

MARCH 4, 2024



# THE TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

*Your gateway to updates on programs, events, town services, and other important information!*

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## Phenomenal Women of Windsor



Windsor's Human Relations Commission is sponsoring an award ceremony for the "Phenomenal Women of Windsor" on **Friday, March 8, 2024, at 6:30 PM** at the L.P. Wilson Community Center. This event will celebrate the many women within the community who have positively contributed towards making a change in Windsor. All are welcome to attend.

[Click here to register](#)

## Legislative Dialogue



Please join the Windsor League of Women Voters on **Wednesday, March 6th at 6:00 PM** in the Windsor Town Hall Council Chambers, for a Legislative Dialogue. Senator John Kissel, Senator Doug McCrory, State Representative Jane Garibay, and State Representative Maryam Khan will be discussing the 2024 Legislative Priorities and Actions. This event is free and open to the public. This program will also be aired live. For questions, please contact Kathy Carroll at [kmcarrroll1971@gmail.com](mailto:kmcarrroll1971@gmail.com)

## Eversource Work



Due to anticipated load growth and aging distribution infrastructure servicing Windsor and surrounding areas, Eversource is currently completing power pole replacements and upgrades to the distribution lines in the area extending from Abbey Lane to the Rood Avenue substation.

Work on the second phase is expected to commence at the end of March or early April, beginning at the Rood Avenue substation and heading north into the Sunnyfield Drive area. Many of the poles being replaced in this phase are in easements that run through residential properties.

The third phase of work will run from Sunnyfield to Pigeon Hill Road and then continue across Poquonock Avenue to the River Street / Kennedy Road area. Eversource will inform residents and property owners of the work being done in the area and any temporary outages that may be necessary to complete the work. The overall project is estimated to last approximately six months.

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## Matianuck State Park Habitat Management



The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) is planning to conduct a prescribed burn at a portion of the dune within the Matianuck Natural Area Preserve in the coming 30 to 60 days, weather permitting. They plan to conduct a prescribed fire on a 2.5-acre section of the dune located at the center of the preserve. The dunes represent some of the last remaining sandplain habitat in Connecticut. Managing these areas by prescribed burning is an effective way to sustain and enhance their value to wildlife. DEEP Wildlife Division last conducted a prescribed burn here in Spring 2022 that was safe and successful. The Fire Department and Fire Marshal's Office have been contacted by CT DEEP.

## Tree Removal at Veterans Cemetery



The Department of Public Works will be removing several large pine trees along the northern side of the Veterans Cemetery. Some are becoming too large and top-heavy, posing a hazard to pedestrians as well as the grave monuments. They will also be pruning some of the maple trees along the center drive into the cemetery. In addition, town staff is also starting to plan and prepare for future expansion of the cemetery to the north.

## Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Development



The development of the proposed Fiscal Year 2025 budget is underway by town staff. This budget will be implementing the State mandated property revaluation which is required at least once every five years.

There has been a significant increase in residential property values since the last revaluation in October 2018. The rate of appreciation for residential properties far outpaced the rate for commercial and industrial properties. In addition, the value of office properties dropped notably because of high vacancy rates attributable to many large businesses employing remote and work-from-home models.

These dynamics create several difficult choices and decisions for the upcoming budget process as the tax impact on residential properties is projected to be significant due to revaluation. The choices and decisions will need to balance maintaining service levels, meeting increased service demands, and taxpayers' ability and willingness to pay.

Town staff will be hosting a Public Information Meeting on **March 28, at 6:30 PM** at Town Hall to provide an overview of the Town Manager's proposed FY 25 budget. The budget will be formally presented to the Town Council on April 1. The Town Council will review the budget during the month of April. The annual budget referendum will be held in May.

[Click here for more budget information](#)

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