



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 18, 2022

Meetings attended were with State representatives and legislators, Southeastern Council of Governments (SECCOG), Southeastern Area Transit (SEAT), Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) Legislative Committee and Board of Directors Meeting, Connecticut Interlocal Risk Management Agency (CIRMA) Board of Directors Meeting, Parking Commission, NPU-City Coordination Meeting, NCDC Board meeting, Public Safety Committee and Budget Hearings. I also attended the memorial service for the 60th anniversary of the Van Tassel fire hosted by the Norwich Fire Department where a memorial street sign was unveiled to commemorate the event. Captain William Sheridan and Firefighters Carl Burke, Leonard Counihan and Edward Romano lost their lives in the devastating explosion on April 3, 1962.

Governor Ned Lamont announced the City, in partnership with Mattern Construction Inc. was approved for a \$2,000,000 CT Communities Challenge Grant for the former YMCA property at 337 to 355 Main Street. This prominent gateway property into the City will be redeveloped and adaptively reuse the former YMCA into approximately 20,000 sq. ft. of office and retail space and 5,000 sq. ft. of storage space. Norwich Public Works Department submitted the application for the Connecticut Communities Challenge program in January 2022. It is matched approximately dollar-for-dollar by private and other non-state funding.

Norwich Public Works has hired Wingman Goose Control to make Brown Park unwelcome to geese and ducks. Dozens of geese and ducks have made Brown Park their home over the past several years. Signs at the park list the hazards of feeding the ducks in addition to polluting the water. Beau, a 2-year-old border collie is a trained herding dog whose effort is to rid the park of unwanted water fowl and the mess they leave behind.

Norwich Human Services gave out 15 laptops and cases to high school Juniors and Seniors for their future college endeavors from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). They also supplied internet access codes to 118 low-income residents and families. The program called LINK (Linking Internet to Norwich Kids) was funded through a grant from the Chelsea-Groton Foundation.

Thank you to the Society of the Founders of Norwich for the loan of the 1768 desk of Reverend John Tyler, Rector of Christ Church in Norwich for 54 years. It originally came from England and was brought from Wallingford, CT to Norwich by an ox team about 1768. The 91" desk is on display in the hallway outside the City Manager's office.

I have attached the City Departments, and Otis Library reports for quarter ending March 31, 2022 and the Fire Chiefs Report from the April Public Safety Meeting.