MINUTES

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, Bruder, Coleman, Kochenburger, Moran, Schurin, Shaiken
Virtual: Fratoni
Excused: Berthelot

3. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL
Richard Hayes, Pleasant Valley Road, Manchester, CT, owner of 135-141 Storrs Road, Big Y shopping center, asked the Council to enact a panhandling ordinance, citing safety concerns and referencing the recent enactment of such an ordinance in Wethersfield and the existence of similar ordinances in South Windsor, Enfield and Bristol.

Mayor Moran indicated the request would be placed on a future agenda.

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. In addition to his written report, Mr. Aylesworth wished Kelly Lyman the very best in her retirement. In response to questions from Mr. Coleman, Mr. Aylesworth commented that UConn seemed receptive to his feedback that more non-university stakeholder engagement was needed in regards to the search for a new university president. Additionally, Mr. Aylesworth responded that the results of the recent dam assessments have not yet been shared.

Mr. Coleman commented that he is seeing comments on Facebook that people do not know what events are planned on the town square.

5. REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS
Mayor Moran reported it has been a busy couple of weeks with the raising of the Pride flag, the Memorial Day parade, the Tour de Mansfield bike tour, a farewell gathering for Linda Painter, Director of Planning and Development, and the retirement party for Superintendent Kelly Lyman. She noted Ms. Lyman’s significant contributions to the Town and presented Ms. Lyman with a retirement gift.

Mayor Moran also reported she attended the Witness Stone ceremony at the Library.
Mr. Shaiken reported that he, Ms. Berthelot and Mr. Coleman were at the Witness Stone ceremony as well and it was an excellent event. He also attended the parade as well as the farewell event at Southeast School which was well attended by many alumni.
Mr. Coleman commented that there was a failure of the technology at the Pride flag raising event that kept people from hearing the speaker and being properly recognized and that he didn’t hear about the Law Enforcement Torch Run for the Special Olympics until thirty minutes before it happened. He remarked that a better job needs to be done with recording and sharing these kinds of events.

6. CONSENT AGENDA
A. Approval of Minutes
B. Appointment of Auditor to Conduct Financial Audit for Fiscal Year 21-22
C. Proposed Capital Improvement Program Adjustments for FY 21-22
D. Transfer of Uncollected Taxes to Property Tax Suspense Book

At the request of Mr. Coleman, Mayor Moran removed items B, C and D from the consent agenda and moved them to Reports of Council Committees.

Mr. Bruder moved and Mr. Schurin seconded to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Motions passed by consent:
- To approve the May 23, 2022 regular meeting minutes.

7. OLD BUSINESS
A. Change in Charge and Name of the Personnel Committee (Item #8C, 05.23.22 Agenda)

Mr. Schurin, at the recommendation of the Personnel Committee, moved, effective June 13, 2022, to endorse the updated charge for the Personnel Committee and change the committee name to the Personnel and Procedures Committee.

Mr. Shaiken, Mr. Kochenburger and Mr. Ausburger expressed concern over the proposed charge and the amount of prescribed responsibility. It was suggested that all three standing Council committees should develop charges.

Mr. Shaiken moved and Mr. Ausburger seconded to recommit this item to the personnel committee. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Shaiken moved and Mr. Coleman seconded to direct the Finance Committee and the Committee on Committees to develop similar charges in due course. Motion passed unanimously.

8. NEW BUSINESS
A. Mansfield Digital Inclusion Initiative

Jaime Russell, Director of Information Technology, and Leslie McDonough, Library Director, provided an overview of the Mansfield Digital Inclusion Initiative. In response to Councilor questions, Ms. McDonough explained that the Digital Access Specialist would assist the public and make it easier to navigate digital services. Other grant sources may be used for future project phases. Mr. Russell explained that the barrier to digital access in Mansfield is financial not the lack of broadband. Ms. McDonough clarified that the Specialist position is a two-year position and that the digital literacy issue is not age related.

Mr. Ausburger moved and Mr. Bruder seconded to authorize the Town Manager to move forward with implementation of the Digital Inclusion Initiative using ARPA funds as presented. Motion passed unanimously.
B. Recommendations for Adjustments to the Agency Grant Application Process and Guidance for the ARPA Agency Funding Process
Director of Human Services, Pat Schneider, and Human Services Advisory Committee members Ethel Mantzaris, Victoria Nimrowski, Julia DeLapp and Shamim Patwa were present to discuss and answer questions. Ms. DeLapp gave an overview of the current process and compared it to what it being proposed.
Mr. Shaiken recused himself from voting.
Mayor Moran expressed hope that the Human Services Advisory Committee will make funding recommendations to the Council.

Mr. Ausburger moved and Mr. Kochenburger seconded that the recommendation for the revised RFP process as spoken at the June 13, 2022 Town Council meeting be adopted alternative funding timeline beginning fiscal year 2024. Motion passed with all in favor except Mr. Shaiken who abstained.

Mayor Moran clarified that the revised request for proposals process for agency grants would also be used for the designated ARPA monies.

C. Appointment of New Town Historian
Mr. Kochenburger moved and Mr. Ausburger seconded, effective June 13, 2022, to appoint Rudy J. Favretti as the new Town Historian with all the privileges and responsibilities that pertain to the office. Motion passed unanimously.

D. ARPA Funding Allocation for QUINT Apparatus
Mr. Aylesworth provided a brief background on the bidding process and explained the need for gap funding. Mr. Coleman stated he is considering becoming a volunteer firefighter, recused himself and left the room.

Mr. Bruder moved and Mr. Ausburger seconded, effective June 13, 2022, to authorize the allocation of $258,750 from ARPA funds for the balance of the project as noted above. Motion passed with all in favor except Mr. Coleman who abstained.

9. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES
A. Appointment of Auditor to Conduct Financial Audit for Fiscal Year 21-22
Mr. Kochenburger, at the recommendation of the Finance Committee, moved, effective June 13, 2022 to appoint CLA LLP as the auditing firm for the Fiscal Year 2021/22.

Mr. Ausburger and Mr. Coleman indicated their preference to have a different company perform the audit. Mr. Bruder confirmed that the vote to recommend was unanimous in the Finance Committee.

Motion passed with all in favor except Mr. Ausburger and Mr. Coleman who voted against.

B. Proposed Capital Improvement Program Adjustments for FY 21-22
Mr. Kochenburger, at the recommendation of the Finance Committee, moved, effective June 13, 2022, to approve the adjustments to the Capital Projects fund, as presented by the Director of Finance in her correspondence dated June 6, 2022.
Mr. Shaiken commented that the Finance Committee regularly goes into detail reviewing these types of technical, non-controversial adjustments at their Committee meetings.

Motion passed unanimously.

C. Transfer of Uncollected Taxes to Property Tax Suspense Book
Mr. Kochenburger, at the recommendation of the Finance Committee, moved, effective June 13, 2022, to transfer $78,082.46 in uncollected property taxes to the Mansfield Property Tax Suspense Book, as recommended by the Collector of Revenue.

In response to a question from Mr. Coleman, Charmaine Bradshaw-Hill, Director of Finance, explained that the budget accounts for receiving less than 100% of taxes.

Motion passed unanimously.

D. Other Reports
Mr. Kochenburger reported that the Finance Committee also discussed the petroleum agreement. Mr. Schurin reported that the Personnel Committee is working on the Town Manager’s evaluation and schedule and will discuss the evaluation instrument. Any Councilor can attend the Committee meeting and discuss the questionnaire and submit suggested questions.

Mr. Bruder reported that the Committee on Committees met and is working on charge revisions.

10. DEPARTMENTAL AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS
None.

11. PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS
A. Hilding, A (05.23.22)
B. EHHD COVID-19 Reports
C. Troop C Monthly Reports (April/May)
D. Mansfield Human Rights Commission - Juneteenth Posters
E. Mansfield Board of Education Newsletter - Summer 2022

12. FUTURE AGENDAS
- Panhandling ordinance
- Online meeting viewer data

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION
A. Security strategy, in accordance with CGS §1-200(6)(C) - Cyber Security Strategy
   Mr. Shaiken moved and Mr. Bruder seconded to enter executive session to discuss Security strategy in accordance with CGS §1-200(6)(C) - Cyber Security Strategy and to invite, Ryan Aylesworth, Jaime Russell, Ashely Reda, Mallory Monaco, Attorney Kevin Deneen and Charmaine Bradshaw-Hill. Motion passed unanimously.

14. POSSIBLE VOTES REGARDING TOPICS DISCUSSED IN EXEC. SESSION
The Council emerged from executive session.

[Mr. Fratoni left]
Mr. Shaiken moved and Mr. Ausburger seconded, effective June 13, 2022, to increase the FY 2021/22 General Fund General Liability Insurance Account funded by the additional State PILOT grant by $40,000. Motion passed unanimously.

15. ADJOURNMENT
Mr. Shaiken moved and Mr. Kochenburger seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:02 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Antonia Moran, Mayor
Sara-Ann Chaine, Town Clerk