

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

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Antonia Moran called the meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:03 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Bruder (*late arrival noted below*), Coleman, Cotton, Kueffner, Moran, Schurin, Shaiken, Tomecko
Virtual: Litrico

3. PUBLIC HEARING

A. Public Hearing - Potential Acquisition of a 40-acre Parcel of Open Space on Warrenville Road (Assessor's Parcel ID 19.70.15)

The Town Clerk read the legal notice. Mayor Moran asked for comments. No comments were offered and the public hearing was closed.

4. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Jean Lenard, Deerfield Lane, spoke regarding the Community School of the Arts and ideas for improving the performing arts elements of the School including hiring an instructor to teach cello and chamber music that is also in tune with the demands of a music school and can serve as a coordinator.

Aaron Bowman, Middle Turnpike, spoke regarding his attendance at the recent community dinner and the dedication of the new fire truck. He expressed an interest in hiring more fire fighters and opening another fire station.

Shaiken **moved** and Kueffner seconded to adjust the agenda by moving item 5 Report of the Town Manager and item 6 Reports of Council Members to follow new business.

Coleman stated that he does not support the proposed change as it will keep community members and those watching from home waiting until the end of the meeting.

Moran noted that moving these items to the end of new business is an experiment.

Shaiken explained that the reason for the experiment is that it seems to take a particularly long amount of time for Councilors to comment on the Manager's report and make their own reports. The long reports and comments delay the Council's consideration of the business they were elected to handle until a time when many Councilors become tired.

Motion **passed** with all in favor except Coleman who voted against. (Bruder absent).

5. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Serve Connecticut Youth-Led Service Mini-Grant - Application Authorization

B. Materials Management Infrastructure Grant - Application Authorization

C. ~~Aquatic Invasive Species Control Grant (Eagleville Lake) - Application Authorization~~

D. **Schedule a Public Hearing on the Proposed Acquisition of 9.23 acres of land located on Browns and Stafford Road (Assessor 's Parcel ID 31.81.26- 1, 31.81.26-2, 31.81.26-3) for 12/09/2024**

E. **Capital Improvement Program Adjustments (FY2024/25): Police Equipment**

F. **11.12.2024 TC Minutes (Regular Meeting)**

Coleman requested that 5C Aquatics Invasive Species Control Grant (Eagleville Lake) - Application Authorization be removed from the Consent Agenda and be placed under new business.

Kueffner **moved** and Shaiken seconded to approve the consent agenda. Motion **passed** unanimously. (Bruder absent).

Motions approved by consent:

- Move, effective November 25, 2024, to authorize the Town Manager, in collaboration with appropriate Human Services staff members, to apply to the Serve Connecticut Youth-Led Mini-Grant on behalf of the Town of Mansfield to implement a Youth-led community service program.
- Move to authorize the Town Manager to submit a grant request in the amount of \$130,000 to support the creation of an aerated static compost pile at the Mansfield Transfer Station to the Connecticut DEEP, with project for funding coming from the Materials Management Infrastructure (MMI) Grant program.
- Be it resolved that the Town Council schedule a public hearing for its December 9, 2024 meeting and refer this matter to the Planning and Zoning Commission, pursuant to Section 8-24 of the Connecticut General Statutes.
- Move, effective November 25, 2024, to approve the adjustments to the Capital Projects fund to reallocate the \$20,000 that had previously been authorized for speed enforcement lasers to instead be used to purchase electric bicycles and traffic enforcement radar equipment.
- Move to approve the November 12, 2024 Town Council regular meeting minutes.

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. **Potential Acquisition of a 40-acre Parcel of Open Space on Warrenton Road (Assessor 's Parcel ID 19.70.15)**

Michael Stankov, Environmental Planner, presented regarding the particulars of property under consideration and its relation to other open space properties. Stankov answered councilor questions regarding Hansens pond access, forest management, access between Mount Hope and Simpson preserve, ADA access, and area wildlife. Jennifer Kaufman, Director of Planning and Development, answered Councilor questions regarding state and local open space goals.

Shaiken **moved** and Kueffner seconded to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that Ryan Aylesworth, Town Manager, is hereby authorized to execute on behalf of the Town of Mansfield a Purchase and Sale Agreement to acquire permanent interest in land known as the Hertzler Property, Assessor's Parcel ID 19.70.15, and to manage said land as open space land pursuant to Section 7-131d of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Shaiken commented that this is the kind of land we should buy as it is adjacent to currently owned open space.

Cotton requested that ADA accessibility to a property be taken into account when open space is being considered for purchase.

Motion **passed** unanimously. (Bruder absent).

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Commission on Aging Annual Update

(Bruder arrived).

John Riesen, Chairman of the Commission on Aging (COA), and Steve Stephens and Martina Wharton, COA members, presented regarding the Commission's key priorities: aging in the community, transportation, and the senior center. Commission members and Councilors discussed increasing senior housing in Mansfield, current senior transportation needs, replacement of the senior center building, maximizing air quality in a new building, and concepts for the location of a new senior center.

B. MRRA, Single-family, Multi-family and Transfer Station Rates

Bruder **moved** and Coleman seconded that the Council recess as the Town Council and convene as the Mansfield Resource Recovery Authority. Motion **passed** unanimously.

Virginia Walton, Recycling Coordinator, explained that the commercial fee increases are necessary as the solid waste fund has seen an increase in rates being charged to the Town.

Bruder **moved** and Kueffner seconded to adopt the following resolution:

Resolved, effective July 1, 2025, to amend Sections A196-12 (D),(F) and (G) of the Mansfield Solid Waste Regulations, to set new fees for tires, trash and recycling services in accordance with the new rate table as presented.

Motion **passed** unanimously.

Bruder **moved** and Coleman seconded that the Council recess as the Mansfield Resource Recovery Authority and convene as the Town Council. Motion **passed** unanimously.

Subject new monthly rates:

1. Transfer station charge for passenger tires - \$4 (currently \$3)
2. Transfer station charge for large truck tires on/off rims - \$15 (currently \$8 off rim, \$20 on rim)
3. Transfer station charge for construction/tractor tires - \$100 (currently \$100 <300 lbs, \$300 >300 lbs)
4. Single family extra recycle cart - \$9.10
5. Multi-family 20 gallon trash service - \$15.30
6. Multi-family two cubic yard **trash** dumpster emptied one time/week - \$105.60
7. Multi-family two cubic yard **trash** dumpster emptied twice time/week - \$198.00
8. Multi-family four cubic yard **trash** dumpster emptied one time/week - \$199.65
9. Multi-family four cubic yard **trash** dumpster emptied twice time/week - \$373.34
10. Multi-family six cubic yard **trash** dumpster emptied one time/week - \$281.05
11. Multi-family six cubic yard **trash** dumpster emptied twice time/week - \$526.35
12. Multi-family eight cubic yard **trash** dumpster emptied one time/week - \$362.45
13. Multi-family eight cubic yard **trash** dumpster emptied twice time/week - \$677.60
14. Multi-family eight cubic yard **trash** dumpster emptied three time/week - \$992.20

15. Multi-family eight cubic yard **trash** dumpster emptied four time/week - \$1306.80
16. Multi-family eight cubic yard **trash** dumpster emptied five time/week - \$1633.50
17. Multi-family eight cubic yard **trash** dumpster emptied six time/week - \$1958.00
18. Multi-family two cubic yard **recycle** dumpster emptied one time/week - \$55.00
19. Multi-family four cubic yard **recycle** dumpster emptied one time/week - \$110.00
20. Multi-family six cubic yard **recycle** dumpster emptied one time/week - \$143.00
21. Multi-family six cubic yard **recycle** dumpster emptied two time/week - \$286.00
22. Multi-family six cubic yard VIP compacting **recycle** dumpster emptied one time/week - \$737.00
23. Multi-family six cubic yard VIP compacting **recycle** dumpster emptied two time/week - \$957.00
24. Multi-family eight cubic yard **recycle** dumpster emptied one time/week - \$176.00
25. Multi-family eight cubic yard **recycle** dumpster emptied two time/week - \$352.00
26. Multi-family eight cubic yard **recycle** dumpster emptied three time/week - \$517.00
27. Multi-family eight cubic yard **recycle** dumpster emptied four time/week - \$682.00
28. Multi-family eight cubic yard **recycle** dumpster emptied five time/week - \$847.00
29. Multi-family eight cubic yard **recycle** dumpster emptied six time/week - \$1045.00
30. Multi-family eight cubic yard VIP compacting **recycle** dumpster emptied one time/week - \$792.00
31. Multi-family eight cubic yard VIP compacting **recycle** dumpster emptied two time/week - \$1067.00

C. Aquatic Invasive Species Control Grant (Eagleville Lake) - Application Authorization

Stankov explained the details of the grant and the method to managing the invasives. Kaufman noted that in order to continue using Eagleville Lake as a recreational resource, the invasives will require continued management.

Kueffner **moved** and Tomecko seconded, effective November 25, 2024, to authorize the Town Manager to submit a grant application to CT DEEP with the Town of Coventry for the implementation of a long-term strategy for controlling fanwort and water chestnut in Eagleville Lake and, if said grant application is approved, to accept said grant on behalf of the town and to act as the authorized representative of the Town and execute any agreement or contract relative to said project. Motion **passed** unanimously.

8. REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER

Aylesworth presented and discussed the Report of the Town Manager. The report is available online at www.MansfieldCT.gov and is on file with the Town Clerk.

Aylesworth answered Councilor questions regarding an issue with the pool at the Community Center and will report back to the Council regarding fire fighter staffing needs for the new fire truck and recent cancellations of the Economic Development Commission.

9. REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Moran reported that she had a very good time at the fire truck dedication ceremony and will soon be doing more ribbon cuttings for new businesses in town.

Shaiken reported that Dad's Doughs had a soft opening this past weekend.

Coleman reported on the upcoming Winter Welcome event and noted that he was shocked the Mayor did not want him in the Chronicle's photo of the ribbon cutting for the Mansfield General Store.

Moron added that the Mansfield General Store ribbon cutting event called for a photo of the Town Manager and the Mayor, not any other Council members.

10. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Bruder reported that the Personnel and Procedures Committee has been working on the Rules of Procedure and considering changes to retirement fund options for part time staff.

11. PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

A. Dzurec - Traffic & Pedestrians on Mansfield City Road

12. FUTURE AGENDAS

- Transportation for seniors
- Pedestrian safety
- Discussion about building a new senior center

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH CGS SEC. 1- 200(6)(D)

A. **Personnel in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes - § 1-200(6) (a) to finalize Town Manager Annual Performance Review**

Shaiken **moved** and Tomecko seconded to enter executive session for the purpose of Personnel in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes - § 1-200(6) (a) to finalize Town Manager Annual Performance Review. Motion **passed** unanimously.

The executive session concluded and the Council reconvened in open session.

Bruder **moved** and Shaiken seconded to increase the Town Manager's annual salary by 3% effective December 1, 2024 from \$200,392.16 to \$206,403.92. Motion **passed** with all in favor except Coleman who voted against.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Shaiken **moved** and Kueffner seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:01 p.m. The motion **passed** unanimously.

Antonia Moran, Mayor

Sara-Ann Chaine, Town Clerk