



# Town of Manchester

## General Manager's Report

Scott Shanley  
General Manager

September 2008

### Town Holiday Closings – Labor Day

Town of Manchester Offices will be closed in observance of Labor Day on Monday, September 1, 2008. Mary Cheney Library and Whiton Memorial Library will be open from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 29 and will be closed Saturday, August 30 through Monday, September 1. Trash will not be collected on September 1 and will be delayed one day for the remainder of the week.

### Manchester Fire-Rescue-EMS

It is with deep regret and profound sadness that we inform you of the passing of John C. Rivoso, former Fire Chief of the Town of Manchester (Connecticut) Fire Department. Chief Rivoso was recognized as an example of genuine professionalism and integrity during his tenure with Manchester. Chief Rivoso retired in December 1996 following a career that spanned 38 years, the last 24 years as Chief of Department. Chief Rivoso was 81 years old at the time of his passing.

### Activity Report for July 2008

Medical/Rescue	484
Fire Related	17
Hazardous Conditions	21
Public Service	25
Good Intent	53
False	29
Mutual Aid	6
TOTAL	635

### Customer Service and Information Center

“A Hero’s Tribute” will be held on September 11 at 7:00 p.m. at Cheney Hall in Manchester, with a reception at 6:30 p.m. This USO style show will honor our community’s active and retired military, police, fire and emergency services (EMT) personnel. Please visit the Customer Service and Information Center in Town Hall, 41 Center Street, for free tickets, 647-5235. Hours are Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Free tickets are also available at Cheney Hall, 647-9824. This event will feature performances by the Silk City Barbershop Singers, CAST, Manchester School of Dance Performers, Dave Loudon Band, and more!

## **Water and Sewer Department**

What a difference a year makes. This time last year the Town's surface water supply dropped below 70%, prompting a request from the Water Department for voluntary conservation to all users of the system. Although the public responded and cut back usage considerably, the lack of precipitation continued into the early months of the fall, which further exacerbated the situation. Because of this near record lack of rainfall, the water supply continued to drop and came within a few percentage points of the need to impose mandatory restrictions.

In late fall 2007, some much-needed rainfall began to reverse the trend and during the past winter the reservoirs made a remarkable recovery. Rainfall this past spring, and so far this summer, has been particularly abundant thus the levels of reservoirs have remained above ninety percent throughout the season. With the cooler months just around the corner, we remain cautiously optimistic that no restrictions, either mandatory or voluntary, will be necessary this year.

The Water Department would like to thank the citizens of Manchester for their cooperation in preserving this valuable natural resource for the Town; one that enhances our lives and that of our entire community on a daily basis. If you would like to learn more about the Water & Sewer Department activities, or see the current level of the Town's surface water supply, please visit our website at [www.townofmanchester.org/Water/](http://www.townofmanchester.org/Water/).

## **Library**

The autumn session of children's programming begins in September, including registration on September 15 for several offerings of Preschool Storytime. Also, "Family Place" will be held on Tuesday evenings from September 23 to October 21 -- join other parents and their young children (up to age 3) while meeting and chatting with Child Development Professionals including a Nutritionist, a Literacy Advocate, and a Music-and-Movement specialist.

The Book Discussion Group for adults will be reviewing the novel "Billy Boyle" by Connecticut author James Benn on September 15 at 7 pm at the Mary Cheney building. The author will be speaking in Glastonbury later this autumn.

## **Finance Department**

### **Assessment and Collection**

The Office of Assessment and Collection was very busy during the months of June, July and early August as tax payments on the 2007 Grand List were being paid. Collection activity was very brisk during this period. Thank you to the Customer Service and Information Center and New Alliance Bank for their assistance during the tax collection period and of course, the taxpayers of Manchester for their patience, cooperation and help during July.

As noted last month, online tax payments by credit card or E-check were added as a new feature to the list of payment options available to Manchester taxpayers (a 2.75% convenience fee applies to all credit card payments and a \$3.00 convenience fee applies to all E-checks). Accepting payments online began in June and it is believed that the level of use will grow as more and more Manchester taxpayers become aware of this service and understand its advantages.

There is no mailing of the second Real Estate and Personal Property bill installment. Both payment coupons are included with the bill mailed in June. Mid-January 2009 is the due date for the second half installments, when applicable.

Work continues on development of the Grand List of October 1, 2008. Real estate values from the 2006 Revaluation are being phased-in over three years. Thus, the 2008 Grand List will be the first year in which the real estate assessment will be applied at their full assessment ration level of 70.00% of the market value as of October 1, 2006.

In addition, though it is still too early to predict exactly how much Grand List impact it will have, based on the most recent data examined, the Office of Assessment and Collection anticipates that the Motor Vehicle Grand List of October 1, 2008, will decrease or have minimal growth from the prior year's Motor Vehicle Grand List. This is a reflection of the current economy and stagnant auto sales.

## **Health Department Statistics - July 2008**

### Community Health Statistics

69 Reportable Diseases

### Environmental Health Statistics

67 Restaurant Inspections  
8 Other Inspections  
19 Pool Inspections  
21 Food licenses Issued  
4 Temporary Food Licenses  
2 Itinerant Vendors  
18 Complaints

### Geriatric Statistics

119 Blood Pressures

**Public Works**

**Building Inspection**

Building Inspection Activity for July 1 – July 31, 2008

Building Permits	June	July
Total Applications received	300	328
Total Permits issued	334	296
Total Revenue	\$48,644.36	\$50,088.66
Construction Value*	\$3,806,308.00*	\$7,184,126.00
Inspections conducted	662	531

Code Enforcement

Cases opened	40	39
Cases closed	39	42
Inspections conducted	101	108

Comparison of fiscal year July 1 - July 31

Building Permits	FY2009	FY2008
Total Applications received	300	310
Total Permits issued	332	318
Total Revenue	\$48,644.36	\$68,576.44
Total Construction Value*	\$3,806,308.00*	\$4,991,821.08
Inspections conducted	662	737

Code Enforcement

Cases opened	40	50
Cases closed	39	48
Inspections conducted	101	128

\*Includes the value of Town projects where fees were waived

\*\*This value has yet to be adjusted for value added due to cost affidavits at Certificate of Occupancy issuance

**Manchester Police Department**

Police Activity – June 2008

Total Calls for Service	5139
Total Police Cases	1313
Total 911 Calls	820

Emergency Calls

Eighth District	65
Town Fire	262
Police Dept.	1499

The Police Department is fully operational on a new Alcatel telephone system. This system, which includes voicemail, has been installed at several other Town locations as well. Manchester High School and Bennet Academy are expected to "go live" at the beginning of the school year.

Staffing numbers are currently at 118 sworn officers with three new recruits recently hired: Adam Marois, Jason Moss, Michael Williams.

**Employee News**

**Newly Hired**

Stavros Sofianos – Mechanic II, Public Works

Michael Williams – Police Officer

Jason Moss – Police Officer

Krystal Makusevich – Librarian I

**Recently Retired**

Robert Haley – Senior Center

Robert Lamson – Facilities Management