



MANAGEMENT REPORT

Frederick J. Presley, Town Manager

July 20 – August 1, 2024

[Town of Wethersfield Website](http://www.wethersfieldct.gov)



Wethersfield Town Hall
Summer Business Hours
May 27th - August 30th

Monday – Wednesday
8:00 am – 4:30 pm
Thursday
8:00 am – 6:00 pm
Friday
8:00 am – 1:00 pm

OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

Town Manager's Report

Finally, a little break from the oppressive heat and humidity. It has been a very busy week of meetings here at town hall. The Town Council had their regular meeting this past Monday evening. Chris Traczyk presented the Wethersfield Tourism and Cultural Commission's annual update. There were several exciting initiatives that the commission is working on to further promote our great Town.

Police Chief Rafael Medina presided over a ceremony to promote Gustavo Rodriguez to the rank of Deputy Chief. Deputy Chief Rodriguez has served the department for several years and also had a distinguished career with the Hartford PD prior to coming to Wethersfield. I am very confident that he will thrive in his new position. Chief Medina also promoted Brando Flores to Sergeant. Sgt. Flores is a military veteran, former state corrections officer and former Hartford PD officer and has been a dedicated member of the Wethersfield police department since 2021. He will be a valuable addition to the leadership of the department. In addition to the promotions, Chief Medina introduced new Officer Ian Luna. Officer Luna is a lifelong Wethersfield resident and serves in the Army National Guard as a military police officer. He also served as a New Britain Police Officer. His experience and knowledge of the community will be a great asset to the department. Finally, Chief Medina also introduced two new officers who just completed their training on July 11th. Officers Eric Peck and Kyle Wellington join the Wethersfield Police Department. Both of these new officers have excelled in their training and are excited to begin their public safety careers here in Wethersfield.

Chief Medina also provided the Council with a detailed annual statistical report of the department's performance over the past fiscal year. The Chief noted that the Wethersfield Police Department has one of the lowest crime rates in our region, which is a testament to the dedication and commitment of all of the men and women who serve in the Wethersfield Police Department. Thank you all for all that you do!

Also, during the Council meeting, the Council received a presentation from Luke McCoy from Kaestle Boos Associates, Inc., our consultants on the Mill Woods Park Master Plan update. Residents will be hearing more about this work and have opportunities to provide their thoughts and priorities for the park's future.

The Town Council also authorized the issuance of a request for proposals for consultant services to examine options for improvements to our elementary schools. This project will provide services to assist the town in developing scenarios and cost estimates for the phased improvements of our elementary schools.



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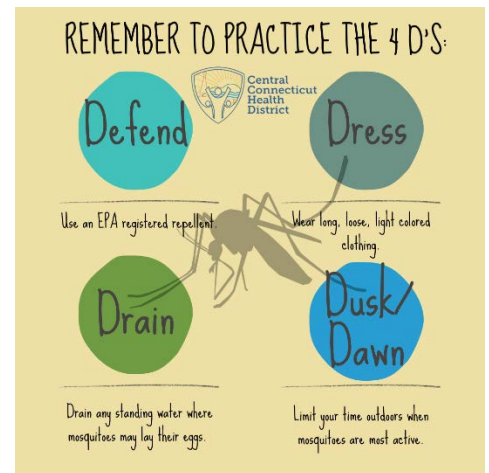
CENTRAL CT HEALTH DISTRICT

• **West Nile Virus Positive Mosquitoes and Birds Detected in Wethersfield**

<https://www.ccthd.org/>

The State of Connecticut's Agricultural and Experimentation Station (CAES) performs mosquito trapping and testing starting at the beginning of June and ending in late October. Arboviruses tested at CAES include West Nile Virus (WNV), Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus (EEE) and Jamestown Canyon Virus (JC). This afternoon (July 15) the District was notified by the Connecticut Department of Public Health that sampling from the previous week at the Goff Road test site in Wethersfield yielded WNV positive mosquitos.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), most people (8 out of 10) infected with West Nile virus do not develop any symptoms. However, about 1 in 5 people who are infected develop a fever with other symptoms such as headache, body aches, joint pains, vomiting, diarrhea, or rash. Most people with febrile illness due to West Nile virus recover completely, but fatigue and weakness can last for weeks or months. About 1 in 150 people who are infected develop a severe illness affecting the central nervous system such as encephalitis (inflammation of the brain) or meningitis (inflammation of the membranes that surround the brain and spinal cord). Symptoms of severe illness include high fever, headache, neck stiffness, stupor, disorientation, coma, tremors, convulsions, muscle weakness, vision loss, numbness, and paralysis. If anyone is experiencing any of these symptoms, the Health District encourages them to seek care immediately with their medical provider.



ENGINEERING

- **Mill Woods Park Dam Improvements:** The Town Council has approved award of a contract to All Seasons Landscaping from Cheshire CT for construction of dam improvements at the Mill Woods Park Pond and Swimming Pond. This work is mandated by the CTDEEP Dam Safety Unit and primarily includes removing trees and root balls on or in close proximity to the dam embankments, installation of slope stabilization and erosion control measures, and concrete and pipe joint repairs. At this time, we anticipate that work will commence in August with completion this fall.
- **Railroad Track Road Crossing Repairs:** Genesee & Wyoming Railroad notified the Town that their contractor is scheduled to start repairing pavement along the railroad track crossings at Hartford Ave, Jordan Lane and Wells Road in late-summer.
- **LOTICIP Wolcott Hill Rd Reconstruction:** A new "Welcome to Wethersfield" sign has been installed at the north end of the island near the Hartford town line, which is being protected by white bollards mounted to the road surface and large, concrete planters. The two streetlights that were hit by a vehicle will be replaced by the Physical Services Dept.
- **MDC Northbrick Ln Water Main Replacement:** MDC's contractor, Paramount Construction, began replacing the water main along Northbrook Ln this week. Pipe materials will temporarily be immediately stored along the road in the North brick Green. This work is expected to take approximately 2 weeks to complete.
- **MDC Goodrich Dr Water Main Replacement:** Staff is currently reviewing plans for MDC to replace water mains throughout this neighborhood that is located near Hartford to the west of Wolcott Hill Rd. This project follows recent gas main replacement project by CNG. The utility companies will be coordinating to repave the disturbed surfaces upon completion of this work.
- **CNG Stillwold Dr Area Gas Main Replacement:** CNG's contractor is currently working in the area of Stillwold Dr, Ruscan Rd, Lindberg Dr and Byrd Rd to replace gas mains and services.
- **CNG Fairview Dr and Hillcrest Ave Gas Main Replacement:** CNG's contractor has completed gas main replacement work in this area and expects to complete remaining service replacements next month.
- **CNG Griswold Rd Gas Main Replacement:** CNG's contractor has completed gas main replacement work in this area and expects to complete remaining service replacements next month.
- **CNG Edward St Gas Main Replacement:** Barber Utilities has completed gas main replacement work in this area and plans to replace services by the end of this year.



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- **Pavement Preservation Program:** The Town's contractor, indus, has completed all crack seal and most fog seal work along local roads. Due to conflicts with a DOT contractor working on the I-91 overpass crossing Middletown Ave, the remaining fog seal work along Middletown Ave and Mill St will be completed next month. These preservation measures help to preserve the integrity and extend the service life of the pavement surfaces.
- **Pavement Marking Program:** The Town's contractor, Atlantic Pavement Markings, is completing pavement marking work along local roads. They have been directed not to apply glass beads to freshly painted crosswalks to minimize the potential for slips and falls since they can make the road surface slippery soon after application. The Physical Services Dept staff will be painting the parking lots at Town facilities this summer.
- **Spring Paving Program:** The program is complete. General Paving will return to top dress lawn restoration areas in the fall when the temperatures are cooler during the growing season.

PARKS AND RECREATION



The Summer Brochure is available online at [2024 Summer Brochure](#). Program information includes Many options for children, adults and seniors.

Like us on our Wethersfield Parks and Recreation Facebook page (@ParksRecWethersfield). Program updates, special event notifications and weather cancellations will be posted.

PHYSICAL SERVICES

<https://wethersfieldct.gov/physical-services>

Congratulations to Dave Lea on his retirement from the road crew after 27 years of dedicated service to Wethersfield!

Schools:

School cleaning is continuing on schedule
Webb and SDMS preventative maintenance on A/C units
SMDS changing valves actuators for U/V and FCU in multiple classrooms
WHS: Bearing and shaft repair/replacement on blower, water supply to roof to wash coils
Began maintenance/washing of units pool/gym side
Pool unit humidity/temperature replacement
Charles Wright: roof top A/C repair
Stillman: Added supply register
Toilet repairs at EW and WHS
WHS repair cast iron sewer line
General carpentry and electrical maintenance work orders

Roads:

Curbing
Jenrich pipe replacement
Turning leaves for composting
Roadside mowing
Sidewalk repairs and replacements on Main St
Construction material hauling

Mechanics and Trades:

Mechanics: Repair of fire vehicles, police vehicles and fleet vehicles.
Carpenter and Painter: Town Hall and Library upgrades.
Electrician: Upgrade lighting to dog pound, Community Center, repairing lighting at Willard and Mill Woods.
HVAC/Plumbing: Pool maintenance, Nature Center and Police Department air conditioning repairs.

Grounds and Parks:

Mowing around all town buildings, fields, parks and schools
Weed whacking
Trash pickup
Mulching all the playgrounds at parks and schools.

Transfer Station Hours

Monday & Friday	9:00 am – 2:45 pm
Saturday	8:00am – 3:45 pm



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Trees:

- Shade Tree Commission Approved tree removals
- Watering of new tree plantings
- Street Tree pruning
- Storm damage clean-up
- Water way clearing of down trees
- Clearing of over growth along sidewalks
- Continuing education seminars
- Fall tree planting list/ordering

SOCIAL, YOUTH AND SENIOR SERVICES

Phone: 860-721-2880

Senior Center News

www.wethersfieldct.gov/senior-center.

Energy Assistance

Residents may call the office at 860-721-2880 to schedule an application appointment.
More information at [State of CT Energy Assistance](http://www.ctenergyassistance.com).

Weekend Meals - Children receiving free or reduced lunch are automatically eligible for this program. Those experiencing financial difficulties may also sign up. Contact Social & Youth Services for application or appointment.

Food Bank and Special Needs Fund - This fund is used to assist eligible residents with various needs in addition to food insecurities. <https://rec.wethersfieldct.gov/wbws/webtrac.wsc/donation.html>



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
www.wethersfieldchamber.com
President: Natia Shukakidze



CONNECTICUT
COUNCIL OF SMALL TOWNS
www.ctcost.org



Capitol Region Council of
Governments www.crcog.org



Connecticut Conference of Municipalities:
Prescription Discount Card: This program was developed in conjunction with ProAct Inc. to help lower the prescription drug cost for Connecticut residents. The card is designed to be used by those who do not have insurance or if a prescription is not covered by your current insurance program. The card cannot be used in conjunction with another insurance program to discount your co-pays/deductible. Cards available at Town Hall. <https://www.ccm-ct.org/Services/Prescription-Savings>



Community Renewal Team
Changing lives... Creating opportunity!

<https://www.crtct.org/newsroom/publications/>

A G E N D A

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS **PUBLIC HEARING/PUBLIC MEETING** **TOWN HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS** **505 SILAS DEANE HIGHWAY** **July 22, 2024 - 7:00 p.m.**

PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Application No. 6290-24: **Appeal: The ZEO's issuance of a CEASE & DESIST ORDER for the operation of an auto detailing facility on residential property (Zone: A). Location: 274 Wells Road. Applicant: Matthew Accarpio**

Open Hearing Deadline: Aug. 28
Extension days remaining: 65

2. Application No. 6291-24: **variance from section 6.3 H 3b (Sign regulations): to allow a permanent detached sign of 47.6 sq. ft. as against 32 sq. Ft. maximum permitted (Zone: RC). Location: 965 Silas Deane Hwy. Applicant: Richard Lagana**

Open Hearing Deadline: Sept. 25
Extension days remaining: 65

PUBLIC MEETING

Old Business

New Business

- 1 Application No. 6290-24
- 2 Application No. 6291-24
- 3 Approval of Minutes of: June 24, 2024
- 4 Other Business
 - a. Public comments on general matters of the Zoning Board
- 5 Adjournment

A G E N D A
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
Public Hearing/Public Meeting
Wethersfield Town Hall – Conference Room #3
505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, CT
July 23, 2024 - 7:30 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING (*open to public comment)

1. **Application #8237-24** Steve Clarke, seeking to replace garage door with Acadia 138 steel door, construct 10'x20' carport on left side of garage, and move garage back to be equal to neighbors' garages at 83 Main Street. (Last day to act: July 23, 2024)
2. **Application #8243-24** Anthony Homicki, seeking to remove approved transom over garage doors and change garage doors from carriage style to panel doors with insert windows at 223 Garden Street. (Last day to act: July 23, 2024)
3. **Application #8247-24** Kevin and Gail Stewart, seeking to replace original windows in home with Harvey Tribute vinyl windows at 411 Main Street. (Last day to act: August 13, 2024)
4. **Application #8250-24** Doug Lisella, seeking to install 5" half-round aluminum gutters on lower level of roof on east and west sides with downspouts on corners of home at 37 Belmont Street.
5. **Application #8251-24** Michael and Kathy Clarke, seeking to construct 20' x 10' x 12'h wood pergola in rear yard, construct 12.5'w x 3.5' x 10'h stone fireplace in rear yard with matching stone wall at 330 Main Street.
6. **Application #8252-24** Jenna Carcia, seeking to install 43.5" x 10.8" wood sign with black painted letters above right side door at 133 Main Street.
7. **Application #8253-24** Jim Hochdorfer, seeking an amendment to Application #8242-24 to change garage doors to Amarr Designers Choice garage door with beadboard panels and no windows at 34 Dorchester Road. (Last day to act: July 23, 2024)

PUBLIC MEETING (*closed to public comment)

1. **Application #8237-24** Steve Clarke
2. **Application #8243-24** Anthony Homicki
3. **Application #8247-24** Kevin and Gail Stewart
4. **Application #8250-24** Doug Lisella
5. **Application #8251-24** Michael and Kathy Clarke
6. **Application #8252-24** Jenna Carcia
7. **Application #8253-24** Jim Hochdorfer

A G E N D A
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
Public Hearing/Public Meeting
Wethersfield Town Hall – Conference Room #3
505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, CT
July 23, 2024 - 7:30 p.m.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. **Approval of Minutes of:** June 11, 2024 and July 9, 2024
2. **Comments**
 - a. Public comments on general matters of the Historic District
 - b. Report of the Historic District Coordinator
3. **Correspondence**
4. **Commissioner Voting:** HDC Chair, Vice-Chair, Clerk
5. **Adjournment**

cc: Town Manager, Town Clerk, Steve Lattarulo, Debbie Picard, Charles Morrison, Assessor, Engineering, Fire Marshal, Planning and Zoning, Applicants, File

AGENDA

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

THURSDAY, JULY 25, 2024

Meeting starts at 7:00 P.M.

at TOWN HALL – Conference Room #3

- A. Public Comments.
- B. Old Business
 - 1. Mill Woods Master Plan Update with Landscape Architect from KBA
 - 2. Cove Entrance Improvements Status
- C. Minutes – June 27, 2024.
- D. Monthly Report – June.
- E. Letters and Announcements.
- F. New Business
- G. Solomon Welles House.
- H. Kycia Farm Update.
- I. Board Member Comments.
- J. Harbor Management Commission.
 - 1. Harbor Management Plan
- K. Motion to Adjourn.

The meeting packet will be posted on the Town website <https://wethersfieldct.gov/>

Wethersfield Heritage Commission

2024 COMMUNITY

Photo Contest

Deadline: August 30, 2024

Photographers of all age and skill levels are invited to submit entries to the 14th Annual Community Photo Contest!

PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED

Submit Entries to:
EconomicDevelopment@WethersfieldCT.gov

Or, drop off digital files to:
Wethersfield Town Hall | Economic Development Office
505 Silas Deane Hwy
Wethersfield, CT 06109

Winning entries will be published on the Town's website & in various Town publications.

 **Historic
Wethersfield**



More Info



SCAN ME

