

# Memo

To: Town Council  
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager  
CC: Town Employees  
Date: July 13, 2015  
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**

- *Future Agenda items* – I have compiled a list below of items that individual councilors have identified as future discussion items:
  - Affordable housing
  - Conversion of single-family homes to rental units
  - Development of Depot Campus
  - Funding for early childhood centers
  - Impact of amendments to fee waiver ordinance
  - Rental certification zone
  - Responding to questions from the public
  - Storrs Center ordinances

I will be working with the Mayor to schedule these items over the coming months.

- *Ad hoc Committee on Police Services* – The ad hoc committee met last week and discussed the Resident State Trooper Program as well as the proposed contract for services on tonight's agenda. The committee will hold its next meeting on September 10, 2015 and has invited UCONN public safety officials to that session to discuss the potential for additional partnerships with the Town.
- *NextGenCT Impact Study* – The consulting team lead by Econsult, Inc. is completing its work on the impact study and is scheduled to present the report at one of the Council's next two meetings. The study is a labor-intensive project and I appreciate the work of the project team to date.

## **Major Projects and Initiatives**

- *Eversource Interstate Reliability Project* – During the week of July 13, 2015, no work is scheduled in Mansfield. Weekly construction updates can be found at [www.NEEWSprojects.com](http://www.NEEWSprojects.com). Residents can also call 1-866-99NEEWS (1-866-996-3397) or email [NEEWS@NU.com](mailto:NEEWS@NU.com) for more information.
- *Storrs Center*
  - Storrs Center is one of twenty-two real estate developments that have been selected as finalists in the 2015 Urban Land Institute (ULI) Global Awards for Excellence. The competition is widely recognized as one of the land use industry's most prestigious award programs and includes entries from around the globe. Award finalists advance to the final stage of the competition, with a group of winners to be announced in October at the ULI Fall Meeting in San Francisco. The winning projects will be selected from an international jury of ULI members representing a multidisciplinary collection of real estate development expertise, including finance, land planning, development, public affairs, design, and other professional services. The competition, established in 1979, recognizes real estate projects that achieve a high standard of excellence in design, construction, economics, planning and management. The program, open to the entire industry (not just to ULI members), is viewed as the centerpiece of ULI's efforts to identify and promote best practices in all types of real estate development. The competition is part of the Institute's Awards for Excellence

program, which is based on ULI's guiding principle that the achievement of excellence in land use practice should be recognized and rewarded. ULI's Awards for Excellence recognize the full development process of a project, not just its architecture or design. The criteria for the awards include leadership, contribution to the community, innovations, public/private partnerships, environmental protection and enhancement, response to societal needs, and financial viability. Throughout the program's history, all types of projects have been recognized for their excellence, including office, residential, recreational, urban/mixed-use, industrial/office park, commercial/retail, new community, rehabilitation, and public projects and programs.

## **Department Reports**

- *Mansfield Public Library*

- *Mansfield Library Express* - The Mansfield Public Library is excited to announce the launch of Mansfield Library Express at the Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center. This limited service library outpost will be a quick and convenient place to pick up items you have requested and return items you borrowed from the library. Take a bus, walk, drive your car, jump rope, ride a bike, or hop-along-in! It's all waiting for you at the Library Express. How does Library Express work?
  - 1) Request what you want via our online catalog (<http://lci-mt.iii.com/iii/encore/>);
  - 2) We let you know when your items are ready for pick up; and
  - 3) Pick up your items at the Library Express! (and return them too!)

The Mansfield Library Express will open on Tuesday, July 14, 2015, and will be open Monday - Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM. Perfect for people who live or work in the Storrs area. You can start requesting items via the online catalog starting Friday, July 10, 2015. Visit the Mansfield Library website for more details, <http://MansfieldPublicLibraryCT.org/library-express/>

- *Department of Parks and Recreation*

- *Eagleville Lake Fanwort Treatment* – Treatment of the aquatic, non-native invasive species Fanwort (*Cabomba caroliniana*) in Eagleville Lake began on July 7<sup>th</sup> with a follow-up treatment scheduled for July 28, 2015. This date may be changed if the weather is not favorable. If the treatment is postponed, the new date will be posted at [www.MansfieldCT.gov](http://www.MansfieldCT.gov) and an updated legal notice will be submitted to the Willimantic Chronicle. Fanwort is a highly invasive aquatic plant which degrades fish and wildlife habitat, adversely affects water quality and displaces beneficial, native vegetation. The dense growth of fanwort can also impede safe recreational use of the water body. Prior to treatment, the shoreline will be posted with signs in accordance with CT Department of Energy and Environment Protection (DEEP) requirements. Following treatment, the lake will be closed to all uses, including swimming and boating for 24 hours. Additionally, use of the lake water for irrigation or domestic purposes will be restricted for an additional 5 days. The work is being performed for the Towns of Coventry and Mansfield pursuant to a permit issued by the CT DEEP. Information on the application may be obtained from the person named below. The treatment is being performed by the state licensed firm Aquatic Control Technology LLC. of Sutton, MA. Contact: Dominic Meringolo (508) 865-1000. Please contact Eric M. Trott (Coventry) at 860-742-4062 or [etrott@coventryct.org](mailto:etrott@coventryct.org) or Jennifer Kaufman (Mansfield) at 860-429-3015 x6204 or [kaufmanjs@mansfieldct.org](mailto:kaufmanjs@mansfieldct.org) if you have any questions.

- *Department of Public Works*

- *Cat Tracking at Rte. 195/25 Intersection* - Upon further review at the request of the Town, the CT Department of Transportation has approved the installation of "cat tracks" for the Route 275 eastbound left-turn onto Route 195 northbound. The Town will now ask CT DOT's maintenance forces to install the "cat tracks" (dotted extension pavement markings - 2' lines with 4' spacing) at the subject location.

## **Member Organizations**

- *CRCOG's Human Services Coordinating Council* - The Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) represents the 38 towns and cities in the Hartford, CT area. Most of their activities center on working with municipalities on the issues of transportation planning, land use planning, public safety and municipal services. Public Act 13-247, Section 327 requires all COGs to establish a "regional human services coordinating council." The goal of this group (from the legislation) is to (1) ensure that regional plans and activities are coordinated with the human services needs of each region, and (2) develop approaches to improve service delivery and achieve cost savings in the region. To accomplish this goal, CRCOG is convening the region's first Human Services Coordinating Council. The coordinating council will highlight the case management system that CLASS (the Connecticut Local Administrators of Social Services) is offering as a cooperative contract and discuss opportunities for regional collaboration.

## **Upcoming Events**

- *Storrs Farmers Market* – Storrs Farmers Market is in its 21<sup>st</sup> season. The Market is open from 3:00 to 6:00PM every Saturday through November 22<sup>nd</sup> on the front lawn of the Beck Municipal Building (Town Hall). Everything sold at Storrs Farmers Market is grown or produced in Connecticut. Visit [www.storrsfarmersmarket.org](http://www.storrsfarmersmarket.org) for more information and to sign up for weekly emails from the Market.

## **Upcoming Meetings\***

- Ethics Board, July 16, 2015, 4:30 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Conservation Commission, July 16, 2015, 7:30 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Personnel Committee, July 20, 2015, 4:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Planning and Zoning Commission, July 20, 2015, 7:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Economic Development Commission, July 23, 2015, 5:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Town Council, July 27, 2015, 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.*