



THE MANSFIELD MINUTE

MAY 2013

- [Storrs Farmers Market](#) opens at the Town Hall Saturday, May 4, 3-6 PM.
- Have you read the [Citizens Budget Guide](#)?
- The Parks & Recreation Summer brochure will be in the mail on May 8. Registration starts May 15.
- Participate in [Mansfield Tomorrow](#).
- Town Offices will be closed on Monday, May 27, for Memorial Day.
- Getting a new pool? [Be safe](#). Be sure it's installed properly.

TOWN COUNCIL ADOPTS PROPOSED FY 2013/14 BUDGET

On April 24, the Town Council adopted a General Fund Budget totaling \$45,488,844 (including a contribution of \$10,005,514 to Regional School District No 19) for Fiscal Year 2013/14. Concerned about further reductions in state aid, the Council reduced the Town Manager's Proposed General Fund budget by \$311,590 and the Board of Education's budget by \$352,860. As indicated in the chart below, the Council's adopted budget represents a net increase of \$451,804 or 1.0% over the current fiscal year. The 1.0% net increase is due to an increase in Mansfield's contribution to Region 19, which results from an increase in the number of Mansfield students enrolled at EO Smith High School.

For municipal operations, the Council's adopted budget largely maintains current town services. The Council did eliminate funding for proposed service improvements, including a part-time systems librarian and firefighter, and an additional state trooper (recommended as part of the town's police services study). The Board of Education will determine the impact of the Council's reduction to

its budget.

The Council also adopted a Capital Fund budget of \$2,285,290, and a Capital Nonrecurring Fund (CNR) budget of \$1,194,860. The Capital Fund is used to pay for infrastructure and other projects, and to purchase equipment and rolling stock. The CNR fund is used to take in certain one-time revenues and to transfer monies between budgets.

The status of state aid to municipalities remains in flux. In developing his proposed budget, the Town Manager relied on the Governor's projections, which were subsequently reduced by the General Assembly's Appropriations Committee. The General Assembly will consider the Appropriations Committee budget later this spring. Residents and taxpayers are encouraged to contact State Senator Donald Williams and State Representatives Gregg Haddad and Linda Orange to emphasize the importance of state aid to municipalities. State aid will impact the mill rate necessary to support the Council's Adopted FY 2013/14 General Fund budget, with current estimates ranging from a .65 mill rate increase (2.38%) to a 1.03 mill rate increase (3.81%).

The Council will present its Adopted FY 2013/14 General

Fund, Capital Fund and Capital Nonrecurring Fund budgets to the voters at the Annual Town Meeting for Budget Consideration, scheduled for 7 PM on Tuesday, May 14 in the Mansfield Middle School Auditorium. More information regarding the budget may be found on the town's [website](#).

Town Council Adopted Budget, As Proposed for FY 13/14				
	FY 12/13	Proposed FY 13/14	\$ Change	% Change
Town Operations	\$14,945,330	\$14,895,170	-\$ 50,160	-0.3%
Mansfield Board of Ed.	<u>\$20,588,160</u>	<u>\$20,588,160</u>	\$ 0	0.0%
<i>Town/MBOE Budget Subtotal</i>	<i>\$35,533,490</i>	<i>\$35,483,330</i>	<i>-\$ 50,160</i>	<i>0.01%</i>
Regional School Dist.19	\$ 9,503,550	\$10,005,514	\$501,964	5.3%
GRAND TOTAL	\$45,037,040	\$45,488,844	\$451,804	1.0%

MANSFIELD HAPPENINGS

May 2013



- May 2 — 7 PM **Budget Information Session AT THE TOWN HALL**
Learn more about the proposed budget for 2013–14 in the Town Council Chambers. To view additional budget information, please visit our [Budget Webpage](#).
- May 4 — all day **Rid Litter Day ALL AROUND TOWN**
Get together with your neighbors to pick up litter. Recycle what you can, take the rest to the transfer station (it's free!) or have it picked up on your usual day.
- May 4 — 9AM-1PM **Spring Bazaar AT THE SENIOR CENTER**
White Elephant, Jewelry, Hand-Knitted/Crocheted Items, Toys, Books, Fine Gifts, & so much more...Bring your friends and brighten your spring...and stay for lunch, too!
- May 4 — 10AM-2PM **Solar Open House Tour in Mansfield and Windham**
Visit local homes with solar power and hear firsthand what your neighbors have to say about their solar experience. Come learn more about how this project is making solar easy and affordable. Contact Virginia Walton at 860-429-3333 or visit solarizect.com/Mansfield-Windham.
- May 7 — 6AM-8PM **Regional School District #19 Budget Referendum AT TOWN HALL**
Come vote at the Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building, 4 South Eagleville Road.
"Shall the sum of \$19,915,850 be appropriated for the operation and maintenance of the Regional School District #19 Public School System for the July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 fiscal year?"
- May 14 — 7 PM **Annual Town Meeting for Budget Consideration: MIDDLE SCHOOL**
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 is eligible to vote at the Annual Town Meeting. Citizens may register to vote by contacting the Registrars of Voters at 860-429-3368. .
- May 16 — 7 PM **[Quiet Corner Reads](#) Book Discussion AT THE LIBRARY**
Read Archer Mayor's NYT Bestseller, **Tag Man**, part of the Vermont-based series featuring detective Joe Gunther and described by the Chicago Tribune as "the best police procedurals being written in America." Copies available at the library.
- May 27 — 9 AM **Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony**
Parade will travel from the intersection of Rt 195 and Bassetts Bridge Rd in Mansfield Center down Cemetery Rd 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.



Town of Mansfield, Connecticut
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