

First Selectman's Monthly Report

July 21, 2026

Over the past month, I participated in the Interlocal Emergency Medical Services Committee meeting to discuss the future of Emergency Medical Services in Litchfield and Morris and to explore sustainable short- and long-term solutions for providing quality EMS services to our communities.

I also attended the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security Region 5 Regional Emergency Planning Team meeting, where regional emergency preparedness and coordination efforts were discussed. In addition, I participated in the Northwest Hills Council of Governments meeting to review regional initiatives, ongoing projects, and collaborative opportunities among member municipalities.

I am pleased to report that Executive Assistant Laurel Gillotti successfully applied for and secured a \$1,370 grant from the Connecticut Department of Social Services Emergency Services Program to support the Town Food Pantry. This funding will help ensure continued assistance for residents in need. Thank you, Laurel, for your dedication and excellent work in obtaining this grant.

The Senior Center is currently being connected to fiber optic internet service through the Connecticut Educational Network. This project is being completed at no cost to the Town and will significantly reduce the Town's monthly internet expenses while providing faster and more reliable service.

The Morris Highway Department has been hard at work this summer installing new drainage infrastructure on Looking Glass Hill Road. Once this work is complete, we are hopeful the Town will receive state grant funding to pave the roadway. In addition to their regular responsibilities, the Highway Department is preparing to complete the reconstruction of the south retaining wall at the Transfer Station and begin site preparation for the new recreational courts at the Town Beach. We continue to receive many compliments from residents regarding the quality of the Highway Department's work. Thank you to the entire crew for your outstanding efforts.

A Special Town Meeting was held in June to elect a representative to the Region 20 Board of Education for a four-year term. Scott Pottbecker was nominated and elected to serve in this important position. I would like to thank Scott for his continued commitment and willingness to serve the Town of Morris.

At the same Town Meeting, voters approved an ordinance regulating wake surfing activities on Bantam Lake. The Town of Litchfield must also adopt the ordinance before it can be submitted to the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection for final approval.

The Board of Selectmen met with representatives from the Connecticut Department of Transportation to discuss safety improvements at the Town Center intersection. We reviewed several potential options to improve safety for both pedestrians and motorists. These discussions will continue as we work toward identifying the best solution for our community.

I was honored to attend the Washington Volunteer Fire Department's 100th Anniversary Parade alongside the First Selectmen from Washington, Warren, Roxbury, and New Milford. Congratulations to the Washington Volunteer Fire Department on this remarkable milestone and a century of dedicated service to its community.

Our summer concert series at the Morris Town Beach has been a tremendous success. Performances by bands including Logical Pretzel and The Stevie Experience Tribute have drawn large crowds and created wonderful evenings for residents and visitors alike. Thank you to the Morris Beach and Recreation Department and all the volunteers who make these events possible.