Town of Manchester

General Manager’s Report

September 2017

Town Holiday Closings - Labor Day

Town of Manchester offices will be closed in observance of Labor Day on Monday, September 4, 2017.

Mary Cheney Library and Whiton Memorial Library will be open from 1-5pm only on Friday, September 1 and will be closed Saturday, September 2 through Monday, September 4.

Trash will not be collected on September 4 and will be delayed one day for the remainder of the week.

Customer Service Gift Shoppe Sale!

2017 Cruisin’ on Main shirts are selling at a reduced price of $10! Vintage Cruisin’ shirts are only $5!! Get a free Town tote bag with any $5 purchase!

We also sell American Flags and kits. Other gifts include trivets, a variety of local T-shirts, hats, tote bags, mugs, historical books, greeting cards, Pride in Manchester Blankets, MDOG hoodies, Road Race books, and much more! For those in search of unique “Manchester” gifts, please visit the Customer Service and Information Center Gift Shoppe in Town Hall! Hours are 8am-5pm Monday-Friday. A complete listing of Manchester merchandise for sale is available online http://customerservice1.townofmanchester.org/index.cfm/merchandise/

Assessment and Collection

The Office of Assessment and Collection was busy after the tax bills were mailed on June 21, 2017, but, as we mentioned last month, it was not nearly as busy as a typical tax season due to the delay in sending motor vehicle tax bills. We anticipate that the mailing of motor vehicle tax bills in September, for payment in October, will by a very busy time for Assessment and Collection this year. We are typically very busy in October with real estate (fieldwork for permit inspections, data input, and personal property declarations) and sending delinquent notices and collecting delinquent taxes. We were able to move a few items earlier to compensate for some of the time that will be needed for the motor vehicle tax bills, such as adding some fieldwork in July (we traditionally never do fieldwork in July due to the normal tax bill rush), moving up the second notices on the Annual Income and Expense Reports, and sending out delinquent notices earlier than normal. We still anticipate, however, that October will be extremely busy and that customer lines will be much longer than usual for that month. We anticipate that our motor vehicle tax collection rate may decrease slightly, and that interest revenue income will also decrease due to the unavoidable delay in sending the motor vehicle tax bills. We also noticed a decrease in online tax payments in June and July due to the delayed motor vehicle tax bills.

Manchester taxpayers are urged to note that there is no mailing for the second Real Estate and Personal Property bill installment. Both payment coupons were included with the bill mailed
in June. Taxpayers are urged to mark their calendars for mid-January 2018 as a reminder of their second half installments, when applicable.

The Office of Assessment and Collection wishes to thank the Customer Service and Information Center for its assistance during the tax collection period, and of course the taxpayers of Manchester for their patience, cooperation and help during the month of July.

Finally, the Office of Assessment and Collection wishes to extend our thanks to Rebecca Brown, who transferred from Assessment and Collection to the Health Department last month. Rebecca will be missed at Town Hall, but we are pleased we will still get to see her from time to time in the Weiss Center.

Leisure, Families and Recreation

Recreation Division

Registration for the indoor season of swim lessons will begin on September 6. Registration will be taken both in-person and on-line.

Pools at Manchester High School will open for indoor swimming, lessons and aqua classes on October 2.

Late summer sessions of land fitness classes will be held at the Community Y Recreation Center. Classes include: Total Body, Yoga, Strength of Life and Pilates. Registration is currently underway.

Northwest Park Pavilion Rentals - Ten rentals are slated for the month.

Northwest Park Early Childhood Education outdoor play area now has a sail tent to offer a shaded outdoor area.

Nathan Hale Recreation Center - The stage and cafetorium will be readied this month to host an array of Family Fun Nights for families with children primarily ten and under. Also the outdoor foyer area will receive a fresh coat of paint to welcome our fall 2017 indoor season.

Outdoor pickleball at Nike Site courts continues to attract people of all ages. September will be an ideal month for outdoor play during the week as well as weekends.

Market Nights are scheduled every Wednesday evening from September 6 – September 27 from 5:00–8:00 pm. The Recreation Division continues to collaborate with the Office of Neighborhoods and Families to implement creative community events, entertainment and programs.

Adult, teen and youth leisure classes will continue to be offered this month. Classes will be conducted at Center Springs, the Community “Y” and Office of Neighborhoods and Families.

Staff Program Planning Seminar – all three divisions of the Department of Leisure, Families and Recreation will gather to review programs conducted this past year and look to the future for collaborative and creative programming trends.

Registration will start for Youth Basketball - girls peewee, boys peewee, coed-midget and fundamental. We expect about 350 participants.

Night time Recreation will start at Mahoney.
CO-ED Adult kickball league - 8 teams.

Adult Boot Camp registration will be taken.

Youth Services Bureau

Partners in Play – 2nd week in September thru last week in October
This family program for young children and their caregivers provides the opportunity to discover and learn thru age appropriate music and movement, arts and crafts, games, and social interactions. It includes weekly sessions of Happy Together (for ages 2-1/2-5), Wonder Years (for ages 1-2) and Wee Too (for ages 2-3). Facilitated by Karen Rowell at the Northwest Early Childhood Center.

Mother Daughter Circle – September 9 – November 6, Middle school females and their female parent/caregiver
The purpose of the circle is to promote a healthy and sustaining bond between mothers/guardians and their daughters during the transitional years from girlhood to young womanhood. Meets weekly. Facilitated by Heather Wlochowski.

Journey Build a Book – September 28, 2017 – January 11, 2018
Journey is designed to increase nature awareness and knowledge, provide community service, social interaction, and skill development in art, wood working, and research. Participants will write and illustrate elements of a story created during the group. Meets weekly. Facilitated by Pete Wlochowski.

Office of Neighborhood and Families

Announcements
Come to our SNAP-certified farmers market! Shop for pasture raised meats, free range eggs, local honey, farm-fresh produce, and a variety of handmade and upcycled goods. Live music, pop up garden demonstrations, art openings, and family activities are featured throughout the season. Join us every Wednesday, 5 – 8 pm, June 21 – October 4 at 153-160 Spruce Street. Call (860) 647-3089 for more information or find us on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/SpruceStreetMarketCT/

Highlights for the Month

Spruce Street Market Night – Backyard Bash – Wed., September 6, 5:00 – 8:00 pm
Come shop and enjoy some classic backyard games. Live music by Bill Ludwig.

Spruce Street Market Night – Healthy Mind & Body – Wed., September 13, 5:00–8:00 pm
Come support your local farmers and artisans. When you’re done shopping get moving with Zumba and the Hartford Steel Symphony.

Pop-Up Gallery: Rising Star Rowmel Findley - Wednesday, September 13, 5:00–8:00 pm
Rowmel Findley spends all his waking hours outside of school practicing and perfecting his skills as a photographer. He spends most weekends in New York either taking photographs on the street or working in the profession. He has worked on photo shoots for several up and coming brands including: Worthy Lux, Todd Patrick, AKingsNY, and P.96. He has also worked with several professionals in the field including models, celebrities, artists, designers, and fellow photographers. Some of the most notable include artists from the record labels Def Jam and Epic; P. Diddy’s manager James Cruz; Wolftyla; and Christian Combs.
Rowmel is a recent graduate of Manchester High School and contributes to the MHS Yearbook and MHS’s school newspaper *The Harbinger.*

**FREE Pop-Up Workshop–Fall and Winter Gardening** – Wed., September 13, 6:00–7:00 pm  
An overview of cold weather gardening, without special equipment. Imagine harvesting vegetables through the winter and into the spring! Demonstrations and discussion will help you have a healthier and delicious winter! Hand-outs provided.

**Garden Learnshop – Organic Lawn Care** - Saturday, September 16, 9:30 – 11:30 am  
Fall is the best time to improve your lawn for next year! It is very low cost, low maintenance and safer than the multistep programs. In this hands-on class, we will discuss soil improvements, seed and the full year of care; hand-outs will be provided. Relax with your lawn!

**Spruce Street Market Night: Harvest Season** - Wednesdays, September 20 – October 11  
5:00 – 8:00 pm - Welcome fall with the Spruce Street Market. Enjoy some fall food favorites and activities.

**Garden Learnshop – No-Sew Tote Bags** - Tuesday, September 26, 6:00 – 8:00 pm  
Reuse that favorite t-shirt that has seen better days – upcycle it into the next best thing!

**Spruce Street Market Night: Fall Into Autumn** - Wednesday, September 27  
Welcome fall with the Spruce Street Market. Enjoy some fall food favorites and activities. Live music by Nina Romanenko.

**FREE Pop-Up Workshop – Dividing & Transplanting Perennials** – Wed., September 27, 6:00 – 7:00 pm - Fall is the best time for dividing and transplanting perennials. This hands-on program will provide you with information, skills and confidence!

**Write Out Loud Youth Open Mic—Friday, September 29, 5 – 8 pm**  
BE A SUPERSTAR in a safe space environment as you engage in an uplifting experience centered on youth voice through poetry, song, music, rap and dance. Come take part in youth-led poetry and hip-hop dance workshops and then close your night with performing and/or cheering on others who display their talent and creativity in front of a supportive audience!

**Upcoming (Save the Dates)**
- Spruce Street Market Nights – Every Wednesday, 6/21 – 10/4, 5-8 pm
- Garden Learnshop - Build a Mini Garden, 10/10, 6-8 pm
- Paint Night in the Gallery – 10/17, 6-8 pm
- Pop-Up Gallery – Dream Weaver , 10/18 – 11/15, 5-8 pm
- Garden Learnshop – Saving Money & Stocking Up For Winter – 10/25, 6-8 pm
- Write Out Loud Open Mic Night – 10/27, 5-8 pm
Town Clerk’s Office

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<td>Total Revenue</td>
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Employee News

**Recently Hired**
Brian Little – Manchester Fire-Rescue-EMS
Brenda Taylor – Manchester Police Department

**Recently Promoted**
Anita Berube – Human Resources
Debra Burch – Manchester Fire-Rescue-EMS
Cezary Milewicz – Manchester Fire-Rescue-EMS
Valerie Kerr – Manchester Public Library
September 2017

Senior Advisory Committee Meeting
September 1, 2017, 9:00AM
Senior Center, 549 E. Center Street

Board of Directors Meeting
September 5, 2017, 7:00PM
Hearing Room, Lincoln Center

Cox Cable Advisory Council Meeting
September 6, 2017, 6:30PM
Newington Town Hall
131 Cedar Street

Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting
September 6, 2017, 7:00PM
Hearing Room, Lincoln Center

Redevelopment Agency Meeting
September 7, 2017, 7:30AM
Hearing Room, Lincoln Center

Library Advisory Board Meeting
September 11, 2017, 6:30PM
Howroyd Room, Mary Cheney Library

Building Committee Meeting
September 11, 2017, 7:00PM
Manchester Room, Town Hall

Board of Directors Meeting
September 12, 2017, 7:00PM
Hearing Room, Lincoln Center

Cheney Brothers National Historic District
Commission Meeting
September 14, 2017, 5:00PM
Hearing Room, Lincoln Center

Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting
September 18, 2017, 7:00PM
Hearing Room, Lincoln Center

Conservation Commission
September 19, 2017, 7:00PM
Directors Room, Lincoln Center

Advisory Recreation and Parks Commission
Meeting
September 21, 2017, 6:00PM
Lodge at Center Springs Park
39 Lodge Drive

Board of Directors Policy Briefing Meeting
September 26, 2017, 7:30AM
Manchester Room, Town Hall

Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting
September 27, 2017, 7:00PM
Hearing Room, Lincoln Center

Redevelopment Agency Meeting
September 28, 2017, 7:30AM
Hearing Room, Lincoln Center

Pension Board Meeting
September 28, 2017, 4:00PM
Directors Room, Lincoln Center

Cheney Hall Foundation Meeting
September 13, 2017, 6:00PM
Cheney Hall, 177 Hartford Road

Economic Development Commission Meeting
September 14, 2017, 8:00AM
Directors Room, Lincoln Center