

Covid-19 Status

Recent

Continued monitoring of Eastern CT / Windham County metrics. Per data.ct.gov website, as of August 5, 2021, there have been 906 cases in Putnam; compared with 896 cases on July 9th. Putnam recently changed from "gray" to "yellow", meaning 5-9 cases per 100,000.

Continued requirements for unvaccinated being masked. Watching recent recommendations for masking regardless of vaccination status, and will modify if federal or state requirements change.

Upcoming

Continued monitoring and mask compliance for non-vaccinated.

Town Administration

Contract Updates

Received state DOT approval of plans and approval to advertise for Woodstock and Church St Pavement and Sidewalk Improvements (NECCOG design). Expect bidding period Fall 2021, construction 2022.

Modified Arborio Bridge Maintenance Contract to include Munyan Road guide rail and concrete repair - with BOF approval for funding.

Recent

Final efforts for closing fiscal year 2021, including Finance Department and department head coordination. Moving company onsite at Town Hall and Library to initiate packing instructions and planning.

Continued coordination with Real Estate Agent for Town Hall and Library properties for showings and information requests (Delpha Very lead). Under contract with buyer for Library, Town-required approvals ongoing. Town Hall continued marketing and interest.

Hired new part-time Custodial/Maintenance position - started early August.

Union communications ongoing, including various subgroups of WPCA, Highway and Parks/Grounds, and Town Hall staff. Same as last month: Waiting on Union feedback regarding Town's proposals towards new contract starting July 1, 2021. Various components, including salary and benefits, if modified, will need retroactive efforts.

Same as last month: Continued coordination with new website vendor FinalSite for creation and hosting (Finance Office accounts receivable Jared Latour leading).

Upcoming

Draft Plan for use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. Categories generally include loss of revenue, water and sewer, stormwater and broadband.

Continued - new Fiscal Year accounting setup with approved budgets. Roll-over of capital project budgets, following close-out of previous year.

Part-time UConn intern to start August 23rd, working with Uconn Masters of Public Administration program.

Continued (Delpha Very lead) Expansion of Rehab Area to entire SSD - ECD office modifying application.

Special Town Meeting to be scheduled.

Same as last month: Coordinate with Union representative and bargaining committee regarding Town proposals and feedback.

Same as last month: continue activities and preparation for new website host and platform. Expect live September 2021.

Same as last month: Work with Novus to create email addresses for all Town employees, including field crews, as means of Human Resource and Management direct communication.

Municipal Complex

Recent

Ongoing architect, construction manager and Building Committee coordination.

Ongoing monitoring scope, budget and schedule. Construction contract completion schedule remains August 26th - but watching various lagging components, including new library shelving (metal manufacturers delayed) interior doors (manufacturer delay), and woodwork including specialty furniture (shop lead times extended). Depending on Library readiness, may have staggered move from Town Hall and Library. Exterior structure complete, sitework nearing final efforts. Interior buildout continues with many areas of electrical and telecommunications, final wood work and details.

Coordinating with various entities for final construction activities, including audio/visual, signage, door access, fire and security alarms, generator and specialty woodwork furniture.

Communications service providers including Sertex for fiber, Frontier for emergency land lines, Novus for server and Wifi setup, and Bibliomation for Library.

Coordinating with municipal entities including SSD, Police and Historical Society for reuse of Town Hall furniture and components.

Initial training including fire, security and plumbing.

Upcoming

Continued buildout of interior components, communication/IT setup, various commissioning efforts.

Training including vault, HVAC system, generator, lighting, cameras, door access contact system, alarm system, etc. Expect various Town departments to participate, including Department Heads, Town Clerk, new Custodial/Maintenance positions, Highway Department.

Expect furniture delivery in mid-August, move existing contents late August, with staff onsite at new Complex August 27th (Town Hall and Library staff may stagger depending on delivery schedule).

Same as last month - A lot of coordination and getting onsite!!! Exciting but many details to complete and coordinate.

Road and Sidewalk Improvements

Recent

NECCOG received DOT approval to advertise for the Church Street and Woodstock Ave Pavement and Sidewalks Project.

Coordinated with NECCOG for LOTCIP applications for School Street Sidewalks and Grove Street Sidewalks - received comments on design submittal.

[Note that Highway has various more standard paving projects ongoing and upcoming. Including portion of Kennedy Drive over bridge deck/1395; which schedule will be coordinated with state work to share traffic control and other coordination.]

Upcoming

Bidding efforts for Church Street and Woodstock Ave Pavement and Sidewalks Improvements.

Address DOT comments to Grove Street and School Street sidewalks design submittals. NECCOG completing Grove Street design, expect J&D to propose design finalization efforts for School Street design (update ~5 year ago School Street sidewalk design documents).

Bridges

Recent

Ongoing: Continued planning and design for Danco Road Bridge replacement. Expect 2022 construction start.
Five Mile River Road and East Putnam Road Bridges - Contractor onsite activities June 24th through August. Rain and water levels caused some schedule extensions.
Munyan Road Bridge - modified scope of Arborio to include new guiderails, concrete repair and other minor improvements to the Munyan Road Bridge.

Upcoming

Ongoing: Minor repairs to Munyan Road Bridge and a few other bridges to comply with DOT inspection comments.
Same as last month: Planning for minor DOT-recommended bridge maintenance, some done with Town staff, some via state contractor.
Ongoing: Continued project management for Town bridge repair/replacement.
Same as last month: Initiate planning and permitting with engineering consultant for East Putnam Road Bridge over Mary Brown Brook. (2022 or beyond construction)
Same as last month: Coordinate with State DOT to explore options for federal or state financing assistance with future replacement of Danco Road Bridge.

Athletic and Recreation

Recent

Coordination with Pomfret and selected consultant Weston & Sampson for Airline Trail Improvements project Trail Bed Improvements including connection to Putnam River Trail at Quinebaug River.
Ongoing: Project with Weston & Sampson for alternative analysis and planning for DEEP-funded planning project for River Trail connection to Air Line Trail in Thompson. Met with Putnam Trails Committee including consultant presentation.

Upcoming

Continued trail alternative analysis and planning activities.

Other Town Responsibilities

Recent

Planning Commission gave positive recommendation for Zoning text amendment for temporary moratorium on cannabis establishments. Continued efforts with Zoning Commission including public hearing and vote.
Ongoing tracking of MS4 stormwater requirements (Land Use Agent Bruce Fitzback lead). Scope for FY2022 being developed.
Same as last month: Waiting on response for Wheelabrator Lisbon for municipal solid waste disposal.
WPCA: Pre-construction meeting with USDA and G. Donovan for wastewater treatment plant storage building and generator project (USDA funding). Expect construction through Summer 2022.

Upcoming

Same as last month: Continue coordination and efforts associated with Stormwater MS4 permit requirements, including Town-proposals for text amendments to local regulations (Land Use Agent Bruce Fitzback lead).
Review proposed scope for consultant assistance with MS4 efforts, including continued wet- and dry-weather sampling, GIS mapping on stormwater structures and other NPDES Permit Requirements.

Execute contract extensions for municipal solid waste handling with Wheelabrator Lisbon. In upcoming months+, continue discussions for increase to sticker pricing.

Conferences and Training

Recent

Recurring Virtual meetings with NECCOG municipal leaders.

CCM Ethics and Responsibility Training.

National webinar on Broadband opportunities and funding availability - mostly for educational and individuals.

Upcoming

Ongoing: CCM certified Connecticut municipal official - multi-year effort of various trainings