



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: February 2, 2024

Meetings attended were with State representatives and legislators, Southeastern Council of Governments Executive Committee Meeting (SCCOG), Connecticut Interlocal Risk Management Agency (CIRMA), Norwich Public Utilities (NPU) City Coordination Meeting, several follow up meetings regarding the Yantic Flooding, and NCDC Annual meeting that was followed by the ribbon cutting ceremony at the new Hotel Callista located at the former ELKS building on Main Street.

I also held a Goal Setting Workshop on Saturday, January 27th at Foundry 66 for the Council, invited City Department Heads and NCDC President Kevin Brown. The session was moderated by Donna Hamzy Carroccia from Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) where short, mid and long term goals were prioritized and documented according to the City's updated Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD).

Public Works dug test pits at two of the proposed school sites, at the old Greenville School, and at the Stanton School. The test pits were dug on two separate days in the month of January, in between weather events. Utilizing the City's labor and equipment helped expedite the school design process. As a result of the relatively mild winter, Public Works has been able to continue some routine maintenance activities which otherwise would have to be suspended. This includes Catch Basin cleaning, culvert clearing, and roadside ditch clearing. These activities are advantageous in preparing for future storms.

The Planning Department has submitted annual reporting to participate in the Community Rating System (CRS). The City's participation in the program allows owners of properties located within special flood hazard areas to receive a 10% discounts on their insurance premiums.

Youth, Family, and Recreation Services has been running free programs all winter, and most classes are at capacity. The Rose City Senior Center has opened its on-site Clinic in partnership with Hartford HealthCare. The uniqueness of this program lies in Hartford HealthCare services being offered right at the Rose City Senior Center and with this partnership, we will be able to better ensure Norwich Seniors are receiving a continuum of care they would not get in a typical healthcare setting.

There were 1,134 Lock Box payments processed at M & T bank for the January tax installment which was a 13% increase from January 2023.

Applications for the 2024-2025 Community Development Block Grant round were due Friday, February 2, 2024. The Community Development Office received 14 applications in addition to their administration budget for the 2024-2025 CDBG Program Year (PY50). Applications totaled \$836,665.00 with the anticipated HUD available amount of \$806,000. Review and consideration of the proposals will happen over the next several weeks,