



Town of Manchester

General Manager's Report

Scott Shanley
General Manager

February 2009

Holiday Closings

Town of Manchester Offices will be closed in observance of Lincoln's Birthday on Thursday, February 12, 2009. Mary Cheney Library and Whiton Memorial Library will be OPEN. Trash collection for the week will be on the regular schedule.

Town of Manchester Offices will be closed in observance of Washington's Birthday on Monday, February 16, 2009. Mary Cheney Library and Whiton Memorial Library will also be closed. Trash collection for the week will be on the regular schedule.

Income Tax Forms

Copies of State and Federal tax forms and instructions are available for the public at the Town Libraries and the Town Hall Customer Service and Information Center. Forms and publications can also be downloaded from www.ct.gov/drs and www.irs.gov.

No-Cost Income Tax Services Offered in 2009

Individuals who worked in 2008 maybe eligible for Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). If the individual earned less than \$41,646, he/she may qualify for as much as \$4,824 tax refund. The average EITC refund is more than \$1,500.

There are several options available to file the simple income tax returns FREE OF CHARGE. The focus is on low to middle income families, older adults and individuals in need of assistance. Details are available on the Human Services Department web page: <http://www.townofmanchester.org/EITC/default.cfm>.

Finance Department

Assessment and Collection

The Grand List of October 1, 2008 was finalized in late January.

The Office of Assessment and Collection has received numerous telephone calls and visits from taxpayers regarding their assessments. It is important to note that the October 1, 2008 assessments **are equal to 70% of the estimated full market value as of Manchester's last revaluation date of October 1, 2006**. While market values in most segments of the market have declined since 2006, assessments do not automatically decline. As outlined by State Statute, all assessments must reflect the value of the property as of the last revaluation date (October 1, 2006).

The Town, through the Office of Assessment and Collection, mailed final assessment notices to all real estate and personal property owners. Although the revaluation date remains October 1, 2006, because of the phase-in, owners were sent updated assessment notices. Owners who wish to appeal their assessments may file an application to appeal to the Board of Assessment Appeals (BAA). BAA applications are available through the Office of Assessment and Collection. BAA applications **must** be filed by February 20, 2009 to be considered.

Applications for the Senior Homeowner's Program, and Additional Veteran's Program were mailed in late January. These applications must be filed by May 15, 2009 in order for qualifying seniors to receive their property tax credits. Taxpayers must be over age 65 by December 2008, or be totally disabled. Taxpayers must own a home and must provide documentation listing their 2008 income to the Assessor's Office with a completed application. The maximum income for qualifying seniors (or disabled) taxpayers this year is \$30,500 for unmarried, and \$37,300 for married.

Changes approved two years ago to the HELP program and the additional benefit program are being incorporated into this year's Homeowner's application process. A presentation at the Senior Center will be held on Tuesday, February 24, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. for all those interested in hearing more about tax relief programs for Manchester seniors.

Public Works Department

Building Inspection for December 1 – December 31, 2008

<i>Building Permits</i>	<i>December</i>	<i>November</i>
Total Applications received	189	244
Total Permits issued	201	229
Total Revenue	\$77,447.14	\$37,354.26
Construction Value*	\$6,245,503.88	\$2,372,791.60
Inspections conducted	568	519

<i>Code Enforcement</i>		
Cases opened	42	27
Cases closed	43	24
Inspections conducted	111	64

<i>Neighborhood Inspections</i>		
Cases opened		0
Cases closed		5
Inspections conducted***	1291	5

<i>Comparison of fiscal years July 1 – December 31</i>		
	FY2009	FY2008
Building Permits		
Total Applications received	1695	1479
Total Permits issued	1674	1478
Total Revenue	\$365,510.10	\$303,393.84
Total Construction Value*	\$27,259,331.74**	\$24,274,101.39
Inspections conducted	3601	3814

Code Enforcement

Cases opened	220	294
Cases closed	224	449
Inspections conducted	572	844

*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

***Please note that the Neighborhood Inspectors have been performing early morning recycling inspections on the daily trash collection routes. This began on 10/27/08 and will be continuing until further notice.

Fire-Rescue-EMS

Activity Report for December 2008

Medical/Rescue	502
Fire Related	15
Hazardous Conditions	28
Public Service	60
Good Intent	82
False	26
Mutual Aid	4
TOTAL	717

Activity Report for 2008

Medical/Rescue	5,744
Fire Related	144
Hazardous Conditions	275
Public Service	448
Good Intent	666
False	421
Mutual Aid	48
TOTAL	7,746

New Employee

Mikael Sjostrom worked as a Firefighter/Paramedic for Kansas City, KS Fire Department before accepting a position with Manchester's Fire-Rescue-EMS Department. His appointment, on January 18, brought the department to its authorized strength. Firefighter Sjostrom will be assigned to Probationary Orientation for eight weeks followed by another eight weeks of Paramedic precepting after which time he will be assigned to a shift to begin his new career in Manchester.

Helping Us Help You!

Snow cover on trees is beautiful but snow cover on fire hydrants is another thing. There are over 2,000 fire hydrants in Manchester. Searching for snow-covered fire hydrants costs valuable time when firefighters must locate and uncover them when responding to a fire call. Every second counts when fighting a fire and clearly visible fire hydrants in every neighborhood can save homes and lives. A Town ordinance requires that property owners, agents of owners or occupants remove snow from around hydrants within 24 hours of the conclusion of a storm. There should be a four-foot clearance in all directions and a three-foot wide path from hydrant to street. Help us help you by uncovering the fire hydrant on or near property.

Manchester Police Department

Police Activity for December 2008

Total Calls for Service	4,871
Total Police Cases	1,294
Total 911 Calls	691

Emergency Calls

Eighth District	175
Town Fire	350
Police Department	3,938

On 12/24/08, the DEA Task Force, along with the East Central Narcotics Task Force and members of the Manchester and New Britain Police Departments arrested cousins Franklin and Luis Payano in the parking lot of 262 Spencer Street with five kilograms of cocaine. The cocaine has a wholesale value of \$200,000.00. The street value is approximately \$1,000,000.00. They were processed and held at the Manchester Police Department with bonds set at one and a half million dollars. To date, this is the largest cocaine seizure ever in the Town of Manchester.

Promotions this month included Lt. Parlapiano, Lt. Ellsworth, Sgt. Bairos, Sgt. Palombizio, and Sgt. Dunnigan.

Health Department

Get Ready to Go Red!

Circle Friday, February 6th in red on calendars since that's the day the Town of Manchester will join the American Heart Association's (AHA) fight against heart disease by promoting Wear Red Day.

The Town of Manchester and the Health Department encourage everyone to support the fight against heart diseases in women by wearing red on National Wear Red Day, Friday, February 6, 2009. It's a simple, powerful way to raise awareness of heart disease and stroke. Wearing red this day celebrates the energy, passion, and power women have to band together to wipe out heart disease and stroke. Individuals are invited to stop by the Health Department, Customer Service and Information Center, or the Senior Center, the first week of February to pick up an educational brochure and free lapel pin to wear on February 6, 2009 to show support to fight back against heart diseases, the number one killer of women in America.

Statistics – December 2008

Community Health – 57 Reportable Diseases

Environmental Health Stats

65	Restaurant Inspections
2	Other Inspections
23	Food Licenses Issued
12	Complaints

Geriatric Stats
117 Blood Pressures

Employee News

Recently Hired

Mikael Sjostrom - Firefighter/Paramedic, Manchester Fire-Rescue-EMS

Jennifer Pietlock - Account Associate, Assessment & Collection

Donna Ford - Assistant Town Clerk I, Town Clerk's Office

February 2009

Building Committee Meeting

February 2, 2009, 7:00PM
Manchester Room, Town Hall

Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting

February 2, 2009, 7:00PM
Hearing Room, Lincoln Center

Board of Directors Meeting

February 3, 2009, 7:00PM
Hearing Room, Lincoln Center

Zoning Board of Appeals

February 4, 2009, 7:00PM
Hearing Room, Lincoln Center

Redevelopment Agency

February 5, 2009, 7:30AM
Manchester Room, Town Hall

Cheney Bros. National Historic Commission Meeting

February 5, 2009, 4:30PM
Hearing Room, Lincoln Center

Senior Center Advisory Committee

February 6, 2009, 9:00AM
Senior Center, 549 East Middle Turnpike

Manchester Advisory Library Board

February 9, 2009, 6:30PM
Howroyd Room, Mary Cheney Library

Board of Education Meeting

February 9, 2009, 7:30PM
Hearing Room, Lincoln Center

Board of Directors Meeting

February 10, 2009, 7:00PM
Hearing Room, Lincoln Center

Cheney Hall Foundation Meeting

February 11, 2009, 5:15PM
Cheney Hall, 177 Hartford Road

Housing Authority Meeting

February 11, 2009, 7:00PM
Housing Authority, 24 Bluefield Drive

Commission For Elderly Services and People with Disabilities

February 11, 2009, 7:00PM
Senior Center, 549 East Middle Turnpike

Manchester Arts Commission

February 12, 2009, 6:30PM
Law Library, Town Hall

Conservation Commission

February 17, 2009, 7:30PM
Directors Room, Lincoln Center

Building Reuse Committee Meeting

February 18, 2009, 4:30PM
Directors Room, Lincoln Center

Planning and Zoning Commission

February 18, 2009, 7:00PM
Hearing Room, Lincoln Center

Redevelopment Agency

February 19, 2009, 7:30AM
Manchester Room, Town Hall

Manchester Land Conservation Trust

February 19, 2009, 7:00PM
Manchester History Center, 175 Pine Street

Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission

February 19, 2009, 7:00PM
The Lodge at Center Springs, 39 Lodge Drive

Board of Education Meeting

February 23, 2009, 7:30PM
Hearing Room, Lincoln Center

Board of Directors Policy Briefing Meeting

February 24, 2009, 8:00AM
Manchester Room, Town Hall

Human Relations Commission

February 24, 2009, 7:30PM
Law Library, Town Hall

Hockanum River Watershed Association Meeting

February 25, 2009, 7:30PM
Directors Room, Lincoln Center

Pension Board Meeting

February 26, 2009, 4:00PM
Law Library Conference Room, Town Hall