

## TOWN COUNCIL-REGULAR MEETING-SEPTEMBER 12, 2005

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the regular Town Council meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building.

### I. ROLL CALL

Present: Blair, Clouette, Haddad, Hawkins, Paterson, Paulhus, Redding,  
Schaefer  
Absent: Koehn

### II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Clouette moved and Ms. Blair seconded to approve the minutes of August 8, 2005 as presented.

So passed unanimously.

### III. MOMENT OF SILENCE

The Mayor requested a moment of silence for the troops serving abroad and for all the hurricane victims in the South.

### IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMUNITY

Ms. Denise Burchsted, 268 Warrentville Road, and Executive Director of the Naubesatuck Watershed Council, spoke to the Council on the Fenton River. The river is bone dry where UConn is pumping for its water supply. She was very concerned about the impact on the University and the town. As a resident and Director of the Naubesatuck Watershed Council she requested information from the University as to what has brought this level of water so low. She asked: What is the current pumping rate from the Fenton river from Aug 10-Sept 10? Could the Willimantic River be used more? She asked that the University acknowledge that we were in a drought and what measures they were doing to address these concerns. Mr. Schaefer, a Council member, said that he had received an email at the University urging everyone to conserve water. She had photographs of the Fenton River beds, with absolutely no water in them. The Town Manager will speak with the Eastern Highland Health District Director on this issue.

Mr. Quentin Kessel, 97 Codfish Falls Road, a member of the town's Conservation Commission, also spoke on the low level of waters in the Fenton River. He had several reports that the University and the DEP had published on the issue, which gives permission for pumping water from both the Fenton and Willimantic rivers. The concern is the amount of water they are permitted to draw. He personally dug a hole a foot down near the pumping station A . There was no water. This is the driest he has seen the river in many years.

Mr. Michael Taylor, 12 Stone Mill Road, Mr. Larry Ross and Mathew Barchus of 18 Thomas Drive came before the council recommending the need for building a skate park. This park would be located behind the Community Center and would

be fenced in and open certain hours. Local business people will assist in building this park. A local person has already donated \$10,000 for the project.

Mr. Curt Vincente, Director of Parks and Recreation, spoke on the park. The fees charged to use the park would cover, he felt, the costs of the staff.

Mr. Sean Pritchard-Thorpe, 10 Mansfield Hollow Road, explained that he is a rider and that this park is a great idea. He told the Council that there is amongst the riders an etiquette policy for all who use a park. This is learned as soon as one uses the park.

Judith Thorpe, 10 Mansfield Hollow Road, urged the Council to continue with this project. Many young people would use it and it would be a wonderful opportunity for them.

Stella Ross, 239 Hanks Hill Road, supports the idea of a skate park. She does take her children to other places, but she would prefer that the children have local friends and ride here in their own town. She urged the council to allow input from kids who would use this park.

## V. PUBLIC HEARING

### 1. MRRA-2006 Rate Increase for Single-family Collection and Transfer Station Fees

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Schaefer seconded to adjourn as the Mansfield Town Council and convene as the Mansfield Resource Recovery Agent.

So passed unanimously.

No comments from the public.

## VI. OLD BUSINESS

### 2. MRRA-2006 Rate Increase for Single-family Collection & Transfer Station Fees

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded that effective September 12, 2005, to approve the rate increase for single-family collection and transfer station fees, as recommended by the director of public works in his memorandum dated August 3, 2005.

Ms. Virginia Walton, Recycling Coordinator was present to answer any questions of the Council.

So passed unanimously.

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Clouette seconded to adjourn as the MRRA and reconvene as the Mansfield Town Council.

So passed unanimously.

### 3. Issues Regarding the UConn Landfill

The Town Manager reported that the University of Connecticut will soon be starting construction activities to remediate and close the landfill and former chemical pit areas in accordance with the plan approved by CTDEP. Construction is slated to begin in October. The DEP has promised that all reports will be given to the Town.

#### 4. Campus/Community Relations

Mr. Clouette said that the weekend party houses have begun. He has received calls regarding one home on Hanks Hill Road. The Police were called. The neighbors believe that this house has some sort of fraternity involvement.

The Town Manager and the Assistant Town Manager have been meeting with the Community Relations committee and with University staff. The decision has been made to have a team of persons go out and visit areas in town which have rental properties and discuss with the renters a packet of material regarding the town and what is expected of them to be a part of a neighborhood.

Question was raised if this packet can be placed on our website. Staff will look into this issue.

### VII. NEW BUSINESS

#### 5. Relief for Victims of Hurricane Katrina

Mr. Haddad moved and Ms. Blair seconded that effective September 12, 2005, to pay the salary of those employees who volunteer for deployment with the Red Cross, for a period not to exceed three weeks in duration for each employee, and to appropriate a donation of \$2,500 to the Connecticut Red Cross.

Mr. Schaefer asked if the maker of the motion would accept a friendly amendment to change the amount to \$5,000. The amendment was accepted.

So passed unanimously.

#### 6. Skate Park Proposal

Mr. Clouette moved and Mr. Haddad seconded to establish an informal committee of interested residents, members of the Recreation Advisory Committee and staff to study the current proposal in more detail.

So passed unanimously.

#### 7. Fee Waiver Report for FY 2004/05

Mr. Schaefer moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded that effective September 12, 2005, to authorize staff to transfer \$27,649.16 from the general fund's contingency account to the recreation program fund.

Mr. Curt Vincente, Director of Parks and Recreation and Mr. Jeffrey Smith, Director of Finance, were present to discuss this issue.

So passed unanimously.

8. Establishment of Weekend/Evening Facility Supervisor Positions

Mr. Schaefer moved and Ms. Blair seconded that effective September 12, 2005, to establish two part-time positions of weekend/evening facility supervisor, and to classify those positions at grade 11 of the Town Administrator's Pay Plan.

Mr. Curt Vincente, Director of Parks and Recreation, presented the description of those positions and answered questions from the Council.

So passed unanimously.

9. Agreement Between the State of CT and the Town of Mansfield for a Cash Grant Toward the Purchase of Alternative Fuel Vehicle(s)

Ms. Blair moved and Mr. Clouette seconded to adopt the following resolution:

Resolved, effective September 12, 2005, that Lon R. Hultgren, Director of Public Works, is authorized to execute the Agreement Between the State of Ct and the Town of Mansfield for a Cash Grant Toward the purchase of Alternative Fuel Vehicle(s), FHWA Grant No. CM-000r(2600; state Project No. 170-2445.

So passed unanimously.

10. Personal Service Agreement between the State of CT and the Town of Mansfield for an America the Beautiful Grant Award

Ms. Blair moved and Mr. Clouette seconded to adopt the following resolution:

Resolved, effective September 12, 2005, that the Town Manager, Martin H. Berliner, is empowered to execute and deliver in the name and on behalf of the Town of Mansfield a certain contract with the Department of Environmental Protection of the State of Connecticut for the fulfillment of the America-the Beautiful grant, and is authorized to affix the Town's seal upon the grant agreement.

So passed unanimously.

11. Financial Statements Dated June 30, 2005

Mr. Schaefer moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded to refer this item to the Finance Committee.

So passed unanimously.

12. Budget Transfers for FY 2004/05

Ms. Blair moved and Ms. Redding seconded that effective September 12, 2005, to amend the adopted FY 2004/05 budget by: 1) increasing revenues from the PILOT grant by \$340,659; and 2) increasing expenditures by \$340,659.

So passed unanimously.

### 13. Capital Projects Fund

Mr. Haddad moved and Ms. Blair seconded that effective September 12, 2005, to approve the adjustments to the capital projects fund, as recommended by the director of Finance in his correspondence dated September 6, 2005.

Mr. Jeffrey Smith, Director of Finance was present to discuss this fund.

So passed unanimously.

### 14. Budget Analysis of State Grants and Amendments to FY 2005/06 Budget

Mr. Schaefer moved and Mr. Clouette seconded that effective September 12, 2005, to amend the FY 2005/06 General Fund Budget by: 1) increasing revenues from the PILOY Grant by \$230,500; and 2) increasing expenditures (Operating Transfers Out) to the CNR Fund by \$230,500.

So passed unanimously.

## VIII. QUARTERLY REPORTS

Town Council will ask questions if necessary at next meeting.

## IX. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

No comments.

## X. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

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Committee on Committees

Ms. Redding moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to reappoint the following:

Open Space Preservation Committee: Mr. James Mellow and Mr. James Hill

Personnel Appeals Board: Donald Nolan

Public Safety Committee/Correctional facility liaison committee: Sue Thomas for a term ending 11/19/05

And to appoint Audrey Barberet as the citizens representative to the Public Safety /Correctional Facility Liaison committee for a term ending 11/19/05

So passed unanimously.

## XI. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Schaefer announced that the leaching stone in front of the Pharmacy Building at the University of Connecticut has been given to the Mansfield Historical Society. The Town public works crew moved it from campus to the lawn of the old town hall. He thanked the crew for their hard work.

Mr. Paulhus spoke on the Know Your Town Fair. It was very successful and was held in the community center on Saturday, September 10, 2005.

Mr. Clouette reported that he and Mr. Hawkins had attended a Downtown Partnership meeting. The partnership will begin the local process for approval of its' Storrs Center Municipal Development Plan. There will be a public hearing on the MDP on October 6, 2005. This does include the relocation plan. Copies of the draft will be available for the public at the Library and at the Town Clerk's office.

Mayor Paterson will serve on two University committees, one for the Fines Arts Department and one for the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the University.

The Mayor has also agreed to chair a CCM committee on a Legislative Agenda for Education.

## XII. TOWN MANAGER

There will be Fireworks in Mansfield Hollow Park on the 24<sup>th</sup> of September with bands playing at 4:00 p.m.

On Sunday, September 25, 2005, the Downtown Partnership will head up the "Festival on the Green" from 12-4 p.m.

There will be a Community Emergency Response Team training session beginning on September 19, 2005 at the Buchanan Auditorium on Route 89. This will be eight sessions on Mondays 7-9:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 15, 2005 there will be an orientation meeting for a market feasibility study for assisted living presented by the firm of Brecht Associates, Inc. 9:00 am in the Council Chamber.

October 5, 2005 there will be a public hearing on the Mansfield Plan of Development in the Council Chamber of the Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m.

Repairs will begin September 19, 2005 on the Juniper Lane Bridge.

## XIII. FUTURE AGENDAS

## XIV. PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

15. Orientation Meeting for Market Feasibility Study for Assisted Living
16. Draft Municipal Development Plan for Storrs Center
17. Bylaws of Mansfield Downtown Partnership inc

18. Mansfield Plan of conservation and Development 8/15/05 Draft
19. Press Release-Juniper Lane Bridge Repairs
20. Press Release-Community Emergency Response Team Training Course
21. Letter from State of Connecticut General Assembly to M. Berliner re: Bonding Project for Cities and Towns in Connecticut
22. Email from R. Miller to M. Hart re: Lead Levels Testing and Child Neglect/Abuse Numbers
23. Letter from the National League of Cities to B. Paterson re: Cities Helping Families Build Assets Technical Assistance Project
24. Letter from C. Vincente to R. Suchy re: Temporary Lighting at Southeast Park
25. Letter from J. Brubacher to C. Chasin re: Senior Center Beautification Project
26. Eastern Highlands Health District's Guide to Opportunities for Physical Activity and Heart Health Dining

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Blair moved and Mr. Schaefer seconded to adjourn the Council meeting at 9:42 p.m.

So passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Joan E. Gerdson, Town Clerk