

## SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY REPORT FOR MARCH 21, 2023

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

#### **Highway:**

Repairing equipment from storm damage.  
Multiple back-to-back storms, two of which were 8" plus.  
Monitoring gravel roads.  
Bartlett tree removed a dangerous tree on Red Barn.  
Pushing back snowbanks for sight distance issues.  
Still working on tree list, this last storm added another dozen trees to the list.

#### **Quechee Wastewater:**

1 person covering for March 2-10, so not much more than day to day.  
Lots of storm cleanup.  
Lab work.  
Set up samplers and run composite samples.  
Maintenance and testing on autoclave.  
24,000 gallons sludge to WRJ.  
fine screen auger maintenance at headworks.  
repair chemical pump.

#### **White River Wastewater:**

Sent in February state reports to the State of Vermont.  
Performed routine maintenance at all ten wastewater pump stations.  
Unplugged pumps at Bridge Street wastewater pump station. ( Two times)  
Unplugged the polymer pump for dewatering.  
Working on Fire Dept. safety list.  
Called Richard Electric about installing GFI breakers. (Fire Dept. safety list)  
Plowing and snow blowing treatment plant yard and walk-ways.  
Working with High-way Dept. picking up snow around downtown.

#### **Water Department:**

Michael Griswold started 2/27/2023 for the Water Department  
Training Michael Griswold  
Michael Martin had classes for his License.  
Assisted Highway with snowstorms.  
Finished Lead and Copper sample plan for Quechee.  
Met with Alan Beebe for fire inspection with Quechee.  
Sent out Monthly Operations Report to state.  
Worked on LCRR inventory.

### **TOWN CLERK**

- Election Notes
  - ✚ The election process went smoothly. Special thanks to: Sherry West, Assistant Clerk for helping manage the pre-election tasks; to Parks & Rec. for lamination services and for

transporting to and assembling of election items in the gym the day before election. Also, a huge thanks to Jeremy Delisle & Chip Haley/DPW for removing & disposing the old, rickety upright voting booths. The use of only the carousel-type voting booths was well-received. My personal thanks to all staff for their always present moral support during election season!

- ✚ 1699 Hartford voters participate in the 2023 Annual Town & School District Election on Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>. Of those 58% voted in-person; 42% voted by Early/Absentee Ballot. All articles passed. The incumbents were re-elected to the two open Select Board seats. All other open seats for School Board; Moderator; Treasurer and Library Trustees were uncontested.
- ✚ Thanks to Paula Nulty for posting the unofficial results to the Authentic Town Facebook page on election night, and to Will Casella, Dillon Walsh, Lana Livingston, and Paula Nulty for posting the Official Results on Wednesday to the website, Listserv and Social Media-I really appreciate it!
- ✚ The BCA and community members who acted as Assistant Election officials did a great job on Tuesday! Although the pace was generally slow, nearly 1000 voters trickled in to vote in-person over the 12-hours the polls were open.

- Sherry is continuing to work with liquor license holders to get through the licensing process.
- **Reminders to Hartford Dog Owners:** All dogs 6 months or older must be licensed annually per Vermont Statute by April 1<sup>st</sup>. The fee is \$9 if the dog is spayed/neutered; \$13, if unaltered. A late fee will be assessed after April 1<sup>st</sup>. We sent out reminder postcards in January to owners who licensed their dogs in 2022; reminders have also been posted on Facebook; the Listserv; the electronic message board located on the corner of Bridge St. & Maple St., and two ads will run in the Valley News this month.
- We will be coordinating a date for Abatement Hearings in the coming weeks.

## **PARKS AND RECREATION**

### **Program and Park Highlights**

- Our Spring and Summer Program Guide is complete and currently at the printers. The brochure is available electronically at [www.hartfordrec.com](http://www.hartfordrec.com) Much appreciation to the Parks & Recreation Staff for putting together a superb looking program guide showcasing all the exciting offerings this season.
- Over the past two weeks the department has processed 849 registrations and has brought in \$71,794.00 in revenue. A vast majority of the registration is for our after-school offerings and summer camps. Since January 1<sup>st</sup> we have processed 1241 registrations and received \$104,477.50 in revenue.
- The WABA Arena season is winding down. The weekend of March 17-19 we will be hosting 26 games for the Pot of Gold Hockey Tournament. The tournament is organized by the Woodstock Youth Hockey Association. Tournament sites include WABA, Union Arena and

Campion Rink. Next week, WABA has 3 additional days of operation followed by Ice-Out Procedures.

- Appreciation goes out to the WABA Staff for a successful season. A 7 day per-week operation of nights and weekends can take its toll on staff. A big thank you goes out to: Corey Kenison, Korrigan Allen, Justin Bettis, David Fitzgerald, Matt Beloin, Josh Baker and Shane Barnes. Additionally, Karen McNall and Elissa Smith develop and maintain the group skate schedule and billing which is a task that continues throughout the year. The Department wishes to thank them all for their hard work and effort this season.
- After School Programs such as our Lego Club, Improv Comedy, Chess Club, Dothan Brook UVAC Swim Lessons and Comics Class continues.
- Youth Karate, Adult Basketball, Adult Ultimate Frisbee continue as well.
- February Break Vacation Ventures was a success with 32 enrolled participants.
- Our new Kayak Trailer arrived, and staff are taking time throughout ice operations putting it together. We are excited about adding kayaks to our offerings this summer.
- We are working with Sourcewell and a local implement dealer on the purchase of our skid steer unit.
- The Department continues to work on our Agency Accreditation Annual Report which is due to the CPRA Review Team next month.
- We have started advertising for seasonal positions with Camp Ventures, Sherman Manning Aquatic Facility and Park Maintenance.

## ASSESSOR

- Processed permits, homestead declarations, and transfers
- Attended VALA monthly meeting as well as educational webinars
- Worked with the CAMA vendor Vision on new system exports
- Worked on “rental unit” estimates for Planning
- Assisted tax payers with questions

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

Hartford Police Department

Nature of Incident	Total Incidents
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Agency: Hartford Police Department	
911 Hangup Call	11
Agency Assistance	11
Animal Problem	2
Assault	5
Burglary Alarm	25
Citizen Assist	15
Citizen Dispute	6

Condition of Release Violation	1	
Traffic Accident with Damage	6	
Untimely	1	
Directed Patrol	145	
Disorderly Conduct/Noise	1	
Controlled Substance Problem	3	
Family Fight/Domestic	8	
Foot Patrol	6	
Found Property	5	
Fraud	3	
Harassment	2	
Information Report	2	
Intoxicated Person	2	
Juvenile Problem	4	
Litter/Pollution/Public Health	2	
Lock Down Drill	1	
Lockout	1	
Loitering	1	
Medical Emergency	1	
Mental Health Emergency	4	
Motor Vehicle Complaint	23	
Overdose	1	
Panic Alarm	1	
Paperwork Service	16	
Parking Problem	6	
Property Damage, Non Vandalism		1
Restraining Order	2	
Seizure	1	
Sex Offense	5	
Sexual Assault	1	
Suicide Threat	1	
Suspicious Person	11	
Suspicious Person/Circumstance		18
Theft	9	
Threatening	1	
Traffic Hazard	4	
Trespassing	1	
Unresponsive Person		4
Utility Problem	2	
Unlawful Mischief	1	
VIN Number Inspection		1
Wanted Person	1	
Welfare Check	11	
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Total Incidents for This Agency:	396	

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

Incident Log:

<b>Calls for Service 3/03/23-3/16/23</b>	<b>108</b>		
<b>Incident Type Categories</b>			
Fires	2		
Overpressure Rupture/Explosion	0		
Rescue/Medical	76		
Hazardous Conditions	2		
Service Calls	14		
Good Intent	7		
False Alarm	7		
Weather Emergency	0		
Special Incident/Other	0		

Members of the department participated in annual continuing education for paramedic refresher training. Probationary firefighters are enrolled in an advanced emergency medical technician program (AEMT). This training and licensure will enhance the department's ability to provide advanced level medical services to the community.

The fire prevention office completed numerous inspections during this period: liquor licensing, follow-up inspections, joint health inspections and new construction inspections.

## ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR

-The Energize UV energy fair being held on April 1<sup>st</sup> at Listen's 42 Maple St. in White River Junction coming together. The Hartford Energy Commission, Norwich Energy Committee, and Lebanon Energy Advisory Committee have all pitched in to make this happen. If someone is interested in IRA rebates for their homes, job training programs, or guidance on energy efficiency there will be someone at the event to help them.

- The Dartmouth Energy Alliance, staff from COVER, and members of the Hartford Energy Commission met at the West Hartford Library to perform an energy audit on the building. They took measurements, documented the appliances, and performed a blower door test to see how leaky the building envelope is. They are currently doing the calculations and hope to have a report and materials to present at the Energize Upper Valley event on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

-The Environmental Sustainability Coordinator met with Thomas Stuessy from Vermont Adult Learning to finalize plans for their training program and discuss how the Hartford Energy Commissions and Climate Action Steering Team can help support them as they gear up for their training that will run April

10-19 at the Hartford Area Career and Technical Center. This training will focus on heat pump installation, students will get their OSHA 10 hour certification and EPA certification to handle heat pump fluids. Transportation and child care stipends are available. The class is limited to 8 students, but if we have a lot of interest in the area we can run additional trainings.

-The Vermont and New Hampshire Clean Cities Coalition's kicked off their month long electric bus tour here in Hartford March 8-10<sup>th</sup> in partnership with Butler's Bus. Members of the Hartford Energy Commission, Advanced Transit, Vital Communities, and more attended the event and got to ride in a modern electric bus, learn about what kinds of range these buses can cover, and how to charge them.

## PLANNING

- TIF Program – Second testimony before the Senate Finance Committee on 3/3/23 regarding Town bill to extend the District's deadlines to incur debt and to collect tax increment. The bill moves into Joint Committee this week.
  
- Town Plan Housing Chapter Update – The first of four community forums on updating the Housing Chapter was held on February 28<sup>th</sup>. This interactive on-line community discussion about "Homes for Hartford" explored the availability, affordability and type of housing that exists and what is needed today and in the future. "Homes for Hartford" information can be accessed via the front page of the Planning and Development section of the Town website, including video recordings of the 2/28 community discussion and breakout sessions. A second community forum is being planned for mid-April.
  
- Hartford Historic Preservation Performing Arts History Project- On Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, the Historic Preservation Commission hosted a presentation by consultant Neil Silberman who has been conducting research and recently began the oral history interview component. He also is working on a written report. The presentation was recorded and will be available to view on the Planning and Development page of the Town website the week of March 27<sup>th</sup>. A second presentation is planned for June.
  
- Property Development Applications for Zoning Board of Adjustment and/or Planning Commission Public Hearings
  - The ZBA and PC reviewed and continued an application for a self-storage facility on Route 14 pending additional information. Planning Commission approved 4-lot subdivision on Stacey Lane and Birchwood Drive.
  
  - Upcoming March/April: The following new applications were submitted on 3-13-23 and being reviewed by staff: addition of a dwelling unit to an existing structure; and a mural on the south side of the COVER building. Request for Sketch Plan review (not Public Hearing) for a multi-unit residential project off Sykes Mt. Ave and Hickory Ridge.

- Ongoing Planning and Development: The department continued to assist applicants regarding general inquiries and submittal of Zoning/Building permit applications; reviewed/approved building/zoning and design review applications; and conducted inspections of completed projects for issuance of Certificates of Occupancy.
- Railroad crossing on Tigertown Road in West Hartford - On Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, the Hartford Historic Preservation Commission (HHPC) reviewed a Section 106 Request regarding any potential historic impact from a Federal Railroad Administration proposed railroad crossing safety improvements. The HHPC concurred that these are necessary safety improvements which will have no adverse effect on the historic resources in the West Hartford Village Historic District.