



## TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD

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### Memo

To: Town Council  
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager  
CC: Town Employees  
Date: June 26, 2018  
Re: Town Manager's Report

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Below please find my report concerning various items of interest to the Town Council, the staff, and the community:

### Council Business & Meetings

- June 28, 2018, 8:00 AM (Rm 314) – Human Services Committee meeting
- July 17, 6:15 PM (Rm 314) – Public Hearing: Ordinance - Editing Schedule of Permitted Accessory Uses Sec. 27 for Food Trucks
- July 17, 6:30 PM (Rm 314) – Town Council meeting
- July 19, 8:00 AM (Rm 314) – Public Safety Committee meeting

### Departmental & Staff Reports

- *Holiday trash delay* - Due to the Independence Day holiday, the collection of trash, recyclable items and bulky waste will be completed one day late after the Wednesday holiday. Wednesday's collection will be completed on Thursday with each remaining day of the week one day later than normal. Please check Paine's website [www.PainesInc.com](http://www.PainesInc.com) or call (860) 844-3000 with any questions.
- *Holiday closings* – In recognition of the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday, the Town Hall, Recycling Center, community center, libraries, and senior centers will closed on Wednesday, July 4.
- *Assistant Fire Chief* – I am pleased to announce that we have extended a conditional offer of employment to Greg Priest to serve as the Town's next Assistant Fire Chief for Operations. Mr. Priest is the current Fire Chief at the University of Connecticut and comes to us with over 20 years of progressively responsible experience. Mr. Priest is expected to start work in West Hartford on July 30, 2018; I will keep the Council informed of the details for Assistant Chief Priest's swearing-in ceremony.
- *Bronze Bike Friendly Award* – The League of American Bicyclists has announced its latest round of Bicycle Friendly Community (BFC) awards, including West Hartford at the Bronze level. The League of American Bicyclists awarded 41 new and renewed Bicycle Friendly Communities this spring. Fourteen communities

are receiving Honorable Mentions. The Bronze level designation is the result of West Hartford's commitment to improving our roadways to accommodate bicycles wherever possible, to our public safety measures that enforce the rules of the road, to our bicycle safety curriculum in our schools, and to our cycling community that encourages everyone to consider cycling over driving whenever they can.

- *Tax Bills* – First installment real estate, business personal property, and motor vehicle tax bills (for vehicles registered as of October 1, 2017) will be mailed by June 25. Payment is due July 1. The last day to pay without penalty is Wednesday, August 1, 2018. The uniform mill rate for the new fiscal year is 41.00 mills.
- *Dog License Renewals* – Just a reminder that June is dog license month in Town Clerks' offices throughout the state. By state law, all dogs over 6 months of age must be registered and receive a dog tag annually. The annual cost for dog licenses is \$19.00 for unaltered animals and \$8.00 for neutered or spayed animals.
- *MDC sewer user charge study* – As the Town Council will recall, the MDC has initiated a study to look at the feasibility of converting its *ad valorem* tax for sanitary sewer service to a user fee. Peter Privitera and I are members of the working group assigned to oversee this project; on June 28 the working group will meet to discuss potential rate structures and scenarios prepared by Raftelis, the MDC's consulting firm for this project. Mr. Privitera and I will continue to keep the committee informed of the status of this important project.

## **Upcoming Events & Announcements**

- *In The Heights* - Playhouse on Park presents Lin-Manuel Miranda's *In The Heights* from June 15 to July 29. Opening night on June 15 features a complimentary wine and cheese reception at 7:00 PM, and curtain is set for 8:00 PM. A special Tuesday matinee is planned for June 26 at 2:00 PM, with all tickets priced at \$22.50. In addition, there are two open mic nights scheduled for June 23 and July 21. Tickets are now on sale, ranging from \$40-\$50. For more information, call the Playhouse at 860-523-5900 x10, or visit [www.playhouseonpark.org](http://www.playhouseonpark.org).
- *Pencils for Puerto Rico Fundraiser* - Following the Hurricane Maria last September, volunteers traveled to Puerto Rico in an effort to provide relief to survivors of the storm. Even though this disaster is no longer front and center in the media, our fellow citizens in Puerto Rico are still rebuilding. In an effort to make a difference in a small way, Playhouse on Park is running a pencil and crayon drive for select schools in Puerto Rico during the entire run of Lin-Manuel Miranda's *In The Heights*, June 13-July 29. Bring your donations when you come for the show, or stop by during business hours: Tuesday-Friday 10am-6pm, Saturday 10am-2pm.
- *Pericles, Prince of Tyre* - Capital Classics Theatre Company will present William Shakespeare's epic adventurer: *Pericles, Prince of Tyre* held July 12-29. The play is held outdoors on the grounds of the University of Saint Joseph. Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$12 for students and seniors, and are available online, at the door or by calling the box office at (860) 231-5555.
- *Distracted Driving Awareness* - A Distracted Driving Awareness event will be held at West Hartford Town Hall auditorium on Wednesday, June 27 from 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM. The event includes two panel discussions and several interactive stations to explore the impact of distracted driving. The first panel discussion begins at 6:00 PM and the second at 7:15 PM. The event is free.
- *Global Starts Local: Climate Change* - Join Georgetown graduate Owen Eagan for a lecture that explores climate change, bringing a worldwide problem to the local level and surveying West Hartford's role in the solution on Wednesday, July 18 at 7:00 PM at the Noah Webster Library, 20 South Main Street. Mayor Shari Cantor will deliver the opening remarks at the event. Register at the library.