Main Street is the Greenest Street: Provided a broad overview of how downtowns are inherently "green" and specific examples from other communities about ways to improve the health and environment of people who live and work in downtown.

» The Many Faces of Placemaking: Attendees learned what it takes to create places where people feel empowered to help shape their neighborhoods, physically and culturally.

"Great kick-start using creative approaches to establishing place."

COMMENT FROM THE MANY FACES OF PLACEMAKING WORKSHOP (OCTOBER 2013)

» Placemaking II – Creative Solutions for Invigorating Your Town: Presenters from Buffalo, N.Y. and Connecticut shared fun and inspiring placemaking examples. Attendees especially liked the food truck lunch and pop-up park, an interactive placemaking event.

In addition to our traditional DRI workshops, we also partnered with CME Associates and CCAPA to host A Brighter Future for Connecticut's Brownfields in Waterbury. This workshop provided information on new regulations and financing available to municipalities wishing to remediate brownfield sites.

Attendees at our Placemaking II DRI workshop enjoy an outdoor lunch in our pop-up park on a beautiful spring day.

OUTREACH

As a leader in downtown revitalization, CMSC is often called upon to share our expertise in the field of downtown management with various audiences. This year the work of CMSC and its staff was featured in a variety of forums, publications and media, including:

- » Hartford Courant
- » Middletown Press
- » The Newtown Bee
- » The New London Day
- » Meriden Record-Journal
- » The Willimantic Chronicle
- » Waterbury Republican-American
- » WFSB News Channel 3
- » Talk of Connecticut, WDRC AM 1360/102.9-3 FM
- » For the People, WPLR 99.1 FM/WPLR

Beyond making headlines for its programs and activities, CMSC is dedicated to sharing the importance of downtown revitalization with the public, key stakeholders and state leaders. With the state's \$1.5 billion investment in transit and a renewed interest in walkable, mixed-use neighborhoods, the time was right for CMSC to reinvigorate its look to match its increasing role in this field.

- » This year, CMSC strengthened its brand as a leader in downtown revitalization with the unveiling of a new logo that better reflects our active participation in facilitating robust Main Streets. This engaging design was incorporated into all of CMSC's print and digital communications.



Beautiful Sandy Hook Village

- » Following up on this successful endeavor, CMSC also initiated a total redesign of its website to better engage our members, industry colleagues and the public. The website's many new features – including a members-only area, featured downtown success stories and photo gallery of CMSC events and activities – will highlight our work and that of our members in inspiring downtown revitalization throughout Connecticut.
- » CMSC continued to utilize social media to reach new audiences, increasing Facebook "likes" by 20% and more than doubling our number of Twitter followers for the second year in a row. CMSC's monthly e-newsletter, Downtown Update, also increased its circulation, with over 3,100 individuals and organizations who support Connecticut's downtowns receiving the publication.

ADVOCACY

CMSC regularly champions policies, activities and regulations that lead to healthy, robust downtowns and Main Streets. CMSC often teams with other like-minded organizations in pursuit of our common goals, and worked to strengthen and expand these strategic partnerships over the last year.

- » CMSC penned an op-ed for the CT Mirror on why we're looking forward to CTfastrak, noting that creating more development around areas with public transit fits with CMSC's values and makes economic sense.
- » CMSC participated in a press conference thanking Senator Donald Williams for his sponsorship and support of the Community Investment Act. Senator Williams, who retired from the legislature at the end of the 2014 Legislative session, supported many issues of importance to Connecticut's downtowns.
- » Continued to strengthen our relationship with the CT Chapter of the American Planning Association (CCAPA).
 - » As a result, we were able to offer certification maintenance (CM) credits to planners at several of our workshops.
 - » CMSC is also active on the CCAPA Executive Committee and Program Committee.
- » Joined the Legislative Commission on Aging's Livable Cities Initiative as a partner, seeking ways to promote our common goal of more walkable, diverse downtowns that support residents from children to elders.
 - » CMSC guest-authored a blog for the Livable Cities website on how older Baby Boomers and young Millennials are both attracted to interesting, diverse and walkable town centers.
- » At the request of CT Department of Transportation (ConnDOT) Commissioner James Redeker, CMSC, the Connecticut Economic Resource Center (CERC), the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) and the South Central Regional Council of Governments (SCRCOG) convened municipal officials from towns with transit stations along the New Haven/Hartford/Springfield commuter rail and CTfastrak busway. The Corridor Advisory Committee provides a forum for the town officials to discuss development issues related to the new transit. The group convened in February, meeting over the course of the year on topics such as financing tools for transit village development, strategies to link these projects with Complete Streets and activities, and the "last mile" challenge of getting from the train or bus to home or work without a car.
- » Through participation on the Statewide Steering Committee, CMSC supports Young Energetic Solutions (YES), a group of young people dedicated to creating vibrant Connecticut communities. The group continued to meet throughout the year, launching a new website and increasing the activity of the local hubs.

Mansfield Town Manager Matt Hart conveys the importance of "the 3P's" – public/private partnerships – in the creation of Storrs Center.



LIFE OF A MAIN STREET

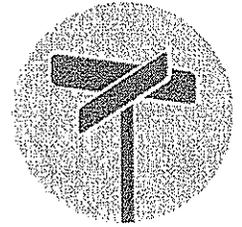
STARTING AND SUSTAINING A DOWNTOWN MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Great downtowns don't just happen. They are carefully cultivated by a group of dedicated people – often city employees, business owners and even volunteers – that coalesce into a powerful movement.



POLISHING OFF THE DUST

TOWN OF PUTNAM



Nestled in northeastern Connecticut along the banks of the Quinebaug River lays the small town of Putnam. Like many of Connecticut's towns, its thriving mill heritage receded over the years, only to be replaced with post-industrial and environmental challenges like the flood of 1955. It later found a niche in a wave of antique shops, only to bear the brunt of the rise of online shopping, leaving a tired, tiny downtown amidst the river's beauty. Now however, thanks in large part to the indefatigable efforts of an economic development director who understands the power of place, the downtown is once again thriving, becoming a can't-miss arts and cultural destination for the region.

Putnam's good bones include a location near I-395 and the Quinebaug River, a pro-business culture, and key anchor institutions like the Day Kimball Hospital surrounding the heart of the community, a compact downtown returning to life with an engaged community, active merchants, riverfront concerts and new attractions.

Taking an incremental approach, Putnam's Director of Community &

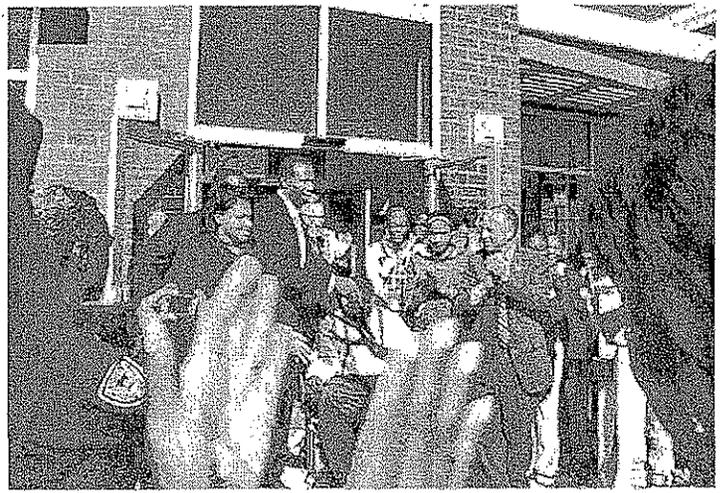
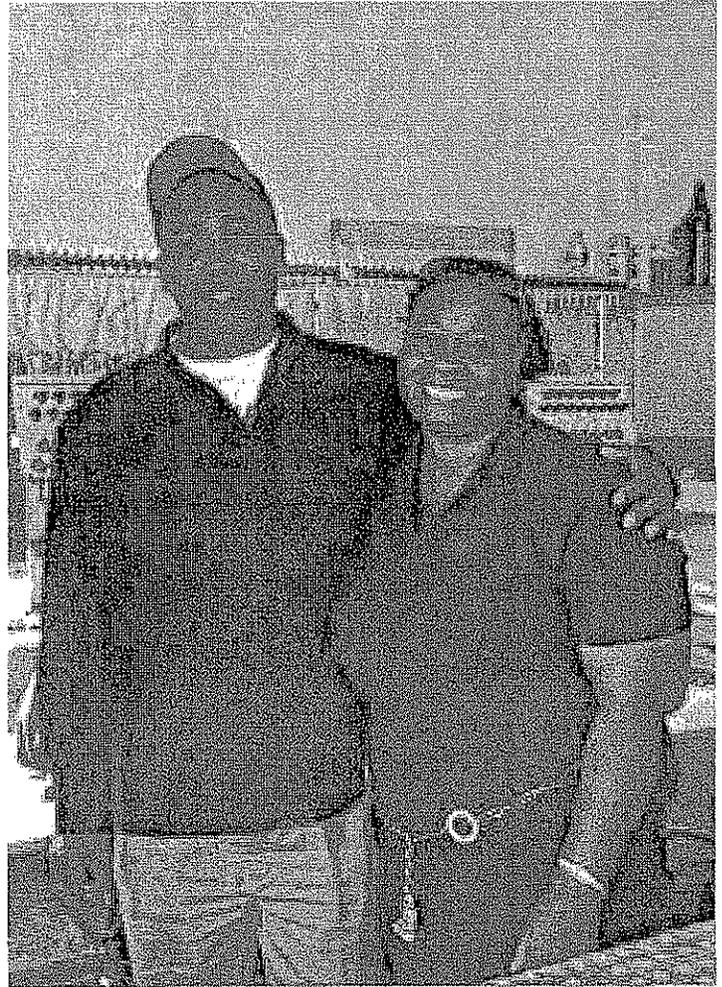
Economic Development, Delpha M. Very, has innovatively stacked one success atop another over the years. Riverfront concerts and a Farmer's Market draw families and friends from recently redeveloped mills to the downtown, while façade improvements and a river trail extension give them a reason to stay and play. Putnam's First Friday series – an outdoor, art-based street festival held from May to October – is establishing the downtown as a hub for arts and culture in the region.

Cultivating large change with limited resources, Delpha has also taken full advantage of CMSC's competitive Preservation of Place grant program. She's secured numerous grants for the downtown, including ones that invite citizen participation and feedback in what kind of development they want to see, gaining consensus along the way. Taking a "small steps" approach, the POP grants were used for a downtown parking study that examined current and future needs; a walkability audit where a group of committed citizens wrote a sidewalk and parking manifesto;

Visions 20/20 – a community-led downtown visioning and action plan that led to the creation of new policies and plans to support future growth; a wayfinding and signage design plan to establish a consistent design style and branding tool; and most recently, new design standards to help building owners undertake property renovations.

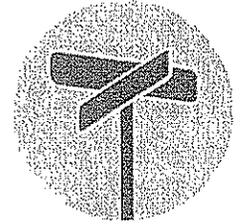
The culmination of these efforts and initiatives is creating a budding downtown scene, attracting residents and visitors with unique and engaging experiences. Through the efforts of committed municipal officials like Delpha Very, a committed citizenry and engaged merchants, downtown Putnam is now teeming with people enjoying public art, outdoor dining, concerts and events throughout the year. Once-blighted properties are being redeveloped and again contribute to the downtown's vitality and tax rolls. Polishing off the dust of their weathered past to reveal a very bright future, it's easy to see why Putnam bills itself as the town with "Vintage feel. Modern appeal."

Opposite Page: A large crowd of outdoor diners enjoy a stunning summer evening at a downtown Putnam First Friday event. Photo by Linda Lemmon, Putnam Town Crier.



REVIVING THE AVENUE BY MINDING THEIR BUSINESSES

UPPER ALBANY MAIN STREET, HARTFORD



Since becoming a Designated Main Street Program in 2000, Upper Albany Main Street (UAMS) has been squarely focused on reviving their beloved neighborhood, returning "The Avenue" to its glory days as a thriving economic and social center. Over the years, UAMS has consistently worked to engage residents and empower business owners. In doing so, Upper Albany Main Street has become a respected ally in creating and supporting economic opportunity for people all along The Avenue while celebrating their vibrant African American and West Indian cultures.

With Executive Director Marilyn Risi at the helm, UAMS distinguished itself from the start as a community convener and respected champion of local businesses. In 2002, UAMS strengthened its ties with the area's anchor institutions by creating the Upper Albany Micro Business Incubator program. Together UAMS, the University of Hartford, and

the MetroHartford Alliance bring training, development and resources to local businesses by pairing Upper Albany micro-enterprises with students from the University's Barney School of Business. Using one-on-one onsite training, students and business owners work together on business planning, marketing, merchandising, technology, financial literacy, e-commerce and customer service. The results are impressive: to date over 90 Upper Albany businesses have been strengthened by more than 350 UHart students providing thousands of training and volunteer hours. Merchants have benefitted from 34 loans totaling over \$2 million, while The Avenue has benefitted from over \$93 million in private investment.

The Avenue's list of business owners making an impact on the neighborhood continued when Dr. Richard Fitchman was awarded CMSC's 2013 Award of Excellence for Business Owner

of the Year. When opening his Upper Albany location, Dr. Fitchman remained committed to the community, including his neighbors in the process by employing local contractors during the construction phase, and later hiring local employees to assist his customers. Dr. Fitchman continues to assist UAMS in achieving its mission of enriching the lives of residents, and now chairs the UAMS Board.

In addition to empowering local merchants, Marilyn and the UAMS Board worked hard to improve the image of The Avenue while also becoming the "go to" group in the district. Partnering with the Hartford Courant's PLACE editorial board resulted in several positive stories about the people, places and institutions that set their neighborhood apart, cultivating a new image for the heart and soul of Hartford.

Upper Albany Main Street's efforts didn't stop there, however. Remembering their initial goal of

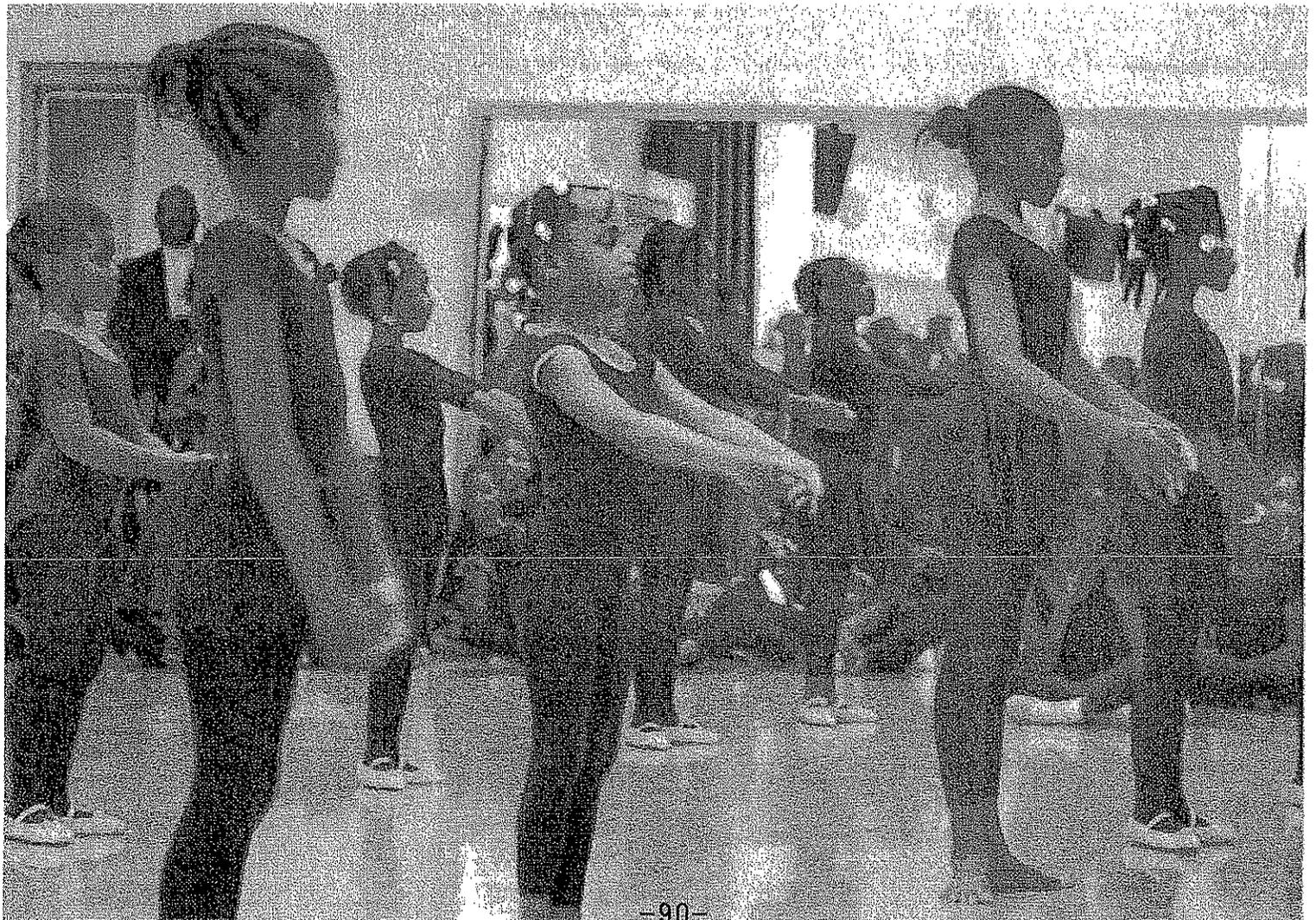
creating and maintaining a safe, clean and friendly environment, UAMS convened a Crime Prevention Committee in 2004 made up of residents and the Hartford Police Department and was subsequently designated a Weed & Seed Community by the U.S. Department of Justice. The next year, they implemented an anti-litter campaign, began an urban gardens program, and received the Bank of America Leadership Training grant to cultivate and train future community leaders.

By relentlessly pursuing excellence in all they do, Marilyn and the UAMS board have achieved tremendous success in revitalizing their beloved community. They gained the respect of neighbors, state and local officials, policy makers and key organizations. They raised the profile of their entire community by empowering merchants to better their businesses, and – anchored by groups

like the Artists Collective and UHart's Performing Art Center – are creating a destination for residents and visitors. As a result of their strategic partnerships, UAMS continues to be sought as a trusted ally and convener in significant improvement projects, such as CT DOT's Route 44 Safety Improvement Project; the Metropolitan District Commission's Clean Water Project; the development and implementation of a \$500,000 Albany Avenue Façade Improvement Plan; and the pursuit of a mixed-use, new-urbanist-style community gathering place known as the Town Center Development Plan, long championed by UAMS's first Board President George Scott.

Results like these speak for themselves. It's thanks to the endless dedication of Upper Albany Main Street, a group of committed merchants, residents, key institutions and more that The Avenue is once again humming along.

Ballet class at The Artists Collective, where the world of art is making a difference for the children of Greater Hartford. Photo from "Upper Albany, Now & Then: Photography Exhibit," by Upper Albany Main Street and University of Hartford.





CONTRIBUTIONS THAT FUND SUCCESS

Sponsorship is key to Connecticut Main Street Center's ability to provide services to its members and education and technical assistance to Connecticut's downtowns.

The breadth of services we offer would not have been possible without the generous support of our sponsors and contributors. We especially thank our Founding Sponsors: Connecticut Light & Power (CL&P) and the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD).

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2014 AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

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Additional Thanks to:

Town Green District

City of New Haven

Market New Haven

Chris Ortwein

Lori DeStefano

Shelly Saczyński

*Above: The new Town Square in the heart of
Storrs Center. Photo by Kim Bova.*

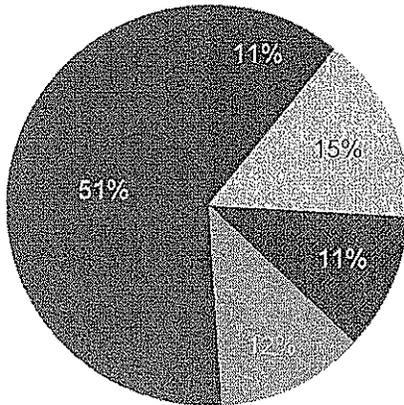
FINANCIAL STABILITY

Connecticut Main Street Center continues its tradition of financial prudence, culminating in our fifteenth consecutive year of balanced budgets. Additionally, fees for services represented 51% of all revenues (up from 42% year-over-year), allowing CMSC to continue to achieve its goal of increasing and diversifying all revenues, especially earned revenues.

These achievements arise from our dedication to fiscal responsibility. As a result, sponsors confidently invest in us because of our ability to leverage other funds while carefully managing our assets. Our member communities trust us to guide them in downtown management because of our strong financial credibility, wisely spending our limited dollars to provide programs and educational forums that provide the highest return on investment and leverage the most funds possible.

So u R C E S o f f u n D i n g

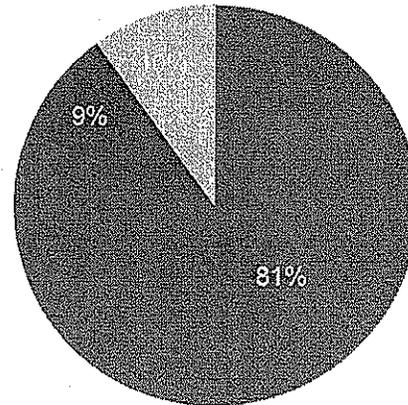
Total: \$686,800



	CT Light & Power Company	\$73,500
	CT Dept. of Economic & Community Development (DECD)	\$100,000
	Other Contributions	\$73,500
	State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)	\$85,000
	Fees for Services	\$353,000
	Total	\$686,800

h o w o u R R E S o u R C E S A R E u S E D

Total: \$686,000



	Program & Member Services	\$559,100
	Downtown Revitalization Institute Workshops	\$61,000
	General & Administrative	\$65,900
	Total	\$686,000

Bo ARD of DIRECTo RS of Co n n ECTICut MAIn StREEt CEntER

The CMSC Board brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the organization in pursuit of our mission. They are steadfast in their commitment to Connecticut's Main Streets.

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Fuss & O'Neill
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Connecticut Main Street Center

c/o Eversource

P.O. Box 270

Hartford, CT 06141

860.280.2337

www.mainstreet.org



Eastern Highlands Health District

4 South Eagleville Road • Mansfield CT 06268 • Tel: (860) 429-3325 • Fax: (860) 429-3321 • Web: www.EHHD.org

PRESS RELEASE dated March 26, 2015

Contacts:

Rob Miller, Director of Health at Eastern Highlands Health District, 860.429.3325;

millerRL@ehhd.org

Roberta Rewers, APA, 312.786.6395; rrewers@planning.org

Eastern Highlands Health District Community Health Action Response Team (C.H.A.R.T.) Receives Grant Funding from the American Planning Association to Combat Chronic Disease

WASHINGTON, DC – The *Eastern Highlands Health District Community Health Action Response Team* has received a \$100,000 grant from the American Planning Association through its Plan4Health program to combat two determinants of chronic disease—lack of physical activity and lack of access to nutritious foods.

Plan4Health is a 15-month program that strengthens the connection between planning and public health. Seventy-five percent of the program’s funding supports local and state coalitions working to advance public health through better planning and partnerships. The program is implemented in partnership with the American Public Health Association (APHA) and represents a major new collaboration between planners and public health professionals. Funding for Plan4Health was provided through a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

“This is an exciting new opportunity to improve the health of our communities through diverse partnerships,” said Anna Ricklin, AICP, manager of APA’s Planning and Community Health Center. “Collaboration is key if we want to continue to create communities of lasting value that are equitable and healthy for all residents.”

Eighteen coalitions were selected for the Plan4Health program after a competitive review process. The program is being administered through APA’s Planning and Community Health Center that is dedicated to integrating community health issues into local and regional planning practices by advancing research, outreach, education and policy.

Eastern Highlands Health District Community Health Action Response Team (C.H.A.R.T.) Coalition

Mansfield, CT - Small and rural planning and zoning commissions often have limited capacity. In response, the Eastern Highlands Health District Community Health Action Response Team (C.H.A.R.T.) coalition will develop a toolkit aimed at assisting planning and zoning commissions with understanding how planning can impact long-term public health. The toolkit

Preventing Illness & Promoting Wellness for Communities In Eastern Connecticut
Andover • Ashford • Bolton • Chaplin • Columbia • Coventry • Mansfield • Scotland • Tolland • Willington



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will also gather resources that can be used by local planning and zoning commission members to evaluate planning options and make decisions informed by their potential health impact. An important component of the funded project includes strategies aimed at increasing civic engagement and citizen influence over local planning and zoning decisions.

Coalition partners include, among others: Eastern Highlands Health District, Connecticut Chapter of the American Planning Association, Connecticut Public Health Association, Coventry STEPS, Town of Mansfield Department of Parks and Recreation, Town of Mansfield Department of Planning and Development, Town of Mansfield Department of Human Services, Town of Coventry Department of Planning and Development, Town of Coventry Department of Parks and Recreation, Town of Tolland Department of Planning and Development, Town of Ashford Department of Parks and Recreation, Tolland Family Resource Center, Visiting Nurses & Health Services of Connecticut, Tolland Board of Education School Nurses, Hartford Healthcare at Home, and local residents.

In addition to the *Eastern Highlands Health District Community Health Action Response Team* being selected, the following 17 coalitions also received funding:

1. *Healthy Savannah, Inc.*; Chatham County, Georgia
2. *Health Transformers*; Vista Neighborhood, Boise, Idaho
3. *B-Well Bensenville Plan4Health Coalition*; Bensenville, Illinois
4. *Kane County Planning Cooperative*; Kane County, Illinois
5. *Reach Healthy Communities*; Columbus, Indiana
6. *Health by Design*; Indianapolis/Marion County, Indiana
7. *Planning Healthy Iowa Communities*; Linn County, Iowa
8. *Kenton County Plan4Health Coalition*; Kenton County, Kentucky
9. *Inner Core Community Health Improvement Coalition*; Metro Boston, Massachusetts
10. *Healthy Eating, Active Living Partnership – Active Living Workgroup*; St. Louis, Missouri
11. *Plan4Health – Nashua, an initiative of the Greater Nashua Public Health Network*; Nashua, New Hampshire
12. *Trenton Healthy Communities Initiative*; Trenton, New Jersey
13. *Live Well Kingston*; Kingston, New York
14. *Columbus Public Health – Chronic Disease Prevention Advisory Board*; Columbus, Ohio
15. *Plan 4 Health Summit County*; Summit County, Ohio
16. *Austin-Vámonos Rundberg Coalition*; Rundberg Neighborhood, Austin, Texas
17. *Capital Region Healthy Communities*, Dane County, Wisconsin

For more information about the Plan4Health program, visit www.plan4health.us or follow the hashtag #Plan4Health on Twitter.

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The American Planning Association is an independent, not-for-profit educational organization that provides leadership in the development of vital communities. APA and its professional institute, the American Institute of Certified Planners, are dedicated to advancing the art, science and profession of good planning -- physical, economic and social -- so as to create communities that offer better choices for where and how people work and live. Members of APA help create communities of lasting value and encourage civic leaders, business interests and citizens to play a meaningful role in creating communities that enrich people's lives. APA has offices in Washington, D.C., and Chicago. For more information, visit www.planning.org.

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*Preventing Illness & Promoting Wellness for Communities In Eastern Connecticut
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Mansfield Downtown Partnership

Helping to Build Mansfield's Future

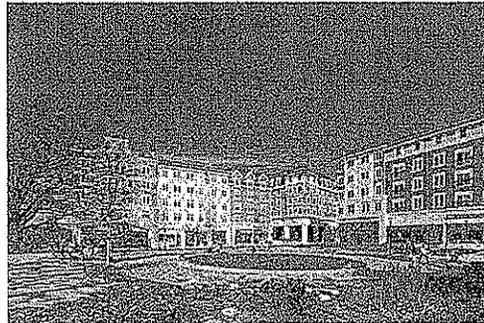
- MDP home
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- events
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News

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Mansfield Downtown Partnership Honored by CT Main Street Center
Winner of 2015 Award of Excellence



May 1, 2015 – The Mansfield Downtown Partnership is pleased to announce that the CT Main Street Center today named the Mansfield Downtown Partnership, along with the Town of Mansfield, UConn, LeylandAlliance, and the citizens of Mansfield, as the winner of the 2015 Award of Excellence in Planning.

The Partnership has received the award in recognition of its efforts to create Storrs Center. In 2001, the Town of Mansfield and UConn formed the Mansfield Downtown Partnership to oversee the revitalization of Storrs Center. The Partnership embarked on what would become a decade long process of gathering community input; building public support; acquiring requisite approvals; developing a master plan and then a municipal development plan; and creating new zoning for a downtown to match the community's vision of a welcoming place to live, to work, and to gather.

Just three short years after celebrating the ground-breaking of Phase 1A of Storrs Center, the Partnership hosted its annual Celebrate Mansfield Festival on the Town Square for the first time. Thousands of residents and friends gathered to celebrate the community with music, food, and fun activities for all ages. After so many years of planning and discussing what could be, Mansfield residents were able to enjoy their downtown as a community.

While there are still two phases in the construction and planning stages, Storrs Center has reached some remarkable milestones already:

- The Oaks on the Square (rental apartment homes) has enjoyed 100% leasing rates since the first buildings opened in 2012.
- The commercial spaces in the Town Square neighborhood (Phases 1A, 1B, and 1C) are 100% leased with thirty-two businesses serving the greater Mansfield community.
- Four of the five commercial properties in Phase 4 are leased, with the final space in negotiations. Phase 4 is the Market Area, home to Price Chopper.
- The businesses in Storrs Center have created over 200 new full and part-time jobs.
- For Fiscal Year 2015/2016, property taxes from Storrs Center are estimated to total \$2,351,470. After a temporary tax abatement and the Town's costs for Storrs Center related operations, the Town is expected to have a net gain of \$1,103,370 in tax revenue.

As Governor Dannel P. Malloy commented upon the announcement of this year's Awards of Excellence recipients, "Our downtowns and town centers represent what's unique about Connecticut – combining historic charm and stalwart character with the modern amenities that will help us thrive into the future. I applaud the award winners for how they're embracing that challenge – involving the community in the success of their downtowns through patronage of local businesses, acting as community leaders and building places for us to live, work and raise our families. The people behind these winning initiatives know that when we strive together, we thrive together – not just today, but for years to come."

"This award is truly a recognition of the years of effort put forth by not only the Partnership Board and Committees, but also the residents of Mansfield who have attended hundreds of public meetings, provided input, guided the design, and are now supporting the businesses and living downtown," said Cynthia van Zelm, Executive Director of the Mansfield Downtown Partnership. "As Governor Malloy noted, this project has been built not just for today, but for future generations of Mansfield residents to live and work, learn and play as one community."

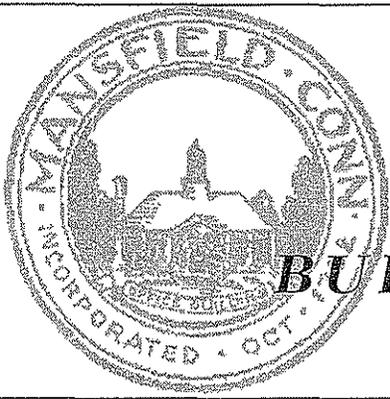
Learn more about the Mansfield Downtown Partnership: www.mansfieldct.org/mdp

Connect with the Partnership:



Archives

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THE MANSFIELD

MINUTE

BUDGET EDITION ~ MAY 2015

www.mansfieldct.gov

General Fund Budget Summary Town Council Adopted Budget, As Proposed for FY 15/16

	FY 14/15	Proposed FY 15/16	\$ Change	% Change
Town Operations	\$16,013,990	\$16,505,970	\$ 491,980	3.1%
Mansfield Board of Education	\$21,193,884	\$22,047,750	\$ 853,866	4.0%
<i>Town/MBOE Budget Subtotal</i>	<i>\$37,207,874</i>	<i>\$ 38,553,720</i>	<i>\$ 1,345,846</i>	<i>3.6%</i>
Regional School District #19	\$10,045,920	\$ 10,188,150	\$ 142,230	1.4%
GRAND TOTAL	\$47,253,794	\$48,741,870	\$1,488,076	3.1%

**Town of Mansfield
Annual Town Meeting for Budget
Consideration**
Tuesday, May 12, 2015, 7 PM
Mansfield Middle School
Auditorium

- Please arrive early to check in.
- Please bring a form of identification to verify your eligibility to vote.

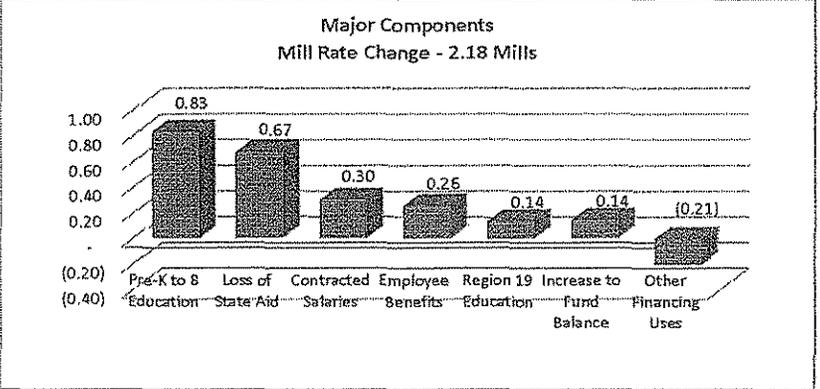
Participation is encouraged!

Mansfield voters can comment on the budget and make a motion to raise or lower a program in the budget. Come make your voice heard and vote on your Town Budget. The Town Council's adopted budget can be found at www.mansfieldct.gov.

Who may vote at the Town Meeting?

Any person who is registered to vote and any citizen of the United States over the age of 18 who owns property (motor vehicle or land) in Mansfield valued at \$1,000 or more. Citizens may register to vote by contacting the Registrars of Voters, Andrea Epling and Bev Miela at 860-429-3368.

The Town Council voted at its April 28th meeting to adopt a General Fund budget of \$48,741,870 (including the Region 19 contribution of \$10,188,150), a Capital Fund budget of \$2,438,900, and a Capital Nonrecurring Fund budget of \$2,200,470. If state revenue holds as projected with a loss of \$806,516 for the General Fund, a tax rate increase of 2.18 mills would be necessary to support Council's adopted budget and the mill rate would increase to 30.13 mills. This follows two consecutive years at the same mill rate. With the most recent revaluation, the value of the median single family home has decreased from \$169,900 to \$156,000. Yet with strong growth in the value of commercial properties, *estimated taxes for the median single family home would decrease by 1.0 percent or \$49 per year.* The Town Council's adopted budget will be presented to voters at the annual Town Meeting on May 12, 2015.





How do I vote on the budget at Town Meeting?

Electors have the ability to vote to accept, increase or decrease program expenditures. General Fund programs are defined as cost centers within functions of government, such as Mansfield Board of Education, Library, Road Services, Senior Services etc. Capital Fund programs are defined by the major functions of government: General Government, Public Safety, Public Works, Community Development, Facilities Management and Community Services. Capital & Nonrecurring Fund programs are defined by the recipient of the fund transfer, such as the capital fund. Mansfield utilizes program based budgeting so that programs are clearly presented in the materials for Town Meeting.

Town Hall Hours:

Monday	8:15-4:30
Tuesday	8:15-4:30
Wednesday	8:15-4:30
Thursday	8:15-6:30
Friday	8-12

PROPERTY TAX RELIEF

Mansfield offers some property tax abatement programs. Taxpayers who may be eligible for property tax relief include veterans, seniors, disabled persons and farm owners. Information about tax abatement programs in Mansfield, including eligibility requirements, can be obtained by contacting our Assessor's Office at 860-429-3311, our Human Services Department at 860-429-3315 or on the web at www.mansfieldct.org

FY 15/16 Budget Highlights

Revenues:

- The Storrs Center development is generating tax revenue. The net gain to the General Fund is \$1,103,380 after the abatement and expenses.
- Decrease in total intergovernmental revenue of \$838,879. Since 2007 intergovernmental revenue has decreased from 43% to 36.2% of General Fund revenue in 2015/16.
- PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes) payment from the state accounts for \$373,347 of the intergovernmental revenue decrease. PILOT revenue has decreased from 20% of overall General Fund revenue in 2006 to 14.9% in 2015/16.
- Grand list decreases by 0.85% to \$1,027,424,592.

Expenditures:

- \$310,430 increase in town contracted salaries and proposed staffing.
- \$263,795 increase in town benefits, primarily health insurance.
- \$60,460 increase for Resident State Troopers program.
- \$853,866 increase to MBOE budget.
- \$142,230 increase in Mansfield's share of Region 19 budget.

Questions?

Visit the town's budget [page](#) or visit the school's budget [page](#).

You can email the Town Council at TownCouncil@mansfieldct.org.

Mansfield Town Council

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor
 Paul M. Shapiro, Deputy Mayor
 Stephen Kegler
 Peter Kochenburger
 Alexander Marcellino
 Antonia Moran
 Virginia Raymond
 William Ryan
 Elizabeth Wassmundt
 Matthew Hart, Town Manager

Email the School Board at MBOE_BOE@mansfieldct.org.

Mansfield Board of Education

Randall Walikonis, Chair
 Jay Rueckl, Vice Chair
 Susannah Everett
 Martha Kelly
 John Fratiello
 Sarah Lacombe
 Katherine Paulhus
 Carrie Silver-Bernstein
 Kathleen Ward
 Richard Kisiel, Interim Superintendent

Where Do Your Tax Dollars Go?

Here is what a person who owns a median valued single family home will pay:

- Education \$3,098
- Town-wide, Capital Contribution, Debt Service, Fund Balance Reserve \$585
- Public Safety Operations \$348
- Government Operations (including energy & building maintenance) \$240
- Community Services & Development Operations \$215
- Public Works Operations \$214
- **TOTAL \$4,700**



Capital Fund

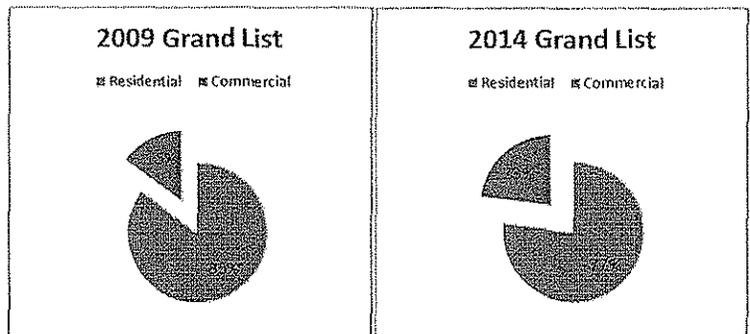
The Capital Fund includes \$200,000 for repairs to school facilities and an additional \$200,000 for educational technology needs. Other major capital projects include: replacement of the fueling station; transportation projects such as roads, bridges and walkways; replacement of the cement floor at Fire Station 107, and an upgrade to the Library fire panel.

The Capital and Nonrecurring (CNR) Fund is used to transfer revenues between funds. The CNR Fund is primarily used for capital and one-time expenditures. The planned uses for the CNR Fund are: capital needs (Capital Fund); and technology needs (Management Services Fund)

Capital Fund	
Planned Expenditures	
Public Works Projects	\$1,076,000
Facilities (Town & schools) Projects	\$ 616,700
Community Development	\$ 231,600
Education Technology	\$ 200,000
Public Safety	\$ 130,000
Community Services Projects	\$ 88,500
General Government Projects	\$ 96,100
TOTAL	\$2,438,900

Storrs Center: Positive Impact On Grand List

With the October 1, 2014 revaluation, the preliminary grand list has decreased by \$8,827,788 or 0.85 percent. As in many communities, the value of residential properties in Mansfield has decreased, by 8.7% in our case, with the most recent revaluation. Fortunately, due primarily to growth in Storrs Center the value of commercial properties has increased by 22.26%. From 2013 to 2014, the assessment for Storrs Center alone increased by 75 percent, from \$44.6 million to \$78.1 million. With the 2009 revaluation the split between residential and commercial properties was 85 percent and 15 percent, respectively. For the 2014 revaluation, the split is now 77 percent residential and 23 percent commercial, a much healthier mix for our community. This shift in reliance from residential to commercial properties will relieve the tax burden for most homeowners in Mansfield.



General Assembly's Affect On Budget

Why are state revenues to Mansfield in flux? State aid is scheduled to decrease by \$838,879 for FY 2015/16. Since the State Owned PILOT is subject to proportionate reduction, each municipality's share of the appropriation becomes dependent on changes in the assessment and taxation of eligible exempt property in relation to changes in the other eligible municipalities. Based on the changes in assessed values and mill rates in the other 168 municipalities, Mansfield's estimated percentage share of the appropriation for FY 2015/16 went from 9.33% in FY 15 to 8.94% for FY 16. The General Assembly is expected to vote on the budget in mid May. State aid will impact the mill rate necessary to support the Council's adopted budget; if state aid to Mansfield increases a lower mill rate will be needed but if state aid decreases a higher mill rate will be needed.

INSERT NAME AND ADDRESS OF RECIPIENT

Town of Mansfield
4 South Eagleville Road
Mansfield, CT 06268

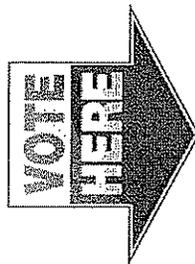


Sign Up Now!

Make sure you register for
Mansfield's Emergency Notification System.
Emergency Alerts ~ Road Closures
Weather Watches ~ and other local info!

CodeRED is the backbone of the Town's
emergency planning and communications
outreach, sending telephone calls, text messages,
emails and social media in an effort to effectively
inform residents to protect life and property.

Visit www.mansfieldct.gov and click on the
CodeRED logo to learn more.



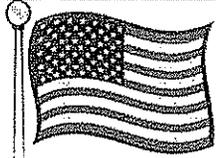
Important Budget Dates

**Regional District 19
Annual Meeting on Budget**
Monday, May 4, 7 PM
E.O. Smith High School
Media Center

Regional District 19 Budget Referendum
Tuesday, May 5

The voting hours will be from 6 AM to 8 PM
All voting will take place in Council Chamber
at Mansfield Town Hall.

**Annual Town Meeting for
Budget Consideration**
Tuesday, May 12, 7 PM
Mansfield Middle School Auditorium



Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony

Monday, May 25, 9 AM.

We are honored to invite our veterans and active duty personnel to join us on Bassetts Bridge Road at 8:30 AM to march at the head of the parade.

The parade will travel from the intersection of Route 195 and Bassetts Bridge Road in Mansfield Center down Cemetery Road to the ceremony site at the new Mansfield Center Cemetery.

In the event of inclement weather, a short ceremony will be held in the Mansfield Middle School Gym.

Call 860-429-3336 for more information.

On Memorial Day we pay our respect to those who died protecting and preserving the freedoms we enjoy. Please join us in honoring our fallen.

Senior Center Memorial Day Luncheon

Wednesday, May 27 at Noon.

Uniforms are encouraged!

BBQ chicken meal, \$5.

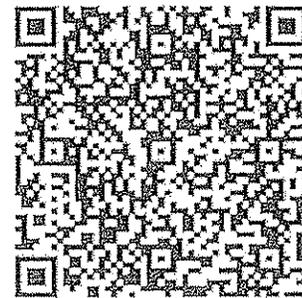
To register, call 860-487-9870 by May 20.

Beautiful Mansfield

Mansfield residents are fortunate to have access to over 5,000 acres of natural parks and preserves with significant regional and local trail systems. The 37 mile Nipmuck Trail begins at two trailheads in southern Mansfield and ends at Nipmuck State Forest in Union. Approximately 17 miles of this trail are located in Mansfield.

In addition to the Nipmuck Trail, there are over 30 miles of recreational trails on lands owned by the Town of Mansfield, Joshua's Trust, and UConn.

Access Mansfield's Town Trails online or use your smart phone to scan this QR code:



Mansfield Community Playground

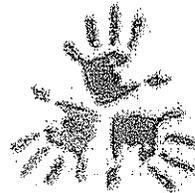


Thanks to generous contributions from the Jeffrey P. Ossen Family Foundation, the Town of Mansfield, local businesses and community members, the playground is completely funded and will be built this fall. In order to offset the contribution from the Town, however, fundraising efforts are still underway.

You can help...here's how!

You can purchase a picket that will be included in the playground, sponsor a playground component, make a general donation or attend a fundraising event. Coming up on July 18 is the 3rd **Annual Run for the Playground** put on by the Willimantic Athletic Club. There will also be kids' races and post-race fun.

For more information on these ways to contribute, go to www.mansfieldcommunityplayground.org or contact Maggie Ferron, Playground General Coordinator at: maggie@mansfieldcommunityplayground.org



Summer is coming... help send a child to camp!

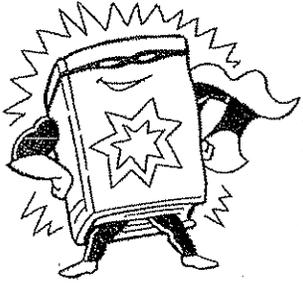
Donate to the Betsy Hamill Memorial Campership Fund

Many parents in town have to make choices between paying for basic needs with limited funds and providing a summer experience for their children. Through generous donations from the community, the *Betsy Hamill Memorial Campership Fund* enables local children, regardless of their economic status, to go to camp.

Your donation makes a difference!

If you would like to help send a kid to camp, please donate to this wonderful program. All contributions are fully tax deductible. Make your checks out to the "Town of Mansfield/ B.H.M.C.F." and mail them to:

The Betsy Hamill Memorial Campership Fund
c/o The Mansfield Human Services Department
4 South Eagleville Road
Mansfield, CT 06268-2599



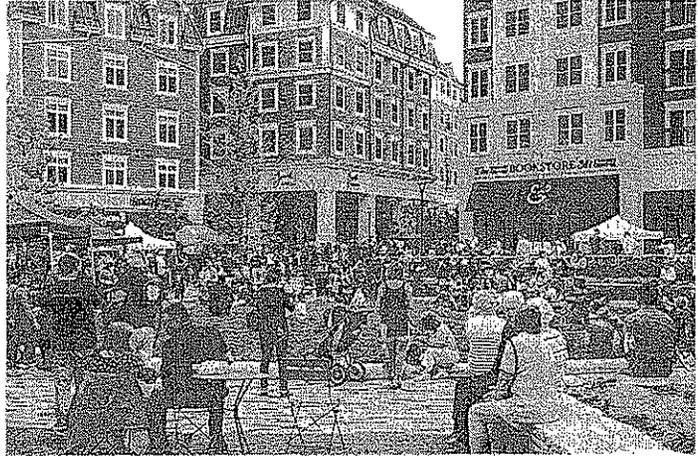
**EVERY HERO
HAS A STORY**
Mansfield Library
Summer Reading
Begins June 19

Kids, teens & adults are invited to sign up for a summer of great reading & fun incentives.

We'll be kicking off with a Superhero Family Party on June 19 at 6 PM. Join us all summer — come to a Garden Party, learn about beekeeping, dance and sing with Turtle Dance Music, try some high energy hula hooping, visit with a llama, be amazed by Storyfaces, learn the story and science of ice cream making with Carolyn Stearns... and don't miss our annual Ice Cream Social on August 13!

Details about all our programs will be available in forthcoming Library newsletters as well as on our online calendar. Be sure to contact us if you want to sign up for email alerts about our programs.

See you at the Library!



CELEBRATE MANSFIELD FESTIVAL

Sunday, September 20, 2015
Noon to 4.00 PM

Learn how **YOU** can be part of the biggest community event in town by visiting downtownstorrsvfestival.org, or by contacting the **Mansfield Downtown Partnership** 860.429.2740 or mdp@mansfieldct.org



STORRS FARMERS MARKET
Saturdays, 3.00 - 6.00 PM
May - November
On the front lawn of the Town Hall
storrsvfarmersmarket.org



Public Works Update

Winter is finally over! We would like to thank Brian LaVoie and our Public Works crews for their efforts maintaining our roads and facilities throughout this snow-heavy winter. Moving ahead to spring, we are looking forward to the addition of the stage roof to the Town Square. Here are some of our current and upcoming projects:

- Town Square additions
- Four Corners Sanitary Sewer
- Storrs Road Streetscape
- Sign Replacement Program
- Pavement Management Study



Need to communicate an issue or problem?

For projects call Engineering: 860.429.3331

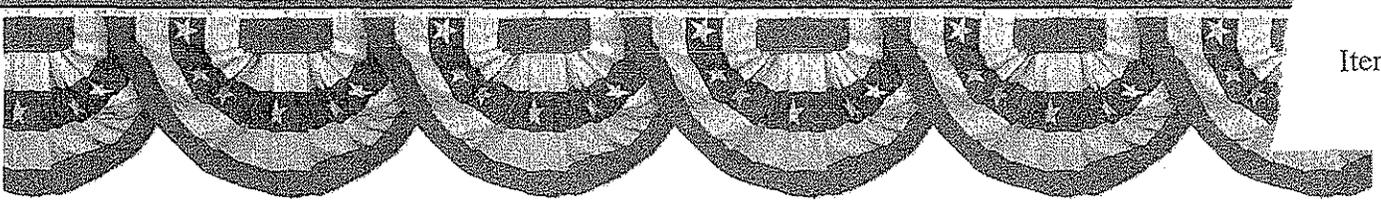
See a pothole, road or tree issue?

Call the Town Garage: 860.429.3676

For Trash and Recycling issues call 860.429.3333

Want to register a complaint or praise a Public Works crew? Check out the Citizen Request System:

[http://www.mansfieldct.gov/
content/1938/4328/4867.aspx](http://www.mansfieldct.gov/content/1938/4328/4867.aspx)



Town of Mansfield

Memorial Day Parade & Ceremony

9:00 AM

Monday, May 25th, 2015

Parade will travel from the intersection of Route 195 and Bassetts Bridge Road in Mansfield Center down Cemetery Road to the ceremony site at the new Mansfield Center Cemetery.

In the event of inclement weather, an abbreviated ceremony will be held in the Mansfield Middle School Gymnasium.

On Memorial Day we pay our respect to those who died protecting and preserving the freedoms we enjoy.

Please join our community in honoring our fallen.

Veterans and active duty personnel are invited to march at the head of the parade.

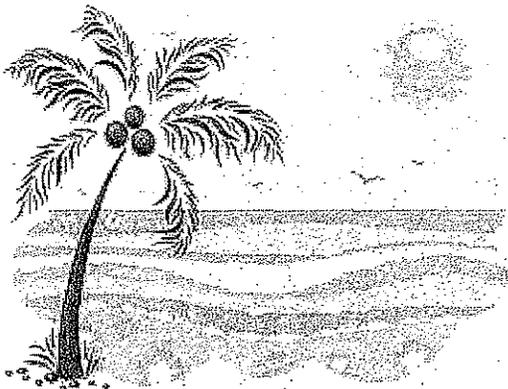
We are honored to have our veterans and service personnel join us on Bassetts Bridge Road/RT 195 at 8:30 AM on Memorial Day.

Call 860-429-3336, ext. 5 for more information.

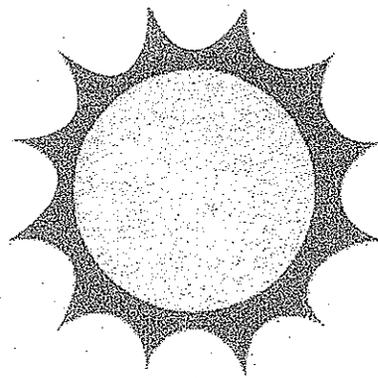
Please remember to thank those who have served our country.

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Have a great summer!
See you next year!



“To the world you may be one person,
but to one person you may be the world”

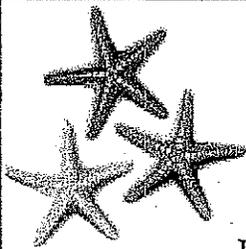


Volunteer Recognition

MANSFIELD
YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU

April 28, 2015





Welcome

Matt Hart
Town Manager

Pat Michalak, MA

Kate Bohannon, LMSW

Featured Speakers

Violet and Joan Salsgiver

Katelyn and Kathy Matthewson

Hunter and Arlene Hutchings

Allen Luke and Uncle Bob

Acknowledgment of Volunteers

Connor Walsh- Big Friends

Shannon Laccone- Vinton Cope

Abby Wood- Goodwin Cope

Courtney Studwell- Southeast Cope

Closing

Mayor Elizabeth C. Paterson



Volunteers

Big Friends

- Connor Walsh
- Kelly DeMeo
- Hannah Kane
- Kara Patterson
- Mindy Fan
- Courtney Zack
- James Cavalcante
- David Attolino
- Sofie Wall
- James Teardo
- Makayla Powers
- Nadia Balkaran
- Shannon Laccone

Vinton Cope

- Shannon Laccone
- Angelica Urena
- Carly Zerr
- Kayla Kessler
- Kerstan Mahland
- Olivia Wilson
- Sofie Wall
- Somaya McDermott
- Travis Karas
- Virctoria Shea

Special Thanks To

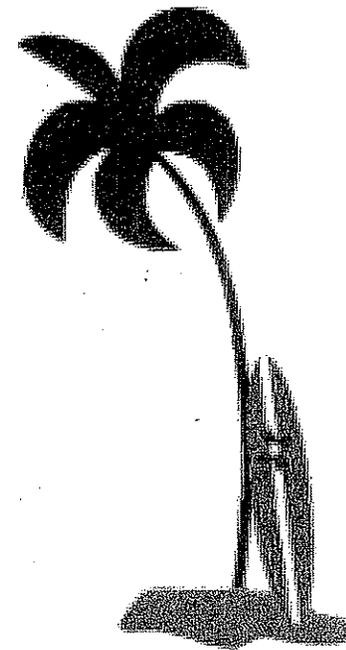
- Mansfield Youth Services
- Advisory Board
- Mansfield Town Council
- UConn Community Outreach

Goodwin Cope

- Abby Wood
- Nicole Kesner
- Julia Kaseta
- Danielle Matos
- Qiana Dean
- Lauren Chapman
- Paige Forcier
- Emma Pavano
- Maggie Balogh
- Ashley Ortiz
- Meaghan Lynch

Southeast Cope

- Courtney Studwell
- Carly Zerr
- Celeste Cyriac
- Sarah Coughlin
- Ayesha Ejaz
- Rachel Mancini
- Sarah Randall
- Kavisha Thakkar
- Josee Rockwell
- Rachel Takes
- Katherine Garger
- Andrew Redenti
- Laurel Gibson





April 28, 2015

Ms. Elizabeth Paterson Mayor
Town of Mansfield
4 South Eagleville Road
Mansfield, CT 06268

RE: Charter/Comcast Transaction

Dear Ms. Paterson:

This is to inform you that Comcast Corporation has decided to terminate its merger agreement with Time Warner Cable and its related transactions with Charter Communications. As a consequence, there will be no change to the cable service provider in your area; Charter (through one of its subsidiaries) will continue to hold the cable franchise in your community.

All of us at Charter are excited about the future. The Company's mission remains unchanged: to continue our investment in our network and technology innovations, and to focus on providing the highest quality of customer service to bring unmatched value to our subscribers. By delivering on these commitments, Charter provides superior entertainment and communications products that can consistently exceed the expectations of our growing customer base.

Most recently, Charter moved to an all-digital service offering in your community, with over 200 HD video channels and minimum base broadband speeds of 60 Mbps. Charter is also in the process of introducing its new **Worldbox** set-top box that uses a highly-efficient downloadable security solution, as well as its new **Spectrum Guide** – a state-of-the-art, cloud-based user interface that enhances consumer video services with more features including intuitive search and discovery capabilities with attractive graphics and TV and movie poster art. The Spectrum Guide will be accessible via both Worldbox and equipment currently deployed within the Charter footprint. These investments will provide a more dynamic and efficient user experience for customers in your community.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at 774-243-9735 or via email at Tom.Cohan@charter.com

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas P. Cohan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Thomas P. Cohan
Director, Government Affairs

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