



TOWN OF MANSFIELD
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, October 12, 2010
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
AUDREY P. BECK MUNICIPAL BUILDING
7:30 p.m.

AGENDA

Page

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF MINUTES 1

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER

REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

OLD BUSINESS

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13. Chronicle “Letter to the Editor” – 09-24-10 119

14. Chronicle “Voters to decide fate of \$2M track for high school” – 09-25-10 121

15. <u>Chronicle</u> “Letter to the Editor” – 09-27-10	123
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FUTURE AGENDAS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

20. Personnel in accordance with CGS §1-200(6), 1-214(b)(5)(b)

ADJOURNMENT

SPECIAL MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
September 27, 2010

DRAFT

Mayor Elizabeth 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: Haddad, Keane, Kochenburger, Lindsey, Moran, Paterson, Paulhus, Ryan
Excused: Schaefer

II. WORK SESSION

School Building Project

Mayor Paterson welcomed the Mansfield Board of Education and staff to the work session.

Rick Lawrence, Lawrence Associates, and Tom DeMauro, Construction Manager from Newfield Construction, presented a short history of the project and information requested on Option E including cost, floor plans, site requirements, staffing, use of existing buildings, cost of insurance for vacant buildings, and projected time line. (Presentation attached)

Director of Finance Cherie Trahan and Director of Maintenance Bill Hammond presented the estimated cost of potential repairs for both a five year and ten year period, and a twenty year estimate of planned improvements. Both schedules were based on Option A. The total cost for repairs will partially be dependent on how and when the projects are undertaken. (Information attached)

Board of Education Chair, Mark LaPlaca, distributed a letter addressing the Board's response to Council questions. (Letter attached).

The next work session will be focused on siting issues including a report prepared by the Sustainability Committee. By consensus Council members agreed to authorize the Town Manager to send a letter to the abutters of Goodwin School to see if there is any interest in selling property.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Betty Wassmundt, Old Turnpike Road, asked if money had been placed in escrow to cover the cost of the projected repairs to the schools. Town Manager Matt Hart explained the Town does not have a sinking fund but funds these types of repairs through the Capital Improvement Fund.

Jeremy Katz, UConn student, requested an estimate on the amount spent to date on the School Building Project.

Director of Finance Cherie Trahan estimated about \$170,000 has been spent some of which will be reimbursable from the State.

Mike Sikoski, Wildwood Road, asked if the Town has discussed possible uses for the 3 existing school buildings if they are not to be used as schools.

David Freudmann, Eastwood Road, questioned the level of debt the Town would incur if the majority of the money for these projects is to be borrowed.

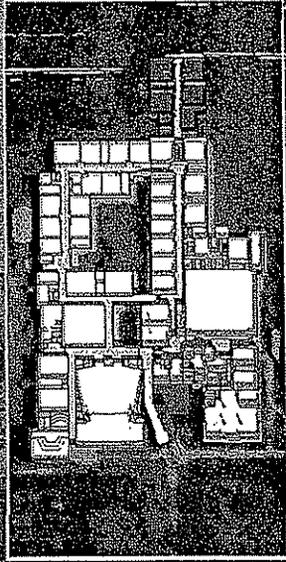
IV. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Schaefer seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk



Single School Site Selection Process



PRIMARY REVIEW FACTORS

- Minimum 10 useable acres without physical constraints
- Access to public sewer or soils suitable for septic system
- Central location / safe roadway access
- Acceptable neighborhood impacts
- Deed restrictions or existing uses

TWO TOWN-OWNED SITES IDENTIFIED

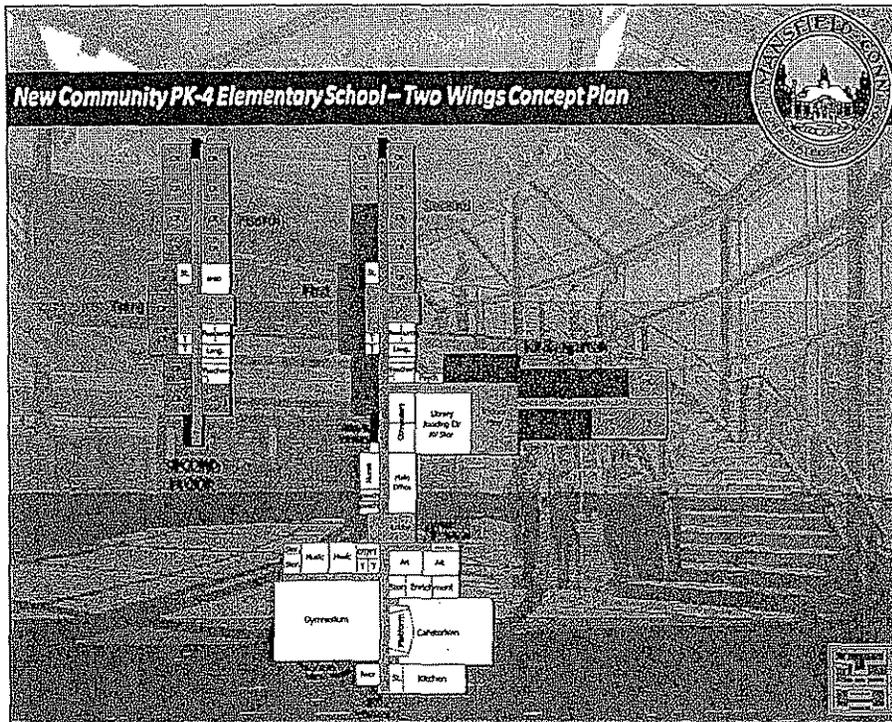
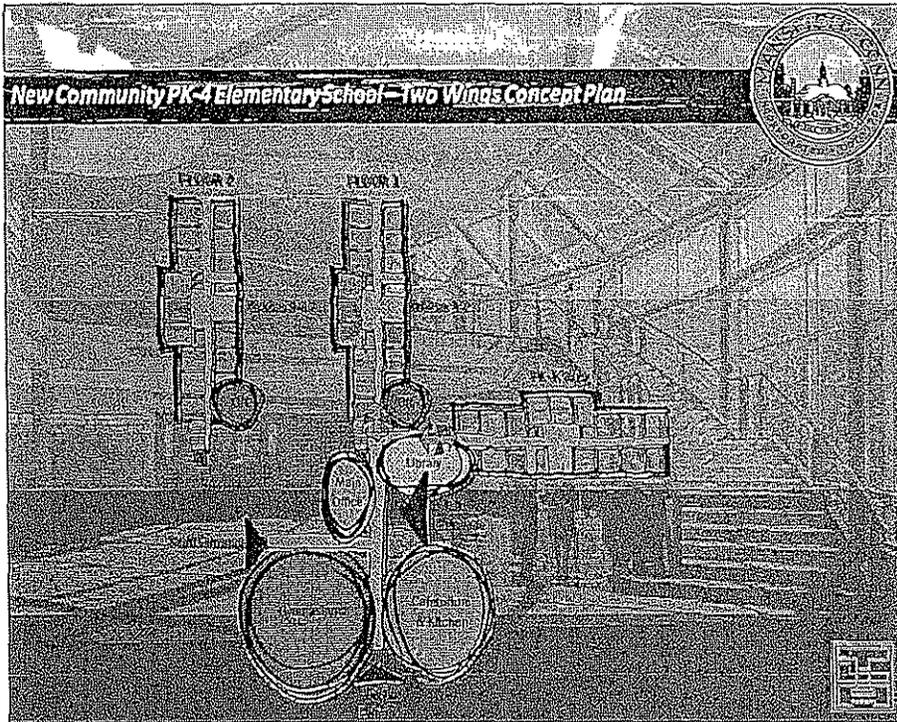
- Middle School property
- Southeast School / Southeast Recreational Fields property

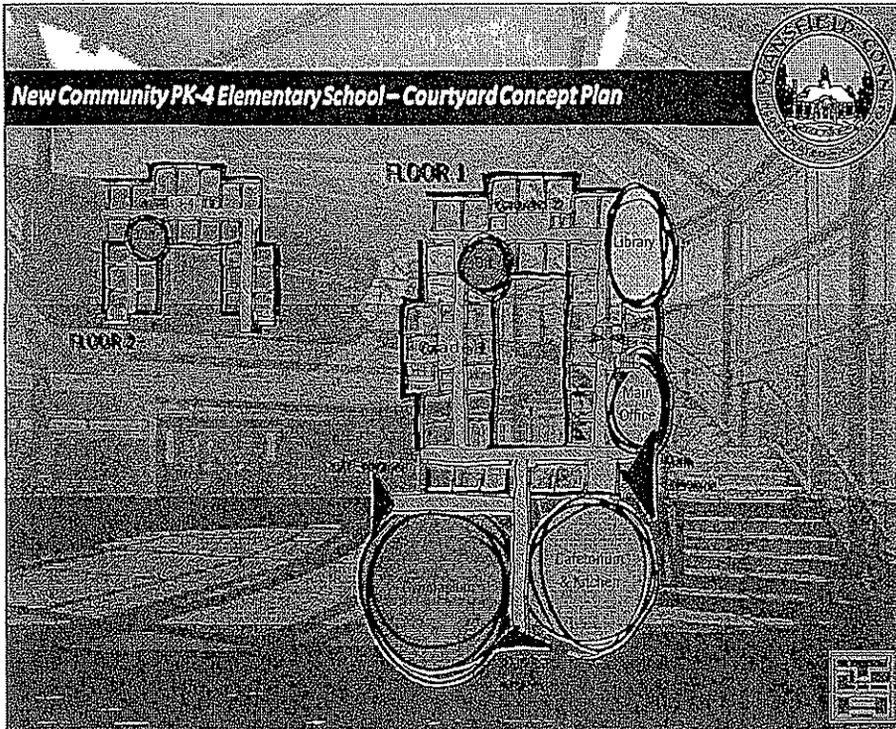
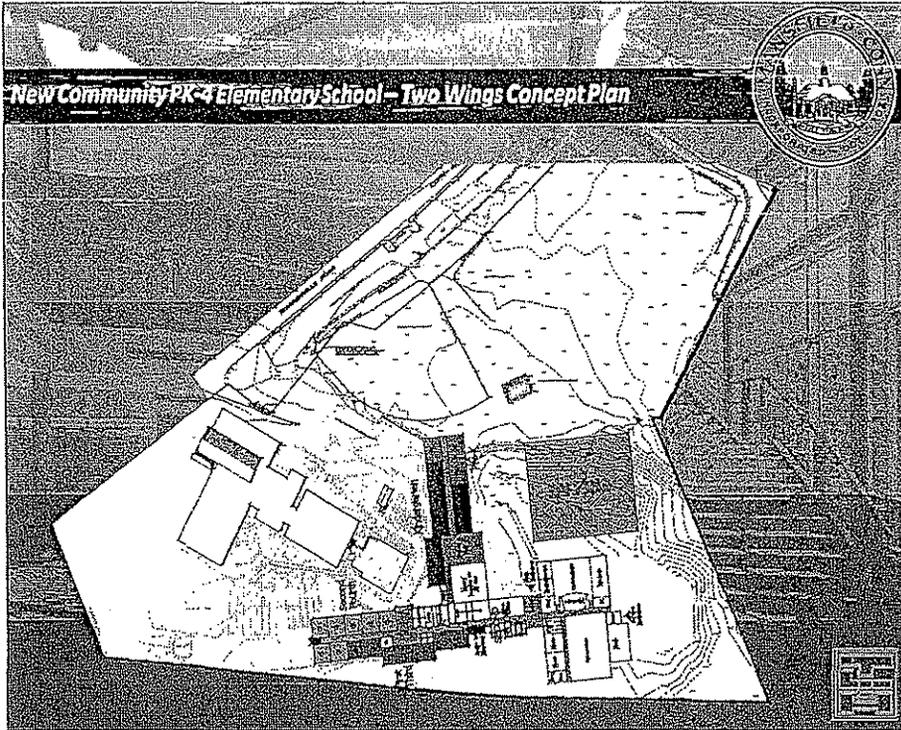
NO ADEQUATELY SIZED AND CENTRALLY LOCATED STATE OR PRIVATE PROPERTY AVAILABLE

FEBRUARY 2009, SBC REQUESTED A MORE COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF SUGGESTED ASSESSMENT FEASIBILITY STUDY

IN FEBRUARY 2009, ANCHOR ENGINEERING SERVICES INC. HIRES TO PREPARE NEW STUDY. STUDY WAS COMPLETED IN NOVEMBER. SURVEY DATA AND DESIGNATED AS AVAILABLE









Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New facility with state of the art design and construction materials • Design of building will address specific program requirements • Creation of a single school community • Gymnasium space dedicated for physical education classes • Energy savings due to materials and systems employed to achieve LEED Silver equivalency • Staff savings in selected areas due to a single school location • Provides maximum state reimbursement if built to allowed square footage • Teacher collaboration and articulation can be developed by single school site • Lowest overall cost during construction and in operating cost over the period considered • Level of excitement/newness is equal for all PK-4 students, parents, & staff at a new single site • Food service staff savings • Custodians/Maintenance services savings • Itinerant staff travel would decrease • Instruction program coordination/articulation would increase • No interruption to schools schedules at 3 existing schools during construction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Size of student enrollment is approximately 700 • Recent/current investments in repair/maintenance systems at the 3 elementary schools may be lost depending on use
	<p>Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to develop a transition plan for the current school sites to the new school • Future use of the three existing elementary schools need to be determined. • Projected enrollments to PK-4 would provide for approximately 96,000 sq. foot building at maximum state reimbursement



Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintains current capacity and increases capabilities • Protects and enhances current program assets • Timely replacement of current roof which will be 20 years old in 2011, including installation of solar panels after roof replacement • Replacement of 40 year old windows will improve clarity, insulating capacity, and heat conservation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replacement of portables with permanent construction may cause movement of selected classes.
	<p>Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work would be scheduled outside the school day and/or school year to the extent possible to minimize disruption to the instructional program.

EXTERIOR EACH SCHOOL			CURRENT		NEW		TOTAL	
SCHOOL	LAND AREA							
DG	32.00 Acres							
SE	16.00 Acres							
AV	22.00 Acres							
MMS	30.00 Acres							
FIELDS								
PLAYSCAPE								

INTERIOR EACH SCHOOL			CURRENT		NEW		TOTAL	
SCHOOL	TOTAL S.F.							
DG	37,448 sf							
SE	34,072 sf							
AV	34,500 sf							
MMS	33,110 sf							

INTERIOR ROOMS			TOTAL S.F.	
SCHOOL	ROOMS	ROOMS	TOTAL S.F.	TOTAL S.F.
SCHOOL	PK CLASSROOMS	PK CLASSROOMS		
	DG	950 sf		
	SE	843 sf		
AV	920 sf			
SCHOOL	K CLASSROOMS	K CLASSROOMS		
	DG	950 sf		
	SE	843 sf		
AV	920 sf			
SCHOOL	GR 1 CLASSROOMS	GR 1 CLASSROOMS		
	DG	796 sf		
	SE	750-850 sf		
AV	774 sf			
SCHOOL	GR 2 CLASSROOMS	GR 2 CLASSROOMS		
	DG	796 sf		
	SE	750-850 sf		
AV	774-908 sf			
SCHOOL	GR 3 CLASSROOMS	GR 3 CLASSROOMS		
	DG	788 sf		
	SE	789 sf		
AV	774 sf			
SCHOOL	GR 4 CLASSROOMS	GR 4 CLASSROOMS		
	DG	788 sf		
	SE	789-885 sf		
AV	814-898 sf			
SCHOOL	ART	ART		
	DG	759 sf		
	SE	736 sf		
AV	788 sf			
SCHOOL	MUSIC	MUSIC		
	DG	956 sf		
	SE	3,008 sf		
AV	788 sf			

INTERIOR ROOMS			TOTAL S.F.	
SCHOOL	ROOMS	ROOMS	TOTAL S.F.	TOTAL S.F.
SCHOOL	PHYS. ED.	PHYS. ED.		
	DG	1,642 sf		
	SE	1,739 sf		
AV	1,418 sf			
SCHOOL	RESOURCE ROOMS	RESOURCE ROOMS		
	DG	730-950 sf		
	SE	770-780 sf		
AV	902 sf			
SCHOOL	LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER	LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER		
	DG	788 sf		
	SE	1,050 sf		
AV	896 sf			
SCHOOL	KITCHEN	KITCHEN		
	DG	504 sf		
	SE	910 sf		
AV	741 sf			
SCHOOL	CAFETERIA	CAFETERIA		
	DG	1,245 sf		
	SE	2,026 sf		
AV	1,713 sf			
SCHOOL	STAGE	STAGE		
	DG	859 sf		
	SE	719 sf		
AV	581 sf			
SCHOOL	AUDITORIUM	AUDITORIUM		
	DG	5,076 sf		
	MMS	5,076 sf		

KEY			
(1)	Existing	(2)	New
(3)	PK	(4)	GR 1
(5)	GR 2	(6)	GR 3
(7)	GR 4	(8)	ART
(9)	MUSIC	(10)	PHYS. ED.
(11)	RESOURCE ROOMS	(12)	LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER
(13)	KITCHEN	(14)	CAFETERIA
(15)	STAGE	(16)	AUDITORIUM

CERTIFIED STAFF			
	CURRENT 09-10	OPTIONAL NEW PK 12/13	OPTIONAL NEW PK 4/14
PK Teachers	1.0	1.0	1.0
K Teachers	1.0	1.0	1.0
1 Teachers	1.0	1.0	1.0
2 Teachers	1.0	1.0	1.0
3 Teachers	1.0	1.0	1.0
4 Teachers	1.0	1.0	1.0
Art	1.0	1.0	1.0
Music	1.0	1.0	1.0
Physical Education	1.0	1.0	1.0
Technology	1.0	1.0	1.0
W. Language	1.0	1.0	1.0
SpEd/Title I	1.0	1.0	1.0
SpEd/Self-Contained	1.0	1.0	1.0
Enrichment	1.0	1.0	1.0
Literacy Coach	1.0	1.0	1.0
Psychologist	1.0	1.0	1.0
Speech	1.0	1.0	1.0
PreK-4 Librarian	1.0	1.0	1.0
PreK-4 Library/Media Specialist	1.0	1.0	1.0
Principals	1.0	1.0	1.0
TOTAL CERTIFIED	14.0	14.0	14.0
NONCERTIFIED STAFF			
	CURRENT 09-10	OPTIONAL NEW PK 12/13	OPTIONAL NEW PK 4/14
Office Secretary	1.5	1.5	1.5
SpEd Secretary	1.5	1.5	1.5
Nurse	1.0	1.0	1.0
PreK	1.0	1.0	1.0
Kindergarten	1.0	1.0	1.0
Classroom	1.0	1.0	1.0
Library	1.0	1.0	1.0
Technology	1.0	1.0	1.0
SpEd Inst. Asst.	1.0	1.0	1.0
Food Service	1.0	1.0	1.0
Custodian	1.0	1.0	1.0
TOTAL NONCERTIFIED	14.5	14.5	14.5
TOTAL STAFFING	28.5	28.5	28.5

* Based on 2013/2014 District Enrollment Projection dated 11/2/09 with preschool enrollment held constant.



ESTIMATED VALUES OF EXISTING ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS — AMOUNT

Southeast Elementary School	\$2,649,300
Annie E. Vinton Elementary School	\$2,395,100
Dorothy G. Goodwin Elementary School	\$2,767,700
Projected cost to maintain minimum heating, lighting, utilities, maintenance and security if no longer used as a school	\$5,000 per school per year



Storr's Grammar School
Marshall University



Storr's Grammar School
Marshall University



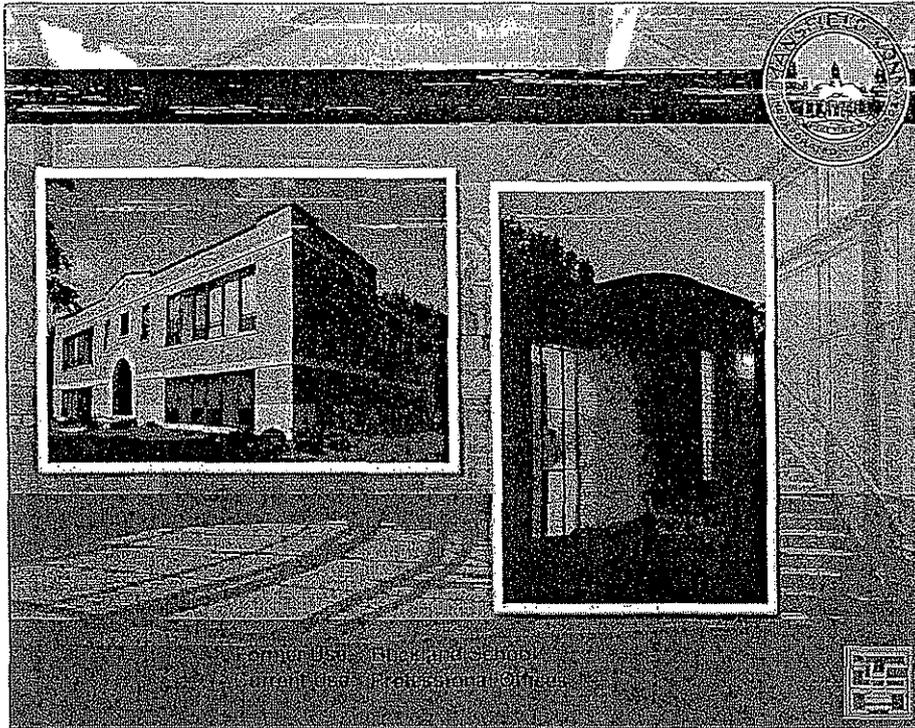



Buchanan School
Marshall University

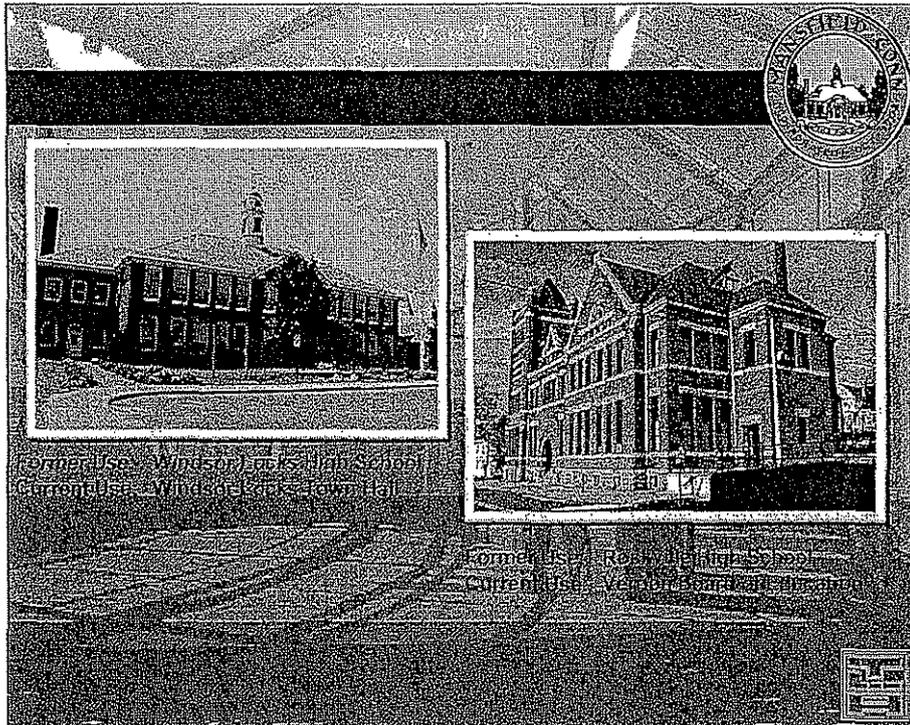


Buchanan Library
Marshall University





Formerly - High School
 Current Use - Administration

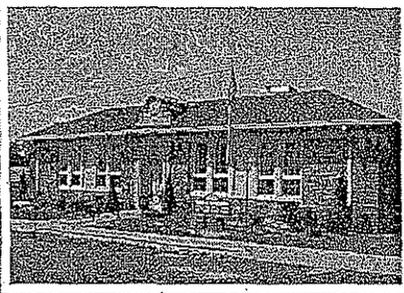


Formerly - Windsor Park School
 Current Use - Windsor Park School

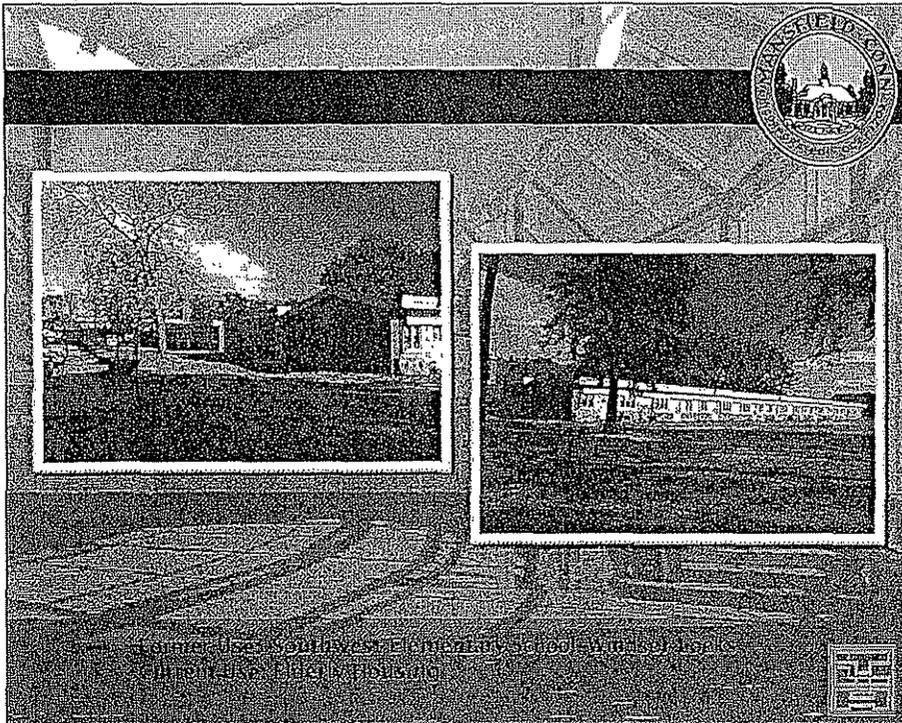
Formerly - Ross Hill School
 Current Use - Vancouver High School



Former Use: Bennett Jr. High School
 Current Use: Bennett Health Center for the Elderly



Former Use: South School
 Current Use: Manchester Senior Center



Former Use: South St. Elementary School - Windsor Park
 Current Use: High School



Four School Renovation Project
Option A vs. Potential Repairs Years 1 - 10

Description	Total All Schools			Council Requested * Potential Repairs	
	Cost	Eligible	Ineligible	Within 5 Yrs	Within 10 Yrs
Septic System	155,000	-	155,000	35,000	40,000
Playscape	150,000	150,000	-	100,000	
Paved Play Area (3000SF)	45,000	-	45,000		
Oil Tank Replacement	446,544	-	446,544	15,000	200,000
Adjust Grade-Handicap Accessibility	300,000	300,000	-		
Asbestos Abatement Allowance	750,000	750,000	-		
Roof Replacement	3,314,082	3,314,082	-		4,000,000
Soffit Panel Replacement	270,000	-	270,000		
Relocatable Roof Replacement	193,600	193,600	-		
Bulkheads at Tunnels	72,000	-	72,000	50,000	
Window Replacement	1,179,481	612,654	566,827		
Exterior Door Replacement	179,000	-	179,000		25,000
Wall Replacement at Transite Walls	1,548,750	160,000	1,388,750		
Operable Partition at Gym Allowance	120,000	-	120,000	35,000	80,000
Toilet Room ADA Modifications	264,000	264,000	-		65,000
Classroom Doorway Renovations	777,700	777,700	-	20,000	
New Elevator - ADA Compliant	180,000	180,000	-		180,000
Gym Floor Replacement	155,456	-	155,456		150,000
VCT Replacement	35,000	-	35,000		
Kitchen Upgrades	275,000	140,000	135,000	20,000	300,000
Ventilation System	2,348,280	-	2,348,280	5,000	15,000
Replace HVAC Control & Heat System	3,874,662	-	3,874,662		
Replace Boilers	600,000	-	600,000	100,000	200,000
Replace Plumbing Fixtures	558,000	-	558,000		
Electrical Service Upgrades (1200AMP)	300,000	-	300,000		
NU Charges	45,000	-	45,000		
SubPanel Upgrades (allow 15 panels)	337,500	-	337,500		
New Fire Alarm System	550,000	350,000	200,000		400,000
Technology Upgrades	815,000	-	815,000		
Floor, Carpet, shelves, tables - CIP				80,000	
Sub-total	19,839,055	7,192,036	12,647,019	460,000	5,655,000
LEED Construction - 5%	991,953	359,602	632,351	23,000	282,750
Total	20,831,008	7,551,638	13,279,370	483,000	5,937,750

ESTIMATED LOCAL SHARE

483,000	2,787,750
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* Note: As requested by the Town Council - list of "potential" repairs with an estimated cost. This is our best estimate as to what may need replacement/repair.

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
MANSFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DEPARTMENT OF FACILITIES MANAGEMENT



William D. Hammon, Facilities Management Director

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING
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August 20, 2010

Anticipated Repair Costs
Within Five Years

<u>Description</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>
1. Gym dividing door	\$ 35,000
2. Fuel oil line at Southeast School	15,000
3. One boiler at any location	100,000
4. Door replacements	20,000
5. Large floor tile replacement	15,000
6. One refrigerator/freezer	20,000
7. One office air conditioning unit	5,000
8. Installation of bulkheads for confined space entrance	50,000
9. Septic system repair at one of town schools	35,000
10. Carpets in Southeast School portables	20,000
11. Various counters and shelving in classrooms	20,000
12. Cafeteria tables at elementary schools already failing	(per school) 25,000
13. Playground at Vinton School	100,000

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
MANSFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DEPARTMENT OF FACILITIES MANAGEMENT



William D. Hammon, Facilities Management Director

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August 31, 2010

Anticipated Repair Costs
Within Six to Ten Years

<u>Description</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>
1. All roofs (eligible for state reimbursement of 75%)	\$ 4,000,000
2. Elevator at Mansfield Middle School	180,000
3. Elementary school gym floors	(per school) 50,000
4. Replace two (2) boilers at any school/town building	(per boiler) 100,000
5. Oil tank replacement at Vinton and Southeast Schools	(per tank) 100,000
6. Replacement of bathroom fixtures	65,000
7. Freezer/Refrigerators at four schools	(per school) 75,000
8. All exterior doors and hardware	25,000
9. <u>Two remaining gym door dividers</u>	(per divider) 40,000
10. Two office air conditioning units	(per unit) 7,500
11. One septic system repair	40,000
12. Fire alarm systems	(per system) 100,000

Four School Renovation Project
Option A - Planned Improvements by Year

Description	Total All Schools			Planned Improvements (Total Costs)					
	Cost	Eligible	Ineligible	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Years 6 - 20
Septic System	155,000	-	155,000		80,000	75,000			
Playscape	150,000	150,000	-		80,000	70,000			
Paved Play Area (3000SF)	45,000	-	45,000						45,000
Oil Tank Replacement	446,544	-	446,544						446,544
Adjust Grade-Handicap Accessibility	300,000	300,000	-						300,000
Asbestos Abatement Allowance	750,000	750,000	-						750,000
Roof Replacement	3,314,082	3,314,082	-			1,105,000	1,105,000	1,105,000	-
Soffit Panel Replacement	270,000	-	270,000						270,000
Relocatable Roof Replacement	193,600	193,600	-						193,600
Bulkheads at Tunnels	72,000	-	72,000						72,000
Window Replacement	1,179,481	612,654	566,827				590,000	590,000	-
Exterior Door Replacement	179,000	-	179,000						179,000
Wall Replacement at Transite Walls	1,548,750	160,000	1,388,750						1,548,750
Operable Partition at Gym Allowance	120,000	-	120,000						120,000
Toilet Room ADA Modifications	264,000	264,000	-						264,000
Classroom Doorway Renovations	777,700	777,700	-						777,700
New Elevator - ADA Compliant	180,000	180,000	-						180,000
Gym Floor Replacement	155,456	-	155,456					155,000	-
VCT Replacement	35,000	-	35,000						35,000
Kitchen Upgrades	275,000	140,000	135,000				275,000		-
Ventilation System	2,348,280	-	2,348,280		585,000	585,000	585,000	593,000	-
Replace HVAC Control & Heat System	3,874,662	-	3,874,662						3,874,662
Replace Boilers	600,000	-	600,000	600,000					-
Replace Plumbing Fixtures	558,000	-	558,000			558,000			-
Electrical Service Upgrades (1200AMP)	300,000	-	300,000		300,000				-
NU Charges	45,000	-	45,000		45,000				-
SubPanel Upgrades (allow 15 panels)	337,500	-	337,500						337,500
New Fire Alarm System	550,000	350,000	200,000		175,000	175,000	200,000		-
Technology Upgrades	815,000	-	815,000						815,000
Sub-total	19,839,055	7,192,036	12,647,019	600,000	1,265,000	2,568,000	2,755,000	2,443,000	10,208,756
LEED Construction - 5%	991,953	359,602	632,351	30,000	63,250	128,400	137,750	122,150	510,438
Total	20,831,008	7,551,638	13,279,370	630,000	1,328,250	2,696,400	2,892,750	2,565,150	10,719,194
ESTIMATED LOCAL SHARE				630,000	1,113,000	1,331,400	1,160,250	1,084,650	7,960,070

Note: Option A includes the improvements and repairs that would be needed to maintain the existing buildings for another 20 years.
No educational enhancements are anticipated
Limited energy efficiencies would be obtained.

Four School Renovation Project
Option A Details

Description	Goodwin			Southeast			Vinton			Middle School			Total All Schools		
	Cost	Eligible	Ineligible	Cost	Eligible	Ineligible	Cost	Eligible	Ineligible	Cost	Eligible	Ineligible	Cost	Eligible	Ineligible
Septic System	80,000		80,000				75,000		75,000				155,000		155,000
Playscape	75,000	75,000					75,000	75,000					150,000	150,000	
Paved Play Area (3000SF)	15,000		15,000	15,000		15,000	15,000		15,000				45,000		45,000
Oil Tank Replacement	148,848		148,848	148,848		148,848	148,848		148,848				446,544		446,544
Adjust Grade-Handicap Accessibility	75,000	75,000		75,000	75,000		75,000	75,000		75,000	75,000		300,000	300,000	
Asbestos Abatement Allowance	150,000	150,000		150,000	150,000		150,000	150,000		300,000	300,000		750,000	750,000	
Roof Replacement	697,153	697,153		609,399	609,399		655,384	655,384		1,352,146	1,352,146		3,314,082	3,314,082	
Soffit Panel Replacement										270,000		270,000			270,000
Relocatable Roof Replacement				105,600	105,600					88,000	88,000	270,000	193,600	193,600	
Bulkheads at Tunnels	36,000		36,000	36,000		36,000							72,000		72,000
Window Replacement	291,627	60,000	231,627	297,000	60,000	237,000	297,814	242,814	55,000	293,040	249,840	43,200	1,179,481	612,654	566,827
Exterior Door Replacement	34,000		34,000	64,000		64,000	30,000		30,000	31,000		51,000	179,000		179,000
Wall Replacement at Transite Walls	469,350	50,000	419,350	600,600	60,000	540,600	478,800	50,000	428,800				1,548,750	160,000	1,388,750
Operable Partition at Gym Allowance	40,000		40,000	40,000		40,000	40,000		40,000				120,000		120,000
Toilet Room ADA Modifications	72,000	72,000		57,000	57,000		45,000	45,000		90,000	90,000		264,000	264,000	
Classroom Doorway Renovations	146,300	146,300		100,100	100,100		123,200	123,200		408,100	408,100		777,700	777,700	
New Elevator - ADA Compliant										180,000	180,000		180,000	180,000	
Gym Floor Replacement	50,400		50,400	59,136		59,136	45,920		45,920				155,456		155,456
VCT Replacement				15,000		15,000	20,000		20,000				35,000		35,000
Kitchen Upgrades	100,000	50,000	50,000	100,000	50,000	50,000	75,000	40,000	35,000				275,000	140,000	135,000
Ventilation System	820,180		820,180	757,060		757,060	771,040		771,040				2,348,280		2,348,280
Replace HVAC Control & Heal System	1,353,297		1,353,297	1,249,149		1,249,149	1,272,216		1,272,216				3,874,662		3,874,662
Replace Boilers	200,000		200,000	200,000		200,000	200,000		200,000				600,000		600,000
Replace Plumbing Fixtures	173,000		173,000	141,000		141,000	109,000		109,000	135,000		135,000	558,000		558,000
Electrical Service Upgrades (1200AMP)	100,000		100,000	100,000		100,000	100,000		100,000				300,000		300,000
NU Charges	15,000		15,000	15,000		15,000	15,000		15,000				45,000		45,000
SubPanel Upgrades (allow 15 panels)	112,500		112,500	112,500		112,500	112,500		112,500				337,500		337,500
New Fire Alarm System	100,000		100,000	100,000		100,000	100,000	100,000		250,000	250,000		550,000	350,000	200,000
Technology Upgrades	180,000		180,000	180,000		180,000	180,000		180,000				815,000		815,000
Sub-total	5,534,655	1,375,453	4,159,202	5,327,392	1,267,099	4,060,293	5,209,722	1,556,398	3,653,324	3,767,286	2,993,086	774,200	19,839,055	7,192,036	12,647,019
LEED Construction - 5%	276,733	88,773	207,960	266,370	63,355	203,015	260,468	77,820	182,666	188,364	149,554	38,710	991,953	359,602	632,351
Total	5,811,388	1,464,226	4,367,162	5,593,762	1,330,454	4,263,308	5,470,208	1,634,218	3,835,990	3,955,650	3,142,740	812,910	20,831,008	7,551,638	13,279,370

Note: Option A includes the improvements and repairs that would be needed to maintain the existing buildings for another 20 years.
No educational enhancements are anticipated.
Limited energy efficiencies would be obtained.

Prepared by: Finance

9/23/2010

From: Mark LaPlaca
Sent: Sun 9/26/2010 6:07 PM
To: Matthew W. Hart
Subject: School Building Project

Matt,

At the Board of Education meeting on September 16th, the Board discussed the Council's deliberations on the School Building Project. The Board agreed by consensus for me to relay the following to the Council Monday night. I wonder if you would include this in their package. I will also be present if any questions.

The Board does not feel it would be a good idea to schedule a referendum on only the Middle School part of the project. If the Town Council does not want to go ahead with the entire recommendation, the Board feels a discussion of priorities would need to be had before a decision on what, if any, smaller projects should go forward. In general, there was consensus that the Middle School might not top the list. The original charge of the TC to the School Building Committee was to evaluate the needs for all the buildings as part of one project and that was the approach the Board took after the recommendation was passed on to us.

In the event that the Council does not feel it fiscally prudent to accept the Board's recommendation in full, the Board feels that after some guidance from the Council, the BOE should take the lead in prioritizing parts of the project, considering reducing aspects of it, and revising its recommendation.

The Board does feel it necessary for the Council to provide guidance with regard to the elementary school part of the project. Specifically, given the information provided by the Board, is the Council in favor of maintaining 3 older elementary schools, consolidating to 1 elementary school, or consolidating to 2 schools, as the Board feels is appropriate?

There was also discussion of the fact that the School Building Committee did not vote against Option E, in fact, they did not have Option E at the time they voted. The Board feels that the Town Council does need to choose between the 2 recommendations, and that they are not competing. The Board feels that Option E is the evolution of the SBC's recommendation.

Respectfully,

Mark LaPlaca
BOE Chair

REGULAR MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
September 27, 2010

DRAFT

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: Haddad, Keane, Kochenburger, Lindsey, Moran, Paterson, Paulhus, Ryan
Excused: Schaefer

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2010 meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously.
Mr. Paulhus moved and Ms. Keane seconded to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2010 Special meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Mike Sikoski, Wildwood Road, distributed a communication from Robert Wechsler, Director of Research at City Ethics, regarding members of the Fire Department voting at a town meeting at which the status of fire apparatus was being discussed. (Statement attached) Mr. Sikoski also commented that he recently heard that a Town bobcat is missing.

IV. REPORT OF TOWN MANAGER

Report attached

V. REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Members discussed Town Council office hours and the recurring conflict with special meetings on the School Building Project. By consensus the Council agreed to announce on the website that office hours have been suspended until a decision on the schools has been made. The announcement will include the email addresses of Council members and will urge citizens to contact members with any concerns they might have.

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Kochenburger seconded to move Item 2, Presentation: Agriculture Committee, as the next item on the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Community Water and Wastewater Issue

Town Manager Matt Hart highlighted some of the information provided in the packet including the Level 3 drought restrictions at UConn, the favorable DPH review for UConn plans to recycle waste water and information on the CT Water Company.

Mr. Hart will inquire as to whether an interbasin permit would be needed to bring water from the Mansfield Hollow area to the Four Corners area.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

2. Presentation: Agriculture Committee

Members of the Agriculture Committee presented information on the role of agriculture today in Mansfield and the region, the benefits of agriculture, the challenges facing agriculture, how Mansfield can support agriculture, the ongoing efforts and future actions of the Committee, and agricultural viability in Mansfield. Al Cyr, Chair of the Committee thanked the members of his Committee for their contributions and participation and asked for the continued support of the Council.

Town Manager Matt Hart and the Council thanked the members of the Agriculture Committee for their dedication in promoting agriculture within Mansfield.

3. Financial Statements Dated June 30, 2010

Mr. Ryan, Chair of the Finance Committee, reported the Committee met and approved the financial statements as presented.

Mr. Ryan moved and Ms. Keane seconded, effective September 27, 2010, to accept the Financial Statements Dated June 30, 2010, as presented by the Director of Finance.

Motion passed unanimously.

4. FY 2009/10 Year End Transfers

Mr. Ryan moved and Ms. Keane seconded to approve the following resolution: Resolved, effective September 27, 2010, to adopt the Legal Budget Transfers for FY 2009/10, as presented by the Director of Finance.

Motion passed unanimously.

5. Child and Adult Care Food Program Application for Mansfield Discovery Depot

Mr. Haddad moved and Ms. Keane seconded to approve the following resolution:

Resolved, effective September 27, 2010, to authorize the Town Manager,

Matthew W. Hart, to submit the attached application to the Connecticut Department of Education's Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), to help fund the food service operation at the Mansfield Discovery Depot, and to execute any related grant documents.

6. Status Report re Mansfield 2020: A Unified Vision

No action required

VIII. QUARTERLY REPORTS

Ms. Moran complimented the work of staff as reflected in the Quarterly Reports.

Ms. Keane noted some minor inconsistencies in the Quarterly Housing Report.

Town Manager Matt Hart will review.

IX. DEPARTMENTAL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

No comments

X. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Ms. Keane reported the Ordinance Development and Review Committee has postponed their next meeting in order to allow staff to compile additional information.

Mr. Haddad thanked all members for completing the Town Manager's review and noted that the executive session scheduled for this evening's meeting will be postponed.

XI. PETITIONS, REQUEST AND COMMUNICATIONS

7. A. Kotula re: Thank you

8. Communications Advisory Committee re: Resident Communications – By consensus the Council agreed to refer the letter from the Communication Advisory Committee to staff for review. The Town Manager will report back.

9. L. Duffy re: Sustainability Considerations for School Siting

10. K. Grunwald re: Transportation Advisory Committee – Ms. Keane inquired why volunteers were asked to commit for one day per month and not just for some hours. Mr. Hart will forward that question to Mr. Grunwald and noted that conversations on the structure on the program are ongoing.

11. Mansfield Senior Center Association, Inc. re: Veterans' Day Celebration

12. CCM re: Second CCM Candidate Bulletin

13. CIRMA re: Operations and Underwriting Committee

14. University of Connecticut Office of the Vice President and Chief Operating Officer re: USDA proposed Animal Health Research Facility

15. Northeast CT Economic Alliance re: Thank you

16. Hang Out With Us on 10/10/10

17. Neighbor to Neighbor Energy Challenge

18. Chronicle "Letter to the Editor" – 09-09-10

19. Chronicle "Several issues on agenda" – 09-10-10

20. Chronicle "Board supports open space plans" – 09-11-10

21. Chronicle "Mansfield Celebrated" – 09-13-10

22. Chronicle "Big parties become big problem near UC" – 09-14-10

23. Chronicle "Letter to the Editor" – 09-14-10

24. Chronicle "Mansfield, Windham iron out sewer deal" – 09-14-10

25. Chronicle "Mansfield OK's three items at meeting" – 09-15-10

26. Chronicle "PZC Ok's referendum proposals" – 09-16-10

27. Chronicle "Letter to the Editor" – 09-17-10

28. Chronicle "New firm to help develop Storrs downtown housing" – 09-17-10

29. Chronicle "Letter to the Editor" – 09-20-10

30. Chronicle "Low priority for area ethics board" – 09-21-10

31. Chronicle "PZC OKs rezoning plan on Pleasant Valley Road" – 09-21-10

32. Chronicle "Know your town" – 09-09-10

33. Hartford Courant "Battered Caboose Has New Home" – 09-15-10

34. Hartford Courant "Storrs Center May Finally Break Ground..." – 09-16-10

35. Mansfield Today "Gov. Rell appoints Mansfield woman to..." – 09-21-10

XII. FUTURE AGENDAS

Ms. Lindsey requested a definition of the term, preferred developer, as it relates to the assisted/independent living project and an explanation of what that denotation requires of the Town. Additionally an update on the Masonicare Board of Director's meeting on their budget and how their decision might impact the Mansfield project will be discussed at a future Council meeting.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk.

Mary L. Stanton

From: Town of Mansfield [webmaster@mansfieldct.org]
Sent: Tuesday, September 28, 2010 3:56 PM
To: Town Employees
Subject: Town Manager's Report

**Town Manager's Office
Town of Mansfield**

Memo

To: Town Council
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager
CC: Town Employees
Date: September 27, 2010
Re: Town Manager's Report

Below please find a report regarding various items of interest to the Town Council, staff and the community:

Council Business/Items of Interest

- *Regional School District # 19 Project Referendum* - On Tuesday, September 28, 2010, Regional School District #19 will conduct a referendum on the proposed renovation of the physical education/athletic facilities at E.O. Smith High School. The polling place for all Mansfield voters is at the Audrey P. Beck Building (Town Hall), 4 South Eagleville Road, Mansfield, CT. Voting will take place between the hours of 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM.

Departmental/Division News

- *Human Services*
 - The Mansfield Senior Center and the police and fire departments are partnering with People's United Bank to form a local chapter of TRIAD. TRIAD is a national organization that brings seniors, public safety officials and local businesses together to focus on crime and safety issues that impact seniors. A TRIAD Kick-Off Ceremony will be held at the Mansfield Senior Center on Wednesday, October 20 at 12:30 PM, and all Town Council members are invited to attend.
- *Mansfield Public Library*
 - Mansfield Public Library staff has not received any complaints regarding the recent change to library hours, which were adjusted to facilitate the return of some key popular programs such as Toddler Time. Toddler Time attendance has averaged 77 for the first three weeks and many parents have expressed their appreciation for the return of the program.
- *Parks and Recreation*
 - The kayak rental program has been very popular over the summer and the kayaks will continue to be available through the end of October. The fee to rent a kayak is \$5 per day - the rental program is made available through a grant from Healthy Eating, Active Living, administered by the Eastern Highland Health District (EHHD).
 - David Kloss led the 6th Annual Father/Daughter Overnight Backpacking Trip September 18-19. Five people participated this year and they had a great time. Our thanks to David for leading this fine event.

- There are several special events happening at the Community Center in October:
 - Parent/kids night out - October 2
 - Columbus Day - October 11 (free to residents from noon-3 PM)
 - Family Fun Night - October 16
 - Member appreciation week - October 25-31
 - Town Employee Health & Wellness Day - October 28
 - Annual Halloween Party - October 30
- *Town Clerk's Office*
 - Mary Stanton received her Town Clerk Certification from the Secretary of the State at the Town Clerk conference on September 16th. Congratulations for all your hard work, Mary!
- *Mansfield Downtown Partnership/Town Manager's Office*
 - On September 17, we hosted a delegation from Amherst, MA to discuss our Storrs Center project, as Amherst is contemplating a development project with some similar components. We had a good session, which included a tour of the Storrs Center project area and our Community Center. I would like to thank Cynthia van Zelm, Greg Padick, Curt Vincente and Jay O'Keefe for their time and assistance - the feedback that I received from the Amherst contingent was very positive

Major Projects and Initiatives

- *Mansfield Downtown Partnership, Storrs Center Project* - Next Thursday, October 7, the Downtown Partnership will host an update on the Storrs Center project. At 6:00 PM on Wednesday, October 6, I would like to schedule a special meeting with the Council, as well as representatives from master developer LeylandAlliance and their partner Education Realty Trust, to discuss commercial and financial information provided in confidence related to the developer's business plan for the Storrs Center project.
- *Police Services Study* - Last week we initiated our police services study. Amy Paul from Management Partners and Craig Fraser from PERF met with the steering committee and conducted a number of interviews with councilors and other key stakeholders. Ms. Paul and Mr. Fraser will be back in town on October 25-26 to conduct focus groups and to meet with the Committee of Community Quality of Life and the Mansfield Community-Campus Partnership. I will keep the Council informed as we move closer to that date.

Special Events

- *Mansfield Public Library*
 - Felicia Ortner, a master wildlife conservationist from the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, will present an informational program on black bears in Connecticut on Tuesday, September 28th at 7:00 PM in the Buchanan Auditorium. With the populations of black bears increasing throughout our state, Felicia hopes that "through outreach and education these magnificent creatures will become better understood, [and] we will learn to respect them instead of fear them..." This program is free and open to the public; light refreshments will be served.
 - Please join us at The Friends of the Mansfield Library annual potluck dinner and evening performance on Friday, October 1, 2010 at the Mansfield Public Library. The potluck dinner starts at 5:30; the evening performance begins at 7:00 in the Buchanan Auditorium. Please register for the potluck dinner and bring a dish to share; forms are available on our website or in the library. The performer this year is the library's own talented storyteller Judy Stoughton. Long before the Internet, TV and radio, stories were told, and Judy keeps this oral tradition alive. You do not have to be a resident of Mansfield to be a member of the Friends of the Mansfield Library. Money received from the Friends' book sales and other fundraising efforts is used to purchase materials and services. Our collection and programming would not be as comprehensive and dynamic as it is without their help. For additional information contact the library at 860.423.2501.
 - The Friends of the Mansfield Library are trying to recruit new and younger members. They are having an additional Book Sale, October 23 and 24, to sell an overload of donated

books. The sale will be limited to books and the space available in the Buchanan Auditorium.

- *Farm-to-Table* - On Tuesday, September 28, our local CHART (Community Health Action Response Team) is sponsoring a Farm-to-Table Dinner Event at the Hole in the Wall Gang Camp, followed by a presentation by Dr. David Katz on "Feet, Forks, and the Fate of our Children." Several town staff are members of the CHART, and the event is being co-sponsored by Mansfield Advocates for Children and the Mansfield League of Women Voters. Tickets for the event are still available, and may be obtained tomorrow morning by contacting the Eastern Highlands Health District.

Upcoming Meetings*

- Traffic Authority, September 28, 2010, 10:30 AM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Energy Education Team, September 28, 2010, 7:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Regulatory Review Committee, September 29, 2010, 1:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Regulatory Review Committee, October 1, 2010, 2:00 PM, Conference Room C, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Beautification Committee, October 4, 2010, 7:00 PM, Conference Room C, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Committee on Committees, October 4, 2010, 7:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- IWA/PZC, October 4, 2010, 7:00 PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Agriculture Committee, October 5, 2010, 7:30 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Advocates for Children, October 6, 2010, 5:00 PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Special Town Council Meeting, October 6, 2010, 6:00 PM, Community Room, Mansfield Community Center
- Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board of Directors, October 7, 2010, 4:00 PM, Mansfield Downtown Partnership Office
- Ethics Board, October 7, 2010, 4:30 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Community Quality of Life Committee, October 7, 2010, 7:30 PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Housing Code Board of Appeals, October 12, 2010, 5:00PM, Conference Room C, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Historic District Commission, October 12, 2010, 8:00PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Town Council, October 12, 2010, 7:30PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building

**Meeting dates/times are subject to change. Please view the [Town Calendar](#) or contact the Town Clerk's Office at 429-3302 for a complete and up-to-date listing of committee meetings.*

----- Original Message -----

From: Robert Wechsler

To: Mike Sikoski

Cc: Carla Miller

Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2010 8:05 AM

Subject: Re: Opinion

Dear Mike:

Legally, there's nothing wrong with this, because voting in a town meeting is like voting in an election, where there is nothing wrong for voting for yourself, your spouse, etc.

Ethically, I think there's a problem when town employees only show up at town meetings to vote for things to be given to or done for them. There's also a problem when an administration insists that town employees show up at town meetings and vote for the administration, making it very difficult to oppose it.

Politically, the way to deal with this problem is to either get people to go to town meetings or, if they don't, change to a different form of government, either a council-manager, mayor-council, or representative town meeting government, via charter revision. A town where the fire department can control a vote is not really a town meeting town.

I hope this is helpful to you,

Robert Wechsler

Hi Last Oct. you were extremely helpful in giving me your opinion on a concern, I am wondering if I could impose on you again.

Recently the town of Mansfield CT had a town meeting to approve certain expenditures. The town meeting was required as per our town charter. One of the major expenditures was for work to be done on two pieces of fire apparatus. I believe this work will be done by the fire dept personnel, most likely requiring

overtime hours. This meeting was attended by mostly fire dept employees and their families. They all voted to approve this expenditure and it was approved. They did have rights as residents to vote on budget items, My question is was it ethical for them to vote for that expenditure, as they had both personal and financial interest.

Thanks Mike Sikoski

Local Government Attorneys

There is nothing more important in local government ethics than timely, independent, professional ethics advice. And there is no bigger problem in local government ethics than poor ethics advice, especially that given by local government attorneys who (1) do not have a full understanding of government ethics, especially the fact that its rules are minimum requirements, which means that a strict interpretation of the language is inappropriate in providing ethics advice, (2) are political appointees and/or people with an ongoing relationship with the official, and will therefore be viewed as helping the official get away with possibly unethical conduct, and/or (3) act as if they are representing the official rather than the position or the agency or the local government.

No bigger problem? Isn't that an exaggeration? No, I don't think it is. I rarely read about a serious local government ethics matter where there has not been some sort of advice from a local government attorney. And the norm is that the advice is legal rather than ethical, based on the strictest possible interpretation of ethics code language rather than furthering the goals of government ethics and considering the appearance of impropriety. Sometimes the advice is simply wrong.

The result of such advice often is that the official has a defense against not only ethics enforcement, but also against being pilloried by the press: "I just followed legal advice."

And the government attorney? Rarely does anything happen to the government attorney. He interpreted the ethics code the way he thought it should be interpreted. At worst, he made a mistake.

Poor ethics advice gives ethical misconduct a free ride. What can be done about this?

Government Attorney Ethics Advice Is Not a Defense

Back in 2007, I wrote [a blog post](#) about a new California Supreme Court opinion finding that a government official cannot use a government attorney's advice as a defense against criminal prosecution for conflict of interest. Please read that post. I won't repeat most of what I said there.

Warning Officials Regarding Government Attorney Ethics Advice

What brought me back to this important topic is something I came across while researching [an ethics code](#) [from a blog post](#). At the very end of the Florida Commission on Ethics' 2007 annual report is the following recommendation to the state legislature: Over the past several years, the Commission has reviewed situations where local public officials acted on erroneous advice from their local government attorneys. The Commission is very concerned that officials may believe that they can rely on legal advice about their obligations under the ethics laws even though the attorney's client is the governmental agency and not the individual public official. To make this as clear as possible to agency officials and employees, the Commission proposes that the law require a local government attorney to warn the official or employee that one may be penalized even if relying on the advice of the local government attorney on an ethics matter.

The EC's assumption is that relying on the advice of a local government attorney is not a defense (and this is the position taken in a [ruling order](#) in a Florida ethics matter: "Advice of counsel, when based on a proper statement of the facts, as this was, is not necessarily a complete defense in this case."). It's interesting that the only specific reason given for this is the fact that the government attorney's client is not the individual official, but the agency. But the problem is not that government attorneys who give poor advice are representing the agency.

Poor advice usually comes from too strictly interpreting ethics laws in order to tell an official her conduct is not clearly illegal. It's in the agency's interest to make the most liberal interpretation possible of ethics laws and criminal laws dealing with conflicts of interest, in order to prevent any possible ethics violations and even appearances of impropriety. Therefore, the Florida EC's view of the problem is wrong, even though its proposed solution is a good one.

The better argument would be that a government attorney does not represent an official, period, especially with respect to dealing with conflicts of interest. A warning might be a decent solution, but even better would be these words from a local government attorney, "I cannot give you ethics advice. You will have to talk with the city's ethics officer." But that would mean that cities would have to hire an ethics officer or put someone under contract to work on a part-time basis to provide independent ethics advice to city officials.

The question is, is it in the interest of a local government to give quality ethics advice to its officials, which could be trusted by everyone, in order to prevent unethical conduct and improve public

trust in the government? If it is, a warning is not enough, and the hiring of an independent ethics officer would be the solution.

The Institute for Local Government Approach

A June 2007 article from an Institute for Local Government newsletter for public officials presents this matter much more completely and thoughtfully (the Institute is run by the League of California Cities and the CA State Association of Counties).

It is important to keep in mind, though, that an agency attorney's client is the agency, not individual decision-makers in an agency. Any advice she gives to help individual public officials avoid violations of the law are designed to protect the agency as a whole. Individual officials do not enjoy an attorney-client relationship with the agency's attorney (and conversations with individual officials are not necessarily protected by the attorney-client privilege) because the attorney's client is the agency itself. ... city attorneys encourage each other to resist pressure to be "creative" coming up with questionable legal theories in an effort to provide cover for public officials who want to engage in activity that the attorney believes is unlawful. Nor does it matter that no one is likely to either find out about the situation or challenge it.

I love the part about local government attorneys resisting pressure to be "creative" in order to protect officials. This kind of creativity, common to lawyers representing private clients, has no place in a government law office, but especially not with respect to ethics matters. Why this is so becomes clear from the article's discussion of the reasoning behind the California Supreme Court decision I referred to early in this blog post:

A unanimous court bluntly observed that public officials are trustees and that it is wrong for trustees to engage in self-dealing. As a result, the court concluded it would not allow officials to defend themselves by claiming they relied on their agency attorney's advice.

In other words, government officials, as trustees for the public, should not be looking for creative ways to undermine the public trust. I would go a step beyond the California decision: government officials should be told not to be involved in self-dealing in any way, no matter how poorly the ethics code is written (the Florida conflict of interest provision (Click "Ethics Laws," then Ch. 112, then go to §112.3143), for example, is pretty bad). An official should not be involved in self-dealing even when it is in a gray area, such as indirect benefits, that most ethics codes do not expressly cover (see my blog post on indirect benefits). When it comes to advice to someone acting as a trustee for the public, the language of an ethics code is only the beginning, not the end.

The Solution to This Problem

There are certainly many good and honest local government attorneys who give ethics advice as good as or better than the average independent ethics officer's. They would make excellent ethics officers, but as government attorneys their advice is suspect. In addition, giving such advice puts them in an awkward position, because they should tell the official (1) that they are not representing the official, but rather the agency, (2) that there is no attorney-client privilege or confidentiality, and (3) that following the advice is not a defense (in court, before an ethics commission, or to the public).

An independent ethics officer can, on the other hand, give advice to the official, not as a lawyer representing her, but as a government ethics professional providing advice (which is, in fact, the way I give advice when it is requested). And following the ethics officer's advice can, if it is made part of the ethics code, be used as a defense (see CA Ethics Model Code §2112). Even assuming the best of the local government attorney, this solution seems to be better for everyone, including the public. Assuming the worst, and everything in between, the solution is far better for everyone. And yet it is a rare solution to this problem. Ask yourself why.

See the long list of City Ethics blog posts relating to local government attorneys, and the much shorter list of blog posts relating to ethics officers.

Robert Wechsler
Director of Research, City Ethics

rwechsler@ciethics.org
203-230-2548

PAGE
BREAK



**Town of Mansfield
Agenda Item Summary**

To: Town Council
From: Matthew Hart, Town Manager *MH*
CC: Maria Capriola, Assistant to Town Manager
Date: October 12, 2010
Re: Community-Campus Relations

Subject Matter/Background

Attached please find information concerning off-campus parties and related activity. I will also provide a brief staff report at Tuesday's meeting.

At this time, the Council is not required to take any action regarding this item.

Attachments

- 1) J. Kodzis re: Fall Weekend Overview as of October 5, 2010
- 2) J. Hintz re: Expectations Concerning Responsible Tenant Behavior

Matthew W. Hart

From: James F. Kodzis
Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2010 2:03 PM
To: Matthew W. Hart; 'Cedar_Ridge@aspensquare.com'
Cc: James F. Kodzis
Subject: fall weekend overview as of 5 oct 2010

A review of UCONN back to school "fall weekends".

Friday, 08/27/2010.

Carriage House Apts.- Estimated crowd of 1,500 – 2,000

Crowd was well behaved for the most part a couple of incidents of can/bottle throwing at CSP.

16 liquor violation tickets issued.

Carriage House Apts. did not have an onsite manager on duty. This made determining who lived in which apt problematic at the end of night when the "push" was being done. A lot of the apt renters did not have Carriage House IDs issued to them yet nor did they have parking stickers for their vehicles.

The fence was not erected as in past years. This created a problem of controlling access to the complex when the road was shut down for the push. Partygoers were able to gain access by going in behind the Apts along the wood line.

Saturday, 08/28/2010.

Carriage House Apts.- Estimated crowd of 5,000 – 6,000 (largest in recent years)

Crowd was well behaved for the most part a couple of incidents of can/bottle throwing at CSP

28 liquor violation tickets issued

1 criminal arrest for narcotics- UCONN student

Carriage House Apts. did not have an onsite manager on duty. This made determining who lived in which apt problematic at the end of night when the "push" was being done. A lot of the apt renters did not have Carriage House IDs issued to them yet nor did they have parking stickers for their vehicles.

The fence was not in place as in past years. This created a problem of controlling access to the complex when the road was shut down for the push. Partygoers were able to gain access by going in behind the Apts along the wood line.

Thursday, 09/2/10.

Carriage House Apts.- Estimated crowd of 2,000 – 3,000

Carriage House provided a night manager and put up the fence. They provided a tenant list as well as parking permits and most resident permits.

13 liquor violation tickets issued.

Two OPA Troopers on site.

The evening was very busy for a holiday weekend and it appeared as though the students did not go home. There were parking issues on Carriage House Rd which were addressed by the OPA Troopers. Simultaneously there was a medical issue (intoxicated student) which was also in the complex and handled by the OPA personnel (they ensured that the victim's airway was unobstructed until medics arrived). Throughout the evening there were three medical calls at the complex and two were transported to the hospital for treatment (intox). Numerous parking citations were issued and a tow truck was called to remove a vehicle partially blocking the roadway. Carriage House Dr was closed to vehicular traffic due to the heavy volume of pedestrian traffic. There was numerous alcohol violations observed however due to manpower issues we were unable to effectively address many of these violations There were only a handful

of citations issued as personnel were tied up with other responsibilities.

It was decided, based upon the size and intoxication level of the crowd (reports of fights, vandalisms, noise complaints, etc), to have evening shift respond prior to breaking up the large gathering within the complex.

During "push" there was one individual later verified as an UCONN student/Carriage House resident who was standing on the roadway. He was asked to leave several times and refused stating that he lives here. He was arrested for BOP and interfering after he became aggressive and belligerent when attempts were made to escort him from the roadway.

The immediate area was successfully cleared by approx. 0130 hours. A presence was maintained on Hunting Lodge Rd and our areas of responsibilities in Mansfield (Sgt Peps) until approx. 0145 hours.

Carriage House management observed the apartments involved and explained that follow up action would be taken against the tenants for lease violations. All arrests will be referred to the UCONN off campus student services office for student code violations as well.

Friday, 09/03/10.

Carriage House Apts.- Estimated crowd of 3,000
24 liquor violation tickets issued.
Carriage House Apts. did have an onsite manager on duty.
Large house parties building on Hunting Lodge RD.

Saturday, 09/04/10.

Carriage House Apts.- Estimated crowd of 6,000. (Largest non- Spring Weekend gathering I have seen in several years)
10 liquor violation tickets issued
Carriage House had two night managers on site.
Three (3) OPA Troopers on site.
Carriage House Dr was closed to vehicular traffic due to the heavy volume of pedestrian traffic
At approx 2330 hrs it was decided, based upon the size and intoxication level and behavior of the crowd (reports of fights) to have evening shift respond prior to breaking up the large gatherings within the complex. The "push" took almost 40 minutes to complete. The crowd was confrontational and belligerent. They were reluctant to leave, follow verbal directives, and very slow to move. At one point during the "push" some students began to yell they were being assaulted by police in an attempt to excite the crowd. A presence was maintained on Hunting Lodge Rd and our areas of responsibilities in Mansfield

Sunday, 09/05/10.

Carriage House Apts.- Estimated crowd of 2,000
No night managers
No OPA Tprs.
Mansfield Resident Tprs handled this gathering w/o incident.

Thursday, 09/09/10

Carriage House Apts.- Estimated crowd of 2,000 – 3,000
Two night managers
Two OPA Tprs
All clear 0145hrs.
4 town noise violations issued on Birch RD.

Friday, 09/10/10

Carriage House Apts.- Estimated crowd of 2,000 – 3,000
Two night managers
Two OPA Tprs
Eve shift to Carriage House
Large house party at the “Mushroom House” on Rte. 195 (estimated crowd 1,000)
Reported hit and run on North Eagleville Rd (UCONN PD jurisdiction)
Large gathering at businesses on North Eagleville Rd after push

Saturday, 09/11/10

Carriage House Apts.- Estimated crowd of 2,000 – 3,000 (highly intoxicated)
Two night managers
Three OPA Tprs
It was decided, based upon the size and intoxication level of the crowd (reports of fights, vandalisms, noise complaints, etc), to have evening shift respond prior to breaking up the large gathering within the complex.
Partygoer was assaulted Carriage House by unknown party. Victim received 6 staples to head wound
Large gathering at businesses on North Eagleville Rd after push An assault occurred in the area of building 7 which resulted in one UCONN student being transported to the hospital. He has since been released. Case under investigation.
Over the course of the weekend 30 alcohol and other town ordinance citations were issued by police personnel.

Thursday, 0916/10

Night manager on duty
2 OPA Tprs
Bars very active
Light to moderate rain
Very little foot traffic
No calls for service in complex
No violations observed
Crowd size N/A
No enforcement action taken

Friday, 09/17/10

Managers on site
2 OPA Tprs
10 alcohol violations
It was decided, based upon the size and intoxication level of the crowd (reports of fights, vandalisms, noise complaints, etc), to have evening shift respond prior to breaking up the large gathering within the complex.
Carriage House Apts.- Estimated crowd of 3,000-3,500
All clear, no calls pending 0130hrs
One arrest for possession of marijuana.

Saturday, 09/18/10

No manager on site
3 OPA Tprs
Carriage House Apts.- Estimated crowd of 2,000 – 3,000
Busy in town. A large party at Hunting Lodge Apts. Manager contacted and enroute from Hartford.

Estimated crowd of 1,000. Several large and loud parties at residences on Hill Rd. It was decided, based upon the size and intoxication level of the crowd (reports of fights, vandalisms, noise complaints, etc), to have evening shift respond prior to breaking up the large gathering within the complex.

Thursday, 09/23/10

Managers on site
2 OPA Tprs
Carriage House Apts.- Estimated crowd of size under 1,000
Bars were active
Very little foot traffic
No calls for service at Carriage House Apts
Crowd size N/A
No enforcement action taken

Friday, 9/24/10

Managers on site
2 OPA Tprs
2 alcohol violations
Carriage House Apts.- Estimated crowd of 3,000-3500
All clear no calls pending 0200hrs

Saturday, 9/25/10

Managers on site
3 OPA Tprs
Estimated crowd of 3,000-3500 at Carriage House Apt
Estimated crowd of 6,000+ in around campus.
(Largest non-Spring Weekend crowd to date.)
Numerous house parties (building floats for Homecoming parade)
Assisted Fire Dept in putting out two bonfires (Apt building & private residence)
3 alcohol violations
Several large parties at residences on Hill Rd.
It was decided, based upon the size and intoxication level of the crowd (reports of fights, vandalisms, noise complaints, etc), to have evening shift respond prior to breaking up the large gathering within the complex.
All clear, no calls pending 0200hrs

09/30/10, Thursday-

Crowds- N/A
2 night managers on duty
2 OPA on duty
Weather heavy rain and winds

10/01/10, Friday-

Carriage House Apts.- Crowd- 2500 plus
2 night manager on duty
2 OPA Tprs on duty
2 Troop "K" Tprs on duty
1 OPA Tpr Hunting Lodge Apt on duty
11 town violation tickets issued
2 DWI arrests

1 Dumpster fire at Club House Apts.
1 Medical call at Carriage House (intoxicated person)

10/02/10, Saturday

Crowd- 4,000 plus

2 night managers on duty

2 OPA Tprs on duty

2 Troop "K" Tprs on duty

1 OPA Tpr Hunting Lodge Apt on duty

11 town violation tickets issued

Club House Apts. - live band "concert". Manager contacted and advised of band concert. Manager request that the "concert be shut down and crowd be cleared from the complex.

It was decided, based upon the size and intoxication level of the crowd (reports of fights, vandalisms, noise complaints, etc), to have evening shift respond prior to breaking up the large gathering within the complex.

Numerous reports of small "breaches" at Carriage House Apts. and on foot paths on Hunting Lodge Rd. The participants were highly intoxicated and belligerent. One in custody arrest at Carriage House (Criminal Trespass and interfering with police)

Numerous house parties on Hunting Lodge RD, Rte. 195 and North Eagleville RD.

Crowds were highly intoxicated and aggressive. The UCONN Football Team won its Homecoming game earlier in the day and this win fueled the revelry more than usual. .

I am scheduling the normal 2,2,and 3 for this Thursday thru Saturday at the Carriage House apts. I will also have additional patrols (2 on Friday and 2 on Saturday) to augment the regular scheduled Resident Troopers.

Respectfully,

*Sergeant James Kodzis #219
Connecticut State Police
Mansfield Resident Trooper's Office
4 South Eagleville Road
Storrs/Mansfield, CT 06268
(860) 429-6024*



University of Connecticut
Division of Student Affairs

Office of Student Services and
Advocacy

Off-Campus Student Services

REC'D OCT 05

September 30, 2010

Zhang Heng
195 Davis Rd.
Mansfield, CT 06268

Dear Zang:

The University of Connecticut is concerned about our students who do not act as responsible community members while living in an off-campus rental. Off-Campus Student Services is making efforts to address irresponsible behavior, as it is inconsistent with the University's mission and expectations of our students. One of these efforts involves contacting property managers when tenant(s) of their rental property/unit has been brought to my attention as negatively impacting their neighbors.

I have received complaints about the behavior of the tenants and/or their guests at 3 Hillyndale Road, Mansfield, CT. I understand students are adults and need to assume responsibility for their actions; however, for many students this is their first time living independently with no direct supervision of their activities and they may not realize the negative impacts of their behavior. I hope you will take the opportunity to review your expectations with these tenant(s) related to the impact on the neighbors of your property.

You should be aware that the University will take steps to address the behavior in addition to any action taken by the Town and/or Police. For example, I have already visited the student rental to discuss the complaint with the tenant(s). The purpose of this visit is to bring the concern to the tenant's attention, inform them about possible consequences of continued behavior and talk to them about strategies for a having a successful off-campus experience. My goal is to work with students to assist them in understanding both their rights and responsibilities as a student, tenant and member of their community. However, if irresponsible behavior continues, the tenant(s) will be referred to the UConn Community Standards Office for a violation of *The Student Code*. Depending on the nature of the behavior and their conduct record, the student could face "University Suspension" or "University Expulsion".

It is my hope that by working with you, we can jointly assist students' understanding of their responsibility as members of the community. If you have any questions about the concern(s) or how you might be able to help with the issues, please do not hesitate to contact me at (860) 486-3426 or james.hintz@uconn.edu.

Sincerely,

Jim Hintz
Director of Off-Campus Student Services

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Wilbur Cross Building, Room 203
233 Glenbrook Road, Unit 4062
Storrs, Connecticut 06269-4062

Telephone: (860) 486-3426
Facsimile: (860) 486-1972
web: www.ossa.uconn.edu

Cc: Cathy Cocks, Director, UConn Community Standards Office
Matt Hart, Town Manager, Town of Mansfield



University of Connecticut
Division of Student Affairs

Office of Student Services and
Advocacy

Off-Campus Student Services

REC'D SEP 29

September 24, 2010

Wendy Kopp
176 Hebron Rd.
Andover, CT 06232

Dear Wendy:

The University of Connecticut is concerned about our students who do not act as responsible community members while living in an off-campus rental. Off-Campus Student Services is making efforts to address irresponsible behavior, as it is inconsistent with the University's mission and expectations of our students. One of these efforts involves contacting property managers when tenant(s) of their rental property/unit has been brought to my attention as negatively impacting their neighbors.

I have received complaints about the behavior of the tenants and/or their guests at 166 Birch Road, Mansfield, CT. I understand students are adults and need to assume responsibility for their actions; however, for many students this is their first time living independently with no direct supervision of their activities and they may not realize the negative impacts of their behavior. I hope you will take the opportunity to review your expectations with these tenant(s) related to the impact on the neighbors of your property.

You should be aware that the University will take steps to address the behavior in addition to any action taken by the Town and/or Police. For example, I have already visited the student rental to discuss the complaint with the tenant(s). The purpose of this visit is to bring the concern to the tenant's attention, inform them about possible consequences of continued behavior and talk to them about strategies for a having a successful off-campus experience. My goal is to work with students to assist them in understanding both their rights and responsibilities as a student, tenant and member of their community. However, if irresponsible behavior continues, the tenant(s) will be referred to the UConn Community Standards Office for a violation of *The Student Code*. Depending on the nature of the behavior and their conduct record, the student could face "University Suspension" or "University Expulsion".

It is my hope that by working with you, we can jointly assist students' understanding of their responsibility as members of the community. If you have any questions about the concern(s) or how you might be able to help with the issues, please do not hesitate to contact me at (860) 486-3426 or james.hintz@uconn.edu.

Sincerely,

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Cc: Cathy Cocks, Director, UConn Community Standards Office
Matt Hart, ~~704~~ Manager, Town of Mansfield



**Town of Mansfield
Agenda Item Summary**

To: Town Council
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager *Matt*
CC: Maria Capriola, Assistant to Town Manager; Lon Hultgren, Director of Public Works; Greg Padick, Director of Planning; Tim Veillette, Project Engineer
Date: October 12, 2010
Re: Storrs Road & Dog Lane Improvement Projects; Public Information Session

Subject Matter/Background

Since portions of the grants the Town is receiving for the Storrs Road and Dog Lane improvement projects for the Storrs Center Development are being administered by the Connecticut Department of Transportation, public information meetings at the preliminary design stage are required to inform interested parties of the designs being proposed.

Since the Storrs Road and Dog Lane projects are interrelated, we would recommend that the public information meetings for each project be combined into one. We suggest this meeting be held at the beginning of the October 25th Council meeting. Staff will place the advertisement for the meeting and notify the abutters.

Financial Impact

The two projects are being funded by state and federal grants and contributions from the Storrs Center developer. While the Town will have some maintenance costs for the new facilities, there is no direct capital cost contribution from the Town.

Recommendation

Council's action to set a public information meeting for the Storrs Road and Dog Lane improvement projects at 7:30 PM on October 25, 2010 in the Council Chambers is respectfully requested.

If the Town Council concurs with this request, the following motion is in order:

Move, to conduct a public information meeting for the Storrs Road and Dog Lane improvement projects at 7:30 PM at the Town Council's regular meeting on October 25, 2010 in the Council Chambers at the Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building.

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**Town of Mansfield
Agenda Item Summary**

To: Town Council
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager *MWH*
CC: Maria Capriola, Assistant to Town Manager; Lon Hultgren, Director of Public Works
Date: October 12, 2010
Re: WPCA, Appointment of Mansfield's Windham WPCA Representative

Subject Matter/Background

In the new sewer agreement with Windham, there is a provision for a representative ("Chairperson's Delegate") from Mansfield to attend Windham's WPCA monthly meetings to promote good communication between the towns. Now that the agreement is signed, this designation should be officially made. While staff would be more than agreeable to have a Council member or community member take this position, our Director of Public Works has been attending these meetings and is willing to continue. Unless Council has an alternate recommendation, staff recommends that the Director of Public Works be appointed as Mansfield's official representative.

Financial Impact

While there are no direct financial impacts to appointing a representative, keeping abreast of Windham's plans for improvements/changes to its wastewater treatment facility is financially important to Mansfield.

Legal Review

N/A – The appointment is a provision in the signed agreement.

Recommendation

Council is respectfully requested to appoint Mansfield's Director of Public Works to serve as its Chairperson's Delegate to the Windham WPCA.

If the Town Council concurs with this request, the following resolution is in order:

Resolved, effective October 12, 2010, that in accordance with Article L of the September 30, 2010 sewer agreement with the Town of Windham, Director of Public Works Lon R. Hultgren be appointed as the Mansfield WPCA Chairperson's delegate to the Windham Water Pollution Control Authority, for an indefinite term.

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**Town of Mansfield
Agenda Item Summary**

To: Town Council
From: Matthew Hart, Town Manager *MWH*
CC: Maria Capriola, Assistant to Town Manager; Mary Stanton, Town Clerk
Date: October 12, 2010
Re: Additions to Charge of Open Space Preservation Committee

Subject Matter/Background

The Open Space Preservation Committee (OSPC) has recently considered updates to the committee's charge, which has not been revised since 1993. Since that time, the committee's activities have changed in response to various needs and opportunities. As a result, the members of the OSPC have recommended revisions to their charge.

The proposed additions to the OSPC's charge has been reviewed and approved by the Committee on Committees at their October 4, 2010 meeting.

Recommendation

If the Town Council supports the Committee on Committees' recommendation to approve the proposed additions to the charge of the OSPC, the following motion would be in order:

Move, effective October 10, 2010, to approve the proposed additions to the charge of the Open Space Preservation Committee, as endorsed by the Committee on Committees.

Attachments

- 1) Existing Charge of OSPC
- 2) Memo from OSPC dated 07/20/10
- 3) Proposed Additions to Charge of OSPC

OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION

September 14, 1987 Motion made by Cazel, seconded, that the Council establish an Open Space Preservation Committee for the following purposes as recommended in Mr. Vinsonhaler's letter on the 7/13/87 Council agenda: (1) to develop and continually update a set of goals for open space preservation in Mansfield; (2) to develop a plan for attaining the goals; and (3) to make contact and work with landowners and developers in order to suggest and discuss ways in which important open space could be preserved. Motion passed unanimously.

Vinsonhaler's Letter:

The Land Bank Committee, to be appointed by the Town Council, would consist of seven members, and would include one member each from PZC, Conservation Commission and Parks Advisory Committee. These three positions would be viewed as ex officio in the sense that members of the same existing group, e.g. PZC, could substitute for each other. The four additional members would be appointed without restriction, although recommendations from the Land Bank Committee would be provided where possible. The term of appointment would be 3 years. We would also like to have the Town Planner, the Director of Parks and Recreation and one member of the Town Council designated as liaisons, to be welcome at meetings and available for consultation.

February 11, 1991 increased number of members to 9.

February 22, 1993 increased number of members to 10

**DRAFT
MEMORANDUM**

To: Committee on Committees, Matt Hart, Curt Vincente, and Jennifer Kaufman
From: Open Space Preservation Committee
Date: July 20, 2010
Re: Proposed Revisions to the Committee's Charge and Membership

At their July 20, 2010, meeting, the Open Space Preservation Committee (OSPC) considered updating the committee's charge, which has not been revised since 1993 (see current charge attached). Since 1993, the committee's activities have changed in response to various needs and opportunities. Thus, we are recommending revisions and are forwarding them for review by the Committee on Committees.

PURPOSES OF THE COMMITTEE

OSPC recommends that the following purposes be added to the list of committee activities:

- To act as a sounding board and provide review to town departments, boards and commissions concerning the impact of proposed town policies on preservation of open space.
- To advise Town officials concerning open space preservation actions, as outlined in the "Planning, Acquisition, and Management Guidelines, Mansfield Open Space, Park, Recreation, Agricultural Properties and Conservation Easements," which was approved by the Town Council in 2009.
- To contribute to updates of the Plan of Conservation and Development.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Committee membership structure

Currently, OSPC consists of 10 members, which includes 7 members, plus 3 ex officio representatives from each of the following: PZC, Conservation Commission and Parks Advisory Committee. To make it easier to have a quorum at each meeting, the committee recommends that there be 5 members (one of which is an ex officio representative of the Conservation Commission) and 2 alternate members. Ex officio representatives from PZC and Parks Advisory Committee would serve as liaisons to the committee without being members. We recommend full membership for a Conservation Commission representative because open space preservation is part of the commission's official state charge. (The Conservation Commission recommended a separate open space preservation committee because the commission did not have enough time to continue working on open space projects. OSPC works closely with the commission.)

Committee members – Qualifications and appointments

As with other town land-use committees, the Open Space Preservation Committee is a resource providing technical advice to Town officials. For example, the OSPC reviews land offered for town acquisition, submits comments to PZC about open space dedications in proposed subdivisions, and participates in the development of management plans for Town properties.

These activities are successful if committee members have expertise and experience in land use planning and various environmental and natural resource fields. Committee members who can contribute to discussions with these perspectives provide a positive benefit to the Town. We are contacting professionals in the following fields to identify potential members who could contribute information about soils, wetlands, wildlife and land use planning.

In the past, an appointment to the committee was made after an interested person came to an OSPC meeting to determine if the committee's work was what they wanted to do. Some previous appointments have had to be withdrawn because the person discovered the committee's work was not what they expected. It is better to make this discovery before a formal appointment.

We would appreciate your assistance as we continue to identify potential members who can make a contribution to the committee's work on behalf of the Town. We also would be happy to meet with you to discuss how we can work together toward a committee that best serves the Town.

DRAFT

Mansfield Open Space Preservation Committee Charge (revised 8/9/10)

CHARGE/DUTIES: The Open Space Preservation Committee shall be an advisory board to the Town Council and other Town officials with the following charges and duties:

General

a. To advise Town officials concerning open space preservation actions, as outlined in the "Planning, Acquisition, and Management Guidelines, Mansfield Open Space, Park, Recreation, Agricultural Properties and Conservation Easements," which was approved by the Town Council in 2009. These actions include:

- Review properties offered for Town acquisition
- Review proposed subdivisions and submit comments to PZC about proposed open space dedications
- Participate in the development of management plans for Town properties.

b. To act as a sounding board and provide review to town departments, boards and commissions concerning the impact of proposed town policies on preservation of open space.

c. To contribute to updates of the Plan of Conservation and Development.

Education and Outreach

- a. To increase awareness of the Town's Open Space Preservation Program
- b. To educate and work with landowners to promote public and private land preservation projects.

MEMBERSHIP: The Open Space Preservation Committee shall consist of 5 regular voting members (one of which shall be an ex officio representative of the Conservation Commission) and 2 alternates appointed by the Town Council in accordance with A§192 of the Mansfield Code. The appointments shall be staggered three year terms. A representative of the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Parks Advisory Committee may serve as liaison between the Committee and the Commission. Insofar as practical, members appointed shall offer expertise in land use planning or environmental/natural resource fields, such as forestry, soils, wetlands, wildlife, geology, botany. A chairman and a secretary will be elected by the committee and will serve for a term of one year.

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**Town of Mansfield
Agenda Item Summary**

To: Town Council
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager *MWH*
CC: Maria Capriola, Assistant to Town Manager; Mary Stanton, Town Clerk
Date: October 12, 2010
Re: Town Council Meeting Schedule for 2011

Subject Matter/Background

Attached please find the proposed meeting schedule for 2011, as prepared by the Town Clerk. The schedule conforms to the Town Council's normal schedule of holding its regular meeting on the second and fourth Monday's of the month, with the exception of holidays. The Council will retain its ability to schedule special meetings as necessary and to cancel regular meetings as appropriate.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Town Council approve the schedule as presented.

If the Town Council concurs with this recommendation, the following motion is in order:

Move, effective October 12, 2010 to adopt the Town Council Meeting Schedule for 2011, as presented by the Town Clerk.

Attachments

1) Proposed Town Council Meeting Schedule for 2011



Town Council 2011 Meeting Schedule

In accordance with CGS§ 1-4 the following dates are approved for the Mansfield Town Council's 2011 meeting schedule:

January 10, 2011
January 24, 2011
February 14, 2011
February 28, 2011
March 14, 2011
March 28, 2011
April 11, 2011
April 25, 2011
May 09, 2011
May 23, 2011
June 13, 2011
June 27, 2011
July 11, 2011
July 25, 2011
August 8, 2011
August 22, 2011
September 12, 2011
September 26, 2011
October 11, 2011 (Tuesday due to Columbus Day)
October 24, 2011
November 14, 2011
November 28, 2011
December 12, 2011
December 27, 2011 (Tuesday due to 12/26 observance of Christmas)

Unless otherwise indicated all meeting will be held in the Council Chambers of the
Audrey P. Beck Building, 4 South Eagleville Road
Starting at 7:30 p.m.



COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

August 16, 2010 @ 7:00 p.m.

Room B

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Toni Moran, Chair of the Committee.
Present: Meredith Lindsey, Toni Moran, Bill Ryan

2. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

No comments

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Lindsey moved and Mr. Ryan to approve the minutes of the July 19, 2010 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

4. DISCUSSION OF STRUCTURE OF SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Members agreed to present the proposed charge for the Human Services Advisory Committee to the Council at the first meeting in September. Committee members agreed to eliminate a Veteran's group from the amended draft and to add provisions for a sunset clause after three years. If the amended charge is adopted at the Council meeting a second motion dissolving the existing Social Service Advisory Committee would be in order. Mr. Ryan will express his opposition to the formation of the Committee at the Council meeting.

5. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Kelly Kochis will be recommended to serve on the Arts Advisory Committee.
Chris Kueffner will be recommended to fill the vacant alternate position on the Community Quality of Life Committee.
Mark LaPlaca will be recommended to serve on the Mansfield Advocates for Children.
The Town Clerk will ask Social Worker Kathy Ann Easley whether or not Denise Houman has been notified of the Advisory Committee on Persons with Disabilities.
The Chair will email a list of committees to each member. Members agreed to contact the chairs of the committees to ascertain whether the members under consideration attend meetings and are still interested in continuing to service. The Chairs will also be asked for suggested names of volunteers. The names of potential volunteers will be forwarded to the Town Clerk.

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Appointments.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Ryan moved and Ms. Lindsey seconded to adjourn the meeting.
Motion passed unanimously.

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
Energy Education Team
Minutes of the Meeting
August 17, 2010

Present: Britton (chair), Williams, Nash, Spurlock, Hoyle, Loxsom, Walton (staff)

The meeting began at 7:05 p.m.

The minutes from the July 20, 2010 meeting were reviewed and accepted.

Walton reported that at the July 28, 2010 meeting the sustainability committee examined the carbon calculator energy data for 2008/2009 and 2009/2010 fiscal years. The committee also worked on a first year progress report that will be given to Town Council in the fall.

Loxsom offered ECSU student help in rating Mansfield municipal building roofs for solar panels.

Williams gave a 20by2010 Clean Energy Google Group report.

The team evaluated the seven Energy Challenge households that turned in their 2009 and 2010 electric bills. Elizabeth Robinson had the largest electrical energy drop of 170 kilowatt hours; the Methodist Church parsonage and the Santasiere household were tied with the largest percentage drop of 33%. Mrs. Robinson will receive \$500 in energy efficiency prizes and the Methodist Church and Santasiere's will be given \$250 in energy efficiency prizes. If enough grant money is left, then the four other households, if they are not participating already, will have the first year of CleanEnergyOptions paid for. The Chronicle, Neighbors Newspaper and Reminder News will be contacted for a photo shot of the winners. Britton volunteered to draft an article for the papers. Walton will notify the winners and ask Miriam Kurland to do a follow-up video taping.

Walton reported that Connecticut Innovations has gone out to bid for the installation of the additional solar panels on the EO Smith High School rooftop now that the Town has reached 500 points. Walton, Spurlock and Williams will be at the August 21, 2010 Storrs Farmer's Market to observe Community Energy salesperson Jim Iacovelli's sales pitch for the CleanEnergyOptions program.

Walton stated that the initial meeting for the Neighbor-to-Neighbor Energy Challenge grant has been scheduled for Thursday, August 26, 2010 at 7 pm in the Mansfield Library Buchanan Auditorium.

Nash reported that the Juniper Hill Village solar system installation date has been moved to January 2011. Nash stated that the Mansfield Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation is very interested in solar thermal systems. The Mansfield Housing Authority will be installing a 10 to 15 kilowatt photovoltaic system on their roof.

The Team discussed applying to the Community Catalyst Fund for money to develop an interactive web map of Mansfield's sustainability initiatives. It was suggested that other websites be checked out for design ideas.

Walton explained that on 10/10/10 the organization, 350.org, will be hosting a Global Work Party. Nash suggested a Mansfield "hang out to dry" campaign for the day.

Walton asked if members would be willing to have an interactive display at the Festival on the Green, September 12. Loxsom volunteered a solar cooker. Walton stated that she would invite Jim Iacovelli. Nash suggested that the WRTD bus be parked at the Festival.

Hoyle distributed "Converted?" buttons, part of People, Power & Light's campaign to start discussions about converting to clean energy systems.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 21, 2010.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia Walton
Recycling/Refuse Coordinator

Cc: Lon R. Hultgren, Director of Public Works, Members, file, Town Manager, Town Clerk

Mansfield Commission on Aging Minutes
9:30 AM – Senior Center
June 14, 2010

Present: T. Quinn (Chair), C. Pellegrine, J. Quarto, W. Bigl, S. Gordon, B. Salvage, M. Thatcher, J. Scottron, T. Rogers, K. Doeg, A. Holinko, C. Phillips, M. Gerling (staff), B. Lavoie (staff)

- I. **Call to Order:** Chair T. Quinn called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.
- II. **Appointment of Recording Secretary:** C. Phillips agreed to take minutes for the meeting.
- III. Acceptance of Minutes of the **May 10** meeting: Minutes approved as written.
- IV. **Correspondence** – Reviewd a notice from M. Hart referring to Town Town Commissions/Committees commenting to public on policy or opinions prior to submission to Town Council and Town Manager.
- V. **New Business**
 - A. J. Quarto, W. Bigl, C. Phillips will be the Nominating Committee to submit a slate to fill 2 vacancies on COA in September. C. Phillips and K. Doeg will finish their third terms. April Holinko will start her second term.
J. Quarto and S. Gordon and C. Pellegrini will form a Transportation Committee to keep track of action taken on the Volunteer Driver Program. C. Pellegrini expressed the need to define goals and needs for the program. A discussion followed. K. Grunwald, L. Bilokur, M. Gerling are a committee researching and working on a drivers volunteer program for the Senior Center.

J. Quarto moved that the COA committee on transportation in conjunction with the MSC Committee on the volunteer driver program prepare an item for the September issue of “Sparks” to inform people of the status of the Volunteer Drivers Program. C. Pellegrini seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Motion passed.
 - B. “Other”: none.
- VI. **Optional Reports** on Services/Needs of Town Aging Populations
 - A. Health Care Services
 - B. Lavoie has spent the past 7 weeks evaluating needs and services. She will start reporting on services in September.

B. Social, Recreational and Educational

1. Senior Center – M. Gerling – the MSC Volunteer Transportation Committee will post requests for volunteers when the Town Budget is passed.

The Annual Banquet for MSC is June 23rd at the Senior Center.

2. Senior Center Association – T. Rogers reported that the MSC By-laws were passed at the association meeting.

Senior Center Assoc. – Tom Rogers distributed shopping bags from the Association to recognize their volunteer contributions.

C. Housing

Betty Savage represents Juniper Hill. She reported that all is well.

D. Related Town and Regional Organizations such as:

- B. Lavoie attends meetings of Senior Resources of Eastern CT.

VII. Old Business

- A. Long Range Plan Update: no discussion.
- B. Volunteer Driver Program Update: need to wait until Town Budget is passed before action can be taken.
- C. Triad – W. Bigl reported there will be a meeting this summer and he will report to COA in September.

VIII. Opportunity for the Public to Address the Commission: L. Bilokur expressed her concerns.

VIII. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM.

No Meetings in the months of July and August. Meeting in September will Be announced.

Respectfully submitted,

C. Phillips

**MANSFIELD DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Tuesday, July 1, 2010**

**Mansfield Downtown Partnership, Inc.
1244 Storrs Road**

4:00 PM

Minutes

Present: Steve Bacon, Tom Callahan, Bruce Clouette, Gregory Haddad, David Lindsay, Philip Lodewick, Frank McNabb, Betsy Paterson, Christopher Paulhus, Alexandria Roe, Steve Rogers, Bill Simpson, and Antoinette Webster

Staff: Cynthia van Zelm

1. Call to Order

Philip Lodewick called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm. Mr. Lodewick introduced Alex Roe, the University's Director of Planning, as President Austin's designee to the Board of Directors. The Board introduced themselves.

2. Opportunity for Public to Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of Minutes

Tom Callahan made a motion to approve the May 6, 2010 Board minutes. Steve Bacon seconded the motion. The motion was approved with one abstention from Betsy Paterson.

4. Director's Report

Ms. van Zelm asked Board members to review the draft Board of Directors list for any address changes and then she will resend it to Board members for their records.

Ms. van Zelm passed around a calendar for Board members to indicate their vacation time with respect to the scheduling of meetings.

Ms. van Zelm also passed around a list of volunteers opportunities for the Board at the Bike Tour on July 17 and at Know Your Towns Fair and the *Festival on the Green* in September.

Ms. van Zelm said that the responses to the Requests for Qualifications for the parking garage and the intermodal center had been reviewed individually by respective reviewers. She indicated that Director of Public Works Lon Hultgren is working to set up a meeting with the groups to review the ratings and narrow down the list for follow-up.

Ms. van Zelm said the draft report on the investigation of the former University Publications building has been completed. There will need to be remediation done on the building that is covered the state grant.

Ms. van Zelm said the Parking Steering Committee met last week and that she will be working with Town Manager Matt Hart and Carrie Krasnow with Walker Parking Consultants to develop some recommendations on a management plan for the Committee.

5. Election of Officers to Board of Directors for 2010-2011

Ms. Paterson made a motion to approve Philip Lodewick as President, Steve Bacon as Vice President, Steve Rogers as Secretary, and Kristin Schwab as Treasurer for the 2010-2011 fiscal year. Gregg Haddad seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

6. Appointment of Committee Chairs and Members for 2010-2011

Betsy Paterson made a motion to appoint the attached list of Mansfield Downtown Partnership Committee Chairs and members until the end of the Partnership's fiscal year on June 30, 2011, with an amendment to add Alex Roe, as President Austin's designee, to the Executive Committee. Chris Paulhus seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

7. State of Connecticut Nondiscrimination Certification Resolution

Bill Simpson made a motion to approve the following resolution: That the policies of the Mansfield Downtown Partnership comply with the nondiscrimination agreements and warranties of Connecticut General Statutes Section 4a-60 (a) (1) and Section 4a-60a (a) (1), as amended. Ms. Paterson seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. The resolution is a document needed by the State of Connecticut in order to process the University's commitment to the Partnership's operating budget.

8. Storrs Center Action Items

Mr. Lodewick said that the Storrs Center working group met last week and good progress is being made on a term sheet between master developer LeylandAlliance and an equity partner, the term sheet between the Town and Leyland, the Co-op bookstore, and land use agreements between the University and Leyland. The working group will meet again in two weeks.

9. **Four Corners Sewer and Water Study Advisory Committee**

Ms. van Zelm said bonding was approved at a Town Meeting on Monday night for initial design of the sewer and water systems at Four Corners. Mr. Callahan clarified that the design was only for the pump station for the sewer system and the funding for water was for continued study of a potential water system at Four Corners. Mr. Haddad concurred.

Ms. van Zelm said the Committee was working on Requests for Qualifications for the work.

10. **Report from Committees**

Advertising and Promotion

In Dean Woods absence, Ms. van Zelm said the Committee continued to discuss the idea of an Arts and Crafts Fair in the spring. She said that given time and staff resources, it will probably not be possible to do anything in the spring of 2011.

Business Development and Retention Committee

Mr. Rogers said he will be contacting Committee members for a meeting date.

Festival on the Green

Ms. Paterson said that work is moving ahead on the *Festival*. She asked for assistance for donations to the *Festival*. Ms. Paterson said the Celebrate Mansfield Weekend will include a wine tasting at the Alnaveigh, a hike in the newly acquired Moss Sanctuary, a picnic at E.O. Smith High School, and Know Your Towns Fair.

Ms. Paterson said in response to a letter to the editor in the Chronicle, she confirmed at the last Town Council meeting that the *Festival* is supported by sponsorships and donations and not the Partnership operating budget.

Finance and Administration

Tom Callahan said the Finance and Administration Committee has been spending each meeting receiving an update on Storrs Center from Howard Kaufman from LeylandAlliance.

Mr. Callahan said the Board had adopted a budget in the winter with the caveat that the budget would be evaluated again with respect to salary and health benefits. He noted that the anticipated expenses in legal and professional and technical did not materialize.

Mr. Callahan said the Committee was recommending that some funding be taken from fund balance to 1) provide a 2 percent salary increase to staff, 2) adjust the health insurance budget so staff and spouses are covered by health insurance, and 3) add \$20,000 for the professional services of ERA with respect to financial

analyses of Storrs Center. Ms. Paterson made such motion. Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Membership Development

Frank McNabb said the Partnership has received 340 new and renewed memberships thus far for a total of approximately \$19,460.

Mr. McNabb said he did not think the Committee would participate in Alumni Weekend again to the extent it did this year as the number of attendees was not as high as anticipated. Some Board members thought having Alumni Weekend in the summer was a major cause of lower attendance.

Planning and Design

Steve Bacon reported that the Committee met on June 15 with members of the Four Corners Sewer and Water Study Advisory Committee's design guidelines' subgroup. The group wanted to meet with the Planning and Design Committee to brainstorm ideas related to design for commercial development at Four Corners.

Some of the group's preliminary objectives are to minimize curb cuts, promote pedestrian walkways, locate parking behind buildings, bring buildings to the street, and provide more dense development.

Antoinette Webster asked if a zone change was proposed. Mr. Bacon said that he does not believe that has been discussed as of yet.

Mr. Simpson asked if the planning for what type of development needs to be done prior to sewer and water commitments. Mr. Bacon thought the work could be concurrent.

The Board continued to discuss the role of the Partnership in Four Corners. There will be an on-going discussion on this issue.

In August, the Committee will host the Mansfield Advocates for Children to continue to discuss design and programming at Storrs Center for families.

11. Other

Mr. Callahan advised the Board that the World Youth Peace Summit will be coming to the University in the summer of 2011. He said it is important for the University and the Partnership to be cognizant of the many visitors that may be here during University and Storrs Center construction.

Ms. van Zelm said that she has been working with the Windham and Tolland chambers of commerce to set up a meeting with the organizers of the World Youth Peace Summit to prepare businesses for the visitors. Ms. Webster said as chair of the Mansfield Business and Professional Association, she was also working to establish a meeting.

Ms. van Zelm said she had also made Mansfield Director of Public Works Lon Hultgren aware of the event and it had been discussed at a University facilities meeting.

12. Adjourn

Mr. Bacon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Paulhus seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 5:10 pm.

Minutes taken by Cynthia van Zelm.

**MANSFIELD DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Tuesday, August 5, 2010**

**Mansfield Downtown Partnership, Inc.
1244 Storrs Road**

4:00 PM

Minutes

Present: Steve Bacon, Harry Birkenruth, Tom Callahan, Matthew Hart, Dennis Heffley, David Lindsay, Frank McNabb, Betsy Paterson, Alexandria Roe, Steve Rogers, Bill Simpson, and David Woods

Staff: Cynthia van Zelm

1. Call to Order

Steve Bacon called the meeting to order at 4:10 pm in Board President Philip Lodewick's absence.

2. Opportunity for Public to Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of Minutes

Betsy Paterson made a motion to approve the July 1, 2010 Board minutes. Dennis Heffley seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. Director's Report

Ms. van Zelm noted that the August Open House is at 6 pm tonight. Mr. Bacon said he has referred people to the open houses to hear more about the status of Storrs Center and encouraged other Board members to do the same.

Ms. van Zelm requested assistance with volunteers for the Celebrate Mansfield Weekend events and passed out a sign-up sheet.

5. Storrs Center Action Items

Ms. van Zelm said a Town of Mansfield, University of Connecticut, Windham Region Transit District and Partnership staff team has completed their review of responses to requests for qualifications for design of the parking garage and the intermodal center. Seven firms have been chosen to receive requests for proposals for the garage. The recent grant of \$4.9 million for the Village Street and additional work

on the intermodal center may be incorporated into the \$490,000 intermodal center design.

With respect to Storrs Road, comments by the CT Department of Transportation (CDOT) are being received by Town staff and engineer BL Companies on Storrs Road design. A meeting with CDOT is scheduled for August 27.

The Board received updates and continued to discuss the status of a term sheet between master developer LeylandAlliance and an equity partner, the term sheet between the Town and Leyland, and land use agreements between the University and Leyland.

6. Four Corners Sewer and Water Study Advisory Committee

Ms. van Zelm said the requests for qualifications for the design of the sewer pump station, and water source study, permitting and design has been released by the Town of Mansfield.

7. Report from Committees

Advertising and Promotion

Dean Woods said the Committee met last week and decided to table the proposed arts and crafts fair for next year. Instead the Committee and staff will work on publishing an arts events brochure for April highlighting all the arts events for the spring of 2011.

Dean Woods said the fall newsletter will be published on August 31.

Business Development and Retention

Steve Rogers said he is polling Committee members for a date to meet in September.

Festival on the Green

Ms. Paterson announced that an exciting new piece of the *Festival* will be the puppet making workshop on Sept. 4 and 5. This is a collaborative effort with the Ballard Institute and Museum of Puppetry and the Partnership, with assistance from the Mansfield Historical Society. The workshop will be held at the Community Center and puppets that are made will appear in the Celebrate Mansfield Parade at the *Festival*. Ms. Paterson commended the School of Fine Arts for its great support of the *Festival*.

Ms. Paterson also noted that the Celebrate Mansfield Parade will feature a parade announcer and bleachers this year.

Ms. Paterson also referenced the Moss Sanctuary Walk and Picnicpalooza featuring the band Flamingo, to be held on Saturday, September 11.

Membership Development

Frank McNabb said the Committee's next meeting is August 16.

Planning and Design

Steve Bacon said the Committee's next meeting is August 17 and will feature a presentation by the Mansfield Advocates for Children.

8. Adjourn

Ms. Paterson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dean Woods seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 5:20 pm.

Minutes taken by Cynthia van Zelm.

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
Sustainability Committee
Minutes of the Meeting
June 23, 2010

Present: Duffy (chair), Stoddard, Stafford, Walton (staff), Hultgren (staff)

The meeting was called to order at 7:12 p.m.

The May 26, 2010 minutes were reviewed and accepted.

Walton distributed information on a Training for Transition course that will be offered in Hartford on July 10 – 11, 2010.

Walton reported that student intern, Michael Burke, is almost finished with the input of the 2008/2009 municipal energy data for the small town carbon calculator. Hultgren suggested that once the calculator data is complete, the committee should begin prioritizing its goals.

The committee reviewed a matrix for selecting sustainable sites. Stoddard offered to work on a point system matrix for the selection of sustainable sites that can be applied to the Mansfield schools. A public hearing for the school buildings project is scheduled for June 28, 2010. Duffy stated that she will attend and offer the sustainability committee's help in site selection. Committee members were asked to look for school siting success stories and send them to Stoddard.

At the next meeting Matthews will present a draft outline of the sustainability committee's efforts for the past year that can be fashioned into an annual report for the Town Council. The committee will prepare for a September presentation before the Town Council.

Walton stated that applications are being accepted again for the Climate Showcase Communities grant. Last year Mansfield's grant application included an electric car-sharing program and charging stations powered by a solar carport on the Storrs downtown intermodal center. The committee recommended reapplying with a focus on a joint car-sharing venture with UConn. Staff will also explore the viability of biodiesel car-sharing as a way to complement Richard Parnas' UConn biodiesel production. The grant deadline is July 26, 2010. Letters of support will be sought from the DEP and Storrs Automotive.

Walton reported that the Department of Energy awarded full funding to the Neighbor to Neighbor Energy Challenge grant. Fourteen Connecticut towns, including Mansfield, will be participating through their clean energy task forces. Each town's goal will be to work with 10% of their households and businesses to reduce their energy use by at least 20% and boost the use of clean, renewable energy. Walton anticipates that the grant will begin in the fall.

Duffy stated that resident Sally Milius is interested in participating in the sustainability committee. All are welcome to attend and contribute to the meetings.

Stafford reported that she is working with a start-up company out of Mystic, CT that is making small turbines that only need horizontal water flow to generate energy. It was suggested that a future meeting include a presentation on hydro-power featuring this new type of technology as well as Sam Shifrin's hydro ventures at the Kirby Mill. Other future agenda items include prioritizing the committee's projects

and refining the school buildings site matrix.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 28, 2010.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia Walton
Recycling/Refuse Coordinator

Cc: Members, file, Town Manager, Town Clerk

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
Sustainability Committee
Minutes of the Meeting
August 25, 2010

Present: Stoddard, Lennon, Matthews, Stafford, Hultgren (staff), Walton (staff), Ed Wazer (visitor), Coleen Spurlock (visitor)

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by acting chair, Lynn Stoddard.

The July 28, 2010 minutes were reviewed and accepted.

Walton reported that the Mansfield Energy Challenge has concluded with awards to three households. The household with the largest average drop in electrical usage from 2009 to 2010 was 170 kilowatt hours and will receive \$500 in an energy efficiency prizes. Two household tied for the largest percentage drop of 33%. These households will each be awarded \$250 in energy efficiency prizes. Walton stated that the Energy Education Team is interested in creating a sustainable Mansfield interactive map. Stoddard suggested using greenmaps.org which is a global map. On Thursday, August 26, the introductory meeting of the Neighbor to Neighbor Challenge Grant will be held at the Mansfield Library Buchanan Auditorium at 7 pm.

Walton distributed the finalized 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 Mansfield municipal energy carbon calculator. It was noted since fuel oil data is based on oil purchases, there are some wide differences between the two years where buildings have large fuel tanks. Subsequent years of data will help even out some of these fluctuations. Ed Wazer suggested including vehicles miles per gallon in the reports. The student intern is currently working on the 2009-2010 carbon calculation.

The committee reviewed the finalized "Sustainability Considerations for School Siting" memo. Staff will ask the Town Manager how this should be presented to Town Council. Stoddard and Matthews offered to introduce the ideas at a council meeting. Hultgren suggested that this information should be published and submitted to a State Department of Education. Matthews will get a State Department of Education contact for Stoddard.

The committee edited a drafted first year Sustainability Committee progress report memo for Town Council. Staff will add a closing statement and edit "Looking Forward" before circulating it to the committee for a final review. The committee hopes to present this to Town Council at their September 27, 2010 meeting. Duffy will be asked if she can help present the committee's progress to the Council.

Applying for the Community Catalyst Fund will be put on hold until after the committee's priorities are further defined.

After revisiting the November 2009 draft short and long term goals, the committee decided that its most important role is to promote, educate and market Mansfield's sustainable activities. Being responsive to opportunities as they arise, being a demonstration site for new technology and accomplishing one short-term goal that produces an immediate finished product were also important to members. Ed Wazer suggested that as the committee uses Life Cycle Analyses to evaluate new technologies. Hultgren stated that if the Town wishes to be a leading sustainable community, then it will need to hire professional assistance – either a sustainability consultant or professional staff.

Walton stated that the Energy Education Team is interested in making the Global Work Party 10/10/10 a

day of rest for clothes dryers. Matthews offered to promote this through the schools. To make "hanging out to dry" visible, a wash line could be strung at the Town Hall where residents can hang up a wet piece of clothing. An identifying tag could name the participating household. The clothing could then be donated to WAIM. This token gesture could be done at the Mansfield Farmer's Market. Stoddard will register the event. Matthews will outline the idea for further development.

Walton reported that the biodiesel company, Hale Hill Farm, is now selling biodiesel produced exclusively from waste restaurant oil supplied by two new Connecticut facilities. The committee endorsed the idea of the Town purchasing a portion of heating fuel from Hale Hill Farm. Staff will discuss with the Director of Finance.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 22, 2010, beginning at *6:30 pm*.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia Walton
Recycling/Refuse Coordinator

Cc: Members, file, Town Manager, Town Clerk



CEMETERY COMMITTEE MINUTES

June 23, 2010

3:30 pm

ROOM B

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING

Present: Isabelle Atwood (Chair), Rudy Favretti, Mary Landeck, Jane Reinhardt, Barry Burnham, Winston Hawkins

Staff present: Lon Hultgren, Mary Stanton

- Mr. Favretti moved and Ms. Reinhardt seconded to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2010 meeting as presented. The motion to approve passed unanimously.
- Restoration Work
Ms. Reinhardt moved and Mr. Burnham seconded to accept the bid submitted by Quintana's Memorials for restoration work in the Mansfield Center Cemetery. The motion was amended to include restoration of the Benjamin stone and the Simon Stearns stone in the New Mansfield Cemetery and a number of stones in the Riverside Burying Grounds as staked by Mr. Favretti. The motion passed unanimously.
Ms. Atwood will contact Quintana's to discuss the quote and an ongoing working relationship with the Committee. Ms. Landeck, Mr. Burnham and Ms. Atwood will work with Quintana's to identify additional restoration work.
Ms. Landeck has had several conversations with Jonathan Appell regarding restoration of the brown monolith in the Mansfield Center Cemetery and will once again call him to see if he is available to restore the monument.
- Maintenance
Mr. Hultgren will ask John Clark to address the ruts and settled graves in the cemeteries. The Town has delivered the required dirt to the sites.
The Committee agreed that Mr. Landeck should cut the brush and get rid of the poison ivy in the corner of the Mansfield Center Cemetery.
Mr. Hultgren will take care of the weeds in the new cremation cemetery. Ms. Atwood will then contact someone to re-mulch the area.
The Town crew will fix the southwest corner of the wall at the Mansfield Center Cemetery and the new patch that needs mending in the wall at the Pink Cemetery.
- Sexton Report
Mr. Hultgren and Ms. Atwood will send a letter to the sexton identifying expectations and a list of items needing attention.
- The next meeting will be held on September 22, 2010.
The meeting adjourned at 4:35 P M

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF MANSFIELD
TOWN COUNCIL
Ad hoc Committee on Ordinance Development and Review
Thursday, September 2, 2010
Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
Conference Room B
7:30 am**

MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Ms. Keane called the meeting to order at 7:35 AM

Members present: D. Keane, M. Lindsey, P. Kochenburger

Guest(s): J. Jackman, C. Trahan

2. Minutes:

M: Lindsey moved and D. Keane seconded that the minutes of July 29th be approved as drafted. The motion carried unanimously

3. Draft Ordinance: Proposed Amendments to the Fee Schedule for Fire Prevention Services

Committee members and staff reviewed proposed revisions to the previously distributed draft ordinance. Particular attention was given to: fees as they would impact small businesses and not for profit organizations. In addition, the impact of fees charged by other departments as well as the proposed fees for Fire Prevention Services was discussed.

Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal Jackman was asked to prepare a chart summarizing fees by Use Group and to provide summary information on fees charged by Housing and Health Departments.

Committee members discussed possible means to define small business and or small not for profits.

Director of Finance Cherie Trahan was asked to review the workload of billing for Fire Prevention fees.

After discussing potential next steps, Committee members agreed that they needed an additional meeting to discuss the potential impact of the ordinance.

4. Future Meetings

Committee members would schedule the next meeting of the Ad hoc Committee on Ordinance Development and Review for September 16, 2010.

5. Adjournment

The members adjourned the meeting at 8:36 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

John Jackman
Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal

Town of Mansfield
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Meeting of 18 August 2010
Conference B, Audrey P. Beck Building
MINUTES

Members present: Robert Dahn, Peter Drzewiecki (from 8:00p), Neil Facchinetti (Alt.), Scott Lehmann. *Members absent:* Joan Buck (Alt.), Quentin Kessel, John Silander, Joan Stevenson, Frank Trainor. *Others present:* Grant Meitzler (Wetlands Agent).

1. The meeting was **called to order** at 7:32p by Acting Chair Robert Dahn.
2. The 16 August version of the draft **minutes of the 21 July meeting** was approved as written.
3. **Agronomy farm.** Gregory Wiedemann, Dean of UConn's CANR, has responded to questions from the Storrs Heights Neighborhood Association regarding the impact of Agronomy Farm turf research on groundwater. The Neighborhood Association will attempt to resolve any remaining questions with the Dean in advance of the 14 September Town-Gown Committee meeting.
4. **Ponde Place saga.** According to Meitzler, test wells have yielded only about 1/3 of the water the would-be developers of Ponde Place hoped for, enough to supply about 280 units. However, DPH regulations would allow no more than about 170 units -- the number that could be supplied, were the best well to be taken off-line for repair. Accordingly, the developers are attempting to get UConn to agree to provide water in such an emergency. Stay tuned.
5. **IWA referral W1461 (Elshakhs, Bundy La.)** An above-ground pool is proposed within 150 ft of wetlands (Roberts Brook and land between it and the pool that is low and wet, according to Meitzler). It appears that moving the pool about 30 ft toward Bundy Lane would involve less grading and reduce potential impact on wetlands during and after installation. The Commission unanimously agreed (motion: Dahn, Lehmann) to suggest this.
6. **UConn reclaimed water facility.** The University proposes to upgrade treatment at its Water Pollution Control Facility so that wastewater can be substituted for potable water in the Central Utility Plant and for irrigation. While wastewater probably cannot completely replace potable water in these uses, this project should reduce demand for water from the Willimantic and Fenton River well-fields. The Commission commends the University for this initiative to increase the efficiency of its use of water.
7. **Storrs Rd. Mobil station.** DEP has authorized an experimental attempt to clean up pollution at the old Mobil station on Rte. 195 near Willimantic by injecting neutralizing chemicals into the groundwater. If this *in situ* approach doesn't work, Exxon will have to put in a filtration system similar to the one now in operation at the 4-Corners CVS.
8. **Adjourned** at 8:24p. Next meeting: 7:30p, Wednesday, 15 September 2010

Scott Lehmann, Secretary, 19 August 2010; approved 15 September 2010.

Animal Control Activity Report

REPORT PERIOD 2010/ 2011

PERFORMANCE DATA	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	This FY to date	Last FY to date
Complaints investigated:														
phone calls	150	168	160										478	592
road calls	17	14	9										40	79
dog calls	57	70	62										189	271
cat calls	56	70	78										204	206
wildlife calls	8	2	2										12	40
Notices to license issued	4	2	17										23	27
Warnings to license issued	0	0	59										59	201
General warnings issued	3	2	6										11	22
Infractions issued	0	1	0										1	4
Notices to neuter issued	0	1	0										1	0
Dog bite quarantines	1	0	1										2	3
Dog strict confinement	0	0	0										0	0
Cat bite quarantines	0	2	0										2	0
Cat strict confinement	0	0	0										0	0
Dogs on hand at start of month	4	1	2										7	16
Cats on hand at start of month	16	23	27										66	44
Impoundments	27	35	15										77	73
Dispositions:														
Owner redeemed	6	6	7										19	20
Sold as pets-dogs	5	4	0										9	12
Sold as pets-cats	11	17	21										49	31
Sold as pets-other	0	1	0										1	2
Total destroyed	1	2	2										5	10
Road kills taken for incineration	1	1	0										2	1
Euthanized as sick/unplaceable	0	1	2										3	9
Total dispositions	23	30	30										83	75
Dogs on hand at end of month	1	2	1										4	15
Cats on hand at end of month	23	27	13										63	43
Total fees collected	\$852	\$ 674	\$ 1,011										\$2,537	\$ 2,324

PAGE
BREAK

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER



Matthew W. Hart, Town Manager

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING
FOUR SOUTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD
MANSFIELD, CT 06268-2599
(860) 429-3336
Fax: (860) 429-6863

September 30, 2010

Item #6

Ms. Jane Griffin
52A Eastbrook Heights Road
Mansfield Center, CT 06250

Re: Appointment to Mansfield Youth Counsel Advisory Committee

Dear Ms. Griffin:

This letter is to confirm your appointment to the Mansfield Youth Counsel Advisory Committee for a term to expire on September 30, 2011.

I trust that you will find the work of the Committee to be rewarding, and I greatly appreciate your willingness to serve our community.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions regarding your appointment.

Sincerely,

Matthew W. Hart
Town Manager

Cc: Town Council
Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER



Matthew W. Hart, Town Manager

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING
FOUR SOUTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD
MANSFIELD, CT 06268-2599
(860) 429-3336
Fax: (860) 429-6863

September 30, 2010

Mr. Matt Lawrence
372 Main Street
Manchester, CT 06040

Re: Appointment to Mansfield Youth Counsel Advisory Committee

Dear Mr. Lawrence:

This letter is to confirm your appointment to the Mansfield Youth Counsel Advisory Committee for a term to expire on September 30, 2012.

I trust that you will find the work of the Committee to be rewarding, and I greatly appreciate your willingness to serve our community.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions regarding your appointment.

Sincerely,

Matthew W. Hart
Town Manager

Cc: Town Council
Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER



Matthew W. Hart, Town Manager

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING
FOUR SOUTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD
MANSFIELD, CT 06268-2599
(860) 429-3336
Fax: (860) 429-6863

September 30, 2010

Ms. Sevan Angacian
86 Buff Cap Road, Unit F2
Tolland, CT 06084

Re: Appointment to Mansfield Youth Counsel Advisory Committee

Dear Ms. Angacian:

This letter is to confirm your appointment to the Mansfield Youth Counsel Advisory Committee for a term to expire on September 30, 2013.

I trust that you will find the work of the Committee to be rewarding, and I greatly appreciate your willingness to serve our community.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions regarding your appointment.

Sincerely,

Matthew W. Hart
Town Manager

Cc: Town Council
Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER



Matthew W. Hart, Town Manager

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MANSFIELD, CT 06268-2599
(860) 429-3336
Fax: (860) 429-6863

September 30, 2010

Mr. Jay O'Keefe
10 South Eagleville Road
Mansfield, CT 06268

Re: Reappointment to Mansfield Youth Counsel Advisory Committee

Dear Mr. O'Keefe:

This letter is to confirm your reappointment to the Mansfield Youth Counsel Advisory Committee through September 30, 2013.

I trust that you find the work of the Committee to be rewarding, and I greatly appreciate your willingness to serve our community.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions regarding your appointment.

Sincerely,

Matthew W. Hart
Town Manager

Cc: Town Council
Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER



Matthew W. Hart, Town Manager

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING
FOUR SOUTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD
MANSFIELD, CT 06268-2599
(860) 429-3336
Fax: (860) 429-6863

September 30, 2010

Mr. Robert Dahn
199 Mulberry Road
Mansfield Center, CT 06250

Re: Reappointment to Conservation Commission

Dear Mr. Dahn:

I am pleased to reappoint you to the Conservation Commission, for a new term to expire on August 31, 2013.

I trust that you find the work of the Commission to be rewarding and I greatly appreciate your willingness to serve our community.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions regarding your reappointment.

Sincerely,

Matthew W. Hart
Town Manager

Cc: Town Council
Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER



Matthew W. Hart, Town Manager

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING
FOUR SOUTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD
MANSFIELD, CT 06268-2599
(860) 429-3336
Fax: (860) 429-6863

September 30, 2010

Ms. Eileen Griffin
27 Red Oak Hill Road
Willington, CT 06279

Re: Reappointment to Mansfield Youth Counsel Advisory Committee

Dear Ms. Griffin:

This letter is to confirm your reappointment to the Mansfield Youth Counsel Advisory Committee through September 30, 2013.

I trust that you find the work of the Committee to be rewarding, and I greatly appreciate your willingness to serve our community.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions regarding your appointment.

Sincerely,

Matthew W. Hart
Town Manager

Cc: Town Council
Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER



Matthew W. Hart, Town Manager

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING
FOUR SOUTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD
MANSFIELD, CT 06268-2599
(860) 429-3336
Fax: (860) 429-6863

September 30, 2010

Mr. Charles Leavens
E. O. Smith High School
--Interoffice Mail--

Re: Appointment to Mansfield Youth Counsel Advisory Committee

Dear Mr. ~~Leavens~~: *Chuck*

This letter is to confirm your appointment to the Mansfield Youth Counsel Advisory Committee for a term to expire on September 30, 2013.

I trust that you will find the work of the Committee to be rewarding, and I greatly appreciate your willingness to serve our community.

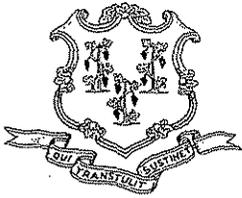
Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions regarding your appointment.

Sincerely,

Matthew W. Hart
Town Manager

Cc: Town Council
Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

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STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

Item #7

September 29, 2010

The Honorable Elizabeth C. Paterson
Mayor
Town of Mansfield
4 South Eagleville Road
Mansfield, CT 06268

Dear Mayor Paterson:

I am writing to inform you that the Town of Mansfield's application for development of the first phase of Storrs Center, has not been selected for grant funding through the Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) for fiscal year 2010-11.

This highly successful program is in its seventh year and, once again, the total funding requested in eligible applications well exceeded the amount of funding available under the program. One hundred and seventy nine applications, totaling over \$53 million in funding requests, were received and reviewed by this office. Unfortunately, the \$20 million cap on available funding was not enough to ensure funding for every town applying. Evaluating applications and deciding which projects to fund was no easy task, but ultimately 123 projects received funding under the program this fiscal year.

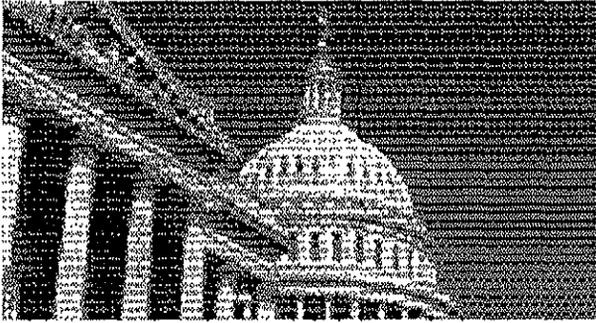
If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Barbara Rua of my staff at (860) 418-6303. Thank you for submitting an application and we look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brenda L. Sisco".

Brenda L. Sisco
Acting Secretary

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FEDERAL ISSUES BULLETIN

Item #8



CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES

900 CHAPEL STREET, 9th FLOOR, NEW HAVEN, CT 06510-2807 PHONE (203) 498-3000 • FAX (203) 562-6314

www.ccm-ct.org: Your source for local government management information on the Web

September 15, 2010, No. 10-08

FEDERAL STIMULUS FUNDING: CONNECTICUT TO RECEIVE \$93.9 MILLION FOR BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE

The U.S Department of Commerce announced that Connecticut will be receiving \$93.9 million in federal stimulus funds for the expansion of the state's broadband infrastructure.

The Connecticut Department of Information Technology (CT DOIT), in partnership with the Department of Public Safety, the Connecticut Education Network, and Connecticut Public Broadcasting, Inc. (CPBI), plans to significantly upgrade and expand Connecticut's existing broadband infrastructure in order to improve public safety and educational services across the state.

The funding is intended to support the upgrade and expansion of (1) the Connecticut Public Safety Services Data Network (CPSSDN), and, (2) the Connecticut Education Network (CEN).

Connecticut Education Network (CEN)

For Connecticut's K-12 school districts, colleges and universities, public libraries and public computing centers, this project aims to deliver 1G minimum to each connected site. The project would install the necessary hardware to support the 1G service, including three new hub routers and offer user support to all Connecticut Education Network members through the Connecticut State Department of Information.

Connecticut Public Safety Services Data Network (CPSSDN)

Connecticut's public safety system will benefit from this grant. In 2006, a study by the Connecticut Office of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications recommended the establishment of a new, integrated public safety data network. The study also found that the network infrastructure systems used by Connecticut public safety agencies barely met bandwidth requirements and are grossly inadequate for projected near- or long-term transmission needs. This grant will fund a two phase project to update the network infrastructure.

For more info on the projects and how your community may benefit please contact, Michael W Krochmalny Esq., CT DOIT, at (860) 221-5728 or by email at Michael.Krochmalny@ct.gov.

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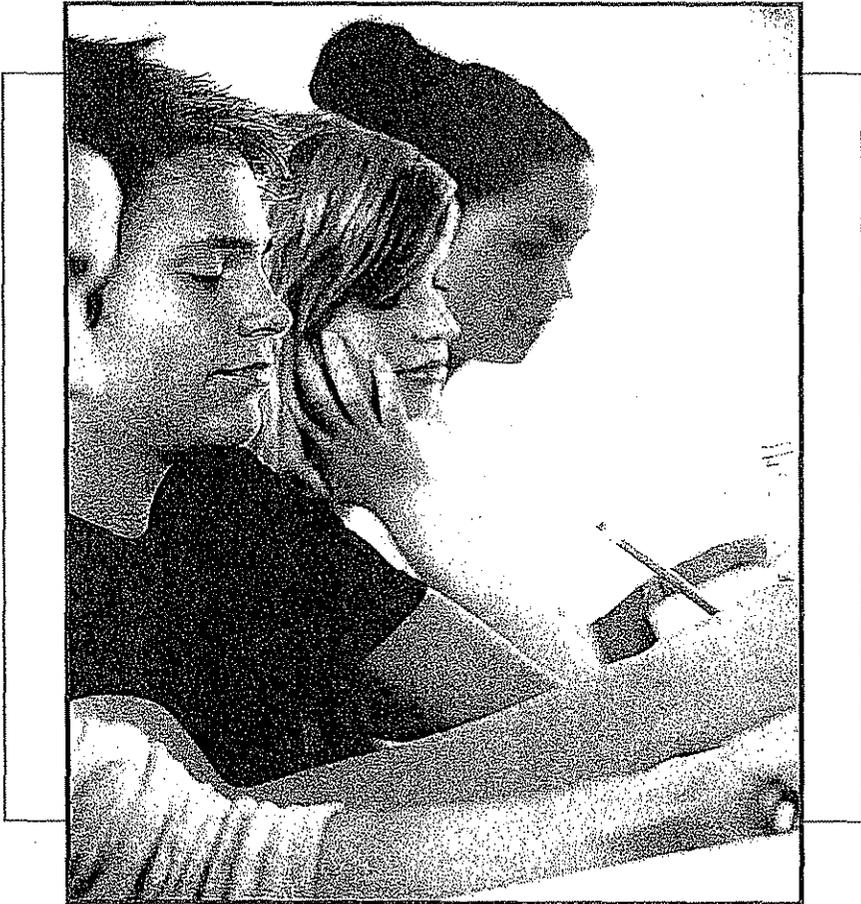
For more information regarding this bulletin please contact, Donna Hamzy, Legislative Associate, CCM, by phone at (203) 498-3000 or by email at dhamzy@ccm-ct.org.

This bulletin has been sent to all CCM-member mayors, first selectmen, town/city managers and IT Managers.

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Item #9

THE STATE-LOCAL PARTNERSHIP FOR EDUCATION: AN UNBALANCED RELATIONSHIP



September 2010

CCM Candidate Bulletin

THE STATE-LOCAL PARTNERSHIP FOR EDUCATION: AN UNBALANCED RELATIONSHIP

September 2010



©September 2010 Connecticut Conference of Municipalities
900 Chapel Street, 9th Floor, New Haven, Connecticut 06510-2807
Phone: (203) 498-3000 • Fax: (203) 562-6314
E-mail: ccm@ccm-ct.org • Web site: www.ccm-ct.org

OVERVIEW

In Connecticut, the State's share of public elementary and secondary education costs is too low. According to the U.S. Census, Connecticut's towns and cities contribute a larger portion of funds for public education than do municipalities in all but one other state – and that portion is growing.

The **cost for public education** across the state for the current school year is **\$10.4 billion**. Municipal property taxpayers will:

- Finance 54.4 percent of that amount (at least \$5.7 billion). The State contributes an estimated 37.8 percent and the federal government 7.4 percent.¹ The rest comes from private sources.
- Pay about \$0.64 of every \$1.00 raised in property taxes toward K-12 public education.
- Pay for at least 60 percent of Connecticut's over \$1.5 billion in special-education costs.
- Pick-up the bill for numerous other state-mandated education priorities that are not fully funded by the State.

Further, the State used \$543 million in one-time federal ARRA money in the current (FY 2010 – FY 2011) biennium to maintain level funding of the ECS grant. That means the new Governor and General Assembly will have to increase state funding by that much, or municipalities will lose 14 percent of their ECS revenue next year.



Loss of Federal Aid

Municipalities face the loss of 14% of ECS funding (\$271 million) next year, unless the new Governor and General Assembly make education a budget priority.

The quality of Connecticut's educated workforce is one of the key assets in attracting and retaining businesses. A first-rate education system -- and education finance system -- is vital for Connecticut's prosperity and quality of life. State law limits municipalities primarily to the property tax for revenue, and when municipalities do not receive adequate state education aid, they are forced to raise property taxes, cut other vital services, or both. **Local property taxes cannot continue to shoulder the lion's share of K-12 public-education costs.**

For over 30 years, court case after court case has ordered the State to increase funding for K-12 public education in order to meet state constitutional requirements. Right now we're treading water, at best. The loss of federal aid, coupled with the State's own looming budget deficit, means that our K-12 public education system is facing its most serious crisis. **For Connecticut to compete economically with its neighbors and the world, the State must increase its financial commitment to K-12 public education.**

¹ Federal funding is unusually higher due to one-time recovery act funding. The federal share is usually about five percent.

HISTORY

The State has the constitutional responsibility to ensure that all children, regardless of where they live, receive equal access to quality public schooling.

Meeting Connecticut's education needs is accomplished through a system under which local governments operate public schools – and local property taxpayers pay for them – with the assistance of aid from the State and federal governments. ² State aid comes through several different grants intended to address various public-policy decisions and priority needs in K-12 public education.

The local share of education expenditures is financed through local property taxes. Because property tax bases differ enormously among towns, a critical function of state aid is to “equalize” the ability of towns to pay for public schools that provide students with opportunities for educational excellence.

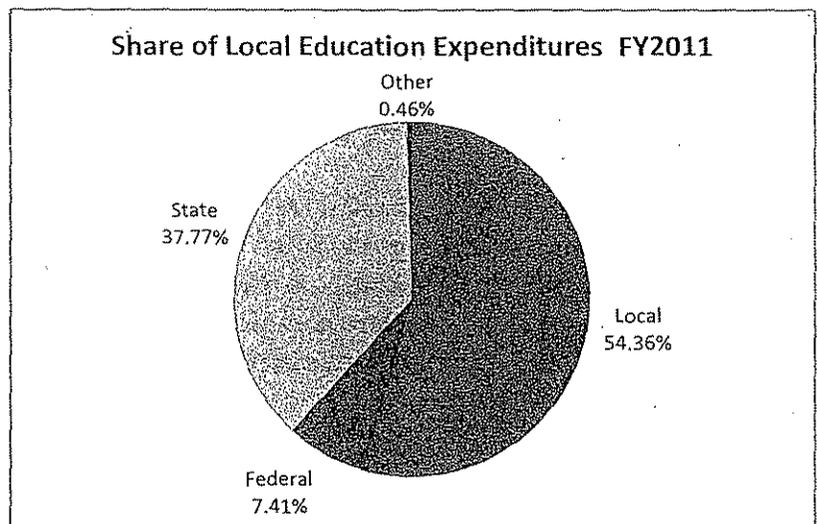
Three decades ago in *Horton v. Meskill*, the court decreed that the State must distribute education aid in a manner that would make up for disparities in local property tax bases. Those disparities are significant. The per-capita grand list of the wealthiest town (Greenwich) is almost 20 times greater than that of the poorest town (Hartford). The greater the disparity in property wealth becomes, the greater the need for additional state aid to try to balance the scales.

STATE AND LOCAL SHARES OF EDUCATION COST

STATE AND LOCAL SHARES OF EDUCATION COSTS

An equal partnership between state and local revenue sources has been a longstanding goal of the Connecticut State Board of Education. In 1989-90, the State's share of the total education costs reached 45.5%, the closest it has ever come to that goal. Since then, the State's share has fallen well below that mark.

For FY 2011, CCM estimates the State's share will be 37.8%.³ In FY 2007, the latest year for which data is available, Connecticut ranked 45th in the nation for state share of K-12 education funding.⁴ While the goal of a 50-50 partnership remains distant, any movement toward that mark is important because new state dollars reduce dependence on property taxes and lessen the inequity inherent in that dependence.



Source: State Department of Education; CCM calculations

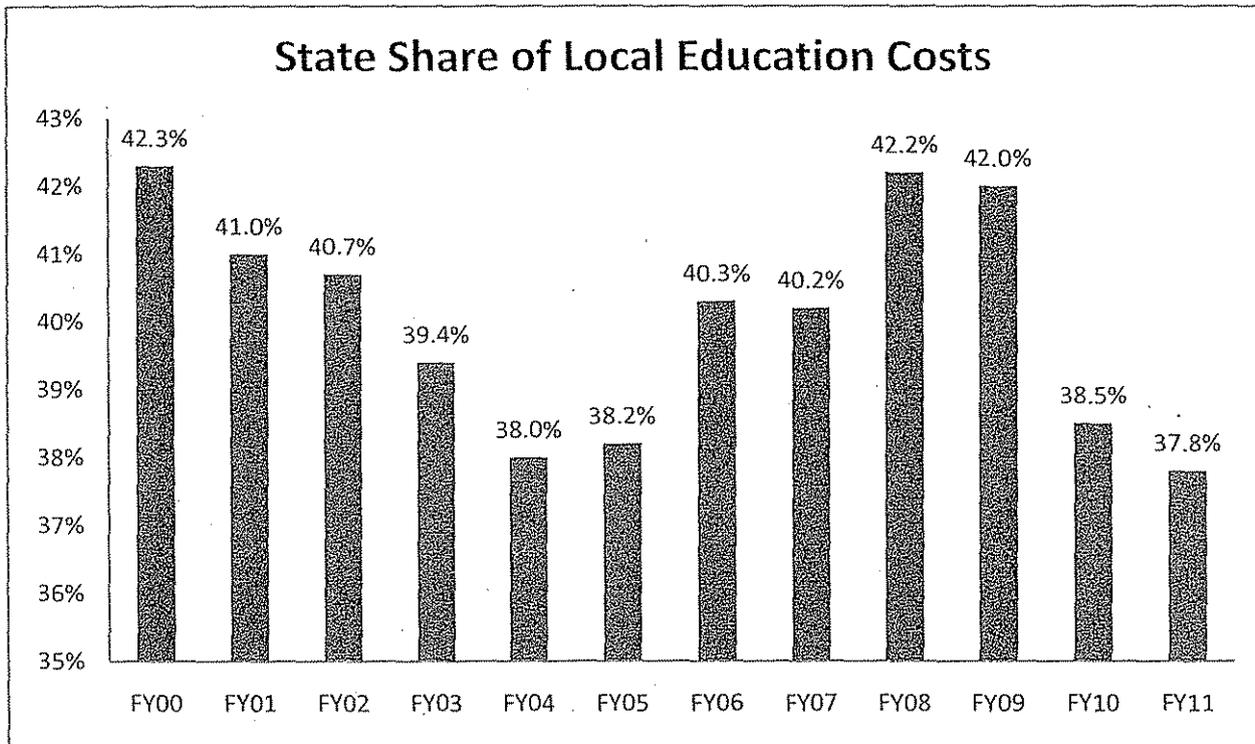
² The federal contribution is generally limited, but in the current biennium, federal ARRA (stimulus) funding played a more significant role than normal.

³ Includes all state revenues on behalf of public elementary and secondary education, including state grants, bond funds, and department expenditures - including the Connecticut Technical High School System, teacher's retirement costs, and unified school district expenditures.

⁴ US Census Bureau, Governments Division, Public Education Finances, 2007.

While the State has invested heavily in school construction over the past decades and began to fund the Education Cost Sharing (ECS) grant reform program enacted in 2007, (discussed in more detail further on in this document), these measures did not produce marked progress toward an equal state-local partnership, and the economic/budget crises of recent years are sending us spiraling in the wrong direction.

State aid for education has been essentially flat for the past three years, while local costs have gone up. Moreover, dependence on federal stimulus money to maintain level funding this biennium means **municipalities are facing huge losses in ECS and special-education funding unless the new Governor and General Assembly make protecting education aid a budget priority.**



Source: State Department of Education; CCM calculations

Municipal officials and educators are pleased that the State has attempted to maintain support for local public education in the face of the recession and calls for state budget cuts.⁵ Connecticut’s schoolchildren, however, are still waiting for the State to fulfill the promises it made in the late 1980s when the Equalized Cost Sharing (ECS) grant began and the State Board of Education set out its 50-50 goal: (To) “increase state aid for education so that the state will pay at least 50 percent of the total statewide expenditures.”

The Governor’s Task Force to Study the Education Cost Sharing Grant reiterated this goal in 1998 when it recommended, “the State should budget and appropriate funds biennially to demonstrate progress toward equal state and local spending for education.”



⁵This was done through use of federal stimulus funds, which are expected to be gone next year. See page 6 for further discussion.

EDUCATION REVENUES

While the State has many revenue sources -- personal income tax, sales tax, business taxes, fuel taxes, utility taxes, gaming revenues, and user fees -- municipalities are almost entirely limited to the property tax to raise funds to meet public service needs. Property taxes account for 68 percent of all municipal revenue.

For the last decade, municipalities have been forced to eliminate or reduce other municipal services because the rise in education costs has outpaced growth in property tax revenue. In most communities, the general-government, non-education side of municipal government has shrunk over the last decade. Towns and cities have had no choice but to cut back on other municipal services and raise property taxes to pay for rising education costs.

Major Components of State K-12 Education Funding

Because of the importance and high costs of schools, the financing of K-12 public education has long been a central topic of public debate in our state. Within this broad topic are several critical pieces of state funding each of which deserve scrutiny.

How Connecticut's state government lives up to its obligations in these critical areas will determine whether public schools have the appropriate resources to achieve the lofty goals set for them by the State Board of Education, the General Assembly and our state constitution.

Education Cost Sharing (ECS)

1

ECS represents the largest state grant to local governments. It is the principal mechanism for state funding of regular education and the base costs of special education programs in Connecticut;

+ Please see page 6 for details on this major component of K-12 education funding.

Special Education

2

This is the single largest cost accelerant of education spending in Connecticut. It is estimated that special education costs grow five to six percent per year, one to two percent faster than most other education costs. Special education costs more than \$1.5 billion a year in Connecticut. How, and at what level, the State reimburses municipalities for these mandated costs is one of the hottest state-local issues.

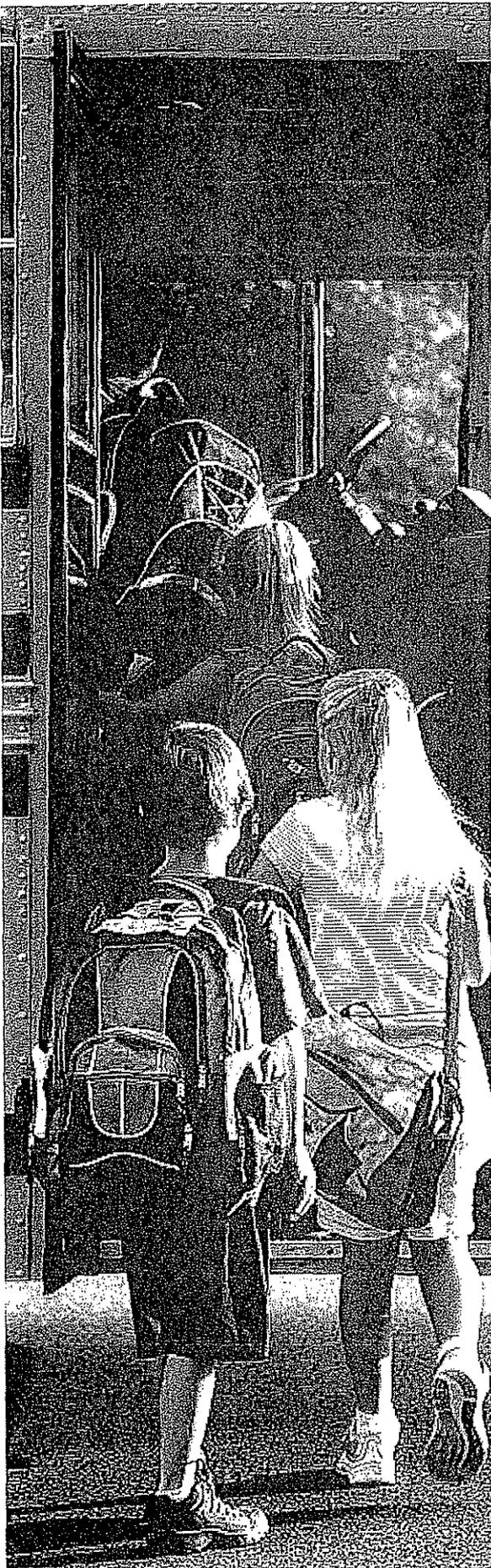
Often overlooked in this debate is that special education is a federal mandate that originally came with a promise of substantial federal funding -- promises that have fallen woefully short of expectations despite some efforts in recent years. While the skyrocketing costs of special education should not be falling upon local shoulders, any effort to address this problem should not look solely to the State Capitol, but must also look to Congress.

+ Please see page 10 for details on this major component of K-12 education funding.

Targeted Assistance

3

This and other categorical aid programs account for over \$400 million (about 15 percent) of the State Department of Education budget. These include such programs as school transportation, priority school (neediest) districts, adult education, school readiness, child nutrition/meals, youth services bureaus, vocational agriculture, magnet schools, charter schools, and many others. State funding for some of these



programs -- magnet and charter schools in particular, has grown substantially over the past decade. Some grants, like those for transportation, are available to most school districts, while others, like school readiness and priority grants, are targeted for the state's needier districts.

Funding for magnet schools now exceeds \$170 million and continues to grow. These schools, largely a product of relatively recent state efforts at desegregation, rely extensively on state support, supplemented in many cases by tuition provided by sending towns. Some magnets are operated by town school districts, but many are operated by Regional Education Service Centers, which are school districts in their own right and eligible to receive operating grants directly from the State.

Charter schools are also relatively new in Connecticut. They operate independently as an alternative to public schools with their own boards, and receive most of their funding from the state charter school grant, now totaling over \$40 million. Charter schools also receive proportional amounts of other targeted state and federal grants since their students would otherwise be entitled to benefit from those programs had they remained in their local school districts. The urban school districts within which the charters operate are also responsible for providing pupil transportation, special education services, and certain other costs.

† Please see page 12 for details on this major component of K-12 education funding.

School Construction

4

This funding has been especially important to enable Connecticut to rebuild its educational infrastructure, given the growing importance of technology and the refurbishment of aging buildings.

The state commitment to school construction has been in the billions of dollars over the past decade. Equalized so that property -- and income -- poor towns receive higher percentages of state support than other towns, this program currently costs the state more than \$600 million annually.

The State also funds up to 95 percent of interdistrict magnet costs and makes available construction funding for charter schools. Municipalities, however, must be able to find suitable land for new buildings, manage the complexities of design and construction processes, and bond their share of costs, all of which have proven to be challenging in many communities.

† Please see page 12 for details on this major component of K-12 education funding.

6

Other Major Programs

There are other programs that carry considerable costs, but do not involve direct payments to municipalities. These include the Connecticut Technical

High School (CTHS) system and Teachers' Retirement Fund. Over \$130 million in the SDE goes for CTHS operations, but the total annual cost with fringe benefits (paid by the State Comptroller) and facility construction is in excess of \$200 million.

The State also funds the annual contribution to the Teachers' Retirement Fund, an expense that would otherwise fall to towns. In FY 2010, that contribution was well over \$500 million.

The costs of these two programs are counted toward the State's share of K-12 public education costs in CCM's calculations, as discussed in Appendix A.

If considering only operating expenses, the State percentage of K-12 public education funding is about 21 percent.

THE EDUCATION COST SHARING (ECS) GRANT

The Education Cost Sharing (ECS) grant is the State's largest general education assistance grant. If fully funded in FY 2011, ECS grants would be \$2.6 billion.⁶ The actual phased-in ECS grant for FY 2011 is just under \$1.9 billion, about 34% of the \$5.6 billion "foundation" level spending statewide. This means that 66% of the foundation spending level statewide still must come from mostly local revenue sources.

ECS was originally intended to fund about half of total education costs. In FY 2010, ECS aid accounted for less than 20 percent of such expenditures, given actual local spending was estimated to be over \$10 billion. After accounting for inflation, today, one in four municipalities still receives less per pupil in ECS aid than under the \$250 per-pupil, flat-grant funding system that was determined to be unconstitutional in 1977.

To distribute ECS funds to municipalities, the State uses a complex formula, which includes the following components:

- 1 Number of students in each town, weighted for poverty and other factors that tend to increase education costs;
- 2 The property wealth and income in each town; and
- 3 The "foundation," which represents the cost of educating an individual student. It is the level of weighted, per-student spending that serves as a base amount for ECS grants. The amount of the foundation, \$9,687, is the same for all districts.

Initially developed in 1988, ECS has since been modified many times by the General Assembly in ways that have significantly limited its effectiveness and the cost to the State, but increased costs to municipalities and property taxpayers.

The ECS funding formula has never been fully funded and implemented as designed, and as a result, has paid out billions of dollars less to towns and cities than it should have. This gap in funding over the years has shifted an unfair funding burden onto local property taxpayers.

Major ECS Issues

There are many issues with ECS, and a few will be discussed in detail.

Looming Loss of Federal Aid

In each year of the current (FY 2010, FY 2011) biennium, the State maintained level funding of the ECS grant by using \$271 million of federal stimulus funding (about 14 percent of the total ECS grant). That means that for ECS to remain level-funded – and there has been no increase in ECS since FY 2009 – the State will have to appropriate that much of its own revenue.

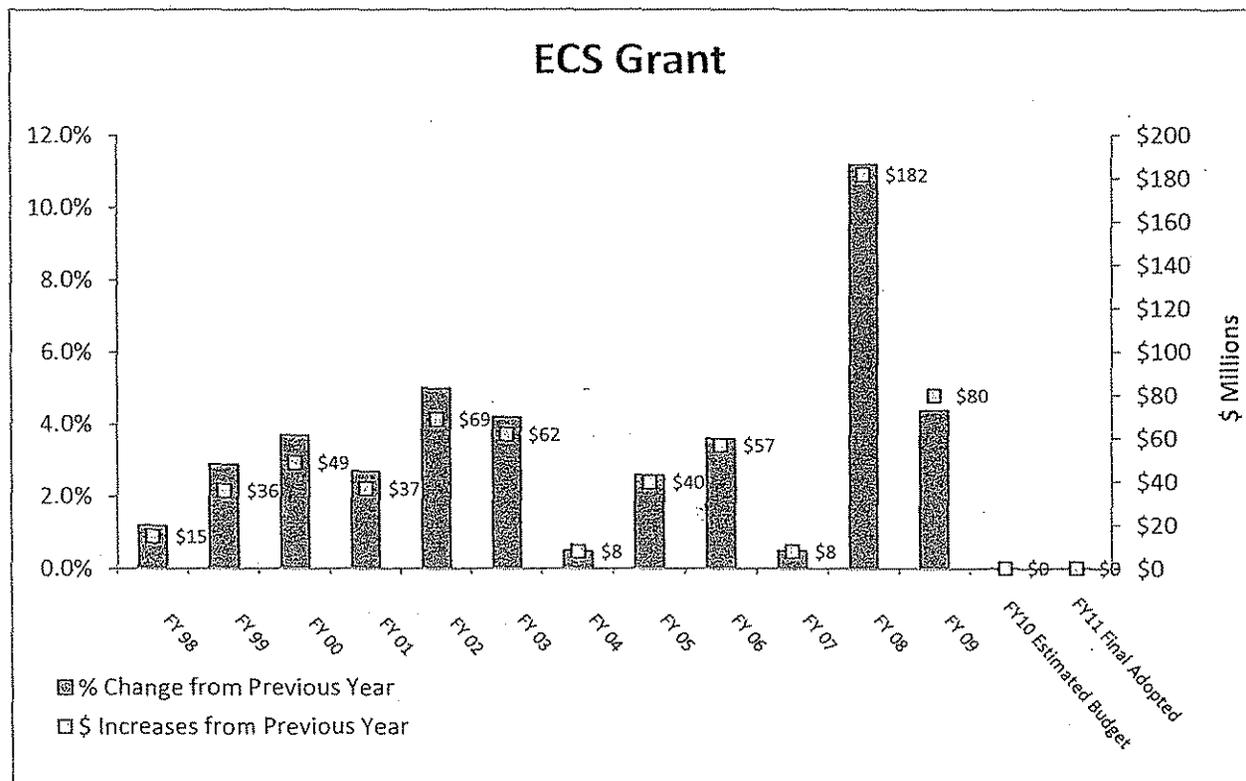
⁶ "Fully Funded" means the State would cover 50 percent of education costs.

Let's repeat that: Either the State increases its funding for ECS next year by \$271 million or every municipality will face a 14 percent cut in ECS revenue, even before other state budget cuts are considered.

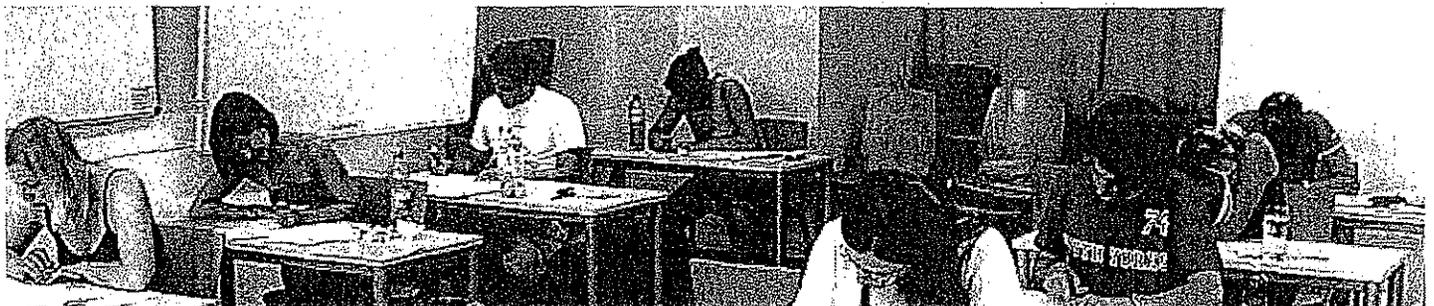
Recently, the federal government approved an additional \$10 billion nationally in emergency aid for local education. Connecticut is receiving about \$110 million of that money, which will go directly to local school districts for FY 2011, and if not used, for FY 2012. While it is a lifeline that will prevent some teacher layoffs and other cuts this year, and possibly next, it is another one-shot revenue injection that (a) if used this year, will not be available next year or (b) if used next year is still less than the 14 percent of ECS (\$271 million) municipalities are slated to lose.

Caps on ECS Grants

For many years, ECS was hampered by various legislatively-enacted capping provisions that limited a town's grant increase from year to year. Most recently, the ECS cap took the form of a sliding scale from zero to six percent that limited the neediest communities to no more than a six percent increase, but capped most towns at increase rates much lower than that. Under this type of cap not only were most towns unable to receive the aid amount calculated based on their needs, a number of towns had cap percentages so low that they would be prohibited from reaching their target aid levels indefinitely.



Source: Adopted State Budgets



This ECS cap was supposed to be eliminated in 2007. The billion-plus dollar ECS increase resulting from the revised formula was originally proposed to be phased in over five years, from 2007 through 2012, with an average annual increase of about \$200 million. So far, \$260 million (26 percent) of the \$1 billion increase is being paid to towns. This leaves about \$740 million of the target increase to be implemented in the years ahead. **Flat funding of ECS the past two years means towns and cities have received none of that \$740 million promised increase.**



While a phase-in program is a reasonable way to implement such a larger increase, if extended over too long a period of time, it can become as penalizing and disequalizing as the ECS cap had been. This is particularly true in this instance because the current ECS reform package was catching the formula up to where it should already have been in 2007. The longer the phase-in period, the further out of touch with real needs ECS becomes.

The Foundation - the per-pupil figure on which the ECS calculation is based

In the original formula, the foundation was to adjust to costs each year, starting in 1993-94. That way, as actual costs rose, the foundation – and each town's ECS grant – would rise as well.

In practice, the foundation remained significantly below actual costs. Between FY 1994 and FY 2007 the foundation went from \$4,800 to \$5,891, nearly \$4,000 behind actual education spending. Even worse, approximately \$900 of the increase occurred in FY 1996 to accommodate the merger of ECS with the previously separate special education reimbursement grant. In reality, the foundation grew by only \$180 over that 13 year span while actual education costs rose by nearly \$4,000 per pupil.

The failure of the foundation to keep pace with costs devastated the effectiveness of the ECS formula. Even though needier towns have the highest aid ratios, the foundation gap erodes the equalizing power of ECS because towns of moderate or low fiscal capacity are least able to fund the gap with local property tax revenues. Their only options are to underfund schools (or other critical local services) or overburden local property taxpayers.

ECS reform in 2007 brought the foundation up to \$9,687, but it has been stuck there ever since. Moreover, that figure was not based on any sound analysis of what it cost to provide appropriate learning opportunities consistent with the State's high standards, the performance improvements under No Child Left Behind, and all that is expected of school in adequately preparing a highly competitive future workforce. For FY 2008, the average per-pupil expenditure in the state was \$12,518, meaning the foundation covers only about 77 percent of that amount.

The foundation level is not tied to any cost index, which means that the foundation becomes less and less able to drive appropriate levels of ECS aid.

CCM has long advocated that the foundation be tied to a measurable economic indicator, such as Implicit Price Deflator, thus ensuring that gradually increasing costs - salaries, benefits, books, supplies, transportation, energy costs, facilities maintenance and construction, student enrollments, state and federal education standards, etc., are not simply added to the burden borne by local mill rates. CCM also supports the use of research-based cost estimates as the basis for setting the ECS foundation and student weights, rather than relying exclusively on past expenditures, backwards calculations driven by how much the State wishes to spend on education, political bargaining, etc.



The State Guaranteed Wealth Level (SGWL) - the mechanism that determines each town's ECS aid percentage

Although one of the more complex ECS calculations, the SGWL has a very simple purpose and is the single biggest factor that drives the ultimate state share of foundation level spending. Each town's wealth is compared to the SGWL to determine what percentage of the foundation it will receive from ECS and what will have to come from local revenue sources.

Originally, the SGWL was to be set at a level that would give the median town -- the town ranked 85th in fiscal capacity out of the state's 169 communities -- 50 percent of the foundation per student from ECS. Towns below the median would be spread over rates higher than 50 percent, and those above the median at rates below 50 percent. At this proposed SGWL rate, the average state share of K-12 public education costs would tend to be around 50 percent.

From ECS' inception, the SGWL was reduced several times to a point where the median town only qualified for a 35-percent aid percentage, thereby reducing the State's overall share of the foundation accordingly. In 2007, the SGWL was increased, but not to its original level. At the current level, the median town percentage is up to 43 percent, and the aggregate state share of foundation spending, if full phase-in is achieved, will gravitate to that number. The overall state share of the foundation cannot reach 50 percent until the SGWL is restored to its originally-intended level.

The Minimum Budget Requirement (MBR) - a statutory requirement that each town increase its education spending by a certain percentage of increased state education aid

The MBR, and its predecessor the Minimum Expenditure Requirement (MER), were originally intended to be companions to ECS that would require towns to spend at least the foundation amount for each student. However, with the foundation remaining virtually flat over the years, minimum spending evolved into a requirement for town to commit all or most new ECS aid they receive to local education budgets. Eventually any connection to per pupil spending or the foundation ceased to exist.

The MBR requires towns to expend on education a percentage of increased ECS funding determined by each town's relative current education spending, wealth, and student achievement. That percentage ranges from 15 to 65 percent. Given flat ECS funding, the 2010-11 MBR will equal the 2008-09 budgeted education appropriation less the federal ARRA stimulus portion of ECS.

The MBR does afford municipalities the opportunity to supplant local dollars with state ECS dollars, as the portion of a town's ECS increase that exceeds its MBR may be used for education or other town services, or need not be spent at all. Virtually every town's education budgets for 2010-11 have increased by more than their ECS grants.

In an era in which governments are looking for budget efficiencies, the MBR is an anachronism. Virtually every agency in state and local governments will be (or has been scrutinized) for savings. But the MBR, which requires, at best, the same expenditures for education each year, means boards of education and their budgets are protected from such examination. In an era of limits, with frozen (or reduced) aid and rising costs, this is patently unfair. It means every other local service and every other local employee must pay the price for the State's mandate that education spending cannot be reduced – for any reason.

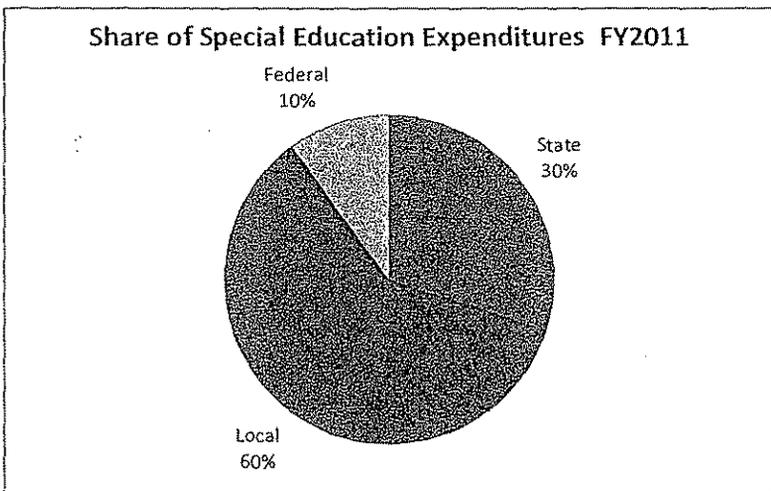
Hold-Harmless, Minimum Aid, and Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA) - safeguards in the program to prevent budget hardship for all towns

Hold-harmless and minimum aid provisions have been a part of ECS in one form or another since its inception. Changes to ECS have increased formula entitlements enough to eliminate the need for hold-harmless guarantees. Similarly, the minimum aid percentage, having been raised from six to nine percent, ensures that no town will receive less than \$871 per student (at full phase-in).

ECS does not presently include a cost-of-living adjustment. As a consequence, the foundation -- the logical ECS factor to be driven by such a provision -- will continue to lag actual education costs. Unless corrected, the lack of a COLA provision will weaken ECS as the State's major education equalization vehicle a little more each year.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

With special education expenditures surpassing the \$1.5 billion mark, the local share is almost \$1 billion. Special education spending accounts for almost 15 percent of all education spending in Connecticut and costs keep growing faster than other school spending (5-6% vs. 3-4%). Complicating matters, unforeseen demands for the most expensive special education services too often result in local mid-year budget shuffling, supplementary appropriations, and other extraordinary measures. This is particularly true in smaller towns where the arrival of a single new high-cost special education student during the school year can create a budget crisis.

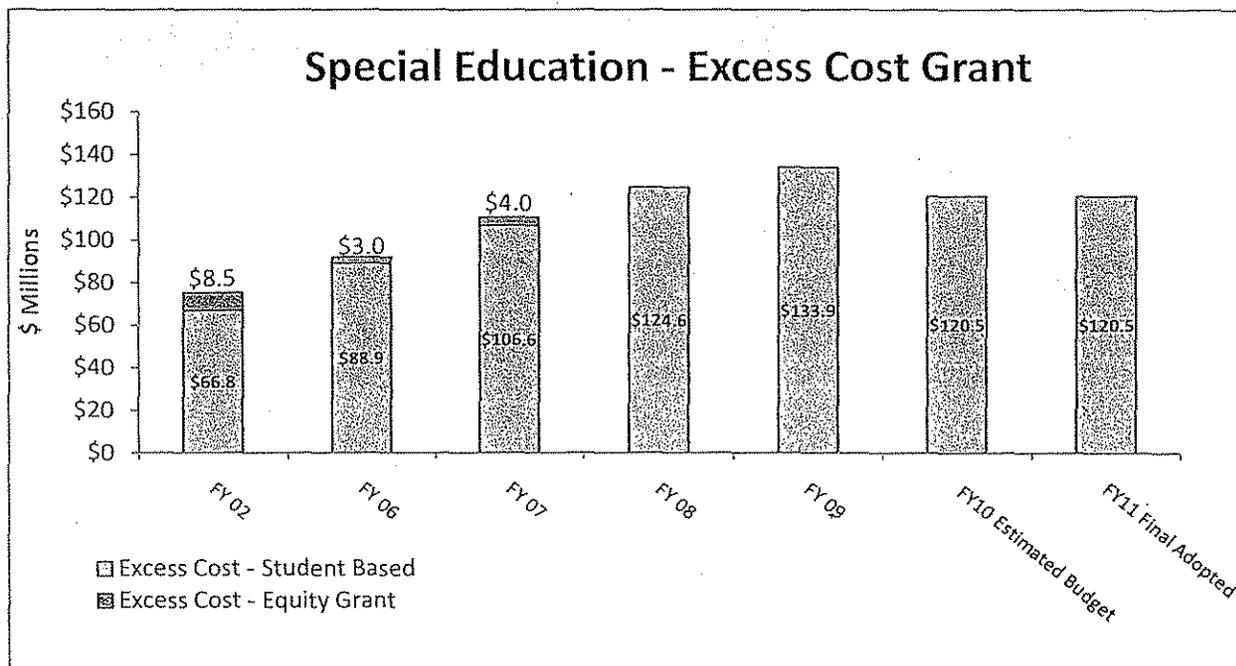


Source: State Department of Education; CCM calculations

✓ *Total cost of special education statewide for the 2009-10 school year was estimated to be over \$1.5 billion, of which at least 60% was locally funded.*

Debate still continues over the decision to fold most state special education funding into the ECS grant thirteen years ago, but that is not the major problem. There are three ways in which the local overburden for the cost of special education can be reduced.

First, the ECS grant covers the basic education costs for all students -- regular and special education alike -- up to the foundation level of \$9,687. As discussed above, funding ECS fully and providing for foundation growth over time would increase the state share of base level costs for all students including those receiving special assistance. At the time special education and ECS funding were merged, special education was about 19% of the combined grant, and that is the figure the SDE generally uses to estimate the current portion of ECS that is for special education (about \$360 million in 2009-10).

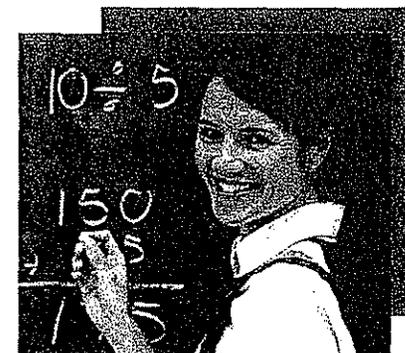
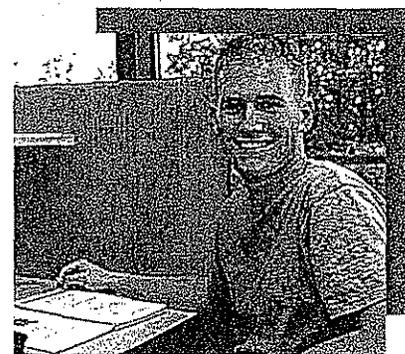


Source: Adopted State Budgets.

Second, the state Excess Cost-Student Based grant provides a circuit breaker once the expenditures for a student exceed a certain level, currently 4.5 times the per pupil spending average of the district. The state grant is supposed to pay for all costs in excess of that figure, though the grant was cut by 10 percent, or \$13.4 million, in each year of the current biennium. The threshold varies from town to town because of spending differences, and for most towns, falls somewhere between \$40,000 and \$70,000.

Proposals to reduce the threshold factor from 4.5 to a lower level would allow the state grant to pick up more of these high costs, relieving some of the local burden. Also the reliance on individual town per pupil spending to set the thresholds results in a wide disparity in the amount of out-of-pocket costs for towns. Higher spending towns end up with the highest contribution rates before state aid is triggered. A single threshold per pupil dollar amount, perhaps equivalent to the foundation level for all towns set at the low end of the range would address this and increase the state share of these costs.

There is also a strong argument that the State should reimburse every town for 100 percent of special education costs (less federal reimbursement). Under this scenario, the State would also handle identification of special-education students and related administrative costs. Such a step would (a) provide equal special education services in all municipalities, and (b) provide significant property tax relief. Such state services could be provided regionally, for more efficiency.



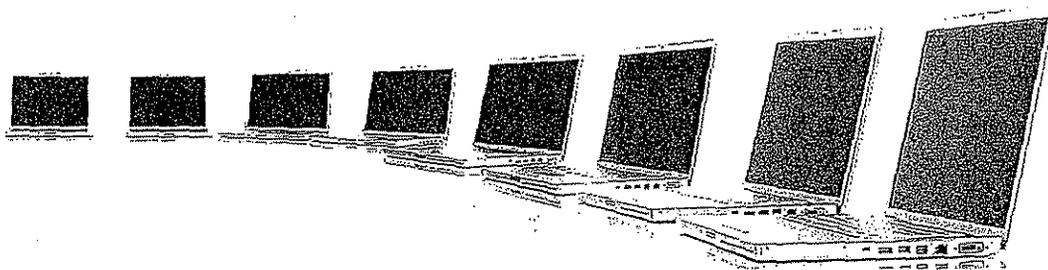
Third, and often overlooked, is the failure of the federal government to fund its fair share of special education costs. Despite some increases in federal special education funding around the beginning of the decade, and some recent stimulus funding, the federal share in Connecticut has lingered at about nine to 10 percent, compared to 30 percent state and 60 percent local. This falls far short of the commitment that came with the federal mandate to provide such services some decades ago.

TARGETED ASSISTANCE

Grant programs that address specific state initiatives or target the neediest school districts have been created and/or have grown the fastest over the past dozen years. These include major initiatives such as magnet schools, priority school districts (neediest and lowest performing), school readiness, early reading (currently unfunded), choice, charter schools, inter-district cooperative programs, and a number of smaller programs.

In total, these programs now command some 12-14 percent of the total SDE budget depending on which grants are included. The State increasingly relies on targeted assistance to address the chronic achievement and resource gaps between school districts. These categorical grants enable state leaders to be more “hands-on” in guiding educational policy, by tying the categorical funding to specific educational initiatives and outcomes

For FY 2011, funding for magnet schools was increased by \$26 million or 17.6 percent, and School Based Health Clinics received an additional \$522,302, or 5.3 percent. Several other programs were cut by 10 percent, including After School Programs (-\$500,000), Bilingual Education (-\$212,903), and Health Services for Private Schools (-\$477,500). Inter-district Cooperation grants were cut by \$3 million, or 21.2 percent.



SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION

Local governments in Connecticut have difficulty affording school building and renovation projects as a result of their forced reliance on property tax revenues and the relatively small size of school districts. In many communities, as school age enrollments fluctuate, technology needs grow, families move to previously small towns, and public expectations for quality schools increase - the need for renovated and new school infrastructure rises.

State Aid for School Construction

Aid for capital projects is a vital part of the State's education finance system. Despite aggressive building and renovation programs in many districts over the past 10-15 years, many towns have yet to upgrade facilities. **The average Connecticut school is still close to 50 years old, and the vast majority were built before 1970.** Moreover, continued growth in pre-K programs and class size reduction initiatives may necessitate more new construction in some towns, as will a

new mandate to significantly increase high school program requirements. (See page 14.) State construction aid allows Connecticut communities to rebuild and develop new educational infrastructure.

The annual state payments for school construction have been above \$600 million in bond funding for several years. Recognizing the aging stock of schools, the legislature has provided considerable assistance. Since 2001, the Governor and the General Assembly have authorized over \$4 billion in school improvement projects.

School construction grants are made for a percentage of the total eligible costs, with the poorest communities receiving a grant for up to 80 percent, and the richest receiving as low as 20 percent. Charter schools, magnet schools, and other specialty schools are reimbursed at a rate of 95 percent. Towns and cities are required to approve the local share before submitting the project to the State Department of Education and the General Assembly.

Each year, the State Department of Education accepts applications from towns planning school construction projects, checks that the projects are in compliance with state laws and regulations, and compiles a list of projects needing funding – called the School Construction Priority List – which it submits to the General Assembly for approval. The State Bond Commission, controlled by the Governor, then decides what projects actually get funded.

Municipalities appreciate their partnership with the State in school construction. The State has contributed significant amounts of money, but municipalities have, too. The winners are the students in towns and cities across Connecticut.



MANDATES

Many of the cost drivers for local school districts are a result of *unfunded and partially funded state and federal mandates*. The list of mandates is large and growing, and complying with them is a daunting task under any circumstance but even more so given the current economic and fiscal environment.

Bristol Public Schools did an analysis of the cost of mandates on the district. It estimated that complying with these mandates cost the district almost \$15 million. Information on the mandates and their associated costs can be found in Appendix C.

Public Act 10-111 imposed new graduation and other requirements on local school districts in the hope that the State would receive funds from the federal Race to the Top (RTTT) program. According to the Office of Fiscal Analysis, this new mandate will cost local school districts an estimated \$12 to \$18 million. Unfortunately, the State was not awarded the RTTT funds, and this unfunded mandate must be repealed or modified. Of course it is important for education results to improve – but a new \$12-\$18 million mandate is absurd when (a) the State is already underfunding existing education programs, and (b) ECS is facing a 14% cut because of the loss of federal funds.

A DEVELOPING CONSENSUS ON SCHOOL FINANCE

Over the last several years there has been much attention paid to the inadequate state funding of education in Connecticut. Numerous groups have been discussing the issues at hand and there appears to be a developing consensus on what needs to be done. This has been further supported by (1) the work of, and lawsuit filed in November 2005 by, the CT Coalition for Justice in Education Funding, as well as by (2) the January 2007 report to the General Assembly of the Governor's Commission on Education Finance with recommendations on how to improve Connecticut's financing system for K-12 public education and increase the State's share of funding to 50 percent.

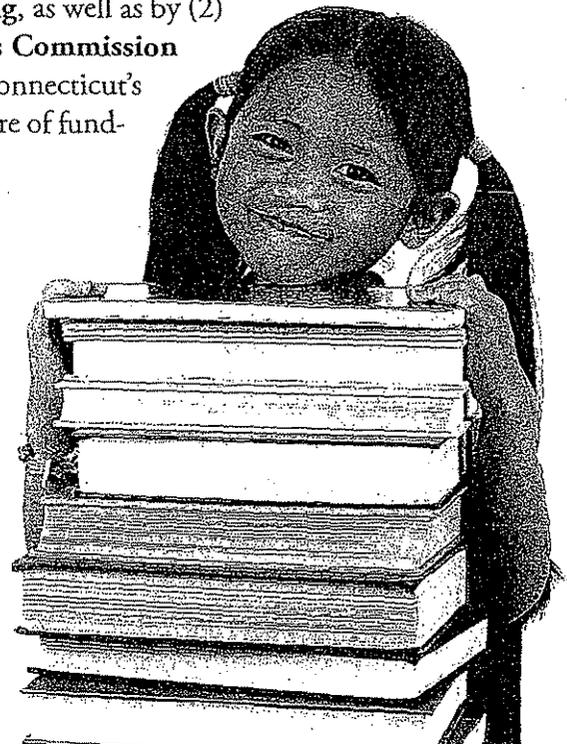
The consensus includes:

Correct state underfunding of regular education programs by:

- Increase foundation level biennially based on a statutorily identified cost index.
- Increase the State Guaranteed Wealth Level (SGWL).
- Maintain or accelerate the funding increase phase-in program.

Correct state underfunding of special education programs by:

- Decreasing the Excess Cost grant threshold over time to at least 2.5 times the district's average expenditure and eliminating the arbitrary cap on state reimbursement.





Correct state underfunding of school districts with specific student-performance challenges by:

- Increasing funding for categorical grants.
- Expanding school district and school eligibility for these programs to ensure that all performance gaps are addressed.

Meet the statewide need for school construction and renovation by:

- Maintaining the State's unparalleled funding commitment to ensure that aging schools are renovated and replaced to meet rising enrollments and higher technology and quality standards.

State underfunding of local public education over time has shifted a huge unfair tax burden onto the backs of residential and business property taxpayers.

When it comes to education, the State's motto should be "do no harm." Despite facing a budget shortfall of almost \$3.5 billion, the State must make it a priority to find the money to maintain funding. This means an additional \$271 million in state funds (due to the loss of federal dollars) next year.

The State must take primary responsibility for students with special needs. Such students are the collective responsibility of all who live and work in Connecticut -- not just their town of residence. Because the costs of special education programs are so high and growing, the State cannot expect individual communities to fund them without significant assistance. When both the state and federal governments underfund mandated programs, regular education programs, other local services and property taxpayers suffer.

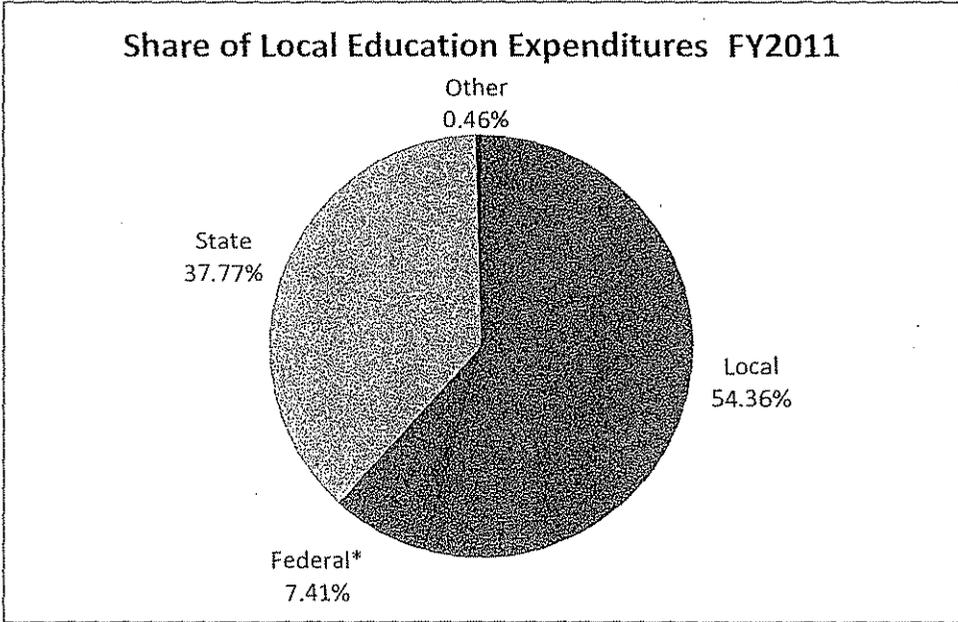
The State has a legal and moral imperative to meet its funding obligations to Connecticut's schoolchildren and school districts even in the face of budget challenges. To continue to transfer state budget problems to towns and cities and their property taxpayers is unfair and it shortchanges Connecticut's future. Whether in ECS, special education reimbursements, categorical grants or school construction, it is critical that the State accept and meet its constitutional responsibility, identify the necessary revenues, and provide municipalities, school districts, and our more than 650,000 public school children with the resources they need in good times and bad to ensure the quality of our public schools, now and in the future.

The State must reduce costly mandates on local boards of education, provide relief from the MBR and repeal or modify the expensive new graduation requirements mandated by PA 10-111.

The education needs of Connecticut's schoolchildren don't disappear because of a bad economy. The new Governor and General Assembly must decide whether to provide adequate state resources for K-12 public education or compromise our students' futures.

APPENDIX A

Who Pays for K-12 Public Education in Connecticut?



Source: State Department of Education; CCM calculations
 * Federal funding is unusually high due to one-time recovery act funding. The federal share is usually about five percent.

**Estimated State Share of
Local Education Expenses, FY 2011 (billions \$)**

	\$	%
Local Share	\$5.65	54.4%
State Share	\$3.93	37.8%
Federal Share	\$0.77	7.4%
Other	\$0.05	0.5%
Total Estimated Local Education Expenditures	\$10.40	100%

CCM estimates based on State Department of Education data.

APPENDIX B

School Funding: 37 Years under Fire A History of Education Litigation in Connecticut

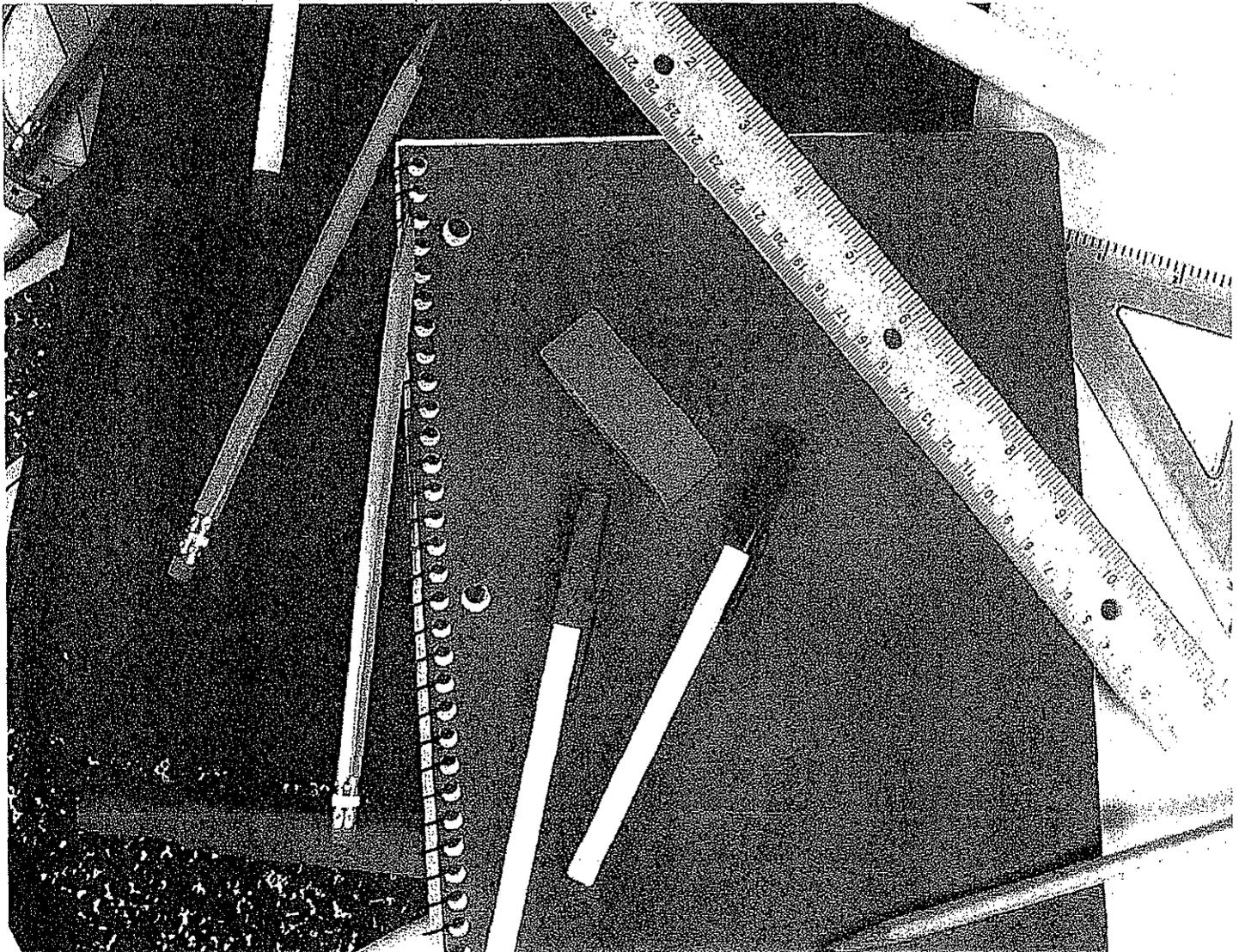
- 1973: Canton parents, led by parent and lawyer Wesley Horton, file suit against then-Gov. Thomas J. Meskill and other state officials charging the system of financing public education violates the state constitution.
- 1977: The State Supreme Court, in *Horton v. Meskill*, rules that the system for paying for education is unconstitutional because it relies too heavily on the local property tax.
- 1985: The State Supreme Court, in response to a challenge by the Horton plaintiffs, orders the State to come up with a school financing plan providing more aid to needy towns.
- 1988: The legislature creates the "Equalized Cost Sharing Formula," (ECS) a far-reaching remedy providing more money to communities for schools, based on a sliding scale. The formula considers a town's property wealth, income, number of students, student performance, and poverty when figuring how much additional state aid a school district is eligible for. A minimum "foundation" for an adequate education is also established and set at \$4,800 per pupil.
- 1989: Another lawsuit is – *Sheff v. O'Neill* – filed by a group of city and suburban parents against then-Gov. William A. O'Neill claiming that Hartford's segregated and underfunded schools violate the state constitution.
- 1990: In the first of a series of amendments, the legislature limits the overall amount of education funds available to towns under the ECS formula.
- 1992: Pressed by the recession, legislators seek to balance the State budget by amending the school funding formula further, cutting overall education grants and placing a cap limiting the increase in aid a municipality could receive. The education foundation is frozen at \$4,800.
- 1995: State legislators increase foundation for education spending to \$5,711, but place a cap on increases in education aid from the state to no more than 2 percent. The increase in the foundation is attributed to combining the special education reimbursement grant with the ECS grant. No municipality can receive a cut that is more than 9 percent over the previous year. Aid to selected poorly performing districts, particularly Hartford, in creases.
- 1996: In the *Sheff v. O'Neill* case, the state Supreme Court rules that the racial segregation in Hartford violates the state constitution.
- 1997: State legislators continue to dramatically increase funds for Hartford schools, but a cap on increases in aid to other municipalities continues. A lobbying group – the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities – estimates that the State has shortchanged schools by nearly \$1 billion through changes in the ECS formula.

- 1998:** Seven children file suit – *Johnson v. Rowland* – against the state claiming that the state Supreme Court’s order in the Horton v. Meskill case is not being implemented. Hartford, with nearly the highest per-pupil expenditure in the state, is not part of the lawsuit.
- 1999:** In response to the Governor’s Task Force to Study the Education Cost Sharing Grant State legislators raise the ECS cap from 0-5% to 0-6% for three years and make plans to eliminate the cap in 2003-04. It is anticipated that the total removal of the cap will result in a \$100-\$120 million balloon payment by the State. Legislators also implement (1) a hold-harmless provision which guarantees municipalities no less funding than they receive in the current year; (2) a minimum aid level of funding equal to 6% of the foundation (\$350 per need student subject to the provisions of the cap; and (3) increasing the foundation by 2%, to \$5,891.
- 2001:** State legislators provide each town whose ECS grant is capped a proportional share of \$25 million for 2001-02 and \$50 million for 2002-03. Each town’s share is based on the difference between its capped grant and the amount its grant would be without the cap (excluding any density supplements). Also implement a minimum grant increase of 1.68% for all towns in 2001-02 and a minimum increase of 1.2% in 2003-03. The foundation of \$5,891 is unchanged.
- 2002:** State budget maintains the prior year commitments to provide \$50 million in cap relief and a minimum increase of 1.2%, but cuts overall municipal aid by .8% and caps funding for special education, adult education, and school transportation.
- 2003:** Funding for the ECS grant was increased by 4.2% in FY 02-03, and by just .5% for FY 03-04. *Johnson v. Rowland* is withdrawn due to a lack of funding for legal costs. Efforts immediately begin to organize a new, broader-based statewide coalition to continue the struggle for school finance reform.
- 2004:** The Connecticut Coalition for Justice in Education Funding (CCJEF) is incorporated, and Yale Law School undertakes to provide pro bono representation. CCJEF commissions and education adequacy cost study to be performed by a nationally prominent consulting firm.
- 2005:** CCJEF files education adequacy and equity lawsuit. *CCJEF v. Rell* challenges the constitutionality of Connecticut’s entire education system, alleging that the State is failing to prepare its schoolchildren to pursue high education, secure meaningful employment, and participate in the political lives of their communities. The complaint cites deficiencies and disparities in educational resources as the cause of this constitutional violation and Connecticut’s persistent failures in educational outcomes as evidence that the State is failing to meet its constitutional obligations. Plaintiffs ask the court, among other things, to (1) declare the state’s system of funding public education unconstitutional, (2) bar the state from continuing to use it, and (3) if necessary due to inaction by the General Assembly, appoint a special master to evaluate and make recommendations to the court concerning possible reforms.
- 2006:** Governor Rell forms a Commission on Education Finance. The bipartisan Commission meets for several months and hears testimony from a variety of experts.
- 2007:** Governor Rell proposes significant changes to education finance laws, based on the recommendations of the Commission. Her proposals would, among other things, increase the ECS grant \$1.1 billion over the next five years to \$2.7 billion by FY 11-12. She proposed significant changes to the grant to (a) increase the foundation to \$9,867 from the current \$5,891, (b) increase the State Guaranteed Wealth Level (SGWL) to 1.75, (c) raise

the minimum aid ratio to 10% from the current 6%, (d) calculate the "need students" count using the number of students eligible for free and reduced-price meals, and (e) eliminate grant caps. She also proposed increases in other areas, such as reimbursement for special education costs. When finally agreed to by the General Assembly and Governor, the adopted budget included several significant changes, including a \$237 million increase in overall education funding, including \$182 million for the ECS grant. The budget increased the foundation to \$9,687, increased the minimum aid ratio to 9% of the foundation and to 13% for the 20 school districts with the highest concentration of low income students, increased the SGWL to 1.75, and other changes.

2008: Oral arguments before the Connecticut Supreme Court are heard in *CCJEF v. Rell* (see below).

2010: The Connecticut Supreme Court ruled in *CCJEF v. Rell* that all school children in the state are guaranteed not just a free public education, but a "suitable" one that prepares them for a career or college. The next step is for CCJEF lawsuit to go to trial to determine if, in fact, public-school students in Connecticut have been provided with a constitutionally suitable education.



APPENDIX C

Cost of Unfunded and Partially Funded Mandates for 2008-09 Bristol Public Schools Philip A. Streifer, Ph. D., Superintendent of Schools

	Estimated Funds/ Hours for 2008-2009	Hourly Rate Applied	Extended Cost
Partially Funded Mandates			
Adult Education - Bristol Share (Total: \$512,000)	\$308,581		\$308,581
CAPT Testing - Grade 10	100+ hours per year	\$8,300	\$8,300
CMT Testing - Grades 4/6/8 Expanded Testing	500+/ 45 hours per year	\$45,235	\$45,235
Preparation for mandated science testing in grades 5/8 (2007)	60 hours	\$4,980	\$4,980
English Language Learners - ELL & Bilingual	\$547,916		\$547,916
Special Education District Share (65%)	\$7,549,694		\$7,549,694
Un-Funded Mandates			
ADA accommodations (transportation/signs/elevators)	\$100,000		\$100,000
Alternate Education for Expelled Students (\$12,000 per student)	\$33,300		\$33,300
Air Quality	\$4,000		\$4,000
Asbestos Training for Building Grounds Staff (1 day per year)	\$200		\$200
Background Checks and Finger Printing (Follow-up)	\$1,250		\$1,250
BEST Program (Subs & Oversight)	\$17,000		\$17,000
Bullying Policy (investigations/record keeping/follow-up)	\$7,500		\$7,500
Child Abuse Reporting (200 per year @ \$120 per)	\$24,000		\$24,000
Continuing Education Units (CEU Professional Development) 18 hours per year	\$870,166		\$870,166
CPR/First Aid and Heimlich Training (nurses/coaches/staff)	\$2,000		\$2,000
Hepatitis B (@ \$120)	\$120		\$120
Drug Education (health staff)	\$130,000		\$130,000
ED-001 END OF YEAR SCHOOL REPORT (audit cost)	200 hours and \$30,000	\$16,600	\$46,600
ED-014 MINIMUM EXPENDITURE COMPLIANCE CHECK	2 hours per year	\$166	\$166
ED-156 FALL HIRING SURVEY	2 hours per year	\$166	\$166
ED-163 CONNECTICUT SCHOOL DATA REPORT	64 hours per year	\$5,312	\$5,312
ED-166 DISCIPLINE OFFENSE REPORT	360 hours per year	\$29,880	\$29,880
ED-525 STUDENT DROPOUT REPORT	30 hours per year	\$2,490	\$2,490
ED-540 GRADUATION CLASS REPORT	30 hours per year	\$2,490	\$2,490
ED-0065 PUBLIC SCHOOL INFORMATION (PSIS)	\$35,000		\$35,000
ED-612 LANGUAGE ASSESSMENT SCALES DATA COLLECTION	100 hours per year	\$8,300	\$8,300
ED-003 TEACHER/ADMINISTRATORS NEGOTIATIONS	\$25,000		\$25,000
ED-162 NON-CERTIFIED STAFF	8 hours per year	\$664	\$664
ED-607 SURVEY OF TITLE IX COORDINATORS	2 hours per year	\$166	\$166
ED-172 REQUEST 90 DAY CERTIFICATION	10 hours per year	\$830	\$830
ED-1723 REQUEST TEMPORARY AUTHORIZATION FOR MINOR ASSIGN.	5 hours per year	\$415	\$415
ED-175 SPECIAL WAIVER FOR SUBSTITUTE	4 hours per year	\$332	\$332

ED-177 REQUEST-DURATIONAL SHORTAGE AREA PERMIT	2 hours per year	\$166	\$166
ED-186 APPLICATION-TEMP/EMERGENCY COACHING PERMIT	2 hours per year	\$166	\$166
ED-017 GRANT APPLICATION NONPUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES	2 hours per year	\$166	\$166
ED-021 OUT OF TOWN MAGNET SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION	6 hours per year	\$498	\$498
ED-111 CASH MANAGEMENT REPORT	60 hours per year	\$4,980	\$4,980
ED-114 GRANT BUDGET REVISION	100 hours per year	\$8,300	\$8,300
ED-141 STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES FED/STATE PROJECTS	60 hours per year	\$4,980	\$4,980
ED-042 REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF FINAL PLANS	100 hours per year	\$8,300	\$8,300
ED-042CO NOTICE OF CHANGE ORDER	20 hours per year	\$1,660	\$1,660
ED-046 REQUEST FOR SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS PAYMENT	20 hours per year	\$1,660	\$1,660
ED-049 GRANT APP FOR SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT	100 hours per year	\$8,300	\$8,300
ED-050 SCHOOL FACILITIES SURVEY	2 hours per year	\$166	\$166
ED-053 SITE ANALYSIS	20 hours per year	\$1,660	\$1,660
ED-099-AGREEMENT FOR CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS	2 hours per year	\$166	\$166
ED-103 REIMBURSEMENT CLAIM NAT. SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM	12 hours per year	\$996	\$996
ED-205 TITLE I EVALUATION REPORT	30 hours per year	\$2,490	\$2,490
SEDAC (SPECIAL EDUCATION INFORMATION SYSTEM)	2,100 hours and \$65,000	\$174,300	\$ 239,300
ED-229 BILINGUAL EDUCATION GRANT APPLICATION	30 hours per year	\$2,490	\$2,490
ED-241/241A ADULT EDUCATION SUMMARY REPORT	30 hours per year	\$2,490	\$2,490
ED-244/244A GRANT APPLICATION FOR ADULT EDUCATION	30 hours per year	\$2,490	\$2,490
ED-245/245A GRANT APPLICATION REVISION-ADULT EDUCATION	10 hours per year	\$830	\$830
ED-236 IMMIGRANT STUDENT SURVEY REPORT	2 hours per year	\$166	\$166
ED-613A STATE DISTRICT CONSOLIDATION APPLICATION	30 hours per year	\$2,490	\$2,490
ED-613B FEDERAL DISTRICT CONSOLIDATION APPLICATION	200 hours per year	\$16,600	\$16,600
Family and Medical Leave Act (@\$6,000 per plus cost of sub)	\$254,200		\$254,200
Sub-cost	\$246,000		\$246,000
Freedom of Information Legal Costs & Administration	\$12,000		\$12,000
Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)	5 hours per year	\$415	\$415
Internet Protection Act for Children(software and staff cost)	\$9,000		\$9,000
Jury Duty (50@ cost of sub)	\$3,250		\$3,250
Medicaid Reimbursement (OT/PT/Speech/Psy)	\$60,000		\$60,000
Minority Staff Recruitment	\$7,000		\$7,000
No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) Report	100 hours per year	\$8,300	\$8,300
Paraprofessional Mandates for Title 1 Schools (highly qualified)	20 hours per year	\$1,660	\$1,660
McKenny-Vento Act	200 hours per year	\$16,600	\$16,600
AYP Reporting/action	350 hours per year	\$29,050	\$29,050
Military Recruitment	40 hours per year	\$3,320	\$3,320
Homeless Transportation (@ \$150 per day for a school year, per student)	\$65,000		\$65,000
Data Collection	750 hours per year	\$62,250	\$62,250
Policy related expenses	300 hours per year	\$24,900	\$24,900

Non-public school transportation	\$982,522		\$982,522
Pesticide Applications Policy	6 hours per year	\$498	\$498
Promotion and Graduation Requirements	500 hours per year	\$41,500	\$41,500
Restraint Training for Special Education and Support Staff	\$10,000		\$10,000
Residency investigation	\$10,000		\$10,000
Restaurant Safety Act (signs)	\$600		\$600
School Records and Retention	\$5,000		\$5,000
School Transportation Safety Reporting	\$5,000		\$5,000
Sexual Harassment Training	\$1,250.00		\$1,250
Student Survey	20 hours per year	\$1,660	\$1,660
Special Education Due Process (proactive)	\$70,000		\$70,000
Special Education Excess Cost our share plus 5% state Reduction	\$700,000		\$700,000
Special Education Coverage at PPT's	5000 hours per year	\$415,000	\$415,000
Gifted and Talented	\$127,722		\$127,722
Strategic School Profiles (SSP) (data collection/reporting)	200 hours per year	\$16,600	\$16,600
Student Physicals and Immunizations (Grades K,7,10)	1000 hours per year	\$83,000	\$83,000
Hearing Screenings	\$30,000		\$30,000
School Medical Advisor	\$6,000		\$6,000
Related Medical Equipment	\$150,000		\$150,000
Summer School or other supplemental services for intervention	\$86,804		\$86,804
Teacher/Administrator Evaluations	\$500,000		\$500,000
Transportation to Regional Vo/AG/Technical Schools	\$297,000		\$297,000
Truancy Reporting (10 per year)	\$30,000		\$30,000
Tuition to Regional Vo/AG schools	\$200,000		\$200,000
Vending Machines	20 hours per year	\$1,660	\$1,660
504 Accommodations	\$35,000		\$35,000

TOTAL COSTS FOR MANDATES: \$14,733,344





CCM - CONNECTICUT'S STATEWIDE ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS AND CITIES

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities. CCM represents municipalities at the General Assembly, before the state executive branch and regulatory agencies, and in the courts. CCM provides member towns and cities with a wide array of other services, including management assistance, individualized inquiry service, assistance in municipal labor relations, technical assistance and training, policy development, research and analysis, publications, information programs, and service programs such as workers' compensation and liability-automobile-property insurance, risk management, and energy cost-containment. Federal representation is provided by CCM in conjunction with the national League of Cities. CCM was founded in 1966.

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Connecticut Conference of Municipalities

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Government Finance Officers Association
203 N. LaSalle Street - Suite 2700
Chicago, IL 60601

Phone (312) 977-9700 Fax (312) 977-4806

Item # 10

September 29, 2010

Matthew W. Hart
Town Manager
Town of Mansfield
4 So. Eagleville Road
Storrs Mansfield CT 06268-2574

Dear Mr. Hart:

We are pleased to notify you that your comprehensive annual financial report for the fiscal year ended **June 30, 2009** qualifies for a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

The Certificate of Achievement plaque will be shipped to:

Cheryl A. Trahan
Director of Finance

under separate cover in about eight weeks. We hope that you will arrange for a formal presentation of the Certificate and Award of Financial Reporting Achievement, and that appropriate publicity will be given to this notable achievement. A sample news release is enclosed to assist with this effort. In addition, details of recent recipients of the Certificate of Achievement and other information about Certificate Program results are available in the "Awards Program" area of our website, www.gfoa.org.

We hope that your example will encourage other government officials in their efforts to achieve and maintain an appropriate standard of excellence in financial reporting.

Sincerely,
Government Finance Officers Association

Stephen J. Gauthier, Director

Technical Services Center

SJG/ds

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Brent DiGiorgio
Corporate Communications
203.338.3135 Fax: 203.338.3461
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 21, 2010

TRIAD PROGRAM SET TO LAUNCH IN MANSFIELD

People's United Bank, Mansfield Police Department and senior groups join together to reduce crime against the elderly

BRIDGEPORT, CT – People's United Bank and its TRIAD partners will help launch the Mansfield TRIAD - a program that reduces criminal victimization of the elderly and enhances the delivery of law enforcement services to seniors - on Wednesday, October 20 at the Mansfield Senior Center on 303 Maple Road in Mansfield at 12:30 p.m. The event will feature People's United Bank Masters Program Manager and Coordinator of Connecticut TRIAD Angela DeLeon, A TRIAD Kick-Off ceremony will mark the official launch of the program.

"One in every eight Americans is 65 or older, and law enforcement agencies are adjusting to meet the needs of this country's changing demographics," DeLeon said. "People's United Bank is proud to partner with law enforcement to initiate crime prevention and awareness programs for senior citizens in Mansfield."

TRIADs play a very important role in the communities they serve. To our seniors, launching a TRIAD here in Mansfield provides them with a resource to help guard against financial exploitation or other fraudulent activities that could put them in harm's way. In forming this TRIAD, we're proud to help give seniors and those who care for them peace of mind.

The National Association of TRIADS Inc. is a national organization created to develop, expand and implement effective crime prevention and education programs for seniors. People's United Bank, the Mansfield Police Department, the Mansfield Senior Center and many other senior service providers are working together to sponsor the TRIAD program on the local level. People's United Masters Program is recognized nationally for its leadership in initiating crime prevention and awareness programs for senior citizens. People's United Bank is the only financial services organization in the country to provide crime prevention and awareness training to seniors.

People's United Bank, a diversified financial services company with approximately \$22 billion in assets, provides consumer and commercial banking and wealth management services through a network of nearly 300 branches in Connecticut, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Maine and New York. Through its subsidiaries, People's United Bank provides equipment financing, asset management, brokerage and financial advisory services, and insurance services.

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People's United Bank. Everything Starts With You

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Mansfield council says 'no' to Dog Lane land purchase

By MIKE SAVINO 9/24
Chronicle Staff Writer

MANSFIELD — After learning a land conservation organization was not interested in accepting some land from the University of Connecticut, the town council also declined to take the land.

Town councilmen agreed earlier this month that they were not interested in a UConn property located on Dog Lane.

Town Manager Matthew Hart said UConn has approached the town a few times in recent years about the property before actually

offering it, at no cost, to the town a few months ago.

The town council decided in late June to wait before making a decision to see if Joshua's Tract Conservation and Historic Trust Inc. was interested in the property.

Joshua's Trust owns the development rights to the Nate and Theora Whetten Woods. A 4.6-acre UConn parcel is adjacent to Whetten Woods.

But after learning last week that Joshua's Trust was not interested in the parcel, councilmen said they would only have been interested to work with Joshua's Trust and reached a consensus to pass on the property.

The council had little discussion on the issue, but Hart said he believes the council likely saw

little use in the property for the town.

"Typically, when we acquire open space, that's what we look at," he said.

The planning and zoning commission did recommend accepting the parcel in June because it is adjacent to the Whetten Woods.

But Planning Director Gregory Padick said in June the land was mostly wooded wetlands and would likely not be suitable for any future development.

Residents, meanwhile, raised concerns about the property during a council meeting earlier in June, saying the property has become a dumping ground for organic materials and could create problems for the town.

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Editor:

9/24

A recent letter urged Mansfield, Wallington

and Ashford voters to vote yes in the Region 19 referendum Tuesday. E.O. Smith High School's supposed need for an outdoor, rubberized running track (which will need replacement at least once per decade) was mentioned.

Left unmentioned was the cost, \$2.2 million, most of which goes toward astroturfing a football field. Nor was it noted that the artificial turf will need replacement every seven years, at an estimated cost of \$500,000.

Why should taxpayers pick up the tab because area leagues require almost NCAA- or pro sports-type facilities to qualify? Must athletics be the most expensive program at this fine academic and vocational high school, just because other schools do it and sports-minded parents promote it?

I'll bet no math, physics or history teacher, (as in academics — very important), makes the \$99,000 salary, exclusive of benefits, paid to the school's head coach. (As in sports — less important.)

I will vote no on this proposed bonding and spending.

David Freudmann
Mansfield

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Voters to decide fate of \$2M track for high school

By MIKE SAVINO
Chronicle Staff Writer

9/25

Residents in Mansfield, Ashford and Willington will decide the fate Tuesday of a proposed \$2.17-million athletic facility project for E.O. Smith High School in Storrs.

The Regional School District 19 school board's proposal to replace the track and upgrade other facilities at E.O. Smith is up for vote, with polls open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Mansfield voters vote in the Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building, Ashford residents vote in Knowlton Memorial Hall and Willington voters cast ballots in the Willington Town Office Building.

The school board agreed in early August to send the project to referendum and school officials have said the track, athletic field and outdoor courts at E.O. Smith are not safe.

"The fields are, if not the worst, among the worst in the state," said school board Chairman Francis Archambault.

Superintendent Bruce Silva has said the school stopped using its own track a few years ago, while other school staff members have said the condition of the field has impacted physical education classes and other athletic teams.

The board scaled the current proposal down from a \$3.95-million plan rejected by residents in February 2009.

The current proposal does not include work at the Farrell Field Complex, bleachers or lights, although it does include some initial work to prepare for the installation of lights in the future.

While the current track is a standard 400-meter track — which is equally divided along both sides and both ends, but limits the size of the field inside — the new track would be a modified, 400-meter track, which has uneven sides.

The new track would be able to hold a full-size high school soccer field within the track, allowing more athletic teams to use the field behind the school.

The field will be made from a synthetic material, which is more durable and will allow physical education classes and athletic teams to use it more.

Project architect Vincent McDermott said the site does not have proper irrigation and added, even with sufficient water and \$20,000 in maintenance, a natural grass field can support 15 hours of usage per week.

The turf field would need to be resurfaced every 10 years, but McDermott also said grass fields should be reconstructed every 10 years for proper upkeep.

Archambault said he understands many voters will have concerns about taking on a project in the current economy, but said he believes the proposal is the most cost-effective way to improve the fields.

"It's something that we debated a long, long time and examined all the facts," he said.

He also said it is "critically important" for the school to promote healthy habits among students. The facilities will also be open to the public. The proposal also includes the reconstruction of the outdoor basketball and tennis courts at the high school.

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Editor: 9/27

On Tuesday, residents of Mansfield, Ashford and Willington will vote on a critical referendum to fund improvements to the track and the tennis courts at E.O. Smith High School.

"Unsafe" doesn't even begin to describe the condition of the current track, which is deplorable, resulting in frequent injuries to students and athletes.

On a day-to-day basis, students are exposed to the possibility of injury simply by participating in gym classes or athletic practices.

These injuries occur from use of the track, area sidewalks and trails as alternatives because of uneven surfaces, cracks and potholes in the track.

At the sports awards night last spring, two members of the girls track and field team accepted their awards on crutches. One of these girls is our daughter.

She has run track for two years, spending both seasons in significant pain. Last year, after her team broke the school's 4x8 record, she was unable to compete in state competition because of a diagnosed stress fracture, which months later continues to limit her activities and cause daily pain.

She is unable to fully participate in physical education classes and despite wanting to run Cross Country this fall, has been unable to.

Acknowledging the very difficult economic conditions, the cost and scope of the proposed project was substantially reduced from earlier proposals.

It consists only of bare essentials and will cost each household no more than \$27 for the most expensive projected school year (2014-15); in other years it will be less costly.

Letters to the Editor

Failure to vote yes is a disservice to our children and a liability to the town.

In a country struggling with childhood obesity, it's an investment that we must make even in these very difficult times. Our youth are our future and they deserve better.

Allison Breault
Jeff Fisher
Storrs

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9/28

Mansfield mulling new school options

By MIKE SAVINO
Chronicle Staff Writer

MANSFIELD — Hoping to have a proposal for a new school project in place for a referendum early next year, the town council got a look at the difference between one- and two-school options Monday.

The council also learned during a special workshop that simply conducting repairs to maintain the existing buildings could cost less than originally projected, but also would not include long-term upgrades.

Officials and consultants associated with the project told the council each of the three proposals would also present its own set of issues the council would need to consider.

The council has been weighing options since May, when the school board endorsed building two new elementary schools and renovating Mansfield Middle School to combat outdated facilities and cramped conditions.

A special school building project committee voted for the one-school option, but school board Chairman Mark LaPlaca told the board Monday the two-school option became known after the committee's vote.

The school board, though, voted to support the two-school option.

Initially, the town was hoping to get a project on the November ballot, but the council had too many questions.

Based on current projections, the two-school option would cost \$59.58 million, with the town responsible for \$27 million and the rest coming from state reimbursements.

The option to build one large elementary school, which also would include renovations to MMS, would cost just over \$48 million, with state reimbursements bringing the town's share to \$19 million.

Both options would include additions at MMS in both the front — to move the main offices— and rear — to create permanent space for existing portable classrooms.

The renovations would cost roughly \$500,000 more during the two-school options, however, because the entire project would take an additional year and construction would likely be delayed, the project consultants said.

Architect Rick Lawrence said the two-school option would require more land, as well, because state regulations require 10 acres of land per school, plus one acre per 100 students.

The one-school option would be built for 700 students, while the two-school option would involve two new elementary schools with capacities of 350 students each.

The town has suitable sites in the south side of town for either one or two schools, but officials would need to find a location on the north side of town if it wanted two schools evenly placed in town.

Town Manager Matt Hart told the council Monday he plans to send letters to two abutters to Dorothy C. Goodwin School to see if the landowners would be interested in selling part or all of their land.

Goodwin, located on Hunting Lodge Road, contains about 12 acres of property, but town Planning Director Gregory Padick said the parcel could be large enough if the town purchases some of the abutting land.

Should the council decide to simply conduct necessary repairs and wait on a project, town Finance Director Cherie Trahan said expected repairs would cost a projected \$13.28 million over the next 20 years.

Facilities Management Director Bill Hammon said the cost of those repairs could be lower, but the price could change.

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Mansfield voters keep Smith proposal on track

E.O. SMITH TRACK

	YES	NO
Ashford	177	269
Mansfield	947	312
Willington	329	483
TOTAL	1,453	1,064

By **MIKE SAVINO** *9/24*
 Chronicle Staff Writer

Despite rejections in two of three district towns, voters in Regional School District 19 approved a new track and other outdoor athletic facilities at E.O. Smith High School in Storrs during a referendum Tuesday.

Residents in both Ashford and Willington rejected the \$2.17 million project with a combined vote of 506 "yes" votes and 752 "no" votes.

Mansfield voters approved the plan with 947 "yes" votes and 312 "no" votes, a wide-enough margin to go forward with the plan. The overall vote was 1,453 in favor and 1,064 against.

The voter turnout in Mansfield was 12.1 percent, while Ashford had 16.1 percent and Willington

(Voters, Page 4)



Voters approve Smith track plan

(Continued from Page 1)

had 23.5 percent of eligible voters out to the polls.

District 19 school board Chairman Francis Archambault said he was "very pleased" the project passed and reiterated previous statements about the need for new facilities at E.O. Smith.

"I think the board thought it important enough to take this issue to the voters," he said, adding all students will be "beneficiaries" once the project is completed.

The project will include a new track, replacing one school officials said has not been in use for years due to safety concerns.

D19 Superintendent Bruce Silva has said the school has been utilizing other facilities for its track teams, including Tolland High School, Windham Middle School and Eastern Connecticut State University.

The project will also include a new synthetic-turf field to replace the existing natural grass field, which school officials have said is also in poor shape.

Project architect Vincent Mc-

Dermott said the field does not have proper irrigation and added, even with sufficient water and \$20,000 in maintenance, a natural grass field can support 15 hours of usage per week.

But Silva said the new synthetic surface will allow for constant usage among all physical education classes, as well as athletic teams like football and soccer.

To accommodate a full-size high school soccer field, the new track will be a modified 400-meter track, which has uneven sides to allow for more space inside the track.

The school will also resurface outdoor tennis and basketball courts as part of the project, and Silva said he expects the new facilities to be ready for use by fall 2011.

The building committee will meet in the next few weeks and Silva said the committee will need to select a consultant to design the project before sending it out to bid.

Construction could begin as early as March, which might

force the tennis teams to find a new location, and the expected timeline calls for four months of construction, he also said.

The project did draw concerns from some residents, though, including from a few Willington town officials during a public hearing in August.

Willington Selectman John Blessington and finance board member Peter Latincics both raised concerns about the project, saying it was too expensive in the current economy.

Latincics could not be reached for comment this morning, but Blessington said he was disappointed in the result, especially since Ashford and Willington were both "pretty solidly against it."

"We feel that Mansfield is kind of the bully in all of this," he said, adding he does not think Mansfield voters consider Willington and Ashford residents' ability to pay taxes for such initiatives.

He also said he believes the school board would have had much more support if it simply

proposed to reconstruct the track — which likely would have cost between \$500,000 and \$750,000.

Blessington said many residents saw the total plan as "gold plated."

"There's a feeling that this is a very expensive proposition," he said.

Archambault said he "can understand why people wouldn't have supported it," but also noted the project still needed the "yes" votes in all three towns, and not just Mansfield, for approval.

He also said the school board does not intend to bring any other projects to voters in the near future.

This was the school board's second try at such a project after voters rejected a \$3.95 million plan in February 2009.

The project approved Tuesday was scaled back from the February 2009 plan and did not include work to the Farrell Fields Complex, bleachers or lights, although it does include initial work to allow for the installation of lights in the future.

Editor:

9/30

Again Storrs and Willimantic, both college towns, are having to deal with the problems of loud, out-of-control student parties at locations off the college campuses on properties that are in the middle of settled neighborhoods.

My observation is the number and frequency of these bashes are increasing. Yet it appears to me that there are several roadblocks that prevent a meaningful solution to the off-campus party houses.

The biggest roadblock, as I see it, is the reluctance of the Attorney General's office to give college officials, campus police and local officials, the power to effectively battle disruptive off-campus behavior of college students.

College officials are reigned in by rulings from the Attorney General's office as to what they can do to college students arrested by local police.

For the past years, the consequences of get-

Letters to the Editor

ting arrested off campus has been a slap on the wrist and "don't do it again" approach; when common sense tells one that more effective tools could be utilized if only the Attorney General's office sanctioned them.

The Attorney General's office has been reluctant to allow campus police to assist local police when problems arise off campus. The Attorney General's office could be extremely helpful if it gave the Connecticut State Police the power to enforce local ordinances. There are many things the Attorney General's office could and should do to assist our local towns in controlling these off campus problems.

So Attorney General's office, step up to the plate and help these college towns.

Richard Pellegrine
Storrs

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Mansfield Triad program to help out seniors

By MIKE SAVINO
Chronicle Staff Writer

MANSFIELD — The town will soon be taking part in a national program intended to promote better safety and awareness among seniors.

The Mansfield Senior Center, People's United Bank and the local police and fire departments are working together to help form a local Triad chapter to help seniors protect themselves.

According to the National Association of Triads, any town can form a local Triad by uniting law enforcement and other public safety agencies to work with seniors.

The association said the groups are called Triads to represent the three sectors of the community involved in the partnership, including public safety, criminal justice and senior services.

Mansfield Human Service Director Kevin

Grunwald said the town had been looking into forming a Triad for a while and, recently, was able to form a partnership with the other parties involved.

He said People's United Bank will provide the funding and resources needed for various programs, while public safety officials will help educate seniors.

The senior center will provide space for events, as well as help coordinate and notify seniors in town of the Triad's events.

Grunwald said the national association offers numerous programs and activities and the local chapters can choose the ones that best suit the needs of local seniors.

Some of the programs will focus on scams that target seniors, including financial, Internet and telephone scams, among others. "Seniors are certainly vulnerable to scams and there are people who target seniors," Grunwald said, adding some of the programs also focus on

people who target seniors in other ways.

Grunwald said two such programs are "Purse Protection," which teaches seniors how to protect their purses while in grocery stores and other locations, and a drug take-back program.

Grunwald said some people break into seniors' homes to steal medication and this program will allow seniors to get rid of unneeded medications safely.

He said one of the first programs, though, will be the "yellow dot program," where seniors can put a yellow dot on their car window to notify emergency responders of an informational card located in the glove box of their vehicles.

The Mansfield Triad will hold a "Kick-Off" ceremony at the Mansfield Senior Center on Wednesday, Oct. 20, at 12:30 p.m.

It will also need to create a special council to plan future events.

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