



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: January 19, 2021

Meetings attended via conference call or video were Governor Lamont updates, State representatives and legislators, Southeastern Council of Governments, Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) 15 Legislative Committee and Board of Director Meeting, NPU-City Coordination Meeting, NCDC Board meeting, Region 4 Emergency Support Plan, and Department of Health COVID-19 updates.

The City has purchased 10 Face Recognition Body Temperature scanners which scan a person's face and takes his/her temperature. They are located at the entry to City Hall and various City Building locations.

The Public Works Department has completed a major clean up of dead wood from the Upper Falls Heritage Park and the Granite Mill building demolition has started which is all part of the 2018 Master Plan for the Uncas Leap Heritage Park. The Martin Luther King Center building has been demolished and the site work is near completion. The Engineering Office is working with the Laurel Hill Volunteer Fire Department on replacing the failing retaining wall.

Norwich Human Services was able to secure a \$35,000 grant through the Community Foundation of Eastern CT and Graustein Memorial to give laptops to 30 high school students, pay \$50/month for six months toward 75 families' internet bill and to work with Adult Education on hosting a class for parents to help them understand technology. This grant is called Bridging the Digital Divide and will go a long way to help families obtain equity.

Unfortunately, the number of deaths in Norwich associated with fentanyl and opioids continues to remain high, despite efforts of the Task Force addressing this issue. NHS urges families to reach out to the recovery coaches in the City to assist family members struggling with substance use disorder. Call NHS for more info.

The Rose City Senior Center participated with the Uncas Health District to offer 90 vaccinations to people in group 1a. The plan is for Uncas Health to offer 2 clinics per week at the Senior Center to assist residents in getting vaccinated quickly. The City continues

The Recreation Department continues to solicit donations to improve Armstrong Tennis Courts. The committee will be contacting residents and businesses through March to seek donations towards the project.

The City's Lock Box tax payments as of Friday, January 15th were 456 payments totaling \$1,523,757.07. Payments at Norwich People's Bank branches were 250 payments totaling \$426,461.98.

I have attached the City Departments, and Otis Library reports for quarter ending December 31, 2020.