1. CALL TO ORDER
Mayor Moran called the regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building.

2. ROLL CALL
Present: Ausburger, Berthelot, Bruder, Coleman, Kochenburger, Moran, Schurin, Shaiken
Excused: Fratoni

3. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL
James Kelly, Coventry Road, spoke on behalf of himself and the residents of Coventry Road regarding mud, drainage and pothole issues on Coventry Road and a request to pave the road.
James Galey, Coventry Road, spoke in support of his letter (item #11E) asking for Coventry Road to be paved and added a suggestion that traffic easing measures be included as well.

4. REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER
Town Manager Ryan Aylesworth presented and discussed his written report. The report is available online at www.MansfieldCT.gov and is on file with the Town Clerk.

5. REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS
Mayor Moran reported that she and Deputy Mayor Shaiken recently visited the Mansfield Historical Society where Representative Haddad announced the upcoming award of State bond funds for critical maintenance and repairs of the old town hall buildings, also the home of the Historical Society. She also commented that she attended Asian Night at UConn and the evening was astonishing.
Mr. Coleman asked to review documentation regarding the work to be completed at the old town hall, shared his definition of colleagues and constituents, and stated he does not think the Council and Town Manager are listening to the citizens.
Mr. Shaiken reported that the State Bond Commission will vote on Thursday regarding approval of the bond funding for the old town hall project and requested that representatives from the Mansfield Historical Society attend a future meeting to explain the work that needs to be done. He also reported that the Region 19 Reapportionment Committee has met twice and is waiting for a response from the State Board of Education as to whether or not the Committee needs to continue its work if the local changes to apportionment approved 10 years ago are enacted now.
6. CONSENT AGENDA
   A. Approval of Minutes
   B. Appointment to Town Committees
      Mr. Shaiken moved and Mr. Bruder seconded to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

      Motions passed by consent:
      - To approve the March 14, 2022 Town Council meeting minutes.
      - Move, effective March 28, 2022, to appoint Will Bigl and April Morin to the Affordable Housing Committee for terms ending 1/1/2024; to appoint Kathleen Krider and Laurel Brandon to the Mansfield Advocates for Children for terms ending 6/30/2023.

7. OLD BUSINESS
   None.

8. NEW BUSINESS
   A. Implementation Plan for Financial Assistance to Distressed Household Program ("Resident Assistance and Emergency Relief Program")
      Mr. Aylesworth and Pat Schneider, Director of Human Services, summarized the financial assistance program, recommended that the program focus on addressing the first five eligible uses of the relief funds listed in the packet (rent, rental arrears, utility costs or arrears, reasonable accrued late fees, mortgage payment assistance), and answered Councilor questions regarding eligibility, award determination and program advertising.

      Ms. Berthelot indicated her preference that legal counseling be added to the short list of eligible services to assist people with matters such as avoiding eviction and negotiating debt down.
      Mr. Shaiken requested future updates to determine if more funds need to be allocated to the program.

      Mr. Shaiken moved and Ms. Berthelot seconded to authorize Town staff to move forward with implementation of the RARE program using ARPA funds as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

   B. Economic Development Commission Presentation
      Steve Ferrigno, Chair of the Economic Development Commission (EDC), and Kristin Dilaj, Vice Chair of the EDC, provided the Council with an update on the Economic Development Commission’s work over the last year, its current work plan, and its activities going forward. Cynthia van Zelm, Executive Director of the Mansfield Downtown Partnership, joined the discussion to answer Councilor questions regarding rental space in Downtown Storrs and in town, distribution of the Explore Our Town guide and the current signage project.
C. Public Works Road Resurfacing and Drainage Projects
John Carrington, Director of Public Works, presented an update on road resurfacing and drainage projects. Mr. Carrington along with Brian Lavoie, Operations Manager, and Derek Dilaj, Assistant Town Engineer, answered Councilor questions regarding road resurfacing plans and drainage issues. Challenges to increasing the speed of road resurfacing include the capacity of current staffing levels and the increase in the number of drainage system failures resulting in time spent on drainage work instead of road work.
Ms. Berthelot expressed a desire for the town to determine how to better protect pedestrians and bicyclists before fixing roads.
Mr. Kochenburger requested the Town’s five-year paving plan be put on the website.
Mr. Bruder asked that the financials for adding another road crew be presented during the budget process.

D. Mansfield Apartments Redevelopment (CEPA Scoping Process)
Linda Painter, Director of Planning and Development, summarized UConn’s proposed housing and parking garage project, the review process of the Planning and Zoning Commission and the comments submitted to UConn from the Planning and Zoning Commission that call for an Environmental Impact Evaluation to be prepared.
Ms. Painter indicated the information provided about the project is preliminary and it appears as though the University is trying to modernize their housing stock.
Mayor Moran noted that allocating funds to renovate dorms is a business item on the next UConn Board of Trustees’ meeting agenda.

Mr. Bruder moved and Mr. Coleman seconded, effective March 28, 2022, to authorize the Mayor to submit a letter to the University of Connecticut on behalf of the Town Council in support of the PZC comments dated March 22, 2022 related to the redevelopment of Mansfield Apartments. Motion passed unanimously.

9. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES
Mr. Schurin reported that the Personnel Committee met earlier this evening and worked on the proposed charge, discussed the Personnel Appeals Board and proposed hiring a community services coordinator.

Mr. Schurin, on behalf of the Personnel Committee, moved effective March 28, 2022 to endorse hiring a full-time community services coordinator in the Planning and Development Department starting on May 1, 2022, two months in advance.

Mr. Shaiken expressed concern about considering the motion since the item has financial implications and was not on the Town Council agenda.
Mayor Moran suggested the matter be placed on the next Town Council agenda.
Mr. Schurin withdrew his motion.

10. DEPARTMENTAL AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS
None.
11. PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS
A. Revised Voter Redistricting Map
B. EHHD COVID 19 Reports
D. Resident Submissions - ARPA Public Hearing (3.14.21)
E. J. Galey (3.17.22)
F. W. & C. Gordon (3.21.22)
   Mr. Shaiken noted that multiple emails have been received by the Council from Mr. Coleman and stated that the Council is not allowed to communicate with each other over email. Rather, a communication to the Council should be placed in the Council meeting packet.

12. FUTURE AGENDAS
   - Childcare Providers Appreciation Day Proclamation

13. ADJOURNMENT
   Mr. Schurin moved and Mr. Ausburger seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Antonia Moran, Mayor
Sara-Ann Chaine, Town Clerk