



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: August 2, 2021

As a result of the higher than average Covid-19 cases in New London County and the CDC recommendations to our local Health Department, I have required that everyone wear a mask or face coverings in all City Buildings regardless of their vaccination status until further notice. Notices have been placed at the entrances of the buildings, on our website and Facebook.

Meetings attended included, State representatives and legislators, Southeastern Council of Governments (SCCOG), NPU-City Coordination Meeting, Strom Elsa Preparation, Public Safety, Fire Chiefs and NCDC. I also held a press conference for the American Rescue Plan (ARP) and went on WICH's Stu Bryer show to discuss the City's intent for use of the funds.

Work on the Franklin Square Roundabout has begun and should be completed by the end of September. The work will improve traffic flow and enhance the streetscape. Public Works has awarded the contract for Dunham Street for \$1.44 Million with construction expected to start in August. Nearly six and one half miles of roads were chip sealed in July, including Wawecus Hill Rd., Rogers Rd., Mohegan Park Rd., Wilderness Rd., John Edward Rd., and Montville Rd. The City's paving Contractor Charles Pasteryak Jr. Inc., completed Bayberry Hill Rd., Lornadale Dr., Philanne Dr., and Cottonwood Rd., in the second half of June.

The City took title to the abandoned former YMCA property on July 12th. The City has renewed its efforts to secure the property and environmental studies have started so that the property can be developed.

The tax auction that was held in early July enabled the City to collect back taxes on 17 properties in the amount of \$491,817.04 at auction and \$267,129.27 prior to auction for a total of \$758,946.31. Tax payments have been steady and will be reflected in my next report.

The City Clerk has received a historic document preservation Grant for \$7,500 which will allow the office staff to scan land records from 1938 and prior years.

Griffin Health held COVID-19 vaccination clinics at City Hall on July 1st, 2nd & 6th 28th to 30th. They will also be offering free vaccines at Spaulding Pond in July and August.

Thank you to those that offered to purchase the bronze plaque that turned up at a local scrap yard that honored Tator the Gator, the original team mascot for the Norwich Navigators. My assistant, Jacquie

Barbarossa, called Claire Bessette from the Day to do a story about the memorabilia to hopefully reunite the plaque with Tator very soon.

National Night out will be held at Brown Park on Tuesday, August 3rd, for the 38th year. It's great way for families to interact with our Police Department and local community organizations. CDC guidelines will be in effect at the event.

Attached are my Fire Chiefs report that was presented at the July Public Safety meeting and quarterly reports from departments ending June 30th, 2021.