

Memo

To: Town Council
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager
CC: Town Employees
Date: January 13, 2014
Re: Town Manager's Report

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

Council Business

- *Council of Governments Consolidation* – As highlighted in item 20 of tonight's agenda packet, the State Office of Policy and Management has approved the Town's request to join the capitol planning region and the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG). Under the state's consolidation, the Windham Region Council of Governments will be dissolved and the member towns will move to their new COG's for July 1, 2014. I will invite Lyle Wray, the Executive Director of CRCOG, to attend a future meeting of the Council to discuss CRCOG's programs and services.
- *Council Information Request* – At the December 9, 2013 meeting of the Council, Councilor Wassmundt requested information on the statutory references delineating powers given to the Town Manager/Chief Executive Officer. Please see [item 15](#) in your packet for this information.
- *FY 2014/15 Financial and Budget Overview* – The annual financial and budget overview will be held on Saturday, January 25, 2014 from 8:30AM-12 noon. At this session, staff will provide the Council with an update regarding the Town's major projects and current financial position, and discuss preliminary revenue estimates and cost drivers for FY 2014/15. In addition, we will seek input from the Town Council regarding the Town's strategic objectives to provide direction for my proposed budget and to make sure that staff's work remains aligned with Council goals.
- *Regional School District #19 District-Wide Budget Information Sharing Meeting* – Region 19 will hold its Budget Information Sharing Meeting on Wednesday, January 15, 2014 at 7:00PM in the E.O. Smith High School Library Media Center (1235 Storrs Road Storrs, CT 06268). See [item 18](#) for the agenda for this meeting.
- *Town Attorney RFQ's* – Responses to the Town Attorney RFQ are due this Thursday, January 16th. Staff will forward them on to the Council via email, and the Personnel Committee will begin discussion on the proposals at its January 21, 2014 meeting.

Departmental Reports

- *Parks and Recreation, New Memberships* – Parks and Recreation surpassed its goal of 95 new members for its recent open house week held December 30th – January 5th. New membership sales during the week totaled 103; congratulations to the staff on a job well done!
- *Public Works, Laborer Recruitment* - Kaitlyn Cyr will join the Public Works Department as a laborer, starting Tuesday, January 14, 2014. Kaitlyn is filling an existing vacancy and will split her time between the Transfer Station and the Road and Grounds Crews. Welcome Kaitlyn!

Major Projects

- *Storrs Center* - On January 6, the Mansfield Downtown Partnership and Storrs Center master developer LeylandAlliance announced a new lease for Eight Royce Circle, the building currently under construction to the south of Bolton Road Extension near the future Town Square. A combined Bruegger's Bagels and Jamba Juice will open in Eight Royce Circle in the fall of this year. David Katz, principal of Five Star Equity Partners LLC, opened his first co-branded Bruegger's Bagels and Jamba Juice location in Orange, Connecticut in 2008. Nationally, Jamba Juice is the largest smoothie franchise in the nation and Bruegger's Bagels is the second largest bagel chain. Katz feels the two restaurants complement each other and fit perfectly with a university-centered town center. "We plan on hiring 60 full and part-time

employees at our Storrs Center location,” says Katz. “We are looking forward to expanding our business in Connecticut and bringing these exciting brands to consumers of Storrs Center,” says Katz. “We can’t wait to be a part of the excitement!”

Other merchants coming soon to One Royce Circle:

- Ballard Institute & Museum of Puppetry – Winter 2014
- UConn Urgent Care – Winter 2014
- ThinkitDrinkit – Winter 2014
- UConn Dental – Winter 2014
- Storrs Wine & Spirits – Winter 2014
- GBS Threading & SPA – Winter 2014

Other merchants coming Soon to Eight Royce Circle

- CVS – Fall 2014
- Bruegger’s Bagels & Jamba Juice – Fall 2014

Upcoming Events

- *Storrs Farmers Market* – The Storrs Winter Farmers Market will be held on Saturdays (Jan 25, Feb 8 & 22, March 8, 22, & 29, and April 12 & 26), 3:00 – 5:00PM, inside the Buchanan Auditorium at the Mansfield Public Library. Storrs Farmers Market is the only year-round farmers market in Northeastern Connecticut. For more information or to sign up for the Market email newsletter, please visit: www.storrsfarmersmarket.org.

Upcoming Meetings*

- Youth Services Advisory Board, January 14, 2014, 11:45AM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Historic District Commission, January 14, 2014, 7:00PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Personnel Committee, January 21, 2014, 4:00PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Planning and Zoning Commission, January 21, 2014, 7:00PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Regulatory Review Committee, January 22, 2014, 1:15PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Human Services Advisory Committee, January 22, 2014, 3:30PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Economic Development Commission, January 23, 2014, 5:30PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Town Council, Financial and Budget Overview, January 25, 2014, 8:30AM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Personnel Committee, January 27, 2014, 5:00PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Town Council, January 27, 2014, 7:30 PM, Council Chamber, 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.*