

SPECIAL MEETING-MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
August 27, 2007

Mayor Paterson called the special meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. ROLL CALL

- Present: Clouette (6:45 p.m.), Duffy, Haddad, Hawkins, Koehn, Paterson, Paulhus, Schaefer
Absent: Blair

II. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Ms. Koehn read a letter she received from Penelope Williams (attached).

III. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Discussion of Mansfield Community Center

Matt Hart, Town Manager, presented suggestions for building a sustainable budget for the Mansfield Community Center, Recreation Fund and Parks and Recreation Department. He outlined the key issues, current budget structure including an analysis of the Recreation Fund, and recommendations.

Referring to the comparisons of cost recovery for comparable towns, Mr. Haddad requested a list showing the size of the Parks and Recreation budget for each town listed. Curt Vincente, Parks and Recreation Director, agreed to try to compile the information for those towns listed and for Ridgefield CT, which has a facility similar to Mansfield's. Ms. Koehn requested information on how each town supports capital improvement items for the departments.

Jeff Smith, Director of Finance, described the rationale behind his analysis of community use space and health and fitness space in determining the cost associated with each.

Council members discussed the level of detail in the analysis and equitable ways to approach the situation. Members agreed that at this point the decision whether to have simply a self-supporting health and fitness center or a community center has been made. Mr. Hawkins suggested that the staff make the necessary recommendations to the Finance Committee who will review the material and present their recommendations to the full Council. Council members requested that all members receive the information as soon as it has been prepared.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

- Mr. Paulhus moved and Ms. Duffy seconded a motion to adjourn at 7:30 p.m.

Motion so passed.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk