

SPECIAL MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

January 23, 2012

Work Session

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the special meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Keane, Kochenburger, Lindsey, Moran, Paterson, Ryan, Shapiro, Schaefer

Excused: Paulhus

Also Present: Rick Lawrence of Lawrence Associates, Tom DeMauro, of Newfield Construction and Mansfield Financial Advisors Shuprotim Bhaumik and Kumar Kintala

Mayor Paterson recognized and welcomed the members of the Board of Education and Superintendent of Schools Fred Baruzzi.

II. WORK SESSION - School Building Project

Town Manager Matt Hart and Director of Finance Cherie Trahan recapped the school construction cost estimates, the updated State reimbursement rate, debt service assumptions, timing, revenue drivers and possible next steps.

Council members discussed possible referendum dates, the need for diverse community involvement, possible rising interest rates, the role of an advisory referendum, and the effect of the State's minimum budget requirement for education.

Mr. Bhaumik suggested removing a section of the project thereby reducing the square footage per child penalty that the plans currently reflect. That section could then be built using the savings realized by not incurring the penalty. Staff will investigate this possibility.

Town Manager Matt Hart will provide a calendar of work sessions, public hearing opportunities and Council discussion dates needed to meet a May 2012 deadline.

Director of Finance Cherie Trahan will provide tax impact estimates. These estimates will include a list of potential revenues but no amounts will be included in the figures.

Superintendent Fred Baruzzi will provide school enrollment projections.

The Town Council will schedule an additional work session on February 14, 2012.

III. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Kochenburger seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

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