



# TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD

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[www.westhartfordct.gov](http://www.westhartfordct.gov)

## Memo

To: Town Council  
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager  
CC: Town Employees  
Date: January 8, 2019  
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**

- *Administration & Technology Committee* – January 14 at 8:00AM in Room 312
- *Community Planning & Physical Services Committee* – January 16 at 8:00AM in Room 312
- *Town Council* – January 22 at 7:30PM in Legislative Chamber (Room 314); public hearing scheduled for 7:00PM
- *Human Services Committee* – January 24 at 8:00AM in Room 312
- *Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Economic Development Committee* – January 28 at 6:00PM in Room 312
- *Finance, Budget & Personnel Committee* – February 4 at 6:00PM in Room 312 at Town Hall.

### **Staff and Departmental Reports**

- *BoardDocs* - Last year, staff researched paperless agenda solutions in an effort to cut costs and improve efficiencies related to the agenda process. After reviewing a number of products, the Town selected the BoardDocs paperless governance solution. Endorsed by the Administrative and Technology Committee, BoardDocs offers a wide range of capabilities and qualities that will benefit the Town. It is designed exclusively for the needs of municipalities, school districts and local government. We have scheduled on-site training for the new software for Tuesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>. Staff will participate in a full day of training and the Town Council will have an evening session, both led by a BoardDocs representative.
- *Community Development Block Grant Program Public Hearings* – Staff anticipates that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development will allocate approximately \$880,000 in CDBG funds to the Town of West Hartford. Staff will recommend that the Town Council appropriate the funds for the FY 2019/20 budget. CDBG activities must provide a benefit principally to low-moderate income persons. The Town has scheduled two public hearings during which interested parties can

learn more about West Hartford's CDBG program(s) and comment on the Town's use of CDBG funds and its community development needs:

- Tuesday, January 29, 2019, 6:00-7:00 PM, Elmwood Community Center, Room 110, 1106 New Britain Avenue, West Hartford
- Wednesday, January 30, 2019, 5:00-6:00 PM, West Hartford Town Hall, Room 217, 50 South Main Street, West Hartford

Individuals with a disability, persons needing special assistance in order to participate in the hearing process, or those seeking additional information should contact Theresa Lerner, LCSW in West Hartford's Social Services Department at (860) 561-7575 or at [Theresa.Lerner@westhartfordct.gov](mailto:Theresa.Lerner@westhartfordct.gov).

- *Post-Holiday Cardboard and Electronics Drop-off successful* – Over 250 West Hartford families took advantage of the Post-Holiday Cardboard and Electronics Drop-off on Saturday, December 29<sup>th</sup>, to properly dispose of an abundance of cardboard and old electronics from the holidays. Kudos to our residents and Public Works staff on a job well-done!
- *Christmas tree collection* – The annual Christmas tree collection is underway and will run through Wednesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>. Please remember that the trees are recycled into wood chips, so please remove any plastic bags, ornaments, lights and stands from your tree before placing it at the curb.

Residents may also bring their trees to the Town's Recycling Center at 25 Brixton Center from Monday to Friday, 7:30AM-4:30PM. Please note, there are no weekend hours at the Recycling Center until April 6<sup>th</sup>. Please call the Department of Public Works at 561-8100 if you have any questions.

## **Upcoming Events & Announcements**

- *Top 50 Best Places to Live* – On December 17<sup>th</sup>, *MONEY* magazine announced that West Hartford was ranked in the Top 50 Best Places to Live in the United States for towns and cities with populations of 50,000 or greater. West Hartford earned the number 48 spot and was the only Connecticut town that made the Top 50 list and was one of three in New England.
- *West Hartford celebrates MLK* – Join us for the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s life on Monday, January 21, 2019 at the Town Hall Auditorium, from 10:00AM to 11:30 AM. This year's keynote speaker is Patricia Wilson Pheanious who is the first woman of color from a non-urban district to win a seat in the CT General Assembly. Rabbi James Rosen of Beth El Temple will give the opening prayer and Henley Solomon, Jr., who was the 2014 student speaker at this event, will serve as master of ceremonies. Briana Bobo of Conard High School and Mica Hunter Lovell of Hall High School will offer student perspectives on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Musical performances will be provided by the Hall High School Jazz Combo, King Philip Middle School Singers and Hall High School Choraliers. The event is free and open to all.
- *Solar For All Workshop* - Come learn more about this community-supported initiative to reduce residential utility bills at the West Hartford Solar For All homeowner workshop to be held on Tuesday, January 15 at the Faxon Branch Library. For more information, please call 866-767-4436.
- *Blood Drive* –The Rotary Club of West Hartford will sponsor a blood drive in loving memory of Hap Leabman on Tuesday, January 22, 12:00-5:30 PM, at the Town Hall auditorium. All donors receive a \$5 Dunkin' Donuts gift card. For appointments, visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) or call 1-800-RED-CROSS.
- *West Hartford Restaurant Week* - The winter version of West Hartford Restaurant Week will run for two weeks, from Monday, Jan. 7 through Sunday, Jan. 20. For a complete list of participating restaurants, visit [www.WHRestaurantWeek.com](http://www.WHRestaurantWeek.com).

Participating restaurants will have a special menu for the week, while others will offer discounts on existing menus. Each will donate 5% of sales from their special Restaurant Week menus to Foodshare.

- *2019 Children's Charity Ball* - Tickets are still available for the Bridge Family Center's 2019 Children's Charity Ball on Saturday, January 26 at The Marquee, Hartford. If you haven't purchased your tickets yet, you might want to do it soon because this event sells-out each year. The Children's Charity Ball will kick off the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Bridge Family Center, and Honorary Chairs are longtime Bridge friends and supporters, Rob and Dawn Koff and Bob and Debbie Katz. To purchase tickets, visit [www.BridgeFamilyCenter.org](http://www.BridgeFamilyCenter.org).