



ESTABLISHED 1659

CITY OF NORWICH
CONNECTICUT

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To: Mayor Hinchey and members of the City Council
From: John Salomone, City Manager
Subject: City Manager's Report
Date: November 6, 2017

The Mayor and I continue our weekly meetings.

The Governor has signed the budget and staff and I are sorting out the financial impact to the city. I also met with Superintendent Abby Dolliver and staff regarding the budget.

Pension negotiations are ongoing with the most recent meeting held on November 3rd.

Staff and I met with several of the Volunteer Fire Department Chiefs and Christopher Wardrop from USI Insurance on October 16th to discuss consolidating insurance coverage to save money.

On October 18th staff and I met to discuss the opioid issues in Norwich. Plans are in the works to have a town hall meeting forum to let the community know what the city is doing in regards to this national crisis.

I had my monthly meeting with Department Heads. I informed staff that City Planner, Deanna Rhodes has been assigned the supervision of the Planning and Neighborhood Services Department. Lee-Ann Gomes announced that her department was assisting with the transition of Puerto Rican evacuees into the area if needed. Her department is now officially located in City Hall. Bob Farwell, Otis Library Executive Director, announced that the library is offering citizenship classes in conjunction with Norwich Adult Education and Hartford Public Library. Twenty people have enrolled, with Tibetans representing the single largest group of participants. Ryan Thompson announced his staff is preparing for winter and that work will start on the Sherman Street Bridge. I would also like to congratulate Ryan for passing the State of CT Surveyor Licensing exam. He has been working on attaining this goal since he was in college.

Two bids for the former Human Services Building were received and are being reviewed with staff.

I attended the International City/County Management Association on October 23rd and 24th.

On November 2nd I attended a meeting at SCCOG to review consultants for a Regional Community Rating System Program/Model study for which I am on the selection panel.

In conjunction with *Light Up City Hall*, my assistant, Jacquie Barbarossa has ordered a limited number of wooden City Hall replicas from Cat's Meow Village which will be sold at the event on December 1st. Cat's Meow Village has been crafting "little wooden buildings" of local, national, and international landmarks for 35 years which feature a little cat. They are a collectible item that the City had several years ago and any profit will be used to fund the event.

Gabe Lipman, Art Teacher from Norwich Public Schools has delivered a new supply of artwork that is now on display throughout City Hall. Please take a look at these impressive works of art from our talented students.

Website training for departments took place on November 2nd & 3rd at the NPU Training Room and the new website will be available to all by the end of November.