

SPECIAL MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
April 24, 2013

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the special meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Freudmann, Keane, Kochenburger (7:00 p.m.), Moran, Paterson, Paulhus, Ryan, Schaefer, Shapiro

Staff: Town Manager Matt Hart, Director of Finance Cherie Trahan

II. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Ric Hossack, Middle Turnpike, implored the Council not to increase the Town's bonding obligations.

Betty Wassmundt, Old Turnpike Road, expressed concerns with the Charter and asked the Council to act responsibly towards the taxpayers. (Statement attached)

III. STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Hart and Ms. Trahan reviewed the distributed handouts including:

- Responses to Council/Citizen Budget Questions
- Revised FY2014 Appropriations Committee Proposed Budget Impact on Mansfield
- Changes to the Manager's Proposed Budget based on CCM's information
- Estimated Tax Warrant and Levy scenarios

Ms. Trahan will research to see if the mill rate can be lowered after the Town Council votes on it; the current percentage of the tax burden borne by the homeowner; and the last day the Tax Collector can issue tax bills.

Superintendent Fred Baruzzi read a statement from Board of Education Chair Mark LaPlaca. (Statement attached). Mr. Baruzzi stated the Board will determine how to implement the additional cuts to the proposed budget.

IV. ADOPTION OF BUDGET AND RECOMMENDED APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. Ryan moved and Ms. Moran seconded to approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That the General Fund Budget for the Town of Mansfield, appended totaling \$36,047,780 is hereby adopted as the proposed operating budget for the Town of Mansfield for the fiscal year July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014.

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Schaefer seconded to amend the motion by reducing the proposed budget by \$311,590 thereby eliminating new or restored initiatives and making additional adjustments to the Capital and Contingency Funds.

The motion to amend passed unanimously.

Ms. Keane moved and Mr. Freudmann seconded to amend the motion to increase Cash to Capital by \$100,000 to be used towards the \$400,000 maintenance and IT school project.

The motion to amend passed unanimously.

Ms. Keane moved and Mr. Freudmann seconded to amend the motion to reduce the proposed Board of Education budget by \$352,860.

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The motion to amend passed unanimously.

Mr. Freudmann moved and Ms. Keane seconded to decrease the General Fund contribution to Capital by \$40,000 with the intent of reducing proposed security improvements from \$65,000 to \$25,000.

The motion to amend failed with Freudmann, Keane, Kochenburger and Paulhus in favor and Moran, Paterson, Ryan, Schaefer and Shapiro opposed.

The amended motion now reads:

RESOLVED: That the General Fund Budget for the Town of Mansfield, appended totaling \$35,483,330 is hereby adopted as the proposed operating budget for the Town of Mansfield for the fiscal year July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014.

The amended motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Ryan moved and Mr. Schaefer seconded to approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That the Capital Fund Budget for the Town of Mansfield, appended totaling \$2,400,290 is hereby adopted as the capital improvements to be undertaken during fiscal year 2013/14 or later years.

Ms. Keane moved and Mr. Schaefer seconded to amend the motion by decreasing the Capital Fund Budget by \$115,000.

The motion to amend passed unanimously.

The amended motion now reads:

RESOLVED: That the Capital Fund Budget for the Town of Mansfield, appended totaling \$2,285,290 is hereby adopted as the capital improvements to be undertaken during fiscal year 2013/14 or later years.

The amended motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Ryan moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to approve the following resolutions:

RESOLVED: That the proposed Capital and Non-Recurring Reserve Fund Budget for fiscal year July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 in the amount of \$1,309,860 be adopted.

Ms. Keane moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to amend the motion to decrease the proposed Capital and Non-Recurring Reserve Fund Budget by \$115,000.

The motion to approve the amendment passed unanimously.

The amended motion now reads:

RESOLVED: That the proposed Capital and Non-Recurring Reserve Fund Budget for fiscal year July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 in the amount of \$1,194,860 be adopted.

The amended motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Ryan moved and Mr. Schaefer seconded to approve the following resolutions:

It is further resolved, that the following Appropriations Act be recommended for adoption at the annual Town Meeting for budget consideration:

RESOLVED: That the proposed General Fund Budget for the Town of Mansfield for fiscal year July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 in the amount of \$35,483,330 which proposed budget was adopted by the Council on April 24, 2013, be adopted and that the sums estimated and set forth in said budget be appropriated for the purpose indicated.

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RESOLVED: That in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-51, the proportionate share for the Town of Mansfield of the annual budget for Regional School District No. 19 shall be added to the General Fund Budget appropriation for the Town of Mansfield for fiscal year July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 and said sums shall be paid by the Town to the Regional School District as they become available.

RESOLVED: That the proposed Capital Projects Budget for fiscal year July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 in the amount of \$2,285,290 be adopted provided that the portion proposed to be funded by bonds or notes shall, at the appropriate times, be introduced for action by the Town Council subject to a vote by referendum as required by Section 407 of the Town Charter.

RESOLVED: That the proposed Capital and Non-Recurring Reserve Fund Budget for fiscal year July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 in the amount of \$1,194,860 be adopted.

The motion passed unanimously.

V. NEXT STEPS

The Town Manager reviewed the plan for disseminating the budget information to residents.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk