



Town of Glastonbury

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ITEM #7
09-11-2018 Meeting

Richard J. Johnson
Town Manager

September 7, 2018

The Glastonbury Town Council
2155 Main Street
Glastonbury, CT 06033

Re: Town Manager's Report

Dear Council Members:

The following will keep you up to date on various topics.

1. **Gideon Welles Air-Conditioning Project**

The capital budget effective July 2018 allocates \$850,000 as the first year of a multi-year project to install air-conditioning and replace in-classroom heating units at Gideon Welles School. Upon further review, it appears a unit ventilator with a chilling coil can be placed in each classroom with rooftop condensers serving multiple locations. This appears a cost effective solution to classroom air-conditioning and replacing existing unit ventilators. The plan is to proceed with design and bidding over coming months so that bid prices can be fully understood as the capital budget process begins in early 2019. The boiler and controls at Gideon Welles is scheduled for a subsequent year.

2. **Bulky Waste Closure Fund**

At the July 24, 2018 meeting, I reviewed the concept of establishing a closure fund for the Bulky Waste Facility. Council expressed support for this approach. Requirements for closure and estimated costs are being developed along with a formula for annual funding to the fund. I would expect to present a recommendation over the next 2-3 months. In the meantime, I wanted to advise this matter is in progress.

3. **Grant Awards**

I am pleased to advise of two recent grant awards to Glastonbury. First \$2,000 for care and maintenance of cemeteries and second, \$300,000 for planned construction of new sidewalks along Main Street between Chestnut Hill/Red Hill and Stockade Road. This is part of the project to complete the sidewalk connection with new construction extending from Mallard Drive to Stockade Road. With funds currently available, grant award and Capital Funding effective July 2019, this project will be able to move forward. Good news on both grant notices.

4. **State and Local Taxes**

The attached bulletin by CCM describes a new ruling issued by the U.S. Treasury and IRS concerning deductions for state and local taxes. This relates to Public Act 18-489 enacted during the 2018 Connecticut Legislative Session.

5. **Energy Star**

I am pleased to advise that Town Hall has again earned the EPA Energy Star Certification for energy efficiency with a score of 92 as compared to 80 in 2017. Recent energy efficiency with the new boiler serving Town Hall and LED lighting (both exterior and interior) helped raise the Town Hall score from 79/80 to 92. Buttonball Lane and Hebron Avenue Schools were also so recognized. Good news to further confirm continuing efforts to effectively manage energy use and costs.

6. Purchase of Development Rights

Town purchase of the development rights to the 47 acre Howe parcel located off Keeney Street closed on Thursday, September 6th.

7. Fire Fighter of the Year

This annual program sponsored by the Glastonbury Exchange Club is scheduled for the evening of Thursday, October 4th at the Gallery. Social hour 6-7 p.m. with dinner and program starting at 7 p.m. This year's honoree is Norman Higgins.

8. Police Promotions

A swearing in ceremony is scheduled at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, September 19th at the RCC for a series of recent police promotions to the rank of Agent (Ken Keeney), Sergeant (Anthony Pagliughi), and Lieutenant (Francis Perrone, Kevin Troy and Corey Davis).

9. Contingency Fund

For each fiscal year through 2016-2017, the adopted Town Operating Budget included an appropriation for contingency, typically \$175,000. With the almost \$1 million decrease in the proposed Town Operating Budget for 2017-2018, the contingency budget was eliminated. The current year budget also does not fund contingency. Should unknowns arise, the process will be to consider an appropriation and transfer from the General Fund-Unassigned Fund balance. This requires favorable action by the Board of Finance and Town Council with a Council public hearing. As an alternative, I suggest establishing a contingency account in the current year with a transfer and appropriation from the General Fund balance in the \$100,000 to \$150,000 range. Appropriations will still require favorable action by the Board of Finance and Council, however, the cost of a public hearing for each such action is avoided. Should Council wish to consider this matter, a referral to the Board of Finance and scheduling of public hearing is suggested. I was asked to reference this matter as part of my written report and will have a motion available should Council wish to proceed.


10. Energy Efficiency Projects

Activities continue throughout the Town organization to achieve energy efficiencies and cost savings. A recent example involves continued work at the Waste Water Treatment Plant in cooperation with Eversource. This includes updated pump controls, aeration system controls, high efficiency blowers and pumps, LED lighting, and other such initiatives. The net cost after rebates from Eversource totals \$254,000 with estimated annual savings of \$60,000 for a 4± year payback on the initial net capital investment. Costs are funded through the Sewer Operating Fund.

11. 325th Celebration

Planning is taking shape for the 325th celebration scheduled for 3:00-8:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 16th at the Riverfront Park. To date, fundraising totals \$17,435 and a number of businesses have donated certificates and gifts for an event-long raffle. The attached page summarizes the schedule of activities including a firework display which is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Thanks go to all those who have contributed and worked to make the program possible.

Sincerely,


Richard J. Johnson
Town Manager

Federal Issues Bulletin

900 CHAPEL STREET, 9th FLOOR, NEW HAVEN, CT 06510-2807 PHONE (203) 498-3000 FAX (203) 562-6314

Your source for local government management information www.ccm-ct.org

U.S. TREASURY AND IRS ENACT RULES PREVENTING CIRCUMVENTION OF CAP ON STATE AND LOCAL TAX DEDUCTIONS

On Thursday, August 23, the U.S. Treasury and IRS issued new rules that will prevent states' attempts to circumvent the new \$10,000 cap on state and local tax deductions. The \$10,000 limit on the SALT deduction was part of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, an overhaul of the tax code, which was passed last year. **Therefore, this new rule will negate the provision in Connecticut's recently passed PA-49 which attempted to work around the cap.**

As mentioned in previous CCM notices, PA 18-49 enacted numerous tax-related changes which included language contained in Section 10 that would allow municipalities to provide a property tax credit to taxpayers who make voluntary donations to a "community supporting organization" approved by the municipality. It would be assumed that the net budgetary impact of any town choosing to utilize this option would be neutral and thus this does not result in any fiscal impact to municipalities.

⇒ Read IRS Notice: [Proposed IRS Rule](#)

In May, the IRS issued a preliminary notice which indicated their intent to issue proposed regulations in response to state legislative attempts to address the property tax deductibility cap imposed by the federal tax reform law throughout the country. That notice has been followed-up through the enactment of these new rules will prevent the implementation of Connecticut's new law.

If you have questions regarding this bulletin, please contact Randy Collins (rcollins@ccm-ct.org) of CCM.



**Glastonbury's 325th birthday
event is Sunday, Sept. 16th*
Riverfront Park & Boathouse
3:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

Featuring Entertainment and Activities for All Ages!

Food Trucks/Vendors and Farmers Market: 3:00-8:00pm

Glastonbury Town Center Initiative (TCI)

(Gazebo & Boathouse parking lot): 3:00-6:00pm

Enjoy crafts from Wind Hill Farm and the Art Truck, live entertainment from Griffith Academy and Villari's Martial Arts, fun & games with our DJ, Home Depot Kids Workshop, Tattoos, Cool Color Hair Spray Station, YMCA Bounce House, and more!

Live Music and FIREWORKS (Baseball Field): 3:15 - 7:30pm

3:15 - 4:00 - Town Band

4:30 - 5:30 - Thickly Settled Performance

6:00 - 7:30 - The FourFathers Performance

7:30 - FIREWORKS Display!!!

Tastings, Live Music, and Prize Drawings

(Boathouse Banquet Hall): 4:00-6:00pm

Entertainment by Steve Nystrup Duo with Maureen Wasik

Wine/Beer Tastings (21+) and Dessert Tastings

Historical Displays and Mosaic Sticker Activity

Free Prize Drawings made possible by local merchant donations. Winners will be drawn and posted throughout the day. Please visit www.glastonbury-ct.gov/325 for a list of merchant donors.

L.L.Bean Outdoor Discovery Schools (Boat Launch): 4:00-6:00pm

4:00 - 5:30pm - 30 minute Intro to Kayaking sessions

6:00pm - Essential Knots for the Outdoors and Basic Map & Compass Navigation

This event is entirely funded through community donations. Checks may be made payable to the Town of Glastonbury, with '325th birthday' in the memo line, and mailed to the Town Manager's Office at Town Hall (2155 Main Street). For more information, please visit:

glastonbury-ct.gov/325

**Rain Date: Sept. 23rd*

July 29, 2018

Glastonbury Town Council

This year there are no birds, bees and bats in our back yard again.

A tragic figure in the neighborhood is a man with a pesticide tank strapped to his back spraying chemicals on lawns, again this Spring.

I am frightened and sickened by the chemical pesticides because The National Academy of Sciences reports that chemical pesticides reside in soft body tissues and cause deadly diseases.

Connecticut has the third highest numbers of breast cancer in America according to the Komen Institute.

Could something be done to make daily tick checks a routine. This works for me.

Sincerely,
Ellen Williams
24 Hopewell Rd.
S. Glastonbury
CT 06073

RECEIVED

2018 AUG -9 AM 10:16

TOWN MANAGER

P.S. The National Academy's list of soft human body diseases caused by pesticides & herbicides are breast cancer, MS, Parkinson's Disease, colon cancer, prostate cancer and more that I don't remember from their literature.