

REGULAR MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
October 25, 2010

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, Schaefer

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2010 Special meeting as presented. The motion passed with all in favor except Mr. Kochenburger and Mr. Ryan who abstained. Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2010 as presented. The motion passed with all in favor except Mr. Kochenburger who abstained.

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Schaefer seconded to move Opportunity for Public to Address the Council as the next item of business. The motion passed unanimously.

III. PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION

1. Storrs Road & Dog Lane Improvement Projects

Derek Kohl of BL Companies described the proposed Storrs Road (Rte 195) Improvements, the proposed Dog Lane improvements and the adjacent abutting projects.

Steve Deegan, DOT Right of Way Project Manager, will oversee the Town's acquisition of the needed easements.

Rudy Favretti, Middle Turnpike, asked what assurances the Town has that the temporary realignment of Dog Lane across the town square is in fact temporary.

Mr. Kohl noted a Certificate of Occupancy will not be issued until DOT's approved requirements are met. Mr. Hultgren commented the funds for the completion of the village street have already been received and the temporary Dog Lane access will not be needed once the village street is completed.

Ron Kelly, Bundy Lane, questioned why earlier plans to have Dog Lane one-way are not included in the design.

Mr. Kohl commented that although Dog Lane will be a two way street the intersection configuration and signals will make the easier choice to continue on Storrs Road.

Joan Buck, Sumner Drive, asked what the advantages of on street parking are.

Mr. Kohl responded that on street parking provides access to adjacent business and helps provide a more pedestrian friendly environment.

Martha Kelly, expressed concern for the safety of pedestrians and asked that crosswalks similar to those on Rte 5 in Hadley Massachusetts be considered.

Roger Roberge, Woodland Road, asked how many handicapped spaces would be available; if those spaces would be able to accommodate lifts; how many spaces would be lost to snow removal storage; would there be an area

designated for loading and unloading near the business and who would be liable for any incidents that might happen on the sidewalks and parking areas?

Mr. Kohn responded that all identified spaces would be ADA compliant; loading docks near businesses have been incorporated into the plans; there are areas for the storage of snow and that the Town will assume maintenance and liability for the sidewalks and parking areas on Storrs Road and all of Dog Lane.

The information session was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Mr. Ryan moved and Mr. Schaefer seconded, effective October 25, 2010, to proceed to the final design stage for the Storrs Road & Dog Lane Improvement Projects.

Motion passed unanimously.

IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

John DeWolf, Max Felix Drive, commented on the referendum questions noting the Open Space and Stonemill Road Bridge projects benefit all the residents of Mansfield. The Laurel Lane Bridge project, however, serves one residence. Mr. DeWolf expressed his wish that the explanatory text contained more details on the projects.

Mike Sikoski, Wildwood Road, asked for a second opportunity for public comment following the scheduled public information session. Director of Public Works Lon Hultgren stated that questions and comments will be part of the session.

Betty Wassmundt, Old Turnpike Road, asked who, if the new classifications for Budget Analyst and Accounting Manager are approved, will serve as Secretary to the Town.

Carol Pellegrine, Clover Mill Road, expressed her agreement with Mr. DeWolf's remarks and asked if in the future more information could be included in the explanatory text.

V. REPORT OF TOWN MANAGER

Report attached.

The Town Manager will communicate with Mr. DeWolf and Ms. Pellegrine outlining the limits and discussion regarding the explanatory text.

VI. REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Ms. Moran reported that she and the Mayor met with members of Glen Ridge and stated that she hoped the delay in the South Eagleville sidewalk project would allow the Town to redesign the project.

Mayor Paterson noted the passing of John Brubacher, who recently moved to Maine, but had been a very active member of the Senior Center Association. Mayor Paterson also reported she and Ms. Moran attended the announcement of the TRIAD program. Sponsored by Seniors, Peoples United Bank and the Town's Public Safety Departments, TRIAD offers a series of programs designed to assist seniors including an identifying yellow dot on vehicles which notifies emergency personnel that important personal information is available in the glove compartment.

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Ms. Keane reported State Senator Don Williams spoke in support of reentry programs at the last meeting of the Reentry Round Table. Mansfield has one of the highest numbers of prison reentries in the State. The next meeting will be on December 3, 2010 and all Council members are welcome.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

2. Status Report on Assisted/Independent Living Project

Director of Human Services Kevin Grunwald updated Council members on the recent actions of Masonicare with whom he and the Town Manager have been meeting. The Masonicare Board has endorsed and funded the Mansfield project and the company has engaged an engineering firm to begin to look at the potential site.

The company has also begun a new marketing study.

Council members discussed the role of the preferred developer, how many companies submitted RFQs, the need for a facility and the desire of citizens to have both rentals and buy-in opportunities.

3. Community Water and Wastewater Issues/Four Corners Water and Sewer Project

Environmental Partners has been selected to conduct the water source study, permitting and design for the Four Corners water and sewer project.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

4. Capital Improvement Program Closeouts/Adjustments

Mr. Ryan moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded, effective October 25, 2010, to approve the adjustments to the Capital Projects fund, as presented by the Director of Finance in her correspondence dated October 12, 2010.

The Finance Committee has reviewed the adjustments and recommends its approval.

Motion passed unanimously.

5. Classification of Budget Analyst and Accounting Manager Positions

Mr. Paulhus moved and Ms. Keane seconded, effective October 25, 2010, to set the pay grade for the budget analyst position at grade 18 and the accounting manager position at grade 21 of the town administrator pay plan.

The position of Treasurer will be assigned to the Accounting Manager.

Motion passed unanimously.

IX. DEPARTMENTAL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Keane noted the Communication Advisory's Committee's comments (Page 71) regarding the website and asked if steps have been taken to address their concerns. Town Manager Matt Hart referred Council members to Item 8 on the

agenda which specifically addresses the questions raised by the Communication Advisory Committee. Additionally, the actual dates of the Town Council's meeting schedule have been posted on the website.

Ms. Moran noted she attempted to fill out the citizen request form on the website and found it easy to do so.

Ms. Lindsey commented that it is somewhat of a struggle to use the search function on the new Town website and has found it to be less effective than the previous site. Mr. Hart will investigate.

Ms. Lindsey asked if the safety standards for parking garages mentioned by the Police Study consultants will be incorporated into the plans for the parking garage (Page 54).

Town Manager Matt Hart announced the Traffic Authority will meet to discuss the issues at 72 Mansfield City Road.

X. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

No reports

XI. PETITIONS, REQUEST AND COMMUNICATIONS

6. Glen Ridge Cooperative re: Thank You

7. G. Padick re: August 2010 Draft Final Environmental Assessment (EA) – USDA Animal Health Research Center

8. M. Capriola, J. Russell, M. Stanton re: Letter to Mansfield Town Council from the Communications Advisory Committee

9. R. Miller re: University of Connecticut Campus Drainage Master Plan, Eagleville Brook TMDL, and the Swan Lake Outfall Improvement

10. November 2, 2010 Referendum Mailer

11. Mansfield Community Center 2010 Family Open House

12. Legislative Breakfast with Senate President Donald Williams

13. Chronicle "\$20,000 town Bobcat stolen" – 10/8/10 – Assistant to the Town Manager Maria Capriola reported the insurance carrier has authorized the replacement of the stolen bobcat but the case is still open.

14. Chronicle "Residents get a glimpse of Storrs Center's first phase" – 10/8/10

15. Chronicle "Letter to the Editor" – 10/8/10

16. Chronicle "New group home use OK'd by PZC" – 10/12/10

17. Chronicle "UC could seek moratorium on Spring Weekend" – 10/13/10

18. Chronicle "Relay for Life walkers set to stroll for a cure" – 10/14/10

19. Chronicle "Editorial: We offer these threads, needles" – 10/18/10

20. Chronicle "A relay of hope" – 10/18/10

21. Chronicle "Info forum is slated for ballot questions" – 10/18/10

22. Chronicle "Land owners file suit over zone change" – 10/19/10

XII. FUTURE AGENDAS

The Mansfield Education Association contract will be an item for discussion at the next meeting.

Mr. Haddad moved and Ms. Keane seconded to recess the meeting and move into executive session to discuss continued review and discussion of commercial and financial information provided in confidence by Storrs Center Alliance in

accordance with CGS §§ 1-200(6)(E), 1-210(b)(5)(B) and secondly, personnel in accordance with CGS §§ 1-200(6), 1-214(b)(5)(b).
The motion passed unanimously.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Continued review and discussion of commercial and financial information provided in confidence by Storrs Center Alliance in accordance with CGS §§ 1-200(6) (E), 1-210(b) (5) (B).

Present: Haddad, Keane, Kochenburger, Lindsey, Moran. Paterson. Paulhus, Ryan, Schaefer

Also included: Town Manager Matt Hart

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

Present: Haddad, Keane, Kochenburger, Lindsey, Moran. Paterson. Paulhus, Ryan, Schaefer

7. ADJOURNMENT

The Town Council reconvened in regular session. Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

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