



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: April 20, 2020

I would like to thank our community for following "Stay Safe, Stay Home" guidelines during the Covid-19 pandemic. Special thanks to our essential employees, and first responders that must continue to serve the public with this new way of conducting business and services which has been constantly changing and evolving over the past 5 weeks.

There is a new way of life at City Hall and in our community and we continue to follow and comply with the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Governor's Lamont's orders. City Departments have become creative with meetings, online applications and steering people to the City website so that staff can work remotely. There is a banner notice on the home page of the City website for City operations during COVID-19. Youth and Family Services has posted 11 videos related to coping strategies, stress management and substance use prevention for kids. The Recreation Department has been extremely creative with keeping our youth entertained by posting daily activities for families and even having a virtual "Easter Egg Hunt".

Meetings are now held via conference call or video conferencing including; weekly meetings with Governor Lamont, Senator Osten, Region 4 Division of Emergency Management & Homeland Security, Statewide COVID-19 Local Health Departments and Department Head updates. Monthly meetings included, SEAT & SCCOG and Public Safety Committee. I also held a press conference with the local newspapers and radio station for the upcoming budget and had a phone interview with Stu Bryer for WICH.

The City Budget hearings have been held via teleconference and live streamed on the City's website and local public access TV and will be continued with the Council Meetings until restrictions are lifted. Special thanks to our IT department for the extra time and effort to keep up with the technology during this time and for my assistant, Jacquie Barbarossa for learning the conference bridge phone provided by Norwich Public Utilities and the City's new internal "TurboBridge" systems provided by IT. Remember, we are all in this together.

I have attached the City Departments, Otis Library and Norwich Community Development reports for quarter ending March 31, 2020. Also attached, is the Key Financial Indicators report for the eight months ended February 29th from Comptroller Josh Pothier.