

# ***TOWN COUNCIL WEEKLY STATUS REPORT***

January 25, 2018

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## **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- There is no Town Council meeting on Tuesday, January 30<sup>th</sup> due to it being the fifth Tuesday of the month. Enjoy your evening off.

## **A NIGHT OF SUNSHINE**

Sold Out! That is what happened the week before “A Night of Sunshine” at the Groton Senior Center. The evening was a fundraiser for the LED community outreach sign that Club 55 is spear heading. Braiden Sunshine, a local singer and songwriter who has become a celebrity since he was a semi-finalist on Season 9 of NBC’s The Voice, was featured in the show. Starting off the evening were dance teams from Dancers Ink studio, located in Mystic, who gave exceptional performances in lyrical, jazz, musical theatre and hip hop. Braiden then took the stage and sang some of his original works of music along with some “oldies”. Braiden posted on his Facebook page “What a blast at the Night of Sunshine”, thanking both Dancers Ink and Club 55 for the evening event. The event raised \$2,000 to go towards the LED sign.



## VETERANS' COFFEEHOUSES

Groton Human Services has entered into an agreement with TVCCA's Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) to offer monthly Veterans' Coffeehouses at the Human Services Building. The Groton coffeehouse will be held on the third Friday of each month from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., in the Human Services' conference room. The first coffeehouse will be held on Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup>. RSVP will provide volunteers to facilitate the group and will also supply the coffee and refreshments. Additionally, RSVP will arrange speakers to address the group, which is offered free-of-charge to any veteran and/or veteran's family member in the Southeastern Connecticut area. RSVP is currently operating similar coffeehouses in Norwich, New London, Stonington, Danielson and Eastern Connecticut State University. RSVP developed the coffeehouses at the direction of its funder, the Corporation for National and Community Service, which encouraged RSVP to include services to veterans in its master plan for linking older (RSVP) volunteers to programs and services needed in local communities. Similar to coffeehouses operating in other locations, the Groton-based Veterans' Coffeehouse will give participants the opportunity to share life experiences and obtain resource information on services and benefits while enjoying the friendship and camaraderie of other veterans. Congressman Joe Courtney and his staff members often make the rounds of the Veterans' Coffeehouses to disseminate State and Federal VA news and also learn about veterans' concerns. Marge Fondulas, the Human Services Director, is the Veterans' Service Contact Person for the Town of Groton and it is expected the Veterans' Coffeehouses will offer another opportunity for the department to connect with local veterans while providing up-to-date information and support.

## MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORTS

### 1. Finance Department (July – December)

- The Director submitted the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report to the Government Finance Officers Association.
- The Director participated in IT Governance Steering Committee monthly meetings and attended Property Review Team meetings.
- Payroll completed calendar year end processing including the creation and review of W-2 and 1099R databases.
- Monthly sales and use tax returns were completed and filed.
- The Accounting Manager communicated with various bank representatives to review their government products and interest rates.
- Personal property audits are currently underway for eight selected businesses.

- Between July and December a total of 1,695 Certificates of Correction (COC's) were posted to the 2016 motor vehicle grand list, and 509 COC's were posted for prior motor vehicle grand lists.
- The Purchasing Agent executed a three-year agreement with Blackburn to provide custodial services for Town Buildings and with Ace Security for guard services at the WPCF.
- The Purchasing Agent executed five-year leases with both Par Four Restaurant and Noank Aquaculture.
- December commercial sewer bills were mailed late relating to problems Aquarion experienced with their billing file.

2. Library (December)

- The Director began working on the FYE 2019 proposed budget which is complicated by the lack of information regarding the availability of borrowIT CT (Connecticard) funds from the State.
- Frontier recently began to offer Vantage TV service in the Groton area and has been working to interconnect the library's GMTV broadcast studio to the Frontier system.
- Circle of Friends is selling stainless steel water bottles, 1 GB USB drives and plastic zippered tote bags to raise funds for the library.
- The library's local history collection has been moved into the new space and will be opened to the public once shelving has been installed.

Attachments

JB/lh

