

Memo

To: Town Council
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager
CC: Town Employees
Date: March 12, 2012
Re: Town Manager's Report

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

Departmental/Division News

- *Human Services* - Approximately 100 people, including several Town Council members, attended the YSB Volunteer Recognition event last week. Many of the volunteers are UConn students, and several of them have participated as volunteers for the past four years. I thought that Pat Michalak and Kathy McNamara did an excellent job coordinating the event and would like to thank them as well as all of our volunteers.
- *Planning and Zoning, Southeast School Safe Routes to School Grant Application* - The Town submitted an application to the Connecticut DOT Safe Routes to School Program in August 2011 for \$495,100 to fund the construction of a sidewalk from Route 195 to Southeast School. We were recently notified that the town's application was not selected for funding. If the town moves forward with the school building project, staff will work with school principals on development of a comprehensive Safe Routes to School Master Plan for all of the town schools that can serve as a foundation for future grant requests.

Major Projects and Initiatives

- *Storrs Center*
 - *Construction Update* – The exterior work on the buildings in Phase 1A of Storrs Center, 1 Dog Lane and 9 Dog Lane, progresses while the construction of the parking garage continues. Part of the Storrs Center project is to improve pedestrian access in the area with wider sidewalks, landscaping, hardscaping, and improved crosswalks. Work on the sidewalk to the west of Storrs Road/Route 195 (the Town Hall side of the road) began today. Work will begin shortly at the intersection of Storrs Road and South Eagleville Road (Route 275) and progress northwards. The sidewalk will be inaccessible during this time and pedestrians are encouraged to use the sidewalk on the opposite side of the street. While every effort is being made to manage traffic flow, there may be delays as the construction vehicles navigate the site. Please remember to drive slowly through the construction area and maintain a safe distance between yourself and oversized vehicles. The Partnership continues to maintain a construction website for updates at <http://storrscenterconstruction.blogspot.com>.
 - *Stop Work Order* – On Friday we learned that the CT DOL had issued a stop work order for a company known as Monster Contracting, LLC, which is a sub to Shepardville Construction, LLC, working on siding and trim. Monster is headquartered in Candia, NH, but is appropriately registered to do business in CT. Monster is doing work on the SCA/EDR components of the project. As I understand it, the reason the DOL issued stop work order documentation concerns a lack of proper evidence of workers compensation insurance as well as questions regarding one individual's payroll deduction for workers

comp. Erland Construction, the general contractor, believes that the subcontractor had appropriate documentation but is now working to resolve the matter with the DOL. I have asked Erland to inform my office as well as the Downtown Partnership whenever a stop work order is issued regarding elements of the project that come under Erland's control.

Special Events

- *Governor's March 14th Town Hall Meeting in Windham* - Governor Malloy and Lt. Governor Nancy Wyman will hold a town hall-style meeting in Windham on Wednesday, March 14 at Windham High School (355 High Street) from 7:00-8:00 PM, to discuss the administration's proposals regarding education reform. This will be an opportunity to hear directly from the Governor on his proposal and recommendations.
- *Invitation from the Mansfield Agriculture Committee* – At 7:00 PM on March 14, 2012 at the EO Smith High School Regional Agriculture Education Center, the Agriculture Committee will conduct a special session to solicit input from the public regarding ways the Town can assist with supporting local farms in the community. Council members are welcome to attend the session.

Upcoming Meetings*

- Youth Service Bureau Advisory Board, March 13, 2012, 11:45 AM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Town-University Relations Committee, March 13, 2012, 4:00 PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Historic District Commission, March 13, 2012, 8:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Regulatory Review Committee, March 14, 2012, 1:15 PM, Conference Room C, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Personnel Committee, March 19, 2012, 6:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Planning and Zoning Commission, March 19, 2012, 7:00 PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Human Services Advisory Committee, March 21, 2012, 2:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Cemetery Committee, March 21, 2012, 3:30 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Sustainability Committee, March 21, 2012, 5:00 PM, Conference Room C, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Conservation Commission, March 21, 2012, 7:30 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- UConn Water/Wastewater Advisory Committee, March 22, 2012, 5:30 PM, University of Connecticut, Bishop Center, Room 7
- Town Council, Monday, March 26, 2012, 7:30 PM, Council Chambers, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building

**Meeting dates/times are subject to change. Please view the [Town Calendar](#) or contact the Town Clerk's Office at 860-429-3302 for a complete and up-to-date listing of committee meetings.*