

MEMORANDUM

Town of Mansfield
Town Manager's Office
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860-429-3336 x5
townmanager@mansfieldct.org



To: Town Council
From: Derrik M. Kennedy, Town Manager
Cc: Town Employees
Date: May 29, 2018
Re: Town Manager's Report

Below please find my report concerning various items of interest to the Town Council, staff, and the community:

Council Business

- **Town Marketing and Branding Campaign:** If any councilors are interested in providing input into the Town's marketing/branding campaign, please let the town manager know. If interested, we could plan a pre-council meeting discussion with the consultant at either of the June council meetings for 6:00pm or 6:30pm.

Departmental Reports

- *Department of Public Works*
 - The Town Hall Roof Project has been ongoing for ten days. The flat roof portions will be completed this week. There is a small portion of shingle roof to be completed. The contractor is expected to be fully complete and in the cleanup stages by early next week, weather permitting.
 - Four Corners Sewer Project. The State Bond Commission has included a \$3 million grant for the Four Corners Sanitary Sewer Project on their June 1, 2018 agenda for approval. If approved, this will complete funding for the entire project as originally scoped. Next steps include finalizing the funding agreement with the CT Department of Energy and Environmental protection; obtaining remaining easements and permits; and bidding the construction contract
- *Mansfield Downtown Partnership*
 - In April the Town applied to have one of its census tracts (including the UConn Technology Park, Four Corners, North Eagleville Road, and UConn Depot Campus areas) identified as a federal opportunity zone. This would allow this area to be eligible for federal tax incentives for developers whereby capital gains are deferred. This is an economic development tool that could help facilitate and promote economic growth in these areas. All 72 communities in CT that applied were approved by the U.S. Department of Treasury for this designation, including Mansfield. Governor Malloy's press release can be accessed as follows: <http://portal.ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor/Press-Room/Press-Releases/2018/05-2018/Gov-Malloy-Announces-Federal-Approval-of-Connecticut-Opportunity-Zone-Nominations>. Staff is following up with State of Connecticut staff on guidance moving forward.

- *Parks and Recreation*
 - Congratulations to Jessica Tracy and her family (husband Dan, Son Owen, and daughters Olivia and Hannah) for their participation in fundraising efforts for Parkinson's disease research. This year will mark Jessica's 4th time competing in the Rock the Ridge endurance challenge in and around Minnewaska State Park in the Catskill Mountains. Over the past four years, the family has raised almost \$12,000 for the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research. For more information or to donate please visit <https://fundraise.michaeljfox.org/rock-the-ridge-2018/JessicaTracy>
- *Planning and Zoning*
 - Crumbling Foundation Testing. The State of Connecticut has announced another round of funding through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Small Cities program for a grant to assist homeowners with having their foundations tested for the presence of pyrrhotite. To help us determine whether to submit an application for funding, we need to establish potential demand for this type of assistance, particularly among low and moderate income homeowners. Homeowners that are interested in having their foundations tested should contact the Department of Planning and Development at 860.429.3330 or planzonedept@mansfieldct.org for additional information on the program as well as income eligibility requirements.

Miscellaneous

- *Memorial Day Parade and Commemoration Ceremonies* – Thank you to everyone who came out and made the day a success. The E.O. Smith and Mansfield Middle School marching bands provided the music, Pastor Ronald Baker from the First Baptist Church gave the invocation and benediction, Mayor Paul M. Shapiro gave the welcoming remarks, Senator Mae Flexer presented the Governor's Proclamation, and Christopher Paulhus led the Pledge of Allegiance. Special thanks to Lieutenant Colonel Paul Veilleux and Sara-Ann Chaine for serving another year as our invaluable master of ceremonies and event coordinator, respectively, and to all those who attended as a show of gratitude and respect for those who died protecting our liberties.

Upcoming Events

- *Storrs Farmers Market* – The Storrs Farmers Market is open every Saturday from 3:00 to 6:00 PM on the front lawn of the Mansfield Town Hall from May through November. Now in its 24th season, the Storrs Farmers Market features locally-grown vegetables, meats, cheeses, and more. Learn more at: storrsfarmersmarket.org.
- *Summer Stroll* – On Thursday, May 31st, the Mansfield Downtown Partnership invites residents and visitors to get into the summer spirit with a fun evening in Downtown Storrs! Participating business will offer sales and specials, summer treats, and open houses. This event is free and open to the public. Look for more details at mansfieldct.gov/summerstroll.
- *Summer Concerts on the Square* – The Mansfield Downtown Partnership is excited to announce the return of free music on Betsy Paterson Square! The Summer Concerts on the Square will run take place every Thursday in June and July from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM. All performance are free and open to the public. For the full 2018 schedule and band bios and videos, please visit mansfieldmusic.org.
- *CT Trails Weekend Walk at Fifty-foot Cliff Preserve* - Connecticut Trails Weekend is June 2nd and 3rd. Mansfield Parks and Recreation will be hosting a walk led by naturalists, Sue and Tom

Harrington at Fifty-foot Cliff Preserve from 1pm-3pm. Hikers should park at the First Baptist Church located at 945 Storrs Rd and walk to the trailhead behind the Mansfield Historical Society. For a complete list of the hundreds of guided hikes across that are part of CT Trails Weekend, go to the CT Forest and Parks Association website, www.CTwoodlands.org.

- *13th Annual John E. Jackman Tour de Mansfield* – The Mansfield Downtown Partnership, Mansfield Community Center, and Town of Mansfield will host the 13th Annual John E. Jackman Tour de Mansfield on Saturday, June 9, 2018. (The rain date is Sunday, June 10, 2018.). The John E. Jackman Tour de Mansfield offers a fun way to explore Mansfield's historic villages, scenic roads, and vibrant downtown! Choose from three different routes around town, all of which begin and end at the Mansfield Community Center. Enjoy riding around Mansfield at your own pace, and build camaraderie with fellow cycling enthusiasts while sharing a group lunch following the rides. For more information and to register, please visit mansfieldct.gov/biketour.
- *Kidsville Summer Kickoff presented by Educational Playcare* - The Mansfield Downtown Partnership invites children and their families to a special performance by the Kidsville Kuckoo Revue on Monday, June 25. The Kidsville Summer Kickoff, presented by Educational Playcare, will take place on Betsy Paterson Square. Everyone is invited to sing and dance and celebrate the start of summer vacation! The fun doesn't stop there: Visit mansfieldct.gov/summer for a look at all of the activities planned in Downtown Storrs this summer. From movies and musicals to concerts and puppets, there's something for every age to enjoy!

Upcoming Meetings*

All meetings are in Audrey P. Beck Building unless noted otherwise

CC – Council Chamber; CR B – Conference Room B; CR C – Conference Room C

- Planning and Development, May 30, 2018, 1:30PM, CC
- Regulations Review Committee, May 31, 2018, 8:30AM, CRB
- Inland Wetland Agency/Planning and Zoning Commission, June 4, 2018, 5:30PM, CC
- Four Corners Sewer and Water Advisory Committee, June 4, 2018, 6:30PM, CC
- Regulations Review Committee, June 7, 2018, 8:30AM, CC
- Safety and Wellness Committee, June 7, 2018, 2:00PM, CC
- Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board Meeting, June 7, 2018, 4:30PM, CC
- Finance Committee Meeting, June 11, 2018, 5:30PM, CRB
- Town Council, June 11, 2018, 7:00PM, CC

**Meeting dates/times are subject to change. Please view the [Town Calendar](#) or contact the Town Clerk's Office at 860-429-3302 for a complete and up-to-date listing of committee meetings.*