



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 16, 2019

The official swearing in ceremony for Council and Board of Education took place on Tuesday, December 3rd and was followed by a reception. Congratulations and thank you to family members, friends, and local dignitaries that attended. Special thanks to Rabbi Rabinowitz for the opening prayer, City Assessor Donna Ralston for singing the national anthem, and BSA Troop 4 and Pack 4 for their participation. Also thank you to City Clerk, Betsy Barrett, Mayors Secretary, Bonnie Cuprak, my assistant, Jacque Barbarossa and Building Facilities & Grounds Manager, John Johnson and staff for their assistance in organizing the event.

I attended the monthly Southeastern Council of Governments (SCCOG) and South Eastern Area Transit (SEAT) meetings. I attended the Badge Pinning Ceremony for Firefighter Zachary Topping; congratulations to our new firefighter. I also attended the annual Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) convention that was held December 3rd and 4th. The City was recognized and presented with the bronze certification from *SustainableCT* at the luncheon. In addition to the presentation, several staff members and I attended informative workshops at the event.

Staff and I finalized the sale of the 20 year, 3.5 million bond for the City with an interest rate of 2.34% to maintain a strong AA rating with Standard and Poor.

My assistant has scheduled the yearly goal setting session for all council members for Saturday, February 8th and additional information will follow in January.

The Recreation Department's winter brochure is available in print and on the City's website with over 80 programs starting in January.

Thank you to the Norwich Youth Action Council, a student run community service organization supported by Norwich Youth and Family Services. Their annual Holiday Family Fun Night for K-4th graders and their families was held on December 4th at the Senior Center. Over 120 people attended this free event that featured food, crafts, games, and a visit from Santa.

The 28th annual Light Up City Hall Event was held on First Friday December 6th. Thank you to the committee, sponsors, performers, and volunteers who make this event possible. Special thanks to the *Rows City Knitters at Otis Library* who donated over 180 scarves and more than 100 hand knitted hats and mittens the day of the event to keep our residents warm throughout the season. Thank you to the Norwich Events Organization for the annual Winterfest Parade that was held the next day making it a festive weekend in the downtown for those who attended.

After months of anticipation, the *Norwich Sea Unicorns* was selected as the name for the City's minor league baseball team and features a logo of a feisty gray narwhal holding a bat with a harpoon. Best of luck for the 2020 season.