

REGULAR MEETING-MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL-DECEMBER 12, 2005

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:32 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Blair, Clouette, Haddad, Hawkins, Koehn, Paterson, Paulhus, Redding_
Absent: Carl Schaefer (1/09/2006)

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Haddad moved, and Mr. Hawkins seconded to approve the minutes of the November 28, 2005 meeting. Ms. Blair noted that in Item 3 the cross training of all firefighters should refer to all career firefighters and Mr. Hawkins noted that the vacancies in the schedule were filled by part time firefighters not volunteer firefighters.

The motion to approve the minutes as corrected passed unanimously.

III. MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Paterson requested a moment of silence.

(NEW BUSINESS ITEM 6)

Mayor Paterson requested a motion to move the Proclamation in Honor of Officer William Clayton and Trooper First Class Scott Crevier to the top of the agenda.

Motion made by Mr. Haddad and seconded by Mr. Hawkins.

Motion so passed.

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded, effective December 12, 2005, to authorize Mayor Paterson to issue the attached proclamation in Honor of Officer William Clayton and Trooper First Class Scott Crevier.

Motion so passed.

Mayor Paterson requested that Officer William Clayton and Trooper First Class Scott Crevier join the Council members at the front of the room, at which time she read the proclamation in their honor and thanked them expressing her admiration and respect for the police in Mansfield.

IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

- None

V. OLD BUSINESS

- Motion by Mr. Haddad and seconded by Ms. Blair to add as Item 5 A, FY 2006/07 Library Services and Technology Act Long-range Planning Grant.

Motion so passed

1. Draft Plan of Conservation and Development

Gregory Padick, Town Planner, updated the Town Council on the Draft Plan of Conservation and Development. The Planning and Zoning

Commission has endorsed, with an addendum, the August 15, 2005 Draft Plan, which incorporates some of the recommendations they received into the Plan. The Commission acted to send the Plan to the Council as a Plan that they recommend that the Town adopt. Based on the state statues the Council has its own review period, may conduct its own public process and can either endorse the entire plan or portions of it. Any section that is not endorsed by the Town Council must receive a 2/3-approval vote by the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Ms. Koehn suggested that the idea of village be incorporated in the areas of the Plan that address mixed use and higher density uses. A discussion ensued regarding whether or not the term village is the appropriate description or concept. Rudy Favretti, Chair of the Planning and Zoning Commission, suggested that what everyone was describing is development with a humanized scale, a building to people to street relationship that people are comfortable with.

Approval of the Plan will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

2. Financial Statements Dated September 30, 2005

Mr. Clouette moved and Ms. Blair seconded, effective December 12, 2005, to accept the Financial Statements dated September 30, 2005, as prepared and submitted by the department of finance.

Motion so passed.

3. Fenton River Aquatic Habitat Study

Gregory Padick, Town Planner, reported that there are significant recommendations in the report regarding the flow in the river and the moving of a current shallow well. He is in the process of reviewing the draft report and will forward to the Town Council his comments and any comments from the PZC and the Conservation Commission prior to the January meeting. It is expected that the Department of Environmental Protection will allow comments until mid-January.

4. Appointment of Charter Revision Commission

The scope, expected time line and membership of the Charter Revision Commission were discussed. Mr. Haddad moved and Ms. Blair seconded to refer the matter back to the Special Committee Regarding the Establishment of a Charter Revision Commission.

Motion so passed.

5. Campus/Community Relations

No Report

5A. FY 2006/07 Library Services and Technology Act Long-range Planning Grant

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to adopt the following Resolution:

Resolved, effective December 12, 2005 that the Town Manager, Martin H. Berliner, is empowered to enter into and amend contractual instruments in the name and on behalf of the Town of Mansfield, with the Connecticut State Library for a Fiscal Year 2006/07 Library Services and Technology Act Long-Range Planning Grant, and to affix the corporate seal of the Town.

So passed unanimously.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

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6. Already Completed

7. Highway Safety Project Application

Ms. Bair moved and Mr. Hawkins, seconded effective December 12, 2005, to authorize the Town Manager, Martin Berliner, to submit a grant application to the Connecticut Department of Transportation, Division of Highway Safety for \$90,188.38 to be dedicated to speed enforcement activities, and to process any related grant paper work.

Motion so passed.

8. Strategic Planning Project

Matt Hart, Assistant Town Manager, reviewed the subject of strategic planning. Since the Council has identified this issue as a priority a group of department heads have been assembled to begin work. The staff believes that it would be beneficial to hire a consultant who has experience in both group facilitation and strategic planning in the public sector. Since this person would work closely with the Council, Matt asked if there were any Council members who would like to participate in the selection process. The following Council members volunteered: Ms. Paterson, Ms Koehn, Mr. Paulhus, Ms. Blair (maybe) and Ms. Redding (maybe).

9. Wolf Rock Preserve Access Management Plan

Mr. Haddad moved and Ms. Blair seconded, effective December 12, 2005, to approve the Wolf Rock Preserve Access Management Plan.

By consensus the Council agreed not to act and the issue will be on the

agenda for the next meeting.

10. Crane Hill Field Management Plan

By consensus the Council agreed not to act and the issue will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

11. Saw Mill Brook Preserve Management Plan

By consensus the Council agreed not to act and the issue will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

12. Member Services Coordinator Position

Mr. Hawkins moved and Mr. Clouette seconded, effective December 12, 2005, to establish the full-time position of member services coordinator, and to authorize staff to negotiate with the professional and technical employees union to determine the salary grade for the position.

Motion so passed.

13. Social Services Block Grant Application

Mr. Clouette moved and Ms. Koehn seconded, effective December 12, 2005, to authorize the Town Manager to submit an application to the U S Department of Health and Human Services for a Social Services Block Grant in the amount of \$3,657.

Motion so passed.

14. WPCA, Community Sewer System Agreement, Valley View Mobile Home Park

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Clouette seconded to recess briefly as the Mansfield Town Council and convene as the Water Pollution Control Authority.

Motion so passed.

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Clouette seconded, effective December 12, 2005, to authorize the Town Manager to execute the Community Sewer System Agreement between the Town of Mansfield and Kenneth Hoddinot (d.b.a. Valley View Mobile Home Park).

Motion so passed.

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Clouette seconded to adjourn as the Water Pollution Control Authority and reconvene as the Mansfield Town Council.

Motion so passed.

15. Acceptance of Scottron Drive and Sheffield Drive as Town Roads

Ms. Blair moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded, effective December 12, 2005, to refer the acceptance of Scottron Drive and Sheffield Drive as town roads to the Planning and Zoning Commission for review and pursuant to section 8-24 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Motion so passed.

16. Energy Conservation

Continued

17. Spay and Neuter Ordinance

Continued

VII. QUARTERLY REPORTSVIII. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Ms Redding reported that the Committee on Committees have met and make the following recommendations:

Tim Quinn and Richard Pellegrine to the Commission on Aging to terms of three years ending September 2008,

Susanna Thomas, George Cole, Raymond Gergler, Wunderly Stauder to the Correctional Facility Liaison of Public Safety Committee to a term specified by the Town Clerk,

Christopher Paulhus as the Town Council representative to the Correctional Facility Liaison of Public Safety Committee and announced that Vera Stearns has been appointed as the Planning and Zoning representative to the same,

Al Cyr and Carolyn Stearns to the Agriculture Committee to terms of two years ending November 19, 2007,

Jean Haskel to the Parks Advisory to a term of three years ending August 1, 2008 and new members Juliana Barrett and Tom Harrington to terms ending August 1, 2008.

Mr. Clouette seconded the recommendations and they passed unanimously.

IX. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTSX. REPORT OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Paulhus reported that he recently attended the Mansfield Teacher of the Year event honoring Janet La Marre.

Mayor Paterson summarized her attendance at the National League of Cities Conference as very productive saying that the members are very aware of the impact that budget cuts are having on our local communities. The Mayor noted that she represents Connecticut on the Resolution Committee, was elected as 1st Vice President of the University Community Caucus and serves on the Human Development Policy Committee.

XI. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Town University Relations Committee will meet on December 13, 2005 at 4:00 p.m.

The Regional District 19 Budget meeting will be held on December 13, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. This is a pre budget meeting of local officials and legislators.

The Planning and Zoning Commission has adopted new regulations regarding age-restricted housing. Some of these units will be affordable housing. Mr. Berliner suggested that the Town Council might want to look at the issue of affordability in all types of housing in town.

The Planning and Zoning Commission will be holding a public hearing on a three month of the moratorium on single-family subdivisions in order to have time to write new regulations. The Planning and Zoning Commission is also considering adding a new zoning district that would include a housing component in what has been the industrial zone.

The Traffic Authority has discussed Depot Road and will invite the residents to the February meeting to discuss the findings and to try to come to a consensus with them.

XII. FUTURE AGENDAS

XIII. PETITIONS, REQUEST AND COMMUNICATIONS

18. Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations re: "Connecticut Municipal Budget Adoption Experiences, FY 2005/06.
19. Connecticut Department of Transportation re: State Project No. 77-206, Intersection Improvements on CT Route 195 at Chaffeeville Road and Clover Mill Road,
20. SGT S Cox re: Officers Palmer and Clayton.
21. Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, New England Fiscal Facts, "Do NE State and Local Governments Have Too Many Employees, and are They Overpaid?"
22. Government Finance Officers Association re: Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for Town of Mansfield.
23. Mansfield Downtown Partnership re: Transmittal of Municipal Development Plan for Storrs Center.
24. G. Padick re: Designation of Stone Mill Road as a Town Scenic Road.
25. The Hartford Courant, "UConn Takes an Environmental View"
26. The Hartford Courant, "Mansfield's Downtown Makeover"

27. Mansfield Parks and Recreation re: the Nutcracker Ballet

- XIV. ADJOURNMENT

- At 9:50 p.m. Ms. Blair moved and Mr. Haddad seconded to adjourn the meeting.
So passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk