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REGULAR MEETING-MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
June 12, 2006

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. ROLL CALL

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

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Schaefer moved and Ms. Blair seconded to approve the minutes of the May 22, 2006 meeting.
Motion so passed.

III. MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Paterson requested a moment of silence in honor of and respect for our troops around the world.

IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Anita Bacon, Storrs Road, presented a petition to the Council requesting the extension of the sidewalk in Mansfield Center to Dodd Road along the east side of Rte 195.

Uri Lavitt spoke in favor of the proposed Captains positions for the Mansfield Career Firefighters Association. (Statement attached)

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. Issues Regarding the UConn Landfill

Martin Berliner, Town Manager, reported that a preconstruction meeting has occurred and construction will start soon and will continue into 2007. In response to a question regarding the eventual use of the site, Mr. Berliner said that he believes it will be used for parking but plans to attend the meetings. He will report back.

2. Fenton River

Mr. Hawkins questioned whether or not the stream gaging station is a permanent structure. The Town Manager will investigate.

3. Campus/Community Relations

Mayor Paterson described the new Mansfield Community Campus Partnership

brochure, which was designed by a graduate student.
Council members requested copies.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

4. Youth Service Bureau Grant Application

Mr. Schaefer moved and Ms. Blair seconded the following resolution:
Resolved, effective June 12, 2006, to authorize the Town Manager, Martin Berliner, to submit an application to the State of Connecticut for a Youth Service Bureau Grant. In furtherance of this resolution alone, the Town Manager is duly authorized to enter into and sign said contracts on behalf of the Town of Mansfield. The Town Manager is further authorized to provide such additional information and execute such other documents as may be required by the state or federal government in connection with said contracts and to execute any amendments, rescissions and revisions thereto.
Motion so passed

5. Town Newsletter and Communicating with the Public

Assistant Town Manager, Matt Hart, reviewed some of the programs currently in place including the cable access station, the Town Website, META mail, and the online service request line. The Information Technology Management Team will make a presentation at the next Council meeting further explaining some of these offerings. The Mayor suggested an in house calendar that will alert citizens of approaching referenda and elections and the possibility of having an UConn intern to assist with a newsletter for the Town. She commented that we must not forget those citizens who are not electronically linked. Ms. Redding suggested using signs at strategic locations in town as a way to inform citizens. Ms. Koehn suggested the development of an overall plan that will outline exactly how the Town plans to communicate with its citizens. She also requested a search engine that will just search the Town's website. Mr. Hawkins asked staff to ascertain the number of Cable subscribers currently in Mansfield and to incorporate the library calendar with the Town calendar.

6. Classification of Housing Inspector Position

Mr. Clouette moved and Ms. Blair seconded, effective June 12, 2006, to set the pay grade for the position of Housing Inspector at grade 17 of the Town Administrator's Pay Plan.

Ms. Koehn moved to table the motion. Seconded by Mr. Hawkins the motion failed with Ms. Koehn in favor and the others opposed.

The Town Manager discussed the point factor system of job classification used by the Town for the last 15 years.

Motion so passed with Ms. Koehn in opposition.

7. Classification of Director of Building and Housing Inspection Position

Mr. Schaefer moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded, effective July 1, 2006, to

establish the position of Director of Building and Housing Inspection, and to set the pay grade for the position at grade 24 of the Town Administrator's Pay Plan.

Ms. Koehn moved to amend the motion to end after the word "Inspection" commenting that she feels the position should be established prior to setting the pay grade. Mr. Hawkins seconded the motion. The motion to divide failed.

Mr. Hart explained the evaluation and point factor system used. He enumerated the 9 job factors against which each position is analyzed and described the process.

The motion passed with all but Ms. Koehn in favor.

8. Establishment of Fire Captain Positions

Mr. Schaefer moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded, effective June 12, 2006, to establish four Fire Captain positions to be compensated at grade 3 of the Firefighters Pay Plan and to be filled not earlier than July 1, 2006.

Fire Chief Dave Dagon explained the structure of the organization commenting that the proposed Captain positions would provide consistency, continuity and control over the structure of the Department. He enumerated the responsibilities of the positions noting that the Fire Captains will also be Certified Deputy Marshal able to perform inspections. He stated that the Department which is made up of 30 full time and part time career firefighters and an equal number of volunteer fire fighters is reorganizing and in the process of developing a long term strategy that works for everyone and emphasizes fire prevention.

A discussion ensued regarding the certification process, additional rank structures, the role of the Council in union negotiations, the importance of the volunteers, the supervisory role of the proposed Captain positions, current supervisory problems in the Department and the proposed pay structure.

The motion passed with Ms. Blair and Mr. Hawkins abstaining.

9. Master Plan for University of CT Water Supply and Wastewater Treatment Systems

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded, effective June 12, 2006, to authorize staff to participate in the process to prepare a Master Plan for University Water Supply and Wastewater Treatment Systems.

The Town Manager explained that to have a say in the future water and sewer needs the Town must become involved as partners in the process. The first step is to hire a consultant to prepare a master plan that will assess the current situation as well as address issues of eventual governance. Mr. Berliner stated that it is essential to the future of the Town that we become part of the process. Ms. Koehn requested that the language in section 5 of the Scope Outline regarding the public participation be stronger.

10. Mansfield Middle School Fossil Fuel Conversion

Mr. Clouette moved and Ms. Blair seconded to approve the following:
Resolved, That the amount of \$3,800,000, to be funded \$1,025,000 from the Reserve Fund for Capital and Nonrecurring Expenditures and \$2,775,000 from anticipated grants from the State Department of Education, is hereby appropriated for cost of replacement of the electrical heating system at the Mansfield Middle School with a fossil-fuel heating system, including related renovations, improvements and other work. The Town hereby declares its official intent under Federal Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 that this appropriation will be funded initially from available funds and that (except to the extent reimbursed from grant moneys) the Town reasonably expects to reimburse any such initial funding source from the proceed of borrowing to be authorized for the project in an aggregate principal amount anticipated not to exceed the amount of this appropriation.

That there is hereby established the Mansfield Middle School Heating System Conversion Committee to serve as a school building committee for the project. The membership of the Committee shall consist of the Mayor of the Town and the Chairman of the Board of Education. The Committee is vested with the following powers and duties: (i) to approve design, installation, acquisition and construction expenditures for the project, including without limitation the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications for the project; (ii) to contract with architects, engineers, contractors and others in the name and on behalf of the Town to complete the project; and (iii) to exercise such other powers as are necessary or appropriate to complete the project. Committee members shall not receive any compensation for their services. Necessary expenses of the Committee shall be included in the cost of the project. The records of the Committee shall be filed with the Town Clerk and open to public inspection during normal business hours. Upon completion of the project, the Committee shall make complete report and accounting to the Council and the Town.

That the Board of Education is authorized to apply for and accept state grants for the project. The Board of Education is authorized to file applications and notices with the State Board of Education, to execute grant agreements for the project, and to file such documents as may be required by the State Board of Education to obtain grants for the costs of financing the project. Any grant proceeds may be used to pay project cost of principal and interest on bonds, notes or temporary notes, is any, issued to finance the project cost.

Jeff Smith, Director of Finance, described the special legislation that was passed to allow Mansfield to switch from an electrical to a fossil fuel heating system in the Mansfield Middle School at a State reimbursement rate of 73%. Michael Callahan, an Energy Consultant for the Town, explained the various energy options and their cost.

Motion so passed.

11. Revision to Mansfield Community Center Program Registration and Fee Policy

Information on possible changes to the fee structure of the Mansfield Community Center will be in the next packet. The Town Manager reported that 44% of those participating in programs are not members. Ms. Koehn asked staff to report what the Community Center, including bonding, cost the residents of Mansfield.

VII. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Mr. Hawkins complimented the Charter Revision Commission on their proactive motivated approach to the process.

VIII. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Mr. Paulhus reported that the Personnel Committee met to begin the Manager's evaluation.

IX. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Paulhus recounted that Ed Passmore was honored at the Memorial Day Parade for his many contributions over the years.

Mayor Paterson reported on the PZC hearing regarding Building 1 A of the Downtown Partnership. The public hearing has been continued to June 19th. The Mayor commended the consulting group for listening to the community.

X. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Martin Berliner reported that OPM has rejected the proposal for assistance with the 1A Building for the Downtown Partnership. The application will again be considered in the fall round of awards.

Town/University Relations will be meeting June 13th at 4:00p.m.

Charter Revision Commission will be meeting June 13th at 7:00 p.m.

Mansfield Downtown Partnership Annual Meeting will be meeting June 13th at 7:00p.m.

School Building Committee will be meeting June 14th at 5:00p.m.

The first annual Mansfield Bike Tour will be held on June 24th. There will be bands and food. Bikes are optional.

On June 1st the Manager attended a meeting at which the Town was recognized as one of the first 5 towns in the State to adopt Aquifer Protection Regulations.

The Manager reported on a number of opportunities to explore alternatives in energy that are being offered. One of these is a solar farm, which may work on the Community Center roof. Siemens Corporation is starting the process of looking at the energy systems in all buildings and developing a program of repair and replacements. The Town is also looking at a program that rewards municipalities who are willing get off the grid during times of high-energy demands. The Town would receive payment for being on the list and for removing themselves from the grid. Staff will follow up on the proposal. Additionally, a conservation educational

program that is directed to educating employees about conservation measures is being explored.

A Parking Ordinance report is being prepared for Council consideration during the late summer.

The Strategic Planning Committee will be visiting four to five communities to review the planning process used in those towns and will begin meeting regularly.

The new Storrs Mansfield Postmaster will be in place soon at which time staff will discuss the *Post Office's name for the Town*.

Matt Hart and Sara-Ann Chaine will be meeting with representatives of Charter Communications and will discuss videotaping of Council meetings.

The Mayor reported that on Friday participants in a conference on nutrition would be visiting Mansfield to look at our lunch policy, a model program.

XI. FUTURE AGENDAS

- Mr. Clouette requested an assessment from the staff on the effectiveness of the Litter Ordinance and the Possession of Alcohol by Minors Ordinance.

XII. PETITIONS, REQUEST AND COMMUNICATIONS

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12. Citizen Feedback re Cat Population Control Ordinance – Mr. Hawkins commented on the nice letter of appreciation regarding Noranne Nielsen, the Animal Control Officer on her work on the Cat Ordinance. The Mayor also complimented all the town staff who participated in the handling of the Russell affair especially Dennis O'Brien, the Town Attorney, and Noranne Nielsen, the Animal Control Officer.
 13. CCM Analysis of state and Local Education Funding Efforts
 14. Mansfield Community Center News: Spring 2006
 15. Council of Small Towns re Review
 16. S. Cox re: Uniform Crime Reporting Statistics for Calendar Year 2003
 17. Festival on the Green: Save the Date
 18. NIE Activity re: What's Making News in Science
 19. G. Nickels, Mayor of Seattle, WA re: Green Ribbon Commission
 20. E. Paterson to R. Hawthorne re: Spring Weekend
 21. Solar Workshop
 22. State of CT re: Aquifer Protection Day
 23. State of CT Department of Environmental Protection re: State Greenways
 24. State of CT Department of Public Health re: Water Supply Plan – University of Connecticut
 25. State of CT Division of Criminal Justice re: State v Donna Russell
 26. State of CT Office of Policy and Management re: 2004 Equalized Net Grand List
 27. Tour de Mansfield Village to Village
 28. Transfer Station Use Study, June 2004 – July 2005
 29. UConn Office of the Vice President and Chief Operating Officer re: Extension of North Hillside Road
 30. C. vanZelm re: Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism Awards \$2000

Grant for Storrs Center Video

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Paulhus moved and Ms. Blair seconded to move into Executive Session
Motion so passed.

Present: Blair, Clouette, Hawkins, Koehn, Paterson, Paulhus, Redding, Schaefer.

Personnel Issues

Mr. Paulhus moved and Ms. Blair seconded to move out of Executive Session
Motion so passed.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Paulhus moved and Ms. Blair seconded to adjourn the meeting.
Motion so passed

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk