



Town of Manchester

General Manager's Report

Scott Shanley
General Manager

September 2009

Town Hall Closings – Labor Day

Town of Manchester Offices will be closed in observance of Labor Day on Monday, September 7, 2009.

Mary Cheney Library and Whiton Memorial Library will be open from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. only on Friday, September 4 and will be closed Saturday, September 5 through Monday, September 7.

Annual Report

The Town's Annual Report for FY2008 is now available at the Town Hall Customer Service and Information Center, Town Libraries, Recreation Centers and the Senior Center. Please stop by to pick up a copy during business hours.

Customer Service and Information Center

“Do You Remember?”, a patriotic musical event, will be held on Thursday, September 3 at 7:00 p.m. at Cheney Hall in Manchester, with a reception at 6:30 p.m. The show will honor the brave past and present military, police, fire and EMT personnel. Tickets are free for those who have served and their families. Please visit the Customer Service and Information Center in Town Hall, 41 Center Street between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday, 647-5235. Tickets are available at Cheney Hall, 647-9824, Manchester VFW, Army and Navy Club, and the American Legion.

Finance Department

Assessment and Collection

As expected the Office of Assessment and Collection experienced very busy months during June, July and early August as July 1 tax payments were streaming in.

The Assessment and Collection staff thanks the Customer Service & Information Center, New Alliance Bank and Enfield Savings Bank for their assistance during this hectic collection period. The taxpayers of Manchester are also thanked for their continued patience and cooperation. Temporary staff is also very valuable during this tax collection time.

As always please be reminded that there is no separate mailing for the second Real Estate and Personal Property bill installment. Both payment coupons were included with the bill mailed in June. Calendars should be marked for mid-January 2010 as a reminder of the second half installments when applicable.

Work continues on development of the Grand List of October 1, 2009. Given the status of the current economy, the belief is that this Grand List will show less growth than the past few years. The phase-in of the 2006 Revaluation was completed with the 2008 Grand List. The next schedule Revaluation would be effective October 2011.

In addition, though the automotive market has shown recent signs of recovery, an increase in the Motor Vehicle Grand List for October 1, 2009 is not forecasted. In all probability that portion of the Grand List will fall again as it did in 2008. It is also anticipated that there will be a loss on the Personal Property Grand List due to the economy. There has been very little construction during the past year.

Human Services Department

The State of Connecticut Department of Labor's Career Bus will be in Manchester on Thursday, September 10, 2009, from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at Main Street/Forest Street parking lot. It is a full service CT Transit size bus that assists residents with resume writing, career exploration, internet job searches and information. Residents can stop by for free assistance. The bus is fully accessible. Please contact 647-3096 with questions.

The Senior, Adult and Family Services Division of the Town of Manchester is currently completing applications for the State of Connecticut Renter's Rebate Program. The Program provides a one-time yearly payment to renters based on income, rent and utilities of the previous year (2008). Applicants must be age 65 or older by 12/31/08 or be permanently or totally disabled as defined by Social Security and at least 18 years of age. Applications are completed at the Weiss Center, 479 Main Street, Manchester. To schedule an appointment or for questions, please call Senior, Adult & Family Services at 647-3096 from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. The program runs until September 15, 2009.

Senior Center

The Manchester Senior Center received a First Place Award at the annual Connecticut Association of Senior Center Personnel Award Presentation on June 12th of this year. The award was received in the Expressive and Creative Arts Category for the book published by the Senior Center Writing Class entitled, The Way We Were: A Collection of Memories. The writing class will debut their second book entitled We Were There: A Collection of Memories of Historic Moments on Sunday, September 13th at 3:00 p.m. at Cheney Hall.

Health Department

Community Health Statistics
Reportable Diseases – 61
Geriatric Statistics – 168 Blood Pressures

Environmental Health Statistics - July
78 Restaurant Inspections
9 Other Inspections
18 Food Licenses Issued
21 Complaints
5 Swimming Pool Inspections
2 Septic
2 B100A

Manchester Fire-Rescue-EMS

Activity Report for July 2009

Medical/Rescue	555
Fire Related	18
Hazardous Conditions	21
Public Service	37
Good Intent	71
False	41
Mutual Aid	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	744

Training Grant

Manchester Fire-Rescue-EMS Department has been advised of a (2008) grant award of \$106,056 to provide training to all department members in "Rescue Technician Core". The grant comes from the Federal Emergency Management Agencies (FEMA) *Assistance to Firefighters Grant* (AFG) program. The AFG program awards grants to firefighters, emergency response personnel and first responders throughout the nation to enhance response capabilities and to more effectively protect the health and safety of first responders and the citizens in their communities. AFG grants provide resources for training, first responder health and safety programs, and response equipment and vehicles.

Since 2001, the AFG has provided \$2.4 billion in grants to fire departments and first responder organizations for response equipment, personal protective equipment, vehicles, and fire prevention activities. AFG received more than 18,000 applications for nearly \$2.5 billion in grant requests in 2008. Manchester was one of the fortunate recipients of funding.

This is Manchester's fourth AFG grant award since 2001. The Department was successful in 2003 with a \$263,452 grant for an interoperable radio communications system, 2004

with a \$36,000 grant for an in-station filtration/compressed air refilling station (for SCBA) and 2007 with a \$179,239 grant for replacement of the Department's self-contained breathing apparatus inventory (34 units). The Department presently has a grant application filed for the 2009 grant period for an air decontaminating, disinfecting and sterilizing system to be used for "scrubbing" fire station living areas and vehicles. The cost of the equipment is approximately \$50,000.

The training this grant will provide will make the Fire Department more proficient in performing technical rescue. Although Fire personnel through in-house training and limited academy training, do a commendable job in performing technical rescues, it is done without the benefit of holding the recommended professional certifications. When the Fire Department's personnel are certified, Manchester will most likely be the sole department in the state, of its size or larger, with 100% of its responders certified in the core rescue technician requirements.

Building Department

Building Inspection Activity for July 1 – July 31, 2009

Building Permits	July	June
Total Applications received	305	292
Total Permits issued	310	273
Total Revenue	\$51,893.86	\$48,932.42
Construction Value*	\$3,954,028.98**	\$3,505,403.50**
Inspections conducted	598	680

Code Enforcement		
Cases opened	43	44
Cases closed	52	39
Inspections conducted	113	135

Neighborhood Inspections**		
Cases opened	126	178
Cases closed	153	154
Inspections conducted	284	292

Comparison of fiscal years July 1 - July 31

Building Permits	FY2010	FY2009
Total Applications received	305	300
Total Permits issued	310	334
Total Revenue	\$51,893.86	\$48,644.36
Total Construction Value*	\$3,954,028.98**	\$3,806,308.00
Inspections conducted	598	662

Code Enforcement		
Cases opened	43	40
Cases closed	52	39

Inspections conducted	113	101
Neighborhood Inspections**		
Cases opened	126	31
Cases closed	153	11
Inspections conducted	284	55

Notes:

*Includes the value of Town/BOE projects where fees were waived.

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

***Note the Neighborhood Inspectors started performing Bulky Waste Inspections on 07/24/09.

Manchester Water & Sewer Department

The tally is in and it was the wettest July on record since the Water Department began tracking precipitation 27 years ago. This July there were 9.45" of rainfall. The previous record for this month was 6.80", which occurred in 1996.

The earlier rainfall and chilly spring has finally given way to the heat and humidity of summer. The department reminds everyone to stay hydrated, particularly if engaged in strenuous outdoor activities. One great way to accomplish this would be to visit the department's water bottling station located at Mt. Nebo Park. It is convenient, open during park hours and best of all, free.

Last month the Water & Sewer Department provided some factoids regarding the Town's drinking water system. This month the focus is on the other end of the pipe and provides some information related to wastewater treatment and collection. The Town's wastewater collection system is comprised of 151 miles of sewer main ranging from 4" – 42" in diameter. The Eighth Utilities District adds another 39 miles of main, which brings the total length of the system to approximately 190 miles. Since much of this infrastructure is aging, the Town and the District are partnering on a study to analyze the system and develop a prioritized sewer main improvement plan. The result will be reduced pumping and operating costs through the elimination of unnecessary flow caused by rainfall and high groundwater tables. It will also reduce the likelihood of sewer main backups, street flooding and unpermitted charges.

Once the wastewater is collected, it is conveyed to the Treatment Plant located on Thrall Road. The facility extensively treats, on average, 6.2 million gallons of sewage/day before discharging the liquid portion of the flow into the Hockanum River. Solids are treated and thickened by anaerobic digestion, dewatered and ultimately disposed of in the Town landfill. The operation and performance of the facility is regulated under the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System as well as other State-specific conditions and permits.

For more information about the Water & Sewer Department, please call us at 647-3115 or visit the website at www.townofmanchester.org/water.



Employee News

Recently Promoted

Jackie Langton – Senior Account Associate, Office of Assessment/Collection

Recently Hired

Lisa Irish - Land Records Clerk I

September 2009

Board of Directors Meeting

September 1, 2009, 7:00PM
Hearing Room, Lincoln Center

Cox Cable Advisory Commission

September 2, 2009, 6:30PM
Cox Communications, 170 Utopia Road

Redevelopment Agency

September 3, 2009, 7:30AM
Manchester Room, Town Hall

Cheney Bros. National Historic District Commission Meeting

September 3, 2009, 4:30PM
Hearing Room, Lincoln Center

Senior Center Advisory Committee

September 4, 2009, 9:00AM
Senior Center, 549 East Middle Tpk.

Cheney Hall Foundation Meeting

September 9, 2009, 5:15PM
Cheney Hall, 177 Hartford Road

Housing Authority Meeting

September 9, 2009, 7:00PM
Housing Authority, 24 Bluefield Drive

Commission for Elderly Services & People with Disabilities

September 9, 2009, 7:00PM
Senior Center, 549 East Middle Tpk.

Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting

September 9, 2009, 7:00PM
Hearing Room, Lincoln Center

Economic Development Commission

September 10, 2009, 8:00AM
Directors Room, Lincoln Center

Manchester Arts Commission

September 10, 2009, 6:30PM
Law Library, Town Hall

Advisory Library Board

September 14, 2009, 6:30PM
Howroyd Room, Mary Cheney Library

Board of Education

September 14, 2009, 7:00PM
Hearing Room, Lincoln Center

Building Committee Meeting

September 14, 2009, 7:00PM
Manchester Room, Town Hall

Conservation Commission

September 15, 2009, 7:30PM
Directors Room, Lincoln Center

Human Relations Commission

September 15, 2009, 7:30PM
Law Library, Town Hall

Housing Commission

September 16, 2009, 7:00PM
Manchester Room, Town Hall

Redevelopment Agency

September 17, 2009, 7:30AM
Manchester Room, Town Hall

Manchester Land Conservation Trust

September 17, 2009, 7:00PM
Manchester History Center
175 Pine Street

Park and Recreation Advisory Commission

September 17, 2009, 7:00PM
Lodge at Center Springs Park
39 Lodge Drive

Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting

September 21, 2009, 7:00PM
Hearing Room, Lincoln Center

Board of Directors Policy Briefing Meeting

September 22, 2009, 8:00AM
Manchester Room, Town Hall

Zoning Board of Appeals

September 23, 2009, 7:00PM
Hearing Room, Lincoln Center

Hockanum River Watershed Association

September 23, 2009, 7:30PM
Directors Room, Lincoln Center

Pension Board Meeting

September 24, 2009, 4:00PM
Law Library Conference Room, Town Hall

Board of Education

September 29, 2009, 7:00PM
Hearing Room, Lincoln Center