

TOWN OF CHESHIRE
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TO: Town Council
FROM: Sean M. Kimball, Town Manager
SUBJECT: Town Manager's Report – December 2022
DATE: December 13, 2022

Parks and Recreation Offerings

Annual Tree Lighting

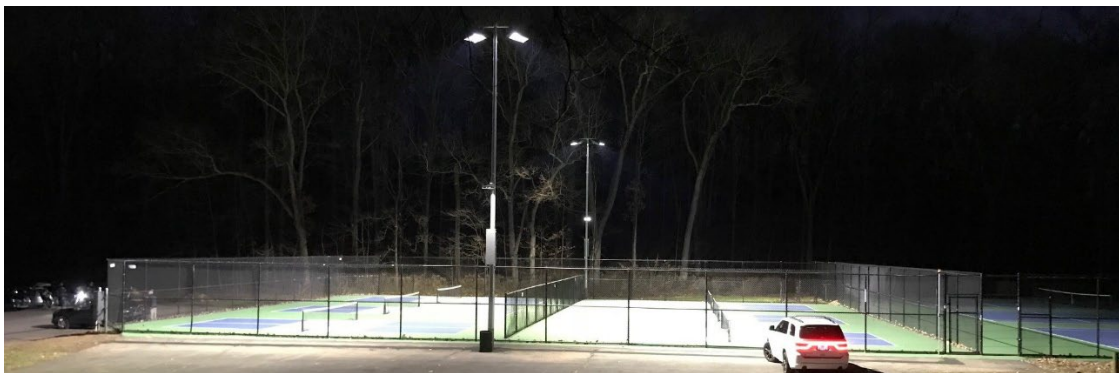
Thank you to everyone who helped organize and all who came out to enjoy the Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony at Bartlem Park on December 4th. Special thank you to Therapeutic and Special Event Coordinator Barb Costello along with John Gawlak and his entire staff for all of their hard work. The event grew this year with many people in attendance to enjoy great music, hayrides, roasted chestnuts, caroling, ice sculptures, a “snowball” fight, a candy cane hunt and of course Santa arriving by CFD firetruck. Thank you to the Town Council, CFD, CPD, DPW, the Lions Club, the Cheshire Jr. Women’s club, Mazzone Brothers Productions, and so many others.

Winter Parks and Rec Brochure

Visit the Recreation webpage to view the entire Winter Program Brochure recently mailed to all households: https://www.cheshirect.org/government/departments_and_divisions/recreation).

Pickleball Court Lighting

The new lights for the Cheshire Park Pickleball Courts were completed a few weeks ago and are already being enjoyed by many community members and avid pickleballers.



Economic Development Updates

- The Learning Experience, the 10,000SF daycare at 435 Highland Avenue is under construction
- Chase Bank has opened 202-216 Highland Avenue

- Dentist office under construction at 306 Highland Avenue (10,000 SF)
- Former Rite Aid at 922 South Main Street sold on November 22nd for \$1,775,000
- HOB Industries continues complete rehab at 25 Knotter Drive of its future 40,000SF manufacturing facility
- First foundation permits issued for the Reserve at Stonebridge Crossing and the East Pointe Apartments were approved in November, the first phases of the long-awaited North End Development
- STEAP Grant Sidewalk Project plans complete with DPW and ED working to get that Project out to bid for spring construction
- 5,000SF Addition approved at 140 Commerce Court for Cheshire Woodcraft
- The Manufacturers RoundTable met at Cheshire High School to tour the Industrial Arts areas with Sean McKeown. The group has expanded to 8 area manufacturers.
- Paul Lavoie, Connecticut's Chief Manufacturing Officer will be meeting with the Manufacturer's Roundtable and other Cheshire business owners at Town Hall on January 13th to discuss potential grant opportunities, State training programs, and the general status of manufacturing in the State of CT.
- Cheshire projects and developments have been highlighted six times in the last four months in the New Haven and Hartford Business Journals

Cheshire Public Library



- The Cheshire Public Library's new "A/V Studio" is up and running allowing patrons to book a time to come in for assisted digital conversion of old media (VHS, HDV, Audio Cassettes, Records, Film negatives, 8mm film, 50mm slides, etc) as well as audio or video digital creation projects. To book an appointment, visit www.cheshirelibrary.org/avstudio/ or call 203-272-2245 ext. 33019.
- The library will be closed to the public on Wednesday, December 28th for the removal and replacement of the main doors. Staff will be working inside during construction working on cataloguing, shelving, organization and program planning.

Quarterly Financial Report

- Attached please find a Quarterly Report for Q1 FY23 from Finance Director Jim Jaskot. I am pleased to report we are already starting this year with a number of positive developments from a financial perspective in the General Fund, building upon the unprecedented surplus the Town generated as we closed out FY 2022. Between strong Building and Police department revenues and additional unanticipated state revenue, coupled with on budget expenditure estimates, we appear on track for as much as a \$2 million surplus (it is still early in the fiscal year, however).

The Cheshire Community Pool also closed FY 2022 with a record surplus and has continued strong revenue results this year, which will more than help offset some additional unplanned maintenance and infrastructure expenses incurred this year.

Public Building Commission

- Please take a few minutes to read the attached project closeout report from the PBC regarding the successful completion of the Police Department Lower Level/Locker Room Improvements project. Police Chief Dryfe and I would like to invite council members to schedule a visit to see this very successful completed project in person.

Upcoming Town Council & Committee Meetings:

Town Council Budget Committee Meeting

January 10, 2023 (time TBD), Council Chambers, Town Hall

Town Council Regular Meeting

January 10, 2023 at 7pm, Council Chambers, Town Hall