



TOWN OF CHESHIRE
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TO: Town Council
FROM: Sean M. Kimball, Town Manager
SUBJECT: Town Manager’s Report – September 2024
DATE: September 10, 2024

Bartlem Park South Construction Update

- Most of the construction is nearing completion, the next few weeks will include final topsoiling and landscaping. Scoreboard footings were being installed this week.
- Paving is completed with the exception of final course around the bandshell area.
- The contractor’s electrical work is complete and the Town inspectors have signed off. Eversource is currently working on installing the meter and terminations. Once complete an Eversource line crew will begin working to install the transformer and pull wires to complete the electrical service. Tentatively within the next couple of weeks.
- The bandshell design is nearing completion, DeRita and W&S are awaiting certain load calculations that Poligon did not include before fabrication can begin. Fabrication still estimated to take 10-12 weeks. DeRita is planning to proceed with the foundation construction once design is finalized, but the earliest the bandshell will be completed is mid-December.
- Tentative plan is for substantial completion and acceptance of the park (with the exception of the bandshell) in early October, opening it up for public access.



Cheshire Fall Festival



Friday September 13th, 2024– Food Trucks, Music & Kiwanis Carnival
Saturday September 14th, 2024 – Cheshire Fall Festival and Carnival

The highly anticipated annual Cheshire Fall Festival has been scheduled for Friday, September 13th and Saturday, September 14th. The celebration begins on “Food Truck Friday”, and continues all day Saturday, at Bartlem Park, culminating with the annual fireworks show. For additional information and a complete schedule of events, please go to <http://cheshirefestival.com/>.

Due to ongoing construction at Bartlem Park, parking will be very limited and visitors should expect to park at Cheshire High School and cross at the traffic light. Visitors are encouraged to consider carpooling, ridesharing, biking or walking to the event!

Upcoming Paving Around Town

The State DOT has informed us that the Route 10 and Waterbury Rd. milling and paving project is scheduled to begin as early as this week. We have requested that they begin either on Waterbury Rd or on the north sections of Route 10 at least until this weekend has passed so as to not conflict with the Fall Festival.

The following local roads are scheduled to be chip sealed this season beginning Wednesday, September 11th:

PROPOSED CHIP SEALING 2024

DBL CHIP	Name	From	To	Length (LF)	Avg Width (LF)	Area (SY)
*	Surrey Dr	Far Horizon Dr	Williamsburg Dr	1381	30	4603
*	Carriage Rd	Far Horizon Dr	Williamsburg Dr	2543	30	8477
*	Vanessa Ct	Rice Ave	Cul-de-Sac	1585	29	5107
*	Village Dr	Northwood Ct	Wallingford Rd	1723	30	5743
*	Farview Dr	Summit Rd (N)	Summit Rd (S)	1762	29	5678
	King Rd	RT 10	RT 42	2066	26	5968
	Lanyon Dr	RT 10	Cornwall Ave	3108	30	10360
	Plank Rd	Waterbury TL (RT 84)	Notch Rd	7509	24	20024
	Summit Rd	RT 70	Summer Hill Rd	3137	25	8714
	Summit Rd	Summer Hill	Plank Rd	2650	25	7361

Brass City Harvest Mobile Farmers Market at the Senior Center

The Senior Center will be hosting the Brass City Harvest Mobile Farmers market on both Monday, September 16th and Wednesday, October 9th from 12pm-1pm. The markets are open to all, and cash, credit/debit, SNAP/EBT payments will all be accepted. Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program debit cards will be accepted for fruit, vegetables, eggs, and honey. CT Grown produce will vary based on season and may include lettuce, leafy greens, cucumbers, peppers, eggplant, beets, tomatoes, peaches, nectarines, apples, pears and more! There will also be CT Dairy products, CT Made Jams, Farm Fresh CT meat among many other items. For more information, please visit the Brass City Harvest website at www.brasscityharvestwaterbury.com.

Council Chambers Audio-Visual Upgrades

The Town has contracted with DNR Laboratories to replace and update some of the Town's current live broadcasting equipment and expand its audio/visual capabilities with upgrades within Town Council Chambers. This project will be completed using the awarded PEGPETIA grant funds. This will include the installation of flat panel displays, a video distribution infrastructure, a podium touch screen to turn displays on and off, VSI video encoders and decoders, clickshare cx50, among other improvements. The work will be performed starting Wednesday, September 11th through Friday, September 13th during which time Council Chambers will be unavailable. We are looking forward to having an upgraded audio-visual system and more effective setup in place to improve the overall viewing experience for future meetings.

Electronics and Mattress Recycling Event

The Town of Cheshire is hosting a free Electronics and Mattress Recycling Event on Saturday, September 14, 2024, from 9 AM – 1 PM at 1304 Waterbury Road (the old transfer station). Also accepted on this day: grass clipping and leaves.

This event is open to Cheshire residents only, proof of residency is required.

Mattresses:

Cheshire residents may drop off their mattresses, box springs. Unacceptable items, see below.

Electronics:

Residents may drop off their electronic recyclables. Acceptable items to recycle include computers/laptop/printer/keyboard/mouse/monitor; TV/VCR/DVD/remote; telephone/cellphone; fax machine; console; scanners; iPods/PDAs; stereo equipment, camera; tablet/eBooks; small appliances, lightbulbs, game consoles/controllers and household batteries. Unacceptable items, see below.

Grass Clippings and Leaves:

Residents must empty grass clippings and leaves out of the bag or container. Unacceptable items, see below.

For additional information, contact the Public Works Department at 203-271-6650.

Projects Around Town

Just a reminder to check out our Project Around Town page which is frequently updated to provide more information on many Town and State capital projects occurring across town:

<https://www.cheshirect.org/spotlight/projects>

Cheshire Public Library Report

Summer Reading

123% increase in summer reading participation over last year with 1,449 registered. 372 participants (26%) finished all eight weeks of the program which consisted of weekly reading related challenges and activities. Everyone who finished the program received an invitation to the Reward Party in the form of a “golden ticket” and got to choose a free book. In addition, participants throughout the summer earned raffle tickets towards bigger prizes. We received lots of positive feedback and many parents indicated they preferred the paper recording sheets versus the online program we’ve used in the past.

On Friday, August 16th, we held the Afterhours Summer Reading Reward party with 343 attendees. Pop’s Pizza provided 70 pizzas and we had a hula hoop performer, crafts, and a scavenger hunt. Friends of the Library volunteers helped serve the food and snacks and a great group of teen volunteers helped throughout the evening. All the money for the summer reading program came from the Friends of the Cheshire Library.

Breakdown of Summer Reading Participants by Age Group

Ages 0-5	397
Ages 6-11	568
Ages 12-18	123
Ages 18+	361
TOTAL	1449

Other News

- Foot traffic in the library increased by 49% this summer with 36,269 visits between June 14th and August 29th versus 23,327 visits during the same period in 2023.
- Fall programs are planned or in the final stages of being planned. Making plans for the library booth at the Fall Festival.
- We added an American Sign Language module to our Mango Languages database.
- Technology staff are working on several initiatives being paid for by the PEGPETIA Grant, namely an ADA accessible public computer station, new Virtual Reality technology and a new mobile public address system.

Upcoming Town Council Meetings:

- **Monday, September 20, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.** – Joint Town Council/Board of Education Meeting
- **Tuesday, October 8, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.** – Town Council Regular Meeting