



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: February 7, 2022

Meetings attended were with State representatives and legislators, Southeastern Council of Governments (SCCOG), Connecticut Conference of Municipalities, (CCM), NPU-City Coordination meeting, Standard & Poor's Bond Rating call who affirmed the City's AA/stable rating, Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for the Blizzard of 2022 and the first of 2 Goal Setting Sessions.

Through Thursday February 3rd, Norwich Public Works, (NPW), has responded to ten winter weather events this season. While most of these have had little accumulation, there has been a moderate amount of icing, which required numerous treatments. Two of these storms have been significant, one on January 7th, which dropped about 7 inches of snow, and the recent Blizzard of 2022, on Saturday January 29th, which dumped about 22 inches of snow on Norwich. This latest storm was an all hands on deck situation. Plows started in the very early morning hours Saturday, and continued on their routes until about noon on Sunday. The Fleet Mechanics and the Building Maintenance people were all in for the duration of the storm. Approximately 300 tons of salt were used for this storm, bringing the season's total usage to about 1000 tons, still less than half of a typical winter. The post blizzard clean-up included four days of snow removal from the Downtown, Greeneville, and Taftville streets. The purpose of this clean-up is to make the streets safer for both vehicles and pedestrians. Most of this work has been done on regular time, incurring minimal additional overtime costs. Thanks to the Norwich Police, who proactively enforced the parking ban, both during the storm, and for post storm clean-up activities, and NPU who has provided a large ten wheel dump truck, and driver, for the clean-up. While the costs of responding to these ten storms was significant, in the neighborhood of \$150,000, this is something we budget for. As long as the next two months are not out of the ordinary, we should be in a satisfactory position from a budgetary standpoint.

The City's Community Development Office is accepting Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) applications until 4 pm Thursday, February 10, 2022 for the upcoming program year and anticipate \$876,317 in federal funding. Additional information is available on their website.

Governor Lamont's announced the fourth round of Community Connectivity Grants and Norwich will be awarded \$599,887 for the installation of 0.6 mile of sidewalks along West Town Street which will improve pedestrian safety.

Congratulations to Norwich Human Services who were recognized by the NAACP with the Roberstine Duncan Memorial Award, along with the Unitarian Universalist Church of Norwich for their work serving the citizens of Norwich during the pandemic. The award included a Certificate of Special Recognition from Senator Richard Blumenthal and the award was presented to the Norwich Human Services team by Senator Cathy Osten and Representative Kevin Ryan.

I have attached Norwich Community Development Corporation (NCDC) Annual Report for yearend December 31, 2021.