

AGENDA
Coventry Town Council Meeting
and Public Hearing on Amendment to Parks & Recreation Ordinance

February 17, 2026
7:00 PM
Town Hall Annex

In-person attendance is permitted for the Audience of Citizens Portion of the meeting.
If you would prefer to submit comments for inclusion under correspondence at the next meeting, email them to audience@coventry-ct.gov no later than 4 PM on the Tuesday prior to the day of the meeting.

Contact information for general correspondence to the Town Council is available on the Town website at <https://www.coventryct.org/225/Town-Council>

A recording of the meeting is available on the Town's video-on-demand system for those who wish to watch the meeting at this link: <https://coventryct.viebit.com/?folder=ALL>

Please allow approximately 48 business hours after the meeting for the video to be published.

1. Call To Order, Roll Call
2. Pledge Of Allegiance
3. Audience Of Citizens:
(30 Minutes - 5 minutes maximum per citizen)
 - 3.A. Public Comment Session Regarding Town Of Coventry Membership In The Connecticut Municipal Development Authority
4. Public Hearing: Amendment And Update Of Parks And Recreation Commission Ordinance (E)

Documents:

[LEGAL NOTICE PARKS AND RECREATION ORDINANCE.PDF](#)

5. Acceptance Of Minutes, February 2, 2026 (E):

Documents:

[2.2.26 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES THOMAS SUGGESTED EDITS.PDF](#)
[UNOFFICIAL 2.2.26 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES.PDF](#)

6. Consent Agenda:
All items listed with an asterisk (*) will be acted on by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on this items unless a Council member so requests, in which case, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.

7. Reports:

7.A. Council Chairwoman: Lisa Thomas

7.A.1. Healthcare Policy Recs (E)

[LINK TO REPORT](#)

Documents:

[COMPTROLLERS HEALTHCARE CABINET REPORT.PDF](#)

7.A.2. First Responder Student Academy (E)

Documents:

[FIRST RESPONDER FLYER.PDF](#)

7.B. Council Members:

7.C. Finance Committee: Robyn Gallagher, Chairperson

7.D. * Steering Committee: Jonathan Hand, Chairperson

7.D.1. * Steering Committee Minutes: 1/27/2026 (E)

Documents:

[UNOFFICIAL 1.27.26 STEERING MINUTES.PDF](#)

7.E. *COVRRRA:

7.F. Town Manager: James D. Drumm

7.F.1. Projects/Issues Update (E):

Documents:

[2-12-26 PROJECT ISSUE MEMO.PDF](#)

7.F.2. * Legal Notice, Manager's Budget Hearing, 3/5/2026 (E)

Documents:

[LEGAL NOTICE-MANAGERS HEARING 3-5-26.PDF](#)

8. Unfinished Business:

8.A. 25/26-29: Consideration/Possible Action: Adoption Of Resolution - Amendment And Update Of Parks And Recreation Commission Ordinance (E)

Documents:

[25-26 - 29 SUMMARY SHEET.PDF](#)

[RESOLUTION 2026-02 \(ORD NO. 266\).PDF](#)

[DRAFT REVISION OF PARKS AND REC COMMISSION V7 \(FOR PUBLIC HEARING\) \(CLEAN\).PDF](#)

[DRAFT REVISION OF PARKS AND REC COMMISSION V7 \(FOR PUBLIC HEARING\).PDF](#)

[MEMO TO ALEX TAYLOR RE_ PARK _ RECREATION ORDINANCE.PDF](#)

9. New Business:

9.A. 25/26-40: Consideration/Possible Action: Resolution: Town Of Coventry To Join The Connecticut Municipal Development Authority As A Member Municipality (E)

Documents:

[25-26 - 40 SUMMARY SHEET.PDF](#)
[RESOLUTION 2026-03 CMDA.PDF](#)
[CONNECTICUT MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FAQs..PDF](#)
[CDMA DETAILED FLOW CHART.PDF](#)
[CMDA - FORM OPT-IN RESOLUTION FOR MUNICIPALITIES \(EFFECTIVE 10_1_25\).PDF](#)

- 9.B. 25/26-41: Consideration/Possible Action: Selection Of Health Insurance Program FY 27 (E)

Documents:

[25-26 - 41 SUMMARY SHEET.PDF](#)
[TOWN OF COVENTRY- CT STATE PLAN BENEFIT COMPARISON.PDF](#)
[USI RENEWAL INFORMATION.PDF](#)

10. Miscellaneous/Correspondence:

- 10.A. * Board Of Education: Minutes, 1/22/26 & 1/29/26; Agenda: Joint Finance/Fiscal Committee Meeting: 2/10/26; Agenda: Board Of Education, 2/12/26 (E)

Documents:

[BOE-TCSPECIALJOINTMEETINGAGENDA02-10-26.PDF](#)
[01-29-26UNAPPROVEDBOEMINUTES.PDF](#)
[01-22-26APPROVEDSPECIALBOEMINUTES700PM.PDF](#)
[02-12-26 BOE AGENDA.PDF](#)

- 10.B. * Fire/EMS And Police Department Monthly Statistics (E)

Documents:

[POLICE DEPT MONTHLY REPORT.PDF](#)
[FEBRUARY 2026 FIRE-EMS.PDF](#)

- 10.C. * Public Hearing, Town Of Bolton, March 11, 2026: Amendments To Zoning Regulations Article XVIII Signage (E)

Documents:

[PUBLIC HEARING BOLTON.PDF](#)

11. Executive Session (E):

- Cell Tower Contract

Documents:

[EXEC SESSION E.PDF](#)

12. Adjournment

LEGAL NOTICE
PUBLIC HEARING
TOWN OF COVENTRY

Notice is hereby given that the Coventry Town Council will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, February 17, 2026, at 7:00 P.M. in the Town Hall Annex to consider the passage of a series of changes to Chapter 70 of the Town Code entitled: “Parks and Recreation”

The proposed amended Ordinance seeks to restructure authority over operations and generally clarify language. Section 70-31 sets out responsibilities of the Commission such as identifying goals and advising on recreation. Section 70-70 authorizes the Parks and Recreation Director to make reasonable regulations. Throughout Article III, the Director and Town Manager are authorized to grant permission for exemption to certain restrictions. Section 70-87 requires Zoning and Wetlands approval as required for construction at Town parks. Section 70-91 adds additional language to require relevant federal or state approvals for actions that may damage wildlife or habitats. Section 70-92 ties the penalty for violations to Section 1-10.

The foregoing summary has been provided in lieu of publishing the proposed amended Ordinance in full. This document is prepared for the benefit of the public, solely for the purposes of information, summarization and explanation. This document does not represent the intent of the Town Council or the Town of Coventry for any purpose. A Copy of the complete proposed amended Ordinance is available for inspection in the Town Clerk’s Office and on the Town’s website, www.coventry-ct.gov.

Dated at Coventry, Connecticut, this 6th day of February 2026.

Lori Tollmann, CMC MCTC
Coventry Town Clerk

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES
Coventry Town Council Meeting
February 2, 2026 7:00 PM
Town Hall Annex

1. Call To Order, Roll Call:

The Meeting was called to order by Council Chairwoman Lisa Thomas at 7:00 PM

Members Present: Lisa Thomas-Chairwoman, Peter Larson-Vice Chairman, Matthew Kyer-Secretary, Jon Hand, Robyn Gallagher (remote), Mark Wheaton, and Julie Blanchard.

Also Present: James Drumm-Town Manager, and Kelly Lawer-Tax Collector

2. Pledge of Allegiance:

Town Council members stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Audience Of Citizens: (30 Minutes - 5 minutes maximum per citizen):

Tim Timberman, 1194 Main Street:

Timberman shared a request he put in writing (and sent via email) to the Town Council, for the Council to allocate \$2,000 from the EDC funds for the Arts on Main event. Timberman further explained that the event operates mainly off of donations, and the Coventry Arts Guild allocates \$1,000 to the event as well. He explained that he felt the town should invest in this well-attended, family-friendly event. He reminded that the premise of the Main Street Partnership and infrastructure is to make Coventry Village comfortable and accessible.

Timberman also shared that the Winter Poetry Festival was a success thanks to attendees and town staff, regardless of a minor heating issue that required relocation from Mill Brook Place to Patriots Park Lodge.

Thomas read the following statement:

Before we launch into our agenda, I ask that we all take a moment of silence in honor of those who have been murdered by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents. We are seeing heartbreaking images across our nation, most recently in Minnesota. I believe the ICE actions we are witnessing daily are relentlessly cruel and inhumane abuses of authority, depriving individuals of their lives and their right to due process. We should all be deeply concerned about the fate of our country; of our cherished democracy. As your elected leader, it is my responsibility to make sure that all of you, whether you were born on this soil, immigrated here, or fled here, feel safe, respected and protected. It is my responsibility to do for you what was done for my family when they fled Nazi horrors in Poland. In CT, the Trust Act protects civil liberties and ensures that state and local police are not deputized to carry out immigration enforcement that violates those civil rights. I take this very seriously and I know that our police officers do as well. We are neighbors. We are friends. We are family. Please join me now in a moment of silence.

4. Acceptance Of Minutes, January 20, 2026:

Motion: I move to accept the January 20, 2026, Town Council Meeting Minutes with Thomas's suggested edits:

By: Hand

Second: Kyer

Discussion/Edits:

- Pg. 1, Agenda Item 3, Under Katie Martin’s statement, 4th line up from bottom, change “town but” to “town and”.
- Pg. 6, Agenda Item 6.F.1, 4th bullet, 2nd line, change, “market is” to “market are”.
- Pg. 7, Agenda Item 6.F.1, 1st bullet, 2nd to last sentence, change “He continued that after lengthy back and forth, and last-minute additions, the town has finally just received a final clean version that all parties agree to and can be signed off on.” to “He continued that after lengthy back and forth, and last-minute additions, the town has finally just received a final clean version that he believes all parties can sign.”

For: Kyer, Hand, Gallagher, Thomas, Larson, Wheaton, and Blanchard.

Against:

Abstain:

5. Consent Agenda:

All items listed with an asterisk (*) will be acted on by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless a Council member so requests, in which case, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.

Motion: I move to accept the consent agenda.

By: Hand

Second: Kyer

Discussion: None.

Voting:

For: Kyer, Hand, Gallagher, Thomas, Larson, Wheaton, and Blanchard

Against:

Abstain:

6. Reports:

6.A. Council Chairwoman: Lisa Thomas:

Thomas read the following report:

- Thomas shared that her letter to Gov. Lamont about the Bond Commission Request is attached to the agenda, so Councilors are aware that it went out. (A link has been included below).
- On January 22, Peter Larson and I had our monthly update meeting with Town Manager Jim Drumm. Key points we discussed include:
 - Citizens Budget Guide
 - Jim and Alex are taking lead on this
 - Will be ready for March 5th public hearing
 - Posted online; copies available at public hearing, town meeting, library, town hall clerk’s office; copies to PTO Presidents to share at meetings
 - Strategic Planning goals

- Plan to hold brainstorming sessions with key staff in April
 - Purpose is to “dump” ideas and then organize and cross reference them; find connections from one to the other
- Finance Committee will partner with infrastructure goal
- Steering Committee will partner with economic dev’t & housing goal
- o Citizens Government Academy
 - Plan to get these workshops up and running by June/July
 - Connect launch with America 250 celebration and emphasize civic engagement
- o Jim will be negotiating 4 union contracts this spring
- Jim Drumm and I attended the CT Council of Small Towns meeting last week. Gov. Lamont, Lt. Governor Bysiewicz, Atty. General Wiliam Tong, and Comptroller Sean Scanlon all spoke. They discussed CT’s strong fiscal health but tempered their comments with the significant and growing financial impacts of federal cuts to everything from education to healthcare to infrastructure and climate resilience. There was also a moderated panel discussion with Majority leaders Sen. Looney and Rep. Ritter, and Minority leaders Harding and Candelora.
- I attended a CRCOG sponsored 4-hour social media workshop for elected officials last week. The focus was on the most effective forms of social media for messaging about town needs, as well as maintaining civil discourse in that media. I learned a lot and look forward to using that new knowledge.
- I also joined a webinar on PA 25-1, also referred to as the “Housing Bill”. This was an overview provided by staff from CCM, Councils of Government, and COST. Several of our staff also joined, including Director of Planning and Development Jana Roberson, ZEO Heidi Leach, and Town Engineer Todd Penney. It is a complex bill that we will be dissecting and digesting for a while. It includes several incentives that we will look to pursue as we develop our strategic plans for infrastructure and housing. Copies of the slide deck and a link to the webinar recording will be sent to all Councilors. A written summary guide will be shared by CCM and the COGs soon.
- Lastly, I attended the Coventry Arts Guild Poetry Festival on Saturday night. It was a wonderful night with talented poets including Manchester Poet Laureate Nadia Sims and Coventry poet John Stanizi. There were also musical interludes from local musicians including the Zelltones and Our friends Jim and Ruth from Song A Day. I want to offer congratulations and appreciation to the Arts Guild for this outstanding night, and especially to Linda Blakeslee who was the main organizer of the event.

6.A.1. Bond Commission Request to Gov. Lamont: [Thomas Letter to Gov. Lamont](#)

6.B. Council Members:

Gallagher reported:

- She attended the CT Wolfpack game, where musicians from GHR, CNH, and CHS either sang or played and did an excellent job.
- On Friday, January 30th, she attended Career Day at CNH, which is a wonderful event they put together every 3 years where volunteers come to talk to the kids. She noted that while in attendance, she saw a lot of familiar faces from the community.
- She shared appreciation to the DPW for the great job they did during the recent snowstorm.

6.C. Steering Committee: Jonathan Hand, Chairperson:

Hand reported that revisions have been made to the Statement of Interest form, which stemmed from discussions at the Steering meeting. The form now allows candidates to indicate the level of membership they're interested in (full, alternate, or either), as available. Hand noted that this will help guide Steering members and alleviate questions that arise during the Steering Committee's review of potential appointments. Hand thanked Laura Stone for making this change so quickly.

6.C.1. Steering Committee Recommended Appointments:

6.C.1.a. Conservation Commission: Coss:

Motion: I move to appoint Brian Coss to the Conservation Commission for a term to expire 1/1/2030, as recommended by Steering.

By: Hand

Second: Kyer

Discussion: Hand noted that there are 2 Brian Coss's on the Conservation Commission, one of which was appointed last meeting.

Voting:

For: Kyer, Hand, Gallagher, Thomas, Larson, Wheaton, and Blanchard

Against:

Abstain:

6.C.1.b. CRCOG: Regional Planning Commission: Thomas:

Motion: I move to appoint Eric Thomas to the CRCOG: Regional Planning Commission for a term to expire 12/31/2026 as recommended by Steering.

By: Hand

Second: Kyer

Discussion: Hand thanked E. Thomas for his continued service. L. Thomas clarified that this seat needs to be filled by someone currently serving on the PZC. She shared hopes of having someone serve as an alternate too.

Voting:

For: Kyer, Hand, Gallagher, Larson, Wheaton, and Blanchard

Against:

Abstain: Thomas

6.C.1.c. Economic Development Commission: Barry:

Motion: I move to appoint Barbara Barry to the Economic Development Commission for a term to expire 2/1/2031, as recommended by Steering.

By: Hand

Second: Kyer

Discussion: Hand thanked Barry for her long and continued service.

Voting:

For: Kyer, Hand, Gallagher, Thomas, Larson, Wheaton, and Blanchard

Against:

Abstain:

6.C.1.d. Pension & Retirement Committee: Elsesser:

Motion: I move to appoint Richard Martin to the Human Rights Commission for a term to expire 1/1/2029, as recommended by Steering.

By: Hand

Second: Kyer

Discussion: Hand thanked Elsesser for serving in this volunteer capacity for the community.

Voting:

For: Kyer, Hand, Gallagher, Thomas, Larson, Wheaton, and Blanchard

Against:

Abstain:

6.C.1.e. Pension & Retirement Committee: Murphy:

Motion: I move to appoint Justin Murphy to the Pension and Retirement Committee for a term to expire 1/1/2029, as recommended by Steering.

By: Hand

Second: Kyer

Discussion: Hand thanked Murphy for his continued service.

Voting:

For: Kyer, Hand, Gallagher, Thomas, Larson, Wheaton, and Blanchard

Against:

Abstain:

6.C.1.f. Special Constable: Chipman:

Motion: I move to appoint John Chipman as the Special Constable for a term to expire 2/5/2028, as recommended by Steering.

By: Hand

Second: Blanchard

Discussion: Thomas noted that Chipman is the Community Service Officer and Animal Control Officer for the CPD. As the Special Constable, it allows him to issue citations and tickets when needed.

Voting:

For: Kyer, Hand, Gallagher, Thomas, Larson, Wheaton, and Blanchard

Against:

Abstain:

6.C.1.g. Water Pollution Control Authority: Twerdy:

Motion: I move to appoint Matthew Twerdy to the Water Pollution Control Authority for a term to expire 11/7/2027, as recommended by Steering.

By: Hand

Second: Kyer

Discussion: Hand thanked Twerdy for his long and continued service. Larson commented that every candidate appointed tonight is a previously appointed member who has expressed interest in continuing to serve. He added appreciation for the individuals who commit many years of their time for the community.

Voting:

For: Kyer, Hand, Gallagher, Thomas, Larson, Wheaton, and Blanchard

Against:

Abstain:

6.D. *Finance Committee: Robyn Gallagher, Chairperson:

6.E. *COVRRRA

6.F. Town Manager: James D. Drumm:

6.F.1. Projects/Issues Update:

Town Manager Drumm shared the following highlights:

- Charter Revision Commission-They are moving along and recently interviewed the Registrars and Town Clerk at their last meeting. They currently have interviews scheduled with the Finance Director and Collector of Revenue for their Feb. 19th meeting. Their next meeting will take place on Feb. 4th at 6:30 PM for continued discussions.
- Assessor- John Preisner has given his resignation, which was effective Friday, Jan. 30th, 2026. Paige Walton, of the Town of Waterford, is currently serving as the interim Assessor. Advertisements will be sent to CCM, COST, and the CT Association of Assessing Officers, as well as being posted on the Town Manager's Facebook page. Applications have a March 4th deadline to be received.
- Town Hall Radio Tower Contract- Town staff has just received the final draft, and it is being reviewed and verified. It will be ready to be discussed at the next Town Council meeting during Executive Session, if the Council desires.
- Plains Road Water Extension Project-Currently awaiting DPH approval. The DPH has 90 days to review, and only 30 days have passed. This has pushed out the timeline for bids, but that should not have much of an impact as construction will not start until the spring. Staff are ready to move forward as soon as clearance is received from the DPH.
- WPCA Plant Upgrade-Still in an environmental review with CEPA, that is expected to be completed by summer. Once CEPA is completed, it will go to DEEP for their review, which is expected to take until January 2027. **The project is expected to be \$30M, with 20% funded by a DEEP grant. They will provide us**

with a low-interest loan (2%) for the remainder of the cost, over a period of 20 years. Other funding sources will be explored for this project. (is the project cost \$30 million or is that a reference to what is allocated on the priority list?) The state has made Coventry a priority as it is one of the last plants left to go through this process. Drumm commented that he expects there to be more funding through doing a plant upgrade, than connecting to the plant in Willimantic.

- Cross St./South St. Water Line-Atlantic Water has received a grant from the DPH to construct an 8-inch water line from Coventry Village to Lakeview Terrace. This project used to be paired with the water tower project, but the DPH determined that the 2 projects did not complement each other and separated them. This new line will go past GHR, with the option for them to connect, but it is not required. CT Water will be meeting with the BOE to discuss the benefits of connecting GHR to the water line.
- Nips Funds Projects- 6 Projects were approved at a previous Finance Committee meeting, and some progress has been made:
 - A shed is on order to house the oil tank, but the oil tank itself has not been ordered.
 - Funds have been set aside for waste oil disposal.
 - The MetroStor food waste container is on order for the Transfer Station.
 - Storm Drain Markers are on order.
 - Anti-Freeze containment unit is on order.
 - Additional Part-Time Transfer Station hours/operators have not been implemented yet.

Questions/Comments:

Plains Rd.- Wheaton questioned how the residents impacted by the well issues are getting by. Drumm informed that the town delivers water to them, and has been for years, for drinking, cooking, etc. However, the water used for showers is still affected by the salt contamination.

Cross St./South St. Water Line- Hand questioned if an 8-inch line would support the current volume of the school. Drumm confirmed that it would, as the schools and residential properties have different peak times. Thomas asked if residential properties along Cross St. And South St. Could connect, if allowed. Drumm confirmed that any house that has a well along the line will have the option to tie in. He added that he is considering connecting Patriots Park Lodge and the Community Center as there are continuous issues with sand in the pipes.

6.F.2. * Quarterly Reports: October - December 2025: Quarterly Report-Oct.-Dec. 2025

7. Unfinished Business: None

8. New Business:

8.A. 25/26-34: Presentation, CT Municipal Development Authority (CMDA) (7:15 PM):

David Kooris, Director of the CMDA, was present to discuss the CMDA's mission and assistance that can be offered to Coventry with its plans for infrastructure and economic development.

Highlights from Kooris's presentation:

- CMDA was established by state legislation, and fully funded and operational as of 2024.
- The goal of the CMDA is to help municipalities achieve their development, economic development and housing development near their "downtowns" and transit stations. Coventry Village, while small, qualifies as "downtown".

- CMDA can provide infrastructure support and GAP financing to developers.
- To join the CMDA, there is a process:
 - Legislative body votes them in. There is no commitment, obligation, or cost at this point.
 - Discussions take place with administration and staff on eligible areas, the plan of conservation and development, and zoning regulations.
 - Zoning regulations are either certified, or the CMDA provides suggestions to be reviewed by the PZC. It will be a local decision to approve or implement the CMDA suggestions, or not.
 - Enter into agreement with executive administration to establish the development district.
- The development district cannot go into areas that are not for housing production or single-family neighborhoods.
- Municipalities can apply to the CMDA for infrastructure support in the development district, and developers can apply for gap financing for development.
- The CMDA was allocated \$90M from the state.
- The first municipalities opted to join a year ago, and development districts have been recently certified for 11 municipalities. The first projects are being approved for funding.
- The CMDA helps municipalities navigate the state's regulatory process. This includes discussions on how state regulations and programs interact with each other.

Questions:

Kyer asked about the towns that have already joined and those closest to Coventry. Kooris reiterated that 38 towns have joined, and closest to Coventry is Mansfield, Windham, and Manchester.

Gallagher asked if Kooris could give a brief description of the types of projects being reviewed and potentially funded. Kooris explained the projects vary from conversions of office space or vacant buildings into housing or mixed use, to new construction. It is about a 50/50 split of those that are exclusively for housing to those that are mixed use of housing with a commercial component. Kooris added that there have not been any infrastructure projects at this point, but there have been discussions with municipalities about wastewater treatment, stormwater treatment, flood risk reduction, and pedestrian crossings. He added that the funding is flexible in what it can be used for, but projects do need to meet certain qualifications.

Kooris explained that if a municipality gets to a point of an established development district, there is an interest rate reduction on clean water fund loans. Thomas explained that Coventry's development in the village is limited by the lack of sewer water capacity. She also highlighted that the town is looking into a water tower for water supply and fire suppression. She explained that there are a lot of agencies trying to pull pieces together for these things, but having the assistance of the CMDA would be helpful as well.

Kooris explained that many municipalities are dealing with similar challenges. He explained that a purpose of the CMDA is to explain to the state what they would get out of a partnership with the member municipalities through investing in infrastructure and development.

Thomas asked what the next steps are if the Town Council votes to join. Kooris explained that CMDA would then reach out to town administration, which will take time to get through the municipalities that are already in the queue. In the meantime, Coventry is welcome to send documents for the CMDA to review the Plan of Conservation and Development, special plans for Coventry Village, zoning regulations, etc. The review itself will take a few more months, then the CMDA will come back to the Town Council to provide feedback.

Drumm questioned if there are developers looking for these districts, and if the CMDA has their contacts. Kooris confirmed yes to both and stated that the CMDA will be able to “matchmake” to a certain degree if desired by the municipality. It was noted that this is a great tool for developers as it saves time knowing which districts are development ready and having the ability to apply for gap funding.

Jana Roberson, Director of Planning and Development, asked about joint municipal entities. Kooris explained that this was included in the original statute, with the requirement that 2 municipalities could work together if they had a combined population of 75,000 or more. When the statute was revised, the population requirement was removed, making it a moot point, and having no real benefit to applying as a joint municipal entity.

Thomas clarified that should the Town Council decide to join, all final decisions are up to Coventry, and the town will not be forced to do anything. Kooris confirmed everything is at the discretion of the municipality. However, the CMDA will provide recommendations, and taking those recommendations would be a precondition to moving forward to the next step. At that point, every municipality had the option to continue moving forward or stepping back from the process.

8.B. 25/26-35: Consideration/possible action: Excess tax payment ordinance and call to public hearing:

Motion: I move to approve the wording of the proposed Excess Tax payment Ordinance and to call for a public hearing on this Ordinance for March 2, 2026, at 7:00 PM to be held in the Town Hall Annex.

By: Hand

Second: Kyer

Discussion: Drumm explained that this stemmed from a request from the Tax Collector Kelly Lawer, as the actions of the ordinance have been a long-standing practice of the department. Due to the cost of billing and issuing refunds, any bill \$5.00 or less would be forgiven, and any refund \$5.00 or less would not be issued. He added that this has been allowed by CT State Statute since 1995. However, it is recommended to have an ordinance on the books, so the practice complies with state statutes.

Hand commented that this was discussed at Steering and emphasized it is a commonsense practice, that is already in place.

Drumm informed that the actual cost to collect a bill in the amount of \$5.00 or less is approximately \$20.

Voting:

For: Kyer, Hand, Gallagher, Thomas, Larson, Wheaton, and Blanchard

Against:

Abstain:

8.C. 25/26-36: Consideration/possible action: Modifications to job description, Mechanic I:

Motion: I move to approve the wording or the revised Mechanic I job description.

By: Hand

Second: Kyer

Discussion: Drumm explained there is a vacancy in the mechanic fleet, as there is only a Lead Mechanic and a Mechanic II. The Mechanic I job description was outdated, so Special Projects Coordinator Alex Taylor converted it to the new format and made some minor edits. The Steering Committee previously reviewed the revised job description and made additional edit suggestions.

Voting:

For: Kyer, Hand, Gallagher, Thomas, Larson, Wheaton, and Blanchard

Against:

Abstain:

8.D. 25/26-37: Consideration/possible action: Direct the Town Manager to draft a RESOLUTION REGARDING JOINING THE CONNECTICUT MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY AS A MEMBER MUNICIPALITY:

Motion: I move to direct the Town Manager to draft a RESOLUTION REGARDING JOINING THE CONNECTICUT MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY.

By: Hand

Second: Larson

Discussion: Blanchard requested clarification that this motion is to direct Drumm to have a draft resolution prepared, and then it will come back to the Town Council for further review and discussion on whether to move forward or not; which Thomas confirmed.

Larson stated that based on the earlier presentation, it sounds like there is a 1-year certification process for organizations who join as there are some that joined a while ago and just now hearing back about development in their municipality. Thomas explained that there are studies that need to be done, as well as a review of the planning and zoning regulation and the plan of conservation and development. Additionally, Hand mentioned the presenter discussed there is a “line” or queue for municipalities wishing to join, which leads to delays, along with the processes mentioned by Thomas. He reminded that documentation can be prepared during the waiting period to try and minimize these delays.

Wheaton questioned whether this should go to Steering since it is a draft resolution. Hand commented that it does not seem necessary as there are draft resolutions from other towns attached to the agenda that Coventry town staff needs to tweak so that it is relative to our town. Kyer reminded that there is another Town Council meeting before the next Steering meeting. He suggested that the draft be reviewed by the full Council at their next meeting. If everyone feels that it should be reviewed further after that meeting, then it could be sent to Steering. There was Council consensus with this suggestion.

Voting:

For: Kyer, Hand, Gallagher, Thomas, Larson, Wheaton, and Blanchard

Against:

Abstain:

8.E. 25/26-38: Presentation by Town Engineer and possible action: proposed LOTCIP grant project (7:30 PM):

Drumm explained that Town Engineer Todd Penney was unable to join but gave a presentation on his behalf about a proposed LOTCIP grant project:

- LOTCIP is a program funded through the DOT, through CRCOG, specifically for transportation purposes of capital improvement and differs from the LOCIP program, which is for local capital improvements.
- Projects are 100% funded by the state, outside of engineering and design expenses.
- LOTCIP allows funding for 2 active projects at a time. The town is moving forward with the South Street/Swamp Road project, allowing Coventry to submit another LOTCIP application which is due 2/18.
- Funding limits are \$5M.
- Applicable roads must be old local roads considered to be state arterial roads. South Street meets these criteria, further down at the curve near Pucker Street to Flanders Road.
- Concerns in this area are the drop of the hill, and the curve. Engineering would look into reducing the hill elevation and softening the curve. This would include rebuilding shoulders, drainage improvements, and rebuilding stone walls.
- An additional benefit would be removing the “Y” intersection at Pucker Street, and making it a “T” intersection, which will be better for maintenance, plowing, and sightlines.

Questions:

Kyer asked if there have been a lot of car accidents in this area. Drumm explained he is not aware of any at the curve, but there have been some at the Pucker St. “Y” intersection. He added sometimes sheets of ice develop on the hill. With drainage improvements, the hope is to reduce the amount of ice that builds up.

Kyer asked if there are any other locations being considered. Drumm responded that the town is limited in what roads can be done, so they focused on the worst area of South Street. If this moves forward, there are a few more areas that can also receive LOTCIP funding but are not as bad as this one. The next priority would be Bunker Hill. He added that the town has been very successful with LOTCIP projects over the years, and the town is running out of eligible roads. Once they get to that point, the plan would be to petition the state to add additional roads for eligibility.

This South Street project is estimated around \$3.7M, with engineering costs of approximately \$375,000 which will need to be covered by the town.

Wheaton questioned if this would require obtaining property. Drumm answered no, and that typically the town does not try to take property but rather negotiate an easement. Drumm clarified the right of way area, of which there is plenty without encroaching on someone’s property.

Drumm commented that if the Town Council approved the application moving forward for submission, and the grant is awarded, engineering funds will not be needed for about a year. Drumm reminded that if the Town Council votes to apply, and the grant is awarded, they can still opt out of not accepting the grant/doing the project.

Motion: I move to approve the Town’s proposed LOTCIP grant project, the pledge for Town funding of design/engineering, and the grant application to be submitted to the Capital Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) and the CTDOT.

By; Kyer

Second: Hand

Discussion: Blanchard asked about the cost of design and engineering. Drumm reiterated it would be around \$375,000 with a \$30,000 shift either way.

Kyer shared concerns with the phrasing of “pledge” in the summary sheet, which makes it appear as a commitment to the engineering funding. Drumm reminded that the motion on the table does not obligate the town to these funds at this point, only to move forward with submitting the application. He reminded that if the grant is awarded, and the Council chooses to move forward, it is more of an understanding that the engineering expense would need to be covered.

Kyer also asked for clarification that, with this 3–5-year long-term project, the \$375,000 in engineering would not be a lump sum, but rather paid overtime. Drumm confirmed but explained there will likely be a large amount due at the start of the project. He added that in the past engineering costs have been added into a road bond established at the time, which is a possibility here as well.

Wheaton asked if the design work would be outsourced or could be done by Todd Penney. It was explained that Penney has little help, and this work would be outsourced to a consulting engineer, but Penney would be involved with the process.

Gallagher asked if Penney is still backed up with current projects. Drumm confirmed that Penney has a lot on his plate and has enough work to keep him busy for the next 4 to 5 years. However, he would still be involved with all aspects of engineering.

Gallagher also asked if any other options have been looked into to address the ice sheeting outside of restructuring the road. Drumm was unsure.

Voting:

For: Kyer, Hand, Gallagher, Thomas, Larson, Wheaton, and Blanchard

Against:

Abstain:

9. Miscellaneous/Correspondence:

9.A. * Board of Education: Minutes 1/8/26 & 1/13/26; Agenda - 1/22/26:

9.B. * DiMella: Action Requested on Discriminatory Refugee Arrests:

9.C. * Town Council 2026 Budget Meeting Dates (Finalized 1/20/2026):

9.D. * Workshop, May 16, 2026: Using Plants to Protect Water Quality

10. Adjournment:

Motion: I move that the Town Council adjourn the meeting at 8:54 PM.

By: Kyer

Second: Wheaton

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 PM by unanimous vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicole Archambault

Nicole Archambault, Minutes Clerk

PLEASE NOTE: These minutes are not official until approved by the Coventry Town Council at the next Town Council meeting. Please see the next Town Council meeting minutes for approval or changes to these minutes.

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES
Coventry Town Council Meeting
February 2, 2026 7:00 PM
Town Hall Annex

1. Call To Order, Roll Call:

The Meeting was called to order by Council Chairwoman Lisa Thomas at 7:00 PM

Members Present: Lisa Thomas-Chairwoman, Peter Larson-Vice Chairman, Matthew Kyer-Secretary, Jon Hand, Robyn Gallagher (remote), Mark Wheaton, and Julie Blanchard.

Also Present: James Drumm-Town Manager, and Kelly Lawer-Tax Collector

2. Pledge of Allegiance:

Town Council members stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Audience Of Citizens: (30 Minutes - 5 minutes maximum per citizen):

Tim Timberman, 1194 Main Street:

Timberman shared a request he put in writing (and sent via email) to the Town Council, for the Council to allocate \$2,000 from the EDC funds for the Arts on Main event. Timberman further explained that the event operates mainly off of donations, and the Coventry Arts Guild allocates \$1,000 to the event as well. He explained that he felt the town should invest in this well-attended, family-friendly event. He reminded that the premise of the Main Street Partnership and infrastructure is to make Coventry Village comfortable and accessible.

Timberman also shared that the Winter Poetry Festival was a success thanks to attendees and town staff, regardless of a minor heating issue that required relocation from Mill Brook Place to Patriots Park Lodge.

Thomas read the following statement:

Before we launch into our agenda, I ask that we all take a moment of silence in honor of those who have been murdered by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents. We are seeing heartbreaking images across our nation, most recently in Minnesota. I believe the ICE actions we are witnessing daily are relentlessly cruel and inhumane abuses of authority, depriving individuals of their lives and their right to due process. We should all be deeply concerned about the fate of our country; of our cherished democracy. As your elected leader, it is my responsibility to make sure that all of you, whether you were born on this soil, immigrated here, or fled here, feel safe, respected and protected. It is my responsibility to do for you what was done for my family when they fled Nazi horrors in Poland. In CT, the Trust Act protects civil liberties and ensures that state and local police are not deputized to carry out immigration enforcement that violates those civil rights. I take this very seriously and I know that our police officers do as well. We are neighbors. We are friends. We are family. Please join me now in a moment of silence.

4. Acceptance Of Minutes, January 20, 2026:

Motion: I move to accept the January 20, 2026, Town Council Meeting Minutes with Thomas's suggested edits:

By: Hand

Second: Kyer

Discussion/Edits:

- Pg. 1, Agenda Item 3, Under Katie Martin’s statement, 4th line up from bottom, change “town but” to “town and”.
- Pg. 6, Agenda Item 6.F.1, 4th bullet, 2nd line, change, “market is” to “market are”.
- Pg. 7, Agenda Item 6.F.1, 1st bullet, 2nd to last sentence, change “He continued that after lengthy back and forth, and last-minute additions, the town has finally just received a final clean version that all parties agree to and can be signed off on.” to “He continued that after lengthy back and forth, and last-minute additions, the town has finally just received a final clean version that he believes all parties can sign.”

For: Kyer, Hand, Gallagher, Thomas, Larson, Wheaton, and Blanchard.

Against:

Abstain:

5. Consent Agenda:

All items listed with an asterisk (*) will be acted on by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless a Council member so requests, in which case, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.

Motion: I move to accept the consent agenda.

By: Hand

Second: Kyer

Discussion: None.

Voting:

For: Kyer, Hand, Gallagher, Thomas, Larson, Wheaton, and Blanchard

Against:

Abstain:

6. Reports:

6.A. Council Chairwoman: Lisa Thomas:

Thomas read the following report:

- Thomas shared that her letter to Gov. Lamont about the Bond Commission Request is attached to the agenda, so Councilors are aware that it went out. (A link has been included below).
- On January 22, Peter Larson and I had our monthly update meeting with Town Manager Jim Drumm. Key points we discussed include:
 - Citizens Budget Guide
 - Jim and Alex are taking lead on this
 - Will be ready for March 5th public hearing
 - Posted online; copies available at public hearing, town meeting, library, town hall clerk’s office; copies to PTO Presidents to share at meetings
 - Strategic Planning goals
 - Plan to hold brainstorming sessions with key staff in April

- Purpose is to “dump” ideas and then organize and cross reference them; find connections from one to the other
 - Finance Committee will partner with infrastructure goal
 - Steering Committee will partner with economic dev’t & housing goal
 - Citizens Government Academy
 - Plan to get these workshops up and running by June/July
 - Connect launch with America 250 celebration and emphasize civic engagement
 - Jim will be negotiating 4 union contracts this spring
- Jim Drumm and I attended the CT Council of Small Towns meeting last week. Gov. Lamont, Lt. Governor Bysiewicz, Atty. General William Tong, and Comptroller Sean Scanlon all spoke. They discussed CT’s strong fiscal health but tempered their comments with the significant and growing financial impacts of federal cuts to everything from education to healthcare to infrastructure and climate resilience. There was also a moderated panel discussion with Majority leaders Sen. Looney and Rep. Ritter, and Minority leaders Harding and Candelora.
- I attended a CRCOG sponsored 4-hour social media workshop for elected officials last week. The focus was on the most effective forms of social media for messaging about town needs, as well as maintaining civil discourse in that media. I learned a lot and look forward to using that new knowledge.
- I also joined a webinar on PA 25-1, also referred to as the “Housing Bill”. This was an overview provided by staff from CCM, Councils of Government, and COST. Several of our staff also joined, including Director of Planning and Development Jana Roberson, ZEO Heidi Leach, and Town Engineer Todd Penney. It is a complex bill that we will be dissecting and digesting for a while. It includes several incentives that we will look to pursue as we develop our strategic plans for infrastructure and housing. Copies of the slide deck and a link to the webinar recording will be sent to all Councilors. A written summary guide will be shared by CCM and the COGs soon.
- Lastly, I attended the Coventry Arts Guild Poetry Festival on Saturday night. It was a wonderful night with talented poets including Manchester Poet Laureate Nadia Sims and Coventry poet John Stanizi. There were also musical interludes from local musicians including the Zelltones and Our friends Jim and Ruth from Song A Day. I want to offer congratulations and appreciation to the Arts Guild for this outstanding night, and especially to Linda Blakeslee who was the main organizer of the event.

6.A.1. Bond Commission Request to Gov. Lamont: [Thomas Letter to Gov. Lamont](#)

6.B. Council Members:

Gallagher reported:

- She attended the CT Wolfpack game, where musicians from GHR, CNH, and CHS either sang or played and did an excellent job.
- On Friday, January 30th, she attended Career Day at CNH, which is a wonderful event they put together every 3 years where volunteers come to talk to the kids. She noted that while in attendance, she saw a lot of familiar faces from the community.
- She shared appreciation to the DPW for the great job they did during the recent snowstorm.

6.C. Steering Committee: Jonathan Hand, Chairperson:

For: Kyer, Hand, Gallagher, Thomas, Larson, Wheaton, and Blanchard

Against:

Abstain:

6.C.1.d. Pension & Retirement Committee: Elsesser:

Motion: I move to appoint Richard Martin to the Human Rights Commission for a term to expire 1/1/2029, as recommended by Steering.

By: Hand

Second: Kyer

Discussion: Hand thanked Elsesser for serving in this volunteer capacity for the community.

Voting:

For: Kyer, Hand, Gallagher, Thomas, Larson, Wheaton, and Blanchard

Against:

Abstain:

6.C.1.e. Pension & Retirement Committee: Murphy:

Motion: I move to appoint Justin Murphy to the Pension and Retirement Committee for a term to expire 1/1/2029, as recommended by Steering.

By: Hand

Second: Kyer

Discussion: Hand thanked Murphy for his continued service.

Voting:

For: Kyer, Hand, Gallagher, Thomas, Larson, Wheaton, and Blanchard

Against:

Abstain:

6.C.1.f. Special Constable: Chipman:

Motion: I move to appoint John Chipman as the Special Constable for a term to expire 2/5/2028, as recommended by Steering.

By: Hand

Second: Blanchard

Discussion: Thomas noted that Chipman is the Community Service Officer and Animal Control Officer for the CPD. As the Special Constable, it allows him to issue citations and tickets when needed.

Voting:

For: Kyer, Hand, Gallagher, Thomas, Larson, Wheaton, and Blanchard

Against:

Abstain:

6.C.1.g. Water Pollution Control Authority: Twerdy:

Motion: I move to appoint Matthew Twerdy to the Water Pollution Control Authority for a term to expire 11/7/2027, as recommended by Steering.

By: Hand

Second: Kyer

Discussion: Hand thanked Twerdy for his long and continued service. Larson commented that every candidate appointed tonight is a previously appointed member who has expressed interest in continuing to serve. He added appreciation for the individuals who commit many years of their time for the community.

Voting:

For: Kyer, Hand, Gallagher, Thomas, Larson, Wheaton, and Blanchard

Against:

Abstain:

6.D. *Finance Committee: Robyn Gallagher, Chairperson:

6.E. *COVRRRA

6.F. Town Manager: James D. Drumm:

6.F.1. Projects/Issues Update:

Town Manager Drumm shared the following highlights:

- Charter Revision Commission-They are moving along and recently interviewed the Registrars and Town Clerk at their last meeting. They currently have interviews scheduled with the Finance Director and Collector of Revenue for their Feb. 19th meeting. Their next meeting will take place on Feb. 4th at 6:30 PM for continued discussions.
- Assessor- John Preisner has given his resignation, which was effective Friday, Jan. 30th, 2026. Paige Walton, of the Town of Waterford, is currently serving as the interim Assessor. Advertisements will be sent to CCM, COST, and the CT Association of Assessing Officers, as well as being posted on the Town Manager's Facebook page. Applications have a March 4th deadline to be received.
- Town Hall Radio Tower Contract- Town staff has just received the final draft, and it is being reviewed and verified. It will be ready to be discussed at the next Town Council meeting during Executive Session, if the Council desires.
- Plains Road Water Extension Project-Currently awaiting DPH approval. The DPH has 90 days to review, and only 30 days have passed. This has pushed out the timeline for bids, but that should not have much of an impact as construction will not start until the spring. Staff are ready to move forward as soon as clearance is received from the DPH.
- WPCA Plant Upgrade-Still in an environmental review with CEPA, that is expected to be completed by summer. Once CEPA is completed, it will go to DEEP for their review, which is expected to take until January 2027. The project is expected to be \$30M, with 20% funded by a DEEP grant. They will provide us with a low-interest loan (2%) for the remainder of the cost, over a period of 20 years. Other funding sources will be explored for this project. The state has made Coventry a priority as it is one of the last plants left to go through this process. Drumm commented that he expects there to be more funding through doing a plant upgrade, than connecting to the plant in Willimantic.

- Cross St./South St. Water Line-Atlantic Water has received a grant from the DPH to construct an 8-inch water line from Coventry Village to Lakeview Terrace. This project used to be paired with the water tower project, but the DPH determined that the 2 projects did not complement each other and separated them. This new line will go past GHR, with the option for them to connect, but it is not required. CT Water will be meeting with the BOE to discuss the benefits of connecting GHR to the water line.
- Nips Funds Projects- 6 Projects were approved at a previous Finance Committee meeting, and some progress has been made:
 - A shed is on order to house the oil tank, but the oil tank itself has not been ordered.
 - Funds have been set aside for waste oil disposal.
 - The MetroStor food waste container is on order for the Transfer Station.
 - Storm Drain Markers are on order.
 - Anti-Freeze containment unit is on order.
 - Additional Part-Time Transfer Station hours/operators have not been implemented yet.

Questions/Comments:

Plains Rd.- Wheaton questioned how the residents impacted by the well issues are getting by. Drumm informed that the town delivers water to them, and has been for years, for drinking, cooking, etc. However, the water used for showers is still affected by the salt contamination.

Cross St./South St. Water Line- Hand questioned if an 8-inch line would support the current volume of the school. Drumm confirmed that it would, as the schools and residential properties have different peak times. Thomas asked if residential properties along Cross St. And South St. Could connect, if allowed. Drumm confirmed that any house that has a well along the line will have the option to tie in. He added that he is considering connecting Patriots Park Lodge and the Community Center as there are continuous issues with sand in the pipes.

6.F.2. * Quarterly Reports: October - December 2025: Quarterly Report-Oct.-Dec. 2025

7. Unfinished Business: None

8. New Business:

8.A. 25/26-34: Presentation, CT Municipal Development Authority (CMDA) (7:15 PM):

David Kooris, Director of the CMDA, was present to discuss the CMDA’s mission and assistance that can be offered to Coventry with its plans for infrastructure and economic development.

Highlights from Kooris’s presentation:

- CMDA was established by state legislation, and fully funded and operational as of 2024.
- The goal of the CMDA is to help municipalities achieve their development, economic development and housing development near their “downtowns” and transit stations. Coventry Village, while small, qualifies as “downtown”.
- CMDA can provide infrastructure support and GAP financing to developers.
- To join the CMDA, there is a process:
 - Legislative body votes them in. There is no commitment, obligation, or cost at this point.
 - Discussions take place with administration and staff on eligible areas, the plan of conservation and development, and zoning regulations.

- Zoning regulations are either certified, or the CMDA provides suggestions to be reviewed by the PZC. It will be a local decision to approve or implement the CMDA suggestions, or not.
- Enter into agreement with executive administration to establish the development district.
- The development district cannot go into areas that are not for housing production or single-family neighborhoods.
- Municipalities can apply to the CMDA for infrastructure support in the development district, and developers can apply for gap financing for development.
- The CMDA was allocated \$90M from the state.
- The first municipalities opted to join a year ago, and development districts have been recently certified for 11 municipalities. The first projects are being approved for funding.
- The CMDA helps municipalities navigate the state's regulatory process. This includes discussions on how state regulations and programs interact with each other.

Questions:

Kyer asked about the towns that have already joined and those closest to Coventry. Kooris reiterated that 38 towns have joined, and closest to Coventry is Mansfield, Windham, and Manchester.

Gallagher asked if Kooris could give a brief description of the types of projects being reviewed and potentially funded. Kooris explained the projects vary from conversions of office space or vacant buildings into housing or mixed use, to new construction. It is about a 50/50 split of those that are exclusively for housing to those that are mixed use of housing with a commercial component. Kooris added that there have not been any infrastructure projects at this point, but there have been discussions with municipalities about wastewater treatment, stormwater treatment, flood risk reduction, and pedestrian crossings. He added that the funding is flexible in what it can be used for, but projects do need to meet certain qualifications.

Kooris explained that if a municipality gets to a point of an established development district, there is an interest rate reduction on clean water fund loans. Thomas explained that Coventry's development in the village is limited by the lack of sewer water capacity. She also highlighted that the town is looking into a water tower for water supply and fire suppression. She explained that there are a lot of agencies trying to pull pieces together for these things, but having the assistance of the CMDA would be helpful as well.

Kooris explained that many municipalities are dealing with similar challenges. He explained that a purpose of the CMDA is to explain to the state what they would get out of a partnership with the member municipalities through investing in infrastructure and development.

Thomas asked what the next steps are if the Town Council votes to join. Kooris explained that CMDA would then reach out to town administration, which will take time to get through the municipalities that are already in the queue. In the meantime, Coventry is welcome to send documents for the CMDA to review the Plan of Conservation and Development, special plans for Coventry Village, zoning regulations, etc. The review itself will take a few more months, then the CMDA will come back to the Town Council to provide feedback.

Drumm questioned if there are developers looking for these districts, and if the CMDA has their contacts. Kooris confirmed yes to both and stated that the CMDA will be able to "matchmake" to a certain degree if desired by the municipality. It was noted that this is a great tool for developers as it saves time knowing which districts are development ready and having the ability to apply for gap funding.

Jana Roberson, Director of Planning and Development, asked about joint municipal entities. Kooris explained that this was included in the original statute, with the requirement that 2 municipalities could work together if they had a combined population of 75,000 or more. When the statute was revised, the population requirement was removed, making it a moot point, and having no real benefit to applying as a joint municipal entity.

Thomas clarified that should the Town Council decide to join, all final decisions are up to Coventry, and the town will not be forced to do anything. Kooris confirmed everything is at the discretion of the municipality. However, the CMDA will provide recommendations, and taking those recommendations would be a precondition to moving forward to the next step. At that point, every municipality had the option to continue moving forward or stepping back from the process.

8.B. 25/26-35: Consideration/possible action: Excess tax payment ordinance and call to public hearing:

Motion: I move to approve the wording of the proposed Excess Tax payment Ordinance and to call for a public hearing on this Ordinance for March 2, 2026, at 7:00 PM to be held in the Town Hall Annex.

By: Hand

Second: Kyer

Discussion: Drumm explained that this stemmed from a request from the Tax Collector Kelly Lawer, as the actions of the ordinance have been a long-standing practice of the department. Due to the cost of billing and issuing refunds, any bill \$5.00 or less would be forgiven, and any refund \$5.00 or less would not be issued. He added that this has been allowed by CT State Statute since 1995. However, it is recommended to have an ordinance on the books, so the practice complies with state statutes.

Hand commented that this was discussed at Steering and emphasized it is a commonsense practice, that is already in place.

Drumm informed that the actual cost to collect a bill in the amount of \$5.00 or less is approximately \$20.

Voting:

For: Kyer, Hand, Gallagher, Thomas, Larson, Wheaton, and Blanchard

Against:

Abstain:

8.C. 25/26-36: Consideration/possible action: Modifications to job description, Mechanic I:

Motion: I move to approve the wording or the revised Mechanic I job description.

By: Hand

Second: Kyer

Discussion: Drumm explained there is a vacancy in the mechanic fleet, as there is only a Lead Mechanic and a Mechanic II. The Mechanic I job description was outdated, so Special Projects Coordinator Alex Taylor converted it to the new format and made some minor edits. The Steering Committee previously reviewed the revised job description and made additional edit suggestions.

Voting:

For: Kyer, Hand, Gallagher, Thomas, Larson, Wheaton, and Blanchard

Against:

Abstain:

8.D. 25/26-37: Consideration/possible action: Direct the Town Manager to draft a RESOLUTION REGARDING JOINING THE CONNECTICUT MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY AS A MEMBER MUNICIPALITY:

Motion: I move to direct the Town Manager to draft a RESOLUTION REGARDING JOINING THE CONNECTICUT MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY.

By: Hand

Second: Larson

Discussion: Blanchard requested clarification that this motion is to direct Drumm to have a draft resolution prepared, and then it will come back to the Town Council for further review and discussion on whether to move forward or not; which Thomas confirmed.

Larson stated that based on the earlier presentation, it sounds like there is a 1-year certification process for organizations who join as there are some that joined a while ago and just now hearing back about development in their municipality. Thomas explained that there are studies that need to be done, as well as a review of the planning and zoning regulation and the plan of conservation and development. Additionally, Hand mentioned the presenter discussed there is a “line” or queue for municipalities wishing to join, which leads to delays, along with the processes mentioned by Thomas. He reminded that documentation can be prepared during the waiting period to try and minimize these delays.

Wheaton questioned whether this should go to Steering since it is a draft resolution. Hand commented that it does not seem necessary as there are draft resolutions from other towns attached to the agenda that Coventry town staff needs to tweak so that it is relative to our town. Kyer reminded that there is another Town Council meeting before the next Steering meeting. He suggested that the draft be reviewed by the full Council at their next meeting. If everyone feels that it should be reviewed further after that meeting, then it could be sent to Steering. There was Council consensus with this suggestion.

Voting:

For: Kyer, Hand, Gallagher, Thomas, Larson, Wheaton, and Blanchard

Against:

Abstain:

8.E. 25/26-38: Presentation by Town Engineer and possible action: proposed LOTCIP grant project (7:30 PM):

Drumm explained that Town Engineer Todd Penney was unable to join but gave a presentation on his behalf about a proposed LOTCIP grant project:

- LOTCIP is a program funded through the DOT, through CRCOG, specifically for transportation purposes of capital improvement and differs from the LOCIP program, which is for local capital improvements.
- Projects are 100% funded by the state, outside of engineering and design expenses.
- LOTCIP allows funding for 2 active projects at a time. The town is moving forward with the South Street/Swamp Road project, allowing Coventry to submit another LOTCIP application which is due 2/18.

Kyer shared concerns with the phrasing of “pledge” in the summary sheet, which makes it appear as a commitment to the engineering funding. Drumm reminded that the motion on the table does not obligate the town to these funds at this point, only to move forward with submitting the application. He reminded that if the grant is awarded, and the Council chooses to move forward, it is more of an understanding that the engineering expense would need to be covered.

Kyer also asked for clarification that, with this 3–5-year long-term project, the \$375,000 in engineering would not be a lump sum, but rather paid overtime. Drumm confirmed but explained there will likely be a large amount due at the start of the project. He added that in the past engineering costs have been added into a road bond established at the time, which is a possibility here as well.

Wheaton asked if the design work would be outsourced or could be done by Todd Penney. It was explained that Penney has little help, and this work would be outsourced to a consulting engineer, but Penney would be involved with the process.

Gallagher asked if Penney is still backed up with current projects. Drumm confirmed that Penney has a lot on his plate and has enough work to keep him busy for the next 4 to 5 years. However, he would still be involved with all aspects of engineering.

Gallagher also asked if any other options have been looked into to address the ice sheeting outside of restructuring the road. Drumm was unsure.

Voting:

For: Kyer, Hand, Gallagher, Thomas, Larson, Wheaton, and Blanchard

Against:

Abstain:

9. Miscellaneous/Correspondence:

9.A. * Board of Education: Minutes 1/8/26 & 1/13/26; Agenda - 1/22/26:

9.B. * DiMella: Action Requested on Discriminatory Refugee Arrests:

9.C. * Town Council 2026 Budget Meeting Dates (Finalized 1/20/2026):

9.D. * Workshop, May 16, 2026: Using Plants to Protect Water Quality

10. Adjournment:

Motion: I move that the Town Council adjourn the meeting at 8:54 PM.

By: Kyer

Second: Wheaton

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 PM by unanimous vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicole Archambault

Nicole Archambault, Minutes Clerk

PLEASE NOTE: These minutes are not official until approved by the Coventry Town Council at the next Town Council meeting. Please see the next Town Council meeting minutes for approval or changes to these minutes.

Laura Stone

Subject: FW: Healthcare Policy Recs

From: Lisa Thomas <lthomas@coventry-ct.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 4:58 PM
To: Laura Stone <lstone@coventry-ct.gov>
Subject: Fw: (EXTERNAL MESSAGE)NEW Healthcare Policy Recs

Please attach to 2/17 agenda under Chair Report

Lisa Thomas
Chairwoman, Coventry Town Council
Chair, Capitol Region Council Of Governments Legislative Committee
Member, CT State Comptroller's Healthcare Cabinet
Member, CT Education Mandates Review Advisory Council
860.930.7303
PLEASE NOTE: my new email is LThomas@coventry-ct.gov

From: Sean Scanlon <sean.scanlon@ct.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 2:58 PM
To: lthomas@coventryct.org <lthomas@coventryct.org>
Subject: (EXTERNAL MESSAGE)NEW Healthcare Policy Recs

CAUTION! This email originated from outside of the Coventry Public Schools email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe to open.



An update from the desk of

**State Comptroller
Sean Scanlon**



Good afternoon,

Yesterday, my office unveiled our third annual [Comptroller's Healthcare Cabinet Report](#).

Thanks to those of you who joined us yesterday and to our Cabinet members who dedicated their time and expertise to this report.

This report is a culmination of efforts of dozens of advocates, providers, and patients with bold ideas on how we can make healthcare more accessible, affordable, and equitable here in Connecticut. At a time when threats to healthcare access are being seen across the board at the national level, these proposals restore my faith in the Connecticut way of working together despite our differences.

Thanks for taking the time to read this, and if you're interested in joining one of the subcommittees, let me know.

Never hesitate to reach out to me or my office should you have any questions.

Best,

Comptroller Sean Scanlon

[Read the Report](#)



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FIRST RESPONDER STUDENT ACADEMY



Coventry Public Schools is pleased to offer the First Responder Student Academy; a hands-on career exploration program developed in partnership with the Police and Fire Departments. This program will provide participating high school students with experiential learning opportunities in public safety, including CPR and Basic First Aid certification, law enforcement and fire service instruction.

When: Every Thursday March 5th through April 9th from 5:00 to 7:00

Where: Law enforcement training at Police Headquarters, fire department training at Station 218 (across from CGS)

Eligibility: Any CHS student who is in good standing

Class size: The maximum number of participants is 12 students

Selection: Awarded based on seniority of class (senior, junior, sophomore, freshman)

Applications: Applications are available in the guidance office

Closing date: February 27, 2026

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES
Town Council Steering Committee Meeting
January 27, 2026 7:00 PM
Town Hall Conference Room B

1. Call To Order, Roll Call:

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jonathan Hand at 7:01 PM.

Members Present: Jonathan Hand-Chairperson, Matthew Kyer, Mark Wheaton, and Lisa Thomas (Ex-Officio Member & Council Chairwoman).

Absent: None

Also Present: James Drumm-Town Manager, and Alex Taylor-Special Projects Coordinator.

2. Acceptance of Minutes, December 22, 2025:

Kyer moved to accept the minutes of December 22, 2025, Wheaton seconds.

Discussion/Changes:

- Pg. 4, Under 4.M., change “Rick DePaola” to “Rick Nowsch”.

Vote: Unanimously in favor.

3. Reports:

3.A. Chairperson:

Hand reported that he reached out to a few people for statement of interest forms, as discussed at the last Steering meeting. A few are on tonight’s agenda for appointment, so he is happy to see that the outreach was successful.

3.B. Committee Members:

None

3.C. Monthly Board and Commission Reports:

No discussion on the Vacancy or Expiration Reports.

Board Member Report:

Wheaton asked for more information regarding the Flood and Erosion Control Board, as it lists that all current Town Councilors serve on that board. Hand noted that it may be beneficial with the stormwater management things coming up but commented that it is something that comes with being a Town Councilor. Drumm added that it will be reviewed with the other boards and commissions. Thomas explained that it is required by CT General State Statutes to have, however the board rarely meets due to lack of business. Thomas also shared that information about it can be found in CT G.S. Section 25-84 through 25-94.

Wheaton also asked about the Coventry Softball Field Study Committee, as he thought they would have been disbanded once the fields were complete. Thomas commented that the town was waiting until all pieces of the STEAP grant and Bond Commission work were completed before they were discharged. Drumm gave a status update that everything is just about finished with the fields, outside of some plantings. He believes they are ready to be discharged but will verify this with other town staff.

- **Bennett**
- **Cooper**

There was confusion surrounding this Board, as there are a total of 9 seats, but only 2 are reflected as filled on the Board Member Report. The vacant positions are not listed on the vacancy report. Hand read some information from the town website about this Board. Kyer requested this be tabled until there is more information available.

The Steering Committee had consensus to continue agenda item 5.B.

5.C. Parks & Recreation Commission Alt. to Full: Considine:

The Steering Committee had an in-depth discussion on moving Considine’s Statement of Interest in with the other pool of applicants under the Parks and Recreation Commission appointments under agenda item 5.D.

As there were only 2 Parks and Rec Commission vacancies, there were disagreements on the process for all the candidates looking to serve as full members of the Parks and Rec Commission. Hand felt that appointing alternate members to full members when seats become available has been past practice if they are interested in full membership, as they have put in the time to serve. Any candidates not appointed to the Parks and Rec Commission can be notified of the open alternate position. Thomas disagreed with this approach.

Kyer shared an interest in tabling agenda items 5.C. and 5.D for the following reasons:

1. It would allow Parks and Rec Director, and staff to the Parks and Rec Commission, Lesly Munshower or Hand to contact the candidates in the list below to see if there is any interest in serving in an alternate capacity or as full member only.
2. It allows for the agenda items to be revised to include Considine in the list of candidates and clarify candidate interest in full or alternate membership.
3. It allows for Considine to rephrase wording on her Statement of Interest form, as Wheaton had concerns with her use of “adult entertainment”.

He reminded that tabling this for a month will not impact their business as they still have enough members to make a quorum, nor will it affect those who are already serving, as their service continues.

The Steering Committee had consensus to continue Agenda Items 5.C. and 5.D.

5.D. Parks & Recreation Commission:

- **Drumm**
- **Garcia**
- **Orcutt**
- **Rodgers (currently serving)**
- **Hecht**

The Steering Committee had consensus to continue Agenda Items 5.C. and 5.D.

5.E. Pension & Retirement Committee:

- **Elsesser**
- **Murphy**

Hand commented that both Elsesser and Murphy are members currently serving on the Pension and Retirement Committee.

- Roadside maintenance
- Operation of a variety of diagnostic instruments and tools

Wheaton shared concerns that the position may be difficult to fill with all the requirements requested in the description. He suggested that if the position becomes difficult to fill, then it may benefit from removing the CDL requirement, or strike the mechanic portion in order to get a CDL.

Drumm explained that everyone working for the DPW currently has a CDL. This way, the employees are able to perform dual duties. Drumm continued that the main requirement would be the mechanic, and they could work out the CDL. However, they recently posted a position and received applications, which 9 of them had their CDL.

Wheaton also shared concerns with the last bullet under the ‘Work Environment’ Section, as it refers to exposure to toxins and poisonous substances. Taylor explained he typically hasn’t seen this on job description as he hasn’t updated many from public works. He explained that he is relying on Bill Watkins’s expertise, and this language was in the job description previously.

Wheaton suggested altering the wording to say, “substances used in the maintenance of heavy equipment...”. Han added that the previous job description stated that exposure was “possible” not “occasionally” as the current description states.

Kyer suggested changing “The employee is occasionally exposed to extreme cold or heat, greases and oils, toxins, poisonous substances, dust, chemicals, electricity, electro-magnetic radiation, and other hazardous materials” to “Exposure to extreme cold or heat, greases and oils, toxins, poisonous substances, dust, chemicals, electricity, electro-magnetic radiation, and other hazardous materials is possible.”. The other Steering members agreed to that change.

Drumm noted that if this is voted to go to the Council, he can double check with the union in the meantime to make sure they don’t have a problem with this minor tweak.

Motion: I move that we recommend to the full Council to adopt the revised job description for Mechanic 1.

By: Kyer

Second: Wheaton

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimously in favor.

7. Consideration/possible action: Excess Tax Payments Ordinance:

Drumm explained that the Tax Collector and Finance Director brought this forward to let the Council know that an ordinance is required to do certain things, some of which the town is already doing. If Coventry would like to continue operating under these policies/practices, ordinances will need to be put into place. Taylor has put together drafts for Steering to review.

It was proposed that an ordinance be adopted to allow for the retention of excess payments and waiving of amounts due below \$5 is recommended. If adopted, it will bring the Town into compliance with state statute while avoiding high costs associated with reimbursements sometimes as low as several cents.

The Tax Collector, Kelly Lawer, attended via Zoom to discuss this in more detail with the Steering Committee. She explained that both these practices have been in place for over a decade. She explained that it is only fair

He continued that if the Town Council wishes to move forward, his next steps are to reach out to these communities for a better understanding, see how it has impacted these communities.

Kyer asked for more information about how many towns are doing this. He explained that it would make a big difference to the community on whether it's 25% or 3% of CT that has this type of ordinance. Kyer also asked for information about avoiding the procession of charging for emergency help. Regardless, he feels it worthwhile to have town staff pursue further information.

Hand agreed that he would like more information and felt the Steering Committee would benefit from having conversations with Fire Chief Bud Meyers at their next meeting as he may have more information to share from his position as President of the Fire Chiefs Association.

Wheaton shared that he has conflicted thoughts about the ordinance. He agrees that if someone gets a service, they should pay for it. However, the fire service is a public good that people have already paid for in part, and this is asking them to pay twice. Additionally, he commented that it feels like kicking someone when they are down. However, he also agreed that the matter is worth looking into more. Wheaton pointed out that there are some conflicting areas in the documents, where 1 says the insurer and the other says responsible party. He continued that if the plan is to bill insurance companies, then none of the documents should state "responsible party". Taylor agreed that this was an area of concern.

Hand reminded that this is a practice that is already involved with EMS calls, as the EMS department bills an individual's medical insurance. This would extend that practice for incidents involving a fire department response. He added that during a fire tragedy, insurance companies are receiving a lot of bills to cover the costs associated with the fire. He stated that our Fire Department should be seeking funds from the insurance companies for their response to help offset department costs and operations. He agrees with looking into this further.

Kyer added in Meyers's letter, he explained that this would cover collecting fees for a response from the Fire Department to incidents that happen in town involving non-residents who are not paying taxes in Coventry.

Wheaton shared concerns about where the line is drawn philosophically, and does this mean the Police Department will start charging for responses too. It was clarified that this only involves the Fire and EMS Department and will only charge for things specifically covered by insurance policies.

It was also clarified that the documents reviewed state that the bills will only go to the insurance company, not the property owner.

Drumm explained that the next steps are for town staff to do more research on ordinances for this that are currently in place statewide and to have Fire Chief Meyers come to a future meeting to answer questions raised.

The Steering Committee had consensus to continue this agenda item.

9. Consideration/possible action: Establishment of School Building Committee to evaluate current and future facility needs for Coventry Public Schools:

It was discussed that there are many steps in this process before Steering can recommend the full Council to establish a School Building Committee.

Kyer noted that he would like to get more information, like the background of past School Building Committees, prior to even reviewing a draft charge.

Thomas commented that since the scope of this Committee would be a large facilities study, they may want more than 5 members like the current School Building Committee has. She also felt that the work that this Committee does should fit within the Town Council goals of looking at town facilities across the board. Thomas discussed the 'wants' for the makeup of the Committee and asked that representation for certain skills and knowledge be considered (i.e. contractors, Finance Director), as this is important to the community. She requested that staff come back with a recommendation of what the Committee should look like, based on past knowledge and challenges. Kyer agreed and commented that this is the type of information he is looking for. Kyer added that all they have right now is a request for the BOE that 3 BOE members serve in the Committee, but that is only a suggestion at this point. Drumm shared that 3 BOE members on a 5-member board is a bit excessive, but if the Committee was larger than it would be less so.

Wheaton discussed who he feels should have representation on this Committee and asked for input from other Councilors. The following Committee was suggested:

- Board of Ed
- Town Council
- Someone who understands state grants and reimbursement processes
- People (1-2) who understand buildings/facilities, and construction
- Someone who understands contracting (for large projects that include design, engineering, electrical, etc.)
Knowledge of school buildings is a plus
- Educator(s)
- Someone with utilities knowledge (sewer, water, power, etc.)

Thomas suggested that the scope be considered, and do they want the committee to just do a study, which would have a certain lifespan. If this committee only completed the study, then a Building Committee would need to be formed after. She explained that Steering will need to consider filling 2 committees or moving forward with establishing 1 that is a facility study and building committee. Thomas stated that a benefit of having it be a Study and Building Committee, is that they keep the qualified and experienced individuals on the committee, instead of risking losing them if they had to fill 2 committees. However, it was stressed that the individuals are made aware of the commitment, as this committee will have a life (of the committee) term, which could span years due to the long-term nature of the study and potential projects.

Wheaton wanted to take a step back and ask, what the outcome of the committee would be, and what the Council is trying to do.

Kyer shared that some of the attachments to the last Council agenda highlighted this. Some of those highlights include:

- Cost Savings
 - Large factor
 - HVAC mandates are coming, requiring HVAC solutions for the other schools (CGS, GHR, and CNH)
 - CGS has significant issues, and it is undecided whether the school/BOE should incur large HVAC costs on a building in such condition
 - Efficiencies in administration costs and transportation costs not having to move between the schools.
- Potential to move Pre-K from CHS/CNH Complex to a Pre-K-5 campus

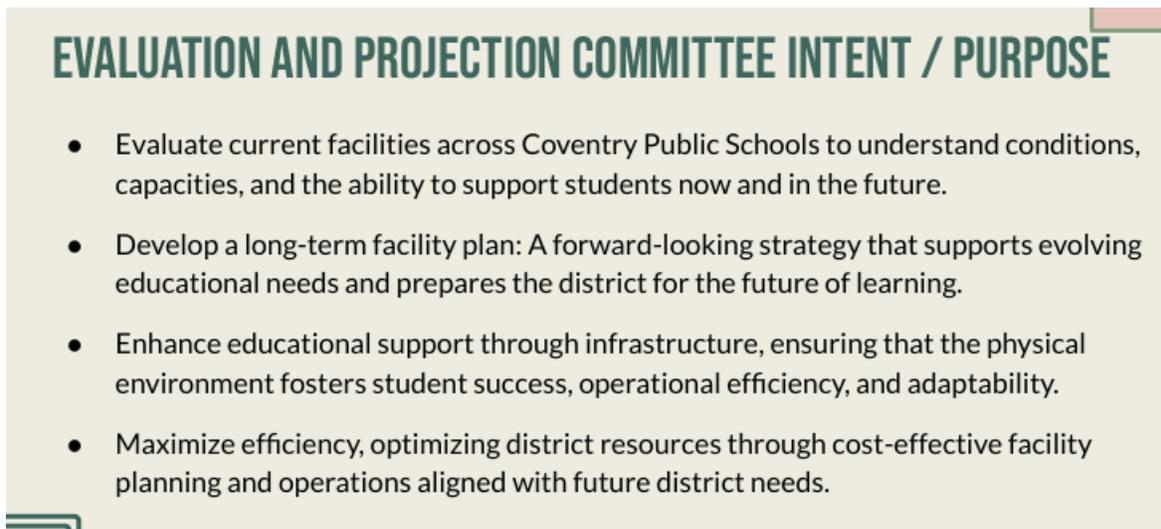
Thomas stated that there were discussions years ago about turning the GHR school into a Pre-K-5 campus, but that was just an idea. Kyer stated that the new committee can consider this and all other options available.

Wheaton stated that Dr. Petrone’s memo seemed narrow by stating that they want to improve educational space, but it seems the goal is to improve educational outcomes and save money while doing it. Thomas stated that it will be clarified in the charge, but what should be included is examination of all the pieces of the puzzle.

Hand shared the following excerpt from Dr. Petrone’s letter, which he feels establishes the goal that Wheaton was questioning:

“Establishment of a school building committee is a critical step in evaluating current and future facility needs. Engaging in long-range planning and ensuring that any proposed solutions are thoughtful, fiscally responsible, and aligned with the educational needs of our students and communities.”

Thomas also shared the bullet points from the 3rd slide of the slide deck attached to the Town Council agenda that explained the intent and purpose of the committee.



EVALUATION AND PROJECTION COMMITTEE INTENT / PURPOSE

- Evaluate current facilities across Coventry Public Schools to understand conditions, capacities, and the ability to support students now and in the future.
- Develop a long-term facility plan: A forward-looking strategy that supports evolving educational needs and prepares the district for the future of learning.
- Enhance educational support through infrastructure, ensuring that the physical environment fosters student success, operational efficiency, and adaptability.
- Maximize efficiency, optimizing district resources through cost-effective facility planning and operations aligned with future district needs.

Thomas also shared that there is a slide that explains the 9 goals for learning spaces that would be considered by the committee as well.

Kyer shared an example that CGS was developed in 1955, and back then it probably made sense for a classroom to have 4 electrical outlets. However, with technology utilized in the classroom today, 4 outlets are not nearly enough. He also shared that when he started teaching 30 years ago, computer labs were just being put into schools. Now, they aren’t necessary as each student has their own device.

The Steering Committee had consensus to direct town staff to do research and provide a framework for the Steering Committee to build from.

10. Consideration/Possible Action: Expanded Veterans Residential Property Tax Exemptions (Not Ready For Action):

With this item not ready for action, there was no further discussion.

11. Adjournment:

Kyer moved to adjourn at 9:39 PM Wheaton seconds. The meeting adjourned at 9:39 PM by unanimous vote.

Submitted by,
Nicole Archambault

Nicole Archambault

Steering Committee Minutes Clerk

PLEASE NOTE: These minutes are not official until approved by the Steering Committee at the next Steering Committee meeting. Please see the next Steering Committee meeting minutes for approval or changes to these minutes.

Statement of Interest Forms (added after agenda was posted):

To be reappointed new term to expire 12/31/2026

Statement of Interest In Serving on a Town Board or Commission

STATEMENT OF INTEREST IN SERVING ON A TOWN BOARD OR COMMISSION

Date 1/23/2026

Use this form to apply online to serve on a Town Board or Commission. This helps the Town Council get to know those being considered for appointment. Candidates are reviewed at the monthly meeting of the Town Council Steering Committee and recommended for appointment at the following full Town Council meeting.

First Name	Eric
Last Name	Thomas
Address	255 Geraldine Drive
City	Coventry
State	CT
Zip	06238
Telephone (Day):	8609307515
Telephone (Evening):	Field not completed.
Email address:	waterthames59@gmail.com
Board or Commission name:	CRCOG Regional Planning Commission
Current member?	Yes
Where did you hear of this opening?	Currently serving
If other please specify	Field not completed.
How long have you lived in Coventry?	37 years
Are you a registered voter in Coventry? (Must be a resident elector to serve)	Yes
What is your party affiliation?	Democratic
Other party (please specify)	Field not completed.

Briefly explain why you are interested in serving on this Board or Commission and what you would like to accomplish.

I have enjoyed participating in these regional planning meetings and workshops, representing Coventry's planning interests. I would like to continue this role to support Coventry land use planning in a regional context, and provide regular updates to Land Use staff and the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Please outline other education or experience which would be helpful to the Board or Commission to which you are applying:

Field not completed.

Conflict of Interest Statement:

In order to promote impartiality of decisions and fairness in the treatment of those having business with the Town of Coventry through its Boards and Commissions, any conflict of interest must be eliminated. Members of any Board or Commission having direct or indirect financial or personal interest in any contract, transaction or decision of that Board or Commission, or any officer or agent of the Town of Coventry, shall disclose that interest to said Board or Commission and disqualify themselves from any awarding, assignment or discussion of any contract, transaction, or decision regarding their personal interests.

Electronic verification of accuracy and adherence to Conflict of Interest Statement:

Verified

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

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First Name	Simon
Last Name	Hecht
Address	59 Frederick Dr
City	Coventry
State	CT
Zip	06238
Telephone (Day):	2039152714
Telephone (Evening):	2039152714
Email address:	simonhecht77@gmail.com
Board or Commission name:	Parks and Recreation
Current member?	No
Where did you hear of this opening?	Recruited by Committee Member or Town Council
If other please specify	Field not completed.
How long have you lived in Coventry?	19 years
Are you a registered voter in Coventry? (Must be a resident elector to serve)	Yes
What is your party affiliation?	Democratic
Other party (please specify)	Field not completed.

Briefly explain why you are interested in serving on this Board or Commission and what you would like to accomplish.

I have been a resident of Coventry for the last 19 years, moving here with my wife after growing up and living in other parts of Connecticut. As she and I built our family, it was the town's parks that helped us gain a sense of community. Our kids used playgrounds in the parks or elementary schools, participated in youth soccer at Laidlaw Park, and developed their baseball skills at Miller Richardson Park. It was in these places that our kids and family have made life long friends, and seen how the residents in a small town come together.

When my kids were younger, I was part of the Coventry Soccer board, and was part of the Laidlaw park expansion and improvements. As they became older and more involved in baseball, I joined the Little League board and helped guide the Miller Richardson Park expansion.

I have seen first hand the impact that these improvements have had on the children and families in this town, and received many compliments from coaches visiting from other towns. As I have stepped down from directly supporting the Little League, I would like to continue to be involved in shaping the future of our town's parks, and continue to build a sense of pride for our residents.

Please outline other education or experience which would be helpful to the Board or Commission to which you are applying:

I have spent the last 15 years volunteering with the Coventry Little League organization, the last 5 of which as a board member. During this time I was involved in Miller Richardson Park's renovation design and the merger of Coventry's softball and baseball organizations into one combined little league.

Conflict of Interest Statement:

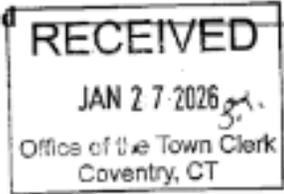
In order to promote impartiality of decisions and fairness in the treatment of those having business with the Town of Coventry through its Boards and Commissions, any conflict of interest must be eliminated. Members of any Board or Commission having direct or indirect financial or personal interest in any contract, transaction or decision of that Board or Commission, or any officer or agent of the Town of Coventry, shall disclose that interest to said Board or Commission and disqualify themselves from any awarding, assignment or discussion of any contract, transaction, or decision regarding their personal interests.

Electronic verification of accuracy and adherence to Conflict of Interest Statement: Verified

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

wishes to be reappointed new term to expire 1/1/2031

Appointed



STATEMENT OF INTEREST
IN SERVING ON A
TOWN BOARD OR COMMISSION

Use this form to apply online to serve on a Town Board of Commission. This helps the Town Council get to know those being considered for an appointment. Candidates are reviewed at the monthly meeting of the Town Council Steering Committee and recommended for appointment at the following full Town Council meeting.

Date: _____

Barbara Barry
PO Box 307
Coventry, CT 06238

Telephone (Day) 860-803-7163 (Evening) same

Email address: 307barbarae@charter.net

Economic Development Commission
New Term to Expire on February 1, 2031

Current member?

Yes No

Where did you hear of this opening?

Currently Serving Channel 191 Website Word of mouth Town e-blast
 Recruited by Committee Member or Town Council Other: (specify) _____

How long have you lived in Coventry? 50 years

Are you a registered voter of Coventry? (Must be a resident elector to serve) Yes No

What is your political party affiliation? Democratic Republican Unaffiliated Other (specify): _____

Briefly explain why you are interested in serving on this Board or Commission and what you would like to accomplish.

Please outline other relevant education or experience which would be helpful to the Board or Commission you are requesting:

Conflict of Interest Statement

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By signing below, I certify that the information I have provided on this form is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, that I desire appointment to a Board or Commission in Coventry, that I am willing to adhere to the conflict of interest policy stated above, and that I will abide by Council policies for volunteers as detailed in the Volunteer Handbook.

Date: 1/25/2026 Signature: Barbara Barry

TOWN COMMITTEE ENDORSEMENT: (optional)

The _____
recommends _____
for (re)appointment to _____
Official _____ Office _____

Rev. 1/28/2025



Town of Coventry

1712 Main Street • Coventry, CT 06238 • Fax (860) 742-8911

To: Town Council
From:  James Drumm, Town Manager
Date: February 12, 2026
Ref: Project/Issue Updates

There are a few minor updates on our projects. As usual, underlined sentences within this memo indicate more recent updates.

DEEP Climate Resiliency Fund (DCRF) Grant: The Town has applied today to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) for grant funding for a project to locate and inventory our stormwater basins and outfalls. The Grant amount is \$650,000 and requires no Town financial match. CT PA-25-33 passed in June of 2025 requires that Connecticut municipalities send a geo spatial file listing each culvert and bridge within the control and boundaries of the municipality to the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) by May 1, 2028. The project, if funded, would create the database needed to fulfill the State requirement. This information is also needed for the Town to be ready for the National Pollutant Elimination Discharge System (NPDES) Permit once we are declared by the State to be a MS4 Town. The project will not only identify the location but will evaluate the condition of the system to allow the Town to consider projects for stormwater system improvements. These professional evaluations would also allow us to potentially seek grant funding for repairs/replacements.

Charter Revision Commission: The Town Council appointed the members of the Charter Revision Commission (CRC) on September 2, 2025. The Council appointed Michael Petro as the Chair on September 15th. The first meeting of the CRC was on Monday October 1st. They selected Justin Murphy as the Vice Chair and Monica Gallegos Ramirez as the Secretary. They set their meeting schedule as the first Wednesday and the third Thursday of the month, starting on November 20th. At their meeting on October 23rd, the CRC was briefed by Attorney Rich Roberts (Halloran and Sage: Town Attorney's Office) on the Charter Revision process as established within State Statutes. They were also briefed on State regulations related to public meetings, public records and the FOIA. The first part of the process, before they were able to review and deliberate on sections of the Charter, was to hold a Public Hearing to accept comments on the existing Charter and to accept suggestions for possible amendments. The Public Hearing was advertised and held on November 20, 2025 at 6:30 PM at the Town Hall Annex. The CRC has begun reviewing the Charter. They will interview the Finance Director and the Collector of Revenue at their next meeting. Their next meeting is February 19th.

Committee/Commission and ad hoc Committee Review: Upon coming on board as Town Manager, I had the need to review some of the Ordinances and Charges of our various committees. In that limited review I found that some committees were not in compliance with their charge. The Town has numerous standing committees that cover many facets of municipal government and community interests and issues. The Town Council expressed that Committee charges and ordinances need to be

reviewed and updated. There may be committees with similar overlapping charges; there may be committees that are not in compliance with their charges; there may be committees that may need their charges updated; and there may be committees that need to be discharged as they are no longer active or required. I have planned to present my findings to the Town Council Steering Committee in groupings for review and possible recommendations. The first report was on the Parks and Recreation Commission. A proposed Ordinance was presented to the Town Council on January 5th for review and consideration. A Public Hearing has been set for February 17th.

Assessor Vacancy: Coventry's Assessor John Preisner has resigned effective Friday January 30th. John has been with the Town since May 2022. Paige Walton, the Town of Waterford Assessor, is currently serving part-time as our interim Assessor. The Town has advertised with CCM, the CT Assn. of Assessing Officers, on our Facebook page, and on our website to bring in as many qualified candidates as possible. The application deadline is March 4, 2026.

Materials Management Infrastructure (MMI) grant: the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection has awarded the MMI grant to the Town to construct a food waste/leaf composting facility at DPW. The Preliminary site planning is under review for permit by DEEP. Tree removal will begin in late winter. Construction will occur after permits are received in summer of 2026. This program will also include the purchase of counter-top collection containers, which will come in fall 2026 when the program is implemented with the public. The total amount of the grant is \$202, 895. The Town Council has pledged up to \$5,000 in NIPS funding for the containers.

Nip Money Recycling Projects: The State passed the "Nickel for Nips" bottle program in 2021 after having had many complaints about littering, especially nip bottles, along Connecticut roadways. The funds must be used for recycling, litter prevention and related activities. The Town currently has a balance of \$69,749.48. On November 3, 2025, the Town Council voted to allocate funds to several qualified initiatives:

1) A waste oil container that will provide a clean and environmentally safe way to collect waste oil. This initiative includes funding a pad and a shed to contain the tank, which is planned to be placed at the Transfer Station. Amount approved is up to \$22,000

2) The Town has seen an increase in the amount of waste oil and this expense is rising. This initiative will cover these disposal costs. Amount approved is up to \$3,000 per year. This will be reviewed annually.

3) A MetroSTOR container is planned to be placed at the Transfer Station and will limit odor and animal intrusion. This initiative will improve the voluntary public food waste collection that is planned to begin in 2026. Amount approved is up to up to \$3,500

4) Storm drain markers educate/warn the public on that dumping in the drain will impact lake water quality and the environment. These would only be placed on drains in the lake watershed. Amount approved is up to up to \$1,000

5) An antifreeze containment unit will cover any overflow or leakage from the two barrels used to store the liquid waste. Amount approved is up to \$2,000

6) Additional hours being allocated to part-time staff (Transfer Station Operators) would be used to monitor recycling in the field and to provide public education so to reduce recycling contamination. Amount approved is up to \$8,000 per year. This will be reviewed annually.

The Public Works Department is currently planning the implementation of these initiatives. Updates on these initiatives will be reported as they progress.

CHS Roof Project: The Roofing contractor (Greenwood Industries) and the HVAC contractor (Pro-mech coordinated roof cuts over the fall of 2024 and winter 2024-25. All roof work has been satisfactorily completed. The portion of grant funding for the architectural services has been found to be in jeopardy, as it was determined that the Town did not follow State Statutes regarding the selection process in 2022. The Statutes called for not more than four vendors to be interviewed and evaluated. The Town/BOE at that time interviewed and evaluated five engineers. In July of 2024, this requirement which stifled competition was repealed. In fall of 2024, the Town made an official request to the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to waive the Statue on the record in 2022, when this evaluation process occurred. Since we have not had any determination to our response after several months and inquiries, we have asked Rep. Ackert to sponsor special legislation to waive the application of the old requirement on our project, so that the Town could recoup the grant funding that was awarded. We believed that this was especially appropriate as the General Assembly found in 2024 that this policy restricting competition needed to be removed. A bill unfortunately was not filed in time for the 2025 session, and so we have asked for one in the 2026 session to recover the grant amount toward the engineering. It is estimated that the grant will be approximately \$10,000 for the GHR roof project and \$12,000 for the CHS roof project.

CHS HVAC Project: Our contractor Pro-Mech, Inc. of Bloomfield is still on the job. Construction of the overall system is now complete, but they are working on a punch list. The project passed final inspection in mid-October. They are working with Aramark, the commissioning agent, to test and to adjust the system. The Town received a State HVAC grant which covers over 50% of this project. The Town has requested a six-month extension on this grant, just in case a valid test of the Chiller cannot be done until warmer weather arrives. The total cost of the original construction contract is \$11,897,800. Additional change orders are being processed now due to Eversource changing the Transformer size which is increasing the total project cost. An additional \$46,000 has been added to the project cost for the commissioning agent. State grant funding will cover \$6,602,148 of the project, with the remaining amount being financed by bond funds. The BOE submitted Grant Reimbursement #2 to the State and we have received notice that the request has been approved. We expect payment within a few weeks. The total cost of the project is expected to be approximately \$12,642,000. Voters within the Town on November 4, 2025, approved the referendum question that will transfer previously approved unused bonding debt that was saved from recent school projects to cover the cost increases for this much-needed project. The project will be officially completed on June 30, 2026.

Town Hall Radio Tower-Telecommunications contract: Staff are currently negotiating with T-Mobile on a new contract replacing the outdated contract which was approved in 1996. There is no additional telecommunications equipment being placed on the tower by this firm at this time. The contract is currently being reviewed by the attorneys representing T-Mobile. This has been going back and forth with multiple amendments. The Town has a final draft that has had every sentence and word vetted thoroughly by our Town Attorney and CIRMA (insurance carrier) over the last two years. The contract will be presented to Town Council in executive session on February 17th.

Coventry Village Water Tower Project: The Town was notified last year by Congressman Courtney that we have received a Congressional Directed Spending (CDS) grant of \$1 million toward the construction of an elevated water tower to strengthen and improve the village water system. The water tower would provide additional pressure and steady volume of water for the system. This is especially important for fire suppression systems that are needed for new commercial development and historic mill re-development in Coventry Village. This project could also improve the fire suppression systems at the high school, the middle school, and GHR. The total project was estimated to be \$2.5 million. The

request made by the Town was for \$1.875 million dollars. The grant requires at least a 25% match. The grant will be administered starting in 2025-26 through the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development Program. The Town coordinated with Connecticut Water Company on possible locations. Connecticut Water conducted a review and made recommendations for the siting of the Tower. They presented the findings of the review to the Finance Committee on October 30th. Town Engineer Todd Penney presented their recommendations to Town Council on November 3rd. As the Water Tower Project was found to best be sited on the Stonehouse Road property, the Town Council approved the use of the unspent preliminary engineering funds to be used to evaluate that site. The Town staff have applied for State bonding funds to cover the full cost of the Project, which is now estimated to be \$3 million. Local businesses, including Teleflex, have shown interest in the extra fire protection the water tower would provide.

Plains Road/Salt Impacted Potable Wells: This water extension project involves much coordination with the Connecticut Water Company to complete. They have tentatively agreed to connect a newly constructed water line to their existing system in the Nathan Hale Drive area. The Town currently has State grant funding pledged for approval for 50%. However, to secure the funding, the project must be ready with design and authorized by a public referendum. CT Department of Health (DPH) has informed us that we have secured a Small Disadvantaged Communities (SDC) grant from the U.S. EPA in the amount of \$787,000 to add on top of the approximate 50% subsidy. This will reduce the Town's expenses to less than 25% of the total project cost. The construction cost is estimated to be \$2.6 million. The survey work has been completed. Our contract engineer, GZA Geoenvironmental, Inc., has completed the engineering and is still providing services for permitting. The project was presented to the Town Council at the January 21, 2025 Town Council meeting. The Town Council determined at that meeting that this project should be placed on a future public referendum requesting authorization for debt to construct the improvements. At the February 18, 2025 meeting the Town Council authorized funding for permitting that would allow the installation of a water line along the South Street extension right of way. Application has been made for SRF grant/loan funds so that funding may be designated by the State. The Town has received a DPH notice of funding for the project. This would include additional funding for possible project contingency needs. The funds are now pledged but will be obligated by DPH after completion and execution of the loan documents. Town staff held a meeting with DPH staff and found that the loan documents will be prepared after the permitting is complete and the bids for construction have been received. DPH indicates the loan is a 10 year or a 20-year loan at 2% interest. Staff and our legal team have prepared our construction bid package. DEEP has finished its review of the permits. The Town is standing by for DPH approval of the proposed bid package documents. DPH has an additional 60 days to review the package. Upon approval we will send it out for bids. Due to the length of time taken by DEEP to review the project, construction is now expected to be in spring.

Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) - Plant upgrade vs. Willimantic Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) connection: The engineers, Tighe & Bond, completed their review of the costs to connect our wastewater system to the Willimantic WWTP. The study shows that the connection to the treatment plant in Willimantic will be nearly the same cost as the upgrade to the existing Coventry WWTP. However, with that reported, it is likely that the Town would be eligible for more grant funding for the Coventry WWTP upgrade than a line extension to the Willimantic WWTP. The study was forwarded to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) for their review and comment. Town staff, our engineering consultants and the WPCA did meet with DEEP representatives in June 2024. DEEP indicated that the WPCA will need to conduct an environmental impact study regarding the preferred option of upgrading the wastewater treatment plant. The Town must take action one way or the other as the Coventry WWTP does not meet current State wastewater treatment

standards. The WPCA is selecting an independent firm to conduct the evaluation of the upgrade of the Wastewater Treatment Plant project under the requirements of the Connecticut Environmental Protection Act (CEPA). Request for Qualifications (RFQs) were received December 19, 2024. Only one was received by SLR International Corporation of New Haven, CT. An interview was held in March 2025. The WPCA has contracted for services for the CEPA project. This study is expected to take one year to complete. The contractor was delayed in their project start time. It is expected to be completed by late summer 2026. DEEP will then review the study and provide comments by January of 2027. After taking the DEEP comments into consideration, the Town will be able to move towards engineering and design.

Bolton/Coventry Sewer Extension: The Town has planned for a sewer line extension project from the existing sewer service in the Town of Bolton eastward along US Route 44 into the town of Coventry. This was planned in the expectation that the Town may attract additional commercial growth along that corridor, which currently has some commercial development. Town staff are negotiating with the Bolton Lakes Water Pollution Control Authority on the connection fees to their utility system. The BLWPCA will soon be providing a new proposal for the Town's consideration. After approving the connection fees, a separate agreement will be required to address maintenance requirements, annual use fees, billing, permitting, service area, flows, etc. The Town has also been working with the United States EPA to prepare the grant contract. The project is partially funded through the passage of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, Community Projects grants. Additional funding will be required possibly through bonding and sewer connection assessments. We will continue to explore our options for additional funding for this project. We have learned that this money, if not used for the Bolton project, could possibly be re-directed to another sewer project.

Coventry Lake/Lake Wangumbaug Hydrilla Control Project: The Town has received the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) for the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) grant for the 2025 fluoridone treatments. Matching funds and funds for monitoring the lake are held in capital reserves and also some have been budgeted in FY2025-26. Summer 2025 was the second year of the three-year Treatment Plan that has been recommended by our consultants. The work for 2025 is complete. The next AIS grant cycle opened in December, and the Town has applied for funding for treatments for summer 2026. Matching funds will be required and will be added to the Town Manager's Proposed FY2026-27 Capital Improvement Budget.

Booth and Dimock Library Historic Preservation Grant: The Town was selected to receive the \$6000 grant by the State Historic Preservation Office for repairs to the historic portion of the Booth and Dimock Library. The project specifically will make repairs to the framing and joists supporting the floors in the reading rooms under the bookshelves. As you may recall the project is a total of \$12,000 with the library providing the match from their endowment fund. The Town will be seeking proposals for construction in spring 2026 with construction likely to happen in summer 2026.

Patriots Park Improvement Project: A Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) grant has been awarded by the State to the Town in the amount of \$315,000 for Patriots Park improvements. The project totals \$350,000, including a \$5,000 donation from the Coventry Lions Club and the municipal match of \$30,000. The project involves improvements to the pavilion, playground replacement, fencing and geese deterrent measures. In late 2024 and early 2025, the Town conducted a master plan process for the park. The process is now complete. The grant has been amended, and construction plans are being developed. The Town Engineer has prepared a plan for the new playground area. Also, geese deterrent measures are being planned. These plans have been reviewed by the Inland Wetlands Agency. A separate permit is being requested for the geese remediation involving a water circulator near the

swimming area. The project began construction in December with tree removal and earthwork preparing a level area for the new playground. The bid documents are being prepared for the playscape. The project should be completed in Summer 2026. Now that the Town has actively begun construction, we are eligible to apply for future STEAP grant funding. The Town Council was briefed on this STEAP Grant project at their October 20, 2025 Town Council Meeting.



Patriots Park Playground earth work being done (adjacent to Senior Center/Lodge parking)

Main Street/South Street Pedestrian Crossing Project: The Town was awarded a Transportation Rural Improvement Program (TRIP), a newly created state grant program designed to support rural municipalities, which are often ineligible for many federal transportation programs. The grant is \$498,000. This is a 100% funded grant for construction, with engineering being the responsibility of the Town. This project will provide crosswalks and pedestrian safety features along Main Street in the Village and along South Street. Improvements will include signage, flashing lights and curb ramps (sidewalk bumps) that are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Additional engineering is required. This project will go to bid at the completion of design. The project is planned for construction in summer 2026.

Main Street sidewalk project: This project is funded by a Community Connectivity grant. This project will begin at Hemlock Point Lane and go northeasterly to Winterberry. The design had been reviewed by CDOT for permitting and rejected. Construction plans have been amended to move retaining walls outside of the right of way at the request of CDOT. Work has involved acquiring additional easements for retaining walls. Upon completion of the easements, the Town will seek bids. Bid packets are being prepared. Construction is expected in summer 2026. Upon completion of this project the Town will be eligible to apply for another Community Connectivity grant to extend the sidewalk further on Main

Street to Lisicke Park and additionally westward to Daly Road. This will eventually connect to planned (currently in design) future sidewalks along Daly Road. When all is complete within the next couple of years, there will be sidewalks in place that circle Coventry Lake.

Hale Trails Project: This is a Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) grant. The project budget is \$500,000 and is funded 50% State and 50% local. The Town's match is primarily in-kind services and in-house engineering. The project design is currently paused to evaluate the wetland impact and possible alternative crossings on Bear Swamp Road at Rufus Creek. Staff had a meeting with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to explain project difficulties in working with the wetland component of the project and have found that we can phase the project with the current award and apply for additional funding at a later cycle to address the wetland crossing or bypass. This project has been placed on hold as additional engineering is needed to reflect project changes.

Depot Road Bridge replacement: The Town has been awarded a \$7.4 million State/Federal grant for 100% funding for this project. The State has agreed to provide engineering with one of their consulting engineers. CHA Engineering of Rocky Hill, CT has been assigned the project by the Connecticut DOT. Scouring tests have been completed showing that replacement is warranted. In October the State notified the Town that they have funded design engineering so it can move forward.

Brigham Hill Bridge replacement: The Town has been awarded a \$5.2 million State/Federal grant for 100% funding for this project. The State has agreed to provide engineering with one of their consulting engineers. CHA Engineering of Rocky Hill, CT has been assigned the project by the Connecticut DOT. Scouring tests have been completed showing that replacement is warranted. In October, the State notified the Town that they will be designating funds soon for design engineering so it can then move forward.

Bunker Hill Bridge Replacement (Rufus Creek): Though this project is described as a bridge, it is described more accurately as a large culvert structure that is constructed under the roadway. The project is in design with Jacobson Engineering. The Town is coordinating with the Town of Andover, as they have a bridge project over the Hop River moving forward and we do not want to isolate the residents on this road with two construction projects active at the same time. As Andover's permitting and began construction in 2025, we had to delay construction of this project until summer 2026. CDOT has given the Town an extension on this grant award. The Town was awarded a \$700,000 grant for this project. This is a 50/50 State/Local funded project. The local match was budgeted with existing road bond funds. The Inland Wetlands Agency has issued a permit. Easements are currently being completed with adjacent landowners.

Parker Bridge Road-Bridge (Culvert) replacement grant: In 2023 the Town applied for Federal/State funding to replace the smaller bridge on Parker Bridge Road. It is actually a large culvert that the adjacent creek runs through. The grant was not funded that year. Staff has again applied for this funding for the 2024 grant cycle. The Town was awarded a \$714,000 grant for this project. The total project cost is \$1,428,000. This is a 50/50 State/Local funded project. The local match was budgeted with existing bond funds. The project is now in engineering and will require adjacent right of way at the crossing of an unnamed creek, so to re-align the crossing. A preliminary design plan is complete. Easements are being sought from adjacent property owners.

Flanders Rd/Cider Mill Bridge: The Town has been awarded a Federal bridge replacement grant. We have contracted and obligated these Federal grant funds. The State has changed the process and time frame of this project. They were hoping to complete multiple bridges with five towns with one design/contractor. That has changed. The State will directly contract engineering and then directly hire a separate contractor. The Towns of Mansfield and Coventry will be included in the design phase and will coordinate efforts. A project meeting was held with the project engineers and the Town of Mansfield on December 11, 2025. The project is now planned to begin with a public meeting in 2026; followed by design completion in 2028; and then construction to be completed by December 2030 (four years later than first suggested by CDOT). The estimated cost of the project is \$7,070,000. The State/Federal grant award is to be 100% funded.

South Street/Swamp Road Project: This is a major project that will improve safety on these roads and will raise the elevation of the intersection of South Street and Swamp Road. Preliminary plans are complete. This project was reviewed by the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CROG) last fall. The comments caused minor adjustments to be made to the preliminary plans. The revised plans were presented at the public involvement meeting that was held on October 24, 2023. It was well attended by the residents of the area. Public involvement meetings are required by the Connecticut Department of Transportation (DOT) for funding from the Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program (LTCIP). Good feedback from residents/property owners was received by staff and the project engineers. In late 2024, design plans were amended further to include a gap area along South Street and the State awarded an additional \$442,800 to cover this area. The design amendments did not significantly delay the project's engineering, however this addition required the need to acquire multiple new easements. The focus now is on easement acquisitions from property owners. The Town Council has approved additional funding to complete this process in a timely manner. Bidding for this project will be in spring of 2026. Construction is now planned for summer/fall of 2026.

Daly Road Construction Project: This is a road and sidewalk construction project from Rt. 31 to South Street. Two Local Option Transportation Capital Improvement Program (LTCIP) grants have been approved and have been combined into one project. Funding for construction is 100%. The project will modify curves and increase pedestrian safety. Funding for design will be funded by the Town. Barton and Loguidice of Glastonbury is conducting engineering on this project. The preliminary design has been reviewed by CROG and CDOT. Now that all preliminary plans have been approved, design engineering is the next step. This funding is the match requirement from the Town. There is currently insufficient funds in CNREF. The Town will need to consider possible sources to fund this next step of this project. This could be funded in a future Road Bond that Town Council has discussed for later in 2026.

Road resurfacing/drainage Improvements: The Town is reviewing road conditions for next years summer paving and for a potential road bond project.

Legal Notice

**PUBLIC HEARING
TOWN OF COVENTRY
TOWN MANAGER'S PROPOSED BUDGET
FY 2026-2027
MARCH 5, 2026
7:00 PM**

A Public Hearing will be held at 7:00 PM on Thursday, March 5, 2026 at Coventry High School Lecture Hall, 78 Ripley Hill Road, Coventry, CT on the Town Manager's Proposed Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget, including General Government, Debt Service, and Capital Improvements. A presentation will also be made by the Board of Education on the Coventry Public Schools' proposed budget. Additional options to view and/or participate include:

- Watch live on Spectrum Cable Channel 194.
- Stream live on School's YouTube Channel at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsw43EPz8J7YtAT3F_aPgWA.
- Send in emails to budgetcomments@coventry-ct.gov

Citizens are invited to express their opinions on all budgets. Copies of the Manager's budget will be available in the Town Clerk's Office or in the Town Hall rear foyer on March 4, 2026, and the Board of Education budget will be available in their office. It will also be viewable on the Town's web site www.coventry-ct.gov.

James D. Drumm, Town Manager

8.A. 25/26-29: Consideration/Possible Action: Adoption of Resolution - Amendment and Update of Parks and Recreation Commission Ordinance

Town Council Action Requested: Town Council will, upon completion of a public hearing, review and consider approving Resolution 2026-02 adopting Ordinance #266, amending the current Parks and Recreation Commission Ordinance to provide updates, to clarify authority and to remove conflicts.

Purpose: Town Council, in their 2023-25 goals requested that the Town Manager review the charges of Boards, Commissions and Committees to see if there was need for updates and to see if there were overlaps in authority. The review of the Parks and Recreation Ordinance found that there were practices that were outdated and that were in conflict with the Charter and actual operations. The proposed Ordinance clarifies responsibilities and updates the regulations.

History: The current Parks and Recreation Commission Ordinance was adopted prior to the current structure of the Town. Today we have a Town Council-Town Manager form of government with professional department heads, including a Parks and Recreation Director. The previous structure involved management of programs and operations by committee. The current Ordinance conflicts with the Charter in the placement of authority and can make completing administration tasks difficult and not timely. Additionally, the current Ordinance did not recognize the need for environmental permits when impacting wetlands, open space and habitat. The Parks and Recreation Commission, during the review process, was concerned that they would no longer be a Commission. Many of the concerns expressed were considered and added to amendments within the draft document throughout the process. This proposed Ordinance preserves this board as a Commission. Parks and Recreation Commissioners remain instrumental in overseeing the planning and development of parks and programs. The Ordinance clarifies what authority is with staff and what remains with the Commission. Town Council voted at the January 20th Town Council meeting to accept the Ordinance and to schedule a public hearing p on February 17th prior to adoption.

Facts about the issue: A public hearing is scheduled at the beginning of the meeting prior to consideration of adoption.

Funding Information: There is no financial impact to this proposed amendment to the Parks and Recreation Commission Ordinance.

Steering Committee Recommendation: The Steering Committee, at their December 22, 2025, meeting voted to recommend to Town Council that the proposed Ordinance be adopted.

Town Manager Comments: none.

Town Manager's Recommendation: Motion to approve Resolution 2026-02, Adopting Ordinance #266, **A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF COVENTRY, CONNECTICUT, AMENDING THE TOWN OF COVENTRY CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 70 "PARKS AND RECREATION"; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; REPEALING ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**Resolution 2026-02
Adopting Ordinance #266**

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF COVENTRY, CONNECTICUT, AMENDING THE TOWN OF COVENTRY CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 70 “PARKS AND RECREATION”; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; REPEALING ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Town Council has set a goal to “Review existing boards and commissions’ establishing charges or ordinances to determine whether they are up to date, still active, or duplicative”; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 70, “PARKS AND RECREATION”, the establishing ordinance for the Parks and Recreation Commission has yet to be updated to reflect operations with a professional, full-time, Parks and Recreation Department; and

WHEREAS, it is today the desire of the Town Council to update and clarify this section to reorganize responsibility while respecting the Parks and Recreation Commission’s critical role in community involvement with recreation within Coventry.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF COVENTRY, CONNECTICUT THAT:

SECTION ONE – Ordinance #266 shall hereby amend the Coventry Code of Ordinances Chapter 70 “Parks and Recreation” to read as follows:

“Chapter 70 PARKS AND RECREATION

ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

Sec. 70-1. General provisions.

Parks belong to the people and were created to provide for recreational facilities, the enjoyment and leisure pursuits of the citizenry and for the preservation and interpretation of natural, cultural and historical resources.

The Town Parks and Recreation Commission, and the Parks and Recreation Department are proud to be hosts for public activities, but reserve the right to regulate these activities in the best interest of the parks, their users, neighbors and the general public.

In order to protect public parks, assure the safety of park users and maximize the public's enjoyment of these parks, it is necessary that regulations be established and adhered to by all park patrons. These regulations shall also apply to all paid and volunteer park staff except in those instances where an exception to these regulations is required for staff to complete tasks as part of their assigned duties. This document seeks to define those activities that are prohibited and/or regulated by law in the town parks. In addition to these regulations, all applicable state and/or local codes, including but not limited to, fire prevention codes, traffic and game laws are enforceable on park property.

Park patrons shall follow the lawful orders of park employees given to enforce or uphold these regulations. Park employees include both paid and authorized volunteer staff. For the purposes of these regulations, a lawful order is any direction by a law enforcement officer or park employee or public works personnel for a person or persons to comply with park regulations, state laws or local ordinances or to provide for public safety.

If any of these regulations or the application thereof to any person or circumstances, is held invalid the remainder of the regulations and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall remain in full force and effect.

In addition to these regulations, park patrons shall follow rules, procedures or policies, established by the Commission governing the use of parks and recreation facilities.

Sec. 70-2. Definitions.

For the purpose of administering, enforcing or interpreting these regulations the following definitions shall apply:

Commission shall mean the Town Parks and Recreation Commission.

Department shall mean the Parks and Recreation Department of the Town.

Designated swimming area shall mean the area within swim buoys, ropes and floats, as determined by the state department of energy and environmental protection.

Director shall mean the appointed head of the Parks and Recreation Department for the Town and any designee as appropriate.

Parks shall include all parks, greens, playgrounds, beaches and open spaces located within the Town, and which are managed by the Town Parks and Recreation Department.

PFD's (Personal Flotation Devices) are lifejackets, either coast guard approved or not.

Possess shall mean having on one's person, among one's personal possessions, or in one's control.

Public gathering shall be defined as demonstrations, picketing, speeches, vigils, parades, ceremonies, meetings, rallies, entertainment, games, shows, concerts, picnics, weddings and all other forms of public assembly.

Recreational facilities shall include all buildings, stadiums, sports fields, sports complexes, and community centers located within the town, and which are managed by the Town Parks and Recreation Department pursuant to Sec. 70-31, et seq.

Swimming aids may include toys, rubber balls, masks, fins and flotation devices, inflatable aids including "floaties", arm-wings, and buoyant bathing suits.

Tobacco products shall include cigarettes, cigars, pipe, chew tobacco, or any other products containing tobacco.

Secs. 70-3—70-30. Reserved.

ARTICLE II. PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Sec. 70-31. Establishment.

There is hereby established a parks and recreation commission ("Commission") for the purposes of making recommendations on and reviewing the development of town parks and recreational facilities and programs. The Commission shall have the following responsibilities:

- a) Identify and advocate for community recreation goals
- b) Advise and make recommendations to the Town Council, Town Manager, and Parks and Recreation Department in matters related to parks and recreation
- c) Assist with planning for recreation programs
- d) Participate in future development of parks and other recreation facilities
- e) Act as an arts commission, overseeing cultural and enrichment activities

Sec. 70-32. Appointment; terms.

- a) The Commission shall consist of five regular members and two alternate members. Each regular member and alternate member shall be an elector of the Town who shall be appointed by the Town Council. Minority representation rules shall apply to both regular members and alternate members.
- b) Hereafter, all appointments (except vacancy appointments) shall be for two-year terms, and each such appointment shall commence upon the expiration of the term of a current Commission member. The term of the first alternate member to be appointed shall expire on January 1, in odd years. The term of the other alternate member to be appointed shall expire on January 1, in an even year. Vacancy appointments may be made by the Town Council for the period of time necessary to fill the remainder of the term of any member who has resigned or has otherwise vacated his or her position.

Sec. 70-33. Officers; recordkeeping; annual report.

The Commission shall hold regular meetings on a monthly basis and may hold special meetings as needed or desired. The Commission shall file with the town clerk a schedule of its regular meetings for each calendar year no later than December 31 of the immediately preceding year. In January of each year, the Commission shall choose a chair, vice chair and secretary from its members. The Commission shall keep records of its meetings and activities and shall review the annual report.

Sec. 70-34. Budget request for funding.

The Commission shall annually review the proposed Department operating budget and recommend capital improvements to the Director during the regular budgetary process.

Secs. 70-35—70-65. Reserved.

ARTICLE III. USE OF TOWN PARKS AND BEACHES

Sec. 70-66. Fishing and boating restricted; exceptions.

No person shall use the shore or beach of any designated swimming area of any town park for the purpose of fishing, angling, floating or launching any boat into the waters of Lake Wangumbaug, or for the purpose of landing any boat thereon from the waters of such lake without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.

Fishing is allowed on park property in designated areas. Persons who fish or participate in the act of fishing shall have a fishing license as required by the state.

Sec. 70-67. Placing, leaving, standing or parking of boats or boat trailers.

No person shall place, leave, stand or park any boat or boat trailer of any kind whatsoever within Lisicke Park, Patriots Park, or the parking area of either park, except as may be specifically authorized by the Town Manager or the Director.

Sec. 70-68. Placing, leaving, standing or parking of motor vehicles within Lisicke Park and Patriots Park; permit required, eligibility for permit, and exceptions.

- a) No person shall place, leave, stand or park any motor vehicle, automobile, motor bus, motor truck, motorcycle, camp or house trailer or any other means of conveyance, excluding non-motorized bicycles, within Lisicke Park, Patriots Park, or the parking area of either park, unless such vehicle shall have visibly displayed thereon a permit issued by the town authorizing the parking of such vehicle in the relevant parking area.
- b) All persons who are town residents or taxpayers, or bona fide lessees of such residents or taxpayers, shall be eligible to apply for and receive such parking permits. Persons who are not town residents or taxpayers may purchase a daily parking ticket for Patriots Park only. The Commission shall recommend the fee for such tickets or permits to the Director.

Sec. 70-69. Hours of operation.

- a) *Opening and closing.* No person shall enter a park before sunrise or remain in a park after sunset unless the person is:
 - 1) Using a lighted facility (as provided for in subsection (b)),
 - 2) Attending a permitted special event,
 - 3) Traveling along footpaths lighted by pedestrian lights for that purpose, or
 - 4) Has the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director, to be in a park before opening or after closing.

If a patron is in a park outside of operating hours in accordance with exceptions (1)—(4), the patron must leave the park by the closing time posted for the facility, park or event or specified in the permit.

- b) *Lighted facilities.* Hours of operation for facilities for which the Department furnishes artificial lighting shall be posted at the facility or stipulated in a use permit.
- c) *Interpretations.* In no way shall this section be interpreted to permit persons to remain between sundown and sunrise in areas lighted by security lights, including concession stand areas, walkways and athletic fields without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.

- d) *Camping*. No person shall set up an overnight camping or lodging site in a park without the express written permission of the Commission or its designated representative.

Sec. 70-70. Regulations concerning parks and recreational facilities.

The Director shall have authority to promulgate reasonable regulations subject to the approval of the Town Manager, concerning the use of all Town parks and recreational facilities. The Director shall apprise the Commission of proposed or new regulations. Such regulations shall not be in conflict with regulations laid out in Chapter 70 of the Town of Coventry Code of Ordinances.

Sec. 70-71. Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages, Smoking, Vaping.

- a) Offer or sale. No person shall sell or offer any alcoholic beverage to members of the public in Town parks without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director as well as the Chief of Police in accordance with the rules and regulations set forth therein.
- b) Possession or consumption. No person is allowed to possess or consume alcoholic beverages in Town parks without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director as well as the Chief of Police. The possession or consumption of permitted alcoholic beverages shall be allowed only in areas designated by the Town Manager or the Director.
- c) Prohibitions. Under no circumstances will the consumption of alcoholic beverages in Town parks be allowed by those under the legal drinking age established by the state.
- d) Persons possessing or offering for sale any alcoholic beverage in Town parks must comply with the regulations of the state liquor control commission.
- e) The Town Manager or the Director as well as the Chief of Police may require the person or organization sponsoring an event to provide security if deemed necessary.
- f) Smoking tobacco, cannabis, or other such products are prohibited in Town parks in accordance with Sec. 50-1 of the Coventry Code of Ordinances.
- g) The use of e-cigarettes/vapes, or other similar aerosol producing devices is prohibited in Town parks in accordance with Sec 50-1 of the Coventry Code of Ordinances.

Sec. 70-72. Enumeration of prohibited acts.

No person shall throw rocks, mud or sand; engage in roughhousing on the beaches or in the water; use swimming aids in the water; use a boat or engage in fishing in swimming areas; swim under or past buoys which designate swimming areas; push or otherwise move buoys from their designated position or area; engage in unauthorized scuba diving; or scuba dive from an area designated for swimmers.

Sec. 70-73. Supervision of children.

No person shall permit any child under 12 years of age on the beach or in the water unless accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or adult (18 years or older).

Sec. 70-74. Animals; regulations.

- a) *Cages and leashes.* No person shall have in his or her custody within a park any animal, excluding any service animal in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes, or police dogs, that is not either caged, or on a leash and under the person's control; except that a dog may be under the direct supervision of its owner or their agent without a cage or a leash in an area designated as an off-leash dog exercise area. Leashed animals are not permitted at Lisicke Park or Patriots Park during posted beach hours from May 20th to Sept 15th.
- b) *Horses.* No person shall ride or lead a horse other than in an area designated for horseback riding without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.
- c) *Feeding domestic animals.* No person shall feed any domestic animal other than his or her personal pet within a park unless the Town Manager or the Director expressly authorizes such feeding by a posted sign or in writing.
- d) *Exceptions.* No animals are allowed on any athletic fields and the adjoining spectator areas.
- e) All persons bringing animals into any parks, including designated off-leash areas, shall remove and properly dispose of all waste left by their animal. Persons failing to do so shall be subject to a penalty fine subject to Sec. 1-10 of the Coventry Code of Ordinances.

Sec. 70-75. Littering.

No person shall possess glass containers, break glass, litter or permit children under his or her supervision to litter or otherwise deposit refuse of any type in any park. All litter that was carried in must be carried out of the park by park patrons, except in areas where trash receptacles are provided by the town.

Sec. 70-76. Riding of horses, bicycles, skateboards or motorized vehicles, exceptions.

- a) No person shall ride horses, bicycles, skateboards, motorized vehicles of any type, including motorcycles, on any beach, ball field or play area at any time, including hours when the parks are officially closed, except by special permit or where specifically designated.
- b) Motor vehicles and traffic.

- 1) *Speed limit where none is posted.* Where no speed limit is posted, no person shall operate a motor vehicle within a park at a speed greater than ten miles per hour.
- 2) *Motorized wheelchairs and assistive devices.* Motorized wheelchairs and other motorized assistive devices for mobility-impaired persons, park personnel, law enforcement and emergency services personnel are permitted in all areas where pedestrian access is permitted, unless otherwise posted.
- 3) *Off-road vehicle operation.* No person shall operate any type of motorized vehicle in areas of a park other than established roadways without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director except as noted in subsection (b)(2).
- 4) *Parking and overnight parking.* No person shall park a motor vehicle in areas of a park other than those designated as parking areas by the Town Manager or the Director. Motor vehicles may not be parked overnight in a park without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director. Motor vehicles left over night in violation of this regulation may be ticketed and/or towed.
- 5) *Maintenance of motor vehicles.* No person shall repair, clean, wax or otherwise maintain a motor vehicle in a park. In no case shall anyone discharge or cause to be discharged hazardous substances, including but not limited to, gasoline, antifreeze or motor oil, in any park.

Sec. 70-77. Use or possession of firearms or other dangerous devices.

a) *Dangerous devices.*

- 1) *Guns.* While in a park, no person, other than a police officer, shall possess a firearm or other gun. This includes projectile devices using air (e.g. BB gun) or gas (e.g. pellet/paintball guns) for exhibition purposes without the express written permission of the Town Manager.
- 2) *Projectiles.* No person shall possess or use a slingshot, bow and arrow, dart device, javelin or similar pointed projectiles and other devices designed for high-speed missile projection, for recreational, educational or exhibition purposes without the express written permission of the Town Manager.
- 3) *Dangerous sports.* No person shall engage in any sporting activity, including the practice of golf, archery, javelin, hammer, shot put or similar devices except in those areas specifically designated for that purpose without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director. No person will participate in paintball or other combative sports without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.

- 4) *Knives*. No person shall possess a knife with a blade more than four inches in length within a park except for the purpose of food preparation or exhibition purposes.
 - 5) *Fireworks*. No person shall possess or discharge fireworks in a park without the express written permission of the Town Manager.
- b) *Remote-control devices and powered models or toys*. No person shall operate hobby rockets, remote-control gliders or powered remote-control or tethered planes, boats, cars, drones or other like devices in a park except during times and in areas designated by the Commission or its designated representative.
 - c) *Hunting and trapping*. Hunting and trapping of wildlife are prohibited in a park except when expressly permitted in writing as part of a Town controlled activity.

Sec. 70-78. Rafts or docks in swimming areas.

No rafts or docks shall be permitted in swimming areas.

Sec. 70-79. Swimming areas—Bathing and wading.

Swimming, bathing and wading in a park are permitted only in water facilities established by the Commission, or their designee, and only during posted hours of operation. No person shall be allowed to wade, swim, or bathe in any park fountain, pond, brook, or natural body of water on Town Properties except within designated, marked-off areas or with the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director. Entering water on Town properties in designated areas for the purposes of fishing shall be governed by Sec. 70-66.

Sec. 70-80. Open fires.

No open fires shall be permitted in any Town park, except upon express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director and with a permit from the Town burning official in areas designated for such purpose.

Sec. 70-81. Amplified sound.

No person shall operate in a park any device designed to produce, reproduce or amplify sound in a manner unreasonably loud to others, without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.

Sec. 70-82. Business activities, soliciting and advertising.

- a) *Business activities*. No person shall sell or offer to sell any goods, merchandise or services or conduct business activities including advertising, within a park without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.

- b) *Solicitation.* No person shall solicit monetary or other valuable contributions; collect admissions or request donations from others in any park without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.

Sec. 70-83. Infringement.

No person or group shall engage in conduct or participate in any activity that infringes on the rights or the enjoyment of any other allowed or permitted activity.

Sec. 70-84. Historic artifacts, features and man-made objects.

No person shall damage, disturb or remove any historic artifacts, historic features or other man-made objects from a park without the express written permission of the Town Manager. The Town Manager may choose to consult with the Commission on proposed activities. For the purposes of these regulations, "historic artifacts" are any material remains that give physical evidence of human occupation, habitation, use or activity; and "historic features" include, but are not limited to, walls, fence lines, cellars, fire pits, mill races or any other man-made arrangement of materials or the trace thereof.

Sec. 70-85. Ice skating.

No person shall go upon the ice of any body of water in a park except at such places and at such times as may be designated by the Town Manager or the Director. Ice-skating is permitted at rinks operated by the Department for such use, at such times and subject to the rules prescribed and posted at the facility.

Sec. 70-86. Metal detectors.

No person shall use a metal detector or similar device within a park without the express written permission of the Town Manager.

Sec. 70-87. Protection of park property.

- a) *Construction.* No person shall erect or construct any structure of any kind, install or perform any maintenance on any utility, equipment or other device on, below, over or across a park without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director and approvals as needed from the Planning and Zoning Commission and Inland Wetlands Agency as required or in accordance with the terms of an existing easement duly recorded in the town's land records.
- b) *Encroachments.* No person shall in any way alter, damage, remove or deface any facilities, features, vegetation, man-made objects or equipment in any park or place; nor erect or store personal property, plant vegetation or deposit debris or any park as an extension of a use on adjacent property without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director and approvals as needed from the Planning and Zoning Commission and Inland Wetlands Agency as required.

- c) *Excavation.* No person shall make any excavation by tool, equipment, blasting or other means in any park without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director and approvals as needed from the Planning and Zoning Commission and Inland Wetlands Agency as required or in accordance with the terms of an existing easement duly recorded in the town's land records.
- d) *Off-trail use.* No person shall bicycle, skate, ski, or ride horses off of trails, walkways, or roadways specifically designated by the Commission without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.
- e) *Trails.* Any person, board, or other organization that wishes to create a new trail or series of trails must, in addition to all other relevant permits or approvals, have plans reviewed and approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission or its designated representative. This section shall not apply to maintenance performed on existing trails.

Sec. 70-88. Public gathering.

Any public gathering shall be conducted in accordance with Chapter 66 of the Coventry Code of Ordinances.

Sec. 70-89. Restricted areas.

No person shall enter any area in any park designated and posted as restricted without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.

Sec. 70-90. Signs.

No person shall post signs in any park except at locations designated by and in accordance with Department of Parks and Recreation policy, or with the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.

Sec. 70-91. Wildlife and habitat protection.

- a) *Animals.* No person or his or her pet shall harass, capture, remove, injure or kill any animal or its young or eggs found in any park, or disturb the nest, den, burrow, lodge, roost, dam or other structure of any animal found in any park, or attempt to do so, without the relevant Federal, State, and Local permits and the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.
- b) *Feeding of wild animals.* No person shall feed any wild animal within any park without the relevant Federal, State, and Local permits and the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.
- c) *Removal of plants and fungi.* No person shall remove from any park any plant or fungus (e.g., mushrooms) or parts thereof including, but not limited to, cuttings, flowers, seeds, berries, nuts or foliage, without the relevant Federal, State, and Local permits and the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.

- d) *Abandonment or release of animals.* No person shall abandon, release or cause to be released into any park any animal or other organism without the relevant Federal, State, and Local permits and the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.
- e) *Planting or release of seeds or spores.* No person shall plant any plant or release or cause to be released into a park any plant or fungus, seeds, spores or invasive species without the relevant Federal, State, and Local permits and the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.
- f) *Habitat preservation.* No person shall disturb or modify woodlands, streams, stream banks, meadows, ponds, lakes or other natural areas within any park without the relevant Federal, State, and Local permits and the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.
- g) *Removal of natural materials.* No person shall remove or use any wood, wood chips, sod, earth, humus, rocks, minerals, fossils, sand, water or any other natural material from any park without the relevant Federal, State, and Local permits and the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.

Sec. 70-92. Penalty for violation of article.

Any person who violates any of the provisions of this article shall be subject to a fine for such a violation pursuant to Sec. 1-10 of the Coventry Code of Ordinances.

Secs. 70-93—70-115. Reserved.

ARTICLE IV. COVENTRY LAKE (LAKE WANGUMBAUG)

Sec. 70-116. Intent of article.

It is the intent of this article to regulate the waters of Lake Wangumbaug, also known as Coventry Lake, within the Town, and to promote public safety.

Sec. 70-117. Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Coventry Lake or the Lake refers to Lake Wangumbaug, also known as Coventry Lake.

Motorboat means any vessel, propelled by machinery, whether or not such machinery is the principal source of propulsion.

Operate means to navigate or otherwise use a vessel.

Sailboat means any vessel propelled by sail alone.

Vessel means every description of watercraft, other than a seaplane on water, used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water.

Waterskiing means aquaplaning, towing of any person behind a vessel under power and similar forms of activity.

Sec. 70-118. Speed limits.

- a) No person shall operate a vessel on Coventry Lake at a rate of speed greater than 40 miles per hour.
- b) From sunset to one hour after sunrise no motor boat shall be driven more than six miles per hour.
- c) Between the hours of 12:00 noon and 4:00 p.m. on Sundays from May 15 to September 15 and between the hours of 12:00 noon and 2:00 p.m. on July 4, no motor boat shall be driven more than six miles per hour. Publicly owned police vessels of the United States, the state, the Town and private vessels when responding to a verified emergency, i.e. rescue, are exempt from this limitation.
- d) Notwithstanding subsections (a) through (c), no person shall operate a vessel in excess of slow-no-wake when the water level is at or above 94 feet as measured at the weir gate. The Town Manager shall be the sole judge as to the water level and shall communicate to the public when the slow-no-wake restriction is in effect and when it is ended. For the purposes of this section, "slow-no-wake" shall have the same meaning as in Section 15-121-A1 of the Regulation of the Connecticut State Agencies.

Sec. 70-119. Boat use.

- a) All vessels towing a water skier on Coventry Lake are to proceed and operate in a counter-clockwise direction.
- b) Drinking of any alcoholic beverages while operating any vessel is prohibited.
- c) No person operating a vessel on Coventry Lake shall cross or jump the wake of another vessel, when within 200 feet of the vessel creating such wake, in such a manner that the hull of the vessel crossing the wake completely leaves the water.

Sec. 70-120. Special events.

- a) The Chief of Police and the Town Manager shall be the individuals authorized by the town to act upon applications for persons seeking authorization from the state

department of environmental protection to host any marine parade, regatta, race, tournament or exhibition on Coventry Lake.

- b) The Chief of Police may suspend the times and speed limit restrictions of section 70-118(c) if a Sunday special event is approved. Such a suspension will be included in all advertisements and notices regarding the event.

Sec. 70-121. Waterskiing.

The maximum number of water skiers to be towed by a motorboat is two at any one time. Towing more than two skiers shall be regarded as a special event requiring a chase boat and notification of the Chief of Police that the special event is going to take place.

Sec. 70-122. Parasailing.

Parasailing shall be considered a special event requiring a chase boat. A permit issued by the Chief of Police is required for this type of event.

Sec. 70-123. Reserved.

Sec. 70-124. Penalty for violation of article.

Any person who violates any provision of this article shall be subject to a fine for such violation pursuant to Sec. 1-10 of the Coventry Code of Ordinances.”

SECTION TWO

Severability: The provisions of this Ordinance #266 are severable. If any word, sentence, clause, phrase, or provision of this Resolution for any reason is declared by any court of competent jurisdiction to be void, unconstitutional, or unenforceable, then all remaining provisions and portions of this Resolution shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION THREE

Conflicts: All provisions of Chapter 70 inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION FOUR

Effective Date: Ordinance #266 shall become effective 21 days after publication of the legal notice of the adoption of this Ordinance.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Town Council of the Town of Coventry, Connecticut on this 17th day of February 2026.

**TOWN OF COVENTRY
TOWN COUNCIL**

Lisa Thomas, Chairperson

Attest:

Lori Tollmann, Town Clerk

Chapter 70 PARKS AND RECREATION¹

ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

Sec. 70-1 General provisions.

Parks belong to the people and were created to provide for recreational facilities, the enjoyment and leisure pursuits of the citizenry and for the preservation and interpretation of natural, cultural and historical resources.

The Town Parks and Recreation Commission, and the Parks and Recreation Department are proud to be hosts for public activities, but reserve the right to regulate these activities in the best interest of the parks, their users, neighbors and the general public.

In order to protect public parks, assure the safety of park users and maximize the public's enjoyment of these parks, it is necessary that regulations be established and adhered to by all park patrons. These regulations shall also apply to all paid and volunteer park staff except in those instances where an exception to these regulations is required for staff to complete tasks as part of their assigned duties. This document seeks to define those activities that are prohibited and/or regulated by law in the town parks. In addition to these regulations, all applicable state and/or local codes, including but not limited to, fire prevention codes, traffic and game laws are enforceable on park property.

Park patrons shall follow the lawful orders of park employees given to enforce or uphold these regulations. Park employees include both paid and authorized volunteer staff. For the purposes of these regulations, a lawful order is any direction by a law enforcement officer or park employee or public works personnel for a person or persons to comply with park regulations, state laws or local ordinances or to provide for public safety.

If any of these regulations or the application thereof to any person or circumstances, is held invalid the remainder of the regulations and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall remain in full force and effect.

In addition to these regulations, park patrons shall follow rules, procedures or policies, established by the Commission governing the use of parks and recreation facilities.

(Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-2. Definitions.

For the purpose of administering, enforcing or interpreting these regulations the following definitions shall apply:

Commission shall mean the Town Parks and Recreation Commission.

Department shall mean the Parks and Recreation Department of the town.

Designated swimming area shall mean the area within swim buoys, ropes and floats, as determined by the state department of energy and environmental protection.

¹Cross reference(s)—Environment, ch. 38; litter in parks, § 82-39; streets, sidewalks and other public places, ch. 86.

Commented [A1]: Ver. 7 – Prepared for the 2/17/26 meeting of the Town Council

Commented [A2]: Note to update editors notes and change history before publishing

Director shall mean the appointed head of the Parks and Recreation Department for the town and any designee as appropriate.

Parks shall include all parks, greens, playgrounds, beaches and open spaces located within the town, and which are managed by the Town Parks and Recreation Department.

PFJ's (Personal Flotation Devices) are lifejackets, either coast guard approved or not.

Possess shall mean having on one's person, among one's personal possessions, or in one's control.

Public gathering shall be defined as demonstrations, picketing, speeches, vigils, parades, ceremonies, meetings, rallies, entertainment, games, shows, concerts, picnics, weddings and all other forms of public assembly.

Recreational facilities shall include all buildings, stadiums, sports fields, sports complexes, and community centers located within the town, and which are managed by the town Parks and Recreation Department pursuant to sections 70-31, et seq.

Swimming aids may include toys, rubber balls, masks, fins and flotation devices, inflatable aids including "floaties", arm-wings, and buoyant bathing suits.

Tobacco products shall include cigarettes, cigars, pipe, chew tobacco, or any other products containing tobacco.

(Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Secs. 70-3—70-30. Reserved.

ARTICLE II. PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION²

Sec. 70-31. Establishment.

There is hereby established a parks and recreation commission ("Commission") for the purposes of making recommendations on and reviewing the development of town parks and recreational facilities and programs. The Commission shall have the following responsibilities:

- Identify and advocate for community recreation goals
- Advise and make recommendations to the Town Council, Town Manager, and Parks and Recreation Department in matters related to parks and recreation
- Assist with planning for recreation programs
- Participate in future development of parks and other recreation facilities
- Act as an arts commission, overseeing cultural and enrichment activities

(Ord. No. 122, § 1, 1-6-75; Ord. No. 122a, § 1, 1-17-83; Ord. No. 216, 3-3-03; Ord. No. 226, § 2, 7-17-06; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

²Cross reference(s)—Boards, committees, commissions, § 2-146 et seq.

Sec. 70-32. Appointment; terms.

- (a) The Commission shall consist of five regular members and two alternate members. Each regular member and alternate member shall be an elector of the town who shall be appointed by the town council. Minority representation rules shall apply to both regular members and alternate members.
- (b) Hereafter, all appointments (except vacancy appointments) shall be for two-year terms, and each such appointment shall commence upon the expiration of the term of a current Commission member. The term of the first alternate member to be appointed shall expire on January 1, in odd years. The term of the other alternate member to be appointed shall expire on January 1, in an even year. Vacancy appointments may be made by the town council for the period of time necessary to fill the remainder of the term of any member who has resigned or has otherwise vacated his or her position.

(Ord. No. 122, § 2, 1-6-75; Ord. No. 122a, § 2, 1-17-83; Ord. No. 216, 3-3-03; Ord. No. 226, § 2, 7-17-06; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-33. Officers; recordkeeping; annual report.

The Commission shall hold regular meetings on a monthly basis and may hold special meetings as needed or desired. The Commission shall file with the town clerk a schedule of its regular meetings for each calendar year no later than December 31 of the immediately preceding year. In January of each year, the Commission shall choose a chair, vice chair and secretary from its members. The Commission shall keep records of its meetings and activities and shall review the annual report.

(Ord. No. 122, § 3, 1-6-75; Ord. No. 122a, § 3, 1-17-83; Ord. No. 216, 3-3-03; Ord. No. 226, § 2, 7-17-06; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-34. Budget request for funding.

The Commission shall annually review the proposed Department operating budget and recommend capital improvements to the Director during the regular budgetary process.

(Ord. No. 122, § 4, 1-6-75; Ord. No. 122a, § 4, 1-17-83; Ord. No. 216, 3-3-03; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Secs. 70-35—70-65. Reserved.

ARTICLE III. USE OF TOWN PARKS AND BEACHES

Sec. 70-66. Fishing and boating restricted; exceptions.

No person shall use the shore or beach of any designated swimming area of any town park for the purpose of fishing, angling, floating or launching any boat into the waters of Lake Wangumbaug, or for the purpose of landing any boat thereon from the waters of such lake without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.

Fishing is allowed on park property in designated areas. Persons who fish or participate in the act of fishing shall have a fishing license as required by the state.

(Ord. No. 174, § 1, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 216, 3-3-03; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-67. Placing, leaving, standing or parking of boats or boat trailers.

No person shall place, leave, stand or park any boat or boat trailer of any kind whatsoever within Lissicke Park, Patriots Park, or the parking area of either park, except as may be specifically authorized by the Town Manager or the Director.

(Ord. No. 174, § 2, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 216, 3-3-03; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-68. Placing, leaving, standing or parking of motor vehicles within Lissicke Park and Patriots Park; permit required, eligibility for permit, and exceptions.

- (a) No person shall place, leave, stand or park any motor vehicle, automobile, motor bus, motor truck, motorcycle, camp or house trailer or any other means of conveyance, excluding non-motorized bicycles, within Lissicke Park, Patriots Park, or the parking area of either park, unless such vehicle shall have visibly displayed thereon a permit issued by the town authorizing the parking of such vehicle in the relevant parking area.
- (b) All persons who are town residents or taxpayers, or bona fide lessees of such residents or taxpayers, shall be eligible to apply for and receive such parking permits. Persons who are not town residents or taxpayers may purchase a daily parking ticket for Patriots Park only. The Commission shall recommend the fee for such tickets or permits to the Director.

(Ord. No. 174, § 3, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 216, 3-3-03; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Editor's note(s)—Ord. No. 238, adopted December 17, 2012, amended § 70-68 to read as set out herein. Former § 70-68 pertained to placing, leaving, standing or parking of motor vehicles within Lissicke Park and Patriot's Park; permit required, eligibility for permit.

Cross reference(s)—Traffic and motor vehicles, ch. 98.

Sec. 70-69. Hours of operation.

- (a) *Opening and closing.* No person shall enter a park before sunrise or remain in a park after sunset unless the person is:
 - (1) Using a lighted facility (as provided for in subsection (b)),
 - (2) Attending a permitted special event,
 - (3) Traveling along footpaths lighted by pedestrian lights for that purpose, or
 - (4) Has the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director, to be in a park before opening or after closing.

If a patron is in a park outside of operating hours in accordance with exceptions (1)—(4), the patron must leave the park by the closing time posted for the facility, park or event or specified in the permit.

- (b) *Lighted facilities.* Hours of operation for facilities for which the Department furnishes artificial lighting shall be posted at the facility or stipulated in a use permit.
- (c) *Interpretations.* In no way shall this section be interpreted to permit persons to remain between sundown and sunrise in areas lighted by security lights, including concession stand areas, walkways and athletic fields without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.

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- (d) *Camping.* No person shall set up an overnight camping or lodging site in a park without the express written permission of the Commission or its designated representative.

(Ord. No. 174, § 4, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 216, 3-3-03; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Editor's note(s)—Ord. No. 238, adopted December 17, 2012, amended § 70-69 to read as set out herein. Former § 70-69 pertained to closing hours; exception.

Sec. 70-70. Regulations concerning parks and recreational facilities.

The Director shall have authority to promulgate reasonable regulations subject to the approval of the Town Manager, concerning the use of all town parks and recreational facilities. The Director shall apprise the Commission of proposed or new regulations. Such regulations shall not be in conflict with regulations laid out in Chapter 70 of the Town of Coventry Code of Ordinances.

(Ord. No. 174, § 5, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Editor's note(s)—Ord. No. 238, adopted December 17, 2012, amended § 70-70 to read as set out herein. Former § 70-70 pertained to regulations concerning parking and beach supervision.

Cross reference(s)—Stopping, standing and parking, § 98-31 et seq.

Sec. 70-71. Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages, Smoking, Vaping.

- (a) Offer or sale. No person shall sell or offer any alcoholic beverage to members of the public in Town Parks without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director as well as the Chief of Police in accordance with the rules and regulations set forth therein.
- (b) Possession or consumption. No person is allowed to possess or consume alcoholic beverages in Town Parks without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director as well as the Chief of Police. The possession or consumption of permitted alcoholic beverages shall be allowed only in areas designated by the Town Manager or the Director.
- (c) Prohibitions. Under no circumstances will the consumption of alcoholic beverages in Town Parks be allowed by those under the legal drinking age established by the state.
- (d) Persons possessing or offering for sale any alcoholic beverage in Town Parks must comply with the regulations of the state liquor control commission.
- (e) The Town Manager or the Director as well as the Chief of Police may require the person or organization sponsoring an event to provide security if deemed necessary.
- (f) Smoking tobacco, cannabis, or other such products are prohibited in Town Parks in accordance with Sec. 50-1 of the Coventry Code of Ordinances.
- (g) The use of e-cigarettes/vapes, or other similar aerosol producing devices is prohibited in Town Parks in accordance with Sec 50-1 of the Coventry Code of Ordinances.

(Ord. No. 174, § 6, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Cross reference(s)—Alcoholic beverages, ch. 6.

Sec. 70-72. Enumeration of prohibited acts.

No person shall throw rocks, mud or sand; engage in roughhousing on the beaches or in the water; use swimming aids in the water; use a boat or engage in fishing in swimming areas; swim under or past buoys which designate swimming areas; push or otherwise move buoys from their designated position or area; engage in unauthorized scuba diving; or scuba dive from an area designated for swimmers.

(Ord. No. 174, § 7, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-73. Supervision of children.

No person shall permit any child under 12 years of age on the beach or in the water unless accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or adult (18 years or older).

(Ord. No. 174, § 8, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-74. Animals; regulations.

- (a) Cages and leashes. No person shall have in his or her custody within a Park any animal, excluding any service animal in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes, or police dogs, that is not either caged, or on a leash and under the person's control; except that a dog may be under the direct supervision of its owner or their agent without a cage or a leash in an area designated as an off-leash dog exercise area. Leashed animals are not permitted at Lisicke Park or Patriots Park during posted beach hours from May 20th to Sept 15th.
- (b) Horses. No person shall ride or lead a horse other than in an area designated for horseback riding without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.
- (c) Feeding domestic animals. No person shall feed any domestic animal other than his or her personal pet within a park unless the Town Manager or the Director expressly authorizes such feeding by a posted sign or in writing.
- (d) Exceptions. No animals are allowed on any athletic fields and the adjoining spectator areas.
- (e) All persons bringing animals into any parks, including designated off-leash areas, shall remove and properly dispose of all waste left by their animal. Persons failing to do so shall be subject to a penalty fine subject to Section 1-10 of the Coventry Code of Ordinances.

(Ord. No. 174, § 9, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Editor's note(s)—Ord. No. 238, adopted December 17, 2012, amended § 70-74 to read as set out herein. Former § 70-74 pertained to animals prohibited; exceptions.

Cross reference(s)—Animals, ch. 14.

Sec. 70-75. Littering.

No person shall possess glass containers, break glass, litter or permit children under his or her supervision to litter or otherwise deposit refuse of any type in any park. All litter that was carried in must be carried out of the park by park patrons, except in areas where trash receptacles are provided by the town.

(Ord. No. 174, § 10, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Cross reference(s)—Solid waste, ch. 82.

Sec. 70-76. Riding of horses, bicycles, skateboards or motorized vehicles, exceptions.

- (a) No person shall ride horses, bicycles, skateboards, motorized vehicles of any type, including motorcycles, on any beach, ball field or play area at any time, including hours when the parks are officially closed, except by special permit or where specifically designated.
- (b) Motor vehicles and traffic.
 - (1) *Speed limit where none is posted.* Where no speed limit is posted, no person shall operate a motor vehicle within a park at a speed greater than ten miles per hour.
 - (2) *Motorized wheelchairs and assistive devices.* Motorized wheelchairs and other motorized assistive devices for mobility-impaired persons, park personnel, law enforcement and emergency services personnel are permitted in all areas where pedestrian access is permitted, unless otherwise posted.
 - (3) *Off-road vehicle operation.* No person shall operate any type of motorized vehicle in areas of a park other than established roadways without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director except as noted in subsection (b)(2).
 - (4) *Parking and overnight parking.* No person shall park a motor vehicle in areas of a park other than those designated as parking areas by the Town Manager or the Director. Motor vehicles may not be parked overnight in a park without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director. Motor vehicles left over night in violation of this regulation may be ticketed and/or towed.
 - (5) *Maintenance of motor vehicles.* No person shall repair, clean, wax or otherwise maintain a motor vehicle in a park. In no case shall anyone discharge or cause to be discharged hazardous substances, including but not limited to, gasoline, antifreeze or motor oil, in any park.

(Ord. No. 174, § 11, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Editor's note(s)—Ord. No. 238, adopted December 17, 2012, amended § 70-76 to read as set out herein. Former § 70-76 pertained to riding of horses, bicycles, skateboards or motorized vehicles.

Cross reference(s)—Horses, § 14-2; traffic and vehicles, ch. 98.

Sec. 70-77. Use or possession of firearms or other dangerous devices.

- (a) *Dangerous devices.*
 - (1) *Guns.* While in a park, no person, other than a police officer, shall possess a firearm or other gun. This includes projectile devices using air (e.g. BB gun) or gas (e.g. pellet/paintball guns) for exhibition purposes without the express written permission of the Town Manager.
 - (2) *Projectiles.* No person shall possess or use a slingshot, bow and arrow, dart device, javelin or similar pointed projectiles and other devices designed for high-speed missile projection, for recreational, educational or exhibition purposes without the express written permission of the Town Manager.
 - (3) *Dangerous sports.* No person shall engage in any sporting activity, including the practice of golf, archery, javelin, hammer, shot put or similar devices except in those areas specifically designated for that purpose without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director. No person will participate in paintball or other combative sports without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.
 - (4) *Knives.* No person shall possess a knife with a blade more than four inches in length within a park except for the purpose of food preparation or exhibition purposes.

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- (5) *Fireworks.* No person shall possess or discharge fireworks in a park without the express written permission of the Town Manager.
 - (b) *Remote-control devices and powered models or toys.* No person shall operate hobby rockets, remote-control gliders or powered remote-control or tethered planes, boats, cars, drones or other like devices in a park except during times and in areas designated by the Commission or its designated representative.
 - (c) *Hunting and trapping.* Hunting and trapping of wildlife are prohibited in a park except when expressly permitted in writing as part of a town controlled activity.

(Ord. No. 174, § 12, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Editor's note(s)—Ord. No. 238, adopted December 17, 2012, amended § 70-77 to read as set out herein. Former § 70-77 pertained to use or possession of firearms or other weapons.

Sec. 70-78. Rafts or docks in swimming areas.

No rafts or docks shall be permitted in swimming areas.

(Ord. No. 174, § 13, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-79. Swimming areas—Bathing and wading.

Swimming, bathing and wading in a park are permitted only in water facilities established by the Commission, or their designee, and only during posted hours of operation. No person shall be allowed to wade, swim, or bathe in any park fountain, pond, brook, or natural body of water on Town Properties except within designated, marked-off areas or with the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director. Entering water on Town properties in designated areas for the purposes of fishing shall be governed by section 70-66.

(Ord. No. 174, § 14, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Editor's note(s)—Ord. No. 238, adopted December 17, 2012, amended § 70-79 to read as set out herein. Former § 70-79 pertained to swimming areas.

Sec. 70-80. Open fires.

No open fires shall be permitted in any town park, except upon express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director and with a permit from the town burning official in areas designated for such purpose.

(Ord. No. 174, § 17, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Cross reference(s)—Fire prevention and protection generally, ch. 42.

Sec. 70-81. Amplified sound.

No person shall operate in a park any device designed to produce, reproduce or amplify sound in a manner unreasonably loud to others, without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.

(Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Editor's note(s)—Ord. No. 238, adopted December 17, 2012, added §§ 70-81—70-91 and renumbered § 70-81, penalty for violation of article, as § 70-92.

Sec. 70-82. Business activities, soliciting and advertising.

- (a) *Business activities.* No person shall sell or offer to sell any goods, merchandise or services or conduct business activities including advertising, within a park without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.
- (b) *Solicitation.* No person shall solicit monetary or other valuable contributions; collect admissions or request donations from others in any park without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.

(Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-83. Infringement.

No person or group shall engage in conduct or participate in any activity that infringes on the rights or the enjoyment of any other allowed or permitted activity.

(Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-84. Historic artifacts, features and man-made objects.

No person shall damage, disturb or remove any historic artifacts, historic features or other man-made objects from a park without the express written permission of the Town Manager. The Town Manager may choose to consult with the Commission on proposed activities. For the purposes of these regulations, "historic artifacts" are any material remains that give physical evidence of human occupation, habitation, use or activity; and "historic features" include, but are not limited to, walls, fence lines, cellars, fire pits, mill races or any other man-made arrangement of materials or the trace thereof.

(Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-85. Ice skating.

No person shall go upon the ice of any body of water in a park except at such places and at such times as may be designated by the Town Manager or the Director. Ice-skating is permitted at rinks operated by the Department for such use, at such times and subject to the rules prescribed and posted at the facility.

(Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-86. Metal detectors.

No person shall use a metal detector or similar device within a park without the express written permission of the Town Manager.

(Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-87. Protection of park property.

- (a) *Construction.* No person shall erect or construct any structure of any kind, install or perform any maintenance on any utility, equipment or other device on, below, over or across a park without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director and approvals as needed from the Planning and

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Zoning Commission and Inland Wetlands Agency as required or in accordance with the terms of an existing easement duly recorded in the town's land records.

- (b) *Encroachments.* No person shall in any way alter, damage, remove or deface any facilities, features, vegetation, man-made objects or equipment in any park or place; nor erect or store personal property, plant vegetation or deposit debris or any park as an extension of a use on adjacent property without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director and approvals as needed from the Planning and Zoning Commission and Inland Wetlands Agency as required.
- (c) *Excavation.* No person shall make any excavation by tool, equipment, blasting or other means in any park without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director and approvals as needed from the Planning and Zoning Commission and Inland Wetlands Agency as required or in accordance with the terms of an existing easement duly recorded in the town's land records.
- (d) *Off-trail use.* No person shall bicycle, skate, ski, or ride horses off of trails, walkways, or roadways specifically designated by the Commission without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.
- (e) *Trails.* Any person, board, or other organization that wishes to create a new trail or series of trails must, in addition to all other relevant permits or approvals, have plans reviewed and approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission or its designated representative. This section shall not apply to maintenance performed on existing trails.

(Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-88. Public gathering.

Any public gathering shall be conducted in accordance with section 66-37.

(Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12; Ord. No. 255, 1-21-20)

Sec. 70-89. Restricted areas.

No person shall enter any area in any park designated and posted as restricted without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.

(Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-90. Signs.

No person shall post signs in any park except at locations designated by and in accordance with Department of Parks and Recreation policy, or with the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.

(Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-91. Wildlife and habitat protection.

- (a) *Animals.* No person or his or her pet shall harass, capture, remove, injure or kill any animal or its young or eggs found in any park, or disturb the nest, den, burrow, lodge, roost, dam or other structure of any animal found in any park, or attempt to do so, without the relevant Federal, State, and Local permits and the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.
- (b) *Feeding of wild animals.* No person shall feed any wild animal within any park without the relevant Federal, State, and Local permits and the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.

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- (c) *Removal of plants and fungi.* No person shall remove from any park any plant or fungus (e.g., mushrooms) or parts thereof including, but not limited to, cuttings, flowers, seeds, berries, nuts or foliage, without the relevant Federal, State, and Local permits and the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.
 - (d) *Abandonment or release of animals.* No person shall abandon, release or cause to be released into any park any animal or other organism without the relevant Federal, State, and Local permits and the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.
 - (e) *Planting or release of seeds or spores.* No person shall plant any plant or release or cause to be released into a park any plant or fungus, seeds, spores or invasive species without the relevant Federal, State, and Local permits and the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.
 - (f) *Habitat preservation.* No person shall disturb or modify woodlands, streams, stream banks, meadows, ponds, lakes or other natural areas within any park without the relevant Federal, State, and Local permits and the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.
 - (g) *Removal of natural materials.* No person shall remove or use any wood, wood chips, sod, earth, humus, rocks, minerals, fossils, sand, water or any other natural material from any park without the relevant Federal, State, and Local permits and the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.

(Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-92. Penalty for violation of article.

Any person who violates any of the provisions of this article shall be subject to a fine for such a violation pursuant to Sec. 1-10 of the Coventry Code of Ordinances.

(Ord. No. 174, § 18, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Editor's note(s)—See note at § 70-81.

Secs. 70-93—70-115. Reserved.

ARTICLE IV. COVENTRY LAKE (LAKE WANGUMBAUG)

Sec. 70-116. Intent of article.

It is the intent of this article to regulate the waters of Lake Wangumbaug, also known as Coventry Lake, within the town, and to promote public safety.

(Ord. No. 161, § II, 4-1-89)

Sec. 70-117. Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Coventry Lake or the lake refers to Lake Wangumbaug, also known as Coventry Lake.

Motorboat means any vessel, propelled by machinery, whether or not such machinery is the principal source of propulsion.

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Operate means to navigate or otherwise use a vessel.

Sailboat means any vessel propelled by sail alone.

Vessel means every description of watercraft, other than a seaplane on water, used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water.

Waterskiing means aquaplaning, towing of any person behind a vessel under power and similar forms of activity.

(Ord. No. 161, § III, 4-1-89)

Cross reference(s)—Definitions generally, § 1-2.

Sec. 70-118. Speed limits.

- (a) No person shall operate a vessel on Coventry Lake at a rate of speed greater than 40 miles per hour.
- (b) From sunset to one hour after sunrise no motor boat shall be driven more than six miles per hour.
- (c) Between the hours of 12:00 noon and 4:00 p.m. on Sundays from May 15 to September 15 and between the hours of 12:00 noon and 2:00 p.m. on July 4, no motor boat shall be driven more than six miles per hour. Publicly owned police vessels of the United States, the state, the town and private vessels when responding to a verified emergency, i.e. rescue, are exempt from this limitation.
- (d) Notwithstanding subsections (a) through (c), no person shall operate a vessel in excess of slow-no-wake when the water level is at or above 94 feet as measured at the weir gate. The town manager shall be the sole judge as to the water level and shall communicate to the public when the slow-no-wake restriction is in effect and when it is ended. For the purposes of this section, "slow-no-wake" shall have the same meaning as in Section 15-121-A1 of the Regulation of the Connecticut State Agencies.

(Ord. No. 161, § IV, 4-1-89; Ord. No. 172, § I, 11-5-90; Ord. No. 211, § 1, 8-7-00; Ord. No. 261, 10-4-21)

Editor's note(s)—As set out in RCSA 15-121-A1 (j) and referenced in subsection (d) above, "slow-no-wake" means that a vessel shall not produce more than a minimum wake and shall not attain speeds greater than six miles per hour over the ground unless a higher minimum speed is necessary to maintain steerageway when traveling with a strong current. In no case shall the wake produced by the vessel be such that it creates a danger of injury to persons, or will damage vessels or structures of any kind.

Cross reference(s)—Traffic and vehicles, ch. 98.

Sec. 70-119. Boat use.

- (a) All vessels towing a water skier on Coventry Lake are to proceed and operate in a counter-clockwise direction.
- (b) Drinking of any alcoholic beverages while operating any vessel is prohibited.
- (c) No person operating a vessel on Coventry Lake shall cross or jump the wake of another vessel, when within 200 feet of the vessel creating such wake, in such a manner that the hull of the vessel crossing the wake completely leaves the water.

(Ord. No. 161, §§ V, VI, 4-1-89; Ord. No. 172, § I, 11-5-90; Ord. No. 211, § 1, 8-7-00)

Sec. 70-120. Special events.

- (a) The chief of police and the town manager shall be the individuals authorized by the town to act upon applications for persons seeking authorization from the state department of environmental protection to host any marine parade, regatta, race, tournament or exhibition on Coventry Lake.
- (b) The chief of police may suspend the times and speed limit restrictions of section 70-118(c) if a Sunday special event is approved. Such a suspension will be included in all advertisements and notices regarding the event.

(Ord. No. 161, § VI, 4-1-89)

Sec. 70-121. Waterskiing.

The maximum number of water skiers to be towed by a motorboat is two at any one time. Towing more than two skiers shall be regarded as a special event requiring a chase boat and notification of the chief of police that the special event is going to take place.

(Ord. No. 161, § VII, 4-1-89)

Sec. 70-122. Parasailing.

Parasailing shall be considered a special event requiring a chase boat. A permit issued by the chief of police is required for this type of event.

(Ord. No. 161, § VIII, 4-1-89)

Sec. 70-123. Reserved.

Sec. 70-124. Penalty for violation of article.

Any person who violates any provision of this article shall be subject to a fine for such violation pursuant to Sec. 1-10 of the Coventry Code of Ordinances.

(Ord. No. 161, § XI, 4-1-89)

Chapter 70 PARKS AND RECREATION¹

ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

Sec. 70-1 General provisions.

Parks belong to the people and were created to provide for recreational facilities, the enjoyment and leisure pursuits of the citizenry and for the preservation and interpretation of natural, cultural and historical resources.

The Town Parks and Recreation Commission, and the Parks and Recreation Department are proud to be hosts for public activities, but reserve the right to regulate these activities in the best interest of the parks, their users, neighbors and the general public.

In order to protect public parks, assure the safety of park users and maximize the public's enjoyment of these parks, it is necessary that regulations be established and adhered to by all park patrons. These regulations shall also apply to all paid and volunteer park staff except in those instances where an exception to these regulations is required for staff to complete tasks as part of their assigned duties. This document seeks to define those activities that are prohibited and/or regulated by law in the town parks. In addition to these regulations, all applicable state and/or local codes, including but not limited to, fire prevention codes, traffic and game laws are enforceable on park property.

Park patrons shall follow the lawful orders of park employees given to enforce or uphold these regulations. Park employees include both paid and authorized volunteer staff. For the purposes of these regulations, a lawful order is any direction by a law enforcement officer or park employee or public works personnel for a person or persons to comply with park regulations, state laws or local ordinances or to provide for public safety.

If any of these regulations or the application thereof to any person or circumstances, is held invalid the remainder of the regulations and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall remain in full force and effect.

In addition to these regulations, park patrons shall follow rules, procedures or policies, established by the Commission governing the use of parks and recreation facilities.

(Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-2. Definitions.

For the purpose of administering, enforcing or interpreting these regulations the following definitions shall apply:

Commission shall mean the Town Parks and Recreation Commission.

Department shall mean the Parks and Recreation Department of the town.

Designated swimming area shall mean the area within ~~the~~ swim buoys, ropes and floats, as determined by the state department of energy and environmental protection.

¹Cross reference(s)—Environment, ch. 38; litter in parks, § 82-39; streets, sidewalks and other public places, ch. 86.

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Director shall mean the appointed head of the Parks and Recreation Department for the town and any designee as appropriate.

Parks shall include all parks, greens, playgrounds, beaches and open spaces located within the town, and which are under the authority of the town parks and recreation commission managed by the Town Parks and Recreation Department pursuant to sections 70-31, et seq.

PFD's (Personal Flotation Devices) are lifejackets, either coast guard approved or not.

Possess shall mean having on one's person, among one's personal possessions, or in one's control.

Public gathering shall be defined as demonstrations, picketing, speeches, vigils, parades, ceremonies, meetings, rallies, entertainment, games, shows, concerts, picnics, weddings and all other forms of public assembly.

Recreational facilities shall include all buildings, stadiums, sports fields, sports complexes, and community centers located within the town, and which are under the authority of managed by the town Parks and Recreation commission-Department pursuant to sections 70-31, et seq.

Swimming aids may include toys, rubber balls, masks, fins and flotation devices, inflatable aids including "floaties", arm-wings, and buoyant bathing suits.

Tobacco products shall include cigarettes, cigars, pipe, chew tobacco, or any other products containing tobacco.

(Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Secs. 70-3—70-30. Reserved.

ARTICLE II. PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION²

Sec. 70-31. Establishment.

~~There is hereby established a parks and recreation commission ("commission") for the purposes of developing policies for town parks and recreational programs and facilities, overseeing the development and operation of town recreational programs, and developing town recreational facilities. The commission shall also act as an arts commission, that oversees cultural and enrichment activities.~~

There is hereby established a parks and recreation commission ("Commission") for the purposes of making recommendations on and reviewing the development of town parks and recreational facilities and programs. The Commission shall have the following responsibilities:

- Identify and advocate for community recreation goals
- Advise and make recommendations to the Town Council, Town Manager, and Parks and Recreation Department in matters related to parks and recreation
- Assist with planning for recreation programs
- Participate in future development of parks and other recreation facilities
- Act as an arts commission, overseeing cultural and enrichment activities

²Cross reference(s)—Boards, committees, commissions, § 2-146 et seq.

(Ord. No. 122, § 1, 1-6-75; Ord. No. 122a, § 1, 1-17-83; Ord. No. 216, 3-3-03; Ord. No. 226, § 2, 7-17-06; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-32. Appointment; terms.

- (a) The Commission shall consist of five regular members and two alternate members. Each regular member and alternate member shall be an elector of the town who shall be appointed by the town council. Minority representation rules shall apply to both regular members and alternate members.
- (b) Hereafter, all appointments (except vacancy appointments) shall be for two-year terms, and each such appointment shall commence upon the expiration of the term of a current Commission member. The term of the first alternate member to be appointed shall expire on January 1, in odd years. The term of the other alternate member to be appointed shall expire on January 1, in an even year. Vacancy appointments may be made by the town council for the period of time necessary to fill the remainder of the term of any member who has resigned or has otherwise vacated his or her position.

~~Upon resignation, or the expiration of the term, of an incumbent member, the seat will remain vacant until only five regular seats remain.~~

(Ord. No. 122, § 2, 1-6-75; Ord. No. 122a, § 2, 1-17-83; Ord. No. 216, 3-3-03; Ord. No. 226, § 2, 7-17-06; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-33. Officers; recordkeeping; annual report.

The Commission shall hold regular meetings on a monthly basis and may hold special meetings as needed or desired. The Commission shall file with the town clerk a schedule of its regular meetings for each calendar year no later than December 31 of the immediately preceding year. In January of each year, the Commission shall choose a chairman, vice chairman and secretary from its members. The Commission shall keep records of its meetings and activities and shall ~~make an review the~~ annual report ~~to the town council~~.

(Ord. No. 122, § 3, 1-6-75; Ord. No. 122a, § 3, 1-17-83; Ord. No. 216, 3-3-03; Ord. No. 226, § 2, 7-17-06; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-34. Budget request for funding.

The Commission shall annually ~~assist review the proposed Department operating budget and recommend capital improvements to the department Director during the regular budgetary process. in preparing and submitting budget requests and proposals to the town council for funding parks and recreation programs and facilities. All proposals for new projects and for the development of new facilities or improvements made to existing facilities must be submitted to and approved by the town council.~~

(Ord. No. 122, § 4, 1-6-75; Ord. No. 122a, § 4, 1-17-83; Ord. No. 216, 3-3-03; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Secs. 70-35—70-65. Reserved.

ARTICLE III. USE OF TOWN PARKS AND BEACHES

Sec. 70-66. Fishing and boating restricted; exceptions.

No person shall use the shore or beach of any designated swimming area of any town park for the purpose of fishing, angling, floating or launching any boat ~~without the express written permission of the commission or its designated representative,~~ into the waters of Lake Wangumbaug, or for the purpose of landing any boat thereon from the waters of such lake ~~without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.~~

Fishing is allowed on park property ~~where-in~~ designated ~~areas~~ ~~by the commission.~~ Persons who fish or participate in the act of fishing shall have a fishing license as required by the state.

(Ord. No. 174, § 1, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 216, 3-3-03; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-67. Placing, leaving, standing or parking of boats or boat trailers.

No person shall place, leave, stand or park any boat or boat trailer of any kind whatsoever within Liske Park, Patriots Park, or the parking area of either park, except as may be specifically authorized by the ~~town~~ Town Manager or the Director.

(Ord. No. 174, § 2, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 216, 3-3-03; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-68. Placing, leaving, standing or parking of motor vehicles within Liske Park and Patriots Park; permit required, eligibility for permit, and exceptions.

- (a) No person shall place, leave, stand or park any motor vehicle, automobile, motor bus, motor truck, motorcycle, camp or house trailer or any other means of conveyance, excluding non-motorized bicycles, within Liske Park, Patriots Park, or the parking area of either park, unless such vehicle shall have visibly displayed thereon a permit issued by the town authorizing the parking of such vehicle in the relevant parking area.
- (b) All persons who are town residents or taxpayers, or bona fide lessees of such residents or taxpayers, shall be eligible to apply for and receive such parking permits. Persons who are not town residents or taxpayers may purchase a daily parking ticket for Patriots Park only. The ~~parks and recreation~~ Commission shall ~~recommend~~ ~~determine~~ the fee for such tickets ~~or permits to the Director.~~

(Ord. No. 174, § 3, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 216, 3-3-03; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Editor's note(s)—Ord. No. 238, adopted December 17, 2012, amended § 70-68 to read as set out herein. Former § 70-68 pertained to placing, leaving, standing or parking of motor vehicles within Liske Park and Patriot's Park; permit required, eligibility for permit.

Cross reference(s)—Traffic and motor vehicles, ch. 98.

Sec. 70-69. Hours of operation.

- (a) *Opening and closing.* No person shall enter a park before sunrise or remain in a park after sunset unless the person is:
 - (1) Using a lighted facility (as provided for in subsection (b)),
 - (2) Attending a ~~permitted~~ special event ~~permitted by the commission,~~
 - (3) Traveling along footpaths lighted by pedestrian lights for that purpose, or

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- (4) Has the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director ~~commission, or its designated representative~~, to be in a park before opening or after closing.

If a patron is in a park outside of operating hours in accordance with exceptions (1)—(4), the patron must leave the park by the closing time posted for the facility, park or event or specified in the permit.

- (b) *Lighted facilities.* Hours of operation for facilities for which the commission ~~Department~~ furnishes artificial lighting shall be posted at the facility or stipulated in a use permit.
- (c) *Interpretations.* In no way shall this section be interpreted to permit persons to remain between sundown and sunrise in areas lighted by security lights, including concession stand areas, walkways and athletic fields without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director ~~commission or its designated representative~~.
- (d) *Camping.* No person shall set up an overnight camping or lodging site in a park without the express written permission of the Commission or its designated representative.

(Ord. No. 174, § 4, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 216, 3-3-03; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Editor's note(s)—Ord. No. 238, adopted December 17, 2012, amended § 70-69 to read as set out herein. Former § 70-69 pertained to closing hours; exception.

Sec. 70-70. Regulations concerning parks and recreational facilities.

The commission ~~Director~~ shall have authority to promulgate reasonable regulations subject to the approval of the ~~town council~~ Town Manager, concerning the use of all town parks and recreational facilities. The Director shall apprise the Commission of proposed or new regulations. Such regulations shall not be in conflict with regulations laid out in Chapter 70 of the Town of Coventry Code of Ordinances.

(Ord. No. 174, § 5, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Editor's note(s)—Ord. No. 238, adopted December 17, 2012, amended § 70-70 to read as set out herein. Former § 70-70 pertained to regulations concerning parking and beach supervision.

Cross reference(s)—Stopping, standing and parking, § 98-31 et seq.

Sec. 70-71. Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages, Smoking, Vaping.

- (a) Offer or sale. No person shall sell or offer any alcoholic beverage to members of the public in Town Parks without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director as well as the Chief of Police ~~commission or its designated representative~~ in accordance with the rules and regulations set forth therein.
- (b) Possession or consumption. No person is allowed to possess or consume alcoholic beverages in Town Parks without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director as well as the Chief of Police ~~commission or its designated representative~~. The possession or consumption of permitted alcoholic beverages shall be allowed only in areas designated by the ~~commission~~ Town Manager or the Director.
- (c) Prohibitions. Under no circumstances will the consumption of alcoholic beverages in Town Parks be allowed by those under the legal drinking age established by the state.
- (d) Persons possessing or offering for sale any alcoholic beverage in Town Parks must comply with the regulations of the state liquor control commission.

(e) The ~~commission-Town Manager or the Director as well as the Chief of Police~~ may require the person or organization sponsoring an event to provide security ~~as determined by the chief of police if deemed necessary.~~

(f) ~~Smoking tobacco, cannabis, or other such products are prohibited in Town Parks in accordance with Sec. 50-1 of the Coventry Code of Ordinances.~~

(g) ~~The use of e-cigarettes/vapes, or other similar aerosol producing devices is prohibited in Town Parks in accordance with Sec 50-1 of the Coventry Code of Ordinances.~~

(Ord. No. 174, § 6, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Cross reference(s)—Alcoholic beverages, ch. 6.

Sec. 70-72. Enumeration of prohibited acts.

No person shall throw rocks, mud or sand; engage in roughhousing on the beaches or in the water; use swimming aids in the water; use a boat or engage in fishing in swimming areas; swim under or past buoys which designate swimming areas; push or otherwise move buoys from their designated position or area; engage in unauthorized scuba diving; or scuba dive from an area designated for swimmers.

(Ord. No. 174, § 7, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-73. Supervision of children.

No person shall permit any child under 12 years of age on the beach or in the water unless accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or adult (18 years or older).

(Ord. No. 174, § 8, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-74. Animals; regulations.

(a) Cages and leashes. No person shall have in his or her custody within a Park any animal, excluding any ~~guide or service animal dog accompanying a blind, deaf or mobility-impaired person~~ in accordance with ~~G.S. § 46a-44 Connecticut General Statutes~~, or police dogs, that is not either caged, or on a leash and under the person's control; except that a dog may be under the direct supervision of its owner or their agent without a cage or a leash in an area designated as an off-leash dog exercise area. ~~Leashed animals are not permitted at Lisicke Park or Patriots Park during posted beach hours from May 20th to Sept 15th.~~

(b) Horses. No person shall ride or lead a horse other than in an area designated for horseback riding without the express written permission of the ~~Town Manager or the Director commission or its designated representative.~~

(c) Feeding domestic animals. No person shall feed any domestic animal other than his or her personal pet within a park unless the ~~commission-Town Manager or the Director~~ expressly authorizes such feeding by a posted sign or in writing.

(d) Exceptions. No animals are allowed on any athletic fields and the adjoining spectator areas, ~~and at Lisicke Beach and Patriots Park.~~

-
- (e) All persons bringing animals into any parks, including designated off-leash areas, shall ~~clean up after~~remove and properly dispose of all waste left by their animal. Persons failing to do so shall be subject to a penalty fine ~~of \$25.00~~subject to Section 1-10 of the Coventry Code of Ordinances.

(Ord. No. 174, § 9, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Editor's note(s)—Ord. No. 238, adopted December 17, 2012, amended § 70-74 to read as set out herein. Former § 70-74 pertained to animals prohibited; exceptions.

Cross reference(s)—Animals, ch. 14.

Sec. 70-75. Littering.

No person shall possess glass containers, break glass, litter or permit children under his or her supervision to litter or otherwise deposit refuse of any type in any park. All litter that was carried in must be carried out of the park by park patrons, except in areas where trash receptacles are provided by the town.

(Ord. No. 174, § 10, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Cross reference(s)—Solid waste, ch. 82.

Sec. 70-76. Riding of horses, bicycles, skateboards or motorized vehicles, exceptions.

- (a) No person shall ride horses, bicycles, skateboards, motorized vehicles of any type, including motorcycles, on any beach, ball field or play area at any time, including hours when the parks are officially closed, except by special permit or where specifically designated.
- (b) Motor vehicles and traffic.
- (1) *Speed limit where none is posted.* Where no speed limit is posted, no person shall operate a motor vehicle within a park at a speed greater than ten miles per hour.
 - (2) *Motorized wheelchairs and assistive devices.* Motorized wheelchairs and other motorized assistive devices for mobility-impaired persons, park personnel, law enforcement and emergency services personnel are permitted in all areas where pedestrian access is permitted, unless otherwise posted ~~by the commission.~~
 - (3) *Off-road vehicle operation.* No person shall operate any type of motorized vehicle in areas of a park other than established roadways without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director~~Commission or its designated representative~~ except as noted in subsection (b)(2).
 - (4) *Parking and overnight parking.* No person shall park a motor vehicle in areas of a park other than those designated as parking areas by the Town Manager or the Director~~commission or its designated representative as parking areas~~. Motor vehicles may not be parked overnight in a park without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director~~commission or its designated representative~~. Motor vehicles left over night in violation of this regulation may be ticketed and/or towed.
 - (5) *Maintenance of motor vehicles.* No person shall repair, clean, wax or otherwise maintain a motor vehicle in a park. In no case shall anyone discharge or cause to be discharged hazardous substances, including but not limited to, gasoline, antifreeze or motor oil, in any park.

(Ord. No. 174, § 11, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Editor's note(s)—Ord. No. 238, adopted December 17, 2012, amended § 70-76 to read as set out herein. Former § 70-76 pertained to riding of horses, bicycles, skateboards or motorized vehicles.

Cross reference(s)—Horses, § 14-2; traffic and vehicles, ch. 98.

Sec. 70-77. Use or possession of firearms or other dangerous devices.

(a) *Dangerous devices.*

- (1) *Guns.* While in a park, no person, other than a police officer, shall possess a firearm or other gun. This includes projectile devices using air (e.g. BB gun) or gas (e.g. pellet/paintball guns) for exhibition purposes without the express written permission of the Town Manager~~commission or its designated representative for exhibition purposes.~~
- (2) *Projectiles.* No person shall possess or use a slingshot, bow and arrow, dart device, javelin or similar pointed projectiles and other devices designed for high-speed missile projection, for recreational, educational or exhibition purposes without the express written permission of the Town Manager~~commission or its designated representative, in which one or more of these devices are permitted for recreational, educational or exhibition purposes.~~
- (3) *Dangerous sports.* No person shall engage in any sporting activity, including the practice of golf, archery, javelin, hammer, shot put or similar devices except in those areas specifically designated for that purpose without the express written permission and under the supervision of the Town Manager or the Director~~commission or its designated representative, or with their express written permission of the commission or its designated representative.~~ No person will participate in paintball or other combative sports without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director~~commission or its designated representative.~~
- (4) *Knives.* No person shall possess a knife with a blade more than four inches in length within a park except for the purpose of food preparation or exhibition purposes.
- (5) *Fireworks.* No person shall possess or discharge fireworks in a park without the express written permission of the Town Manager~~commission or its designated representative.~~

(b) *Remote-control devices and powered models or toys.* No person shall operate hobby rockets, remote-control gliders or powered remote-control or tethered planes, boats, cars, drones or other like devices in a park except during times and in areas designated by the Commission or its designated representative.

(c) *Hunting and trapping.* Hunting and trapping of wildlife are prohibited in a park except when expressly permitted in writing as part of a ~~commission or~~ town controlled activity.

(Ord. No. 174, § 12, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Editor's note(s)—Ord. No. 238, adopted December 17, 2012, amended § 70-77 to read as set out herein. Former § 70-77 pertained to use or possession of firearms or other weapons.

Sec. 70-78. Rafts or docks in swimming areas.

No rafts or docks shall be permitted in swimming areas.

(Ord. No. 174, § 13, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-79. Swimming areas—Bathing and wading.

~~Swimming, bathing and wading in a park are permitted only in water facilities established by the Commission, or their designee, and only during posted hours of operation. No person shall be allowed to wade, swim, or bathe in any park fountain, pond, brook, or natural body of water on Town Properties except within designated, marked-off areas or without the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director or commission or its designated representative. All swimmers shall be confined within designated, marked-off areas. Entering water on Town properties in designated areas for the purposes of fishing shall be governed by section 70-66. Swimming, bathing and wading in a park are permitted only in water facilities established by the commission for such purposes and only during posted hours of operation.~~

(Ord. No. 174, § 14, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Editor's note(s)—Ord. No. 238, adopted December 17, 2012, amended § 70-79 to read as set out herein. Former § 70-79 pertained to swimming areas.

Sec. 70-80. Open fires.

No open fires shall be permitted in any town park, except upon express written permission of the ~~Town Manager or the Director or commission or its designated representative~~ and with permit from the town burning official in areas designated for such purpose.

(Ord. No. 174, § 17, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Cross reference(s)—Fire prevention and protection generally, ch. 42.

Sec. 70-81. Amplified sound.

No person shall operate in a park; ~~in a manner unreasonably loud to others~~; any device designed to produce, reproduce or amplify sound ~~in a manner unreasonably loud to others~~, without the express written permission of the ~~Town Manager or the Director or commission or its designated representative~~.

(Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Editor's note(s)—Ord. No. 238, adopted December 17, 2012, added §§ 70-81—70-91 and renumbered § 70-81, penalty for violation of article, as § 70-92.

Sec. 70-82. Business activities, soliciting and advertising.

- (a) *Business activities.* No person shall sell or offer to sell any goods, merchandise or services or conduct business activities including advertising, within a park without the express written permission of the ~~Town Manager or the Director or commission or its designated representative~~.
- (b) *Solicitation.* No person shall solicit monetary or other valuable contributions; collect admissions or request donations from others in any park without the express written permission of the ~~Town Manager or the Director or commission or its designated representative~~.

(Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-83. Infringement.

No person or group shall engage in conduct or participate in any activity that infringes on the rights or the enjoyment of any other allowed or permitted activity.

(Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-84. Historic artifacts, features and man-made objects.

No person shall damage, disturb or remove any historic artifacts, historic features or other man-made objects from a park without the express written permission of the ~~commission~~Town Manager. The Town Manager may choose to consult with the Commission on proposed activities. For the purposes of these regulations, "historic artifacts" are any material remains that give physical evidence of human occupation, habitation, use or activity; and "historic features" include, but are not limited to, walls, fence lines, cellars, fire pits, mill races or any other man-made arrangement of materials or the trace thereof.

(Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-85. Ice skating.

No person shall go upon the ice of any body of water in a park except at such places and at such times as may be designated by the ~~Town Manager or the Director~~commission or its designated representative. Ice-skating is permitted at rinks operated by the ~~commission~~Department for such use, at such times and subject to the rules prescribed and posted at the facility.

(Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-86. Metal detectors.

No person shall use a metal detector or similar device within a park without the express written permission of the ~~Town Manager~~commission or its designated representative.

(Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-87. Protection of park property.

- (a) *Construction.* No person shall erect or construct any structure of any kind, install or perform any maintenance on any utility, equipment or other device on, below, over or across a park without the express written permission of the ~~Town Manager or the Director~~and approvals as needed from the Planning and Zoning Commission and Inland Wetlands Agency as required ~~commission or its designated representative or~~ in accordance with the terms of an existing easement duly recorded in the town's land records.
- (b) *Encroachments.* No person shall in any way alter, damage, remove or deface any facilities, features, vegetation, man-made objects or equipment in any park or place; nor erect or store personal property, plant vegetation or deposit debris or any park as an extension of a use on adjacent property without the express written permission of the ~~Town Manager or the Director~~commission or its designated representative and approvals as needed from the Planning and Zoning Commission and Inland Wetlands Agency as required.
- (c) *Excavation.* No person shall make any excavation by tool, equipment, blasting or other means in any park without the express written permission of the ~~Town Manager or the Director~~and approvals as needed from the Planning and Zoning Commission and Inland Wetlands Agency as required ~~commission or its designated~~

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~~representative~~ or in accordance with the terms of an existing easement duly recorded in the town's land records.

- (d) *Off-trail use.* No person shall bicycle, skate, ski, or ride horses off of ~~established~~ trails, walkways, or roadways specifically designated ~~for that purpose~~ by the ~~Commission~~ without the express written permission of the ~~commission or its designated representative~~ Town Manager or the Director.
- (e) *Unauthorized trails*~~Trails.~~ ~~No person shall create any new trails without the express written permission of the commission or its designated representative.~~ Any person, board, or other organization that wishes to create a new trail or series of trails must, in addition to all other relevant permits or approvals, have plans reviewed and approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission or its designated representative. This section shall not apply to maintenance performed on existing trails.

(Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-88. Public gathering.

Any public gathering shall be conducted in accordance with section 66-37.

(Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12; Ord. No. 255, 1-21-20)

Sec. 70-89. Restricted areas.

No person shall enter any area in any park designated and posted as restricted without the express written permission of the ~~Town Manager or the Director~~ commission or its designated representative.

(Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-90. Signs.

No person shall post signs in any park except at locations designated by and in accordance with Department of Parks and Recreation policy, or with the express written permission of the ~~Town Manager or the Director~~ commission or its designated representative.

(Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-91. Wildlife and habitat protection.

- (a) *Animals.* No person or his or her pet shall harass, capture, remove, injure or kill any animal or its young or eggs found in any park, or disturb the nest, den, burrow, lodge, roost, dam or other structure of any animal found in any park, or attempt to do so, ~~unless the person possesses an appropriate federal or state permit and has the express written permission of the commission~~ without the relevant Federal, State, and Local permits and the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.
- (b) *Feeding of wild animals.* No person shall feed any wild animal within any park without the relevant Federal, State, and Local permits and the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director. ~~without the express written permission of the commission or its designated representative.~~
- (c) *Removal of plants and fungi.* No person shall remove from any park any plant or fungus (e.g., mushrooms) or parts thereof including, but not limited to, cuttings, flowers, seeds, berries, nuts or foliage, without the relevant Federal, State, and Local permits and the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director. ~~without the express written permission of the commission or its designated representative.~~

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- (d) *Abandonment or release of animals.* No person shall abandon, release or cause to be released into any park any animal or other organism ~~without the relevant Federal, State, and Local permits and the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.~~ ~~without the express written permission of the commission or its designated representative.~~
 - (e) *Planting or release of seeds or spores.* No person shall plant any plant or release or cause to be released into a park any plant or fungus, seeds, spores or invasive species ~~without the relevant Federal, State, and Local permits and the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.~~ ~~without the express written permission of the commission or its designated representative.~~
 - (f) *Habitat preservation.* No person shall disturb or modify woodlands, streams, stream banks, meadows, ponds, lakes or other natural areas within any park ~~without the relevant Federal, State, and Local permits and the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.~~ ~~without the express written permission of the commission or its designated representative.~~
 - (g) *Removal of natural materials.* No person shall remove or use any wood, wood chips, sod, earth, humus, rocks, minerals, fossils, sand, water or any other natural material from any park ~~without the relevant Federal, State, and Local permits and the express written permission of the Town Manager or the Director.~~ ~~without the express written permission of the commission or its designated representative.~~

(Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Sec. 70-92. Penalty for violation of article.

Any person ~~who violat~~esing any of the provisions of this article shall be subject to a fine ~~of \$90.00.~~ ~~The provisions of this ordinance are enforceable by any police officer or special constable of the town for such a violation pursuant to Sec. 1-10 of the Coventry Code of Ordinances.~~

(Ord. No. 174, § 18, 9-16-91; Ord. No. 238, 12-17-12)

Editor's note(s)—See note at § 70-81.

Secs. 70-93—70-115. Reserved.

ARTICLE IV. COVENTRY LAKE (LAKE WANGUMBAUG)

Sec. 70-116. Intent of article.

It is the intent of this article to regulate the waters of Lake Wangumbaug, also known as Coventry Lake, within the town, and to promote public safety.

(Ord. No. 161, § II, 4-1-89)

Sec. 70-117. Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Coventry Lake or the lake refers to Lake Wangumbaug, also known as Coventry Lake.

Motorboat means any vessel, propelled by machinery, whether or not such machinery is the principal source of propulsion.

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Operate means to navigate or otherwise use a vessel.

Sailboat means any vessel propelled by sail alone.

Vessel means every description of watercraft, other than a seaplane on water, used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water.

Waterskiing means aquaplaning, towing of any person behind a vessel under power and similar forms of activity.

(Ord. No. 161, § III, 4-1-89)

Cross reference(s)—Definitions generally, § 1-2.

Sec. 70-118. Speed limits.

- (a) No person shall operate a vessel on Coventry Lake at a rate of speed greater than 40 miles per hour.
- (b) From sunset to one hour after sunrise no motor boat shall be driven more than six miles per hour.
- (c) Between the hours of 12:00 noon and 4:00 p.m. on Sundays from May 15 to September 15 and between the hours of 12:00 noon and 2:00 p.m. on July 4, no motor boat shall be driven more than six miles per hour. Publicly owned police vessels of the United States, the state, the town and private vessels when responding to a verified emergency, i.e. rescue, are exempt from this limitation.
- (d) Notwithstanding subsections (a) through (c), no person shall operate a vessel in excess of slow-no-wake when the water level is at or above 94 feet as measured at the weir gate. The town manager shall be the sole judge as to the water level and shall communicate to the public when the slow-no-wake restriction is in effect and when it is ended. For the purposes of this section, "slow-no-wake" shall have the same meaning as in Section 15-121-A1 of the Regulation of the Connecticut State Agencies.

(Ord. No. 161, § IV, 4-1-89; Ord. No. 172, § I, 11-5-90; Ord. No. 211, § 1, 8-7-00; Ord. No. 261, 10-4-21)

Editor's note(s)—As set out in RCSA 15-121-A1 (j) and referenced in subsection (d) above, "slow-no-wake" means that a vessel shall not produce more than a minimum wake and shall not attain speeds greater than six miles per hour over the ground unless a higher minimum speed is necessary to maintain steerageway when traveling with a strong current. In no case shall the wake produced by the vessel be such that it creates a danger of injury to persons, or will damage vessels or structures of any kind.

Cross reference(s)—Traffic and vehicles, ch. 98.

Sec. 70-119. Boat use.

- (a) All vessels towing a water skier on Coventry Lake are to proceed and operate in a counter-clockwise direction.
- (b) Drinking of any alcoholic beverages while operating any vessel is prohibited.
- (c) No person operating a vessel on Coventry Lake shall cross or jump the wake of another vessel, when within 200 feet of the vessel creating such wake, in such a manner that the hull of the vessel crossing the wake completely leaves the water.

(Ord. No. 161, §§ V, VI, 4-1-89; Ord. No. 172, § I, 11-5-90; Ord. No. 211, § 1, 8-7-00)

Sec. 70-120. Special events.

- (a) The chief of police and the town manager shall be the individuals authorized by the town to act upon applications for persons seeking authorization from the state department of environmental protection to host any marine parade, regatta, race, tournament or exhibition on Coventry Lake.
- (b) The chief of police may suspend the times and speed limit restrictions of section 70-118(c) if a Sunday special event is approved. Such a suspension will be included in all advertisements and notices regarding the event.

(Ord. No. 161, § VI, 4-1-89)

Sec. 70-121. Waterskiing.

The maximum number of water skiers to be towed by a motorboat is two at any one time. Towing more than two skiers shall be regarded as a special event requiring a chase boat and notification of the chief of police that the special event is going to take place.

(Ord. No. 161, § VII, 4-1-89)

Sec. 70-122. Parasailing.

Parasailing shall be considered a special event requiring a chase boat. A permit issued by the chief of police is required for this type of event.

(Ord. No. 161, § VIII, 4-1-89)

Sec. 70-123. Reserved.

Sec. 70-124. Penalty for violation of article.

Any person who violates any provision of this article shall be ~~fined not less than \$50.00, nor more than \$99.00~~ subject to a fine for such violation pursuant to Sec. 1-10 of the Coventry Code of Ordinances.

(Ord. No. 161, § XI, 4-1-89)

MEMORANDUM

To: Alex Taylor
From: Duncan J. Forsyth
Date: February 4, 2026
Re: Parks & Recreation Ordinance
Our File No. 17996.1

We have at your request reviewed the draft revisions to Chapter 70 of the Town Code related to Parks and Recreation. It appears that the Ordinance was originally promulgated on January 6, 1975, and has been amended at various times over the past 50 years. The Ordinance and the proposed amendments do not violate any provision of state or federal law. In fact, Section 7-148(c)(6)(A) grants to municipalities to ability to exercise by ordinance to ability to, among other things, layout, construct, maintain and control parks, playgrounds, playfields, recreation places, public beaches, beach facilities, etc. Thus, the Ordinance is consistent with the statutory authority specifically granted to the Town.

We have noted, however, that Section 70-88 dealing with public gatherings (which is defined in Section 70-2) states that any public gathering shall be conducted in accordance with Section 66-37. That section addresses “special events” reasonably anticipated to include or attract 300 or more persons. We don’t believe that the intention of Section 70-88 is that it will only be triggered when a public gathering is in excess of 300 persons. Therefore, we believe it prudent for the Town Council to review Chapter 66 in conjunction with Chapter 70 to have them co-exist at a reasonable number for any type of gathering or event.

We hope this addresses the issue at hand. If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

9.A. 25/26-40: Consideration/possible action: Resolution: Town of Coventry to Join the Connecticut Municipal Development Authority as a member municipality

Town Council Action Requested: Town Council will, upon receiving public comment, consider adopting Resolution 2026-03 approving joining the Connecticut Municipal Development Authority (CMDA) and authorizing the Town Manager to negotiate and execute of any memorandum of agreement on behalf of the Town of Coventry with the Authority and any other documents necessary to receive the assistance and services of CMDA.

Purpose: The CMDA is a quasi-public state organization that works with willing towns and cities to increase housing production. Their mission is to help build vibrant communities in Connecticut with more housing in walkable downtowns and/or near transit hubs, contributing to a healthier economy across the state.

History: The Connecticut Municipal Development Authority (CMDA), formerly known as the Municipal Redevelopment Authority (MRDA) established in 2019 and was created to spur transit-oriented development, housing, and economic growth. It was launched with funding and staff in 2024 to support municipalities with planning, financing, and development.

Facts about the issue: The Town would need to join the CMDA to receive the services and assistance offered by the Authority. Joining would involve this resolution being adopted by the Town Council.

Funding Information: The Authority has access to \$90 million in bonding with \$60 million available in 2025, with an additional \$30 million slated for the next fiscal year to provide loans to developers and municipalities. Municipalities or developers can now apply for funding for specific projects located within the Development District(s). CMDA can fund transit-oriented development, housing, demolition or rehabilitation of vacant buildings, or development or redevelopment. Private projects must be in compliance with local regulations to be eligible for CMDA support. Funded Projects: Projects approved by CMDA's board go to the State Bond Commission for final approval. CMDA then finalizes funding agreements with the municipality or developer.

Town Manager Comments: With the adoption of HB 8002, the Town of Coventry, like other Connecticut municipalities, must create a housing growth plan to assist in the State's goal to create new housing due to the housing shortage. The CMDA would be a great partner in achieving new workforce housing and starter housing in our community.

Town Manager's Recommendation: Motion to adopt **Resolution 2026-03, A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF COVENTRY, CONNECTICUT, JOINING THE CONNECTICUT MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY AS A MEMBER MUNICIPALITY, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

TOWN OF COVENTRY

RESOLUTION 2026-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF COVENTRY, CONNECTICUT, JOINING THE CONNECTICUT MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY AS A MEMBER MUNICIPALITY, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Connecticut Municipal Development Authority (the “Authority”), a body politic and corporate, constituting a public instrumentality and political subdivision of the State of Connecticut has been established pursuant to section 8-169ii of the Connecticut General Statutes (the “General Statutes”); and

WHEREAS, the Authority was created for the performance of an essential public and governmental function, including for the purposes set forth in section 8-169jj of the General Statutes to: (1) Stimulate economic and transit-oriented development, as defined in section 13b-79kk of the General Statutes, within Connecticut Municipal Development Authority development districts; (2) encourage residential housing development within development districts; (3) manage facilities through contractual agreement or other legal instrument; (4) stimulate new investment within development districts and provide support for the creation of vibrant, multidimensional downtowns; (5) upon request of the legislative body of a member municipality, or the legislative bodies of the municipalities constituting a joint member entity, as applicable, in which a development district is located, work with such municipality or municipalities to assist in development and redevelopment efforts to stimulate the economy of such municipality or municipalities; (6) upon request of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and with the approval of the chief executive officer of a member municipality, or the chief executive officers of the municipalities constituting a joint member entity, as applicable, in which a development district is located, enter into an agreement to facilitate development or redevelopment within such development district; (7) encourage development and redevelopment of property within development districts; (8) engage residents of member municipalities, or municipalities constituting a joint member entity, as applicable, and other stakeholders in development and redevelopment efforts; (9) market and develop development districts as vibrant and multidimensional; and (10) provide financial support and technical assistance to municipalities to develop housing growth zones; and

WHEREAS, under the General Statutes, the types of projects for which Authority assistance is authorized includes the following: (A) the design and construction of transit-oriented development, as defined in section 13b-79kk of the General Statutes; (B) the creation of housing units through rehabilitation or new construction; (C) the demolition or redevelopment of vacant buildings; and (D) development and redevelopment; and

WHEREAS, according to Section 8-169ll of the General Statutes, a municipality may, by certified resolution of the legislative body of the municipality, or by the board of selectmen in a municipality where the legislative body is the town meeting, opt to join the Authority as a member municipality, provided such municipality holds a public hearing or otherwise provides for public comment prior to any vote on such certified resolution; and

Resolution 2026-03

Page Two

WHEREAS, the Town of Coventry provided for public comment on February 17, 2026 pursuant to the meeting agenda attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Coventry has found that joining the Authority as a member municipality would support the Town's efforts to stimulate economic development and foster the purposes outlined in Section 8-169jj within Coventry and accordingly desires to join the Authority as a member municipality; and

WHEREAS, the Coventry Town Council desires to further authorize the Town Manager to enter into a memorandum of agreement or other similar agreements with the Authority to create one or more development districts within Coventry to advance the purposes contained in Section 8-169jj.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COVENTRY TOWN COUNCIL THAT:

SECTION ONE: The Town Council hereby approves the Town of Coventry joining the Authority as a member municipality.

SECTION TWO: The Town Manager is authorized to take or cause to be taken such actions, including, but not limited to, the negotiation and execution of any memorandum of agreement on behalf of the Town of Coventry with the Authority and any other agreements, instruments and documents, that such official deems necessary, appropriate or desirable to implement the terms of any such memorandum of agreement and consummate the intention of this and the resolution.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This Resolution will become effective immediately upon passage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Town Council of the Town of Coventry, Connecticut on this 17th day of November 2025.

TOWN OF COVENTRY TOWN COUNCIL

Attest:

Lisa Thomas, Town Council Chair

Lori Tollmann, Town Clerk



Connecticut Municipal Development Authority

FAQs

Who We Are

The Connecticut Municipal Development Authority (CMDA) is a quasi-public state organization that works with willing towns and cities to increase housing production. Led by Executive Director David Kooris, our mission is to help build vibrant communities in Connecticut with more housing in walkable downtowns and near transit hubs, contributing to a healthier economy across the state.

We created this resource because we believe transparent information leads to better community decisions. CMDA only succeeds when towns achieve their own goals—that's why every aspect of our process prioritizes local control and community input.

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Question #1: "Can CMDA force zoning changes and override our development decisions?"

ANSWER: Towns retain complete zoning authority. The process is as follows:

- CMDA reviews local zoning and provides recommendations if necessary to achieve housing growth.
- Local zoning commission reviews CMDA recommendations and decides whether they want to approve changes.
- If towns don't want to change zoning, they simply don't participate.

Question #2: "Does CMDA eliminate community voice and public comment?"

ANSWER: Community members can ask questions and raise concerns. Public participation is built into every phase:

- Phase 1: Mandatory public comment before any membership vote.
- Phase 2: Local zoning commission holds standard public processes on any zoning changes.
- Phase 3: Normal municipal approval processes for all projects.
- Community members can ask questions and raise concerns throughout.

Question #3: "Once you join CMDA, are you stuck with whatever they want to build?"

ANSWER: Towns control all development decisions.

- Towns identify specific focus areas where they want support.
- Towns decide what types of development fit their community.
- Towns and developers apply for funding—CMDA doesn't impose projects.
- Local officials maintain final approval authority over development districts.

Question #4: "If you join CMDA, are you locked into a program you can't control or leave?"

ANSWER: Towns can exit at multiple decision points. They can:

- Vote "no" on initial membership after the public comment.
- Decline to make zoning changes if current rules don't qualify.
- Choose not to create development districts.
- Decide not to apply for funding for specific projects.
- Participation is voluntary at every single step.

Question #5: "Will CMDA rush development and ignore local planning processes?"

ANSWER: CMDA works within existing local processes:

- Municipal officials actively participate in creating development districts.
- Local zoning commissions retain their standard review authority.
- There is a 90-day review period for project applications ensures thorough evaluation.
- The State Bond Commission provides additional oversight for final approval.

Question #6: "Is state government forcing development on unwilling communities?"

ANSWER: CMDA only works with willing partners:

- Towns approach CMDA or invite them to present.
- Local legislative bodies vote on whether to join after public input.
- 161 of 169 Connecticut towns qualify—but participation is entirely voluntary.
- 26 towns have already opted in, and even more have begun the public process.

The Bottom Line

CMDA is a collaborative resource that helps towns achieve their own goals. No outside mandates, no loss of local control—just partnership, technical expertise, and funding opportunities for willing communities.

Questions? The process starts with a simple conversation. Contact CMDA at info@wearecmda.org.



Connecticut Municipal Development Authority

Process

CMDA helps municipalities in Connecticut grow and thrive, focusing on achieving vibrant downtowns and mixed-use, walkable neighborhoods around train and bus rapid transit stations.

Who can join CMDA?

All Connecticut towns and cities, with the exception of Hartford and East Hartford, can join CMDA if they have a train station (existing or planned), bus rapid transit station (existing or planned) or downtown area. Downtown is defined in CMDA's governing statute, 8-169hh.

Phase 1: Getting Started

Initial Contact: Local officials, municipal staff, or property owners or developers approach CMDA for an introductory meeting to better understand how the process works and if it might be a good fit for their community. The best way to reach CMDA is to email info@wearecmda.org.

Community Introduction: CMDA may be invited to present to the local legislative body or one of its committees or a municipal commission to explain CMDA's mission and how it can help communities achieve their development goals.

Public Comment: Community members can ask questions, have concerns addressed, and learn more about the process.

Official Membership: Once they have heard from community members, the local legislative body votes to join CMDA as a member municipality.

Phase 2: Planning

Identifying Focus Areas: CMDA meets with local officials to identify specific areas of their town or city near a transit station or in a downtown where they may want CMDA's technical or financial support.

Zoning Review: CMDA reviews the municipality's current zoning regulations in the identified focus areas to determine if existing zoning can be approved as a Housing Growth Zone, which is an area designated for increased housing development in mixed-use and walkable neighborhoods.

Technical Assistance: During this phase, the municipality may request technical assistance from CMDA to better understand development potential, community impacts, regulatory best practices or other areas of inquiry that will help local stakeholders craft a vision for the focus area's future.

Zoning Recommendations (if needed): If current zoning doesn't qualify, CMDA suggests changes.

Local Zoning Decision: The local Zoning Commission reviews and decides whether or not to adopt zoning changes in accordance with CMDA's recommendations (if offered).

Housing Growth Zone Approval: CMDA approves the existing or updated zone(s) as Housing Growth Zones, defining the geography that could be included in a Development District.

Development District Creation: The municipality's Chief Executive Officer enters into an agreement with CMDA that establishes the Development District(s).

Phase 3: Project Implementation

Project Applications: Municipalities or developers can now apply for funding for specific projects located within the Development District(s). CMDA can fund transit-oriented development, housing, demolition or rehabilitation of vacant buildings, or development or redevelopment. Private projects must be in compliance with local regulations to be eligible for CMDA support.

Funded Projects: Projects approved by CMDA's board go to the State Bond Commission for final approval. CMDA then finalizes funding agreements with the municipality or developer.

State Permitting and Coordination: CMDA may help municipalities or their projects navigate the state permitting process and may work with state agencies to streamline regulatory approvals within Development Districts.



[TOWN][CITY] OF [NAME OF MUNICIPALITY], CONNECTICUT

**RESOLUTION REGARDING JOINING THE CONNECTICUT MUNICIPAL
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY AS A MEMBER MUNICIPALITY**

WHEREAS, the Connecticut Municipal Development Authority (the “Authority”), a body politic and corporate, constituting a public instrumentality and political subdivision of the State of Connecticut has been established pursuant to section 8-169ii of the Connecticut General Statutes (the “General Statutes”); and

WHEREAS, the Authority was created for the performance of an essential public and governmental function, including for the purposes set forth in section 8-169jj of the General Statutes to: (1) Stimulate economic and transit-oriented development, as defined in section 13b-79kk of the General Statutes, within Connecticut Municipal Development Authority development districts; (2) encourage residential housing development within development districts; (3) manage facilities through contractual agreement or other legal instrument; (4) stimulate new investment within development districts and provide support for the creation of vibrant, multidimensional downtowns; (5) upon request of the legislative body of a member municipality, or the legislative bodies of the municipalities constituting a joint member entity, as applicable, in which a development district is located, work with such municipality or municipalities to assist in development and redevelopment efforts to stimulate the economy of such municipality or municipalities; (6) upon request of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management and with the approval of the chief executive officer of a member municipality, or the chief executive officers of the municipalities constituting a joint member entity, as applicable, in which a development district is located, enter into an agreement to facilitate development or redevelopment within such development district; (7) encourage development and redevelopment of property within development districts; (8) engage residents of member municipalities, or municipalities constituting a joint member entity, as applicable, and other stakeholders in development and redevelopment efforts; (9) market and develop development districts as vibrant and multidimensional; and (10) provide financial support and technical assistance to municipalities to develop housing growth zones; and

WHEREAS, under the General Statutes, the types of projects for which Authority assistance is authorized includes the following: (A) the design and construction of transit-oriented development, as defined in section 13b-79kk of the General Statutes; (B) the creation of housing units through rehabilitation or new construction; (C) the demolition or redevelopment of vacant buildings; and (D) development and redevelopment; and

WHEREAS, according to Section 8-169ll of the General Statutes, a municipality may, by certified resolution of the legislative body of the municipality, or by the board of selectmen in a municipality where the legislative body is the town meeting, opt to join the Authority as a member municipality, provided such municipality holds a public hearing or otherwise provides for public comment prior to any vote on such certified resolution; and

WHEREAS, the [TOWN][CITY] of [NAME OF MUNICIPALITY] [(the “TOWN”)] [(the “City”)] held such a public hearing or otherwise provided for public comment on [DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING/PUBLIC COMMENT] pursuant to the Notice and/or meeting agenda attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, the [NAME OF LEGISLATIVE BODY] has found that joining the Authority as a member municipality would support the [TOWN’S] [CITY’S] efforts to stimulate economic development and foster the purposes outlined in Section 8-169jj within [TOWN] [CITY] and accordingly desires to join the Authority as a member municipality; and

WHEREAS; the [NAME OF LEGISLATIVE BODY] desires to further authorize the [TITLE OF CHIEF ELECTED OFFICIAL/TOWN MANAGER] to enter into a memorandum of agreement or other similar agreements with the Authority to create one or more development districts within [TOWN] [CITY] to advance the purposes contained in Section 8-169jj.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Section 1. The [NAME OF LEGISLATIVE BODY] hereby approves the [TOWN] [CITY] joining the Authority as a member municipality.

Section 2. The [TITLE OF CHIEF ELECTED OFFICIAL/TOWN MANAGER] is authorized to take or cause to be taken such actions, including, but not limited to, the negotiation and execution of any memorandum of agreement on behalf of the [TOWN] [CITY] with the Authority and any other agreements, instruments and documents, that such official deems necessary, appropriate or desirable to implement the terms of any such memorandum of agreement and consummate the intention of this and the resolution.

Section 3. This Resolution shall be effective as of the date of approval.

**9.B. 25/26-41: Consideration/possible action: Selection of health insurance program
FY 27**

Town Council Action Requested: Town Council will review potential health insurance plans for Town staff and will consider which plan is best to replace the ECHIP plan that will expire on June 30, 2026.

Purpose: The Town's consultant (USI) has sought quotes for the Town (including the BOE) to remain self-insured without the other four towns currently in the Eastern Connecticut Health Insurance Program (ECHIP). They have quotes from three major insurance carriers (Cigna, Anthem, and United Health Care), and they have additionally explored the Town joining in with the State's health Insurance Plan. The Town will review options and determine which is the best for the Town.

History: The Town (including the BOE) currently is part of a cooperative with four other towns known as Eastern Connecticut Health Insurance Program (ECHIP). The current insurance carrier is Cigna. The Town of Putnam and the Town of Coventry have proposed leaving the pool to seek better rates. The Board of Directors has decided that if one member leaves, then ECHIP will dissolve as a group. A separation agreement is being prepared. The Town received a presentation from USI on the health insurance program options at a joint Town Council-Board of Education meeting on February 10th. Town Council requested more information be given from USI. That information has not yet been received.

Facts about the issue: USI will supply the additional information requested by town Council prior to the Town Council Finance Committee Tuesday meeting so that it can be reviewed.

Funding Information: The Town would have significant savings by choosing an alternative to the current ECHIP plan.

Finance Committee's Recommendation: The Committee is meeting just prior to this meeting and may have a recommendation to share with Town Council based on the new information requested at the February 10th Joint Town Council-BOE meeting.

Town Manager Comments: Changing the health insurance program to anything other than the Cigna program, will require union negotiations for the Town and the BOE. Cigna is the lowest cost self-insured plan being proposed. The State health insurance program, though it provides a higher level benefit, would not return unused reserve funds to the Town for future year's claims and would not allow for Town control of discounting rates due to savings and a year with low claims.

Town Manager's Recommendation: None at this time, final recommendation is pending further information from USI.



**Town of Coventry and Coventry BOE
Benefit Outline CIGNA vs State Plan
July 1, 2026 Renewal Date**

Current		CT State Plan 2.0	WELLNESS COMPLIANT IN-NETWORK	WELLNESS NON-COMPLIANT IN-NETWORK	OUT-OF-NETWORK
Carrier/Network	CIGNA	Carrier/Network	Anthem BCBS	Anthem BCBS	Anthem BCBS
Plan Type, Name, Network	Medical POS (2-Tier)	Deductible	N/A	\$350/person to \$1,400	\$300/\$900
Deductible (Individual / Family)	\$2,000 / \$4,000	Employer Portion of Deductible	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-Network Deductible (Individual / Family)	\$2,000 / \$4,000	Employee Portion of Deductible	N/A	\$350/person to \$1,400	\$300/\$900
Out-of-Pocket Maximum (Individual / Family)	\$2,000 / \$4,000	Co-insurance	100%	100%	80/20%
Non-Network OOP Max (Individual / Family)	\$4,000 / \$8,000	Maximum Out of Pocket	\$2,000/\$4,000	\$2,000/\$4,000	\$2,300/\$4,900
Deductible / OOP Embedded / Non-Embedded	Non-Embedded	Maximum Lifetime Benefit Per Member	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Prescription OOP Max (Individual / Family)	Included in Medical	Gatekeeper Network	No	No	No
Prescription Deductible (Individual / Family)	N/A	PREVENTIVE CARE:			
Coinsurance (In / Out)	100% / 80%	Well child care (to sched.)	No charge	No charge	Ded. & Coins.
Wellness / Preventive Care	100%	Periodic, routine health examination (to sched.)	No charge	No charge	Ded. & Coins.
Primary Care Office Visit	100% after deductible	Routine eye exams	No charge	No charge	Ded. & Coins.
Specialist Office Visit	100% after deductible	Routine OB/GYN visits	No charge	No charge	Ded. & Coins.
Walk-In / Urgent Care Visit	100% after deductible	Mammography (to sched.)	No charge	No charge	Ded. & Coins.
Emergency Room	100% after deductible	Hearing Screening	No charge	No charge	Ded. & Coins.
Outpatient Lab / X-Ray	100% after deductible	MEDICAL CARE:		<i>Must Meet Ded. First</i>	
Complex Imaging (MRI, CAT, PET, et al.)	100% after deductible	Office Visits (Primary)	\$15 copay	\$15 copay	Ded. & Coins.
Outpatient Surgical Facility	100% after deductible	Office Visits (Specialist)	\$15 copay	\$15 copay	Ded. & Coins.
Inpatient Hospital Facility	100% after deductible	Outpatient Mental Health & Substance Abuse	\$15 copay	\$15 copay	Ded. & Coins.
Retail Prescription Drug Copays	100% after deductible	Diagnostic lab and x-ray	No charge	No charge	Ded. & Coins.
Mail Order Prescription Drug Copays	100% after deductible	High cost imaging (MRI, CAT, PET, etc.)	No charge	No charge	Ded. & Coins.
Specialty Prescription Drugs	100% after deductible	Allergy Services - Office Visit and Testing	\$15 copay	\$15 copay	Ded. & Coins.
		Allergy Services - Injections (80 within 3 yrs.)	No charge	No charge	Ded. & Coins.
		HOSPITAL CARE		<i>Must Meet Ded. First</i>	
		Inpatient Hospitalization	No charge	No charge	Ded. & Coins.
		Skilled Nursing Facility (120 days per year)	No charge	No charge	Ded. & Coins.
		Rehabilitative Services (60 days per year)	No charge	No charge	Ded. & Coins.
		Outpatient Surgery	No charge	No charge	Ded. & Coins.
		EMERGENCY/URGENT CARE		<i>Must Meet Ded. First</i>	
		Emergency Room	\$250 copay	\$35 copay	Same as In-Network
		Urgent Care	\$15 copay	\$15 copay	Ded. & Coins.
		Ambulance	No charge	No charge	Same as In-Network
		OTHER SERVICES		<i>Must Meet Ded. First</i>	
		Physical, Occupational, Speech & Chiro Copay	No charge	No charge	Ded. & Coins.
		Physical, Occupational, Speech & Chiro Limit	Not Specified	Not Specified	Ded. & Coins.
		Durable Medical Equipment (Unlimited)	No charge	No charge	Ded. & Coins.
		Home Health Care	Not Specified	Not Specified	Ded. & Coins.
		PRESCRIPTION			
		Retail	\$5/10/25 Maintenance	\$5/10/25 Maintenance	Ded. & Coins.
		Mail Order	\$5/20/35 Non-Maint.	\$5/20/35 Non-Maint.	Ded. & Coins.
		Annual	Not Specified	Not Specified	Ded. & Coins.
			Unlimited	Unlimited	



Coventry: Town & BOE
 Medical/Rx Plan - Renewal
 Self Funded Rates & Factors - Combined Group
 July 1, 2026 Renewal Date

Stop Loss Outline		Current	ECHIP Renewal	Alternative Renewal	Alternative Renewal	Alternative Renewal
TPA / Network Name		Cigna	Cigna	Cigna	Anthem	UHC
Stop Loss Carrier		Cigna	Cigna	Cigna	Anthem	UHC
Coverages Included		Medical & Rx	Medical & Rx	Medical & Rx	Medical & Rx	Medical & Rx
Specific Stop Loss (SSL)		\$175,000	\$175,000	\$175,000	\$175,000	\$175,000
Contract Basis		Paid	Paid	Paid	24/12	24/12
Fixed Costs						
Administration						
ASO Fee	284	\$42.47	\$43.74	\$44.17	\$18.83	\$36.00
Prescription Drug Rebate Credit	284	(\$85.01)	(\$87.56)	(\$172.00)	(\$163.97)	(\$87.56)
Discount Share	284	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20.10	\$0.00
ISL Interface Fee	284	\$1.38	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Vision Fee	284	\$0.93	\$0.93	\$0.93	\$0.93	\$0.93
PPACA	284	\$0.69	\$0.74	\$0.74	\$0.74	\$0.74
ECHIP Fees	284	\$10.56	\$10.56	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Annual Fees	284	(\$98,764)	(\$107,646)	(\$429,953)	(\$420,445)	(\$170,026)
Broker Commission		\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000
Total Annual Fees w/Broker Commission		(\$63,764)	(\$72,646)	(\$394,953)	(\$385,445)	(\$135,026)
Dollar Change			(\$8,882)	(\$331,189)	(\$321,681)	(\$71,262)
Specific Premium	284	\$234.56	\$293.20	\$284.65	\$286.86	\$296.02
Aggregate SL Premium		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10.88	\$10.52	\$21.17
Annual Total		\$799,380	\$999,226	\$1,007,166	\$1,013,471	\$1,080,984
Dollar Change			\$199,845	\$207,786	\$214,091	\$281,603
Percentage Change			25.0%	26.0%	26.8%	35.2%
Annual Total Fixed Costs		\$735,617	\$926,580	\$612,213	\$628,026	\$945,957
Dollar Change			\$190,963	(\$123,404)	(\$107,591)	\$210,341
Percentage Change			26.0%	-16.8%	-14.6%	28.6%
Expected Claims Liability						
Expected Medical/Rx Claims PEPM	284	\$2,080.19	\$2,304.74	\$2,304.74	\$2,304.74	\$2,304.74
Claim Fluctuation Corridor		\$36.88	\$36.88	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Monthly Expected Claims Liability		\$601,248	\$665,020	\$654,546	\$654,546	\$654,546
Annual Expected Claims Liability		\$7,214,975	\$7,980,239	\$7,854,552	\$7,854,552	\$7,854,552
Dollar Change			\$765,265	\$639,578	\$639,578	\$639,578
Percentage Change			10.6%	8.9%	8.9%	8.9%
Total Cost						
Annual Total Expected Costs		\$7,950,591	\$8,906,819	\$8,466,765	\$8,482,578	\$8,800,510
Minus Rx Rebates		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total minus Rx Rebates		\$7,950,591	\$8,906,819	\$8,466,765	\$8,482,578	\$8,800,510
Dollar Change from Current			\$956,228	\$516,174	\$531,987	\$849,918
Percentage Change			12.0%	6.5%	6.7%	10.7%



Coventry: Town & BOE
 Medical/Rx Plan - Renewal
 Self Funded Rates & Factors - Town Only
 July 1, 2026 Renewal Date

Stop Loss Outline		Current	ECHIP Renewal	Alternative Renewal	Alternative Renewal	Alternative Renewal
TPA / Network Name		Cigna	Cigna	Cigna	Anthem	UHC
Stop Loss Carrier		Cigna	Cigna	Cigna	Anthem	UHC
Coverages Included		Medical & Rx	Medical & Rx	Medical & Rx	Medical & Rx	Medical & Rx
Specific Stop Loss (SSL)		\$175,000	\$175,000	\$175,000	\$175,000	\$175,000
Contract Basis		Paid	Paid	Paid	24/12	24/12
Fixed Costs						
Administration						
ASO Fee	56	\$42.47	\$43.74	\$44.17	\$18.83	\$36.00
Prescription Drug Rebate Credit	56	(\$85.01)	(\$87.56)	(\$172.00)	(\$163.97)	(\$87.56)
Discount Share	56	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20.10	\$0.00
ISL Interface Fee	56	\$1.38	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Vision Fee	56	\$0.93	\$0.93	\$0.93	\$0.93	\$0.93
PPACA	56	\$0.69	\$0.74	\$0.74	\$0.74	\$0.74
ECHIP Fees	56	\$10.56	\$10.56	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Annual Fees	56	(\$19,475)	(\$21,226)	(\$84,780)	(\$82,905)	(\$33,526)
Broker Commission		\$6,901	\$6,901	\$6,901	\$6,901	\$6,901
Total Annual Fees w/Broker Commission		(\$12,573)	(\$14,325)	(\$77,878)	(\$76,003)	(\$26,625)
Dollar Change			(\$1,751)	(\$65,305)	(\$63,430)	(\$14,052)
Specific Premium	56	\$234.56	\$293.20	\$284.65	\$286.86	\$296.02
Aggregate SL Premium		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10.88	\$10.52	\$21.17
Annual Total		\$157,624	\$197,030	\$198,596	\$199,839	\$213,152
Dollar Change			\$39,406	\$40,972	\$42,215	\$55,527
Percentage Change			25.0%	26.0%	26.8%	35.2%
Annual Total Fixed Costs		\$145,051	\$182,706	\$120,718	\$123,836	\$186,527
Dollar Change			\$37,655	(\$24,333)	(\$21,215)	\$41,476
Percentage Change			26.0%	-16.8%	-14.6%	28.6%
Expected Claims Liability						
Expected Medical/Rx Claims PEPM	56	\$2,080.19	\$2,304.74	\$2,304.74	\$2,304.74	\$2,304.74
Claim Fluctuation Corridor		\$36.88	\$36.88	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Monthly Expected Claims Liability		\$118,556	\$131,131	\$129,065	\$129,065	\$129,065
Annual Expected Claims Liability		\$1,422,671	\$1,573,568	\$1,548,785	\$1,548,785	\$1,548,785
Dollar Change			\$150,897	\$126,114	\$126,114	\$126,114
Percentage Change			10.6%	8.9%	8.9%	8.9%
Total Cost						
Annual Total Expected Costs		\$1,567,722	\$1,756,274	\$1,669,503	\$1,672,621	\$1,735,312
Minus Rx Rebates		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total minus Rx Rebates		\$1,567,722	\$1,756,274	\$1,669,503	\$1,672,621	\$1,735,312
Dollar Change from Current			\$188,552	\$101,781	\$104,899	\$167,590
Percentage Change			12.0%	6.5%	6.7%	10.7%



Coventry: Town & BOE
 Medical/Rx Plan - Renewal
 Self Funded Rates & Factors - BOE Only
 July 1, 2026 Renewal Date

Stop Loss Outline		Current	ECHIP Renewal	Alternative Renewal	Alternative Renewal	Alternative Renewal
TPA / Network Name		Cigna	Cigna	Cigna	Anthem	UHC
Stop Loss Carrier		Cigna	Cigna	Cigna	Anthem	UHC
Coverages Included		Medical & Rx	Medical & Rx	Medical & Rx	Medical & Rx	Medical & Rx
Specific Stop Loss (SSL)		\$175,000	\$175,000	\$175,000	\$175,000	\$175,000
Contract Basis		Paid	Paid	Paid	24/12	24/12
Fixed Costs						
Administration						
ASO Fee	228	\$42.47	\$43.74	\$44.17	\$18.83	\$36.00
Prescription Drug Rebate Credit	228	(\$85.01)	(\$87.56)	(\$172.00)	(\$163.97)	(\$87.56)
Discount Share	228	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20.10	\$0.00
ISL Interface Fee	228	\$1.38	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Vision Fee	228	\$0.93	\$0.93	\$0.93	\$0.93	\$0.93
PPACA	228	\$0.69	\$0.74	\$0.74	\$0.74	\$0.74
Discount Share	228	\$10.56	\$10.56	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Annual Fees	228	(\$79,289)	(\$86,420)	(\$345,174)	(\$337,540)	(\$136,500)
Broker Commission		\$28,099	\$28,099	\$28,099	\$28,099	\$28,099
Total Annual Fees w/Broker Commission		(\$51,191)	(\$58,321)	(\$317,075)	(\$309,442)	(\$108,401)
Dollar Change			(\$7,131)	(\$265,884)	(\$258,251)	(\$57,211)
Specific Premium	228	\$234.56	\$293.20	\$284.65	\$286.86	\$296.02
Aggregate SL Premium		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10.88	\$10.52	\$21.17
Annual Total		\$641,756	\$802,195	\$808,570	\$813,632	\$867,832
Dollar Change			\$160,439	\$166,814	\$171,876	\$226,076
Percentage Change			25.0%	26.0%	26.8%	35.2%
Annual Total Fixed Costs		\$590,565	\$743,874	\$491,495	\$504,190	\$759,431
Dollar Change			\$153,308	(\$99,071)	(\$86,376)	\$168,865
Percentage Change			26.0%	-16.8%	-14.6%	28.6%
Expected Claims Liability						
Expected Medical/Rx Claims PEPM	228	\$2,080.19	\$2,304.74	\$2,304.74	\$2,304.74	\$2,304.74
Claim Fluctuation Corridor		\$36.88	\$36.88	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Monthly Expected Claims Liability		\$482,692	\$533,889	\$525,481	\$525,481	\$525,481
Annual Expected Claims Liability		\$5,792,304	\$6,406,671	\$6,305,767	\$6,305,767	\$6,305,767
Dollar Change			\$614,367	\$513,464	\$513,464	\$513,464
Percentage Change			10.6%	8.9%	8.9%	8.9%
Total Cost						
Annual Total Expected Costs		\$6,382,869	\$7,150,545	\$6,797,262	\$6,809,957	\$7,065,198
Minus Rx Rebates		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total minus Rx Rebates		\$6,382,869	\$7,150,545	\$6,797,262	\$6,809,957	\$7,065,198
Dollar Change from Current			\$767,676	\$414,393	\$427,088	\$682,329
Percentage Change			12.0%	6.5%	6.7%	10.7%



**Coventry: Town & BOE
Connecticut State Plan
July 1, 2026 - Illustrative Rates**

		STATE OF CT PLAN ANTHEM		
Active Population				
Employee Only	96			\$1,342.43
Two Person	63			\$3,035.14
Family	114			\$3,454.89
Under 65 Retirees				
Employee Only	8			\$1,646.23
Two Person	3			\$3,499.65
Family	0			\$4,271.89
Over 65 w/Medicare Part A & B				
Employee Only	0			\$337.24
Post 65 Retirees Not Eligible for Medicare				
Employee Only	0			\$2,901.71
Two Person	0			\$6,263.39
Family	0			\$7,664.14
Renewal Annual Premium				\$8,466,765
State Of CT Plan Annual Premium				\$8,851,357
Estimated Runout				<u>\$1,316,384</u>
Total State of CT Plan & Retirees Annual Premium				\$10,167,741
\$ Change from Renewal				\$1,700,976
% Change from Renewal				20.09%
		WELLNESS COMPLIANT IN-NETWORK	WELLNESS NON-COMPLIANT IN-NETWORK	OUT-OF-NETWORK
FINANCIALS:				
Deductible		N/A	\$350/person to \$1,400	\$300/\$900
Employer Portion of Deductible		N/A	N/A	N/A
Employee Portion of Deductible		N/A	\$350/person to \$1,400	\$300/\$900
Co-insurance		100%	100%	80/20%
Maximum Out of Pocket		\$2,000/\$4,000	\$2,000/\$4,000	\$2,300/\$4,900
Maximum Lifetime Benefit Per Member		Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Gatekeeper Network		No	No	No
PREVENTIVE CARE:				
Well child care (to sched.)		No charge	No charge	Ded. & Coins.
Periodic, routine health examination (to sched.)		No charge	No charge	Ded. & Coins.
Routine eye exams		No charge	No charge	Ded. & Coins.
Routine OB/GYN visits		No charge	No charge	Ded. & Coins.
Mammography (to sched.)		No charge	No charge	Ded. & Coins.
Hearing Screening		No charge	No charge	Ded. & Coins.
MEDICAL CARE:				
Office Visits (Primary)		\$15 copay	Must Meet Ded. First	\$15 copay
Office Visits (Specialist)		\$15 copay	\$15 copay	\$15 copay
Outpatient Mental Health & Substance Abuse		\$15 copay	\$15 copay	\$15 copay
Diagnostic lab and x-ray		No charge	No charge	No charge
High cost imaging (MRI, CAT, PET, etc.)		No charge	No charge	No charge
Allergy Services - Office Visit and Testing		\$15 copay	\$15 copay	\$15 copay
Allergy Services - Injections (80 within 3 yrs.)		No charge	No charge	No charge
HOSPITAL CARE				
Inpatient Hospitalization		No charge	Must Meet Ded. First	No charge
Skilled Nursing Facility (120 days per year)		No charge	No charge	No charge
Rehabilitative Services (60 days per year)		No charge	No charge	No charge
Outpatient Surgery		No charge	No charge	No charge
EMERGENCY/URGENT CARE				
Emergency Room		\$250 copay	Must Meet Ded. First	\$35 copay
Urgent Care		\$15 copay	\$15 copay	\$15 copay
Ambulance		No charge	No charge	No charge
OTHER SERVICES				
Physical, Occupational, Speech & Chiro Copay		No charge	Must Meet Ded. First	No charge
Physical, Occupational, Speech & Chiro Limit		Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified
Durable Medical Equipment (Unlimited)		No charge	No charge	No charge
Home Health Care		Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified
PRESCRIPTION DRUGS:				
Retail		\$5/10/25 Maintenance	\$5/10/25 Maintenance	\$5/10/25 Maintenance
Mail Order		\$5/20/35 Non-Maint.	\$5/20/35 Non-Maint.	\$5/20/35 Non-Maint.
Annual Maximum		Not Specified	Not Specified	Not Specified
		Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited

This summary is intended for use only as a general summary of benefits. For a detailed description of benefits, terms, limitations and exclusions, see group certificate.



**Coventry: Town & BOE
Summary of Marketing
July 1, 2026 Renewal Date**

Carrier	Status	% over Current Premium
Cigna Direct	Quoted - USI Recommended	6.5%
Anthem	Quoted	6.7%
UHC	Quoted	10.7%
Aetna	DTQ	N/A
State Plan	Quoted	20.1%

Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut

Joint Special Meeting of the Board of Education and Town Council
Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.
Administration Building Conference Room

- I. Call to Order
- II. Information: Presentation on Health Insurance Options beyond ECHIP
- III. Discussion and Possible VOTE: Leave ECHIP and Become Self-Insured
- IV. VOTE: Adjourn

Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Unapproved Minutes of Thursday, January 29, 2026
Administration Building Conference Room

Board Members Present:

Jennifer Beausoleil, Chairperson
Mary Kortmann, Vice-Chairperson
Emma Eaton, Secretary
Megan Boshuyzen
Joshua Clark
Mark Larson
Courtney Rossignol

Board Members Absent:

None

Administrators Present:

Dr. David J. Petrone, Superintendent of Schools
Charmaine Bradshaw-Hill, Director of Finance and Operations

Also Present:

Maggie Coffey, Student Board of Education Representative

I. Call to Order

J. Beausoleil called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Salute to the Flag

J. Beausoleil led the salute to the flag.

III. Audience of Citizens

Kate Clark, Leslie Lane - spoke in support of the K-5 CEP program

IV. Report of the Superintendent

Dr. Petrone reported that he attended the CAPSS Legislative Committee meeting, the Grade 5 Informance Performance took place, student focus groups were conducted, and the district experienced its first snow day.

IV.A. Information: Board of Education Student Representative Report – Maggie Coffey

Miss Coffey reported that she attended the Best Buddies winter-themed event; the Best Buddies conference will take place this Saturday; the jazz band will attend the UConn Jazz Festival; and a Valentine's Day Swing Concert is planned. She also noted that midterms have been completed and elections for next year are underway. Miss Coffey shared that the cell phone policy is going smoothly and highlighted the IT Student Group for outstanding engagement and enthusiasm in pursuing their interest during the school day.

**IV.B. Information: Library Media – Beyond the Walls [Authentic Work] – Ms. Drury
And Library Media Specialists – Matt Kyer, Torrie Phillips, and Bryn Mutch**

Ms. Drury and the Library Media Specialists presented Library Media: Beyond the Walls, which is available on the district’s website via the BoardBook portal.

J. Beausoleil noted that the role of a library media specialist extends well beyond books, particularly in the area of media, and highlighted the significant impact of their push-in and pull-out work. E. Eaton shared that the program provides students with an outlet and support system outside of the classroom. Other Board members expressed their appreciation for the thoughtful focus on meeting students’ needs.

V. VOTE: Consent Agenda

V.A. Accept the Retirement of Beth Pratt, Food Services Director

It was requested that this item be removed from the consent agenda.

MOTION: To accept, with regret, the retirement of Beth Pratt, Food Services Director

By: E. Eaton

Seconded: M. Kortmann

Discussion: members expressed their gratitude for her years of service, her compassion for students, and her thoughtfulness in supporting students beyond the school day, with COVID cited as an example.

Result: Motion carries unanimously

VI. Report of the Chairman

J. Beausoleil reported that professional development on FOI and FERPA was conducted for the Board. Board members are participating in tours of school facilities. A building committee request was sent to the Town Council, which referred it to the Steering Committee; the Steering Committee is working on the charge for the PreK-5 level. She also reported attending a school and state finance conference, the EASTCONN Board of Directors meeting, noted that CABE budget webinars are available, and shared that the Charter Revision Commission continues to meet.

VII. Communications

There was none.

VIII. VOTE: Approval of Minutes

VIII.A. Approve Minutes of January 22, 2026, Special Meeting (6:00 p.m.)

MOTION: To approve the special minutes of January 22, 2026

By: C. Rossignol

Seconded: E. Eaton

Result: Motion carries unanimously

VIII.B. Approve Minutes of January 22, 2026 Special Meeting (7:00 p.m.)

MOTION: To approve the special minutes of January 22, 2026

By: E. Eaton

Seconded: J. Clark

Result: Motion carries unanimously

IX. Old Business

IX.A. Discussion and Possible VOTE: FY2027 Budget

J. Beausoleil provided an update on the budget process: there is a joint meeting with the Town Council scheduled for February 10 to review health insurance quotes. The Board will meet on February 12 to make decisions and potentially vote on the budget. The Town hearing is scheduled for March 5, followed by the Board of Education's appropriation request being reviewed by the Town Council. The budget will be then be forwarded to the Town Meeting in April and to a referendum during the first week of May.

A question was raised regarding the budget proposal following the health insurance meeting. It was clarified that the budget could be revised and voted on after the February 10 meeting.

Regarding follow-up on Google and Microsoft, Ms. Drury noted that moving to Google could have financial implications due to the district's existing Microsoft bundling and the need for Barracuda for email archiving. She stated that this will be monitored to determine if it could be a cost-saving opportunity in the future.

It was reported that the pension update will not be available before February 12.

Dr. Petrone stated that there are no firm retirements or moves out of district at this time. If any occur, they are not expected to have a significant impact on the budget.

J. Beausoleil noted that the CEP position is not an area where early cuts are recommended, based on community feedback. It was mentioned that, since the position is not mandated, it can be challenging to make decisions regarding potential cuts. Cuts would affect existing programs and services, as there is little new in the budget aside from the increase in music. Dr. Petrone is developing an informational video based on the budget to share with the community and provide factual context regarding the district's financial position.

The uniforms being replaced are for softball and track.

J. Beausoleil stated that the PTO conducts significant fundraising to support students and programs in the schools. On February 5 the PTO is subsidizing an all-day STEAM event and is still seeking volunteers to assist.

M. Kortmann noted that the district is at the bottom of the DRG in terms of per-pupil cost.

Dr. Petrone shared the district's efforts to identify potential transportation cost savings, although no changes have been implemented at this time. There was discussion regarding outplacement transportation and transportation the district is required to provide. It was noted that there may be a shift change at Hale to accommodate combining transportation routes.

Dr. Petrone stated there are open seats at the Academy and that the district is actively promoting enrollment. He also noted that additional slots are being opened in the Open Choice program. Dr. Petrone shared information on budget increases in neighboring districts.

X. Adjournment

MOTION: Adjourn the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

By: C. Rossignol

Seconded: E. Eaton

Result: Motion carries unanimously

Respectfully Submitted:

Tricia Dean
Board Clerk

Approved: _____

Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut

Board of Education Special Meeting
Approved Minutes of Thursday, January 22, 2026
Administration Building Conference Room

Board Members Present:

Jennifer Beausoleil, Chairperson
Mary Kortmann, Vice-Chairperson
Emma Eaton, Secretary
Megan Boshuyzen
Joshua Clark
Mark Larson
Courtney Rossignol

Board Members Absent:

Administrators Present:

Dr. David J. Petrone, Superintendent of Schools
Charmaine Bradshaw-Hill, Director of Finance and Operations

Also Present:

Administrators

I. Call to Order

J. Beausoleil called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

II. Salute to the Flag

J. Beausoleil led the salute to the flag.

III. Audience of Citizens

There was none

IV. VOTE: Approve Minutes

IV.A. Approve Minutes of January 8, 2026

Edit: Page 5, under Hale, strike the last sentence, and replace it with the following:
“Responses will be sent to all Board members and attached to the following meeting agenda.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of January 8, 2026, as amended

By: C. Rossignol

Seconded: M. Kortmann

Result: Motion carries unanimously

IV.B. Approve Minutes of January 13, 2026

MOTION: To approve the minutes of January 13, 2026

By: E. Eaton

Seconded: C. Rossignol

Result: Motion carries unanimously

V. Discussion and Possible VOTE: FY27 Budget

The adjustment list was distributed. Dr. Petrone clarified that the adjustment to ALEKS math was not made, as the change was approximately \$200, which would have required updates to many pages, and was not considered worthwhile for such a small amount.

GHR

The demand for 4th-grade band was discussed. It was explained that there is no formal assessment of interest; however, it is anticipated that approximately 80 students would want to try instruments for the first time. The current position is a .8 FTE, and moving the position to 1.0 FTE would provide greater stability, with no additional fringe benefit costs associated with the increase.

Historically, the salary associated with Hale was included in the grammar school's budget. Dr. Petrone and C. Bradshaw-Hill have discussed the possibility of removing it from that budget going forward. There is no tuition on the private side included in the operating budget.

CHS

The salary for certified staff was discussed, including the rationale for why it is budgeted at the current level.

It was inquired why, on page 68, there was no carryover in the 2026 and 2027 technical schools' line, as it gives the impression that enrollment is decreasing. Dr. Petrone explained that any students for whom the district is not financially responsible are removed.

M. Kortmann noted that it would still be useful to track these students, and Dr. Petrone confirmed they will be added back in. There was discussion regarding the best way to display this information on the page.

Pupil Services

The potential removal of the SLP position to allow funding for a PSSS coordinator was discussed. Dr. Petrone explained that, due to recent changes, there is no longer a need for the SLP position.

Warehouse/Facilities

There was a discussion regarding the quality of the paper towel supply at the school.

A question was raised regarding whether funds are budgeted for a septic repair at CGS. Dr. Petrone and J. Beausoleil explained that it is not included in the current budget. While the maintenance line can cover small repairs, a repair of this magnitude would likely be reviewed by the Fiscal Committee and potentially the full Board. Funding could come from a line item in the operating budget, the non-lapsing fund, or, ultimately, may require approval from the Town Council.

Central Office

M. Kortmann noted that the expected Open Choice tuition is being included in the budget. As the program grows, this number is anticipated to increase.

General

Health insurance numbers are expected to be available by February 10.

J. Beausoleil stated that the Board will meet with the Town Council on March 9. The Town Council will receive the budget as approved by the BOE. She explained the Grand List and requested that any questions related to the Board budget be directed through the proper channels.

It was inquired what items, besides health insurance, are still outstanding. Retirement notices from employees should be submitted by February 1 for eligibility for a payout; Dr. Petrone has not received any to date. The pension number is also still pending.

A question was raised regarding whether CGS will return to seven kindergarten classes next year, as the budget currently assumes six. Dr. Petrone stated that this is not yet known. Current enrollment numbers are low, but projections indicate they may increase. If enrollment rises, a seventh class could be added, but this would not affect FTEs. A question was also raised about the need for an additional second-grade class. Dr. Petrone noted that past enrollment fluctuations have been managed by flexing teachers as needed.

February 12 is the recommended date for the Board to vote on the budget. By charter, the budget must be submitted to the Town Manager by March 12.

VI. Adjournment

MOTION: Adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m.

By: J. Clark

Seconded: M. Boshuyzen

Result: Motion carries unanimously

Respectfully Submitted:

Tricia Dean
Board Clerk

Approved: January 29, 2026

Coventry Board of Education

Coventry, Connecticut

Board of Education Regular Meeting Agenda – Page 1 of 2

Thursday, February 12, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

Administration Building Conference Room

- I. Call to Order
- II. Salute to the Flag
- III. Audience of Citizens
- IV. Report of the Superintendent
 - A. Information: Board of Education Student Representative Report - Maggie Coffey
 - B. Information: Specialized Programming in Coventry - Ms. Zurell, PSSS Director and Special Education Teachers Courtney Barker, Karen Bohr, Michelle Zambrello
 - C. Information: Coventry Public Schools Athletics Overview - Mr. Cox, Athletic Director
- V. VOTE: Consent Agenda
 - A. Accept the Retirement of Mary Church, GHR Food Service
- VI. Report of the Chairman
 - A. Information: Assign Negotiation Committee Members
 - 1. Cafeteria Workers (3)
 - 2. Nurses (3)
 - 3. Teachers
- VII. Communications
- VIII. Report of Board Members
 - A. Information: Fiscal Committee Report, Meetings – Joint Fiscal/Finance of February 10, 2026 and Regular Fiscal of February 12, 2026 - M. Kortmann and Ms. Bradshaw-Hill
- IX. Old Business
 - A. Discussion and Possible VOTE: Approve FY2027 Budget
- X. VOTE: Approval of Minutes
 - A. Approve Minutes of Special Meeting January 29, 2026 - 5:30 p.m.

B. Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting January 29, 2026

XI. New Business

A. Information: Policies (First Reading - To be Acted on at a Future Board Meeting)

1. Review NEW DRAFT Policy - 6163.1 Library Collection, Display and Program, and Review and Reconsideration
2. Review Policies to be Deleted
 - a. 6161.1a Selection of School Library Media Materials
 - b. 6161.1b Withdrawing Library Media Materials
3. Review Policy Revisions
 - a. 1231 Non-Discrimination - Community
 - b. 4116.1 Non-Discrimination - Personnel
 - c. 4116.2 Prohibition of Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment - Workplace
 - d. 4116.35 Child Abuse Neglect and Sexual Assault Reporting
 - e. 4151.2 Family and Medical Leave
 - f. 5122.2 Non-Discrimination - Students
 - g. 5125 Confidentiality and Access to Education Records (FERPA)
 - h. 5131 Title IX Prohibition of Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment
 - i. 5131.72 Child Sexual Abuse - Sexual Assault Response and Reporting Procedure
 - j. 3120-3160 Board Budget Procedures and Line Item Transfers
 - k. 3541 Transportation
 - l. 4130 Social Media
 - m. 5144 Student Discipline
 - n. 6160.1 Parental Access to Instructional Material
 - o. 6164 Curricular Exemptions

XII. Report of Board Members

- A. Information: District Wellness Committee Liaison, Meeting of February 2, 2026 - M. Larson

XIII. Possible VOTE: Executive Session [Superintendent's Evaluation]

XIV. Open Session

XV. Adjournment



COVENTRY POLICE DEPARTMENT
Professional Policing – Community Commitment

Chief Eric Peterson
epeterson@coventry-ct.gov

Police Activity for the month of January 2026

Calls for service: We responded to a total of 462 calls. Each call is listed in the Incident Analysis sheet.

Some of the activities included:

- 7 domestic disturbance calls
- 20 suspicious activity complaints
- 29 motor vehicle accidents
- 11 animal complaints
- 3 larceny/fraud complaints
- 1 burglary
- 13 disturbances
- 18 check welfare
- 2 runaway/missing person
- 1 home invasion

Officers also conducted 24 traffic stops and issued 8 infractions and 6 criminal arrests.

Officer Stebbins continues to make a positive impact as a part-time school liaison officer. He has dedicated time to each school in town.



CALEA Internationally
Accredited Law
Enforcement Agency



Coventry Police Department

Incident Analysis

1/*/2026

Shift		Total
1st	2nd	3rd
73	252	135
		462

UCR	Nature	1st	2nd	3rd	Total
003	Car Seat Installation	0	2	3	5
029	Disabled Motor Vehicle	1	9	11	21
13A	Assault Aggravated	0	1	0	1
13B	Assault Simple	0	0	1	1
13C	Intimidation	0	1	0	1
152	Suicide Threat/Attempt	0	1	2	3
220	Burglary	0	0	1	1
23C	Larceny Shoplifting	0	1	0	1
23F	Larceny Theft From MV	0	1	0	1
23H	Larceny All Other	0	2	1	3
2604	Fireworks/Gunshots	0	0	2	2
2619	Building Check	0	2	0	2
2620	Patrol Check	22	2	2	26
2621	Speed Enforcement	0	5	2	7
2622	Admin	1	8	0	9
2623	Visibility	2	1	0	3
2627	School Detail/Assist	1	2	0	3
2631	Public Hazard	3	2	0	5
26B	Fraud Credit Card/ATM	0	0	1	1
2914	Animal Complaint	0	5	6	11
3009	Susp Person/Activity/MV	6	8	6	20
326	Illegal Parking	0	1	0	1
332	Harassment/Harassing Phone Calls	0	1	0	1
334	Untimely Death	0	3	1	4
343	MV Accident (Injuries)	0	0	1	1
346	MV Accident (No Injuries)	4	13	10	27
347	MV Accident (Private Property)	0	0	1	1
351	Alarm	2	10	7	19
353	Medical	14	45	18	77
355	MV Stop	0	17	7	24
375	Routine Assistance	3	28	9	40
377	Open Door/Window	2	1	0	3
388	Miscellaneous	0	2	0	2
390	Police Information	1	1	0	2
391	CREST callout	0	0	2	2
396	Escort	0	3	1	4
398	Missing Person	0	1	0	1
399	Lost And Found	0	1	4	5
400	Family Matter - Non Arrest	0	2	1	3
40A	Prostitution	0	1	0	1
4811	Finger Printing	0	16	2	18



Coventry Police Department Incident Analysis

1/*/2026

4858	Fire	2	5	2	9
4873	Assist Other Agency	1	6	9	16
4874	Test Ticket	1	1	3	5
82	Runaway/Non NIBRS	0	1	1	2
861	Disturbance (Non-Domestic)	1	3	0	4
863	Town Ordinance Violation	0	1	1	2
866	Noise Complaint	1	1	0	2
889	Check Welfare	1	11	5	17
890	MV Erratic Operation	1	6	3	10
891	MV Lock Out	2	2	0	4
90Z	All Other Offenses	0	1	0	1
Sup	Supplemental	1	15	9	27



1712 Main Street
Coventry, Connecticut 06238
(860) 742-1606 Ext 6007 desk



Town of Coventry

OFFICE OF THE FIRE CHIEF
FIRE-EMS DEPARTMENT

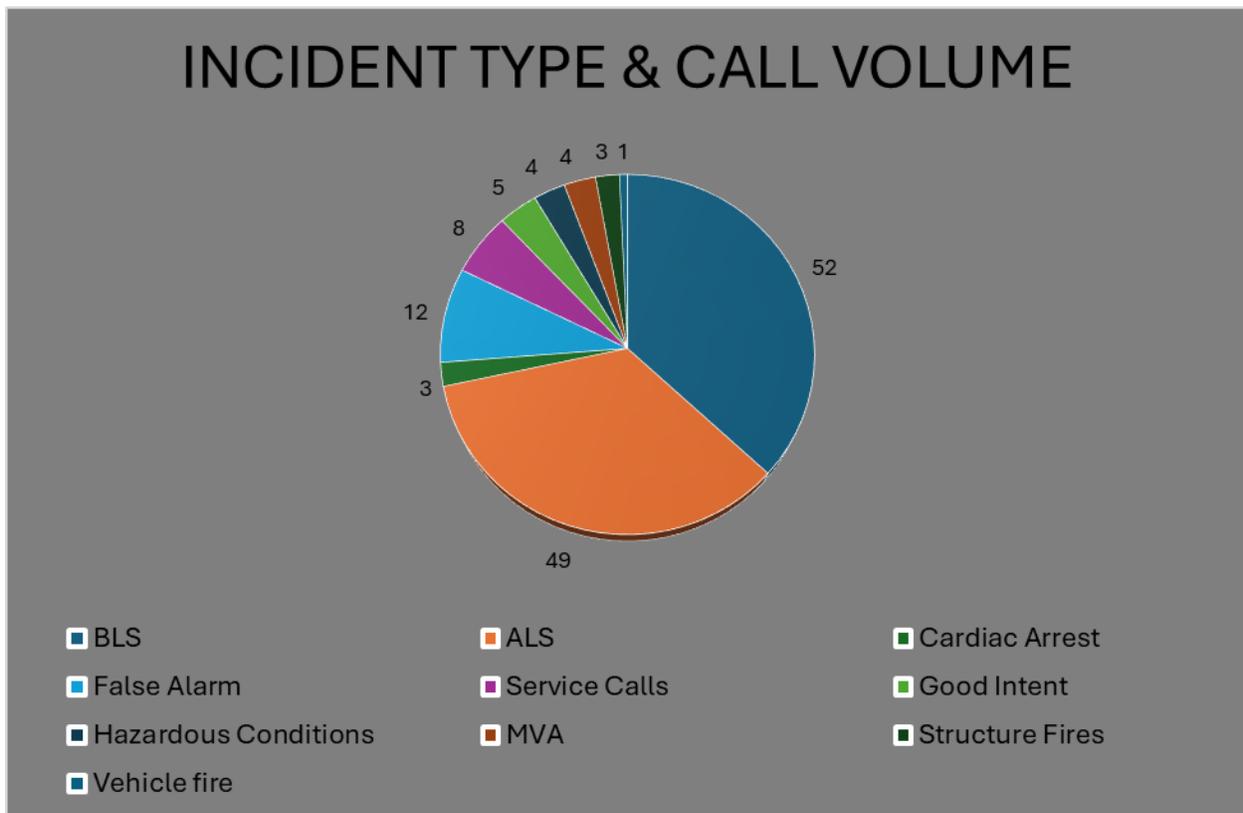
Bud Meyers, Fire Chief
bmeyers@coventry-ct.gov

LECC Report

February 05, 2026

Calls:

For the month of December, we responded to 141 calls consisting of: 52 BLS, 49 ALS and 3 Cardiac Arrest for a total of 104 Medical calls, 12 False alarms, 8 Service calls, 5 Good intent calls, 4 Hazardous conditions, 4 MVA, 3 Structure fires, and 1 Vehicle fire.



Apparatus:

New tires are required for the rear of Quint 218

Stations:

Station 318 has a heat circulating pump issue that requires replacement. Fire alarm panels at Station 118, 218 and 318 have been converted to internet and cellular monitoring.



1712 Main Street
Coventry, Connecticut 06238
(860) 742-1606 Ext 6007 desk



Town of Coventry

OFFICE OF THE FIRE CHIEF
FIRE-EMS DEPARTMENT

Bud Meyers, Fire Chief
bmeyers@coventry-ct.gov

Equipment:

1,300 feet of large diameter hose has been order.

Administrative:

Our live-in program was recently featured in the municipal magazine

I wanted to share a brief update following my attendance at a recent press conference that focused on national issues affecting fire apparatus pricing, procurement practices, and manufacturing delays.

The information presented reinforced that municipalities across the country are experiencing fire apparatus cost increases that far exceed historical trends. Where departments historically planned for annual increases of approximately 3–5 percent, current apparatus pricing reflects increases of 40–60 percent or more over what would have been expected based on pre-COVID cost trajectories. In many cases, comparable apparatus is now priced at \$1 million, compared to an anticipated range of approximately \$600,000.

Delivery timelines were also discussed, with apparatus lead times increasing from approximately 12 months pre-COVID to commonly three to five years today.

A significant topic addressed was consolidation within the fire apparatus manufacturing industry. Through multiple mergers and acquisitions, the market is now largely dominated by approximately three major corporate manufacturers. This consolidation has reduced competition, driven smaller manufacturers out of the marketplace, and is contributing to escalating costs, limited purchasing options, and extended production backlogs.

Concerns were also raised regarding pricing practices in which manufacturers pass cost increases back to municipalities even after contracts have been executed, undermining the intent of competitive bidding and increasing financial uncertainty for local governments.

Additionally, it was noted that a federal engine emissions mandate scheduled for 2027 is expected to add approximately \$115,000 per engine, and due to extended manufacturing lead times, these anticipated costs are already being reflected in current apparatus pricing.

Respectfully submitted,

Bud Meyers,
Chief
Town of Coventry Fire & EMS Department

RECEIVED

FEB 10 2026

Office of the Town Clerk
Coventry, CT

TOWN OF BOLTON

NOTICE OF CERTAIN PLANNING & ZONING MATTERS IN NEIGHBORING
MUNICIPALITIES

DATE: January 27, 2026

TO: Town Clerk of:

Andover Coventry Glastonbury Hebron Manchester Vernon

FROM: Bolton Planning & Zoning Commission

Bolton Zoning Board of Appeals

Bolton Inland Wetlands Commission

Pursuant to §CGS 8-7d(f) which requires a Planning & Zoning Commission, Inland Wetlands Commission and/or a Zoning Board of Appeals to notify the clerk of any adjoining municipality of the pendency of an application, petition, request, or plan concerning any project on any site in which:

1. Any portion of the property affected by a decision of such board is within Five Hundred feet of the boundary of the adjoining municipality;
2. A significant portion of the traffic to the completed project on the site will use street within the adjoining municipality to enter or exit the site;
3. A significant portion of the sewer or water drainage from the project on site will flow through and significantly impact the drainage or sewage system within the adjoining municipality; or
4. Water run-off from the improved site will impact streets or other municipal or private property within the adjoining municipality.

No hearing may be conducted unless the adjoining municipality has received notice required by §CGS 8-7d(f). A representative may appear and be heard at any such hearing.

This letter is to inform you of a pending application described in the attached legal notice.

cc: Town Planning Department

Bolton Planning & Zoning Commission
Notice of Public Hearing

The Bolton Planning & Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, March 11, 2026 at 7:30pm virtually & in the Town Hall, 222 Bolton Center Rd, Bolton, CT, to consider amendments to the Zoning Regulations Article XVIII Signage (#PL-26-1).

Said proposal is on file for review in the Bolton Land Use Dept and on the Town's Website at:
<https://town.boltonct.org/boards-commissions/planning-and-zoning>

All interested parties may attend virtually or in person and testify or submit written testimony.

Dated at Bolton, CT, this 27th day of January, 2026.

Thomas Manning
PZC Chairman

To be published in the *Hartford Courant* on February 27, 2026 and March 6, 2026

SUGGESTED MOTION: EXECUTIVE SESSION 1-200(6)(E)

I move that the Town Council enter into Executive Session pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes 1-200(6)(E)-discussion of any matter which would result in the disclosure of public records or the information therein contained described in sub-section (b) of Section 1-210 with the following people in attendance.....