

TOWN OF VERNON



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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VERNON SENIOR CENTER DEPLOYS NEW PASSENGER BUS *Membership Continues to Expand*



(Vernon, CT) – Mayor Daniel A. Champagne announced today that a new thirty-five (35) passenger bus has officially joined the fleet of vehicles used to transport members of Vernon’s Senior Center to local and regional activities. The new 2020-Freightliner M2 Champion Defender bus includes handicap provisions and will now supplement the current twenty-five (25) passenger van already in service. The Senior Center vehicle fleet also includes a passenger car used to bring Vernon residents to out-of-town medical appointments.

“Since opening the new Senior Center in April of 2018, membership has grown exponentially,” said Mayor Champagne. “After a full year of operation and with more than 2,220 registered attendees, we recognized that the members’ activity level warranted adding another vehicle to the fleet. The Town Council budgeted and approved the funds in April of 2019, and the bus was custom-built over the summer months,” said Champagne.

“As our membership grows we have responded by adding more trips to our programming schedule,” said Maureen Gabriele, Senior Center Director. “The new bus enables us to accommodate more seniors on our outings, allowing them to travel in comfort. The maiden voyage of the bus will take place this afternoon when our “Out to Lunch Bunch” visits a restaurant in Glastonbury,” she concluded.

Senior Center membership is available to individuals aged fifty-five and over. The one-time cost for lifetime membership to the Center is \$10 for Vernon residents and \$15 for non-Vernon residents. For more information, please visit the Senior Center at 135 Bolton Road, or by telephone at (860) 870-3680 and online at www.vernon-ct.gov/senior-center.



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