



CITY OF NORWICH
CONNECTICUT

AGENDA – MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH
Council Chambers, 100 Broadway, Norwich, CT
February 17, 2026
7:00 PM

The meeting will be televised on the Public Access Channel and posted on the city website, www.norwichct.gov, in real time.

PRAYER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PETITION AND COMMUNICATION

1. Annual report from Commission for Persons with Disabilities.
2. Resignation letter from Zoning Board of Appeals.
3. Annual report given by David Eggleston the Rate Payer Representative for Connecticut Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative (CMEEC).

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

CITIZENS COMMENT ON RESOLUTIONS (on agenda items only)

NEW BUSINESS RESOLUTIONS

1. Relative to the City Manager being authorized to file an application with the U.S. Department of Transportation seeking grant funding in the amount of \$10,040,453.00 from the Fiscal Year 2026 BUILD.
2. Relative to the installation of a Liberty Pole and plaque to be placed at the Norwichtown Green.
3. Relative to planting a Liberty Tree and the installation of a plaque at Howard T. Brown Park.
4. Relative to planting a Liberty Tree and the installation of a plaque at the Bean Hill Green.

CITIZEN COMMENT GENERAL (30 Minutes on non agenda items only)

Roseann Musculla
City Clerk

PETITION AND COMMUNICATION #1

Norwich Commission on Persons with Disabilities Annual Report, 2025

The Commission's meeting on November 10, 2025 was its first since March 2, 2023. This lapse was due to an inadequate number of members for a quorum, Now with five members (out of a maximum of seven), the Commission has restarted its important work of encouraging, monitoring, and celebrating the City's compliance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

The November and December meetings were devoted to housekeeping and discussion of future initiatives and activities. Commission members scrutinized the City's guidance document for Boards and Commissions to ensure our compliance with its requirements. Close readings of the website, the Bylaws, and the brochure resulted in numerous suggestions for revision, some of which will require facilitation by the ADA Coordinator. Select final changes will be submitted for review by both the City's ADA Coordinator and Corporation Counsel.

The Commission agreed that a main thrust of 2026 will be the monitoring of the Howard Brown Park reconfiguration. The Commission will invite key players - relevant City officials, development personnel, contracted design professionals, and others with responsibility for this project – to make presentations and answer questions.

Additionally, Commission members agreed to develop an outreach program to inform municipal entities and private organizations of the Commission's work.

In order to ensure basic knowledge of Title II among Commission members, the Commission Chair will conduct a training in early 2026.

Members also discussed, as possible future activities, a legislative forum and a regeneration of Disability Awareness Week in October.

The Commission will continue its regular work of 1) considering and referring to the ADA Coordinator all valid Title II compliance issues, including issues brought to the Commission by members of the public; 2) providing information on the ADA to the public; and 3) referring complainants to appropriate enforcement agencies when issues are outside the purview of the Commission.

Elanah Sherman, Chair

Note: Minutes from the November and December meetings are posted on the Commission's website.

Dorothy Travers
112 Sherwood Lane
Norwich, CT. 06360

January 28, 2026

Attention:
City Manager: John L. Salomone
CC: Jacquie Barbarossa
CC: Richard Shuck

RECEIVED
2026 FEB - 9 PM 12:39
TOWN OF NORWICH

Resigning from Zoning Board

Dear Mr. Salomene,

I am resigning from Zoning Board of Appeals as of January 31, 2026.
A few months ago, I informed Richard and Marc that I would be leaving in January.
It has been a pleasure to serve on the Board for over forty years.

Sincerely,
Dorothy L Travers

Dorothy Travers

Dorothy L. Travers

NEW BUSINESS RESOLUTION #1

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORWICH CITY COUNCIL IN SUPPORT OF SEEKING U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION BETTER UTILIZING INVESTMENTS TO LEVERAGE DEVELOPMENT (BUILD) GRANT FUNDING FOR THE NORWICH-OCCUM INDUSTRIAL CENTER ACCESS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (N-OAIP), TO IMPROVE THE INTERCHANGE OF INTERSTATE 395 AND ROUTE 97, AND AFFIRMING THE CITY'S COMMITMENT OF LOCAL FUNDS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich seeks to improve the I-395/Route 97 interchange, which connects key transportation corridors, promotes economic development and wellbeing for its residents including disadvantaged neighborhoods, and creates infrastructure to better manage freight traffic, commuters and families, and;

WHEREAS, the proposed N-OAIP improvements include modification of the existing I-395 southbound ramps to connect directly to a new industrial access road to open up 184 acres for the development of a modern manufacturing complex, signalization of two intersections on Route 97 connecting with the reconfigured I-395 northbound and southbound access ramps, new sidewalks and a signalized pedestrian crossing along Route 97 and the addition of several new turn-only lanes would serve as a critical first step in creating safe and efficient access to the Occum Industrial Center, which will help to promote economic growth and job opportunities, and help revitalize and ameliorate freight traffic impacts on core impoverished neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Transportation administers financial assistance for surface transportation purposes, through the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant program; and

WHEREAS, the City of Norwich seeks financial assistance from the BUILD program for the proposed N-OAIP described above in the amount of **\$10,040,453.00** to be applied toward the planning and construction expenses of the project, which is estimated to cost **\$10,040,453.00** in total; and

WHEREAS, Norwich City Council finds that the N-OAIP significantly furthers the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Norwich and the community by improving vehicular safety while providing expanded capacity for the development of modern manufacturing, logistics and warehousing that will produce immediate economic opportunity for the City and its citizens, and firmly commits to the expenditure of local funds necessary to complete this project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that City Manager John Salomone or his designee be and hereby is authorized to file an application with the U.S. Department of Transportation seeking grant funding in the amount of **\$10,040,453.00** from the Fiscal Year 2026 BUILD grant program to fund costs associated with the Norwich-Occum Industrial Center Access Improvement Project to upgrade the I-395/Route 97 interchange.

Mayor Swarnjit Singh
President Pro Tem Joseph A. DeLucia
Alderman Bill Nash

NEW BUSINESS RESOLUTION #2

WHEREAS, America's 250th Norwich CT Committee is a local committee officially recognized by the Norwich City Council on September 2, 2025; and

WHEREAS, America's 250th Norwich CT Committee, to commemorate Norwich's role in the events leading up to and during the American Revolution, and to serve as a lasting symbol of liberty, civic engagement and the community's enduring commitment to democratic ideals, proposes to install a Liberty Pole with plaque at the Norwichtown Green; and

WHEREAS, the Liberty Pole will be a wooden, utility-grade pole, designed to withstand the elements and intended as a permanent installation at the Norwichtown Green, meeting modern safety and durability standards; and

WHEREAS, Norwich Public Utilities has agreed to donate the wooden pole to America's 250th Norwich CT Committee; and

WHEREAS, America's 250th Norwich CT Committee is requesting in-kind support from the City of Norwich, Department of Public Works in placing and securing the pole; and

WHEREAS, the Norwich Historical Society will assume full responsibility for routine maintenance, inspections, and associated costs for the Liberty Pole.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH, that it approves the installation of the Liberty Pole with plaque as described herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH, that City Manager John Salomone, with the assistance of Brian Long, Director of Public Works and staff of the Public Works Department and other departments as may be necessary, shall oversee the installation of the Liberty Pole and plaque, the Liberty Pole to be placed at the Norwichtown Green.

Mayor Swarnjit Singh
President Pro Tem Joseph A. DeLucia
Alderman Shiela Hayes
Alderman Bill Nash

NEW BUSINESS RESOLUTION #3

WHEREAS, America's 250th Norwich CT Committee is a local committee officially recognized by the Norwich City Council on September 2, 2025; and

WHEREAS, America's 250th Norwich CT Committee, to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution and as a part of the nationwide initiative established by the National Society Sons of the American Revolution History 250 Committee to plant 250 Liberty Trees across the United States by July 4, 2026, proposes to donate a commemorative Liberty Tree with plaque at Howard T. Brown Park; and

WHEREAS, the Liberty Tree will be a Princeton Elm, a disease-resistant cultivar of the American Elm selected to reflect the historic species traditionally associated with Liberty Trees; and

WHEREAS, America's 250th Norwich CT Committee proposes to install a plaque on the Liberty Tree to honor the sailors and shipwrights of the USS Confederacy, a Revolutionary War naval vessel constructed in Norwich and launched in 1778; and

WHEREAS, the plaque, will be made from granite with dimensions of 14 x 12 x 1.5 and affixed to a concrete block using a heavy-duty exterior construction adhesive, with the concrete block being buried below grade and the plaque visible at ground level will bear the following inscription:

LIBERTY TREE
RECOGNIZING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE
1776-2026
CONNECTICUT SOCIETY SAR & AMERICA'S 250TH NORWICH CT COMMITTEE
SAILORS AND SHIPWRIGHTS OF THE USS CONFEDERACY
(SHIP LAUNCHED 1778, CAPTURED 1781)

; and

WHEREAS, America's 250th Norwich CT Committee is requesting in-kind support from the City of Norwich, Department of Public Works in the excavation and planting of the Liberty Tree, as well as site preparation, excavation and footing installation of the plaque; and

WHEREAS, America's 250th Norwich CT Committee is requesting that the routine care of the Liberty Tree be incorporated into the City of Norwich's existing municipal tree maintenance program.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH, that it approves the planting of the Liberty Tree with plaque as described herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH, that City Manager John Salomone, with the assistance of Brian Long, Director of Public Works and staff of the Public Works Department and other departments as may be necessary, shall oversee planting of the Liberty Tree and installation of the plaque to be planted at Howard T. Brown Park.

Mayor Swarnjit Singh
President Pro Tem Joseph A. DeLucia
Alderswoman Shiela Hayes
Alderman Bill Nash

NEW BUSINESS RESOLUTION #4

WHEREAS, America's 250th Norwich CT Committee is a local committee officially recognized by the Norwich City Council on September 2, 2025; and

WHEREAS, America's 250th Norwich CT Committee, to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution and as a part of the nationwide initiative established by the National Society Sons of the American Revolution History 250 Committee to plant 250 Liberty Trees across the United States by July 4, 2026, proposes to donate a commemorative Liberty Tree with plaque at the Bean Hill Green; and

WHEREAS, the Liberty Tree will be a Princeton Elm, a disease-resistant cultivar of the American Elm selected to reflect the historic species traditionally associated with Liberty Trees; and

WHEREAS, America's 250th Norwich CT Committee proposes to install a plaque on the Liberty Tree to honor John Durkee, a Norwich resident, Revolutionary War officer, and founding member of the Connecticut Sons of Liberty; and

WHEREAS, the plaque, will be made from granite with dimensions of 14 x 12 x 1.5 and affixed to a concrete block using a heavy-duty exterior construction adhesive, with the concrete block being buried below grade and the plaque visible at ground level will bear the following inscription:

LIBERTY TREE
RECOGNIZING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE
1776-2026
CONNECTICUT SOCIETY SAR & AMERICA'S 250TH NORWICH CT COMMITTEE
COLONEL JOHN DURKEE
"CONNECTICUT'S BOLD MAN FROM BEAN HILL"
(DECEMBER 11, 1728-May 29, 1782)

; and

WHEREAS, America's 250th Norwich CT Committee is requesting in-kind support from the City of Norwich, Department of Public Works in the excavation and planting of the Liberty Tree, as well as site preparation, excavation and footing installation of the plaque; and

WHEREAS, America's 250th Norwich CT Committee is requesting that the routine care of the Liberty Tree be incorporated into the City of Norwich's existing municipal tree maintenance program.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH, that it approves the planting of the Liberty Tree with plaque as described herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWICH, that City Manager John Salomone, with the assistance of Brian Long, Director of Public Works and staff of the Public Works Department and other departments as may be necessary, shall oversee planting of the Liberty Tree and installation of the plaque to be planted at the Bean Hill Green.

Mayor Swarnjit Singh
President Pro Tem Joseph A. DeLucia
Alderswoman Shiela Hayes
Alderman Bill Nash