



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: June 1, 2020

Regular scheduled meetings over the past 2 weeks held via conference call or video conferencing were with Governor Lamont, State representatives and legislators, Region 4 Division of Emergency Management & Homeland Security, Statewide COVID-19 Local Health Departments, Southeastern Council of Governments, (SCCOG) South East Area Transit (SEAT), School Budget Ad Hoc Committee, Restaurant Reopening Committee and Department Heads.

Staff and I discussed the Councils proposed Fire Study with Acting-Fire-Chief, Keith Wucik, and the Volunteer Fire Departments representative, Yantic Fire Chief, Frank Blanchard to assist and coordinate throughout the entire process and we will be meeting accordingly. The goal is to have the RFP issued by the end of June.

The Office of Community Development received 7 applications totaling \$563,768.10 for the Program Year 45 amendment which must be used to prevent, prepare for or respond to the COVID-19 Virus. Funding is available in the amount of \$506,569 and deliberations will be held on June 2nd.

The City Clerk's Office Number "1" Dog Tag contest will be held via email nomination this year. Submissions must be received by June 15th. For more information on the nomination process please call the Clerk's Office at 860-823-3732.

Norwich Human Services has been awarded \$25,000 from the Neighbors to Neighbors Fund from the Community Foundation of Eastern CT to assist those in Norwich affected financially from the COVID-19 Virus with rent, utilities, food and other necessary bills. The Community Foundation also awarded the Recreation Department \$25,000 toward camp scholarships to help defray costs so that Norwich parents can return to work, confident that their children are being well cared for.

Summer Youth Employment will also take place this year. Youth under the age of 18 will not be able to work on a job site but they will earn money for participating in Metrix learning on topics such as safe driving, employment skills, and other topics. Those over 18 will be allowed to work on job site. Information is posted on the Youth and Family Services page of the City's website.

The Recreation Department is working to open Spaulding Pond by June 17th. Lifeguards will be trained in new protocols for social distancing on the beach and Red Cross Lifeguard COVID-19 standards. Capacity will be limited with required spacing between blankets and we feel that we will be able to offer this much needed no-cost recreation opportunity to families.