



John L. Salomone
Town Manager

TOWN OF NEWINGTON

131 CEDAR STREET
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06111

OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

MEMORANDUM

To: Newington Town Council
From: John L. Salomone, Town Manager
Date: August 15, 2008
Re: Monthly Report – July 2008

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

During the month, the Town Manager focused on a number of personnel matters, including annual evaluations of department heads and Town Manager's Office staff members. Other items of interest included:

- Attending several meetings concerning the Town Center/Municipal Parking Lot revitalization.
- Meeting with Town Planner Ed Meehan and the Town's Brownfield consultant regarding the National Welding site.
- Meeting with the Board of Parks and Recreation.
- Addressing the Men's Club at Cedar Mountain Commons and attending the annual Police Department/Senior and Disabled Center picnic.
- Working with CGI to produce a streaming video regarding Newington which will have a link on the Town's website.
- Attending the Mid-State Collaborative meeting in Cromwell.

Paid overtime for the month of July 2008 was as follows:

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT	Overtime Hours	Cost
Vehicles and Equipment	24.10	\$ 1,017.27
Weekend Stand-by and Call-in	16.00	557.68
Milling/Overlay	.50	45.19
Ruth Chaffee/John Paterson Schools	288.90	8,578.78
Extravaganza	25.00	945.36
Traffic Division	24.30	922.04
Total	378.80	\$12,066.32
PARKS AND GROUNDS DIVISION		
Extravaganza	189.75	\$ 7,775.95
Cemetery	24.00	957.87
Weekend	46.00	1,885.08
Herbicide Application	68.00	2,786.64
Pool Maintenance	73.00	2,991.54
Call in	4.00	163.92
Total	404.75	\$16,561.00

POLICE DEPARTMENT	2008-09 Budget Overtime Appr.	Overtime Expended Fiscal Year to Date
Administration	\$ 4,311.00	\$ 215.53
Patrol	600,000.00	42,069.58
Investigation	76,637.00	4,951.30
Communication	108,429.00	9,181.72
Education/Training	88,337.00	5,101.35
Support Services	38,137.00	2,434.01
Animal Control	12,070.00	496.00
Total	\$927,921.00	\$64,449.49

PERSONNEL

- July brought the retirements of three long-time employees – Nel DeCapua, Clerk Typist III in the Assessor's Office (50 years), Margo Siderowf, Account Clerk II in the Finance Department (23 years), and Sue Sablosky, Groundskeeper I (25 years). Their knowledge and years of experience will be missed.
- Building Official B. Peter Hobbs submitted his notice of retirement from the Town of Newington effective August 15 to take a similar position in his hometown of Vernon. The position was advertised with a closing date of August 1.
- Recreation Supervisors Kristine Kravontka and Ted Fravel also left during the month, and Recreation Supervisor Alison Alberghini submitted her resignation effective August 13. Advertising for candidates to fill these positions is underway with a closing date of August 8.
- A written test was administered for the Facilities Maintainer position to three internal candidates; the position was subsequently advertised to the public.
- There were no internal candidates for the newly created Assessment Technician II position with the position being advertised to the public with a closing date of August 8.
- Bailey Ortiz was offered a part-time position of Library Technician for Teen Services beginning September 4. Once she completes her degree and internship she will be awarded the position full-time effective January 2.
- Librarian I Pat Pierce's position was upgraded to Librarian II, effective August 1, 2008, due to increased duties and the addition of some supervisory responsibilities.
- Two new certified Police Officers, Derrick Walker and Derek Aivano, were hired and began their duties on July 21.

RISK MANAGEMENT

- The 2007-2008 Blue Cross/Blue Shield plan year produced a combined paid claim total that was lower than the estimates that were developed at renewal.

Cumulative Claims through June 2008

	Town	Board of Education	Total
Estimated Claims	\$2,282,180	\$6,424,276	\$8,706,456
Actual Claims	\$1,704,959	\$5,824,408	\$7,529,367

- Based on the unaudited paid claims total, the plan year ended with an estimated surplus of \$577,221 for the Town and \$599,868 for the Board of Education for a total estimated surplus of \$1,177,089. The actual claims total will be provided by Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield in September when the Town receives the 2007-08 Settlement Report.

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

- Bids were received for the installation of the new boilers and recommendation of contractor selection will be made to the Town Council on August 12th for award. Work will proceed shortly after Council approval.
- All air handling equipment filters were changed and the units serviced during the month. Modifications to the Library A/C system were completed which solved the problems with temperature control on the second floor area.
- The facilities group completed 43 formal work orders during the month of July in addition to scheduled maintenance and project work assignments.
- Carpet pricing was received from vendors under both State bid and Federal GSA contracts for installation of carpeting at the Senior and Disabled Center. After review, the Federal bid pricing is lower than the State bid and discussions with the Town Attorney have resulted in the decision to procure the carpeting under the federal contract pricing. This savings will allow additional carpeting to be installed in the Center within the available budget.
- During June, inspections were completed with an historic renovations contractor to determine repair priorities for both historic homes. After review of their proposal, it was decided to perform the immediate repairs "in-house" which will include replacement of windows at the Kelsey House and exterior painting and siding repairs at both homes.

INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND TECHNOLOGY

- The Town's Service Center logged 53 requests for service via the Internet.
- 10,389 unsolicited SPAM emails messages were blocked.
- 91 Work Orders were completed.
- The Town's website had approximately 22,246 visits during the month, with 73,090 page views, an average of 3.29 pages viewed per visit. The Town Home Page, Lucy Robbins Welles Library and Parks and Recreation webpages were the most frequently visited.
- The Town's backup software was upgraded and reconfigured.
- A new GIS Plotter was successfully deployed.
- Work continued on network firewall and switching configurations.

FINANCE

Accounting and Administration

- The 2007-08 year-end audit got underway with the audit team of Blum Shapiro conducting entrance interviews and risk assessment questionnaires as well as payroll, assessment, tax and accounts payable testing.
- A Request for Proposals for Pension Investment Advisor Services was prepared and will be issued on August 1.

The Town received the following interest rates on investments. This list includes outstanding investments that are under the control of the Finance Department and includes the General Fund and other Town Funds.

INVESTMENTS, BY ACCOUNTING TYPE

(Unaudited)
7/31/2008

	<u>Interest Earnings</u>		<u>\$ Invested</u>
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	
	<u>FY2008-09</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	
General Fund	\$900,000	\$30,700	\$43,296,221
Special Revenue Funds	\$53,000	2,791	2,208,989
Capital Projects Funds	\$6,100	469	645,040
Internal Service Fund	\$100,00	32,365	4,531,162
Trust and Agency Funds	\$38,000	4,103	1,460,618
TOTAL, ESTIMATED BY FUND			\$52,142,030

INVESTMENTS, BY INSTITUTION TYPE

Unaudited)
7/31/2008

	<u>Interest %</u>		<u>Interest \$</u>		<u>\$ Invested</u>
	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Last Month</u>	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Last Month</u>	
STIF	2.32	2.39	33,302	31,512	\$30,684,063
CLASS PLUS	2.02	2.14	12,666	11,177	8,166,309
Financial Investor Trust	2.04	1.99	6,648	6,155	3,838,961
Bank North	1.86	1.86	3,793	6,592	2,424,362
Sovereign Bank MM	2.46	2.36	14,019	16,701	7,028,335
Total Outstanding Investments					\$52,142,030

Rates reflect avg. monthly yield, annualized

Assessor

- Real estate deeds were read and entered in the computer assisted mass appraisal system through the end of July.
- Eight real estate properties that were issued Certificates of Occupancy were inspected and assessed. Pro rated assessments were completed on new construction and given to the Tax Collector for additional tax billing.
- There were 251 adjustments totaling \$2,100,000 that were made to the October 1, 2007 grand list during July. The majority of those adjustments were to motor vehicles. This is a typical transaction during the month of July in an Assessor's office throughout the state. Often motor vehicle owners sell, trade in, or totally damage their vehicle after the Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles sends Assessors the list for the previous October. These accounts received a prorated adjustment to reflect taxes for the period they actually owned the vehicle.

Revenue Collector

- The Town achieved a 2007-08 collection rate of 99.1%.
- The Tax Office staff processed 32,216 tax bills amounting to \$33,556,297 in current collections for the 2007 Grand List during the month of July. Funds were received electronically from three large servicing institutions. This benefited Newington by having the funds deposited directly to the bank.
- Taxpayers whose tax bills were returned were researched and remailed on a daily basis.

PURCHASING

BID NO. 1, 2008-09, Town Hall Heating System Replacement

Opening Date: July 30, 2008

Bidder	Location	Bid Amount
Modern Mechanical Systems	Farmington	\$359,800
Connecticut Boiler Repair & Mfg. Co.	West Hartford	\$693,085

The bids are under review.

BID NO. 2, 2008-09, Stockpiled Vegetation Grinding Services

Opening Date: August 7, 2008

TOWN CLERK

- 597 documents were filed on the land records during July. \$79,101 was collected in State conveyance tax and \$36,936 was collected in Town conveyance tax.

- There were 12 residential properties that each sold for over \$300,000; 2 residential properties each transferred for over \$400,000. Property at 1247 Main Street sold for \$602,500 from NJI, LLC to Amerodental LLC. Property at 119 Deming Street conveyed for \$855,000 from Deming Street Development, LLC to Deming Street Associates, LLC.
- 156 mortgages and 33 liens were filed; 22 assignments and 245 releases were recorded. The office indexed 8 survey maps, 7 trade names and 13 notary public commissions. 81 certified copies of vital records were issued. 6 cremation certificates and 8 burial permits were prepared.
- The Town Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk conducted seven personal interviews with candidates who had applied for the part-time position.

Data Summary-July 2008

	<u>July 2008</u>	<u>July 2007</u>	<u>FY 2008-09 to Date</u>	<u>FY 2007-08 to Date</u>
Land Record Documents	597	578	597	578
Dog Licenses Sold	251	266	251	266
Game Licenses Sold	34	179	34	179
Vital Statistics				
Marriages	27	29	27	29
Civil Unions	1	1	1	1
Death Certificates	15	20	15	20
Birth Certificates	22	14	22	14
Total General Fund Revenue	\$56,157.00	\$ 51,796.00	\$ 56,157.00	\$ 51,796.00
Town Document Preservation	\$ 1,098.00	\$ 1,078.00	\$ 1,098.00	\$ 1,078.00
State Document Preservation	\$ 1,098.00	\$ 1,086.00	\$ 1,098.00	\$ 1,086.00
State Treasurer (\$26 fee)	\$14,274.00	\$ 13,910.00	\$ 14,274.00	\$ 13,910.00
Locip	\$ 1,647.00	\$ 1,605.00	\$ 1,647.00	\$ 1,605.00
State Game Licenses	\$ 690.00	\$ 3,676.00	\$ 690.00	\$ 3,676.00
State Dog Licenses	\$ 1,569.00	\$ 1,715.50	\$ 1,569.00	\$ 1,715.50
Dog Licenses Surcharge	\$ 578.00	\$ 634.00	\$ 578.00	\$ 634.00
Marriage & CU Surcharge	\$ 266.00	\$ 323.00	\$ 266.00	\$ 323.00
Grand Total	\$77,377.00	\$ 75,823.50	\$ 77,377.00	\$ 75,823.50

POLICE DEPARTMENT

- Officer Kathleen Kelliher was appointed Youth Officer in July and Officer Ryan Deane was appointed to the motorcycle detail.
- Derek Aivano and Derrick Walker were sworn in as Newington Police Officers on July 21st. They are currently in the FTO (Field Training Officer) Program.
- Background investigations are continuing on four other candidates. Completion of these investigations is anticipated in mid-August.
- The Hazardous Moving Violation patrol on the Berlin Turnpike for June (18 posts) resulted in 161 arrests and 48 warnings. The arrests included the following violations: 14 seat belt violations, 53 for speeding, 1 DUI arrest, 2 Stop sign violations, 7 improper turns, 2 reckless driving, 8 cell phone use, 5 for failure to obey a red light, and 69 other motor vehicle violations. The hours of operation were from 5:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m., Friday and Saturday, with two patrol vehicles.
- The DUI grant funded by the Department of Transportation for July 3, 2008 resulted in 4 motor vehicle arrests, and 9 warnings in an eight hour period.
- A check was received for \$1,562.50 from the Department of Justice bulletproof vest grant, for the 50% reimbursement of 5 bulletproof vests. There is funding available to purchase 10 vests and we are waiting approval for a grant for 8 additional vests that will need replacement due to age.
- During the week of July 6th, the CSU (Community Services Unit) in conjunction with the Chief's office produced surveys to inquire from residents who live adjacent to Mill Pond Park what their

concerns were in regard to the quality of life issues during and after the Newington Extravaganza. Based upon the surveys several additional patrol officers were added for crowd and traffic control and officers' shifts were extended from the traditional 10:30 PM cut off time to a new 2:00 AM cut off time. The tactical plan proved to be very successful as the patrol force was unusually busy this year during and at the conclusion of the Extravaganza.

- The CSU had a Crime Prevention booth at the Extravaganza. Numerous items were given away to children and adults to better educate them on crime prevention and substance abuse issues.
- On July 25th, the CSU coordinated and facilitated the annual Senior Picnic. Over 130 seniors were treated to a barbeque lunch. Newington Police Officers cooked hotdogs and hamburgers. Presentations were provided by the Newington Police Emergency Response Team and the Newington Police K-9 Unit.
- The Community Services Unit deployed Stealth Stat Units on several streets including Fisk Drive, Stoddard Avenue, Dowd Street, Hartford Avenue and Goodale Drive during July. The Stealth Stat is a state of the art speed measurement system which consists of a radar unit, battery system and computer which captures every car traveling on the targeted street and gives an exact time and speed for the car. The data is printed out in various graphs and shows the average speed, the highest speed, and the times of peak traffic.

2008 Newington Traffic Surveys

Roadway	Date of Survey	Total Time Min/Days	Total Vehicles	Ave. Cars Per day	Speed Limit	Max Speed	50 th Percent-ile	85 th Percent-ile	Average Speed
Audubon Ave.	6-17-2008	6945/5	1,701	340	25	50	24.0	30.0	22.98
Dowd Street	7-9-2008	7215/5	10,104	2,021	25	73	24.0	31.5	23.17
Fisk Drive	07-1-2008	7,665/5.3	2,602	491	25	48	22.5	30	21.03
Goodale Drive	7-28-2008	8,115/5.6	3,096	553	25	44	21.0	28.5	20.8
Hartford Ave.	6-18-2008	6,690/4.8	20,162	4,200	35	77	37	42	35.9

- Sixty-one offenses were the subject of investigation by Detective Division personnel in July.

Patrol Calls for July

Alarm Burglary	161	F/Alarm	24	MVA Fatal	1
Alarm Hold-up	5	F/Hazmat	2	MVA Injury	6
Animal Complaint	48	Fingerprints	31	MVA Property	100
Arson	1	Fire/COOnoSymptoms	3	Neighbor Dispute	8
Assault IP	6	Fire/COSymptoms	0	Noise Complaint	29
Assault Report	3	Fire/Other	12	Notification	2
Assist Other PD	51	Fire/Structure	5	Open Door/Window	7
Bad Check NSF	2	Fire/Vehicle	4	Parking Violation	13
Bike Found	1	Fire/Water	1	Property Found	9
Bike Lost	0	Fireworks Complaint	28	Property Lost	3
BOLO	3	Follow-up Inves.	38	Recovered MV	4
Breach of Peace IP	14	Gun Call	0	Robbery IP	0
Breach Of Peace Rpt.	2	Harassment	22	Serve Subpoena	0
Burglary IP	4	Hazardous Cond.	24	Serve Warrant	31
Burglary Report	8	Illegal Dumping	5	Sexual Assault Report	1
Car Seat Install	5	Indecent Exposure	2	Shots Fired	0
Check the Welfare	86	Intoxicated Person	7	Special Detail	43
Clear Lot	10	Juvenile Complaint	46	Stolen MV	13
Court Detail	20	K9	4	Sudden Death	2
Crim. Mischief Graffiti	0	K9 Other	0	Suicide	0
Criminal Mischief IP	1	Landlord/Tenant	2	Suicide Attempt	2
Criminal Mischief Rpt.	30	Larceny from MV	22	Suspicious MV Occ	23
CSO Detail	0	Larceny IP	19	Suspicious MV Unocc	10
Customer Dispute IP	12	Larceny Report	49	Suspicious Person	130

Customer Dispute Rpt.	1	Liquor	1	Test Police	0
Directed Patrol	108	Lockout MV	3	Threatening IP	2
Dog Complaint	47	Lockout Residence	1	Threatening Report	2
Domestic IP	28	Medical	191	Town Ordinance Vio.	0
Domestic Report	13	Missing Person	7	Traffic Stop	712
Drug Investigation	2	MV Assist	69	Trespass IP	4
DUI	5	MV Complaint	50	Trespass Report	3
Emotionally Disturbed Person	10	MVA Abandoned	5		
Escort	38	MVA Evading	16	Total	2,578

UCR/NIBRS Selected Crimes

June 2008

June 2007

Type of Crime	# of Offenses	Value of Crime	# of Offenses	Value of Crime
Murder			-0-	-0-
Forcible Rape			-0-	-0-
Robbery	1	\$600	1	\$413
Assault	8		16	-0-
Burglary	5	\$3,771	9	\$9,942
Larceny Theft	63	\$32,568	45	\$37,307
Auto Theft	13	\$82,834	6	\$30,607
Totals	90	\$119,773	77	\$78,269
1 st Quarter Totals	230	\$195,466	202	\$508,102
2 nd Quarter Totals	276	\$320,005	263	\$229,204

During the month of June 2008, 97 adults were arrested: 15 for assaults, 2 for fraud, 2 for vandalism, 9 for narcotic violations, 2 for offenses against family & children, 14 for DUI, 15 for larcenies, 2 for disorderly conduct, and 36 for miscellaneous offenses. Eight persons under the age of 18 were arrested or referred: 1 for assault, 1 for motor vehicle theft, 1 for weapon violation, 1 for liquor law violation, and 4 for miscellaneous violations.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Fire Department responded to 59 alarms/emergencies as follows:

	<u>July 2008</u>	<u>1 month Activity</u>
Residential	17	17
Commercial, Industrial, Office	7	7
Hospital, School	1	1
Vehicle	1	1
Rescue, Police Assistance	0	0
Dumpster, Rubbish, Grass, Brush, Leaves	3	3
Hazardous Materials/Clean up	0	0
Investigative Alarm	30	30
False Alarm	0	0
Mutual Aid/Standby	0	0
Carbon Monoxide Investigation	0	0
Water Related Incidents/Pump-Outs	0	0
Total	59	59

Training Summary:

	Members	Hours
Aerial Training – Truck #2	5	30
Driver Training	7	14
Multi-Company Training	52	156
Pump Training	14	42
Total		242

FIRE MARSHAL

The Fire Marshal's Office completed the following activities during the month of July.

Inspections	25
Inspection Follow-Ups	50
Plan Review	2
Job Site Inspections	26
Underground Tank Removal	0
Fire Investigations	2
Fire Alarm Trouble	3
Complaints	6
Haz/Mat	0
Bomb Threats	0
Blasting	39

Incidents:

- 07/24/08 – An accidental electrical fire caused extensive damage to a single family home located at 74 Hickory Hill Lane.
- 07/27/08 – A lightning strike resulted in moderate damage to a single family home located at 65 Reservoir Road.

Blasting:

- The blasting portion of the construction project at Anna Reynolds School was completed during the month. The permit expired on 7/26/08.
- A blasting permit was issued for 2368 Berlin Turnpike for a new business next to the Wendy's Restaurant. The permit expires on 8/14/08.

Extravaganza:

- The Fire Marshal's Office conducted inspections of all tents, electrical and cooking equipment to be used for the all day event.
- Personnel also inspected the fireworks display set-up and secured the drop zone throughout the day.

Emergency Management:

- The Fire Marshal's Office coordinated the annual review of the Town Emergency Operations Plan for the State Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

- Highway crews completed the Louis Street Reconstruction Project with the replacement of curbing and driveway aprons along with the addition of topsoil where needed.
- In preparation of the milling and overlaying of various town roads, Highway crews swept roadways, adjusted manhole rings and utility shut off gates. The bid awarded contractor milled approximately 9,390 linear feet of bituminous material in preparation of the overlays.
- Highway personnel worked on several school projects during the summer recess.
 - At John Paterson crews reworked the pathway around the back of the school to raise the level to alleviate water ponding. A pathway was also added between the north and south entrances.

- The parking lot and driveway area at Ruth Chaffee was re-contoured to avoid drainage problems.
- Drainage was added near the entrance door of Newington High School at the north end of the building to prevent water from accumulating in the area. Pathways were reconstructed along with the replacement of curbing.
- Crews completed miscellaneous projects including repair of curbing and topsoil which was damaged during winter snow plowing operations and patching of potholes on various Town roads.
- Traffic Division personnel continued with the scheduled replacement of street name signs to improve night visibility and reflectivity and also added permitted signs for speed limits. Line painting was also completed on various roadways in Town.
- The Sanitation Division scheduled 882 residential bulky items, 64 metal items and 146 condo bulk items for weekly pick up during the month of July for a total of 1,092 items. A landfill permit is not required to dispose of metal items at the landfill; only verification of residency is required.
- During the month of July mechanics performed routine preventative maintenance along with emergency repairs to all Town vehicles and equipment.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

- During the month of July, the department issued 13 driveway reconstruction permits, 10 gas line service excavation permits and 3 excavation permits for sewer, water and sidewalk work to utilities and private contractors.
- Progress on the Garfield Bridge reconstruction project continued on schedule. During the month, the contractor replaced the twin box culverts and installed the new wing walls. The project is scheduled to be completed by August 22, 2008.
- The Reservoir Road drainage project also continued on schedule. During the month, the contractor completed all blasting activities and the new 48" reinforced concrete drainage line was completed. The contractor will next box out, backfill and pave the widened parking lot. This project is also expected to be completed by August 22, 2008.
- Anthony Ferraro, Town Engineer, attended a pre-construction meeting held by D.O.T. District 1 for the proposed traffic light at the intersection of Louis Street with Willard Avenue. The contract also includes work in six other towns. Although the contractor will receive a notice to proceed effective August 22, 2008, Phase 1 of the project includes miscellaneous activities such as layout of the work and ordering of the materials. D.O.T. estimates that the actual signal installation work of the traffic light in Newington will commence on April 1, 2009. The project is scheduled to be completed by September 3, 2009.
- Due to paving performed by others on Christian Lane, the D.O.T. funded project for pavement rehabilitation on Kelsey Street and Christian Lane has been changed to pavement rehabilitation on Kelsey Street and Church Street (from Kelsey Street to Stonehedge Drive). D.O.T. has approved this change.

TOWN PLANNER

EPA Brownfield Grant Project

- On July 8th the environmental consultants for the National Welding project presented the results of the Phase III Assessment Report to the Town Council. Discussion of these environmental findings led to the redevelopment options that the Town could pursue to return this four acre site to productive use. A draft Request for Proposals (RFP) seeking private sector redevelopment partners was presented to the Council. Removal of contamination and building demolition could exceed \$2 million.
- On July 14th the Town Planner submitted a Municipal Brownfield Pilot Grant application to the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development. \$500,000 has been requested to help defray the cost of demolition of the 100,000 square foot National Welding building.
- The Town Planner is also working with CRCOG to secure funds for a Remedial Action Plan that will provide prospective investors with cost estimates for remediation of the National Welding property.

Downtown Revitalization Committee

- The Downtown Revitalization Committee held three meetings in July, including a walking tour of the Municipal Parking Lot and a public informational session to gain property and business owners' suggestions for improvements.
- The Town Planner is preparing an RFP for consultant design and engineering services. The Committee's goal is to select a consultant by early October and complete work on preliminary design options by late November.

STEAP Grants Phase II and III

- The Phase II \$250,000 STEAP grant streetscape work has been completed and final close out documents and requisitions submitted to DECD.
- The \$400,000 Phase III streetscape and two façade projects have also been completed. Pending the streetscape contractor's final invoice, a \$125,000 to \$140,000 balance could be available for additional Town Center improvement work.

National Flood Insurance Program

- The Town Planner has prepared proposed amendments to the Zoning and Subdivision Regulations that address changes in the Town's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) and new Code of Federal Regulation compliance standards. The draft revisions were submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection's Flood Management Section for review comments and will be scheduled for Town Plan and Zoning Commission (TPZ) public hearing in August. The revised Federal Regulations direct communities to adopt local land use regulations that meet or exceed National Flood Insurance and State requirements by September 26th or the community will be suspended from the program.

TPZ Actions

- During July the Commission reviewed the proposed draft accessory apartment regulations prepared by the Town Planner. The draft changes were based on commissioner comments, the Town Attorney's opinion letter and the review of several neighboring communities' standards for accessory apartment uses. After a lengthy discussion of the pros and cons of amending the Zoning Regulations to reinstate accessory apartments, the majority consensus was not to bring amendments to public hearing at this time.
- The building elevations and site plan changes proposed by Three Angels Church Seventh Day Adventist were approved July 23rd. The church's project has been on hold for over a year because of building code construction and cost issues which resulted in the church's proposals for the placement of the HVAC units outside. The Commission's approval action was based on the church's professional sound engineer's report that the outside mechanical equipment would not violate the Town's noise ordinance.
- On July 23rd the proposal to create an interior lot at 57 Church Street for single family use was approved by the Commission with conditions for extensive landscape buffering. In January 2007, the Commission denied this petition but upon appeal by the applicant the Superior Court remanded it back to the TPZ for reconsideration.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

- A Building Permit was issued for Bel-Air Manor, 256 New Britain Avenue, for an addition to the existing facility. An Electrical Permit was also issued.
- A Footing / Foundation Permit was issued for a 7,200 sq. ft. one-story professional building at 262 Brockett Street.
- Permits issued for the Town of Newington were:
 - Building Permit for the lower level practice center, field apparatus room, weight room, team room and interior renovations for the Newington High School Field House.
 - Electrical Permit to install outlet for aerator, install outlet for sonic algae filter for pool at Churchill Park.
 - Various Electrical Permits to install network access control, IP camera system and access control system at Newington High School.
 - Permit to install plumbing for the Newington High School field house.
- Ten Certificates of Occupancy were issued in July. Eight were for residential single family homes (14 Harlow Drive, 18 Harlow Drive, 85 Barkledge Drive, 91 Barkledge Drive, 97 Barkledge Drive, 25

Valley View Drive, 103 Barkledge Drive, and 35 Walnut Street) and two were for commercial (Simply India Catering, 337 Willard Avenue, Unit 5, and Aldi, Inc., 2640 Berlin Turnpike).

Building Inspectors completed a total of 696 inspections: Above Ceiling (2), CO (27), Code (10), Concrete (5), Decks (5), Drains (2), Electrical (131), Final (1), Fireplace Insert (5), Floor (1), Footings (48), Foundation (29), Framing (89), Garage (1), Gas Line (18), Gypsum (6), Hot Water Heaters (1), Insulation (22), Mechanical (73), Piers (1), Plumbing (75), Pool (6), Rebars (14), Rough (76), Sheds (1), Sill (4), Site Visit (7), Sound Proof (1), Sprinkler (23), Tank (4), Tent (5), Water Proof (2), Wood / Pellet Stove (1).

Building/Renovation Permit Statistics

Type of Permit	No. of Permits	Value of Permits
Addition/Alterations	16	\$2,964,013
Deck	1	1,500
Demolition	3	15,500
Electrical	57	328,913
Fence	0	0
Fire Suppression/Sprinkler	0	0
Footing/Foundation	1	34,000
Fuel Tank	4	5,350
Garage/Shed	4	10,148
Mechanical	46	223,106
New Commercial	0	0
New Residential	0	0
Plumbing	29	165,020
Pool	7	42,887
Roofing/Siding	21	659,684
Sign	8	14,960
Tent	0	0
Trailer	0	0
Total	197	\$4,465,081

Permit Value Comparison for July:

	2008	2007
Value of Permits Issued	\$4,465,081	\$4,965,064
Building Permit Fees Received	\$43,495	\$53,038
Other Income Fees	\$2,276	\$1,608
Building Permits Issued	197	177

Total Value of Permits and Permit Fees:

2008-2009		2007-2008	
Value	Permit Fee	Value	Permit Fee
\$4,465,081	\$43,495	\$4,965,964	\$53,038

HEALTH (CENTRAL CONNECTICUT HEALTH DISTRICT)

- Attended the Environmental Quality Commission Meeting on July 2, 2008 at which different “green” products that can be used by the Town and the need for a public awareness campaign concerning these products were discussed.
- Attended the “Green Team” meeting on July 17, 2008 to discuss enforcement strategies for addressing high grass and bulky waste complaints in Newington.
- Assisted with pool, complaint, and food service inspections.
- Conducted food booth inspections for Newington Extravaganza and Price Chopper temporary events.
- Performed a plan review and conducted pre-operational inspections at Newington Starz Pizza and

Deli located on 82 Pane Road which will open sometime in August.

- Conducted several pre-operational inspections and issued a food service license to the Aldi Food Store located on the Berlin Turnpike. The grocery store carries 1,300 or so of the most frequently purchased grocery and household items, nearly all under their own private labels.
- Sampled water at the Town's vegetation landfill and recycling center. Two monitoring wells were sampled at the landfill, and a nearby house with a drinking water well was sampled. Results of the water quality are then forwarded to the CT Department of Environmental Protection for review.
- Conducted a final inspection and issued a food service license to Simply Indian Catering located on Willard Avenue. The store will be take out and catering only, specializing in Indian cuisine.

HUMAN SERVICES

- Human Services remained busy with a full schedule of summer programming and complex caseloads.
- Human Services, the Youth-Adult Council and ICAN volunteers all had booths at the Extravaganza. The Youth-Adult Council promoted 6FI ("Six Feet of Influence") with over 200 residents attaching cards to a Wishing Tree identifying people in their lives that had a positive influence. 6FI encourages all residents to take responsibility for six feet around them, seeing or saying something positive, intervening when you observe or hear something wrong or hurtful. Each person can make a difference.
- On July 28, Director Ken Freidenberg moderated a panel on at risk youth for the Kiwanis Club. Panel members included Town Council member Myra Cohen, clergy representative Joel Rissinger, Youth-Adult Council Chair and Scoutmaster Tim Manke and Safety Committee Chair and School/Clinical Social Worker Mitch Page.
- As a result of concerns identified through the Safety Committee, a small group of Town staff and residents are reviewing the Safe Routes to Schools grant through the State Department of Transportation. They will develop a draft plan that outlines the school and community's intentions for making travel to and from the Martin Kellogg neighborhood more sustainable and safe by reducing individual car trips, increasing walking and bicycling and by making the walking and bicycling environment safer.
- An urgent request was made to Town employees, residents, religious and civic groups to donate to the Food Bank as the shelves were almost empty. The response from the community has been wonderful.
- The "Back to School Clothing Drive" has been very successful with many residents making donations. Volunteers are assisting with the distribution to eligible families between July 28 and August 8 during Food Bank days.
- Low-income residents are already feeling the impact of rising basic need costs and are especially concerned about upcoming heating expenses.
- Information and Referral, Food Bank, Outdoor Market, Clothing Closet, Energy Assistance and Special Need requests remained constant.
- The Social Casework Program had an active caseload of 79 with 19 new referrals.
- Part-Time Resident Services Coordinator Paula Pisano continues to provide services at all three complexes at the Housing Authority handling 9 active cases and providing information and consultation with 10 other tenants.
- The Youth and Family Counseling Program had an active caseload of 48 with 6 new referrals. There were 3 inactive and 30 closed cases. Staff and contractors provided 99 clinical therapy sessions and made 108 contacts with families and other agencies.
- Positive Youth Development Programs were offered through the Summer Youth Adventure Program for youths entering 5th to 9th grade, including high school mentors. Activities offered this month were: Flippers, Fur and Fun Week, Beach Bum Days, Horseback Riding, Survivor Week, Whirly Ball, Extravaganza, Summer Challenge Bound Week, Canoeing, Camping and Hiking.
- The Newington Outdoor Challenge Ropes Course has been active this summer with local and regional groups including Southbridge Summer Program, Newington Girl Scouts, Wethersfield and Berlin Youth Services contracting with the department.

July 2008 Statistics

Selected Programs	FY 08-09 Undp. Total This Month	FY 07-08 Undp. Total Last Month	FY 08-09 Cum. Undp. Total YTD	FY 07-08 Cum. Undp. Total YTD
Youth and Family Counseling	48	56	48	34
Positive Youth Development	663	936	663	543
Youth Works (Job Bank)	2	5	2	2
Information and Referral	337	326	337	292
Social Casework Cases	79	88	79	67
Under 55 = 41				
Over 55 = 38				
Food Bank Participants	106	83	106	83
Special Needs	15	27	15	20

SENIOR AND DISABLED CENTER

- The new MySeniorCenter database was officially launched into action with the beginning of the fiscal year. Staff spent considerable time acclimating to the system, entering information and teaching participants how to use the key tag cards with the scanners. By the end of July, 876 people had received their new card.
- The Annual Police Safety Picnic was held on July 25. This event has become a staple of the summer with the police cooking hamburgers and a demonstration by the K-9 Unit part of the tradition. This year there was also a presentation by members of the SWAT team.
- The Center's self-assessment process, the first step in seeking to maintain National Accreditation status, moved into high gear this month with most of the nine established committees meeting.
- A steady group of Wii Bowling enthusiasts have been practicing all summer and the Center will host the quarterfinals of a statewide tournament sponsored by HealthNet in September.
- The final program of the Creative Minds series presented by Newington Health Care took place on July 8, 2008. A new series is being planned for the fall.
- Kindred Health Care sponsored a Brunch and Learn program on balance on July 29th. The recreation therapist from Andrew House Health Care demonstrated fall prevention exercises and how to properly get up from a fall.
- Center staff worked with the North Central Area Agency on Aging to successfully transition the Project Homeshare program. This program will be well served by a regional agency.
- The Cafeteria was enhanced by the installation of new, custom made valances. While the underlying structure was built by a carpenter, the quilted coverings were the creation of Center staff members Eleanor Eichner and Denise Haas. This approach saved considerable money. New chairs that will be purchased from the Center's donation account are being tested.

Dial-A-Ride

Wellness Clinic

Senior Café

Trips	Miles	On-site	Off-site	Meals Served
1,498	4,702	119	12	N/A

PARKS AND RECREATION

- The Summer Sunshine program for children ages 3 and 4 is filled for all summer sessions. The Playground Pals program for children ages 5 and 6 also began the last week in June with all sessions filled to capacity.
- The Summer Concert Series, sponsored by Data Mail in conjunction with the Lions Club, continued to draw crowds.

- Summer Playgrounds went on field trips including Bowling, Putters Paradise, and The Movies. Special events included a cookout, water week, and paddleboats. Over 550 campers have been enjoying the playground program with attendance up from last year.
- The Summer Music Program performed its annual concert on Wednesday, July 23, at John Wallace Middle School; 81 students performed.
- Pool pass sales (1,606) and individual visits at the pools were up from last year due to the hot, humid weather.
- Movie Night at Mill Pond Park was held July 16th with over 600 families enjoying “Shrek the Third.”
- The 1st Bowling Tournament was held July 17th with over 82 people in attendance; ribbons and certificates were issued.
- A Friday night concert before the Extravaganza was held for the first time with “The Tirebiter Band” performing. Attendance was estimated at 400.
- The Mill Pond Park Extravaganza on Saturday, July 19, went well but the hot, humid weather kept the attendance below expectations.
- Newington Town Day was held at the New Britain Rock Cats on Thursday, July 24, with residents enjoying discount tickets.
- Registration for summer programs including Youth Sports Camps has been average and ongoing throughout the summer.

Parks and Grounds

- The 2008 Extravaganza was the major activity of the Parks and Grounds Division as personnel were committed for over 200 hours of regular staff time and 189 overtime hours in preparation and cleanup of this townwide event.
- The yearly pruning cycle began at public facilities near the Town center as trees and bushes were trimmed and various beds maintained. As part of the program, mulch was applied to the Town Hall and adjacent areas.
- Fieldwork continued throughout the month, most of which was to sod a section of the Newington High School football field which had a depressed area.
- Division personnel responded to various service requests from citizens regarding overgrown grass and visibility concerns. Cedarwood Lane received substantial brush cleanup as did the back of the Elm Hill soccer/baseball area.
- Division crews hydroseeded the areas of Louis Street disturbed during paving.
- Failure of a 15 horsepower swimming pool pump caused the closure of Churchill Park Pool for a one week period. The pool was returned to service within 24 hours of the arrival of a new pump.
- There were four burials in Town cemeteries during July.

LIBRARY

- The “Read on the Fly @ Your Library” summer reading program for adults had 426 participants by the end of the month, a 4% increase from that of last year.
- “Catch the Reading Bug @ Your Library” touted 735 children reading each day, earning prizes, and marking their progress as the summer unfolds. *Bugs, Magic, and More, Bugs and Beasts of the Night Sky*, a bug themed puppet show, and *How to Eat Fried Worms* were just some of the special programs held with the bug theme in mind. Altogether, children’s staff conducted 43 programs for 1,444 children and their caregivers.
- Seven programs were held for a combined audience of 222 adults and teens. Highlights included *Comedy Hypnosis for Teens* that attracted 76 young people for an evening of great fun, a *Butterfly Walk* with Town staff member and butterfly enthusiast Roy Zartarian, and a pop music concert featuring Peter Niedmann.
- Topics of note that were researched this month included:
 - Pictures of New England lighthouses.
 - History of the makers of 7-Up.
 - Post traumatic stress disorder statistics.
 - Books on alternative fuels for a seven-year-old.
 - Parts of a cell.
- 5,898 reference questions were answered. In house computer use by patrons continues to be high as most public access computers are in use for the entire time the library is open each day. 6,604

patrons used the library via its homepage, which continues to be the most popular site on the Town's network.

- Work began on the updating the Newington Business Directory, which currently contains 1,600 entries.
- Traditional circulation of library materials was 41,091. 262 reference books were accessed remotely, and 101 books were read online from the Children's site *Tumblebooks*. 51 books were downloaded from the Library's website, for a total of 41,505 items checked out of the library. 1,307 items were added to the collection, and 396 items were mended by volunteers who logged in 175 hours. An average of 1,019 people visited the library each day during the month of July.
- Staff continues to work with QScend to create online forms for the meeting room applications, teacher assignment alerts, interlibrary loan forms and forms for reading programs. Program updates occur regularly, and staff is working with the IST department to increase memory of the four popular games computers in the Children's Room.
- The Friends of the Library held their budget meeting in July. Their fiscal year runs from September 1st through August 31st of each year. As usual, they were very generous in building a budget that included funding for AV materials, all reading programs for adults, teens, and children, all museum and attraction passes, the Footnotes bimonthly calendar of events, weekly flower arrangements for the front desk, among other things.
- Library Director Marian Amodeo is working closely with committees of the Library Board during the summer as the Investment Committee and Fund Development Committee work toward new procedures, explore new ideas, and lay the groundwork for planning for the future.
- Ms. Amodeo and Assistant Director Lisa Masten began to work on a needs assessment that the State Library requires as part of the application process for LSTA construction grants.