



ESTABLISHED 1659

CITY OF NORWICH
CONNECTICUT

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To: Mayor Nystrom and members of the City Council
From: John Salomone, City Manager
Subject: City Manager's Report
Date: December 21, 2020

Meetings attended via conference call or video were Governor Lamont updates, State representatives and legislators, Southeastern Council of Governments, (SCCOG), South East Area Transit (SEAT) Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) Board of Director Meeting, NPU-City Coordination Meeting, CIRMA Investment and Board of Directors meetings, NCDC Board meeting, Restaurant Reopening Committee, Region 4, Department of Health COVID-19 updates, Snow Storm Preparation, and City Departments.

I have been informed from the McGrath Consulting Group, Inc., that the analysis of the City's fire services is in draft form and it will be completed by year end as scheduled. There will be a presentation to the Council in January.

The City will receive an allocation of Federal Coronavirus Aid in the amount of \$545,972 which is in on tonight's agenda for expenditures incurred before December 30, 2020.

Winter storm Gail was an all hands on deck winter storm for our Public Works Department. In preparation for the winter weather conditions, combined with the current COVID pandemic, the Director had reached out to NPU for a plan to utilize NPU employees, both CDL plow truck drivers, and laborers, to supplement the PW workforce if it became shorthanded from the virus. Consideration was given to utilizing an NPU driver for plowing, but that plan was not implemented. Streets and parking lots open with our own forces. Snow removal operations went as smoothly as could be expected. There was approximately 14 hours of overtime for most Public Works employees over the course of three days. Nearly 500 tons of salt was utilized, for an approximate storm cost of \$50,000. Having the plan with NPU in place provides a degree of assurance as we move deeper into the winter months.

My office has received notification of the approved contributions for the 2020 Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act. Norwich approved contributions totaled \$179,992.91 with Norwich Public Utilities contributing \$147,939.38 of that. Thank you to them and the other supporters who contributed this year. The full list is on the State of Connecticut website.

Norwich Youth and Family Services held a drive-by Santa event on December 11, 2020 with approximately 150 participants. It was a creative way to allow children and their families to maintain a holiday season tradition. The Norwich Police also participated by spreading holiday cheer and children had the opportunity to drop off a letter to Santa.

Norwich Recreation is holding a snowman contest. Entries will be accepted until December 27th and they will be starting a new submission date with each snow storm. They also held a wreath and house decorating contest.

Happy Holidays to all, please stay safe.