

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

To: Members of the South Windsor Town Council

From: Matthew B. Galligan, Town Manager

Subject: Town Manager's Report for 6/19/17 Town Council Meeting

Date: June 15, 2017

Bond Refunding Resolution

There is a Resolution on the Council Agenda to support the refunding of bonds in order to reduce our rate over the next few years. This will allow us to reduce expenditures for next year's budget. Over a period of ten years, the refunding will save us approximately \$300,000. The net present value of savings is \$186,000. This will save us about \$20,000 per year in interest costs. We have done this before and saved the Town money, and I hope the Council will support this so that we can try to reduce our debt and interest expenses appropriately.

Community Video Program

During the Town Manager section of the Agenda, I would like to talk about a Community Video Program. Paul Burnham, Chair of the Economic Development Commission, will also be present. This program is out of Rochester, NY. They will interview key people for a video that will be posted on our website. This is paid for by advertisement from the business community. I have enclosed to you the letter that is sent to business owners as well as a copy of the contract. This video will highlight different areas of the Town such as recreation, the business climate, ambiance, environment, etc. that will help promote the Town to residents and businesses. When residents and businesses click on the link that will be found on our Town website, they will be able to see the businesses that have supported this program along with links to those businesses.

CGI Communications, Inc. made a presentation to the Economic Development Commission, and the Commission is supporting this venture. This is at no cost to the Town, but the Council may want to review this as the businesses community and advertisers pay for this program.

Strategic Planning Process

I know Councilor Anwar has submitted a Resolution to ensure that the Town continues our environmental programs such as Solarize South Windsor. I am enclosing a revised copy of our Strategic Planning document that lists the Energy Committee under the Environment section. This Committee helps the Town move these programs forward. I wanted the Council to know that this is an option in our Strategic Plan. We will continue to keep the environmental programs as stated in the proposed Resolution as they have been successful in the Town. The Town Council has approved this in the past as a strategic initiative, and I think we should keep that initiative.

Department Fees

There will be a Discussion Item on proposed changes to Town department fees and ordinances. Town Council and staff have worked together to create these suggestions. This is for preparation of future budgets in order to head off deficits from the possible lack of State funding in the future. Enclosed is a packet of the suggested changes in fees and the ordinances. I want to thank the Councilors and staff who participated in this endeavor. It has been long overdue and will have a positive impact on the Town when some of these departments can be self-sustaining and be off General Fund taxes.

Safety in Schools

There is a Resolution for consideration regarding safety in the schools. I understand where Councilor Anwar is coming from, but I want to advise the Town Council that the Board of Education and Superintendent have the sole responsibility for the protection of children in our school system during the day. They have appropriate plans and procedures in place to make our schools a safe environment for children.