



ESTABLISHED 1659

**CITY OF NORWICH**  
CONNECTICUT

JOHN SALOMONE  
CITY MANAGER  
(860) 823-3750

100 Broadway  
Norwich, CT 06360  
Fax (860) 885-2131

**To:** Mayor Nystrom and members of the City Council  
**From:** John Salomone, City Manager  
**Subject:** City Manager's Report  
**Date:** October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Meetings attended via conference call or video were Governor Lamont updates, State representatives and legislators, Southeastern Council of Governments, (SCCOG), NPU-City Coordination Meeting, Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) Connecticut Interlocal Risk Management Agency (CIRMA), the annual ICMA Conference, NCDC Board meeting, City Department Heads and numerous updates on the COVID-19 upsurge in Norwich.

A press conference was held outside at City Hall plaza on October 1<sup>st</sup>, to address the media of the situation. Representatives from the city and state, local and state health officials and medical personal from Backus Hospital were in attendance. Norwich Public Schools and Norwich Free Academy reverted to all-remote learning for the next 2 weeks and there were 10 locations scheduled for COVID testing over the past weekend. This is a serious issue in the Norwich community and I urge everyone to continue to practice social distancing and wear their masks in public.

The McGrath Consulting Group, Inc., the consulting firm to perform the analysis of the City's fire services, had to postpone their visit due to the upsurge in COVID cases. Purchaser, Bob Castronova and I will be discussing future dates for their visit at the end of the week and I will advise you as soon as we reschedule.

Staff and I had a rating review with Standard & Poor's on Wednesday, September 30<sup>th</sup> for the bond refunding issue that will close later this month. I felt the call went well and we should have our updated rating by Thursday October 8<sup>th</sup>.

Public Works Director Pat McLaughlin, has advised that the Sunnyside Street Bridge project is progressing ahead of schedule and the most disruptive phase of the project is finished. With the paving of the road on Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>, future road closures will be limited to the one day that the new guide rail is installed. Currently the slate roofs are being installed on the two turrets on the south end of the bridge. This work is not affecting traffic, and all work will be completed this month.

The Rose City Senior Center has had 2 foot care clinics with a total of 47 patients. The clinics went very well and were extremely organized, clear rules to participation and strict sanitation procedures were followed. Foot care and health checks are vital to the health care of our seniors.

The City Clerk's office sent out over 4,400 absentee ballots on October 2, 2020. If you need an absentee ballot, please notify the City Clerk's Office at 860-823-3732. If you are to voting by absentee ballot, please mail back to the Clerk's office ASAP or drop it one of the four drop boxes located around the City. If you would like to vote in person all six of our polling places will be open and you will have to follow the social distancing guide lines.