

Town of Mansfield  
**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
Special Meeting of 08 January 2014  
Conference B, Audrey P. Beck Building  
**MINUTES**

*Members present:* Aline Booth (Alt.), Robert Dahn, Quentin Kessel, Scott Lehmann, John Silander. *Members absent:* Joan Buck (Alt.), Neil Facchinetti, Peter Drzewiecki, Michael Soares.

**1.** The meeting was **called to order** at 6:31p by Chair Quentin Kessel, following a presentation in the Council Chambers (attended by the Commission members identified above as “present”) on the proposed agreement between the Town and the Connecticut Water Company. Booth was designated a voting member for this meeting.

**2. Water supply.** The Commission has been asked to comment on the draft of the “Definitive Agreement between Connecticut Water Company and the Town of Mansfield” governing supply of CWC water to the Town. The Commission had previously indicated a preference for obtaining needed water from Willimantic Water Works, but the Water Source Study’s EIE concluded that the CWC option had the least environmental impact. Town Planner Linda Painter prepared a memo for the Commission identifying “provisions in the Agreement that respond to comments provided by the Commission” in August 2013.

Kessel noted that one question raised by the Commission had not been answered: would long-term costs of CWC water to users be reduced if UConn and the Town were to pay the capital costs of importing it (or some portion thereof) up front? Lehmann observed that this issue did not seem closely related to the environmental concerns of the Commission. After some discussion, the Commission agreed (**motion:** Silander, Booth) to comment simply: “The Conservation Commission supports the Town of Mansfield’s selection of the Connecticut Water Company.” All were in favor, save Kessel, who abstained as a CWC stockholder.

**3. UConn Hazardous Waste Transfer Station.** An EIE for relocating UConn’s Hazardous Waste Transfer Station – now blandly dubbed “UConn Main Accumulation Area (MMA)” – out of the Fenton River watershed has been released. After very brief consideration, the Commission decided it didn’t need to add to what it had already said on this issue and unanimously agreed to the following **motion** (Kessel, Silander): “The Conservation Commission reiterates its statement of 18 April 2013 for forwarding to the Town Council”. That statement (04/18/13 minutes, item 7) reads:

The Mansfield Conservation Commission is pleased with the University of Connecticut’s decision to move the MMA (formerly known as the Hazardous Waste Transfer Station) out of a Mansfield public water supply watershed that contributes water to the Willimantic Reservoir. The Commission further notes that a similar decision was reached by the University about ten years ago, but the University never followed through on the recommendation to move the transfer station. The Commission therefore requests that the Town Council assist the University in any way possible to effect the move this time.

**4. Adjourned** at approximately 6:53p.

Scott Lehmann, Secretary, 09 January 2014; approved 19 March 2014.