



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 3, 2018

I attended the monthly Harbor Management meeting and had my monthly meeting with Department Heads. I attended the Opportunity Zone Workshop along with numerous City and State officials, local business and community leaders regarding the new federally approved tax benefit program. The program provides federal tax incentives for investors to re-invest unrealized capital gains into areas of a community. Norwich has 3 Opportunity Zones that are eligible in census tracts 6967, 6968 and 6970 and include Thamesville, downtown and the Laurel Hill-East Side areas of the City.

The Bonding documents were signed for the \$7.97 million bond sale which will yield competitive interest rates based on the "AA" rating received from S & P Global Ratings. Seven bids were received with Morgan Stanley & Company submitting the winning bid with a 3.47% interest rate. The bonds will provide financing for various City projects including the recently approved Public Safety Equipment and Radio System. The City benefited from a favorable bond market environment which will help keep the taxpayers' impact as low as possible. The settlement date for the sale is December 6th.

The first rounds of interviews for the Fire Chief position were held on Friday, November 30th. Seven candidates were interviewed and I anticipate meeting with the finalists in the next 2 weeks.

The City has received its three year re-designation as a HEARTSafe Community from the Connecticut Department of Public Health.

My assistant is in the process of scheduling a Council Workshop as an update to the Strategic Planning Session that was held last year with Jim O'Shea from Achievement Unlimited of CT. The tentative date is February 9th 2019.

Holiday activities have begun. The Norwich Winterfest Parade was held on Saturday December 1st and was enjoyed by many who filled the downtown streets. The Norwich Youth Action Council & Norwich Youth Family Services will hold a FREE Family Night for children in grades 1-4 at the Rose City Senior Center on December 6th. The 27th Light-Up City Hall will take place on Friday, December 7th from 4:30-6:30 pm followed by First Friday Events and the Tommy Toy Fun Run. Thank you to those that volunteer their time and to those who donate to make these events a continued success and tradition. Light up City Hall will include a live radio broadcast, children's activities, and photos with Santa. Cat's Meow ornaments will also be sold at the event, one of City of Hall and the other of Leffingwell Museum for \$10. They will be available for sale that the City Clerk's Office, Backus Hospital Gift Shop and the Leffingwell House Museum.

I have attached the Treasurer's Report from Michael Gualtieri, for quarter ended September 30th 2018 for your review.