



**MEMORANDUM  
TOWN OF CHESHIRE  
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Telephone (203) 271-6660 FAX (203) 271-6639**

**TO: Town Council**  
**FROM: Sean M. Kimball, Town Manager**  
**SUBJECT: Town Manager's Report – January 2020**  
**DATE: January 14, 2020**

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**Development of the FY 2021 Town Operating Budget**

We are in the process of preparing the FY 2021 Recommended Operating Budget. Department budget requests are due to my office this Friday and I will be holding department budget meetings over the following few weeks. Just a reminder, the deadline for the transmittal of the recommended budget to the Town Council for consideration is Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. The General Assembly convenes February 5<sup>th</sup> and we will be closely monitoring any changes to the state budget and evaluating the potential impact on Cheshire. This is a “short session” year for the State Legislature so the final adopted budget is expected near the close of session on Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. The deadline for Cheshire Town Council budget adoption is April 30<sup>th</sup>.

**FY 18-19 Audit**

The Independent Auditor's Report gave the Town's financial statements “clean” opinions for the year ended June 30, 2019. In addition, reports on compliance with grant requirements and internal controls expressed that there are no material weaknesses in controls and that the Town was in compliance with applicable laws, regulations, contracts, and federal and state grant programs. The reports were filed on December 31, 2019.

The Town reported an operating surplus of \$1,818,560 for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2019. This operating surplus, less \$1,000,000 committed for the current year ending June 30, 2020, increased the Town's budgetary fund balance by from \$10,840,832 to \$11,659,392. This represents 10.5% of actual budgetary expenditures compared to 10.4% the previous year.

Copies of our financial reports are available on the Town website and bound copies will be available for distribution following the Audit committee's meeting in two weeks. Thank you to Jim Jaskot and the entire finance team for their hard work completing the audit on time.

**Bartlem Park South/Chapman Property Planning Update**

The Town's planning consultant, Weston & Sampson, has begun preparation of various park design concepts which will be ready for public presentation and feedback at a community meeting to be held in the next few weeks. Once the date is confirmed, we will be publicizing and encouraging the public to either attend or send us their comments and proposed changes.

## **Economic Development Activity**

The following is a summary of recent economic development activity in Cheshire:

- Pool Water People and Premier Computer Solutions leased 3,375 and 4,000 SF, respectively, at 286 Industrial Avenue.
- CrossFit leased the 1,708 SF building at 51 Railroad Avenue.
- Phase one of the remediation of the Ball and Socket Arts property continues. About 80 percent of the project is completed. The closeout of the project is expected this spring. This project is funded by a \$750,000 brownfield grant from the CT Department of Economic and Community Development.
- Climate Engineering, which was approved for a 34,000 SF refrigerated trailer repair and fit-up facility on 13.22 acres at 551 West Johnson Avenue, will return to the P&ZC in order to have its plans modified. The company feels that the changes will improve vehicular access around the site.
- Big Y is expanding its 32,390 SF store by an additional 4,000 SF.
- Marbridge Assisted Living continues work on its 46,350 SF expansion at 665 West Main Street.
- The proposed 75,000 SF medical office/surgery center on 27.36 acres off West Johnson Avenue is before the wetlands commission.
- We continue to work with CT DOT on the conveyance of state-owned land in the NW quadrant of the Interchange Zone. In short, DOT is having difficulty in reconciling what it owns. The engineering department is assisting the agency by providing it with information gathered from Town records.

## **Summary of Town Accepted Donations (Oct.-Dec. 2019)**

Please see the attached quarterly donation report for October – December 2019. For this quarter, the Town accepted donations totaling \$26,815 from a number of very generous individuals and organizations.

## **Upcoming Town Council & Committee Meetings**

### **Wednesday, January 15, 2020**

6:15pm - SMC Out of District Site Visit Cte.  
7:00pm - School Modernization Committee  
(both meetings at Dodd)

### **Tuesday, January 28, 2020**

6:30pm - Town Council Planning Committee  
6:30pm - Town Council Audit Committee  
7:00pm - Town Council Meeting

### **Monday February 3, 2020**

7:00pm - School Modernization Committee  
Meeting (Council Chambers)

### **Tuesday, February 11, 2020**

7:00pm - Regular Town Council Meeting

