

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

To: Members of the South Windsor Town Council

From: Michael Maniscalco, Town Manager

Subject: Town Manager's Report for 1/18/2022 Town Council Meeting

Date: January 14, 2022

COVID-19 Update- I will have exact numbers for the night of the meeting. The Town has implemented a town-wide mask mandate effective January 9th, 2022. We have distributed well over 100,000 masks to residents, businesses, daycares and places of worship. We have also conducted a targeted distributed a second batch of 1,700 at home test kits to seniors, medically fragile, underserved and daycares within the community. On Sunday January 16th the Town will be hosting a pediatric vaccine clinic at Evergreen Walk 10am-1pm and on January 18th the Town will host a booster clinic with our partners in Windsor (sign up through VAMS system for the booster clinic).

Effective January 21, 2022, and at the recommendation of the Health Director, we will be moving all public meetings to a virtual format for the safety of the volunteers and the Public. The State Legislature passed a law during the last session allowing virtual meetings as an option for municipalities during 2022. Residents will be able to watch meetings on cable, Facebook, YouTube and the Town Website. Additionally, public comment will be accepted via written email and call in. Information on how to do both of those options will be included on the meeting agenda when released. Everyone should expect to continue in this manner until the Town is in the yellow category for 2 weeks (same as with the mask mandate).

Lastly, we are averaging between 10-15 employees out sick with COVID-19. While this is putting a strain on the staff, services are still being delivered to the quality and in the timely manner that the residents of South Windsor have come to expect. Thankfully, we have not had a single reported case of a staff member contracting COVID-19 while at work. As a result, I am not moving forward with closing the Town Buildings for public access at this time. It is important to preface this with the idea that throughout the pandemic things have changed very rapidly and if something does occur to cause a change in situations, you will all be made aware.

Town Attorney RFP- The Town received five (5) applicant firms for the Town Attorney RFP that when out. Consistent with the Town Council rules, a subcommittee including the Mayor and Councilor Gamble will be meeting with staff to review the applicants. We will bring a recommendation to the Council to make an appointment.

S&P Rating Call- Town Staff will be holding our rating call with S&P on January 19, 2022. We have been holding these calls on an annual basis due to the need to sell bonds to fund bonded projects. As all of you remember, last year we were very close to a AAA credit rating and we really only have a couple of financial indicators that are holding us back. We will again be looking for a rating upgrade in order to save the

Community additional money in interest costs. Tentatively, we will be selling bonds on January 27, 2022. I will share with you the results of the bond sale.

2022-2023 Budget- The Town staff have been working on getting their individual department budgets entered into Munis. The Finance Department has done a great job assisting departments in that process. We are now in a quick clean up stage where the Finance Department will review and clean up those budgets to rectify any administrative errors and I will begin my review of the budget starting the first week of February. Additionally, the Assessor's Office is working on finalizing the Grand List to determine the revenue projections for the upcoming year.