

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF CHESHIRE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2025, AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE HARMON LEONARD YOUTH CENTER, SOUTH MAIN STREET - CHESHIRE CT 06410

Present

Dr. Patrick Duffy, MD, Chairman

Commissioners: Paul Fracasse, Michael O'Donnell, John Perosino, Steve Trifone

Absent

Karen Bertoni, Heather Fitzgerald

Staff: Mark Cunningham, Highway Superintendent

John Gawlak, Director, Park & Rec

Elizabeth Mayne, Program Supervisor

Fiona Pearson, Council Liaison

Brendan Moran, Program Coordinator

Andrew Martelli, Assistant Town Manager

A. CALL TO ORDER

The Chairman called the meeting to order.

B. ROLL CALL

The Clerk called the roll and a quorum was determined to be present.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The group pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

D. PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. Breina Schain, 62 Hilltop Road, member of the Cheshire Trail Trekkers, explained the function of the Trail Trekkers. She provided their Mission Statement and an informational brochure that will be part of the record.
These walks provide exercise and encourage awareness of the many trails in town. During these walks the members also provide valuable information about various topics such as health, architecture, geology and many more.
Breina Schain invited members and any interested persons to join the group for scheduled walks by pre-registering on the Park & Rec website.
Ms. Pearson informed the members that the town has received the Bronze Certification from Sustainable CT, a statewide, voluntary certification program that supports sustainability best practices in Connecticut municipalities. This certification is awarded due to the dedication of groups such as the Cheshire Trail Trekkers.

- b. Karen Schnitzer, 18 Currier Place, Chair, Environment Commission, read an email sent to the Cheshire Land Trust by a hiker to report newly fresh blazed trails that are unauthorized, on the Yankee Expressway Highlands Trail. Karen Schnitzer, is also concerned about the effect on wildlife and is asking the Commission to investigate. Mr. Gawlak said that he will be walking some of the trails and October 17 with DEP Central CT Forrester and they may be able to make a recommendation. Also, he will speak to Francisco Perez of CT NEMBA to see what his plan and scope is for his proposed, approved trails and possibly eliminate the others.

5. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES – September 3, 2025

MOTION by Mr. O'Donnell, seconded by Mr. Fracasse,

MOVED to approve the minutes of the meeting of September 3, 2025 with the following corrections:

Page 5, should read Elizabeth Mayne

VOTED The motion passed unanimously by those present

6. PARKS UPDATE - PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Cunningham stated that work is proceeding as normal.

7. TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

Ms. Pearson reported that the money for the splash pad has been approved. Mr. O'Donnell inquired about charging for the use of the splash pad. Discussion ensued about fees, staff to monitor, and adjusting day pass rates for residents. Mr. Gawlak stated he will get input from Sheila Adams, Aquatic Director, and Elizabeth Mayne; then share the findings with the Town Council and report back to this Commission to discuss before the election.

Ms. Pearson reported there is a referendum on the ballot to appropriate \$585.00, the cost of construction of the splash pad. \$150,000 of this would be funded by the state. If the referendum passes, construction would start with an opening date of next year.

8. COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Ms. Pearson read a letter she received from Karen Giannamore, 26 Chesterwood Court, regarding the changing temperature at the pool due to the boiler being serviced. She stated that at times the pool has no heat and she feels that is a total disregard for children and seniors utilizing the facility. Mr. Gawlak reported that a faulty valve was replaced and the temperature is now stable.
- b. Mr. Gawlak read a letter from Adam Ferraro, dated September 19. Mr. Ferraro

is concerned about the lack of privacy by the pool showers and asked that this area be a bit more private. Mr. Gawlak responded to Mr. Ferraro thanking him for bringing this issue to his attention. He distributed photos of the showers and they will be part of the record. He asked the Commission for their input.

Mr. O'Donnell reminded the members that the next meeting will held at the Community Pool. He suggested that the members visit the pool area so that their suggestions can be discussed at the November meeting.

- c. Bethany Delahunt, 60 Sunset Road, addressed the Commission about the possibility of lighting the Skateboard Park now that improvements have been made at Bartlem Park. The football, lacrosse, and basketball fields are lit. It gets dark sooner and the addition of lights at the skateboard park would be beneficial; the skateboard park is well attended in the evening.

Mr. Gawlak stated that he shared the request with the Town Manager and was asked to get a quote for the lighting. GC Electric submitted a quote for \$8,000.00. Mr. Gawlak shared the quote with the Town Manager and is waiting for a response.

MOTION by Mr. O'Donnell, seconded by Mr. Trifone,

MOVED to explore the option of having lights at the Skateboard Park

VOTED The motion passed unanimously by those present

9. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported that the concerts were a success but the sound needs to be adjusted.

The Honeypot Disc Golf Course opening took place on October 3 and was attended by many members of the Commission as well as Park & Rec personnel and Karen Schnitzer of the Environment Commission.

On October 4 the Chairman attended the Sustainable Fair. It was a beautiful day and representatives from Save the Sound were also there.

10. NEW BUSINESS

- a. DeSalle Memorial Bench Request

Mr. Robert DeSalle presented his request for a memorial bench for his daughter, Amanda Rose DeSalle at the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail. His email is part of the record.

MOTION by Mr. O'Donnell, seconded by Mr. Trifone,

MOVED to approve the memorial bench in memory of Amanda Rose DeSalle

VOTED The motion passed unanimously by those present

- b. Cheshire Police Dept - E-Bikes New Connecticut State Laws
Lieutenant Michael Durkee presented the new state laws effective October 1, 2025 regarding E-Bike/Motor-Driven Cycles. The Office of Legislative Research overview report and the Cheshire Police Department Diagram are attached to the minutes and can also be accessed on the town website.
The Commission members discussed these new laws pertaining to the trails.
Lieutenant Durkee reported that according to the state law, only Class 1 E-bikes are allowed on trails. The law expressly authorizes municipalities to regulate e-bike use within their jurisdictions. He reported that to date, there have been no complaints of e-bike violations on the town's trails. He stated that any new information on this topic will be shown on the town's website.
- c. Requests for Light - Mixville Volleyball Courts and Bartlem Skate Park - Discussion
Mr. Gawlak reported that regarding the Mixville volleyball courts lights request he is waiting for documentation. Volleyball courts may be moved at some point in line with the Master Plan recommendation.
- d. Discussion Regarding Community Pool Communal Showers
This was discussed under Communications and continued here. The members agreed to let Mr. Ferraro know that we will get a consultant to address this issue, and then get back to him.
- e. Bartlem Concerts
Ray Stewart, 826 Moss Lane, reported on his conversation with Mike Freda, North Haven First Selectman. In the past 18 years Mr. Freda has grown the concerts in his town from 5 to 8 to now having 13 to 15 concerts. Their budget for the concert series is about \$55,000.00; \$45,000 is raised in sponsorships. The North Haven sponsorships are mostly from small town businesses.
Mr. Stewart suggested having the concerts in Cheshire on a different weekday.
The Chairman thanked Mr. Stewart for his presentation.
- f. Posting Signs at Fields Requiring Permits for Use Per Ordinance
Mr. Gawlak reported that some groups are using the fields with no permits.
He spoke about putting up signs to discourage these uses. Discussion ensued on ways to discourage the use of fields without permits and whether signs would be effective.

11. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Bartlem South - Project Status
Mr. Gawlak reported that this project is almost completed with the exception of the change order for lights for the bandshell.
The final inspection and walk-thru is not done yet.

- b. Disc Golf Course - Cheshire Park Disc Golf Course - Cheshire Park –
Ribbon cutting was held October 3 - 4pm at Cheshire Park. The course is getting lots of use. Mr. Gawlak thanked all that came out for the ribbon-cutting ceremony.
- c. Band Shell/Turf Field Fees/Staff Needed
The turf field fees will be discussed at a future meeting.

12. DIRECTOR'S DEPARTMENT REPORT

Mr. Gawlak's full report is attached to the minutes. Red line items are new submissions.

Mr. Gawlak spoke about doing a tour of Chapman School to determine if it can be used for a future community center. Ms. Mayne will coordinate the tour.

The Director reported that the youth basketball program is up to 561 participants with six weeks to go.

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. O'Donnell, seconded by Mr. Perosino

MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 9 p.m.

VOTED the motion passed unanimously by those present.

Mr. Gawlak reminded the members that the November meeting will be held at the Community School.

Respectfully submitted,



Angela Izzo

My name is Breina Schain of 62 Hilltop Road Cheshire. I want to invite everyone to join the Cheshire Trail Trekkers on an upcoming walk. We are a fun walking group in Cheshire that some of you may already know about and maybe you've even joined us on a walk. The Cheshire Trail Trekkers formed about three years ago within the Cheshire Parks and Recreation Department with a mission to promote healthy lifestyles for all ages by providing a variety of interesting walking events in Cheshire with opportunities for education, socialization and exploration. Our goal is to provide places for all trekkers to connect and socialize at our walking events, while group leaders present interesting topics during walks. There is generally one walk on a Saturday and one walk on a Wednesday each month. The walks are free and a great way to meet new people while getting some exercise! For more information please visit the Cheshire Parks & Recreation Department's website

www.cheshirect.myrec.com or call their office at 203-272-2743. Our next walk is on Wednesday, October 15 at 10 a.m. and we'll be walking at Mixville Park with an educational talk about dental hygiene led by Chesprocott. There are also walks on Saturday, October 25 at 10 am on the Bartlem Walking Trail; Saturday, November 1 at 4 pm on the Linear Path; Wednesday, November 19 at 2 pm in the new Stonebridge development and on Saturday, December 6 at Boulder Knoll. I have some flyers if anyone here would like one. The Parks & Rec. office asks that everyone pre-register on their website to stay up to date in case of a change or cancellation. I hope to see you on one of our upcoming walks.

MISSION STATEMENT ---Revised on 2-19-2023

The Cheshire CT Trail Trekkers promotes healthy lifestyles for all ages by providing a variety of interesting walking events in the Cheshire area with opportunities for education, socialization, and exploration.

SLOGANS

1. Walk Just for the Health of It
2. Know your Town...Good Naturedly
3. The Best Trail Mix of All...Cheshire's
4. Walk the Walk and Talk the Talk
5. Turn the Inside into the Outside
6. Folks Off & Walking
7. Take a Trail
8. Hike More & Worry Less
9. Trek More & Worry Less
10. Explore One Trail at A Time
11. Be a Litter Ridder
12. We Walk the Walk
13. Don't Squawk, Just Walk
14. Don't Balk...Get Out and Walk
15. The trails Call...Answer
16. Walk & Talk
17. Like the Hike
18. A Walk a Week...Your Path to Sleek
19. Steppin' Out
20. Fitness...Step by Step
21. Trek Our Trails
22. TREKKERS...UNITE!

GOALS

1. Promote exercise and a healthy lifestyle.
2. Provide venues for all residents to connect and socialize.
3. Encourage awareness of our many trails and walks.
4. Stimulate knowledge on interesting topics during events.
5. Explore the Cheshire area one trail at a time.
6. Involve town organizations with programs for the public.

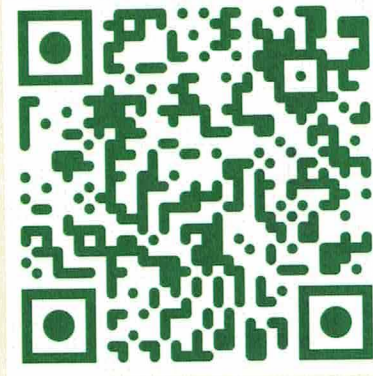


WALK LEADERS

Some walks are led by local experts; depending on the walk you may learn about health topics, architecture, geology, flora, fauna and more. Some walks are simply an opportunity to get out on the trails, socialize and explore!



The Best Trail Mix of All...
Cheshire's!

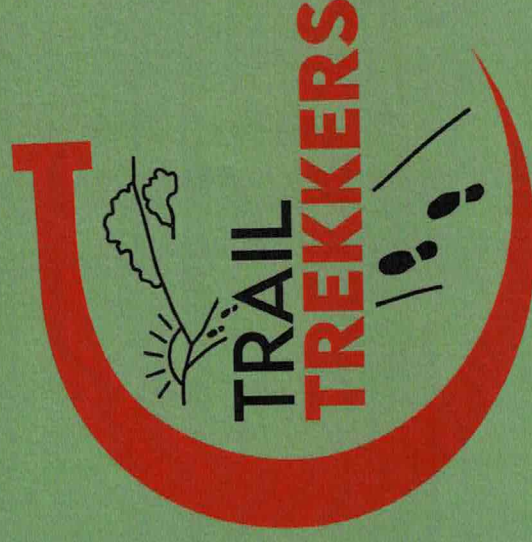


CONTACT US

-  203-272-2743
-  recreation@cheshirect.gov
-  myrec.cheshirect.com
-  559 S. Main St., Cheshire

CHESHIRE

Parks & Recreation



OUR MISSION:

To promote healthy lifestyles for all ages by providing a variety of interesting walking events in the Cheshire area with opportunities for education, socialization and exploration.

JOIN US!

Preregistration for each walk is required to stay informed about last minute changes or cancellations due to inclement weather. All are encouraged to preregister, but no one will be turned away at the start of a walk. Registration is available on our website or in our office.

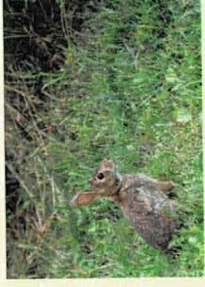


OUR GOALS

1. Promote exercise and a healthy lifestyle.
2. Connect and socialize.
3. Encourage awareness of Cheshire's many trails.
4. Stimulate knowledge on interesting topics during events.
5. Explore Cheshire one trail at a time.



NATURE WE SEE



HELP US PLAN

Walks are planned by a core group of the Cheshire Trail Trekkers who meet a few times a year to help plan the upcoming season's walks. To get involved in planning future walks, call or email us to be added to the meeting invitation list.



MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF CHESHIRE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2025, AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE HARMON LEONARD YOUTH CENTER, SOUTH MAIN STREET - CHESHIRE CT 06410

Present

Dr. Patrick Duffy, MD, Chairman

Commissioners: Heather Fitzgerald, Paul Fracasse, Michael O'Donnell, John Perosino,
Steve Trifone

Absent: Karen Berton

John Gawlak, Director, Park & Rec

Staff: Mark Cunningham, Highway Superintendent

Elizabeth Mayne, Program Supervisor

Fiona Pearson, Council Liaison

Brendan Moran, Program Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chairman called the meeting to order.

2. ROLL CALL

The Clerk called the roll and a quorum was determined to be present.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The group pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. Ray Stewart, 826 Moss Lane, addressed the Commission regarding Summer Concerts. He stated that he has attended concerts on Tuesday nights in North Haven and enjoyed them. North Haven sponsors about 15 concerts each summer. Mr. Stewart inquired about adding more concerts in Cheshire and possibly changing the day for the concerts to Thursdays. He will reach out to North Haven First Selectman, Mike Freda, to gather data on costs, permits and contacts; and he will report his findings back to the Commission.

5. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES – July 2, 2025

MOTION by Mr. O'Donnell, seconded by Mr. Trifone

MOVED to approve the minutes of the meeting of July 2, 2025

VOTED The motion passed unanimously by those present

6. PARKS UPDATE – MARK CUNNINGHAM, PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Cunningham stated that work is proceeding as normal. The past couple of months have been busy with paving and seeding among other projects.

The Chairman inquired about the trash bags he observed at the Fenn Road Property. Karen Schnitzer, Chair, Environment Commission, explained that members of the Environment Commission have been cleaning the open space parks in order to eradicate invasive plants and filling trash bags that are then picked up by Public Works.

7. TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

Ms. Pearson reported that the capital budget has been approved.

- Various pool improvements, \$115,000
- Yankee Expressway Property Access Study, \$20,000
- Community Pool Boiler and Roof Replacement, \$120,000
- Open Space Land Acquisition, \$1.5 million (will go to referendum)
- Splash Pad, allocated \$585,000 (will go to referendum)
- Turf fields at high school, allocated \$800,000 (will go to for referendum)

Mr. O'Donnell asked if there is currently any money in the Open Space fund.

Ms. Pearson replied there is less than \$100,000

8. COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Town Resident Nina Purslow who lives near Mixville, was upset because of a downed tree and that the property has fallen in disrepair. Public Works was contacted to take care of these issues and Nina Purslow wrote expressing her gratitude. The Chairman thanked Mr. Cunningham and his staff.
- b. A letter from Phil Atiyeh, Cheshire resident and a member of the Orchard Hill Band, asking to perform with his band next year in town.

9. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- a. Eagle Scout, Eric Downy, finished the Gaga pit. The Chairman shared pictures of the completed project.
- b. HoneyPot Disc Golf Course - The Chairman shared pictures of the disc golf baskets.
- c. Eagle Scout, Jehan Moody, submitted a preliminary proposal to build two bridges at Cheshire Park. He did not attend this meeting. The members will visit the site and the Eagle Scout will have to attend a Park & Rec meeting and make his presentation.

- d. The Chairman wished to recognize Liz Mayne for all her hard work for the Parks and Recreation Department. In addition, Liz is the Chairperson of the Connecticut Recreation and Parks Association, as well as Chairperson of the Legislative Committee. The Legislative Committee works from January 8 till May 4 during the budget season; and is a voice and advocate of park and recreation programs throughout the state. This year the Legislative Committee has been instrumental during the legislation to Attempt to apply camp licensure to municipal programs. The members expressed their appreciation to Ms. Mayne for all her efforts.
- e. The Chairman discussed the new Code of Ordinance, Supplement number 6, Section 2-66, "There will be a Parks & Recreation Commission composed of 6 electors of the town and the Athletic Director for the Cheshire Public Schools or their designee to serve as adviser to the Commission". The Chairman expressed his support with this ordinance.

f. E-Bikes

The Chairman asked the Police Department to come to our next meeting since the new laws will take effect in October 1.

Input from the Police Department is necessary to see how we will deal with these E-bikes on our trails and sidewalks

Originally there were three classes of E-bikes:

- Peddle assist only, 20 miles per hour
- Peddle assist with a motor, 20 miles per hour
- Peddle assist only – up to 28 miles per hour

Now these bikes can go up to 70 miles an hour, without pedals, much like a motorcycle, with no age restrictions, no license or helmet required

These bikes come without peddles, and they are classified as follows:

- If the battery is over 750 watts, it's called a motor-driven cycle and it requires a license
- If the battery is over 3,500 watts, it's called a motor-driven vehicle and it requires a License
- If the battery is over 3,700 watts it's called a motorcycle and you need an endorsement on the driver's license

10. NEW BUSINESS

A. Permanent Charcoal Grills in Parks

Ms. Mayne stated that these grills are in need of being replaced.

The Commission discussed eliminating these grills in the parks.

MOTION by Mr. O'Donnell, seconded by Ms. Fitzgerald

MOVED to eliminate charcoal grills in all Cheshire parks

VOTED The motion passed unanimously by those present

11. OLD BUSINESS

- A. **2025 Small Town Economic Assistance Program** - \$1,000,000 Grant Award, Mixville Park Improvements Phase II

The Chairman acknowledged the award of this grant.

- B. **Bartlem South - Project Status**

The Skate Park is completed; one of the ramps has a separation and this is being addressed.

The skate group expressed an interest in getting a half pipe, but after getting prices, it was determined that it is too costly.

A control box has been donated by Nick Graikoski, a Cheshire High School Graduate of the Class of 2013 and the business owner of Amplified Custom Fabrication.

The Chairman would like a letter of thanks sent out to Mr. Graikoski.

- C. **Disc Golf Course - Cheshire Park**

Discussed under Chairman's Report.

Ms. Mayne reported that caution signs are being installed over the weekend warning people of being on disc golf course.

- D. **Band Shell/Turf Field Fees/Staff Needed**

The band shell is moving along; the walls have been framed. The parking lot is done.

The turf field fees will be discussed at a future meeting.

The Chairman reported that he and Mr. Gawlak have been attending the Adaptive Field Meetings, May 16, June 6 and July 23. Mr. Gawlak has compiled an RFP for the adaptive fields.

- D. Farmington Canal Linear Trail Moratorium - **Discuss Undedicated Benches**

Members discussed whether it is feasible to take the moratorium off.

Mr. Cunningham reported that there were pictures taken of all the benches.

MOTION by Mr. O'Donnell, seconded by Ms. Fitzgerald

MOVED to continue moratorium on new benches and replace unnamed benches with dedicated benches

VOTED The motion passed unanimously by those present

12. DIRECTOR'S DEPARTMENT REPORT

The Chairman distributed to the members a copy of the DeDominicus Property plan that Mr. Gawlak reviewed with the state.

Ms. Mayne reported there was a power outage at the pool this past Saturday and the pool

was closed for the day. Refunds will be given for paid events for that day. The power outage caused the timers to be off for the tennis courts. They have been reset. There will be work done for the boilers at the pool; and Sheila Adams, Aquatic Director, has reached out to the patrons about the pool temperature during this work. Ms. Mayne attended the September 2 Inland Wetlands meeting and reported that the Permit for the Yankee Highlands Mountain Bike trail was approved. The Chairman referred to the Director's Report, Item #24 – regarding the CITY DATA.AI software. The Chairman reported that he attended one of those meetings and was impressed by how this software is able to monitor in real time our 15 parks and open spaces as to number of people being there.

Mr. Gawlak's full report is attached to the minutes. Red line items are new submissions.

Mr. O'Donnell asked Ms. Mayne since the fees were raised at the pool, are they day pass changes. Ms. Mayne reported no big changes were noted. Changes were noted for fees for birthday parties and pavilion fees; residents are not happy with the new fees. Ms. Mayne stated the free stickers for seniors are being requested more this period and asked the members to consider charging the seniors a minimal fee. The members will address this at the next meeting after all the reports are in for this period.

Ms. Mayne discussed with the members about having a future meeting at the Community Pool.

MOTION by Mr. O'Donnell, seconded by Mr. Trifone

MOVED to move the November 5 meeting from the Youth Center to the Cheshire Community Pool

VOTED The motion passed unanimously by those present

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Trifone, seconded by Mr. Perosino

MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

VOTED the motion passed unanimously by those present.

Respectfully submitted,



Angela Izzo

John Gawlak

From: John Gawlak
Sent: Friday, October 3, 2025 10:17 AM
To: John Gawlak
Subject: Women's showers







Sent from my iPhone

John Gawlak

From: Donna DeSalle <dallas@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, September 30, 2025 6:40 PM
To: John Gawlak
Subject: Final Letter for Bench Request/Farmington Canal Heritage Trail

John-

We have decided to compose a new Memorial Bench Request Letter to present at the Commission Meeting on October 8th. Here is the copy. I believe Rob will be presenting this. Please confirm that you have received this.
Thank you

Dr. Duffy
John Gawlak
Andrew Martelli

Our family respectfully submits this request for the approval of a memorial bench along the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail, in loving memory of Amanda—our beloved daughter, sister, wife, and devoted mother to her precious son, Logan. We are grateful for your consideration.

To understand why this bench holds such deep meaning for our family is to understand who Amanda was to us. Amanda was the most selfless, kind, and giving soul. She found joy in doing for others, and her presence lit up the lives of everyone fortunate enough to know her. She was known for her humor, her laughter, and her unwavering warmth and compassion. Even in difficult times, Amanda had a gift for making others feel seen, valued, and loved.

She delighted in preparing your favorite meal above her own, and often tucked spontaneous, heartfelt notes into our lunchboxes or in the fridge...little messages of love that brightened our days. Amanda cherished planning special occasions and holidays, thoughtfully selecting gifts months in advance that perfectly suited each person she held dear. Her creative passions...crafting, photography, and especially capturing moments with Logan or her beloved pets...were expressions of her deep love and care.

But above all, Amanda treasured time with her family, especially outdoors. Whether around the fire pit, biking, apple picking, fishing, even catching frogs and toads, or simply watching birds and squirrels, she found peace and joy in nature. The Farmington Canal Trail was one of her favorite places. She loved walking and biking its wooded paths, the sights, the sounds and smells of the concord grapes in the fall...the memories we shared there are forever etched in our hearts.

A memorial bench along this trail would offer a place for reflection, a space where we could sit, remember, and feel close to Amanda. It would honor her memory and serve as a quiet symbol of love, comfort, and peace for the community. This bench would ensure that her legacy endures in nature, reminding all who pass by of the beauty of her spirit and the love she left behind.

On behalf of the DeSalle and VanFleet families, we thank you sincerely for considering our request and for recognizing how much it would mean to us to create a space that honors Amanda's life while offering comfort to others.

With heartfelt gratitude,
Rob, Donna, Ashley, Chris and Logan

on the website

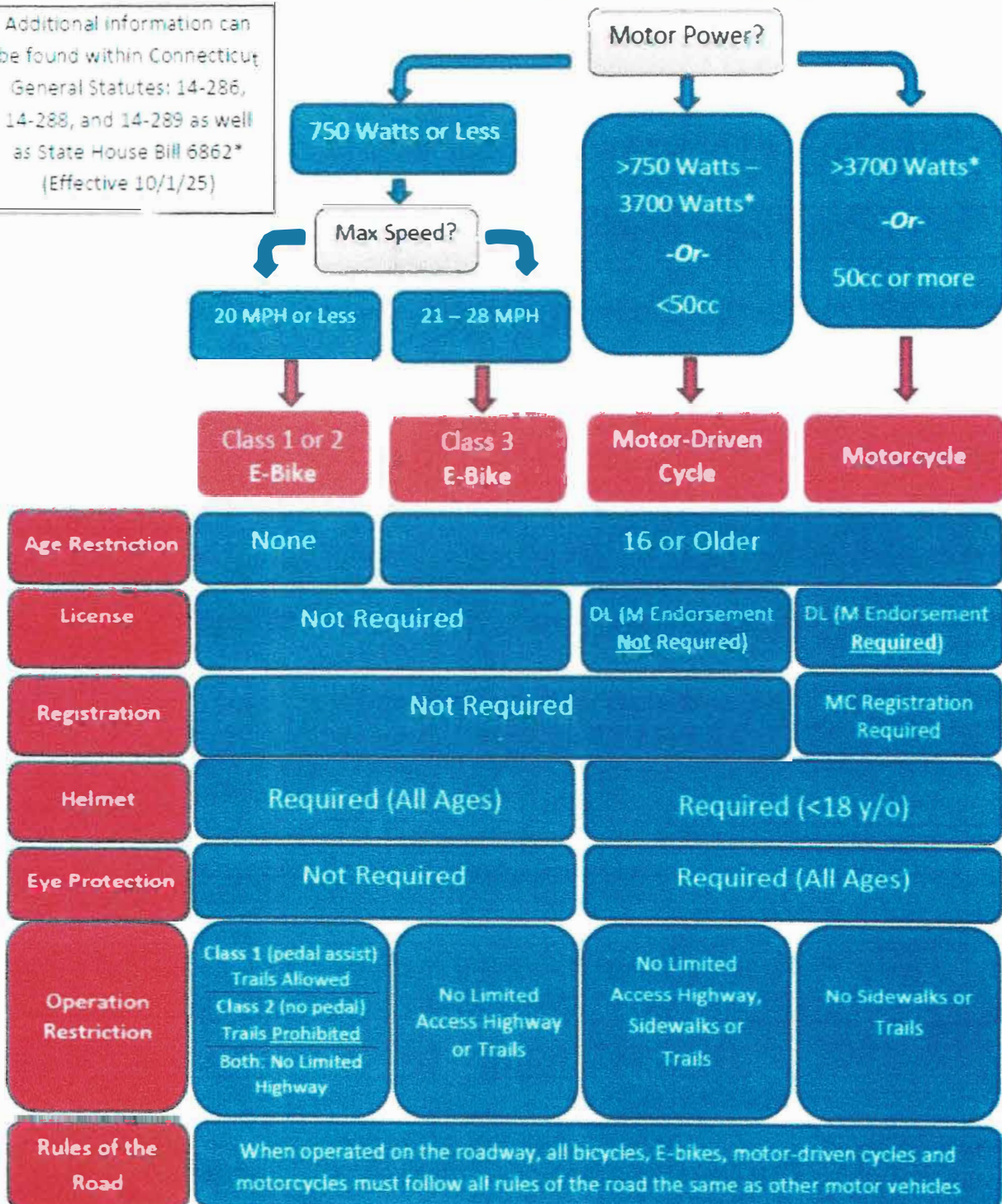


Cheshire Police Department



Connecticut E-Bike/Motor-Driven Cycle Law

Additional information can be found within Connecticut General Statutes: 14-286, 14-288, and 14-289 as well as State House Bill 6862* (Effective 10/1/25)



Electric Bicycle and Motor-Driven Cycle Laws

By: Heather Poole, Principal Analyst
September 27, 2024 | 2024-R-0154

Issue

Provide an overview of the laws governing electric bicycles (e-bikes) and motor-driven cycles.

Summary

E-bikes and motor-driven cycles (e.g., mopeds) are both lower-speed vehicles that may be legally operated in Connecticut. Although in some cases similar in appearance, they are separate vehicle classifications under state law and subject to different laws. An e-bike is a bicycle that has operable foot pedals and an electric motor of less than 750 watts and falls into one of three classifications. A motor-driven cycle is a motorcycle, scooter, or bicycle with a motor that has a (1) seat at least 26 inches high and (2) motor displacing less than 50 cubic centimeters (cc).

E-bikes are treated similarly to bicycles under state law. They do not need to be registered with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and riders do not need a driver's license. The same operating rules that apply to bicycles generally apply to e-bikes, but certain e-bikes are not permitted on bicycle or multi-use trails or paths. Like bicycles, e-bikes must have and display lights and reflectors at certain times and under certain conditions. But unlike bicycles, all e-bike riders are required to wear helmets, and state law imposes additional safety equipment requirements on e-bike manufacturers. The law expressly authorizes municipalities to regulate bicycle and e-bike use within their jurisdictions, as long as any enacted ordinance is consistent with state law and applicable regulations.

Unlike e-bike riders, motor-driven cycle riders must hold a driver's license (but not a motorcycle endorsement). However, these vehicles do not need to be registered with DMV. Motor-driven cycle riders are generally subject to the same rules of the road as motor vehicles, but they are required to stay in the right lane or on the shoulder on roads with speed limits that are higher than the cycle's top speed. Motor-driven cycles must have and display lights at certain times and under certain conditions, but riders do not need to wear helmets unless they are under age 18.

Electric Bicycles

E-bike Defined

By law, an electric bicycle is a bicycle that (1) has operable foot pedals and an electric motor of less than 750 watts and (2) qualifies as a class 1, class 2, or class 3 bicycle (see table 1 below) ([CGS § 14-1](#)). These classifications were developed by the [People for Bikes Coalition](#) and, according to the coalition, have been adopted in 41 states as of July 2023.

It is unclear how an e-bike with a motor of 750 watts or more would be classified under Connecticut law. It appears that vehicles with electric motors do not fall under the definition of motor-driven cycle (see below).

Table 1: E-Bike Classes

Class	Motor Engagement	Motor Disengagement	Top Speed
Class 1	Only while the rider uses the foot pedals	When the rider stops pedaling or when it hits the top speed	20 mph
Class 2	While the rider pedals or with a throttle (i.e., they may be powered exclusively by the motor)	When the brakes are applied or when it hits the top speed	20 mph
Class 3	Only while the rider uses the foot pedals	When the rider stops pedaling or when it hits the top speed	28 mph

Source: [CGS § 14-1](#)

Credentials Needed to Operate

E-bike riders do not need a driver's license, and e-bikes are not registered with DMV. But state law prohibits anyone under age 16 from riding a class 3 e-bike unless they are riding as a passenger on an e-bike designed to carry one ([CGS § 14-289k\(e\)](#)). The law also specifically states that municipalities may require annual licensing for bicycles and e-bikes and registration of any sale or change of ownership of a bicycle or e-bike ([CGS § 14-289](#)).

Unlike e-bike riders, motor-driven cycle riders must hold a driver's license (but not a motorcycle endorsement). However, these vehicles do not need to be registered with DMV. Motor-driven cycle riders are generally subject to the same rules of the road as motor vehicles, but they are required to stay in the right lane or on the shoulder on roads with speed limits that are higher than the cycle's top speed. Motor-driven cycles must have and display lights at certain times and under certain conditions, but riders do not need to wear helmets unless they are under age 18.

Electric Bicycles

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By law, an electric bicycle is a bicycle that (1) has operable foot pedals and an electric motor of less than 750 watts and (2) qualifies as a class 1, class 2, or class 3 bicycle (see table 1 below) ([CGS § 14-1](#)). These classifications were developed by the [People for Bikes Coalition](#) and, according to the coalition, have been adopted in 41 states as of July 2023.

It is unclear how an e-bike with a motor of 750 watts or more would be classified under Connecticut law. It appears that vehicles with electric motors do not fall under the definition of motor-driven cycle (see below).

Table 1: E-Bike Classes

Class	Motor Engagement	Motor Disengagement	Top Speed
Class 1	Only while the rider uses the foot pedals	When the rider stops pedaling or when it hits the top speed	20 mph
Class 2	While the rider pedals or with a throttle (i.e., they may be powered exclusively by the motor)	When the brakes are applied or when it hits the top speed	20 mph
Class 3	Only while the rider uses the foot pedals	When the rider stops pedaling or when it hits the top speed	28 mph

Source: [CGS § 14-1](#)

Credentials Needed to Operate

E-bike riders do not need a driver's license, and e-bikes are not registered with DMV. But state law prohibits anyone under age 16 from riding a class 3 e-bike unless they are riding as a passenger on an e-bike designed to carry one ([CGS § 14-289k\(e\)](#)). The law also specifically states that municipalities may require annual licensing for bicycles and e-bikes and registration of any sale or change of ownership of a bicycle or e-bike ([CGS § 14-289](#)).

[§§ 14-289k & 14-286d](#)). E-bike riders ages 16 and older who do not wear helmets may be subject to the general penalty for vehicle highway use violations discussed above. For those under age 16, failing to wear a helmet is not a violation or an offense, but a police officer may issue a verbal warning to the child's parent or guardian ([CGS § 14-286d \(b\)&\(c\)](#)).

Operating Rules

State law gives e-bike riders the same duties and privileges as bicycle riders and allows e-bikes to be ridden where bicycles are permitted (with certain exceptions, see below) ([CGS §14-289k\(a\) &\(b\)](#)). Generally, the law treats bicycles like motor vehicles when traveling on the road and like pedestrians when they travel on sidewalks or crosswalks, but it also sets several rules specific to bicycle operation. While on the road, bicycle and e-bike riders must follow traffic rules applicable to motor vehicles, except (1) those which, by their nature, cannot apply and (2) in cases where the Office of the State Traffic Administration (OSTA) or a local traffic authority has set different regulations ([CGS §§ 14-286a](#)).

Bicycle-Specific Rules. In addition to these general rules of the road, bicycle and e-bike riders must follow certain bicycle-specific operating rules, including the following:

1. When going slower than the normal speed of traffic, a bicycle or e-bike rider must ride as close to the right side of the road as is safe, in the person's judgement, except under specific circumstances (e.g., passing another vehicle, turning left, or avoiding hazards).
2. When traveling on a sidewalk or crosswalk, bicycle and e-bike riders must yield the right of way to any pedestrian and give an audible signal within a reasonable distance before passing the pedestrian.
3. Bicycles and e-bikes generally may not ride more than two abreast, and those doing so may not impede the normal movement of traffic and must ride within a single lane (if the road has lanes).
4. Riders may not carry (1) passengers on bicycles and e-bikes that are not equipped or designed to carry passengers or (2) packages or other articles that prevent the rider from using both hands for operating the bicycle or e-bike ([CGS §§ 14-286 & -286b](#)).

Failure to follow these laws is an infraction, punishable by a \$50 fine plus surcharges (\$92 total for most violations, see [infractions schedule](#)).

Location Restrictions and Municipal Regulation. Although state law broadly authorizes e-bikes to travel where bicycles are allowed, it limits e-bike use on bicycle and multi-use trails and paths and allows municipalities to regulate where e-bikes may be ridden within their jurisdictions.

Driving a motor-driven cycle without a driver's license is an infraction, punishable by a \$50 fine plus surcharges (\$117 total, see [infractions schedule](#)).

Helmets and Safety Equipment

As is the case with motorcycles, Connecticut does not have a universal helmet requirement for motor-driven cycle riders. However, motor-driven cycle riders and passengers under age 18 must wear a helmet that meets federal standards ([CGS § 14-289g](#)). Failure to do so is an infraction, punishable by a \$90 fine plus surcharges (\$136 total, see [infractions schedule](#)).

It appears that motor-driven cycles are subject to the general lighting requirements for vehicles (which apply to all vehicles to which a more specific statute does not apply). Under this law, vehicles must have (1) a forward-facing white light that is visible from at least 1,000 feet away and (2) two rear-facing red lights visible from 1,000 feet away or, alternatively, one such red light and two red reflectors visible from all distances between 600 and 100 feet away when illuminated by the upper beams of head lamps ([CGS § 14-96n](#)). Motor-driven cycle riders must use these lights during the times and conditions that motor vehicles must display their headlights ([CGS § 14-96a](#)). People who fail to have these lights or use them as required commit an infraction, punishable by a \$50 fine plus surcharges (\$92 total, see [infractions schedule](#)).

Operating Rules

Motor-driven cycles are generally subject to the same rules of the road as other motor vehicles. Specific laws that apply to them include the following:

1. Motor-driven cycles may not be operated on sidewalks, limited access highways, or turnpikes and
2. When a road's speed limit is higher than the top speed of the motor-driven cycle, a person must ride only in the right lane or on a useable shoulder on the right side of the road, except when preparing to turn left ([CGS § 14-286](#)).

Violations of the specific motor-driven cycle laws are infractions, punishable by a \$50 fine plus surcharges (\$117 total, see [infractions schedule](#)).

HP:ms

Cheshire Parks & Recreation Commission

Director's Report- Oct. 8, 2025 - (Bold print underlined in red are new submissions).

Bartlem South UPDATE:

Need to discuss field use, band shell, policies and fees. PowerStation Events has met with the Town and proposing to be the audio-visual consultant to the new Bartlem Pavilion. Town is working with 2 vendors for Way Finding directional/information signage.

Mixville Master Plan: Engineering Dept. has been working on a plan to incorporate both increased parking, accessibility pathways/boardwalk, remove sides to the changing room for a covered bench on the concrete pad, new signage kiosk, relocate sand volleyball courts and add a permanent seasonal rink. Engineering Dept. has created a multi-phase plan incorporating the priorities mentioned above. DPW has completed the parking lot improvements piece of the project. The rink is completed and looks great. **DPW will announce a ribbon ceremony with rededication of the rink to the Schena Family this fall.** Town of Cheshire is recipient of 2025 STEAP Grant for Mixville Park phase II \$1,000,000 plus additional Town match \$281,800 for a total of \$1,281,800 project cost. Project will include boardwalk and sidewalks from the main parking area along the beach with connections to the south side of the park, New pavilion, suspension bridge for better trail passage between the 2 ponds, bocci court, benches and way finding signage. **Engineering has been out at the park looking at the area targeted for a proposed suspension bridge. DPW shared at a meeting that All Habitat an ecological management firm specializing in aquatic and terrestrial habitat restoration and vegetation management will be studying Mixville Park to make recommendations on invasive species and also study the pond to locate a root cause to the elevated bacteria's throughout the swim season that result in many closures. The hope is to find ways to reduce closures if possible.**

Mixville Park Future Plans for Consideration:

- Examine the old concession stand building and potential uses recent comments from residents would like to see it as a functional stand
- Explore a network of walkways from parking lot to beach area, playground and basketball court
IN PROGRESS
- Explore use of paddleboards, canoes, kayaks, rentals? Ordinance change?
- Examine the lifeguard house, is it prudent to return lifeguard staff to monitor the waterfront or repurpose that building on the beach **IN PROGRESS**
- Work with Environmental Planner and find ways to open the shoreline of the smaller pond for access and vistas.
- Explore a low ropes adventure course for leadership training and team building
- **Rework park rules and policies (ordinances)**
- Winter use the hill for structured sledding/tubing, the pond for skating with lights, other winter related events
- Renters misrepresenting number of attendees most often higher, which then creates parking issues
- Renters wanting access to unload event items but then not wanting to return vehicle back to the main parking lot
- Parking lot capacity issues rentals, season pass holders, day pass visitors

1. Community Pool:

- Main deck repairs: Community Pool Deck Repairs/Epoxy Floor capital project estimated \$100,000 _Remove failed joints and install self-leveling joint sealant from the west end of the pool and around the Kidde pool. Resurface pool deck and diving board footings. Will need to put out to public bid 2 options for treatment do not seem to be the best options to pursue. I will be seeking technical advice on what direction and application is best for the pool deck. Project on hold as funds were re- appropriated for the boiler project.
- The newer Lochinvar boiler has been having consistent issues mid-summer '23 to Sept. '23_Public Building Commission has been tasked to oversee the bidding process, and installation. Bid docs have been received and will be reviewed next week to award and begin the work. PBC has selected a vendor project secured the necessary funding just waiting on schedule to commence install. **Boiler replacement is online but experiencing some start up issues with water temperature regulation.**
- Lobby roof: Town retained Silver and Petrucelli to provide recommendations and costs estimates to repair the lobby roof. Final action report has been received. Public Building Commission has been tasked to oversee the bidding process, and installation. PBC has recommended S&P provide a design, bid docs and construction management. **The bids are in I believe DPW is in the process of awarding the project with hopes the roof can be completed before winter.**
- Pool building exterior needs to be cleaned as the sides are showing a black stain that has built up over time. Looking into quotes from commercial cleaners due to the thinness of the exterior walls. DPW recently purchased an has online a bucket truck perhaps we can work jointly and perform the work in house vs a commercial cleaner
- Met with B&L Engineering Consultants and Town Staff for an initial planning meeting for the development of the Splash Pad to be located on the south side of the pool. **Council has approved the increased cost of the project with half coming from grant sources. The project will be one of 7 referendums topics for the residents to vote on.**

1. Things to ponder: 1-2 multi use rectangular fields with lights (aid lacrosse, football rugby), add lights to existing field, Bartlem South Project, Challenger Field baseball/soccer combo, Disc Golf Course. Filed lights to softball/baseball fields. Cheshire Soccer Club memo dated Oct. 17, 2023 recommending to school building committee to consider expanding soccer field s to accommodate two 9v9 10-12yr old's, three 7v7 for 8-10yr old's, three 4v4 for 4-7 yr olds. This allows for field scheduling flexibility and the ability to rehab fields. Quinnipiac Park is reaching full capacity. Just an FYI the Department has been fielding calls from nonresident organizations for all kinds of turf and field requests see handout.
2. **Cheshire Park Disc Golf Course:** I will be including in my budget proposal \$25,000 for Course Kiosk, tee pads and baskets. Met March 4th with Town Planner and Environmental Planner to determine if project can receive administrative approval. We also walked the park with Karen Schnitzer of the Environment Commission to examine her concerns of preserving the Red Tanager Birds on the East Side, the American Chestnut saplings. Some course names being put out there "The HoneyPot Brook Disc Golf Course". [Honeypot Disc Golf @Cheshire Park FB page](#). The course designer has been working with Cheshire Residents with roughing in a few holes. A few Eagle Scout Jehan Moody has been communicating with course volunteers about future work projects that still need to be completed. Baskets have been delivered and installation to occur over the next 2 weeks. Ribbon cutting celebration was held Oct. 3rd. The course is seeing lots of visits. If you search YouTube HoneyPot Disc Course- full 18 an avid disc golfer filmed all 18 holes with him getting a hole in one on basket #5. Great way to see the entire course

JG made available course hoodies for 22 volunteers to show some appreciation for the many hours assisting to produce this course in just about a year. Perhaps we can have them come to a future Recreation Commission meeting to be honored. The course will be an exciting addition to our parks system!
3. **MacNamara Park:** Meeting June 20th was held with Town Staff to review Mac field proposal advertising and storage shed, concessions building CYB is much appreciated for the work to field 4 as our parents. CYB held elections for the upcoming year with changes on the board. Victoria MacKenzie reached out to me as she is requesting a meeting with Park Rec and DPW in an attempt to improve relations wit the town.
4. **Meeting with Challenger Sports** to discuss short- and long-term plans of programs and fields. Met with Derek Hayden to discuss Cheshire challenger sports and their goals. **State Bond Commission early June 2024 awarded the Town of Cheshire \$750,000 for an Adaptive/Miracle type baseball/soccer field.** A design group will be assembling sometime this spring to kick off project planning. Meeting was held May 16 with a follow up June 6th. Some locations were discussed as well as turf types and athletes' abilities to use regular type surfaces. Next meeting July 23 to draft a Project RFP for design. Design RFP specs have been drafted by John G and forwarded to Andrew Martelli and Dan Bombero for final edits with hopes that it can be posted publicly.

5. **Department web page/Management software** Starting in January 2025 our department will be having all youth/adult sport orgs using fields requesting online completing all of the necessary information freeing up myself and the front office. Our only task will be to review information and approve. This will help us build a more complete schedule and provide DPW Grounds with the information they desire. Lots of work from organizations is occurring to build out the park/field calendar.

6. **Lock 12 Pavilion:**

7. **Town Manager Adopted goals and objectives for Recreation: 2025**

RECREATION Goal #5: Promote and expand recreational, leisure and cultural opportunities to enhance the quality of life for all Cheshire residents and promote positive physical, social and emotional experiences.

Key Objectives:

- Explore the feasibility of acquiring access rights for the construction of a second access/parking area for the Yankee Highlands open space on the southern side of the property and oversee the approval process for the CT NEMBA proposed network of mountain bike trails on this property.
- Oversee the final construction phase of the Bartlem Park South Phase 1 capital project including the bandshell construction and final closeout for a late-Spring, early-Summer 2025 completion.
- Evaluate and pursue appropriate open space land acquisition opportunities and coordinate the closeout of the OSWLA grant for the acquisition of 257 Fenn Rd and initiate an open space management plan for the property. 4
- Support the planning, location selection and design of the Adaptive Turf Field Project.
- Implement construction of Phase 2 of the Mixville Park Master Plan including grant funding for trail/interconnectivity improvements, along with a new pavilion and a new pedestrian bridge across the area where the upper and lower ponds meet.
- Complete design and initiate construction (depending upon adequate funding) of the new splash pad amenity adjacent to the Community Pool.
- Conduct a Cheshire Community Pool master planning process to identify and quantify future capital projects necessary to continue to operate as critical components continue to reach end of useful life within this 25-year-old facility.

8. Open Space discussion-

- Discuss management plan look at each make recommendations to Town Planner Review and walk each open space property over time to become familiar, promote use and program potential long range
- Made a connection with David Irvin, Central District Service Forester. David has agreed to meet with us this summer to walk an open space parcel that is a priority of the town that may have health or ecological concerns or recreational interest and provide a road map of improvements. David has requested the Town to complete a Municipal lands service forestry questionnaire prior to meeting. A scheduled walk took place October 11th at Roaring Brook as the first open space parcel to be reviewed. David forwarded his report on Roaring Brook last week. He is available for us to visit another open space in March. Dave Irvin forwarded his report on Dominicus. Next up John G completed the DEEP Forestry survey to be put into David Irvin's que to walk and report out on Yankee Highlands parcel. That walk is scheduled for Oct. 17th 9am meet at the town parking lot east of Walsh's market.
- Yankee Highlands Open Space Town of Cheshire and CTNEMBA trails agreement. NEMBAs proposal for the property. CT NEMBA will be working on hiring a soil consultant to flag all wetlands in the area looking to improve and utilize. Add trail layouts, trail building and bridge structures to mapping. Meet again for 8-24 referral then attend Planning and Zoning. Hopefully attain approvals and then execute a land agreement. Per email May 2, 2025 from Francisco Perez the soils scientist review is complete. Just waiting on supportive information prior to meeting with Town Planner and making application to the Wetlands Commission. The Project received Wetlands Approval. We are just waiting on an 8-24 referral from Planning & Zoning to the Town Council. Once obtained this month Town staff and CT NEMBA can work/execute the land use agreement. Then work can commence.
- Environment Commission: Environment Comm is creating an Open Space data base with objectives and goals a fluid document for the Volunteer Trail Stewards Projects. It has filters by property and levels of priority. Trail Stewards will be logging work sessions. I am purchasing safety vests for the volunteers that will indicate TRAIL STEWARDS.
- DEEP ECON Officer 203-710-2364 Ofc Maciejko regarding the hunting incident and deer stands. OFC. Maciejko did go out on the night of Sept. 30 and came across many deer stands on the Boulder Knoll and surrounding properties. His team came across 3 active stands and 5 inactive stands. The ECON officers surprised some hunters using archery equipment. Firearms hunting starts in November. ECON officers witnessed many private deer stands on bordering private properties. Apparently, the power line area from there traveling north has heavy hunting/poaching activity. They are going to continue patrols and if they feel it necessary, they will seek Town permission to temporarily post trail cameras which will then send notifications to the ECON OFC phones, and they will respond to the locations. Ofc. Maciejko does not think the

situation is a public safety problem to date but they are continuing to patrol area. They want to wait until firearm season to catch hunters actively using stands on Town property. Then the Town can make a collective decision to remove stands from town property.

- April 30th walked Boulder Knoll with Sean Henri Environment Commission to review his requests for trail clearing and tree blocking the trail along with looking at alternatives with the trail to bypass the residential driveway. Sean also took me across the road south along the cinder road to view one of the Copper mines pits. The road continues south to Cook Hill Rd. (future adopted trail?)

9. Special events: Scarecrow Kingdom on the Town Green at Bartlem, Turkey Hunt and Winter Wonderland tree/menorah lighting planning underway.

- 10. Bartlem Beats** Bid for stage and sound/lighting productions is for this summer only as we transition to our permanent stage we will need to rebid for sound and lighting only. Working off a Audio Visual State of CT contract that Power Station has we have agreed to their pricing proposal just need to execute agreement (\$8525 technical services vs \$8750 previous year bid). Sept. 21 American Girl concert 6pm-8pm at Bartlem Park. **To date the sponsorship program has netted \$12,750**

A HUGE Thank you to our 2025 Bartlem Beats Sponsors: \$12,750

Presenting: Richard Chevrolet

Platinum: AIT Insurance; Cheshire Lions Club

Gold: Advanced Dentistry; DW Gem Services, LLC; Feldman Orthodontics; Gaylord Physical Therapy; Knott & Santoro, LLC; B.H. Burke & Co., Inc.; Saint Bridget of Sweden Church; Holiday Hill Day Camps; Saint Bridget School; Cheshire Coffee, Blacks Road Self Storage, Liberty Bank Ricci Construction Group

- 11. Emergency Action Plan-** CJF concerned about the NFL player and his injury experience. The organization is creating a EAP and wanted to know what the Town had in place. The Town's EAP Plan is not park specific. Chief Casner was part of the recent meeting and believes we should explore and create a plan specific to each park. Steve Trifone forwarded the CHS EAP Plan that we will use as a template. Cheyanne Beach Cheshire resident and pediatric cardiologist at Yale and medical director of PROJECT ADAM. Project ADAM is a national network of affiliate sites that work together to optimize sudden cardiac arrest preparedness in schools and communities. She would like to meet and share some ideas also to gain an understanding of what is in place in Cheshire. In the process of setting up a planning meeting to discuss further and waiting on Dr. Beach to submit recommendations using the school plan as a model.
- 12.** The Town of Cheshire Planning Department will be planning the next POCD plan for the next 10 years. In the very near future, we will be contacted for input regarding all park and recreation

items. Mike O'Donnell and I attended the POCD meeting and spoke for 1 hour+ on Sept. 11, 2024 about current/future needs. Mike Glidden explained P&Z is early in the process and there will be additional opportunities to meet and discuss.

13. Eagle Scout Eric Downy completed his Gaga ball pit for Cheshire Park north side of the playground. Gabe Delaney installed the Bike Repair station at Lock 12. Brendan Middendorf Youth Center Tennis storage shed rehab. Jehan Mody a project with Honeypot Disc Golf Course. Kyle Shutts is working with Sean Henri of the Environment Commission on a project proposal for Boulder Knoll Trails.
14. Pollinator Garden project at the Mixville Park entrance. Project has been completed
15. Park benches and memorial bench program discuss Bartlem South locations
16. **Dog Park** DPW has made the repairs to Gazebo #2 in the large dog area. There is a donor willing to donate \$1,000 towards a purchase of the Gazebo #3 which used to be on the east side of the park near the solar panels. Gazebo #1 small dog area will need the legs to be repaired similar to #2.
17. Requesting DPW as time permits to update and recreate park field maps with the drone. See current map photos. Dan B from DPW is assisting us with map generation with the Towns consultant New England Geosystems. Elizabeth is working with the vendor to redo all our park maps and field layouts. Hopefully we will see some draft versions prior to finalization and viewing on all town web pages.
18. Capital Budget FY25 great news Council approved at a recent meeting the Bartlem Park Skate Park ramp upgrades along with new surface completed, Van to transport program and special event materials completed, Open Space /Park improvements including Disc Golf course Completed Court conversion for 2 pickleball courts COMPLETED, General Park signage, Pool parking lot paving, Pool Boiler and roof replacements IN PROGRESS along with funds to design Adaptive turf field IN PROGRESS, bleachers and player benches completed . All great things to enhance an already robust parks system something everyone should be proudful about!
19. Quinnipiac Park soccer fields 1 & 2 need to be closed for repairs and maintenance through mid-spring. Then fields will be open for use and fields #3-#4 will then be closed for appropriate treatments to restore. This information has been conveyed to Cheshire Youth Soccer leadership. We will leave Bartlem M2 a soccer field similar to this past fall and make some other grass field time available to assist with field closures.
20. Town Managers Office along with DPW and Engineering will be applying for a STEAP Grant with the State of CT for Mixville Park Improvements Phase II including boardwalk & sidewalk, ADA sidewalk ramps, Pavilion and concrete pad, misc items Bocce, horseshoes, benches and signage, suspension bridge /stepping stones issue. Last week notified Cheshire was granted \$1M request for Phase II of Mixville Park. Town Staff meet June 10th to discuss Master Plan Phase II and to clarify project details.

21. PBC is working on Youth Center improvements (AC for great room, restrooms, floor, window upgrades)
22. Budget presentation to Town Council at Artplace April 10th at 7:30pm went as expected Elizabeth did a great job preparing informational documents for the Town Councils review and evaluation. The Town Council charged the Recreation Commission to review all fees for services provided by the pool, recreation and artsplace: pavilion rentals, field rentals, nonresident fees, all pool fees under Parks & Recreation including but limited to per person use fees for athletic field use. Council reviewed proposed fee schedule increase for Parks & Rec/Pool and adopted. Will need to roll out and Inform the general public.
23. Meeting with CITY DATA.AI June 6th to receive a tutorial on the dashboard of the software to begin utilizing. Town Staff selected 15 economic development areas along with 15 parks and open spaces for City Data AI to develop the GIS shapes to be included in their software for us to use and analyze 3-4-week period. I anticipate sometime in mid-July we will be ready to use
24. Projects at various stages: Adaptive Field planning/design, Yankee Highlands CTNEMBA mountain bike trails regulatory phase/Town land use agreement, Mixville Phase II planning, Splash Pad, Pool Boiler/roof, Open Space parcel review #3 Yankee Highlands with State Forester Dave Irvin.
25. July 1 New fee schedule at the Pool is in effect as well as pavilion rentals. I will discuss in a few weeks the per player fee for all of the sports organizations at the fall field meeting which is effective Jan 1, 2026. Recreation fall programs fee increase with go in effect August 1 registration kick off. YMCA has been contacted the Town wishes to implement fee increase for pool facility meet rentals and practice lane rental starting this fall.
26. Pool scoreboard and touch pads will no longer be supported by Daktronics making it a candidate for replacement. Cost to replace is roughly \$70,000.
27. Aegis the vendor for maintenance for the CoGen unit at the pool announced back in June they would no longer have a field maintenance office. A good amount of their staff has been hired at another firm who is interested in continuing the service. Through a series of calls and emails a new maintenance agreement is being drafted for all the necessary parties to review, finalize and execute. OHA Power LLC has agreed to a new revised 5 yr term maintenance agreement for the COGen unit . OHA Power had scheduled a technician to be on site Friday, Oct. 3rd waiting for follow up.
28. Some skateboarders were disappointed that the park did not include a half pipe element. The project intention was to reconstruct a surface that was in dire need of replacement. I was able to introduce some new ramps to complete some of the open spaces once the new pad was in place utilizing the American Ramp Company designers. The designers selected ramps that would complement existing ramps at not a large investment. I do have American Ramp Company working at sketches on where a half pipe can fit with associated costs. I should receive in October. If it works, I can arrange to meet with boarders/BMX bikers to see if there is interest in fundraising say half for a future project. See handout and price estimate of \$50,000 pre bid or purchasing coop.

29. Connecticut Parks & Recreation Association awarded the Bartlem Project the 2025 Facility of Merit presentation will be Nov. 25 luncheon at Mohegan Sun

30. Chapman School discussion (Community Center)

31. Request for lights at Bartlem Skateboard park as well as Mixville Volleyball courts. Park users want to be able to continue activities when daylight savings occurs if possible. I met with Bob Casner recently to review the location discuss options available and forward price estimates when possible. Volleyball courts may be moved at some point in line with the Master Plan recommendation.

Respectfully submitted: *John Gawlak*

John Gawlak CPRP
Director Parks & Recreation