



# Management Report

Frederick J. Presley, Town Manager

**April 25 - May 9, 2025**

## The Office of Town Manager

Happy Friday! As is often the case these days, it seems as though we went from late winter/early spring weather right into summer. I hope everyone is getting outside to enjoy these warm, sunny days.

The Town Council held its Budget Public Hearing this past Monday. Superintendent Mike Emmett presented the Board of Education's budget, and I presented the Town's proposed budget. As proposed, the Town budget includes a 3.85% increase in expenditures over last year's approved budget. This increase is due mainly to contractual increases in employee salaries as well as benefit cost increases. Of course, like all of you, we are also experiencing rising costs in goods, services, and utilities. As part of my budget presentation, I also gave an overview of the revaluation results and the potential impact of those results on many of our residents. If you did not get to attend the meeting, you can view the presentation online at the following link:

<https://wethersfieldct.gov/qcontent/NewsFeed.aspx?FeedID=3124>, where you can see the presentation slides or watch the video of the presentations.

Over the next few weeks, the Town Council will be conducting budget work sessions with departments and then deliberating on the specifics of the final budget before the budget adoption meeting on May 14th. One of the matters the Council will be considering will be whether or not to phase in the revaluation results over a period of multiple years as opposed to one year. The state statutes allow for limited phase-in options that could help to spread out the impact of the revaluations on those property owners who saw very large increases. Staff is developing data to show the impacts of various phase-in scenarios for the Council as they consider these options ahead of the budget adoption.

The Charter Revision Commission will be wrapping up its work on proposed charter amendments in the next few weeks as well. There will be an additional public hearing by the Commission on April 30th, after which the Commission will finalize its recommendation to the Town Council. If major changes are proposed, this will be on the ballot in the November Election for your approval.

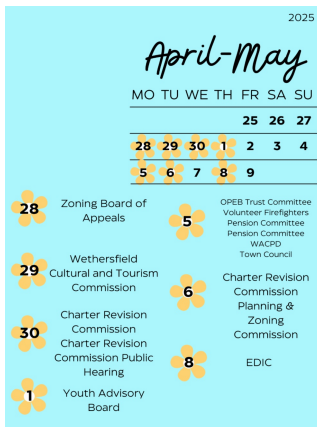
The current Charter can be found on the Town webpage at:

<https://wethersfieldct.gov/filestorage/279/4471/Charter-2015.pdf>.

A reminder that the Connecticut Children's Foundation, in partnership with Ball 4 a Cure, invites you to the 3rd Edition Superhero Sunday 5K Run, Walk & Roll, Kids Mile & Community Bash on April 27, 2025, at their new location - Cove Park in Wethersfield, CT! The race kicks off around 10:30 a.m., so be prepared for temporary road closures in Old Wethersfield. Superhero Sunday is a family-friendly, action-packed community event with superhero surprises, adventure stations, and more. It celebrates truly remarkable superheroes - Connecticut Children's brave and courageous patients, families, and team members. Even if you aren't a runner or walker, stop by Cove Park to enjoy the festivities.

Enjoy this great spring weather and have a great weekend and week ahead.

**Fred Presley**  
Town Manager



## Upcoming Meetings

**Board & Commission  
Calendar**

**Agendas &  
Minutes**



## Walk This May

Walk this May is starting soon! Click the link or scan the QR Code to register, and let's get walking! Thank you to the Central Connecticut Health District for hosting this event. To sign up: <https://cchd4town.walkertracker.com/login>

**More Information**



## Bikes On Main

This May, the Old Wethersfield Shopkeepers are once again celebrating a month-long tradition of giving back to our Wethersfield community—reviving old bicycles and bringing them back to life! These bikes once brought joy, adventure, and fun to their owners, and now they're transformed into creative displays along Main Street.

It's the perfect season to get outside after a long winter! While you're here, explore our amazing shops, museums, restaurants, or book one of the many services are businesses have to offer.

We can't wait to see the incredible bike creations this year!

**More Information**

## Light the Night For Fallen Firefighters

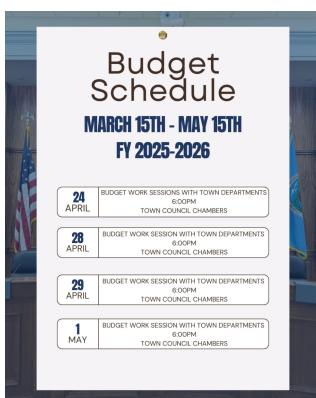
The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation is holding its annual National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend, May 2-4, 2025, in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

Robert "Sharkey" Sharkevich Sr. will be memorialized at the

ceremony for the Fallen on May 4th.



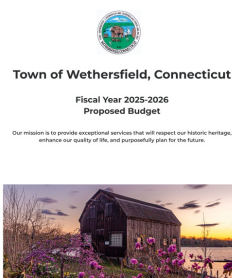
[More Information](#)



## FY 2025-2026 Budget Workshops

Budget Work Session schedule for the 25-26 FY Budget

[To View Budget](#)



## FY 2025-2026 Town Proposed Budget

The Proposed Budget for fiscal year 2025-2026 is available in digital format on the Town website.

[To View Budget](#)



## Job Opportunities

[Click Here For Current Job Postings](#)



## Wethersfield Elementary School Project

The Advisory School Building Committee meets regularly. Stay updated on the process by clicking on the link below.

[Learn](#)

## Parks and Recreation

### WETHERSFIELD MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

**Saturday, May 24, 2025**

Stepping off from DMV at 9:00 AM

#### NEW PARADE ROUTE 2025!

Ceremony to follow  
in front of First Church

[wethersfieldct.gov/memorial-day](http://wethersfieldct.gov/memorial-day)

### WETHERSFIELD FIREWORKS

**SATURDAY, MAY 31, 2025  
5 PM TO DARK**

**FIREWORKS ~ 9:00 PM  
COVE PARK, OLD WETHERSFIELD**

**FREE SHUTTLE SERVICE FROM PITKIN  
COMMUNITY CENTER (30 GREENFIELD  
STREET) TO THE SOLOMON WELLES  
HOUSE FROM 5:00 - 10:30 PM.**

**ENTERTAINMENT PROVIDED BY  
SHARK ENTERTAINMENT AND  
OUT OF ORBIT**

**FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF FOOD AND  
KID'S VENDORS LIKE US AT  
PARKSREC WETHERSFIELD OR VISIT  
WETHERSFIELDCT.GOV/FIREWORKS**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE  
CONTACT WETHERSFIELD PARKS & REC  
AT 860-721-2890**

### VETERANS PHOTO SHARE

The Wethersfield Veterans Commission, along with Wethersfield High School, is working to preserve our town's Veterans history by collecting photos and stories of Wethersfield Veterans during their service. Collected photos and stories will be shared on the new Veterans website.

Photos and stories can be sent to  
[meetourvets@wethersfield.me](mailto:meetourvets@wethersfield.me)



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## Engineering Update

### LOTICIP Great Meadow Rd & Marsh St Trail

Based on feedback received from the HDC and the public, staff is investigating options to install a colored asphalt trail within the downtown Old Wethersfield area that's similar to red-brown brick sidewalks in the vicinity. We're also exploring options to maintain the existing concrete sidewalks located along the residential properties on Marsh St that would need to be removed based on the current trail alignment. Detailed plans of the entire project extending between the Putnam Memorial Bridge and Main Street are available to the public for viewing online at <http://wethersfieldct.gov/engineering> and in the Engineering Department office located on the second floor of Town Hall. In addition, the project will be presented at public meetings for various commissions and the Town Council in the coming weeks.

### Cove Parking Lot Entrance Improvements

The Town has issued a bid solicitation to retain a contractor to complete improvements at the entrance of the parking lot for Wethersfield Cove, located at the north end of Main Street. The project includes removing the concrete barriers and extending the existing grass island, installing new curbs and replacing pavement, relocating the attendant's shed, tree plantings, and installing a new video camera and lighting. At this time, the anticipated construction schedule is to have a contractor complete the site improvements after Memorial Day and prior to the July 4th weekend. Bids are due May 9th, and the solicitation is available on the Town website at <http://wethersfieldct.gov/finance/open-bids>.

### Reconstruction of Silo Dr, Haystack Rd and Hayrake Dr

General Paving has begun completing drainage improvements in Haystack Rd and Hayrake Dr, and will be moving into Silo Dr next week. At this time, Tilcon is tentatively scheduled to start paving operations the week of May 12th with the intent to complete all work by mid-summer.

### DOT Transportation Alternatives Program Sidewalk Gap Closure Project

The Town has been awarded a state grant for approximately \$1.5M to close sidewalk "gaps" located within walking routes to and from the Highcrest and Charles Wright Elementary Schools. The project includes new sidewalk installations along portions of Collier Rd, Highcrest Rd, Prospect St, Oxford St, Cumberland Ave, Lexington St, and Livingston St, which is consistent with the state's Safe Routes to School Program. Town staff met with DOT representatives last week to discuss finalizing the grant so survey and design work can begin, which will be completed by staff.

### **DOT Community Connectivity Grant Application**

Staff is currently preparing a grant application worth up to \$800,000 to improve pedestrian connectivity by closing sidewalk “gaps” near schools and other areas of Town. The application submittal is due May 22nd.

### **Pavement Preservation Program**

Northeast Crack Filling is scheduled to start completing large crack repairs in Ridge Rd, Wolcott Hill Rd, and Griswold Rd the week of May 5th. This work will be monitored by staff and is different than our traditional crack seal program. The project will repair wide, longitudinal cracks along these roadways to prevent stormwater infiltration that leads to premature deterioration.

### **MDC Water Main Replacement Projects**

MDC’s contractors are currently reconnecting water services along Main St, and water main improvements have started at the south end of Silas Deane Hwy and Town Line Rd. Similar utility improvements are scheduled to start next week in the Dogwood Rd area.

[\*\*Learn  
More\*\*](#)

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## **Physical Services Update**

### **Mechanics**

Maintenance of fleet vehicles, dump trucks, and fire vehicles, including welding repairs on equipment.

### **HVAC/plumbing**

I am working with vendors for the start-up of the chiller at the Police Department, the plumbing at the Community Center, and the repairs on Keeney fountain.

### **Electrician**

Street light repairs, lighting maintenance.

### **Painting/Carpenter**

Painting at the Community Center and Mill Woods & repairs at Mill Woods, Library, and Keeney Center.

### **Highway**

Potholes, curbing, sidewalk repairs, and paving on Goff Road.

### **Parks**

Field preparations, trash pick up.

### **Trees**

Spring tree planting and Arbor Day celebration.

### **Transfer Station Hours of Operation**

Monday & Friday: 9:00 am - 2:45 pm

Saturday: 8:00 am - 3:45 pm

[\*\*Learn\*\*](#)

[More](#)

## Social and Youth Services Update

### Energy Assistance

Residents may call the office at 860-721-2880 to schedule an application appointment.

More information at [State of CT Energy Assistance](#).

### 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/wbwsc/webtrac.wsc/donation.html>

[Learn  
More](#)



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Wethersfield Town Hall  
*Business Hours*

Monday - Friday  
8:00 am - 4:30 pm

[Click here to sign up for future Management  
Reports](#)





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