

CITY OF NEW BRITAIN



Office of the Mayor

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City seeks final payments from Rock Cats

NEW BRITAIN—Mayor Erin E. Stewart announced today that the city is actively seeking payment from the former New Britain Rock Cats for \$149,317 in outstanding utility bills stemming from their lease at New Britain Stadium.

“While the team and its owners have relocated from the city, they are not off the hook for these overdue bills,” said Mayor Stewart. “Under the lease agreement between New Britain and the Rock Cats, the team is responsible for paying the electric and utilities that they used while tenants at New Britain Stadium.”

In a letter dated Jan. 25, 2016 to General Manager Tim Restall, the Director of Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Department details \$149,317.21 in utility bills that are owed to the city. The outstanding bills, which date from Jan. 1, 2015 to Dec. 31, 2015, include:

- \$80,582.62 to Eversource
- \$47,907.37 to TransCanada
- \$8,635.85 to Connecticut Natural Gas
- \$12,245.37 for water and sewer

“I will not sit silent and have taxpayers foot the bill for these utilities,” Stewart said. “I continue to be troubled by the ownership’s continuing disrespect for the agreement they had with the city. We have held up our end of the lease and acted with professionalism throughout our relationship with them. Now it’s time for them to respond accordingly.”

The city’s lease agreement with the team ended on Dec. 31, 2015. Under the terms of the agreement, the city has paid the utility companies, but payment is now owed to the city for reimbursement. This is not the first time that the city has had to pursue outstanding payments from the team. In August 2014, the city put the ownership on notice for failing to pay \$164,569 in property taxes owed to the town of Berlin. The owners have since paid those taxes.

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