



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 19, 2019

The Goal Setting and Strategic Planning Special Meeting with the City Council, invited Department Heads, Board of Education and NDCD guests was held on Saturday, February 9th at Foundry 66. The purpose was to review and update the City Council's short and long term priorities. Jim O'Shea, the Facilitator, is assembling his report which will be forthcoming. I will distribute when it has been completed.

Staff and I met regarding the City's Property Disposition process to determine if it needed to be updated and possibly have an RFQ for preferred developers.

The Mayor and I meet with staff and members of Board of Education regarding traffic issues on Rt. 82 with Mahan School.

I executed the contract for the UPSE Union 911 Emergency Dispatchers on February 13th. After lengthy negotiations the changes were implemented and the contract is in effect until June 30, 2022.

The Community Development Office received 17 Block Grant applications this year in addition to their office funding request. This year's anticipated allocation is \$836,068 with requests totaling \$1,515,020. The Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) deliberations will begin soon with funding recommendations to be forwarded to the Council in April.

The Public Works Engineering Department has completed the 2018 MS4 annual report which is required by the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) general permit for discharge of stormwater from Municipal Separate Storm Sewage Systems. The City's Engineering Department is asking Norwich residents to help address these problems by reducing the amount of fertilizer used on grass and by using proper ways to dispose of pet waste. The Engineering Department is encouraging residents to report illicit discharges at (860) 823-3798. The full MS4 report is available on the City's website along with valuable resources on how to protect the integrity of our stormwater.

Filming at City Hall for the Hallmark movie *Holiday for Heroes* has been completed. Filming took place in room 335, the City Manager's office, and outside in the plaza where the film crew recreated winter settings with Christmas festivities. It was interesting and fascinating to watch the numerous crew members and actors rehearse and film for the scenes which went until 2 am. Thank you to the employees in City Hall that accommodated the entire process, especially the Building Maintenance staff and to the crew for filming after working hours. The City was given an autographed script page from the cast which will be framed and displayed in City Hall.

The annual Sweet Potato Festival will be held on Saturday, February 23rd at the Rose City Senior Center from 12:00-3:00 pm. The event is sponsored by the Norwich NAACP.