



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 15, 2024

Meetings attended were Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) Board of Directors Meeting, Southeastern Council of Governments Executive Committee Meeting (SCCOG) Southeastern Area Transit (SEAT), Connecticut Interlocal Risk Management Agency (CIRMA) Board of Directors meeting NPU-City Coordination Meeting, NCDC Board of Directors meeting, and budget hearings. I also attended the swearing in of our two new police officer recruits – Alexis Freel and Dylan Beaudoin.

Robert Scalise has been selected as Director of Human Resources to succeed retiring Director Brigid Marks. Rob started with the City on March 25th and has extensive experience in all areas of human resources administration. He formerly served as Director of Human Resources for the City of Meriden. Most recently, Rob served as Assistant Director of Human Resources for the City of Stockton, California and the Human Resources Manager for Labor and Employee Relations for the City of Santa Monica, California. Rob received a Bachelor of Arts from Boston College, a Master of Arts from the University of Chicago and a Juris Doctor from DePaul University College of Law.

Public Works submitted a FY25 Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) request, to Senators Blumenthal and Murphy, for \$6.6M, representing 80% of the funds needed for the replacement of the New London Turnpike Bridge over the Yantic River. Last year \$800K of CDS funds were awarded to the City for the design of the bridge replacement. The grants require a 20% local match, which will be funded from the Infrastructure Improvement Bond approved by voters in November 2023.

The project replacing the floating docks on the Shetucket side of Howard Brown Park was completed this past week. The new docks are now open to the public, and include an 80 foot long ADA compliant ramp down to the docks. A ribbon cutting is scheduled for 9:00 am, on April 24th. The City will continue to pursue funds for the replacement of the smaller floating docks adjacent to the boat launch.

Human Services' Youth, Family, and Rec Division has released their new program book that is loaded with free programs, including free swim lessons this year. Camp registration is also open. Adult & Family Services is partnering again with NPU to co-host an awareness event about Utility Assistance Programs on April 16th at 5pm, right at NPU.

Thank you to my assistant Jacquie Barbarossa, and the Mayors Secretary, Bonnie Cuprak, for hosting a tour of City Hall for a group of 17 students from Norwich Adult Education on March 25th.

I have attached the City Departments, NCDC and Otis Library reports for quarter ending March 31, 2024.