

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
October 3, 2006 – 7:00 p.m.
LINCOLN CENTER HEARING ROOM

FIRST MEETING OF THE MONTH

PRESENT: Chairman Howroyd, Vice-Chairman O'Neill, Secretary Zingler, Directors Sheridan, Topping, Doucette, Peak, Spadaccini, and Pelletier

ALSO: General Manager Shanley and Assistant Town Attorney O'Neil

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER.

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m. All in attendance participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, led by Chairman Howroyd.

Chairman Howroyd asked all present to join him in a moment of silence in memory of Ed Hachadourian, a previous member of the Board of Directors.

Joseph Camposeo, Town Clerk, administered the oath of office to newly appointed Board member Jason Doucette.

2. OPENING OF MEETING TO ELECTORS OR TAXPAYERS WHO WISH TO BE HEARD ON ANY SUBJECT WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Scott Aiken, 92 Laurel Street, welcomed Director Doucette to the Board. He suggested the neighborhoods affected by the weed and seed grant should be involved in discussions, similar to the procedure for the CDBG grant. He is sorry to see the officers from Cooper Street Station retire and hopes the Police Department will replace them with enthusiastic officers.

Milt Perlman, 2 Sanford Road, welcomed Director Doucette. He spoke about taxes in Manchester going up, while services are being cut. He speculated the Town would end up with fee-based services. Mr. Perlman would like to know the total cost for leaf collection and how the dollars break down.

Bill Ogden, 137 Branford Street, welcomed Director Doucette. He does not feel accolades should be given for finally fixing a water problem that has existed for 25 years. The Republicans have announced they are not in favor of the purchase of the Parkade property. Mr. Ogden would like to know the Democrats' position on this issue. Cemetery prices are rising and people will not be able to afford to be buried. Management Partners made several suggestions that are still not being followed. Mr. Ogden would like an explanation from the Manchester Country Club about their loss of \$66,000.

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS.

- A. Appropriation to Special Projects as follows:
1. Public Safety – Police Department – Dog Pound.....\$20
to be financed by a donation from Elisabeth Healy which is gratefully acknowledged and accepted.
 2. State Asset Forfeiture.....\$11,924
for continuing narcotics investigations, equipment and training to be financed by proceeds from narcotics investigations.
 3. Memorial Tree Program.....\$610
to be financed by donations received in honor of William J. Brown, Robert Cabell Duke, Stanley Zapadka, Canon Clinton Jones, Willard J. Gee, Robina Wales, Robert T. Vonderkall, Molly Merchant, Truman and Wilma Schlehofer, Harold V. Cammeyer, and Charles Mozzer which are gratefully acknowledged and accepted.

Chairman Howroyd opened the floor for public comment at this time.

Bill Ogden, 137 Branford Street, thinks the Town should enforce rules about cutting down trees on Town property. People are donating money to plant trees; meanwhile, trees are being cut down without the Town's permission.

There being no further public comment the hearing on this item was closed.

- B. Appropriations to Education Special Projects as follows:
1. Manchester Education Association (MEA) President.....\$28,168
for .5 release time for the 2006/2007 school year to be financed by MEA.
 2. Increase in Cross Country Challenge Program.....\$1,000
to be financed by a grant from the Savings Bank of Manchester Charitable Foundation.
 3. Cedar Street Station and
Washington Media Arts Magnet School.....\$231,498
for after school care at Verplanck and Washington Elementary Schools to be financed by the 21st Century Community Learning Grant from the United States Department of Education.
 4. Individuals with Disabilities Education
Improvement Act (IDEIA).....\$1,577,670
to be funded by a preliminary grant award (IDEIA 611) for 2006-2007 for special education students ages 3-21.
 5. Individuals with Disabilities Education
Improvement Act (IDEIA).....\$68,855
to be funded by a preliminary grant award (IDEIA 619) for 2006-2007 for special education students ages 3-5.

Chairman Howroyd opened the floor for public comment at this time.

Milt Perlman, 3 Sanford Road, asked if item B.4 is a supplement to the budget and what the money funded. Mr. Shanley answered that it is non-budgeted Federal money, which should not supplant local money. The money funded teachers and equipment.

There being no further public comment the hearing on this item was closed.

Director Spadaccini asked how the money in items B.4 and B.5 compare with last year's grants but the answer was unknown.

Secretary Zingler asked if item B.2 is a one time grant or an annual grant, as well as the number of students served. Cynthia Womack, Principal of Washington Elementary School, explained that this is the second year of a five-year grant. In Washington Elementary School, about 150 students are involved and in Verplanck Elementary School, about 80 to 100 students are involved.

Director Peak asked if participation in the program is limited by space. Principal Womack answered that there is a waiting list of about 10 to 15 students.

Vice-Chairman O'Neill asked about the impact of the tutoring program on test scores. Principal Womack answered there has been an improvement in test scores and she thinks the tutoring is one of several factors contributing to the improvement.

- C. Approval of a Resolution regarding agreement with the Town of South Windsor for the designation of Fire Marshals.

General Manager Shanley explained that this is a reciprocal agreement that has been in place between the towns. The Town of South Windsor asked that it become a written agreement.

Chairman Howroyd opened the floor for public comment at this time. There being no public comment the hearing on this item was closed.

Director Spadaccini suggested working with the Town of South Windsor to develop a special services district consisting of the Buckland/Evergreen Walk area. Mr. Shanley explained there is considerable cooperation and discussion with South Windsor, however nothing has been formalized into a special service district.

- D. Appropriation to General Fund – Field Services.....\$2,000
for field upgrade projects at Kennedy Road to be financed by a donation from Manchester Soccer Club which is gratefully acknowledged and accepted.

Chairman Howroyd explained that the work on Kennedy Road has been completed and has corrected a long-standing drainage problem.

Chairman Howroyd opened the floor for public comment at this time. There being no public comment the hearing on this item was closed.

- E. Approval of an ordinance authorizing the sale by the Town of Manchester of premises known as 180 Sheldon Road for the sum of Eight Thousand Five Hundred and 00/100 (\$8,500.00) Dollars, to The Avon Building Supply Company. (A copy of the proposed ordinance may be seen in the Town Clerk's office during business hours.)

General Manager Shanley explained that the sale of this property will allow the buyer access to two landlocked parcels they currently own. The land to be sold has already been deemed by the Town as surplus.

Chairman Howroyd opened the floor for public comment at this time. There being no public comment the hearing on this item was closed.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR. (with the addition of 3.E)

- 3A. Appropriation to Special Projects as follows:
 - 1. Public Safety – Police Department – Dog Pound.....\$20
to be financed by a donation from Elisabeth Healy which is gratefully acknowledged and accepted.
 - 2. State Asset Forfeiture.....\$11,924
for continuing narcotics investigations, equipment and training to be financed by proceeds from narcotics investigations.
 - 3. Memorial Tree Program.....\$610
to be financed by donations received in honor of William J. Brown, Robert Cabell Duke, Stanley Zapadka, Canon Clinton Jones, Willard J. Gee, Robina Wales, Robert T. Vonderkall, Molly Merchant, Truman and Wilma Schlehofer, Harold V. Cammeyer, and Charles Mozzer which are gratefully acknowledged and accepted.
- 3B. Appropriations to Education Special Projects as follows:
 - 1. Manchester Education Association (MEA) President.....\$28,168
for .5 release time for the 2006/2007 school year to be financed by MEA.
 - 2. Increase in Cross Country Challenge Program.....\$1,000
to be financed by a grant from the Savings Bank of Manchester Charitable Foundation.
 - 3. Cedar Street Station and
Washington Media Arts Magnet School.....\$231,498
for after school care at Verplanck and Washington Elementary Schools to be financed by the 21st Century Community Learning Grant from the United States Department of Education.

- 4. Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA).....\$1,577,670
to be funded by a preliminary grant award (IDEIA 611) for 2006-2007 for special education students ages 3-21.
- 5. Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA).....\$68,855
to be funded by a preliminary grant award (IDEIA 619) for 2006-2007 for special education students ages 3-5.
- 3C. Approval of a Resolution regarding agreement with the Town of South Windsor for the designation of Fire Marshals.
- 3D. Appropriation to General Fund – Field Services.....\$2,000
for field upgrade projects at Kennedy Road to be financed by a donation from Manchester Soccer Club which is gratefully acknowledged and accepted.
- 3E. Approval of an ordinance authorizing the sale by the Town of Manchester of premises known as 180 Sheldon Road for the sum of Eight Thousand Five Hundred and 00/100 (\$8,500.00) Dollars, to The Avon Building Supply Company. (A copy of the proposed ordinance may be seen in the Town Clerk’s office during business hours.)
- 15A. Approval of job description for GIS Technician I.
- 15B. Approval of revised job descriptions as follows:
 - 1. Civil Engineer
 - 2. Design Engineer
 - 3. GIS Technician II
 - 4. Engineering Technician
- 15C. Acceptance of resignation of William Dorn from the Cheney Hall Board of Commissioners with a term expiring November 2007.
- 15E. Approval of a resolution authorizing the General Manager to enter into and amend contractual agreements with the State of Connecticut for the Head Start pre-planning grant of \$100,000.
- 15G. Authorization to publish legal notice of the revised Pension Plan ordinance by summary in lieu of full text.
- 15I. Approval of a resolution regarding Electronic Voting Equipment Agreement.

Secretary Zingler moved to accept the Consent Calendar with the addition of item 3.E and Director Sheridan seconded the motion.

Nine Voted in Favor

5. REPORTS.

- A. Manager’s Report.
 - 1. Utility Policy – Southwest Manchester

General Manager Shanley explained that Town staff has been approached by developers on different occasions about the possibility of working with MDC or the Town of Glastonbury to provide water and sewer lines in their developments. Town staff does not know the position of

the Board of Directors on this issue and would like to offer some pros and cons, develop some dialogue, and in the end acquire ultimate direction from the Board for future inquiries. Mr. Shanley asked Mark Pellegrini, Director of Neighborhood Services and Economic Development, Richard Staye, Utility Engineer, and Patrick Kearney, Acting Water and Sewer Administrator, to explain the situation regarding developable land in the southwest quadrant of Manchester.

Mark Pellegrini defined the area and explained that approximately two-thirds of the 640 acre area has no public water or sewer. Rich Staye explained that installing public water would require a significant capital expenditure, but would provide safe potable water, continuous water supply during electrical outages, and increase Manchester's customer base. Future developers could be required to share in the costs of installation. Mr. Staye continued by explaining that installing a public sewer line would also require a significant capital expenditure, but would provide a safe, reliable means of protecting the environment. Future developers could also be required to share in the costs of installation of sewer lines. Installation of water and sewer lines would increase the pressure for a zone change in the southwest quadrant of Town because required lot size could be reduced.

After a discussion among Chairman Howroyd, Directors Peak, Topping, Doucette, Sheridan, Spadaccini, and Pelletier, General Manager Shanley, Mr. Staye, and Mr. Pellegrini, Mr. Shanley stated that he thought the conversation was very helpful, and that he had enough input to develop a draft policy.

B. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA THAT MAY NEED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR THE NEXT MEETING.

Chairman Howroyd volunteered to be the representative from the Board of Directors at the upcoming mediation session.

Director Sheridan noted the upcoming discussion on the Water and Sewer Rate Study and asked for a 365 day model in addition to the 180 day already provided for operating expense reserve. Mr. Shanley will provide that.

Director Spadaccini suggested allocating the \$50,000 budgeted for textbook loans to the Board of Education. He would like to see this on the agenda for next week.

Director Pelletier asked that a copy of the 2000 Water Study be forwarded to the Directors as well as a list of "must do" projects and possibly a GIS mapping of the projects.

Director Doucette asked about the status of the explanatory text regarding the purchase of the Parkade property. Mr. Shanley explained that the text has been approved by the State and it is currently being prepared for publishing by the Town Clerk's office.

Secretary Zingler informed the Board that Director Sheridan will be taking the place of former Director Hachey on the Health, Human and Leisure Services Committee.

Chairman Howroyd explained that there will be some re-aligning of the subcommittees and as changes are made, the Board will be notified.

General Manager Shanley asked to add an Executive Session after the next meeting to discuss pending litigation.

Director Peak noticed that a big part of the rate increases involved with the water rate stem from capital projects. He requested more information on the nature of the projects. He also noted that the McGuire Group is being audited by the State and they are involved in the Water and Sewer Rate Study. He asked if the Town's confidence in them should be shaken.

6. RECESS TO SECOND WEEK.

The meeting was recessed until the October 10, 2006 second meeting of the month.

Director Spadaccini moved and Director Doucette seconded the motion.

Nine Voted in Favor

Recess: 9:05 p.m.

gem

APPROVE:

ATTEST:

Secretary, Manchester Board of Directors