

Town of South Windsor

Town Manager's Report September 2016

*Matthew B. Galligan
Town Manager*



Bond Referendum Decision

As mentioned to the Town Council in previous correspondence, there will be no bond resolutions for the November ballot. Seven Councilors agreed with the recommendation to not move forward with bonds until we adopt the updated Strategic Plan and follow it over the next year. There are many priorities in the new Strategic Plan, and before we move forward with any bonds, we should strategize the Town's future projects with the Board of Education.

Board of Education Strategic Plan

In your packet, you should find a copy of the Board of Education's Strategic Plan. We should find time to meet with the Board of Education so they can present their plan to ensure that both strategic plans are cohesive.

Carla's Pasta Tax Incentive Program

On the agenda for September 6th is the approval of a tax incentive program for Carla's Pasta. This tax incentive program was approved by the Economic Development Commission. Town Council needs to review and approve the program so Carla's Pasta can move forward with their project. They have made a firm commitment to stay in

Town and will be resolving environmental issues on the land they are purchasing.

Contingency for Eagle Scout Project

I need a resolution for contingency to provide funds for the Matching Mini-Grant Program. There is a project for an Eagle Scout who is looking at a design for a memorial that would be placed at Fire Station 3. It is a great project that will take a lot of work. Town staff along with volunteers will also be on board with this project.

CT Prime—Captive Insurance

All thirteen municipalities are fully engaged in the captive insurance process. As President of CT Prime, I am very proud to share with you that the program is very strong, and there will be substantial savings in the future. Because this program is young, there are more municipalities interested in joining. The Board of Directors have to create a process for accepting new members. Also, I have been asked to speak in Stamford, CT to discuss the formulation of CT Prime as well as on a panel in Savannah, Georgia to discuss the benefits of a regional approach to stop-loss insurance.

Opportunity Bonds

There was discussion about the possibility of utilizing opportunity bonds. After discussing this with our bond counsel and financial advisors, I was informed of a few issues. If the bonds are not specific regarding their use, then voters will not have a specific topic for referendum. I am not sure if these bonds are a viable option at this time as all bonds are specific regarding their usage, for examples roads and construction. This type of situation can become very dicey, and I suggest staying away from those bonds as the public has a right to know how their money will be used.

Crumbling Foundations

There have to be at least 2,500 homes in order for the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide funds when there is a natural disaster. This tally is sometimes taken by county. Regarding the crumbling foundation issue, we would need special legislature from the federal government to make this work as the affected homes are split between different counties. This should be researched as I feel this situation could be categorized as a natural disaster.

High School Fence

In your packet, you will find a memorandum from Ray Favreau as well as proposed options that were given to the residents near the High School fence. When we first started this project, we were not told that any

structure higher than eight feet would need an architectural rendering in order to render the structure hurricane-proof. This was never discussed until we went to the Chief Building Official. He said that these types of fences need architectural plans. At that point, Mr. Favreau and John Caldwell had discussions with the residents about this fence. We are now at a position where some people agree on a certain size while others do not. I know there will be residents coming to the Council meeting as requested by Councilor Anwar. The information provided to you in your packet will show the lengthy process we have been going through.

During this process, the Board of Education was concerned about the possible ugliness that such a fence would create. If the fence were too high, it could look like a wall or prison fence, and the Board of Education did not want this type of look at the field. Even though they approved the process, they asked us to attempt to reduce the size and make the fence more attractive. Staff understands their concerns, and we are attempting to find a medium where everyone feels good about this particular project. If you look at the information provided, an eight-foot fence that is 490 feet long along the residential neighborhood with the rest of the fence at six feet would be a good compromise within the budget. We stand ready to discuss this with you, but you have to be careful what you wish for. We want to make sure that the noise level is reduced

while staying within the budget. Currently, the noise has been greatly reduced already because of the regulations in place at the field.

Discussion Items

I received information from Superintendent Carter about the issue of the next phase of the ten year project. I am emailing you this information and am ready to discuss these issues at the public meeting on Tuesday night. Councilor Pendleton raised the issue regarding the proposed referendum in November, and that will also be discussed.

Matthew B. Galligan
Town Manager

Police Department

Timothy M. Edwards
Chief of Police

Recruiting- New Dispatcher/Police Officers:

Chief Timothy Edwards has extended an employment offer to a new dispatcher who is slated to begin work on September 12th. Once trained we will be at full staff in Communications.

We anticipate hosting a recruiting fair in October or November with some area police departments with a focus on attracting minority candidates to our region and diversifying our workforces. We continue to work to attract and hire qualified candidates for our open police officer positions. We are working off a list from February 2016 and will be testing again after the recruiting fair.

School Traffic Enforcement 2016:

The South Windsor Police Department is conducting our annual "Back to School Traffic Safety" campaign again this year. A week before school began officers conducted high visibility patrols in school zones and issued warnings. Officers then began the enforcement phase, monitoring speed limits, stop signs and crosswalks for violations. This has been done using both marked and unmarked cars as well as our police motorcycles. All of our town school zones as

well as the CREC School have received extra attention.

Cop On Top Event raised over \$800 for Special Olympics:

On Saturday, August 27th Corporal Ron Littel conducted the annual "Cop on Top" event at TSI Harley Davidson in Ellington. The event netted \$800.00 for the Special Olympics. The Fall Fest and Haunted Torch Walk are coming up in October, which is always a huge success.

Police Department trained to Administer Lifesaving drug:

The Police Department applied for and received authorization from our medical control to carry the opioid antagonist drug "Narcan". We have used the drug twice in just the first few weeks of carrying it, saving the lives of a 41-year-old man and a young mother in her twenties. Both of these South Windsor residents made full recoveries due to the quick actions of police and EMS crews. The entire police department has now been trained in the administration of this drug and it is carried in the marked cars.

Public Works Department

Michael J. Gantick
Director of Public Works

Public Buildings Division

Project Updates

Fire Code Upgrades at Town Hall

The Fire Marshal and I are currently reviewing a final draft of the plans and specifications for this project. This project will entail replacing various interior wooden doors that don't meet the current two hour fire rating, adding a set of fire rated doors in the first floor hallway, removing the non fire rated second floor ceiling and replacing it with a fire rated drop ceiling that meets the fire code. We will also be installing a new fire alarm systems which will include a new pull stations, alarm panel and smoke detectors. This project is one of many that the Contractor (Rockfall Construction) will be completing for us over the next few months. I anticipate that this project will get underway sometime around the Columbus Day Holiday.

Town Hall Front Door and "I Beam" Replacement

The front doors will be completely removed including the entire metal frame and glass on either side of the doors. New storefront style doors and glass will go in its place. The entryway will take on a totally new look, one similar to the Library's front entrance doors. Parts are currently on order and I'm hoping

that this project will start in the next month or so. The front entrance will not be accessible during the construction period which is expected to take about three weeks. Signs will be posted and the area in and outside of the front doors will be blocked off to traffic. The rusty "I" Beam under the doors will also be replaced; this is a critical part of the door replacement project that will be underway as the doors are being replaced.



Community Center Entry Column Replacement

The current brick sections of the columns at the entryway of the Community Center (shown above) will be replaced with square recessed panel PermaCast Columns. The existing column bricks have spalled over time and the faces of the brick are falling off. The project will entail removing all of the bricks in between the concrete blocks at the foot and top of the columns and replacing them with

the PermaCast columns (as shown below). The project is expected to get underway in the next couple of months.

Phone System Replacements EOC, Police Department and Community Center

Phone systems at all three locations will be replaced with Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) phones in the coming months. The first priority will be the EOC for obvious reasons. The phones for all three sites are currently on order. I'm also working closely with the I.T. Department to coordinate and install the communications infrastructure needed for these new systems.

Annex/EOC Construction Project

Progress continued in and outside of the building as usual albeit at a slower pace than what was originally anticipated. The above ceiling inspections for the HVAC, Plumbing, Electrical and Sprinkler systems slowed the progress a bit since then all of the ceiling tiles and lighting fixtures have been installed throughout the building.

Millwork (window framing, countertops etc.) got underway soon after the A/C was tuned on throughout the building. A second coat of paint is being applied to the walls, doors and door frames as I write this report. Painting is expected to be complete by weeks end. Sinks, countertops and plumbing fixtures have been installed and the commercial kitchen equipment is also being installed. Carpet tiles are being laid in the large training

room; the management offices will follow after that. The EOC Hub area and hallways will be the last to get carpet although the carpet goes down very quickly so I don't think it will take more than a couple days to install the rest of it. The carpet color/pattern is the same throughout the entire building. The carpet squares have a mix of colors in them but are generally on the darker side. The mix of colors in the carpet complements the wall, trim and furniture colors nicely (my biased opinion of course.)

The generator is now onsite (tucked discretely behind the building.) Once wired, the generator service company will be called out to start it and run it through its paces. The generator will start automatically anytime street power to the building is interrupted. The building is also equipped with a manual transfer switch in the event we need to have a portable generator brought to the site.

The structural repairs to the portico over the entryway have been completed and the new ceiling and lighting has been installed. The new ceiling and lights really make the entryway look sharp!

Last month a group of the management staff along with the Town Manager conducted interviews with three companies that specialize in designing and building video walls. During the interview process each company was walked through the EOC to familiarize themselves with the EOC layout and to get detailed information about what

type of system we were looking for. As we were escorting these companies through the building each one of them commented on how well laid out the building was. Many of them even went so far as to say that our layout is one of the best they've seen thus far. Some mentioned that regardless of whether or not they were awarded this project that they would like to come back once it finished to see it in operation. They were very impressed to say the least. Kudos goes to Jay Gonzalez for coming up with the layout!

All of the companies offered up great solutions but the one that we ended up choosing had a much better software application solution which eliminated the need to update equipment more frequently and eliminate the use of proprietary equipment. This company is already on the Federal General Services Administration (GSA) contract which means that we can forgo the tedious and time consuming RFP process and move the purchase and installation forward saving about 6-8 weeks in the process.

The furniture for the management offices, lunch room, meeting rooms, training rooms and EOC Hub areas is on order and is expected to arrive in about 4 weeks or so. The vendor (W.B. Mason) will deliver, assemble and set up all of the furniture as soon as the Building Official has issued the certificate of occupancy.

We are very close to closing out the construction phase of this project. Aside from some drainage work outside, tree removal along the north side of the building, the driveway connection from the Town Hall (currently underway), the contractor should be providing a punch list of outstanding items to complete in the next couple of weeks.

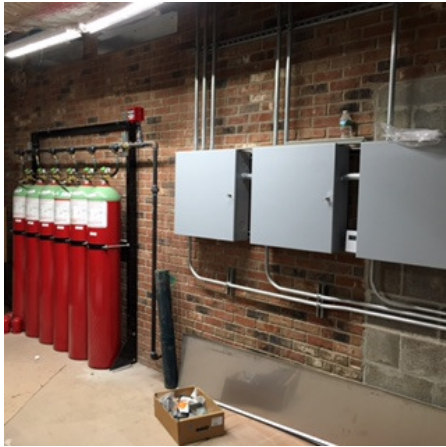
The computers, network, phone system and video wall equipment are currently on order and will be the last things installed before we can occupy the building. Once all of these items arrive onsite the I.T. Department will be working feverishly to get all of it commissioned and ready for use.

I've also assembled a team to coordinate the office moves from the Town Hall to the EOC. We've been meeting every two weeks to coordinate our move into the building. Once all of the Departments are moved into the EOC we will then plan and prepare for the many office expansions and transitions into those spaces.

I've attached photos of the work in progress.



Generator Northeast side of the Building



Under Floor Extinguishing System and BAS Control Cabinets in Place



Carpet Tiles Installed in Training Room



Kitchen Equipment Set in Place



Mechanical Room Equipment Installations



New Ceiling and Lighting at Entryway



Bathroom Shower Installation in Progress



Driveway connector to EOC underway



Secondary Containment Tank at Garage

Additional Work That Was Completed During July/August

- Replaced seventy-five feet of rusted galvanized gutters on the truck bays at the Town Garage. We will be replacing another seventy-five feet of gutters in the next few weeks.
- Installed, wired and piped in a new ice machine at the Town Garage
- Sanded and painted the outside doors at the Ralph Giansanti Press Box
- Refurbished the roll up kitchen and serving window doors at the Ralph Giansanti Press Box
- Re-painted walkway light poles at Town Hall in preparation of the installation of new LED fixtures on nine of the poles including the walkway light poles between the Town Hall and Library.
- Solicited proposals for HVAC and Custodial contract services and signed contracts with two new vendors (Temco Cleaning and Maintenance and Precision Mechanical Services.)



LED retrofitted globe lights at the Library

- Retrofitted twenty-three architectural globe lights on the second floor of the Library. The conversion to 26 watt LED lamps replaced both 20 watt fluorescents and a 250 watt metal halide lamps in each globe.
- Signed phase one proposal with Silver Petrucelli & Associates to complete a building study at the Wapping Elementary

School to identify the buildings needs for the future use and home of the Parks and Recreation and Building Maintenance Departments

- Installed new mechanical controls on the dry sprinkler system at the Community Center to expedite the removal of compressed air from the system during an activation of the sprinkler system
- Received proposals for repairing damaged areas of the epoxy floors at the VMP
- Received proposals and recommendations to remediate exhaust air from the Filter Building pump house at VMP
- Received proposals for replacing five exterior metal doors at Rye Street Pavilion
- Sanded primed and painted secondary containment heating oil tank at the Town Garage

Upcoming Projects

- Tax Collectors office security upgrades
- Town Managers office renovations
- Assessor's office upgrades (carpet, paint)
- Relocation of Channel 16 from the Maintenance Department to the I.T. Department (once vacated)
- Sandblast and paint accessible hand railing in front of the Wapping Community House
- Installation of outdoor security cameras at the Town Garage
- Fence Repairs at the Police Department
- Replacing dilapidated stockade fence behind the Community Center with a maintenance free vinyl fence

- Install safety guards for the skylights on the Library Roof
- Install a safety guard railing system for the roof hatch on the Library roof
- Sand prime and paint the overhead Sally Port door at the Police Department
- Power wash Community Center building
- Annual generator load bank testing at all facilities

Clay Major

Facilities Manager

Street Services

The men of Street Services have been working diligently at an ever increasing work load. We have been able to take advantage of the dry weather by taking on some challenging work, preparing the Barton property, numerous road repairs and rough grading the new Emergency Operation Center driveway, to name a few. We also assisted with the road bond project on Hilton Dr by repairing drainage structures which saved the town approximately \$50, 000 by performing the work with our crews. This work was necessary as the existing drainage structures began to fail after the first course of new black top was put down. We were fortunate to have put our newly acquired rubber tire excavator into service which proved to be invaluable on this project. The dedication of our talented crews made this project a success.

Drainage work and spot road repairs continue to be a prime focus of the Division. Our aging

infrastructure is starting to show signs of failure throughout town. Below are some of the areas we have been performing drainage repair work.

- We replaced a 40' of rotted out corrugated metal pipe lateral on Strong Road. The area was re-graded at both the inlet and outlet areas with stone sedimentation pools installed.
- A catch basin drain on Nevers Road was rebuilt and a 100 ft. shoulder repair was also done.
- A pavement settlement on Avery Street next to a catch basin was repaired.
- Several catch basins are being rebuilt on Avery Street between Chandler Dr. and Beelzebub Road in preparation of a temporary pavement repair overlay. The work is being done to provide some serviceability to the failing sections of road. These temporary repairs will buy us some time in order to complete preliminary road design work and define costs. Funding will be required to properly re-construct the sections of these roads.

Line painting was contracted out and approximately 37 miles of road were painted. Stop bars will be scheduled in the near future. Additional line painting on the chip seal roads will take place after that program is complete.

The crew has done an extensive amount of hot patching in preparation of a chip seal pavement resurfacing project scheduled for the last week of August on the following

roads; Main St (between Governors Hwy. and East Windsor Hill), unimproved sections of Strong Road, West Road, and all of Abbe Rd. Ext. Sections of Windsorville Road and all of Niederwerfer Road will also be done due to workmanship issues by the contractor that performed the work in 2013.

Crack sealing of numerous roads throughout Town is underway. The 16 plus mile program will be complete by mid September. Crack sealing is the first line of defense in maintaining a road. Keeping the water from getting under the pavement and into the base is the primary function of this maintenance treatment.

The Streets crews also assisted in a joint project with Eversource Energy on a 3 day removal of a very large diseased red oak tree on Pleasant Valley Road near Lefoll Blvd.

Street Services has completed two full passes of the Roadside Mowing Program and taken advantage of the drought to cut back as far as we can within the Right of Way. We are on the third mowing pass as of right now.

Sign Shop Department

The sign shop has begun using the new sign inventory management database satisfying a Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requirement under the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). We have 4238 signs in our inventory which we are responsible to maintain, repair or replace. We have been culling the data and prioritizing a

replacement schedule for signs currently rated poor.

Our first priority is to replace/repair all regulatory signs (Stop, Speed Limit) that are rated poor followed by replacing warning signs (Dead End, Stop Ahead, Curve) rated poor. Once those high priority signs are replaced, we will move forward replacing lower priority signs with poor ratings.

Of the 4238 under our purview, there are 381 (9%) signs rated poor, of those:

- 256 are Regulatory (High)
- 66 are Warning (High)
- 39 are Other (Town Line, Do not enter-Deliveries only) (Medium)
- 16 are Recreational (Driving Range, Golf Course) (Low)
- 4 are Street signs (Medium)

Since August 1st, we replaced 22 poorly rated signs. The sign shop maintainer responsible for sign replacement performs functions outside of the sign shop which limits his ability to replace signs at a more robust pace. Some of these duties include but are not limited to, dead animal pick-up, trash/debris pick-up, filling in on crews where needed, and parts/equipment pick-ups. This maintainer, unfortunately, becomes a utility person to handle those incidents/events though his main focus is sign maintenance, fabrication and repair. At this current replacement schedule, it will take us approximately 17 months to replace these poorly rated signs while some signs rated fair

move into the poor category.

While the poorly rated sign replacement is underway, we are working concurrently to develop a replacement schedule for signs rated fair. With the advent of this new program, we can look at actual photos of signs that are in the field and make informed decisions on replacing these signs without leaving the office. This should prove to be time saver by avoiding travel time to evaluate signs in place.

As we continue to assess the data, we will ultimately move from a reactive sign replacement and management program to a proactive, cost effective operation. Reactive maintenance will never be eliminated due to vandalism, auto incidents and theft, but will be greatly reduce by more efficient planning.

Mark Owens

Street Services Manager

Engineering

Avery Street Reconstruction (Beelzebub to Grey Road)

The Town's contractor, Morais Concrete is now about 75% done reconstructing this section of Avery Street. All the new storm drainage pipes and structures are in and new culverts for both Avery Brook and Dart Brook are complete. The end of Beelzebub Road has been re-aligned with Woodland Drive at Avery Street with a 4-way stop for traffic control. A new road base and binder course

of pavement have been installed on this entire section of Avery Street from Kelly Road to north of Woodland Drive and the east end of Beelzebub Road. Avery Street is open to at least one lane of traffic during work days and 2 lanes of traffic nights and weekends. Reconstruction of this section of Avery Street will continue through the fall with completion of concrete sidewalks on one side of the road, final paving, road side restoration and driveways and be completed by the end of November 2016.

Local Roads Repaving 2016

Empire Paving has completed drainage repairs and milling and paving of Diane Drive, Brent Drive, Goldmine Road, Laurel Street, Brian Road, Gerber Road East, Tumblebrook Drive, Hilton Drive, Simka Drive, Beechwood Lane, Kimberly Drive, Sandra Drive and Gerber Road West. Hilton Drive took longer to pave than expected because there were several settlements in and under the road over old storm drainage pipes, which were not expected and Town crews had to repair or replace sections of drainage pipe under the road. Empire will complete driveways and road side restoration with topsoil and grass seed by the end of September 2016.

Abbe Road Improvements

(by Robert Drive and the Town Line)

Abbe Road by Robert Drive has been regraded and new drainage, stone base, binder course of pavement and curb have been installed by King Construction. The

abrupt hump in this road just north of Robert Drive has been cut down about 3 feet and the road was raised a little at Robert Drive to improve sight line and safety in this area. The final pavement, road side restoration with topsoil and grass seed and driveways should be completed by mid October 2016.

Avery Heights Road and Drainage Improvements

Spazarrini construction is about 75% complete with work on Phase 1 of Road and Drainage improvements in the Avery Heights neighborhood. New storm drainage structures and pipes have been installed in the south end of Benedict Drive, the south end of Pine Tree Lane, Good Hill Road and Pond Lane, and new stone base, the binder course of pavement and curbs have been installed on these road sections. The top course of pavement, road side restoration with topsoil and grass seed and driveways will be complete in September. Plans for Phase 2 will be advertised to bid in September so work can begin in this section in the fall. Improvements in Phase 3 will be done in 2017.

Buckland Road Sidewalks

Design plans are being advanced 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

plans include traffic signal modifications at 3 intersections for pedestrian ramps, signals and crosswalks and an extension of the Plum Gulley Brook bridge. This project requires DOT review and approval of the signal modifications, and environmental permits for the plum gulley brook bridge extension from the IWA/CC and probably CT DEEP and US ACOE.

these hazards until there is funding to repair these sidewalks.

Jeffrey Doolittle
Town Engineer

Avery Street Improvements 2 (Gray Road to Orchard Hill Road)

Final plans to reconstruct Avery Street between Gray Road and Orchard Hill Road have been received and delivered to CRCOG for review. This project includes new storm water drainage, base, pavement, curb and sidewalks. The schedule is to complete the design, obtain permits and easements and be ready to bid this project in the winter of 2017. Reconstruction of this section of Avery Street will take place in 2017.

Sidewalk Repairs

The list of sidewalks in Town that need to be replaced or repaired has grown to over \$130,000 in estimated sidewalk repairs. 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 these sidewalks and keep them safe pursuant to the Town ordinance. We will continue to mark the trip hazards on sidewalks where we have received complaints with bright pink paint to alert pedestrians of



Human Services Department

Adult & Senior Services

Andrea Cofrancesco, Director of Adult and Senior Services

Welcome to "The Senior Connection"

In celebration of National Senior Center Month, held in September every year, we sent out our newsletter to 6,000 people using the registrar of voters list in addition to our regular monthly mailing. This year's theme is *"Find Balance at Your Center"*. **To celebrate, we are providing free exercise classes for SW residents 55 and over the whole month!** Find your balance at the SW Senior Center! This is a great opportunity to check out a class to see if it's right for you! Check out our newsletter for more info!



Mayor Tom Delnicki presented a proclamation at our Meet and Greet in celebration of Senior Center Month

Annual Senior Picnic

Our Annual Senior Picnic was a huge hit with 160 people in attendance! Volunteers from





the Super 60's Mens Group cooked up hot dogs and hamburgers and staff and volunteers from the Teen Center served and played games.

Senior Center of the Month

Stonebrook Village, and assisted living community in Windsor Locks that will be opening soon, named the South Windsor Senior Center the Senior Center of the month for August. They brought us a cake and donated \$100.



Operation Fuel

Caseworkers in the Adult and Senior Services Division assisted 38 families consisting of 87 people apply for Operation Fuel Funds totaling \$16,276. This is in addition to CEAP funds and private fuel monies.

RENTER'S REBATE ends October 1

The last day to apply for the Renter's Rebate program is October 1st. Those eligible must be 65 or totally disabled with an income limited to \$35,200 for an individual, \$42,900 for a couple. Call 860-648-6361 for an appointment.

ENERGY ASSISTANCE Starts September 6

Applications for the 2016-17 energy assistance program will begin on **Tuesday, September 6 for deliverable fuels** (oil, propane, and kerosene). Income and asset limits apply. **Applications for electric heat or natural gas customers will begin on November 1.** For an appointment or for more information, call 860-648-6361 and ask to speak to a caseworker.

Donation of a Freezer

The Food Bank recently received a donation of a brand new chest freezer, courtesy of Emile and Lucille Boutin, very active seniors at the senior center! This will be used for turkeys and other items as needed. A big thanks to the Boutins!

Our Savior Lutheran Church

Volunteers from Our Savior Lutheran Church

Before



After



recently coordinated the donation to fix a roof of a camper (for a resident in need In addition, volunteers scraped and repainted a raised flower bed on our back patio that is used as a therapeutic program for members of our CARES program. Thanks to all volunteers who assisted and to Dzen Roofing who donated their products and services.



Like us on FACEBOOK!

[Facebook.com/swseniorcenter](https://www.facebook.com/swseniorcenter)

Youth & Family Services

Elizabeth Langevin, Director of Youth and Family Services



July & August 2016

Teen Center

The Months of July and August were busy at the Teen Center! Our Rising Stars program continued with both middle school and high school students working hard, learning more about our community and giving back. We also incorporated healthy living themes throughout the program, which included "mini talks" about healthy eating, stress management and finances for teens. Our group also had a blast teaming up with Parks & Recreation's Navigators during the month of July! Many students reflected on the fun they had "just hanging out together" - especially trying out some fun dance moves on the Wii, *Just Dance* Game. One middle school student shared her thoughts about her first experience with the program and wrote, "What I learned about Rising Stars is it doesn't matter what kind of work you do, it's



all about helping the community and making it fun".

The Teen Center held an ice cream social in August for incoming 6th graders. It was an opportunity for the youth and families to come and meet Teen Center staff, check out the space and welcome them into the 6th grade.

Youth & Family Counseling

We had 18 children attend our summer arts



program, that we held for 5 weeks. The kids enjoyed doing lots of crafts, playing games and getting to know each other!

Moving On Up has started and will continue in August. 58 incoming 6th graders at Timothy Edwards attended an orientation program held by Eileen Adler and Kathy Reed. The students met new friends, had a tour and were able to practice using their lockers. They had an opportunity to ask some questions and make connections with adults who will be working in the building.



Please check out our Parent Talk Newsletter, available on the town website for all upcoming events.

<http://www.southwindsor.org/youth-family-services>



Parks & Recreation Department

Raymond Favreau
Director of Parks & Recreation

John Caldwell, Jr.
Superintendent of Parks

"Discover the Benefits!"

MONTHLY REPORT - September 6, 2016

Keri Apt
Asst. Director of Parks & Recreation

Park & Recreation Commission (PARC) –

The next PARC meeting is Wednesday, Sept. 14th at 7:30pm in the Sprenkel Room of the Town Hall.

The South Windsor Walk & Wheel Ways

(**SWW&WW**) sub-committee meets next on Wed., Sept. 7th. Charter member and Co-Chair, Members will once again assist the elementary physical education teachers in conducting the 4th grade bicycle education program at Wapping and Orchard Hill Schools this Fall. They are also continuing their work on action plans for potential public access to the Eversource power line corridors for cross-town trails connecting the existing Jacques Lane trail to Pleasant Valley Road.

The South Windsor FOOD Alliance

(**SWFA**) sub-committee is in the middle of their 2016 Outdoor Farmer's Market, and consistently pulling in large crowds every week! You can plan on the market every Sat. from 10am to 1pm thru Oct. 8th on the front lawn of the community center. Go to www.swfood.org for more details.

Like us on Facebook - The number keeps growing - we are now "liked" by 1,410 people! Won't you like us too at south windsor parks & recreation and check out the awesome videos posted? Also, please follow us on Instagram too at SWPRD06074!!



If you have 54 seconds, you'll want to check out this fabulous marketing video on our Facebook

Special Invitation to Councilors – SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, October 15th Fall Fest 2016 – a 10-hour day of family fun!

See pages 35-37 in our current Parks & Recreation Magazine or visit our web site for exciting details about the trail runs, craft fair, games, activities, entertainment, and haunted torch walk grand finale! 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!"

Before & After School Program –

September enrollment across the five elementary schools is at 320 with 33 students in the Early Release program to support the BOE professional development program. A great start to our 10th year of operation!

Veterans Memorial Park – Our pools closed for public use for the 2016 summer season on Sunday, August 28th, followed immediately by our very popular annual Pooch Plunge on Monday, the 29th from 5-7pm attracting 225 dogs accompanied by their two-legged companions! Record-breaking heat and sun-filled days made for a very pleasant season for our patrons. We had 1,088 registrants for group swim lessons and another 174 individuals partake in private swim lessons. We have not yet reconciled all

of our finances related to the operation to be able to judge the impact of the changes made to admission policies, and we will certainly keep you posted. We have started the closing procedures at the facility.

Summer Concert Series – Approximately 8,500 spectators attended our nine performances this summer at Evergreen Walk Park. Thanks go out to United Bank our title sponsor, and kudos to Cheryl Gerber for orchestrating the entire program for our department!



Mayor Delnicki publicly recognizes Parks & Recreation employees during Parks & Recreation month in July prior to a concert performance.

Day Camps – Our Fab Five: Little Explorers, Trailblazers, Camp Discovery, Junior Adventurers & Adventure Unit accommodated 3,195 registrations; 536 youngsters attended our "specialty camps", with another 110 enjoying our sports camps. What a great 10 weeks of summer!! Well done Lauren Bent and Sarah Robinson!

Annual Department Merit Awards – Prior to our final concert on Thursday, August 18 we proudly presented our annual Above and Beyond the Call of Duty (ABCD) awards to 11 deserving recipients. Initiated in 2009, once a year we recognize individuals who have displayed dedication to and passion for community parks & recreation and who have exhibited effort that goes well above and beyond expectation helping us deliver quality programs and parks that provide exceptional experiences for our residents. I am proud to announce our “2016 performances of the year”: In our volunteer category our winner is: The Down to Earth Garden Club. In our utility category (those that do a variety of duties) our winners in alphabetical order are: Lauren DeMartino, Kyle Hurley, Kristen Scavone, and Cara Sivo. In our seasonal employees/contractor category our winners in alphabetical order are: Jenny Belanger, Jackie Kenefick, Marissa Maffei, Meghan Oberly, Brendan “B” Prattson and our very first repeat winner – Paul Macchi! Congratulations to all of our ABCD winners – you are our all-stars and all your hard work does not go unnoticed!!

PARKS DIVISION

“Caring for South Windsor’s Growing Needs”

July/August Activity Highlights:

Summer of 2016 brought us a serious drought, 82 out of 90 days with plenty of dry sun and the second hottest August in

recorded meteorological history! As a result, it was a very challenging few months trying to maintain our athletic field turf and public grounds. That being said, you will still see some public areas in town suffering from severe drought stress. The good news is, it will all rebound eventually.

- **Athletic Fields & Grounds:**
 - o Mowed, scarified and lined Rotary baseball field in preparation for the regional Twilight League tournament 8/8-18. .
 - o Continued our aggressive over-seeding, fertilization, aeration and irrigation program at all primary “A” athletic fields.
 - o After a number of unsatisfactory results from our trim mowing contractor, we have released them from their contracted responsibilities at the middle and high schools and taken over these efforts in-house.
 - o Pruned trees, trimmed shrubs and removed weeds along sidewalks at all public school grounds in preparation for opening day of the 2016-17 school year.
 - o Prepared all rectangular athletic fields for the fall season for soccer, football and field hockey at Nevers, Rye and the High School.
 - o Began the arduous task of clearing the tremendous over-growth along the back property line by the student parking lot and in the front of the high school to open things up and create

easier to maintain, areas that can be mowed.

- o Restored turf on the front lawn "football" field at the high school the old fashion way – by installing temporary aluminum agriculture irrigation piping and sprinklers (see photo). This required moving the pipes regularly to prevent damage to the grass in the process. A serious effort well worth the resulting outcome!
- Parks & Open Space:
 - o Repaired the observation deck railings at Desmond's Pond and the Vortex water features at VMP.
 - o Performed substantial tree work and removal of invasives at Lawrence Road Park to begin creating open area green spaces as outlined in the master plan for the passive park.
 - o Continued our tree work and clearing of invasive over-growth at Rye Street Park, again to open things up and create more user friendly green spaces.
 - o Avery Community Gardens – the high tunnels project is now complete
 - o Barton Property Project – Bids for Phase II, finish grading and seeding came in way over budget (nearly three times more than expected) and were discarded. Public Works & Parks & Recreation management staff regrouped and together developed a plan to accomplish the project in-house utilizing staff talents in

conjunction with budgeted funds to rent the necessary equipment and purchase needed materials. We hope to have seed in the ground shortly after Labor Day to take advantage of the optimal Fall growing season.

- o Deming Community Gardens - Neighbor friendly site plan modifications are ready to go to PZC for final approval at their Sept. 27th meeting. Once approved we will re-apply for the \$20,000 grant with the state of CT Dept. of Agriculture Farmland Restoration Program. The goal is to have it ready for planting Spring, 2017.
- Other:
 - o Began repairs to the aging fencing at the Wapping tennis courts.
 - o We will once again be assisting the SW Jaycees with preparations for the 124th Wapping Fair at Evergreen walk.
 - o Dismantled tents at Orchard Hill School that had serviced our summer camps.



Irrigating the high school front lawn "football" field the old fashion, yet effective, way



Panoramic view of phase II at Barton Property – finish grading & seeding process.



***Removal of the
burning bushes by
the front parking
lot at the high
school***



***Ben E.Fits & Betty Fits join a conga line at
one of our outdoor concerts!***



***South Windsor Bark Park - \$3,100 proceeds
from Paws in the Park – 7-12-16 award***



August 29 Pooch Plunge draws a record 225 canines to VMP!!!



Friday Flicks at Wapping School courtyard as part of July is parks & Rec. month



Exuberant participants from our Monday Night Social Club at the annual family picnic at the pavilion sponsored by the SW Rotary Club



Creating open green spaces at Lawrence Road park



September 2016 Town Council Meetings and Events

Meetings

Tuesday, September 6, 2016

7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

Council Chambers

Monday, September 19, 2016

7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

Council Chambers

Holidays

Monday, September 5, 2016

Town Offices Will Be Closed in Observance of Labor Day

Layout by Ashley Booth, Executive Secretary to the Town Manager

