REGULAR MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
October 24, 2016
DRAFT

Mayor Paul M. Shapiro called the regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:02 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Audrey P. Beck Building.
Mayor Shapiro noted that Jacob Jordan was not mentioned as one of the responders during the Life Saving Award Presentation just prior to the meeting. The Mayor again recognized all the responders and the efforts of Caleb Blanchard.

I. ROLL CALL
Present: Keane, Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Raymond, Ryan, Sargent, Shaiken, Shapiro

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Mr. Ryan moved and Ms. Keane seconded to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2016 meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL
Tom Levine, Thomas Drive, spoke in support of exploring the use of the Eagleville School House as a new home for the Community School of the Arts (CSA) and enumerated ways in which the program has contributed to his family's quality of life. Mr. Levine also read a letter from Soyoun Yi describing her experience with a CSA pottery class. (Statements attached)
Jeremy Jelliffe, Chaffeeville Road, spoke in favor of procuring the development rights to property on Mansfield City Road.

IV. REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER
In addition to his written report the Town Manager offered the following comments:

- Mr. Hart noted the communication from Nora Stevens announcing her retirement from the Board of Ethics. The Town Manager stated that plans are to acknowledge her many years of service to the Town at the next meeting.
- Councilors discussed the change in the percentage of the total capacity of the UConn treatment plant allocated to Mansfield, from 18% to 12%, and the effect the change would have on Mansfield. The adjustment followed a study of the current treatment plant's capacity. Any amendments to the recently approved sewer agreement with UConn will require a vote of the Council.

V. REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS
Mayor Shapiro attended the groundbreaking ceremony for the new United Service facility which, upon completion, will provide additional behavior/mental health services to the community. The Mayor also attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Center for Healthy Aging at Windham Hospital.
Mayor Shapiro commented on the joyous retirement event for Chief Dave Dagon and the sad memorial service for Chris Raiola, wife of Fran Raiola the Town's new Fire Chief.
Mr. Ryan attended the Joshua's Trust Annual Meeting which also commemorated the organization's 50th anniversary. At the meeting Betsy Paterson and Maggie Ferron, both Mansfield residents, were elected as trustees.

Ms. Keane noted the passing of longtime resident Carol Pellegrine. Carol and her husband Richard contributed to the Town in so many ways during the many years they lived in Mansfield. Mayor Shapiro stated that Carol Pellegrine was a woman of enormous talent and endless energy.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Tennis Courts at Mansfield Middle School

Mr. Ryan moved and Mr. Sargent seconded, to direct the Town Manager to add the restoration of the Mansfield Middle School Tennis Courts to the capital improvement program (CIP) beginning with an initial installment in FY 2017/18, and with a goal to budget sufficient funding for the project over a two to three-year period. The Town Council shall ultimately make a determination regarding funding for the project as part of the annual budget and CIP process.

Director of Parks and Recreation Curt Vincente outlined the proposed timing and financing of the project and recommended the Council consider the Post Tension Concrete method of construction. Pickleball will be accommodated.

Council members discussed the timing and funding of the project within future CIP Budgets.

The motion passed unanimously.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

2. Proclamation in Honor of Raymond Gergler

Ms. Moran moved and Ms. Raymond seconded, to authorize the Mayor to issue a Proclamation in Honor of Raymond Gergler. Ms. Moran read the Proclamation into the record. (Proclamation attached)

The motion passed unanimously.

3. Proposed Eagleville Schoolhouse Project

Mr. Marcellino moved and Mr. Ryan seconded, effective October 20, 2016, to authorize the Town Manager to retain an architect to prepare, at the donors' expense, the initial concept plans, building renovation and expansion design plans, and construction cost estimates for the potential Eagleville Schoolhouse project; and to execute an appropriate donation agreement with the donors, subject to the approval of the Town Attorney.

Mayor Shapiro offered a friendly amendment changing the date to October 24, 2016. The amendment was accepted.

Mr. Vincente noted that since incorporating the CSA program into the Parks and Recreation Department staff has been looking for a permanent location. Local residents Jean and John Lenard have offered to donate the funds needed for this first phase of the project and if, upon completion of the architect's report, the Council supports moving forward with the project the donors are willing to fund the renovations.

Ms. Moran moved to amend the motion to add the following,"...for the purpose of this initial study..."

The amendment passed unanimously.

The motion now reads:

Move, effective October 24, 2016, to authorize the Town Manager to retain an architect to prepare, at the donors' expense, the initial concept plans, building

renovation and expansion design plans, and construction cost estimates for the potential Eagleville Schoolhouse project; and to execute an appropriate donation agreement with the donors for the purpose of this initial study, subject to the approval of the Town Attorney.
The motion as amended passed unanimously
Council members thanked Jean and Jane Lenard for their generous donation.

4. Acquisition of Development Rights on 48.3 acres located on 474, 504, and 519 Mansfield City Road
Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Sargent seconded to schedule a public hearing for 7:00PM at the Town Council's regular meeting on November 14, 2016, to solicit public comment regarding the proposed acquisition of development rights on 48.3 acres located on 474, 504, and 519 Mansfield City Road.
Move, to refer the proposed acquisition of development rights on 48.3 acres located on 474, 504, and 519 Mansfield City Road to the Planning and Zoning Commission for review and comment pursuant to Section 8-24 of the Connecticut General Statutes.
Motions passed unanimously.

5. Proposed Revisions to the Code Enforcement Relocation Plan
Mr. Shaiken moved and Mr. Ryan seconded, effective October 24, 2016, to approve the proposed revisions to the Mansfield Code Enforcement Relocation Plan.
Director of Human Services Pat Schneider clarified that revisions have not been made to the benefits but to the administrative process.
Members discussed the pros and cons of holding a public hearing on the revisions.
The motion passed with all in favor except Mr. Sargent who voted against the motion.

6. Proposed Settlement Agreement between OAP Holdings, LLC and Town of Mansfield
Mr. Ryan moved and Ms. Moran seconded, effective October 24, 2016, to accept the negotiated pre-trial settlements for the 157-35 OAP Holdings, LLC tax appeals.
Motion passed unanimously.

VIII. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Mr. Shaiken, reporting for the Committee on Committees offered the following recommendation:
The reappointment of Winthrop Smith to the Board of Ethics for a term ending June 30, 2019.
Motion passed unanimously.
Ms. Moran reported the Personnel Committee has been working on the Town Manager's evaluation which will be discussed in executive session this evening. Ms. Moran also reported that the Police Services Committee has delayed issuing the planned RFQ in order to discuss service alternatives including having town police officers working under the State Police. Town Manager Matt Hart and Assistant Town Manager Maria Capriola will provide information to the Committee.

IX. DEPARTMENTAL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

No comments offered.

X. PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

7. B. Roe (10/13/16) 89
8. R. Shafer (10/13/16) 93
9. N. Stevens (10/13/16) 103
10. M. Hart re: Central Region Water Utility Coordinating Committee (WUCC) Preliminary Water Supply Assessment Report 105
11. CCM Candidate Bulletin - 2016 107
12. Mansfield Historical Society Newsletter – September 2016: Looking Back: The History of Our Museum Buildings

XI. FUTURE AGENDAS

No additional items presented.

Ms. Moran moved and Ms. Keane seconded to recess the regular meeting and enter into executive session to discuss the Sale or Purchase of Real Property, in accordance with CGS§1-200(6) (D) and Personnel in accordance with CGS§1-200(6) (a) and to include Town Manager Matt Hart and Environmental Planner and Inland Wetland Agent Jennifer Kaufman in the first session and Town Manager Matt Hart in the second part of the second session.
The motion passed unanimously.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Sale or purchase of real property, in accordance with CGS §1-200(6)(D)
Present: Keane, Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Raymond, Ryan, Sargent, Shaiken, Shapiro
Also Attending: Matt Hart and Jennifer Kaufman
Personnel in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes §1-200(6)(a), Town Manager Performance Review
Present: Keane, Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Raymond, Ryan, Sargent, Shaiken, Shapiro
Also Attending: Matt Hart (part of session)

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

The council reconvened the regular meeting. Mr. Shaiken moved and Ms. Keane seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m.
The motion passed unanimously.

Paul M. Shapiro, Mayor Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

Tom Levine
28 Thomas Drive
Mansfield, CT 06268
10/24/16

Dear Members of the Town Council & Town Manager Matt Hart,

I am writing in support of authorizing exploration of using—and adding to-- the Eagleville School house structure as a new home for the CSA, or Community School of the Arts.

CSA has been a significant contributor to the quality of life for my family. We have beneffitted from a number of their programs—

- My daughters took art and ceramic classes over three years and
- Suzuki guitar and piano lessons there over several years;
- youth choir

The arts have built in my daughters a creativity that their teachers in school see and praise, and that we see in my family in their constant use of materials at home to craft things. CSA organized classes and materials that are well beyond what we would have had the time and know-how to do for our children on our own. We also see our daughters thriving musically; both of my daughters are currently choosing to study 3 instruments, albeit often w/in the same family of instruments. Again, their musical training on instruments started at CSA, and they are learning life lessons about effort and persistence because they began their musical journey at CSA....

CSA does not just contribute to the quality of the children we raise, but it also makes important contributions for the adults I have had seen studying there. My wife and I studied singing there, and I am now grateful for the joy my continuing to sing on my own gives me. I studies Suzuki guitar with my daughter. A close friend, herself an immigrant and somewhat recent newcomer to our town, found CSA's ceramics classes for adults to be an important and powerful way of allowing her to connect with others and to be part of our community. I'm enclosing a letter from her here.

A number of these programs have been cut back during the reorganization of CSA; its lack of a central home base and the problems this causes are described in materials I saw as part of this weeks town council meeting packet.

I understand that there is a donor whose generosity will allow initial exploration without the town committing money. Please authorize this project to get started. I know that you will and should bring hard questions and your own input to exploration of the sustainability and appropriateness of the project. The town council and town government have nurtured a number of organizations that make our town a desirable place to live, and which attract families, raising home values and thus our tax revenues. When we support the arts, we are also supporting institutions that add beauty, joy, and meaning to our lives; thank you for considering support of expanded programming at and central home for CSA.

Tom Levine

Hello,
I'm a resident in Mansfield Center. I've lived here since summer of 2013, since my husband moved here for his job.
In fall of 2014, I had the beginner's pottery class at CSA. Until the class was closed down in winter of 2015, CSA's pottery program had been a regional place of gathering for amateur potters. Their age ranged from 10's to 70's and some had been in it for two years and some for over a decade; thus the closing of the pottery program was very unfortunate to hear about.
This community of potters was not only a place where artists meet to share and support their skills and information, but also a place where people were able to cross over the boundaries and limitations of race, culture, lifestyles and much more. It was a place of unity, where people of multitudinous backgrounds could meet and understand one another.

Personally, I also appreciated the fact that the pottery class was a place of learning as well as a place of repose and recreation- not to mention an opportunity to meet more people in this region. I also believe that this achievement of unity with no boundaries is something that is very valuable, especially in a larger scale community. For example, some of my friends and me participated in the 'Empty Bowl Project' that was run by the local Parish Hill Middle High School at Chaplin, where we contributed the bowls that we made to aid soup kitchen and so on. Even though it was a small part that we played, it was great to feel 'togetherness' in participating, and knowing that we could give back to the society this way.
These are the reasons why I believe that bringing back CSA would be beneficial to the community. The pottery class is a small example; but even there we were able to experience art, culture, friendship and support.

Starting CSA once more would not only open up the pottery class, but also so many other groups for arts and music alike. To open this opportunity to this region's people both young and old would give them a valuable experience of a lifetime.

Sincerely,
Soyoun Yi

Proclamation

Town of Mansfield, Connecticut

WHEREAS, Mr. Raymond Gergler has dutifully served the Town of Mansfield for over 70 years as a member of the Eagleville and Mansfield Fire Department, serving 13 of those years as Chief; and

WHEREAS, in July 1946, Mr. Gergler joined the Department at the age of 16 and spent the next several decades diligently working his way up the ranks becoming Chief of the Department on January 10, 1970 and later elected President; and

WHEREAS, on April 9, 2009, Mr. Gergler was inducted to the Connecticut Firefighters Hall of Fame in the inaugural class in recognition of his contributions to the local and state fire service; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gergler is respected for his honesty and no-nonsense approach to leadership; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gergler is regarded as an influential role model in the fire service in Tolland County and the State of Connecticut;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Town of Mansfield does hereby express its appreciation and gratitude to Mr. Raymond Gergler for his outstanding service to the community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and caused the seal of the Town of Mansfield to be affixed on this November 5th in the year 2016.

_____

Paul M. Shapiro, Mayor
Town of Mansfield
November 5, 2016