The Town Manager’s Report will be given verbally at the March 5 Town Council meeting.

Matthew B. Galligan
Town Manager
Town Manager’s Report  
March 2018  
Page 2

**Police Department**

*February 2018 Activity:*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Count</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Computer Aided Dispatch Entries</td>
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<td>Motor Vehicle Stops</td>
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<td>Medical Assists/Emot.Dist. Persons</td>
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<td>Assist Outside Agency</td>
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<td>Sexual Assault</td>
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**We Turn 50 this year!**

The South Windsor Police Department turns 50 later this year. After having been a constabulary supervised by a resident trooper until 1968, our department will celebrate 5 decades of service later this year. As part of that celebration we have a committee of officers organizing activities, the first celebration will be a road race:

As part of our 50th Anniversary activities we will be sponsoring a road race. Runners and walkers are encouraged to dress up in the attire of their favorite decade (60’s, 70’s, 80’s, 90’s, etc):

- **South Windsor Police 5 Decade Dash - - Race**
  - **Date:** April 21, 2018
  - **Location:** South Windsor Community Center (150 Nevers Rd)

Runners are encouraged to dress in athletic attire from their favorite decade of the last 5 Decades (50 Yrs).

**Event Contact Information**


E-mail: ken9@plattsys.com

**Recognition from the CREC Public Safety Academy:**

We were pleasantly surprised to have visitors from the CREC Public Safety Academy who dropped off lunch for our staff on February 23rd. This was a Thank you from the students at the Public Safety Academy Civic Leadership
High School for our public safety efforts. Our staff certainly appreciated the thoughtfulness of these students who may work alongside us one day as officers or dispatchers.

**Shooting Investigation:**
At about 1 p.m. on Friday, February 16, 2018 South Windsor Police officers were dispatched to an Assault complaint at a Gorski Drive home. It was reported that an adult male in the home had been shot. Officers located the male victim who had a gunshot wound to the leg. The victim was transported to Hartford Hospital for treatment a non-life threatening injury. Investigators later conducted two search warrants and seized $15,000 in cash, 2 pounds of marijuana, cellphones and evidence relating to the shooting at two different locations. Neither the victim or witness was cooperative with officers however, we have identified a suspect. We do not believe that there is any danger to the general public. This investigation is continuing.

**New Officer Sworn In:**
On February 12th Officer Joseph Fargnoli was presented with his badge by Chief Tim Edwards. Officer Fargnoli, badge #199, joins us after completing a distinguished 20 year career as a detective in Hartford. Officer Fargnoli will now complete our local Field Training Program. Because Ofc. Fargnoli is a certified officer we are saving significant money by not having to pay a training salary and academy tuition for 6 months. He also brings a great deal of experience with him. We are continuing to fill the 3 remaining open positions to get to full staffing.

**SWPD recognized by the CT Special Olympics:**
We would like to thank all the volunteers and contributors who helped us earn the top spot for Special Olympics Fundraising again this year. The police department was recognized at a ceremony on February 8th. The whole team of officers and volunteers raised over $50,000 for CT Special Olympics. And of course, we owe a huge Thank You to Corporal Ron Littell for his years and years of hard work raising money for Special Olympics Connecticut. Well done Ron!

**School Safety concerns following the Florida school shooting:**
We authored the following statement on February 16th to remind citizens that school safety is a priority all year, not just following these tragic, national events. We work closely with the Superintendent’s office and have an on-going dialogue about safety and best practices. It would not be appropriate to describe those plans and measures publicly, for obvious security reasons, but we are responsive to the schools needs and will continue to patrol campuses. Our statement is below:

“On Wednesday our country suffered the 18th school shooting for 2018. As law enforcement officers (and parents ourselves) we want to assure our citizens that we are aware of your concerns about school safety.

The South Windsor School system has a safety plan for every building that is reviewed regularly with the police department. We
confer about best practices that ensure student safety yet promote a positive learning environment.

The police department trains regularly and we do “active shooter” training in a variety of buildings to be prepared for events we pray never occur. Several years ago our officers responded to Hartford Distributors for an active shooter and put this training into practice, actively searching out the suspect with other agencies. We also have officers trained in other areas, such as threat assessment and crisis intervention.

Our officers take part in “Directed School Patrols”, where officers patrol school grounds and/or the buildings to look for suspicious activity and to familiarize themselves with the property. Fortunately, we have an extremely low incidence of problems. We also staff two buildings with School Resource Officers and will send officers into classrooms to give talks or lectures when requested. As the town’s designated first responders, a police officer is sent to every medical call; so seeing a police car at a school doesn’t mean there is a problem – it’s likely just a service call.

This post isn’t meant to be part of the national debate on gun control, we simply want you to know that we all take the safety of our schools very seriously, that there are safety measures in place that are thoughtful and effective, and that our officers are well-trained and well-prepared to respond any event.

Thank you,

-The men and women of the South Windsor Police Department”
Public Works Department

Michael J. Gantick
Director of Public Works

Engineering
Avery Street Improvements 2
(Gray Road to Orchard Hill Road)
The reconstruction of Avery Street between Gray Road and Orchard Hill Road (Phase 2) is over 90% complete. Nunes Connecticut has shut down this job for the winter and will begin work again around April 1. At the request of the South Windsor Conservation Commission, the contractor placed hydro mulch (without any grass seed) on the sloped areas of exposed dirt this week, where some erosion of the topsoil has begun. This is a temporary measure to minimize further erosion. Lawn restoration along this project area will be completed in the spring with addition of Topsoil to fill the ruts and settled areas, raking the topsoil smooth and applying grass seed. The contractor will also paint over the temporary center lines that have faded this winter, as soon as weather permits.

Buckland Road Sidewalks
The Town and our consultants have final plans to construct sidewalks along the east side of Sullivan Avenue and the west side of Buckland Road from the Town Library to Deming Street. These sidewalks will connect the town buildings with the commercial businesses and residential units in the center of Town. The traffic signals at 3 intersections will be modified for pedestrian ramps, signals and crosswalks. The Plum Gulley Brook Bridge will be extended west to accommodate the new sidewalk. The Town has received permits from the CT DEEP and ACOE for the Plum Gulley Brook bridge extension. We recently received approval from Conn DOT for the traffic signals upgrades. We are still waiting on easements to be approved by 2 property owners along Buckland Road (where CVS and Frontier buildings are located) for these sidewalks. The construction of these sidewalks is scheduled for 2018.

Avery Street Reconstruction 3
(Orchard Hill Road to Manchester Town Line)
Final design is complete for Phase 3 of the reconstruction of Avery Street. This will include new storm water drainage pipes and structures, road base, pavement, curb and concrete sidewalks on the west side of the road. We have proposed to extend sidewalks down the west side of Avery Street into Manchester to meet the existing sidewalks by the corner of Deming Street. The schedule is to submit the final design to CRCOG and ConnDOT for approval and authorization to advertise for bids this spring and construct these improvements this summer.

Local Roads Repaving 2018
We are currently re-evaluating Town roads and updating our priority list of roads that are in need of milling and paving this year.
hope to repave additional Town roads this year with any capital funds approved and available.

**Sidewalk Repairs**
There are many sidewalk defects in South Windsor to be repaired. The list of sidewalks in Town that need to be replaced or repaired is well over $100,000 in estimated cost, and there are many deteriorated sidewalks not on this list. Some residents have called multiple times to ask when sidewalks in front of their property will be repaired. Additional capital funds are needed to repair all the sidewalks and keep them safe pursuant to the Town ordinance. We will continue to mark the trip hazards on sidewalks where we receive complaints with bright pink paint to alert pedestrians of these hazards until there is sufficient funding to repair all the sidewalk defects. We can advertise a bid for contractors to repair and replace sidewalks when we have an approved budget number for sidewalk work.

*Jeffrey Doolittle*
*Town Engineer*

**Street Services**
The month of February endured 4 ‘treatable’ weather events where the Public Works Department, along with the Parks and Recreation Department, had to engage in salting or plowing procedures. One of these events proved to be more difficult in determining an approach to treating the roads, sidewalks, and parking lots in town. There are many different factors to consider when managing a snow storm, one of which is the type of precipitation (snow, ice, or freezing rain), all of which dictate a different angle of approach. If a storm were to start off as snow in the afternoon and turn into freezing rain in the evening (during rush hour, of course), the “smart money” is to leave the snow on the road to avoid creating a flat ice layer that provides little to no traction to vehicles. There is a lot of meaning to the term “smart money.” Every ton of salt that is put down on the road carries a cost from our snow removal budget. This includes the funds for the salt, fuel for the truck, part of the wear and tear on the plow blades, and we cannot forget the unreplaceable piece of the puzzle; the gentlemen behind the wheel. Along with the monetary cost of putting salt down on the road, there is another factor to be considered: the impact the salt is having on the environment, infrastructure, and the vehicles on the road.

It is becoming abundantly clear that this great tool for keeping roads safe (salt) comes with some inherent risks and impacts, including the salination of the aquifer, both above and below ground, the rapid degradation of our bridges and road surfaces along with the underground drainage and utility systems, and the rust on your car. The reason we feel compelled to discuss all of these points this month is due to some of the negative feedback we received from some residents about the condition of the roads in the Town of South Windsor, verses some neighboring towns during one of the snow events this month.
The Town of South Windsor was the first town in the state of Connecticut to start and measure their salt, and we have trained over 5 dozen other municipalities in the state on this practice. We have a very keen awareness of the impact of putting down a lot of salt on the roads. Case in point, if we were to try and keep all of the precipitation during a storm in ‘solution’ using salt, we would exponentially raise the cost of the storm, and impact the environment more severely than we already are.

Potholes continue to plague the town. As standard practice, when manpower and weather permit, we have at least one crew on potholes, however in February, we have had two, often three, crews to try and combat the pothole situation. The freeze-thaw cycles this winter have created the perfect recipe for the rapid growth of potholes. It is also prudent to mention that many of our roads are in less than perfect condition, making those roads much more susceptible to the formation of potholes. As we have stated previously, spot patching of these potholes is akin to putting a bandage on a large wound; it is a very temporary, short term measure, but more permanent solutions are required.

Crews have been working with Water Pollution Control to camera the storm sewer lines on Avery St. in preparation for repairs in the spring/summer. Similar camera work is also being done on Dart Hill Rd. using a contractor. This camera work allows us to see the entire length of the pipe(s) to determine where failures exist, or where failures are being to become evident.

Turning of the leaves continues at the garage. Although its only leaves, it is critical to turn the leaves to prevent excessive heat buildup in the piles which can kill off good microbes that help break the leaves down into compost.

Maintenance of our small equipment continues. Maintainers have also begun to ready other equipment necessary for maintenance in the spring/summer. Hand tools are being assessed and replaced as necessary.

DPW crews assisted the Fire Marshal’s office by affecting a repair at the Town Hall replacing a suspected bad fire hydrant. The crew actually located a valve supplying the hydrant and discovered it was partially closed. Once opened, the situation was rectified and considerable expense was avoided by not having to replace the hydrant.

Vincent Stetson
Superintendent of Streets

Refuse & Recycling
All American Waste is the hired contractor that is responsible for the collection and disposal of the town’s refuse and recycling. In recent weeks 3 of All American’s trucks have been identified as carrying a low level radioactive iodine that is typically associated with prescribed medications. Letters have been sent out to targeted areas where we suspect the material originated from in an effort to mitigate the situation. We have
asked that these and all medications be disposed of properly.

The Town of South Windsor is a member town of the Capitol Region East Operating Committee (CREOC) which together with the Town of Manchester will host 6 household hazardous waste collections in 2018. Last year we once again saw a tremendous turnout for these collections that take place at the Manchester Landfill located at 231 Olcott Street. The first event of 2018 will be held April 7th. Acceptable items include paints, aerosols, fertilizers and cleaning products among other items. Paints may also be taken to Sherwin Williams in Manchester to be recycled.

Our textile recycling program which began this past September. We have placed one container at each school, one at the Community Center on Nevers Road near the playground and one at the Recreation office (formerly Wapping School) located on Ayers Road. We have recycled 9000 pounds of textiles as of January 31st. Acceptable items that are being collected include footwear, clothing, linens, pillows and stuffed animals. These items can be in any condition.

The next electronics recycling event will be held Saturday March 3rd from 8-1 pm at Town Hall. Electronic recycling events are held every other month in the back parking lot of Town Hall. This program is free of charge and the event staff will unload the electronics from your vehicle. Acceptable items include telephones, computers, laptops, printers, stereos, televisions microwaves, DVD players, etc.

Bulky waste pickups are available on a monthly basis. Collections are curbside the first full week of each month on your normal trash pickup day. Metal is collected curbside each Wednesday and must be scheduled with the Public Works office online at www.southwindsor.org or by calling (860) 644-2511 x243. Metal items such as air conditioners, refrigerators and dehumidifiers require a $15 mitigation fee that can be paid by cash or check at the Public Works office at 1540 Sullivan Avenue.

For more information on our refuse and recycling programs including a full list of acceptable items for each program please visit the Town of South Windsor’s website at www.southwindsor.org.

-Tony Manfre
Pollution Control Superintendent

Pollution Control
The Department of Water Pollution Control has begun the third of four defined areas of the Integrated Vegetation Management program. Distinctive Tree Care has been hired for this phase and is ahead of the planned schedule. Most of the land clearing, which includes the removal of trees and brush, has been completed. They will continue with vegetation control methods during the warmer months in Area 1 and 2 to promote the growth of low growing plants. This program has been initiated in four
phases within four defined areas of town. Over the long-term, the goal is to control these undesirable plant species using the most selective treatment methods possible on regular treatment cycles. This will minimize the need for more intensive maintenance operations.

The WPC has completed the relining of a total of 3500’ of sewer in Chapel Road. The process of relining the interior wall of pipe is done with the use of Cured-in-Place-Pipe (CIPP). The advantage to this technology is that digging is not required and there is minimal interruption to service. This project has renewed the service life of a main sewer truck line that was on the verge of collapse.

The wastewater treatment facility has been experiencing an increase of fats, oil and grease in the influent waste stream. Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) can have a negative impact on the effluent (treated wastewater) water quality and also tends to harden inside sewer pipes restricting the pipe size. Homeowners can prevent a lot of the FOG that makes its way into the sewer line. It is important to minimize the amount of grease that is disposed of down the drain. FOG collects in pump stations and sewer pipes to form hardened deposits that must be removed. If the grease is allowed to accumulate in pipes, it may create a blockage and cause a sewer backup. Another challenge to sewer maintenance is the disposal of “flushable” wipes into the sanitary sewer. These wipes are made of synthetic fiber materials that do not breakup in the system and are the main culprit of clogged pumps. When pumps are clogged, our operators must remove the debris to keep the pumps in service.

You can find more information about the Water Pollution Control Facility and the Water Pollution Control Authority on the Town of South Windsor’s website at www.southwindsor.org.

Tony Manfre
Superintendent of Pollution Control
A recent letter to the Editor:
Once again, the South Windsor community has come through for their neighbors! A huge thank you to all the individuals, businesses, churches, civic groups, sporting groups, schools and town employees for their generosity this past holiday and winter season in support of the many programs the South Windsor Human Services Department runs.

Food came in for the Thanksgiving Basket program serving over 350 people. 179 children received toys and much needed clothing within our Holiday Adopt a Child Program. And monetary donations continue to come in to assist families with heating costs.

It’s truly amazing and heartwarming to experience the generosity of so many people in order to continue to provide these services to South Windsor residents in need.

We simply could not have done it without the response from the community. Thank you!

Andrea Cofrancesco,
Director of Human Services
Town of South Windsor
Valentine Cheer
The Senior Center's Community Service Group delivered homemade Valentine pops, balloons and handcrafted Valentines to 30 homebound seniors and people with disabilities for Valentine’s Day. Dedicated volunteers spread a little holiday cheer!

ELDERLY AND DISABLED PROPERTY TAX RELIEF
Elderly and disabled homeowners who qualify can apply for reduced property taxes on their homes between **Feb.1-May 15, 2018**. If you were on the program in the past, call to speak with a caseworker to see if you need to re-apply this year. **This year’s income limits are $35,300 maximum for an individual and $43,000* for a couple.** After your taxes are done, you can make a quick calculation by adding your adjusted gross income and your social security to see if you might be eligible. Documents you will need to bring: Signed 1040 Federal Tax form (if you file); Social Security Statement (SSA-1099); Pension Statement; Bank Interest Statement; Any other Income. For more info or to schedule an appointment, call 860-648-6361. *Town of S.Windsor **Local option allows up to $4,000 higher income than regular State program.**

FRIENDLY SHOPPER VOLUNTEERS
Adult and Senior Services has volunteers available to help you with grocery shopping. If you have trouble navigating the grocery store on your own, let one of our screened volunteers assist. Volunteers are able to help you or can get groceries for you. This is not a service based on financial need; rather based on physical need. Call Lindsey for more information. 860-648-6361 ext. 319.
Teen Center

In recognition of National Random Acts of Kindness week, members of the Teen Center Youth Council, a high school volunteer group, got together over their February school vacation to help spread kindness by making positive, inspirational bookmarks to share with family, friends and people in the community.

During the month of February, the Teen Center helped to spread awareness about healthy relationships. High school students who stopped in afterschool joined in conversations and helped to create a board in the Teen Center that highlighted their own tips for being in a positive, healthy relationship as well as posting information provided from loveisrespect.org.

The Teen Center Drop in hours – for both high school and middle school programs – have been very busy! Many days this school year, well over 30 youth are utilizing the center daily and staying for activities. For example, February was a good month for encouraging creativity as we were often stuck inside when it was cold out! Painting is always a favorite afternoon activity as well as baking!

Parent Education and Support

SWAN Playgroup

Youth and Family Services ongoing Monday morning playgroup for caregivers and their children continues to grow! We had six new families that came to check out the playgroup during the month of February! Despite the playgroup not running twice this month due to holidays that fell on a Monday, we still had 30 individuals participate, throughout the
month! This month on February 5th the toddlers enjoyed finger painting cards that would be delivered to the South Windsor homebound seniors on Valentine’s Day. Below you can see all the fun that the kids had with their parents!

**Community Intergenerational Program**

As we know intergenerational programs in the community benefit both the young and old. This month we decided to offer a program that would include both seniors at the Community Center and toddlers from the Youth and Family SWAN playgroup. Since we are all under one roof, I decided to give it a try! On February 14th we offered a Valentine’s Day Cocoa and craft activity. We had four seniors that volunteered to participate and they expressed a desire to be more involved with the children in the community. Some of the seniors reported their grandchildren live out of state and they don’t get to see them very often. They reported having a connection to children would be beneficial to them and give them a greater sense of purpose. Based on the feedback I’m going to be offering more intergenerational programs throughout the year.

**Guest Speaker: Charlie Slaughter**

This month we had published author, nutritionist and champion of attachment parenting, Charlie Slaughter (author of Hungry for Love: Creating a mealtime environment that builds connection, life skills, and eating capabilities.) Charlie Slaughter discussed how making the most of family mealtime goes well beyond the recommended food groups.

According to public health expert Charlie Slaughter, the most important aspect of the meal is not its nutritional merit. When it comes to serving up the stuff that leads to a thriving life, the real sustenance comes from the more important things you feed—your love, your care, and your connection.

Hungry for Love: author Charlie Slaughter’s unique and time-tested perspective on how to reframe meals so that they strengthen the all-important attachment between parent and child. By revisiting dinner table dynamics, mealtimes can result in positive personal growth, and an altogether happier family.

**Relatives Raising Children Support Group**

This month we had six grandparents that attended the support group on Tuesday, February 27th. This is an ongoing support group for any relative raising a child. During the group grandparents are offered support and validation, while also being linked to
other community resources.

**School Outreach**
Youth and Family Services teams up with the TEMS Counseling office to provide the 8th grade Business Lunch Program each month. In February we were excited to have Mr. Paul Lagasse, S.W. parent and lawyer at Travelers, be our invited guest. We enjoyed lunch together while learning a lot about careers in the field of law. In past months we have welcomed the broadcaster for the Rock Cats and an Actuary from Aetna. The Business Lunch program is a wonderful opportunity for middle school students to learn more about possible future careers.

**Youth Counseling**
Both Counselors, Robin Lagasse and Nikki Lengyel are actively providing counseling services at the community center and South Windsor schools. They are both currently facilitating groups for youth as well.

*Some great upcoming programs and events, please check out our Facebook page!*
https://www.facebook.com/SWYouthFamily
or call Liz at 860-648-6361 x331 for more information
Park & Recreation Commission (PARC) – The next PARC meeting is Wednesday, March 14th at 7:30pm now in their new location in Room 14 at Wapping School, 91 Ayers Road.

The South Windsor Walk & Wheel Ways (SWW&WW) sub-committee meets next on Wed., March 7th at Wapping, Room 54. The next Full Moon Walk is scheduled for Fri., March 2 starting at 7:15pm. Meet at the Rotary Pavilion at Nevers Park and end the night with hot chocolate by the fire pit! They are also working on confirming designation of the Capt. John Bissell Greenway that runs along Clark Street and connects the Bissell bridge to Manchester.

The South Windsor FOOD Alliance (SWFA) – No report at this time. Go to www.swfood.org for more details.

Like us on Facebook - We reached the 2,088“likes” and followed by 2,123.

2018 Spring/Summer Magazine – is a work-in-progress and expected to be released in early March. This issue is loaded with new and exciting program offerings!!

Special Invitation to Councilors – SAVE THE DATES: The 47th Annual Egg Hunt, proudly sponsored by Imperial Oil & Plumbing is Friday, March 30th at the SWHS stadium from 9am to 12pm/. Come watch thousands of kids collect 28,000 plastic eggs in record time! As always, we offer all members of the Town Council an open invitation to visit any of our 400+ recreation programs or park facilities throughout the year. Please give us a call and we will even escort you!
on Friday, Feb. 9th from 7-9pm in the Wapping gymnasium turned dance hall drew attendance of 200! Dads and their precious little girls danced their way into lifetime memories. Kudos to Recreation Supervisor, Cheryl Gerber for orchestrating this wonderful new program.

The Annual Ann Masi Memorial Childrens’ program featuring the magic of Scott Jameson successfully kicked off the February School Recess on Thurs., Feb. 15th at 10am at the SW High School Auditorium with nearly 250 people enjoying the magic of Scott Jameson.

Wapping Re-Purposing – Basic renovations and improvements to rooms 12, 14, and 36 for multi-purpose use are now complete! We anticipate receiving pricing quotes and timelines for Phase II (which includes Cafeteria remodeling to a Banquet facility, converting room 33 to party room and expanding parking is a work-in-progress) in the next few weeks.

PARKS DIVISION  
“Caring for South Windsor’s Growing Needs”

February Activity Highlights:
• Athletic Fields & Grounds:
  ◊ Fence lines at various sites continued to receive some needed attention and invasive clearing.
  ◊ Continued clearing overgrowth and dead trees along the Plum Gulley Brook on the high school campus.
• Projects:
  ◊ Improvements and renovations performed in-house at Wapping included
  ◊ Continued efforts to re-organize and improve the parks shop at town garage to be more efficient.
  ◊ Began the process of replacing two gateway “Welcome” signs on Rt. 5.
• Other:
  ◊ Along-side staff from Street Services we responded to numerous winter weather events plowing snow and treating public access surfaces on roadways, parking lots and sidewalks.
Completed the “Spring Clean-up” of the Buckland Road islands a bit earlier than usual.

Above and below: Substantial clearing of the property around the Priest farm house is complete

Above: Our preschool programs received a visit from Officer Davis (New Britain Police Department) and Trooper Leacu (State of CT) who are both parents of preschoolers. They taught us all about what they do how and they keep the community safe. They even brought their police canine, Casey, as well as their squad car to show us!

Above: Our First-ever Father/Daughter Dance was a monstrous success with 200 in attendance! They danced their way into lifetime memories in the Wapping gymnasium turned colorful dance hall.

Above: Three generations – brother, father and grandfather were represented in this unique family photo!

Below: Three generations – brother, father and grandfather were represented in this unique family photo!

Above: We have had great success with the use of turf blankets on heavily worn areas on our athletic fields. These pictured, installed at Rye St. Park football/lacrosse field, will keep the soil warm to expedite the grass seed germination for earlier growth for upcoming the spring season.
March 2018
Town Council Meetings and Events

Meetings

Monday, March 5, 2018
7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting
Council Chambers

Monday, March 19, 2018
7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting
Council Chambers

Holidays

Friday, March 30, 2018
Town Offices Will Be Closed in Observance of Good Friday

Layout by Ashley Booth, Executive Assistant