

# Town of Glastonbury

2155 MAIN STREET • P.O. BOX 6523 • GLASTONBURY, CT 06033-6523 • (860) 652-7500 FAX (860) 652-7505

1TEM #7 10-10-2023 Meeting

Jonathan K. Luiz Town Manager

October 6, 2023

The Glastonbury Town Council 2155 Main Street Glastonbury, CT 06033

Re: 1

**Town Manager's Report** 

Dear Council Members:

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

#### 1. Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) Grant

The Town has been awarded a \$500,000 STEAP grant award for the Nye Road affordable housing development. These funds are for construction of new parking areas to support up to 70 units at the Nye Road project. The total cost of the project is \$795,700 and the Town will contribute \$295,700 in addition to receiving the \$500,000 grant award.

#### 2. Traffic Control Signal Project

Per my Town Manager's Report of September 12th, I communicated that CT DOT has initiated a project to evaluate and recalculate yellow and red change intervals for 14 existing Town-owned traffic control signals. Councilor Osgood requested that DOT also review the signal at the Route 2 off ramp at Oak Street as the light is too long and unnecessary. DOT has confirmed receipt of this request and will review conditions and advise outcome of the investigation.

#### 3. Fiscal Year 2024 Distracted Driving High Visibility Enforcement Grant

The Town has applied for the FY24 Distracted High Visibility Enforcement Grant. The National U Drive. U Text. U Pay. hand-held cell phone ban campaign is a partnership with state and local law enforcement, the U.S. Department of Transportation, and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to increase efforts to enforce distracted-driving laws across Connecticut, to reduce crashes and keep people safe. The fall wave (increased enforcement of a specific traffic violation in a targeted location for a short period of time) is from October 15th through the 31st. The spring wave will be from April 1 through April 30, 2024.

The program is funded through Connecticut's Section 405(e) Distracted Driving monies and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Section 402/405 program, and will allow GPD to participate in grant-funded overtime enforcement through dedicated distracted driving overtime patrols. Approved funding amounts are not known at this time but will be provided by DOT prior to October 15th.

#### 4. Culvert Replacement - Manchester Road/Mountain Road

The Town has been informed by the State DOT that it is developing plans to replace the culvert just north of the intersection of Manchester Road (Route 83) and Mountain Road to alleviate frequent flooding in that area. Design is expected to be complete in December of 2026 with an anticipated start date during summer of 2027. The project will be completed with federal (80%) and state (20%) funding. Before the project begins, applicable meetings with Town staff, notice to affected property owners, and a public information hearing will occur. Please see the attached press release and map of the project location.

# 5. Glastonbury Health Department to Host Vaccination Clinics

This fall and winter, three respiratory viruses are expected to circulate in the United States and cause significant illness: 1) Influenza (flu); 2) COVID-19; and 3) Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV). There are vaccines that can help protect against serious illness and hospitalization from all three viruses. To help provide community members with access to these vaccines, the Glastonbury Health Department will host vaccination clinics on the dates below. All clinics will be held at the Riverfront Community Center (RCC), 300 Welles Street, with the exception of the clinic on October 21, which will be held at the Academy Building parking lot as noted below:

- Tuesday, October 10; 2:00 5:00 pm at the RCC.
- Wednesday, October 18; 4:00 6:00 pm at the RCC. This event will be held in conjunction with the Library's Spooky Story Stroll.
- Saturday, October 21; 8:00 AM 1:00 pm at the Academy Building parking lot, 2143 Main Street. This event will be held in conjunction with the Town/Community Tag Sale.
- Tuesday, October 24; 3:00 6:00 pm at the RCC.
- Thursday, November 9; 2:00 5:00 pm at the RCC.

Appointments are requested for all clinics to help minimize wait times and allow healthcare providers to plan and staff accordingly. For more information, visit www.glastonburyct.gov/vaccine or contact the Glastonbury Health Department at (860) 652-7534.

#### 6. Algonquin Work on Thompson Street

Algonquin continues to perform "integrity management work" in the area of Thompson Street. The work schedule, which the Town does not regulate, is as follows: Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup> from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m., Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup> from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. and Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup> from 7 a.m. until 5 p.m. Algonquin has explained that it is working longer days and weekends in an effort to fully complete the work before temperatures drop and the infrastructure needs to be put into full use.

#### 7. Cotton Hollow Ruins Preservation Project

On Wednesday September 20<sup>th</sup>, Structures North Consulting Engineers of Salem, Massachusetts was on site to evaluate the masonry walls. Subsequently, the firm has been working on a written conditions assessment report in accordance with the attached agreed upon scope of services. Town staff expects to receive the report this month, and if the report meets staff satisfaction, it will then be shared with the local preservation group for their analysis, questions, and discussion about next steps.

#### 8. Sidewalk Petition – Spring Street Extension

Resident D.J. McBridge spearheaded a petition for sidewalks to be installed on Spring Street Extension. The attached petition has been forwarded to the Town Engineer for analysis and insertion into a project priority list. D.J., who took the petition door-to-door to 38 addresses, also provided the following information: 17 residences (65.38%) responded that they wanted sidewalks, 7 residences (26.92%) responded that they did not want sidewalks (depicted by an "x" on the petition), 2 residences (7.69%) said they maybe wanted sidewalks, and 12 residences (31.58%) did not respond.

#### 9. Waste at Apple Fest

The event organizers, Blue Earth, and the Town's Superintendent of Sanitation have mutually agreed that there is not enough time to incorporate a composting option into this year's Apple Fest event. Starting in March of 2024, they will begin planning a robust "whole waste" solution to the event that would include food vendors providing compostables, proper signage, and necessary coordination. This was done at this year's Cheshire Fair with success after months of planning.

# 10. Glastonbury Wins a Democracy Cup

Glastonbury will once again be the recipient of the Democracy Cup for highest voter turnout in the 2022 Election for the city category (30,000 – 65,000 residents). Glastonbury's turnout was 88.66% of registered voters. The Secretary of the State awards The Democracy Cup with support from the East Haddam Civic Association. A formal event to receive the Cup is scheduled for Wednesday, October 25th at 2:15 pm in the Town Hall Council Chambers. Town Council members are encouraged to attend the meeting, which will be open to the public. Registrars staff and town clerk staff will be highly encouraged to attend. Following the event, the Cup will be prominently displayed in the Town Hall.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Luiz

Glastonbury Town Manager

JL/sal Attachments

# PRESS RELEASE

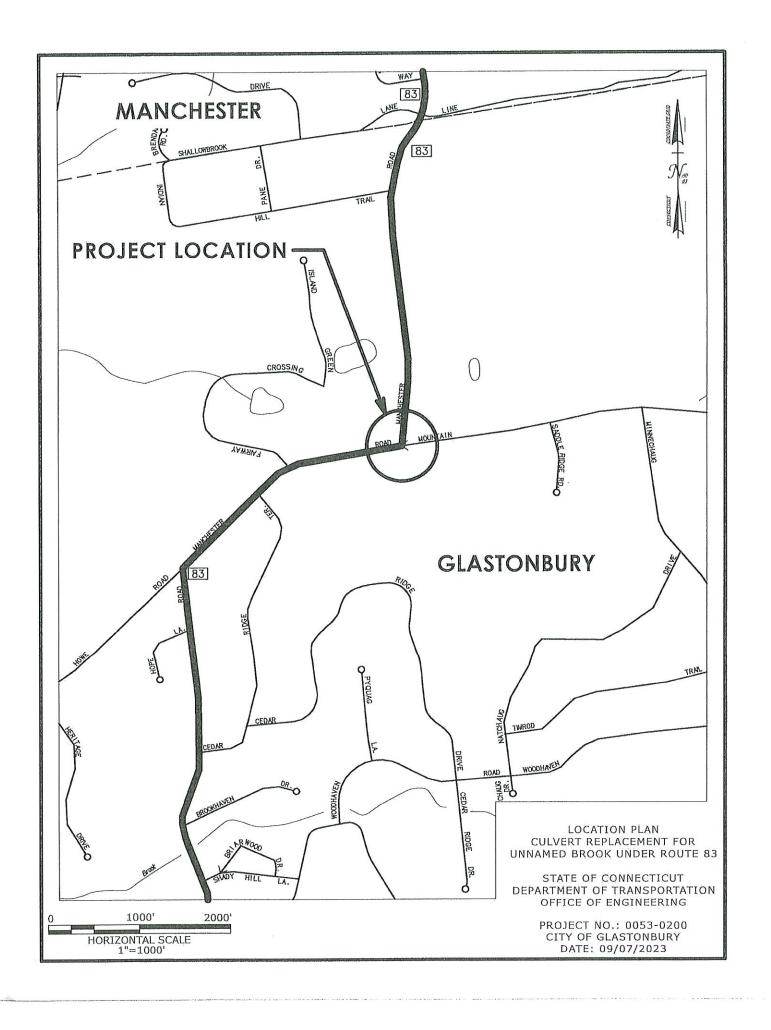
NEWINGTON,  ${\rm CT-The}$  Connecticut Department of Transportation's (Department) Office of Engineering is developing plans to Culvert Replacement Carrying Unnamed Brook under Route 83 in the Town of Glastonbury.

The project involves the replacement of a 36" culvert with a 3' high by 6' wide concrete box culvert that carries an unnamed brook under Manchester Road (Route 83), just north of the intersection of Manchester Road (Route 83) and Mountain Road in the Town of Glastonbury.

The present schedule indicates that the design will be completed in December 2026, with construction anticipated to start in spring 2027, assuming acceptance of the project, availability of funding and receipt of any required right-of-way and environmental permits. This project will be undertaken with eighty percent (80%) Federal funds and twenty percent (20%) State funds.

It is the Department's policy to keep the public informed and involved when such projects are undertaken. It is important that the community share its concerns with the Department to assist in the project's development. A public informational meeting will be conducted upon the completion of the preliminary design. At this time, it is not anticipated that a formal public hearing will be necessary.

If anyone has any questions or comments on this project, contact Mr. Scott Bushee, P.E., Principal Engineer, at (860) 594-2079 or by e-mail at Scott.Bushee@ct.gov. Please make reference to State Project No. 0053-0200.



### **Cotton Hollow Mill Ruins Condition Assessment**

#### PROJECT BACKGROUND

Cotton Hollow Mill was built in 1814 by the Hartford Manufacturing Company. The manufacturing company made cotton sheeting and brought in workers and their families to the Town of Glastonbury for over a century until the mill was left in ruins by a fire in the 1920s. The remains of the mill have been untouched since. The site is located within the Cotton Hollow Preserve, an 80-acre natural reserve area which has provides passive recreation space including hiking trails and a creek for fishing along the banks of Roaring Brook. The site is only accessible via walking paths.

The parcel on which the ruins are located was privately-owned land until 2020 when the Town of Glastonbury purchased the one-acre site. The private owner had partially demolished the remains of the mill to sell stone, causing concern from Glastonbury locals and historical preservation advocates. The Town is seeking to preserve the walls, and eventually place informational signs, benches, and trail markers to the superstructure.

# **REQUESTED SCOPE OF SERVICES**

The Consultant will perform the following professional services to provide the Town with an assessment of the structural condition of the Ruins and prepare recommendations for its stabilization and preservation.

- 1. **Document Review**. Review photographs and documentation provided by the Town related to the history, materials, maintenance, and existing construction of the Ruins.
- 2. **Site Visit.** Complete a one-day site visit to visually inspect the exposed portions of the Ruins from the ground with binoculars and supplemented with a close-range assessment performed from a small, unmanned aircraft system (sUAS) or drone if possible. The supplemental drone survey may need to be scheduled for a later date if the Ruins are obstructed by surrounding foliage. The visual survey of the site is not anticipated to include an environmental audit, or an audit of ADA compliance/access and other life-safety requirements. The fee associated with the drone survey should be listed as a separate line item in the fee proposal in the event that this service cannot not be provided.
- 3. Letter Report. Following assessment, the Consultant will submit a letter report with photographs that summarizes observations and items identified as potential challenges for preservation of the Ruins. The report will identify structural deficiencies and areas of the Ruins that should be monitored along with recommended monitoring types and frequencies if required. The Consultant will provide recommendations for stabilization, preservation, and long-term maintenance considerations. Alternatives for removing and stabilizing a portion of the Ruins shall also be considered as well as an alternative to allow the Ruins to remain "as is" with recommended signage/ fencing. Order of magnitude costs associated with each alternative presented are also requested.
- 4. **Communication and Meetings.** The proposed fee should include attending up to three videoconference meetings with the Town. Anticipated meetings include an initial kickoff meeting with the project team, review of findings from the site visit, and a meeting to discuss comments on the report.

# Spring Street Extension Sidewalk

WE THE UNDERSIGNED WOULD LIKE TO BRING YOUR ATTENTION TO THE FOLLOWING PROBLEM, WITH RECOMMENDATION(S):

Spring Street Extension is used as a cut through from Griswold to House Street. Over 100 vehicles a day will travel down this road causing a risk for pedestrians. We, the residents of Spring Street Extension, would like to have a sidewalk added to ensure the safety of our residents.

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