Please be advised that there has been an increasing number of Internet based scams which are targeting town residents. One of these recent scam uses the façade of the popular social fundraising website: “gofundme.com”. The e-mail shows a picture of a child in a hospital bed stating that the child needs help from the Town of Weston and to make a donation using a link provided on the e-mail. The link brings victims to a Paypal site which is not how “gofundme” works. This e-mail is using “social engineering” tactics to get compassionate individuals to send money to a fraudulent paypal account.

We understand that this is a disturbing trend that criminals are using to increase their chances of victimizing caring individuals. If you receive e-mails such as this, report the post to the respective company to ensure they are taken down. Also, make sure that you DO NOT share any personal information such as social security numbers, bank account information, credit card numbers, PIN, etc.

Article about gofundme scams:

https://gizmodo.com/gofundme-is-a-great-way-to-scam-people-1681401839

Tips for spotting fake gofundme campaigns:

https://lifehacker.com/four-tips-for-spotting-fake-gofundme-campaigns-1794432378

Since technological security methods are more difficult to manipulate than a person, criminals are using social engineering tactics to attack the weakest part of the link. Stay vigilant and contact the Weston Police Department if you have any questions.

Weston Police Department non-emergency line:

203-222-2600

In case of Emergency call 9-1-1