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GoToMeeting | Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building  
4 So. Eagleville Road, Mansfield, CT

## DRAFT MINUTES

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Moran called the regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on GoToMeeting.

### 2. ROLL CALL

Present: Ausburger, Berthelot, Bruder, Fratoni, Freudmann, Kochenburger, Moran, Schurin, Shaiken

Mr. Shaiken **moved** Ms. Berthelot seconded to create a consent agenda that would be voted on after item number eight, new business, containing Approval of the Minutes and Financial Statements Dated December 31, 2020. Motion **passed** unanimously.

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved to consent agenda.

### 4. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Town Manager Ryan Aylesworth entered a transcribed voicemail from Eric Holinko into the record (statement attached).

### 5. REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER

Town Manager Ryan Aylesworth presented and discussed his written report. The report is available online at [www.MansfieldCT.gov](http://www.MansfieldCT.gov) and is on file with the Town Clerk.

### 6. REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Moran reported there is a vacancy on the Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board of Directors.

Ms. Berthelot **moved** and Mr. Schurin seconded to add Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board of Directors Appointment to new business following the Ordinance Prohibiting Firearms and Other Deadly Weapons in Town Buildings. Motion **passed** unanimously.

Mayor Moran reported that she participated in the parade honoring Roberta Smith and thanked the Fire Department, Historical Society, and Storrs Congregational Church for their participation. She also commended Senior Center and Health District staff for their work and thanked Mille Brosseau in particular.

## 7. OLD BUSINESS

### A. COVID-19 Update (Item #7A, 2.8.21 Agenda)

Robert L. Miller, Director of Health, Eastern Highland Health District (EHHD), provided the Council with an update on COVID-19 in Mansfield. Though case counts in the district are trending down overall, Mansfield is not dropping as much. However, Mansfield is ahead of the Connecticut curve for vaccine administration. In response to Councilor questions, Mr. Miller also discussed changes to the vaccination schedules, teacher vaccination plans, and vaccines for homebound patients.

### B. Ad Hoc Committee on Drafting an Ordinance Prohibiting Firearms and Other Deadly Weapons in Town Building (Item #8E, 2.8.21 Agenda)

Mr. Shaiken introduced the proposed ordinance on behalf of the Ordinance Development and Review Subcommittee. Town Attorney Kevin Deneen discussed the legality of the proposed ordinance. Mr. Shaiken indicated that a provision for archery students would need to be added later.

Mr. Shaiken, by the recommendation of the Ordinance Development and Review Subcommittee, **moved**, effective February 22, 2021, to schedule a public hearing for 7:00 p.m. at the Town Council's regular meeting on March 8, 2021, to solicit public comment regarding an ordinance prohibiting firearms and other dangerous weapons in town buildings or on town owned real property. Motion **passed** unanimously.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board of Directors Appointment

Mr. Schurin **moved** and Ms. Berthelot seconded appoint Sam Bruder to the vacant seat on the Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board of Directors. Motion **passed** unanimously.

### B. Financial Statements Dated December 31, 2020

Moved to consent agenda.

### C. Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grant Application

Mr. Aylesworth and Fire Chief Andrew Franklin summarized the Town's grant application and discussed the need for additional fire staff.

Mr. Bruder **moved** and Ms. Berthelot seconded, effective February 22, 2021, to authorize Town Manager Ryan J. Aylesworth, to submit an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), for a Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant. Motion **passed** with all in favor except Ausburger, Fratoni, and Freudmann who voted against.

### D. Mansfield Local Government Academy

Mr. Aylesworth reviewed his proposal for a local government academy. The Council conveyed its support for this initiative.

## 9. CONSENT AGENDA

- Approval of Minutes (February 8, 2021 regular meeting)
- Financial Statements Dated December 31, 2020

Council **approved** all items on the consent agenda by consensus.

## 10. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Ms. Berthelot reported that the Personnel Committee discussed the procedure for the Town Manager's six-month performance review.

Mr. Kochenburger reported that the Finance Committee discussed the recent financial statements and noted that tax collections are currently about the same as pre-COVID.

Mr. Bruder reported that the Affordable Housing Committee met and has a five-month plan to include a public hearing and a survey.

## 11. DEPARTMENTAL AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

## 12. PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

**A. Congressman Joe Courtney, letter to State of CT Officials re: 2021 Crumbling Foundations Priorities (1.29.21)**

**B. Congressmen Joe Courtney & John Larson, letter to IRS re: Protective Claims for Casualty Losses (2.4.21)**

**C. B. Clouette (2.8.21)**

**D. K. Lyman, Superintendent of Schools, letter to Town Manager re: MBOE 21-22 Adopted Budget (2.17.21)**

## 13. FUTURE AGENDAS

- Conversation about grants to area agencies

## 14. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Berthelot **moved** and Mr. Bruder seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m. The motion **passed** unanimously.

Antonia Moran, Mayor

Sara-Ann Chaine, Town Clerk

**From:** [Tasha N. Smith](#)  
**To:** [Sara-Ann Chaine](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Voice message from HOLINKO, APRIL[8604294449] MB: 3336  
**Date:** Monday, March 1, 2021 1:55:06 PM  
**Attachments:** [305710.wav](#)

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{Transcript of call}

Hi Tasha, this is Eric Holinko at 52 Middle Turnpike in Mansfield Depot. The reason why I'm calling is I've been advised to leave a message with the Town Manager about this ordinance that they want to vote on - beginning of the week. This is the Town Council, about a gun ordinance. The reason why I'm calling is - I feel this ordinance is just a useless ordinance. Time and time again the Town Council has had these ordinances come before them like that and they've really gone nowhere, and they're not enforceable... and besides on top of that, with this type of ordinance, you're really infringing on other people's rights as far as gun owners are concerned. If somebody is a gun owner that has a permit to carry and stuff - as far as like a hand gun goes, you know... you gotta leave them alone. It's their right, their privilege. They've paid for it. And if they're a law abiding citizen... there should be no problem. But anyhow if you want to talk to me further about this particular issue you can call me at either my cell phone, 860-xxx-xxxx or my home phone, its 860-xxx-xxxx. So, this is Eric Holinko, Mansfield Depot. Have a good day. It's about 9 o'clock in the morning. Thank you, bye - bye.

Tasha Smith  
Executive Assistant to the Town Manager

860.429.3336  
[SmithTN@mansfieldct.org](mailto:SmithTN@mansfieldct.org)  
[mansfieldct.gov](http://mansfieldct.gov)

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

From: HOLINKO, APRIL <[donotreply@mansfieldct.org](mailto:donotreply@mansfieldct.org)>  
Sent: Friday, February 19, 2021 9:01 AM  
To: Town Mngr <[TownMngr@MANSFIELDCT.ORG](mailto:TownMngr@MANSFIELDCT.ORG)>  
Subject: Voice message from HOLINKO, APRIL[8604294449] MB: 3336

Message length: 83 s. (135 kb.)