

Town of South Windsor

Town Manager's Report September 2018

Matthew B. Galligan
Town Manager



Economic Development

Scannell has filed for a project in the I-291 Corridor for a Fortune 500 company. We are working with Metro-Hartford Alliance, the town of East Hartford, and the Fortune 500 company to put together a program that will benefit South Windsor and the region as a whole. Scannell is also looking at two additional buildings to be put into the same area. The Redevelopment Agency will be sending a recommendation to the Planning and Zoning Commission for these projects.

There will be gas pipes installed on Main Street to support the fuel cell project as well as Carla's Pasta. Residents can contact Yankee Gas if they are interested in hooking up to the new lines.

We are now in negotiations with Pacifica Ventures and the Mestek Corporation to bring the CT Studios project to a head. They have selected the old movie theater site for development. We are working on financing and the construction loans.

There will be a resolution to approve a land deal for a small piece of property that was given to the Town when Buckland Road was widened by the State. There was a deed restriction on it, stating that the Town could not sell the property for money. If the Town did sell it, the money would have to be given back to the Department of Transportation.

When we did the referendum to approve the sale of the land we did put a value in to determine if the land would be needed in development. Harbor Chase Development is building a \$25 million assisted living facility. The land in question would help produce this program. We went to the State legislature to make changes to the legislation, as a title company out of Florida had some issues with how the deed was constructed. To date the Department of Transportation has received two appraisals and are ready to close. It was a condition of the deed that the Town could only use this parcel to develop road work or sidewalks, so we need to pass a resolution so that they can close this September. These parcels have no intrinsic value to the Town by themselves, but can be used for zoning access for the development project. The magnitude of this project is \$20-25 million. They have been approved by Planning and Zoning, and are ready to close and take out building permits. This is another great project for Evergreen Walk.

There has been some development interest along the Buckland Corridor, which is across from Evergreen Walk. We are working with developers on adding office space on that side of the street. We will keep the Council informed as this develops. We have already had some positive preliminary discussions with the Inland Wetlands Commission.

There is another project for Evergreen Walk. There will need to be an executive session of the Council to discuss the financial aspirations of that project. There will also need to be an executive session regarding the dck project, as requested by Councilor Pendleton.

I have contacted a couple of developers to look at some other projects in South Windsor. Some local business owners have approached me asking the Town for help in their development process. We are working with their real estate companies.

Before & After School Care

The YMCA came before Planning and Zoning on August 28th regarding their application to run a before-and-after school program at the Temple Beth Hillel Synagogue. Their application was approved by Planning and Zoning, and the plan can move forward.

It has come to my attention that the Mother Goose childcare facility may have three bidders on it. The bids are in, but I do not know if any bidders were successful. As soon as I get that information I will inform the Council.

Ellington Road

The repaving of Ellington Road has started. This will be a great benefit to the Town, as Ellington Road is a major roadway through our town, and will now be in excellent condition for residents and commuters.

Senior Tax Abatement

Councilor Delnicki has received some calls from senior residents regarding the proposed senior tax relief resolution.

Question A is: does the resolution allow for means testing requirements? This resolution is based on income, and that testing is done through the Town's Human Services Department. They have performed this service for years for our other programs, and the information is kept confidential.

Question B is: are we limited to the \$250, or could it be more? Right now the legislation is for \$250. That could be increased or decreased over the years to come, at the consideration of the Council.

Question C regards IRS taxation. I do not believe this will be an issue, as it is not a revenue or check that the homeowner will be receiving, it is a reduction in the assessed amount that they have to pay for taxes. I do not see this abatement as Federal tax liability. Our seniors already have access to a similar program, which provides reduced tax assessments for veterans. This new program would be very similar. If senior residents are concerned they can speak to their tax accountants, but I do not think there are any concerns with moving forward with this legislation.

Budget Planning

I met with staff in August to come up with a plan to look at our budget for next year. In the September and October meetings I will give a global picture of where we are in our budget, what has been approved in the past, how the budgets are made up, and what needs to be paid vs what can be put off to future years. We will be having those discussions as I finalize some of the information with our Finance Department and with the two Assistant Town Managers.

Ammonia Training

On September 14th and 15th, the South Windsor Fire Department, Public Works Department, Fire Marshal's Office, and CT DEEP are hosting two Ammonia Safety Seminars in South Windsor. The first seminar will be held on Friday September 14, at Fire headquarters, which is designed to reach the users and owners of the systems as well as regulators, i.e. LEPCs, FMOs, OSHA and Building Officials. However, emergency responders will benefit as well. The second seminar, at the Town Garage, is intended to reach first responders and hazardous materials technicians and will include a live release demonstration. The EPA has contracted with the Ammonia Safety & Training Institute to provide the content.

Police Department

Timothy M. Edwards
Chief of Police

September 2018

Chief Edwards to Retire:

Chief Tim Edwards will retire September 9th and Deputy Chief Custer has been appointed to the position of Chief of Police that same day.

We are proud to announce that Lt. Kristian Lindstrom will become Deputy Chief on September 9th. Lieutenant Kristian Lindstrom was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in 2015 and currently serves as the Commander of the department's Special Services Division. He oversees the Traffic Division, Investigations Unit, Youth and Victim Services, School Resource Officers and Narcotics staff.

A retirement party for Chief Edwards will be held on Thursday, September 13th at Maneeleys, tickets are available at police headquarters.

A Swearing In Ceremony for Chief Custer and Deputy Chief Lindstrom will take place Monday, October 1st at 4:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Refreshments will be served immediately after in the Friends Room at South Windsor Library.

Back to School Big Chill:

Auxiliary School Resource Officer Chris Poehnert, High School SRO Ben White, and Middle School SRO Tina Roy participated in the "Big Chill" hosted by Human Services. We

are looking forward to working with everyone this school year. Many thanks to Human Services for hosting this event and including our staff.

School Zone Traffic Enforcement:

It's Back to School time again and our officers will be monitoring school zones for violations. We are posting mobile speed monitors and message boards as a reminder. We will also be using motorcycles, as well as marked and unmarked cars to enforce the speed limits. We ask all motorists to please be patient in school zones, particularly during these first few weeks as everyone learns a new schedule. The fine for passing a stopped school bus is \$450.00.

Text to 9-1-1 Comes to Connecticut:

Our emergency call-taking technology is evolving, we can now accept 911 text messages. Communication is faster with voice calls, but this is another tool available to us. We encourage citizens to still use voice calls where possible: "Call if you can, text if you can't call".

Bear sightings locally:

We had bear sightings this year near South Satellite Drive and adjacent properties, near the Police Department, and on Woodland Drive. The bear was also seen in Vernon and Manchester. The bear hasn't shown aggressive behavior, we urge people to please leave it alone. The last reports had the bear near the Vernon/Tolland line.

Police Department

Timothy M. Edwards
Chief of Police

Tip a Cop:

The Tip A Cop event hosted by Dunkin Donuts raised over \$1350.00 in just 3 hours. All these funds are turned over to Special Olympics Connecticut to support their programs. We have several athletes here in South Windsor who benefit from these events. Thanks to everyone who donated money and donated their time. Also, a huge thank you to Dunkin Donuts- Sullivan Avenue.

School Resource Officer Summer Activity:

When school ends our School Resource Officers continue to work on youth related programs. This summer Officers Tina Roy & Ben White have hosted the Summer Youth Academy, a 3-on-3 Basketball program, and have chaperoned Youth and Family Services field trips. The academy was attended by students ranging in age from 12 to 16 and was sponsored by the South Windsor Police Department in cooperation with South Windsor Human Services.

The objectives for the program are to teach youth about the law; provide physical activities to keep youth active; provide opportunities for community service; introduce youth to different positions and assignments within the police department; engage youth in discussions about how the law relates to every day experiences; and to provide opportunities to learn leadership and explore how to be good leaders within the community.

The basketball league was open to any South Windsor High School student and provides a free, healthy, structured, and fun environment for students while promoting positive police and youth interactions. In addition to the basketball tournament, each week contains a life skill theme such as resume writing, job interview preparation, and nutrition with periodic presentations made to the participants on these topics. In addition, the involved participants participated in various community give back initiatives such as volunteering at the South Windsor Food Pantry, and cleaning up local parks. This program would not have been possible without assistance and donations from other town departments and businesses such as Target, Geissler's, Stop & Shop, Men's Warehouse, Dunkin Donuts, Mexicali Restaurant, Dairy Queen, the South Windsor Fire Department, the South Windsor Community Foundation, and the South Windsor Department of Youth and Family Services.

The summer field trips were a big hit, the group spent one afternoon with the Rising Stars middle school group at Collinsville Canoe & Kayak. Thanks to Human Services for including us. The officers kept dozens of kids engaged this summer and we are extremely proud of their efforts.

Camp Courant & Channel 3 Kids' Camp:

It wasn't just our School Resource Officers doing youth outreach this summer. We also

Police Department

Timothy M. Edwards
Chief of Police

support the mission of Channel 3 Kids Camp and Camp Courant. Officers spent the day with campers, showed off police equipment and discussed our job duties.

Officer Joe Fagnoli and Officer Dave Johnson represented SWPD at Camp Courant's Law Enforcement Day. The officers spent the day with campers and officers from all over Connecticut.

Public Works Department

Michael J. Gantick
Director of Public Works

UPDATES

South Windsor was asked to participate (as the only Municipal representative) on a state initiative to develop a curriculum on material application practices for winter maintenance operations. The "Green Snow Pro" Program is being put together by representatives of DOT, DEEP, South Windsor, UCONN CTI, and DPH. Much study has been done on the best materials to use for helping make our roads safe across the country during the winter. The balance between costs, environmental impacts and road safety remains a challenge. There are no silver bullets at this time. The Green Snow Pro Program offers the knowledge to go about this critical public service in a responsible way. The program will become part of the UCONN T2 Center's Certification program for the Road Masters, Road Scholars, and Leadership Programs for state and municipal Public Works employees. The effort is continuing to try and expand this certification to the private sector operators as well in an effort to optimize the use of materials used during winter maintenance operations. A committee is working on some state legislation which would offer some liability immunity to private sector operators who become certified through the Green Snow Pro Program—much like the state of New Hampshire's "Green Snow Pro" Program. We had a pilot session of the class on August 1st and hope to offer the program for state and municipal employees later this fall.

As a result of our involvement on the Green

Snow Pro program and as South Windsor is viewed as one of the Municipal Leaders on winter Operations in Connecticut, we have been asked to participate in the Connecticut Environmental Health Association's Fall Chloride Workshop in November. We will be discussing the Local perspective of the challenges we face relative to chloride and salting practices. Stay tuned for future updates on this subject.

Street Services

July-August 2018

Streets crews have been busy preparing several roads for chip sealing. This work ran the gamut from minor pothole patching to large cut and patch repairs to help provide a long lasting road surface.

Crews continued to perform drainage and catch basin repairs on several roads in preparation for paving later this year or early next year. By performing this work in house, we saved the town several thousand dollars.

The annual crack seal program came to an end in early August. In partnering with our contractor, we were able to get some additional roads completed as well as one town parking lot.

Public Works has been working with the Fire Marshal and Fire Chief to facilitate an ammonia training class in September. Ammonia, in this context, is a refrigerant used

Public Works Department

Michael J. Gantick
Director of Public Works

in food processing and food storage. This free, fully funded program is available to the fire service statewide as well as large ammonia users in the area. The intent is to prepare the fire service, other first responders and facility owners in dealing with a large scale ammonia emergency.

The longest section of the Nevers Rd widening project is complete. There is a smaller section that work will begin on shortly, as the utility crews have moved another box so work may resume.

Salt deliveries have begun to arrive and we are loading the salt barn for the upcoming winter season. We have changed our salt product this year to a product called Ice-B-Gone, a proven warrior in the winter battle. This product is slightly cheaper and research has shown that this is a more effective product than what we were previously using. And don't be looking for that oh so familiar green snow, this product is brownish in color.

Crews have been busy screening waste materials for proper disposal. This is a necessary process to "weed out" regular trash for proper disposal and reduce our costs when getting rid of our spoils. They will hopefully be able to screen the compost piles for residential use should time permit.

Chip sealing began on Monday August 27th on Felt Rd. Crews will then move to Long Hill

Rd, a small part of Clark St, Deming St, Foster Rd, and Burgess Rd.

The department has undertaken a media campaign to demonstrate resources and capabilities of the department utilizing Facebook and the department webpage. Some of the vignettes include the crack sealing program, the mechanics shop and commodities available to our residents like woodchips, firewood and mulch. The response to our efforts is increasing. We realize this is an important initiative and will work to increase our communication with our customers.

The sign shop completed installation of vehicle graphics on several new town vehicles as well as replacing damaged signs throughout town.

Scott Yeomans
Associate Manager

Public Works Department

Michael J. Gantick
Director of Public Works

Refuse & Recycling

This past fiscal year we were able to divert over 18 tons of textiles with the containers that were delivered last September, 58 tons of electronics, and 37 tons of scrap metal. By diverting these items from the refuse stream along with the comingled curbside recycling has resulted in a 33% recycling rate. The state as a whole recycles approximately 25% of its municipal solid waste.

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 that take place at the Manchester Landfill located at 231 Olcott Street. The next event will be held September 29th. 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.

The next electronics recycling event will be held Saturday September 8th 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.

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.

Pollution Control

The Department of Water Pollution Control has completed the third of four defined areas of the Integrated Vegetation Management program. This program was initiated to clear trees and vegetation in the sanitary sewer easements throughout town allowing our staff and equipment to access the manholes for maintenance and emergency repair purposes. We are anticipating the fourth and final phase to begin this November. Over the long-term, the goal is to control 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 Miller Road sewer extension project is in the final phases. The contractor has installed almost 1000 feet of pipe, 4 manholes and 12 laterals. The Engineering Department is in the process of scheduling the final pavement and lawn restorations with the contractor. The new sewer pipe has passed the pressure and deflection tests. Once the pipe is inspected utilizing our CCTV inspection camera the residents will be able to connect to the public sewer.

Public Works Department

Michael J. Gantick
Director of Public Works

The Sullivan Avenue Siphon and Relief Sewer Project has begun. This project will increase the sewer capacity to better serve this area of town. Over the years upstream development has increased the wastewater flow which in turn has maximized the high flow capacity of the siphon that runs under the Podunk River. The contractor will be adding a third siphon pipe and install a 12" sewer from Troy Road to Hillside Drive. Increasing the sewer capacity will mitigate surcharging and will allow development to continue east of the Sullivan Avenue water shed. The work is scheduled to be completed by December 1.



Photo: Sullivan Avenue Siphon project staging area on the corner of Sullivan Ave. and West Road.

The wastewater treatment facility continues to experience 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. **Flushing your drain with hot water and dish detergent does not solve the problem.** 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.



Result of Grease in Sewer Pipe

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*

Public Works Department

Michael J. Gantick
Director of Public Works



Public Buildings Division

*"Providing Exceptional Facilities
Services for the South Windsor
Community"*

Phase II Fire Code Upgrades

All of the remaining fire rated doors were installed a few weeks ago. The new doors now have what in the trade are called "lites" (or glass) in them. The doors are also fully latching with new panic push bars and door hardware. There are a few small punch list items to finish up but I expect that everything will be complete within the next two weeks.

Community Center Renovations

We are at the final stages of this project. The new double hung windows for Room 214 were recently installed. The installation was delayed by months due to the number of rainy days this summer and what I consider unnecessary delays on the part of the contractor. Two tasks within the scope of the project remain to be completed; the installation of a new hand rail along one side of the hallway and relocating one downspout away from the new window.

Highlights of Work Accomplished by the Building Maintenance Staff (June, July and August)

- Painted Town Hall Lunch Room
- Installed a digital clock in the Command Center and Multipurpose Room at the Annex
- Installed overhead projector at the Library

- Modified three book drops at the Library
- Pressure Washed the Little League Concession Stand
- Relocated underground fuel storage tank monitoring system to a new location at the Town Garage
- Hung a host of pictures in the hallway at the Community Center
- Relocated and removed furniture and furnishings at various sites
- Added a new ceiling light fixture in the Sign Shop at the Garage
- Repaired electrical controls for flag lighting at the Veterans Memorial Park
- Reorganized office cubicles for the secretary in Pollution Control at Town Hall
- Removed deteriorated mortar joints from coping on knee and retaining walls at Town Hall and repaired.
- Touched up walls in rooms 205/207 and replaced chair rail in room 207
- Installed new faucets in the men's room at the Police Department
- Installed new larger sink in the Teen Center at the Community Center
- Installed new leverset on interior door at the Library

Preventive Maintenance tasks completed:

- Monthly Panic Device testing-All buildings
- Annual door and lockset maintenance-All buildings
- Quarterly Roof/Drain inspections-All buildings
- Annual cord reel inspections at the Garage

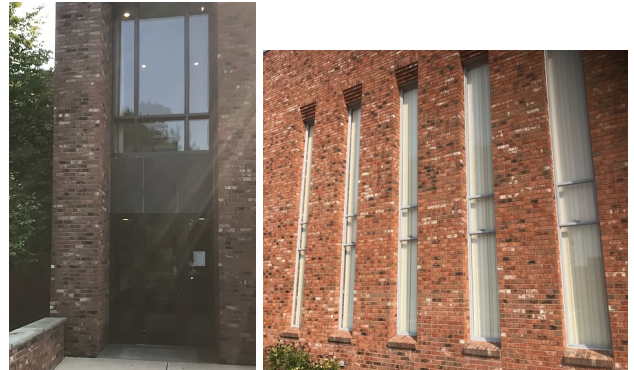
Public Works Department

Michael J. Gantick
Director of Public Works

- Monthly above ground fuel storage tank inspections

Contractor project work completed (June, July, and August)

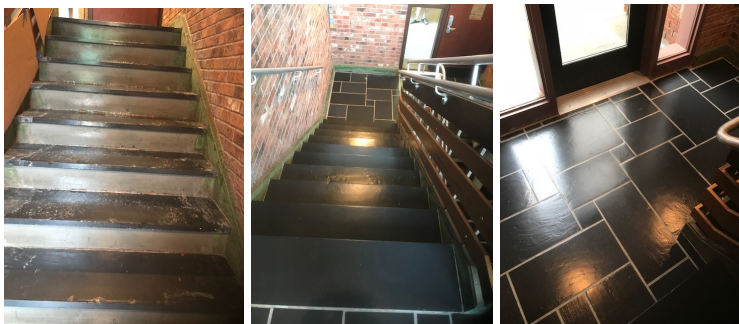
- Upgraded Building Automation Control software at the Police Department
- Repaired/replaced fascia trim on Human Services side of Community Center
- Installed gutter guards on Rye St and Rotary Pavilion buildings
- Repainted all of the parking lot poles, side doorframe and plate glass window frames at the Town Hall
- Stripped and restored the east stairwell and landings at Town Hall (painting sides of steps yet to be completed)
- Replaced two heat pumps at the Community Center.



Freshly Painted Plate Glass Windows at Town Hall



New Fire Rated Doors in Council Chambers and 2nd Floor Hallway in Town Hall



Before and After Photos of Restored East Side Stairs and Stairwell at Town Hall

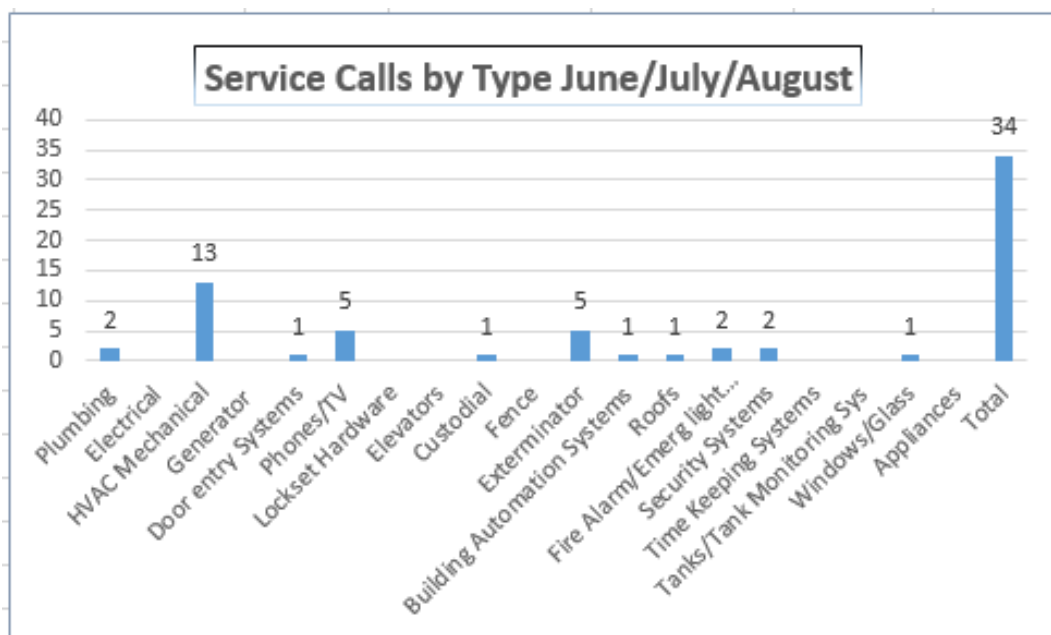
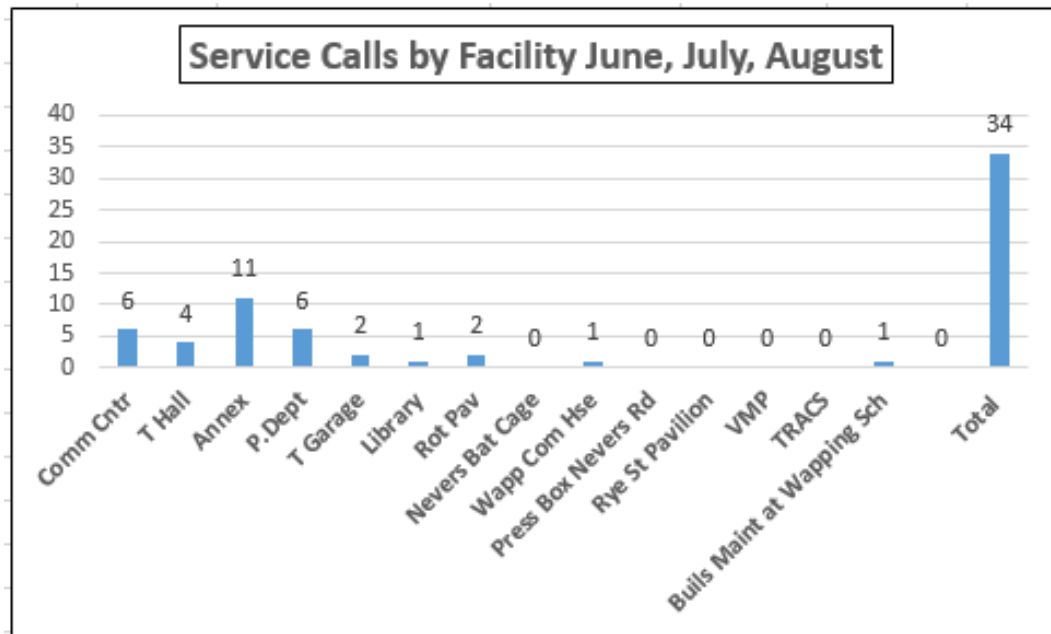


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Public Works Department

Michael J. Gantick
Director of Public Works

Facilities/Asset Repair Metrics



-Clay Major
Facilities Manager, Public Buildings Division

Public Works Department

Michael J. Gantick
Director of Public Works

Engineering Projects Update

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 substantially complete. Any additional touch-up work needed in new lawn areas will be done this fall.

Buckland Road Sidewalks

The Town has awarded a contract to Trademark Contractors from Bristol 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 construction of these sidewalks is scheduled to begin in September. The contractor will get as much work done this fall as possible but all work will probably not be completed before winter and any remaining work will have to be completed next spring and summer.

Avery Street Reconstruction 3 (Orchard Hill Road to Manchester Town Line)

The Town has awarded a contract to Red Technologies from Bloomfield 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 that will go all the way down Avery Street into Manchester to meet the existing sidewalks by the corner of Deming Street. They plan to start the last week of August and complete all or most of the work this fall.

Sidewalk Repairs

The Town has hired CRC of Connecticut to raise sidewalk slabs that have settled a couple of inches. We are in the process of hiring Martin Laviero Contractors to replace damaged sidewalk slabs in many places in Town. These contractors will work to repair and replace the worst sidewalk problems we have recorded in Town starting in September, through the fall and continuing into next year if necessary. We will still mark the trip hazards on sidewalks where we receive complaints with bright pink paint to alert pedestrians of these hazards.

Eli Terry Safe Routes to School

We have revised plans for this project in coordination with the new school project and notified abutters. A meeting was recently held with ConnDOT to discuss the permitting process to replace the pedestrian bridge over the Podunk River and we are working with the Design Engineering firm to prepare the needed permit submittals. Once Permits are received and plans finalized we can move into the bidding and construction phase, hopefully in 2019.

Public Works Department

Michael J. Gantick
Director of Public Works

Ridge Road and Deming Street Drainage Improvements

A meeting was held in August to hear public input from area residents on this project. Plans are being finalized to bid this project this fall. Once we have a contractor on board we will work to determine what work they can do before winter. The project will be completed next spring and summer.

Miller Road Sewers

The new sanitary sewers have been installed on Miller Rd and Brightman circle and residents will soon be able to connect to this sewer. The contractor has to replace their temporary patch and restore any disturbed lawn areas this fall.

*-Jeffrey Doolittle
Town Engineer*

Health Department

Heather Oatis
Environmental Health Officer

August 2018

Inspections

During the months of July and August 2018, the South Windsor Health Department (SWHD) inspected at several temporary events. Many of these inspections were performed at the South Windsor Farmer's Market, Connecticut Valley Brewing, and Evergreen Walk concert series and movie nights. With the warmer weather, this month continued to be very busy with septic inspections and projects.

Intern

For the first time, the SWHD is hosting an intern from the University of Saint Joseph Public Health program for the Fall 2018 semester. Her main project during her time in South Windsor will be to conduct a Community Needs Assessment. The purpose of this specific assessment is to determine the health education gaps in this community. She will be attending the Farmer's Market and Wapping Fair to collect the data needed for the assessment using iPads and printed survey forms. The survey will also be available on our website. The SWHD will use this information to develop health education programming in conjunction with Human Services and Parks and Recreation.

Emergency Preparedness

The SWHD and Department of Emergency Management convened the bi-monthly South Windsor Emergency Response Coalition

meeting. The purpose of these meetings is to work within the town to bolster our emergency preparedness planning. We are working together to expand staff training and update the plans that are activated during emergencies.

The SWHD assisted with the annual Mass Dispensing Area 31 (MDA 31) annual supply inventory project. Every year we go through the supply trailers to make sure items have not expired or been damaged in storage.

Human Services Department

Andrea Cofrancesco
Director of Human Services

Human Services Update:

We are excited to have our building enhancements almost complete with beautiful photos of flowers from South Windsor gardens from the Down to Earth Garden Tour in the hallways near the Human Services offices. We also have photos of paintings of four historic buildings from the Wood Memorial Library and we are hoping to add student and senior art work to complete our hallway art. The window is complete in the gym, truly brightening up a dark space and with the sound panels, the exercise experience is much more enjoyable. Our library continues to get utilized throughout the day from people working on a puzzle to those coming in for a book or folks waiting for a program to start. The counseling room has been utilized throughout the months in a more out of way space that allows for privacy and more quiet counseling opportunities. We are waiting for the hallway railings which will be helpful to people with mobility issues. Our Fitness Center for residents 55+ has more than 50 members in just over 2 months of being open!



With the additional space, we have been able to offer more one-time programs in addition to on-going programs for people of all ages. We are grateful for the support of building

maintenance in getting a lot of these projects done and overseeing contractors.



Gardens: An Idea to a Reality

When Human Services took over the building a year ago, one of the ideas that we had was to create a garden that would benefit South Windsor families in need through our Food Bank. This would be an intergenerational venture, utilizing teens from the Teen Center and senior citizens. Who best to get the project started? Andrew Paterna. When we approached him to see about getting an Eagle Scout to work on this project with his oversight, he jumped at it. From there he took the lead on writing a grant to Foodshare, which funded half the project (\$2500) and the Max Challenge funded the additional \$2500. Jon Laplante, Boy Scout, worked tirelessly and coordinated scouts to assist with building the raised beds, spoke to teens at the teen center about his project and assisted with planting. Liane Lussier Smith, Teen Center Coordinator, was instrumental in guiding the Rising Stars volunteers in planting and watering the gardens. Penny Shea, Caseworker in Adult and Senior Services has been helpful as well, and has suggested a

labyrinth to be a good addition to complete the gardens. A huge thanks to Jon, Andrew and Liane, Penny, Foodshare and the Max Challenge for this great community venture!



Adult and Senior Services Division:

Food Bank Donations

Anthony That recently donated kid snacks and toiletries to the food bank using money he received from his recent bar mitzvah. He even stocked the shelves when he came in to make his donation!



Volunteers Improve Yard

Volunteers from Our Savior Lutheran Church in South Windsor recently spent a Saturday morning working tirelessly on a yard for a woman with low income and limited capabilities. We are truly fortunate to have these resources available to us when we need someone who can benefit from assistance. A huge thanks to these super volunteers!

Before...



...and after!



ProAct Prescription Card Savings

South Windsor residents have saved a total of \$2,705 from January through July of this year by using their ProAct Prescription card. An overall total of \$86,501 has been saved by residents since the program started in 2013. This card is free and is available to residents for use at pharmacies if they do not have insurance, have a deductible or are in a coverage gap. It is also available for medications for pets, eye glasses and hearing services. For information or to get a card, please contact Human Services at 860-648-6361.

Adventure Club

Our Adventure Club has been having a great time! From Dragon Boating, to Horseback Riding to going on a schooner, we have it all! Next up: ziplining, kayaking and UTV rides!



Annual Senior Picnic

Our annual senior picnic had 180 residents join in on the fun! Caricatures, games, food and entertainment! This is our second biggest event of the year! A great time was had by all and teens from the teen center were super helpful!





July and August

Teen Center

The Teen Center Rising Stars Community Service and Teambuilding Program wrapped up another fun filled and successful summer! Middle school and high school participants had the opportunity to work with many town employees while learning about the community, various roles of town departments and ways to give back or help others. An important accomplishment was tending to the new garden at the Community Center, built by one of our Teen Center participants as part of an Eagle Scout Project. Youth also participated in the Adopt A Road program to help keep Ayers Road clean, collected donations for TRACS Animal Shelter and made tie dye t-shirts for a fundraiser for the SW Food and Fuel Bank. Another highlight from the summer was having School Resource Officers, Tina Roy and Ben White join us for "mini talk" presentations, which allowed for open conversation about important topics and strengthening relationships as we look forward to the new school year. We were thrilled they could join us for our end of program reward trip-kayaking on the Farmington River! Another fun aspect of our program, included teaming up with the Parks and Recreation Navigators Camp! We love making connections and working with so many awesome people in our town! Many thanks to everyone who helped to make this program so fulfilling for our SW youth!



Parent Education and Support



On July 31st SWAN Parenting Program will have our FIRST EVER, Dads, Dinner and Playgroup! Now more than ever, Dads are becoming the primary caregiver, choosing to be a stay at home Dad. One father stated, "Fathers have always loved their children, but today's Dads are after a connection. They realize this means parenting differently from their own Fathers, and starting the bonding early". Dads Dinner and Playgroup is a way for Fathers to actively engage with their young children and build connections with their community. New Fathers face all sorts of challenges, including depression in the postnatal period. Dads Dinner and Playgroup, aims to include Fathers in their children's development and can help address any issues that arise in their world. It can be quite intimidating or daunting for a sole Dad to join a whole new group. In this regard, everyone is welcome and whether you are a mother, a grandparent, an uncle or a Dad, you are an imperative part of your child's life. Playgroup sessions are created by you and for you. Being the main caretaker can be isolating at times and our Monday Morning playgroups and Dads, Dinner and Playgroup welcome Dads and allow them to meet other Dads, bonding in their commonality. Children cherish the time spent with their Dads. Strong bonds are built that will last a lifetime.

During the month of July we had about 50 individuals check out our Monday Morning Playgroup. On July 16th we had a water play day during our weekly playgroup. The children and parents had so much fun cooling down in the sprinkler and playing in the water

table. Check out some of the pictures from our water fun day!



On July 17th we had a Teddy Bear Picnic. Children and Families were invited to bring a picnic lunch and blanket along with their favorite stuffed friend. We read stories about bears and other animals on adventures. We will have another picnic on August 14th.



School Outreach & Prevention

The role of the School Outreach is pretty diverse in the summer. There is a lot of opportunity to spend time with the participants of the Rising Stars Program, organized by Liane Lussier-Smith. We spent time each week getting to know each other, playing cooperative games, using the S.W. Ropes Course and make connections to each other and to the community. It is a great way to get to know students in a different setting.

The "Make a Difference" Middle School camp was held July 17th-19th. Students took time

out of their busy summers to come together to work on some projects to help others. We focused on learning about therapy dogs, hunger in our communities and children who are sick and in the hospital. The highlight of this camp is that after we learn about the needs in our community, we DO something to help. We created bookmarks for the therapy dog owner to give out when she visits schools, hospitals and nursing homes. The students also made 120 muffins and packed snack bags for a local soup kitchen. Finally, they sewed beautiful pillowcases to brighten children's hospital rooms. They were a fabulous group of kids. A High School version of the same camp will be held August 14th-16th.

Kathy Reed and Robin Lagasse provided the "Moving on Up" program for new 6th graders during the month of August. 100 students participated in this free transition program at TEMS. Students had their last minute questions answered, took another tour of the building and got to know each other a little better. It was a wonderful way to meet the students and to help them get excited for the start of school.



In July, Youth & Family Services hosted a two day training for Juvenile Review Board members on Restorative Justice and Trauma Informed practice. We have been making small changes to our JRB over the last few years to reflect a more restorative practice, a move away from punitive. The goal is to operate our JRB to best serve the community. This training was beneficial in helping us understand how this approach will lend to a safer community by including victims when possible and by including youth who have caused harm in developing a plan on how to repair the harm.

In August, we hosted the first ever, Back to School Big Chill. Over 300 people registered for this free event. It was a great way for our department, the library, the PD and Recreation Dept. to meet some families and share our information on services and programs. We all had a great time playing games, doing crafts and eating a little Italian ice!



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

Liz Langevin, LMSW



Parks & Recreation Department

Raymond Favreau
Director of Parks & Recreation

“Discover the Benefits!”

John Caldwell, Jr.
Superintendent of Parks

MONTHLY REPORT - September 4, 2018

Keri Apt
Asst. Director of Parks &
Recreation

Park & Recreation Commission (PARC)

The next PARC meeting is Wednesday, Sept. 12th at 7:30pm now in their new location in Room 14 at Wapping School, 91 Ayers Road. Our summer intern, Andrew Schadt has done such a great job working on the master plan that he will stay on part time throughout the Fall and early Winter to continue and help us complete this long-over-due project.

The South Windsor Walk & Wheel

Ways (SWW&WW) sub-committee meets next on Wed., Sept. 5th at Wapping. Local engineering firm Design Professionals Inc. has agreed to provide their services pro-bono to help us estimate what we might be looking at for designs costs to develop the north-south cross-town trail through the Eversource power corridor. Armed with this critical information we will be able to apply for future grants like the CT Recreation Trails program.

The South Windsor FOOD Alliance

(SWFA) – The annual summer Farmer's market opened on Sat., June 16th and runs every week from 10am to 1pm until Sept. 29th. Go to www.swfood.org for more details.

Special Invitation to Councilors

SAVE THE DATES: The second annual Festival of Lights at Nevers Park is scheduled

for Sat., Sept. 15th from 4 to 9pm (rain date Sun., Sept. 16). This year will be bigger and better with more quality performances and additional food vendors. The highlight of the evening will be a 30 minute performance by Javier Colon, singer-songwriter and winner of the 2011 season of NBC's "The Voice" and now professional recording artist followed by a grand finale fireworks display by Atlas Pyrovision from New Hampshire. This is a can't miss event!! Stop by our first annual Trailblazer Poker Ryed at Rye Street Park on Sat. Sept. 29th (rain date Sept. 30) from 9-11am to watch registered mountain bikers tackle the 4 miles of new mountain bike trails recently built by our parks crew! Along the ride bikers will stop at check points and draw a playing card – the highest random poker hand wins a cash prize! This is not a competition, just pure family fun proudly co-sponsored by The Bike Shop, CT Valley Brewing Co., and SW Walk & Wheel Ways! 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!

RECREATION DIVISION

“Feel great – recreate!”

Summer Camps

We had 2,638 camp enrollments this summer in our "Fab Five" ACA programs: Adventure Unit, Camp Discovery, Junior Adventurers, Little Explorers and Trailblazers all housed at Wapping!

VMP highlights:

- Over 750 swim lesson participants
- Over 2,200 passes sold
- Over 5,900 daily admissions purchased
- 116 students took either a WSI, Lifeguard or Lifeguard Instructor class
- 68 swimmers of Seals Swim Team
- Provided 4 free sunscreen stations throughout the park
- Provided a solar powered smart phone charging station
- 50 families attended the Glow Night event
- Offered extended pre-park hours for Sensory Family needs on 4 different Sundays. A handful of families were grateful for the exclusive opportunity.

4th R Before & After School Program

The 2018/2019 4th "R" staff completed a full weekend of staff training in preparation for the upcoming school year. We are looking forward to beginning the 12th year of 4th "R" on 8/29 with 310 kids across 4 sites to start the year!

Ropes Course

In June, the South Windsor Leadership and Teambuilding Center hosted 45 peer mediators from Timothy Edwards Middle School. Mr. Thierry Huck, who is a long time facilitator on the course and Peer Mediator Coordinator at Eli Terry, made a great impact on the leaders who have decided to take on such an important role in their school. The

day was filled with challenging ground initiatives and ended with exhilarating high ropes elements.

Wapping Re-Purposing

Architectural plans are complete and in the hands of the BOE for review and final approval for remodeling the Cafeteria to a Banquet facility. We still hope to get this anticipated 6-8 week project approved and started as soon after Labor day as possible so we can begin booking functions for the Fall. Mini-split A/C unit installation in room 13 which houses 5 professional staff member offices is finally complete. We are still looking at expanding parking at some point in the near future.

PARKS DIVISION

"Caring for South Windsor's Growing Needs"

July/August Activity Highlights:

Athletic Fields & Grounds:

- Weekly athletic field preparations fully supported our Adult Softball league.
- Attended to landscape beds, weeding, planting annuals and refreshing mulch at Town Hall and Police Dept.
- Installed a pedestrian gate at chain link fence separating Wapping from the high school for ease in camper drop-off traffic flow
- The extremely hot and moist summer created one of the most challenging turf seasons we have ever seen. Grass demanded far more frequent mowing than usual and weed and fungus infestation required special attention to gain control. This effort required a number of over-time hours on Saturday mornings.

- Demanding manpower was required to trim 212 trees and hand-weed around 400 plants at the new Orchard Hill School. Without a doubt maintaining this heavily landscaped property and the two new facilities soon to be constructed at PRS and ET (and a possible 4th at PV in the near future) will require additional manpower or private contractors. This concern has been passed on to the BOE.
- School fence lines cleared of overgrowth, and all hedges, trees and shrubs pruned in preparation for new school year.
- Prepared a stable pad for the delivery of a small shed from Home Depot to store equipment for the new cricket field at the Fairgrounds (former Barton Property).
- Salvaged and re-located memorial trees, rocks, benches, plaques, etc from the grounds at Philip R. Smith School to preserve their history prior to the demolition of the old school and construction of the new.

Parks & Open Space:

- Rough cut mowed Dzen Open Space Hill.
- Installed 3 of 4 recently purchased solar powered smart device charging stations at My Friend's Place, the Bark Park and Veterans Memorial Park.
- Installed two bronze statues – one at the butterfly bench garden at Wapping and a second at My Friend's Place.
- Numerous stone dust trail restorations were required following the unusual number of extremely heavy rain showers that created substantial wash-outs.
- Continued additional clearing of invasives, deadwood and diseased trees at Lawrence Road Park.
- Picked up and installed new stove/range at

VMP Rotary Pavilion II.

Projects:

- Our tree contractor Distinctive Trees pruned all healthy trees and removed high hanging remaining invasive vines and deadwood prior to our crew going in to grade and hydroseed at Porter's Hill. We are extremely satisfied with the beautification efforts and have heard numerous compliments from residents!
- The Sand Hill Road frontage at the Police Dept. required removal of 3 diseased Ash Trees suffering from the epidemic Emerald Ash Borer. While there, we re-graded the area, applied additional top-soil and seeded to create a more "open look" to the front of the property. In-coming Chief Custer expressed his satisfaction with the results, and of course we agree!
- Installed wood guard rail fencing to better separate the parking areas from the basketball court at Rye Street Park.

Other:

- HazMat abatement and demo of the old farm house at the former Jones Property and now town-owned open space has been completed. Crew has since restored the grounds including finish grading, seeding and dead tree removal.
- Dismantled two large "star" tents at Wapping for use by summer day camp.

Photos on next page —>



An exuberant 2018-2019 4th R Staff after 24 hours of pre-season training over the weekend Aug. 17-19!



Our amazing 2018 Summer Day Camp Staff still smiling after 50 days and 2,638 campers!



2018 Above & Beyond the Call of Duty (ABCD) Award recipients: Lauren Branscombe, Karisa Rowse, Bridget Oulundsen, Matt McClusky, Quoron Walker, Art Sladyk and Fred Gerber.

Missing from photo: Cooper Castellone & Gary Simons.



Trailblazer Campers being silly at Dinosaur State Park.



Compliments of John Caldwell, Parks Superintendent, day campers get “irrigated” at the athletic fields at Nevers Park to cool off from the blistering heat of summer 2018!



Mass-Conn-Fusion entertains the crowd at our summer concert series at Evergreen Walk



In-house installation of new guard-rail fencing at Rye Street Park separates parking from the basketball court.



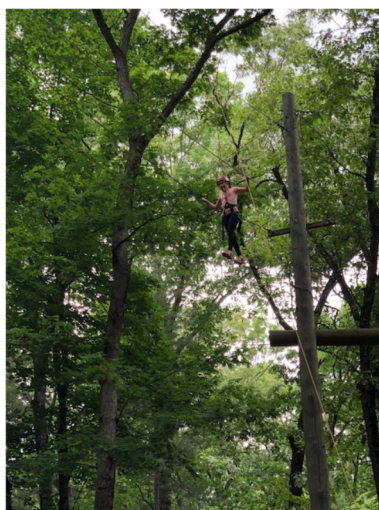
Parks crew puts the finishing touches on the grounds left after the demolition of the former Jones Farm house on Avery Street



One of our canine guests at the annual pooch plunge takes a break to cool off after playing fetch



Swim lesson in action at VMP



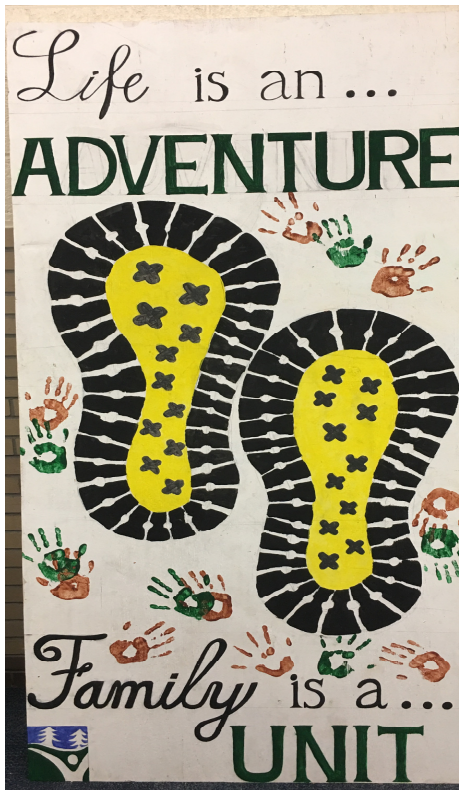
South Windsor Leadership and Teambuilding Center hosted 45 peer mediators from Timothy Edwards Middle School.



Our huge inflatable screen in action at Evergreen Walk Park for the Free Friday Flicks program.



Three Free Friday Flicks were enjoyed by hundreds of spectators at Evergreen Walk Park.



Each of "Fab Five" ACA Camps decorated a sheet of plywood as part of the "window art" project for the Priest Farm House! They will be joined by 5 other pieces of art by local residents and fastened to associated boarded windows on the house. There are still plenty of blank "canvasses" available to anyone interested in showing off their handiwork!



September 2018 Town Council Meetings and Events

Meetings

Tuesday, September 4, 2018

7:00 pm Regular Meeting

Council Chambers

Monday, September 17, 2018

7:00 pm Regular Meeting

Council Chambers

Holidays

Monday, September 3, 2018

Town Offices Will Be Closed in Observance of Labor Day

Layout by Samara Haddock, Confidential Secretary

