

Town of Newington



Annual Report 2013-2014

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2013-2014



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Town Hall
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Newington

Mission

Our mission is to offer excellent community services by maximizing our resources in a proactive, responsible, and accountable manner that enhances the quality of life for all generations in Newington.

Government

Newington received its Charter from the State of Connecticut in 1871 and is currently governed under the Council-Manager form of government with a nine member Town Council. The Mayor, elected separately, is a member and presiding official of the Council with the power to vote. Recognized as the official head of the Town for ceremonial and military purposes, the Mayor has the authority to appoint the Town Attorney and the Clerk of the Council.

The Town Manager is appointed by the Town Council and serves as the Chief Executive and administrative officer of the Town. The Town Manager is empowered to supervise and administer all commissions, boards, departments, offices, and agencies of the Town except for those elected by the people, appointed by the Council, appointed by the Mayor, or appointed by regional, state, or federal authority. The Town Manager is also responsible for the faithful execution of all laws and ordinances governing the Town.

Location

Newington, located five (5) miles south of Hartford, is centrally located in the New York – Boston corridor. Travelers have easy access to Route 5/15, Route 9, and major interstate highways I-84 and I-91. Newington is conveniently located near Brainard Airport and Bradley International Airport. Transportation services also include buses to Hartford and New Britain and rail transportation stations in Hartford and Berlin.

Taxes

Newington's mill rate in 2013-2014 was 33.63. The mill rate is applied to the Grand List of fair market value. All commercial and residential properties were revaluated in 2011.

History

Newington, part of the Town of Wethersfield until 1871, is located in an area which was referred to in early times as Pipestave Swamp, then Cow Plain, and later, West Farms; such names reflected the area's use. It was first a source of staves for making pipes (large sized barrels) used in colonial trade, and later a pasture for cattle. It eventually became home to the new farms taken up by descendants of early Wethersfield

who had been given grants on the western frontier of their riverside town. By 1721, there were enough new farmers on these grants to request that the General Assembly of the Colony of Connecticut give them the name Newington, which means "new town in the meadow."

Since most early Newington inhabitants were related to Wethersfield families, Newington accepted government by Wethersfield Town Meeting until 1871. When the railroad came through Newington in the 1830's, the frequent and inexpensive transportation attracted growth and further expansion. Years later, however, a Wethersfield Town Meeting refused to approve expenses for highway improvements for better access to the railroad. Ready to take government into its own hands, Newington applied to the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut for incorporation, which was approved in 1871.

Early in the 20th century, both the trolley car and the automobile brought more development. Newington's location in the center of the state, combined with steady improvements to the highway system, attracted many new residents and businesses. The trolley, replaced by regular bus service, made commuting to Hartford and New Britain convenient. By 1966, the increasing population had outgrown the Town Meeting form of government and the Town adopted the Council-Manager form of government.

Historical Sites

The **Kellogg-Eddy House**, a typical New England Georgian-style farmhouse, was built in 1808 by General Martin Kellogg.

The **Enoch Kelsey House** was built in 1799 and was the home of a Connecticut farmer and tinsmith. It features rare, freehand-painted wall decorations, basement to attic paneling, as well as a beehive oven and fireplaces.

The **National Iwo Jima Memorial Monument**, located off Route 9 at the Newington/New Britain line, was dedicated on February 23, 1995 in memory of those who gave their lives at Iwo Jima. The names of the 100 Connecticut marines killed at Iwo Jima are inscribed on the base.

Newington Government

Town Council

Stephen Woods, Mayor

The Town Council is the governing and legislative body of the Town with all the rights, powers, duties, and obligations conferred by law. Council members are responsible for adopting the budget, fixing the tax rate for the Town, proposing and amending ordinances and resolutions for the execution of the powers vested in the Town, for the government of the Town and management of its businesses, and for the preservation of good order, peace, health and safety of the Town and its inhabitants.

The Town Council consists of the Mayor and eight members elected from the Town at large every two years. The Mayor, elected separately, is a member and presiding official of the Council with power to vote. The Town Council meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Meetings are broadcast live on Newington Community Television.

2013-2014 Highlights

- Authorized the Town Manager to negotiate an Agreement with Kaestle Boos Associates of New Britain, CT to provide architectural services for the Town Hall/ Community Center Project.
- Honored Paul Kemp as the 2013-14 Teacher of the Year.
- Approved the proposed AFSCME Local 2930 contract for fiscal years 2012-2013 through 2015-2016.
- Honored LeeAnn Wetherell Manke as the 2013 Volunteer of the year.
- Authorized the Town Manager to enter an agreement with the State of CT for a Master Municipal Agreement for Construction Projects which will remain valid for a ten-year term.
- Authorized the Town Manager to submit an application for funding up to \$2,500,000 to the CRCOG Transportation Committee to reconstruct Garfield Street from the Garfield Street Bridge east toward Audubon Ave.
- Authorized the Town Manager to sign the grant funding for \$460,000 from the State of CT Dept. of Energy & Environmental Protection for closure of the Town Landfill.
- Dedicated the Town Hall Main Lobby in the name of William J. Reynolds, Newington's first Mayor from 1966-1969.
- Approved the plans for the Martin Kellogg Middle School STEM Academy Renovations Project.



Mayor
Stephen Woods



Councilor
Aden Baume



Councilor
Terry Borjeson



Councilor
Clarke Castelle



Councilor
Myra Cohen



Councilor
Daniel Dinunzio



Councilor
Maureen Klett



Councilor
James Marocchini



Councilor
David Nagel

- Approved the proposed agreement between the Town of Newington and Local 443 IBPO from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2017.
- Authorized an agreement with the Capital Region Development Authority to administer a \$2 million grant from the State Dept. of Economic & Community Development for demolition & remediation of the National Welding Site & provide development services to the Town related to the disposition of the National Welding property.
- Adopted the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Budget with total appropriations of \$110,083,292 and set a mill rate of 34.77 mills.
- Approved the plan entitled "Newington Center Conceptual Development Study" and authorized the Town Manager to submit an application for the Main Street Investment fund Program for \$500,000.
- Authorized an appropriation of \$30,373,970 for the Town Hall/Community Center project to proceed to referendum.

Newington Administration

Town Manager

John L. Salomone, Town Manager

The Town Manager, appointed by the Town Council for an indefinite period of time at the pleasure of the Council, serves as the Chief Executive of the Town and manages the day-to-day operations of the Town departments. In addition to supporting the goals and objectives of the Town Council, the Town Manager, with the assistance of Town staff, is responsible for Purchasing, Risk Management, and Personnel. The Town Manager also serves as the local Traffic Authority, Public Safety Director, and Local Emergency Planning Coordinator.

2013-2014 Highlights

- Worked with department heads on budget and CIP requests and prepared the Town Manager's proposed FY 2014-15 budget in conjunction with the Finance Department.
- Communicated with residents as needed to address and resolve various issues and concerns.
- Advertised, interviewed applicants and made hiring decisions for all open full-time positions in the Town and Police Department.
- Successfully negotiated multi-year contracts with the AFSCME and IBPO bargaining units.
- Administered a new employee performance evaluation process for department heads.
- Met with staff, department heads and union representatives on an as-needed basis to address and resolve employee concerns and personnel issues.
- Worked with various departments & the Town Hall Renovations Project Building Committee on the Town Hall/Community Center renovations project.
- Attended several project and team meetings regarding various issues including the Town Hall space needs, Church Street MDC project, Victory Gardens Housing, the busway and the Capital Improvement (CIP) Committee.
- Attended numerous meetings of CRCOG and participated on the CRCOG Municipal Services Committee and attended several Mid State Collaborative meetings with area towns.
- Acted as staff liaison to the Board of Ethics.
- Renegotiated the contract between the Town and the Newington Volunteer Ambulance.
- Worked with staff to prepare documents related to the Town's Small Cities and STEAP grant applications.
- Participated in various State-wide emergency management exercises.

- Along with department heads, participated in a 2-day ICMA webinar regarding ethics in the workplace.
- Co-presented the annual State of the Town Address with Mayor Woods on February 27, 2014.
- Worked with staff to administer the blighted property ordinance.
- Attended various grand opening, retirement and award ceremonies throughout the year.
- Attended the annual Senior and Disabled Center Volunteer Recognition Dinner.

Employee Anniversaries

35 Years

- David Farley—Highway

30 Years

- Jeffrey Baron—Town Manager's Office
- William Califano—Highway

25 Years

- Lester Daigle—Parks & Grounds
- Illona Oslund—Police
- Mark Ripley—Parks & Grounds

15 Years

- Johnathan Aselton—Police
- Paolo Bordonaro—Highway
- Adrienne Cerniglia—Building
- Brendan Moon—Police
- Michael Morgan—Police

10 Years

- Walter Golembeski—Police
- Benjamin J. Breikreutz—Parks & Grounds
- Tanya Lane—Town Clerk
- Eric P. O'Neil—Parks & Grounds
- Paula Quattromami—Sr. & Disabled Center
- Roxanne Vernbridge—Police

5 Years

- Reza Abbassi—Police
- Derek Aivano—Police
- Linda Cruff—Parks & Recreation
- Stacey Emmanuel—Revenue
- Bailey Francis—Library
- Douglas Jourdan—Building
- Michael Karski—Police
- Jennifer Massaro-Cook—Finance
- Sharon O'Neil—Parks & Recreation
- Theodore Perzanowski—Parks & Grounds
- Bruce Till—Parks & Recreation
- Jaime Trevethan—Town Manager's Office
- Derrick Walter—Police
- John Zematis--Police

Newington Administration

Town Clerk

Tanya Lane, Town Clerk

The Town Clerk's office is responsible for preserving all of the Town's official records, many of which date back to Newington's inception in 1871, as well as making them easily accessible to the public. The office operates in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes, the Town Charter and Code of Ordinances.

Responsibilities include the recording and the search & retrieval of all land records, Veterans' Discharges, Trade Names and vital statistics; maintaining the agenda notices and minutes of Town Council and other boards and commissions, as well as tracking membership and terms for all board and commission members; preparing election ballot configurations and issuing absentee ballots for all elections; keeping abreast of all pertinent legislation (the department administers over 600 State Statutes); responding to and researching numerous public inquiries; updating the Code of Ordinances; issuing various licenses and permits, and maintaining financial records disclosing fees collected for the Town and the State.

The office is charged with insuring the integrity and longevity of all the documents entrusted to our care so that the Town has accurate and accessible data for future generations.

2013-2014 Highlights

- Utilized grant funds to replace a vendor-owned public copier with Town-purchased equipment—as predicted, annual revenue has increased almost \$5,000.
- Worked with vendor, Finance Department, IT staff, and various delivery agents & submitters to implement a method to record electronically submitted land records.
- Collaborated with the Highway Dept. to issue landfill stickers from the Town Clerk's office. From its inception in late April until June 30th, 125 permits were issued.
- Planned and implemented an Orientation Workshop in at the State Capitol for newly elected/appointed Connecticut Town Clerks.
- Became proficient in PowerPoint 2013, the Town Clerk worked with a trainer from Capitol Region Education Council (CREC) learning how to prepare and enhance professional presentations. These skills were parlayed into a presentation to explain the need for the Town Hall Renovation/Community Center Referendum project and how the Town proposed to fund the project.
- Professional Development: Town Clerk & Assistant Town Clerk participated in numerous webinars. Town Clerk attended several professional organization meetings and two conferences sponsored by the Secretary of the State's office.

2014-2015 Goals

- Utilize grant funds to install mobile shelving in small vault increasing storage capacity for vital records.
- Utilize PowerPoint 2013 skills to assist Town Manager/department heads to prepare & enhance professional presentation.
- Continue backfile scanning of land record images going back to 1988—the ultimate goal is to capture images back to 1976.
- Continue scanning Town Council and Town Plan & Zoning minutes into Laserfiche software targeting

ten years of searchable history.

- Collaborate with IT to install an absentee ballot program to track the issuance & return of absentee ballots, & to print both electoral & mailing labels.

Town Clerk Statistical Summary 2013-14		
LAND RECORDS	2013-14	2012-13
Documents	5232	6762
Maps	19	23
VITAL STATISTICS		
Births	259	166
Marriages	194	218
Deaths	346	304
LICENSES		
Sporting	753	730
Dog	1975	1910
MISCELLANEOUS		
Veteran's Discharges	34	47
Trade Name Certificates	88	94
Liquor Permits	49	47
RECEIPTS— TOWN		
	2013-14	2012-13
Recording Fees	\$84,993.00	\$180,560.50
Conveyance Tax	\$249,366.99	\$241,035.85
Document Preservation	\$11,783.00	\$12,448.00
Vital Statistics	\$29,706.00	\$25,698.00
Dog Licenses	\$1,956.50	\$1,875.00
Sporting Licenses	\$219.00	\$226.00
Copy Fees	\$19,107.15	\$14,375.65
Miscellaneous	\$3,275.00	\$2,757.00
TOTAL GEN. FUND	400,406.64	\$478,976.00
RECEIPTS— STATE		
	2013-14	2012-13
Document Preservation	\$7,422.00	\$12,466.00
Dog License Surcharge	\$4,456.00	\$4,065.00
Dog Licenses	\$11,413.00	\$10,430.00
Sporting Licenses	\$6,716.00	\$7,303.00
State Treasurer	\$134,389.00	\$223,658.00
LoCip	\$11,106.00	\$18,639.00
TOTAL STATE	\$175,502.00	\$276,561.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$575,908.64	\$755,537.00

Information Technology

Paul Boutot, Chief Information Officer

The Department of Information and Technology provides strategic and policy direction for the implementation and management of technology for the Town of Newington. Core activities include development of the Town's IT strategic plan, technology support, policy formulation, and the review and revision of technology standards.

Mission

Information Systems and Technology will provide leadership, policy guidance and assistance in the use of technology while offering the highest quality technology-based services, in a cost-effective manner, and maintaining a secure, robust and efficient communications network for our departments and the community we serve.

2013-2014 Highlights

- Installation of a new Public Safety voice (phone/radio) recorder.
- Installation of Laserfiche document recording system in the Town Clerk's Office.
- Installation of an Enterprise Door Access System for the Fire Department.

- Installation of a new backup appliance.
- Installation of ShopKeep application for the Senior and Disabled Center.
- Installation of a new converged server/storage solution.
- Configuration of 10GB connectivity between the town's two data centers.
- Installation of a new internal Geographic Information Systems viewer application.
- Setup of mobile data terminals and remote access capabilities in the Regional Major Crime Scene Processing vehicle.
- Installation of new Public Safety Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) and Records Management System (RMS).

2014-2015 Goals

- Work with Town departments to help identify areas where technology can assist them in reaching their goals and objectives for internal and external purposes.
- Enhance wired and wireless network capabilities.

Registrar of Voters

Linda Cultrera (R) • Marie Fox (D)

The office of Election Administrators-Registrars of Voters is governed by the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut, the Office of the Secretary of the State, and the State Elections Enforcement Commission.

Registrars' Responsibilities:

- Register & remove all electors, update felony convictions and releases, and oversee all election materials.
- Conduct the State-mandated annual voter registration canvass by NCOA, (National Change of Address), telephone, mail, or house to house.
- Supervise primaries, elections & special referenda.
- Train and hire all elections officials, update all training materials and maintain accurate State mandated certification lists of all election officials.
- Oversee the central counting of absentee ballots on Election Day.
- Determine that all eight polling places are handicapped accessible, meet the requirements of the 2002 Help America Vote Act (HAVA); and, effective this year, oversee Election Day Registration (EDR).
- Oversee the general maintenance of the 18 town-owned voting tabulators, the handicapped voting machines, telephones and all related equipment required at each polling place on Election Day.

- Conduct mandatory supervised absentee balloting at six local institutions.
- Update the registry list and voter files.
- Hold mandated and special voter making sessions.

2013-2014 Highlights

- There were 17,324 registered voters as of 11/2/13.
- Election Day Registration was implemented for the first time for the November Election.

Polling Places (all handicapped accessible)

District 1: Town Hall, 131 Cedar Street
District 2: Ruth L. Chaffee School, 160 Superior Ave.
District 3: Anna Reynolds School, 85 Reservoir Road
District 4: Elizabeth Green School, 30 Thomas Street
District 5: John Wallace Middle School, 71 Halleran Drive
District 6: John Patterson School, 120 Church Street
District 7: Martin Kellogg Middle School, 155 Harding Ave.
District 8: John Wallace Middle School, 71 Halleran Drive

Facilities Management

The Facilities Management Department has the main responsibility to provide for the physical maintenance of Town Manager designated buildings to the level allowed by Council approved funding. Typically this includes repair & maintenance of the major building components such as heating & cooling systems. The department also manages capital improvement projects for these same buildings whether funded by the Town or through grant funding that this department is able to obtain.

2013-2014 Highlights

- An office renovation at the Senior & Disabled Center is an additional project undertaken this year which will provide better service to the visiting public.
- Designs for a new Community Center & renovation designs for the Town Hall have been ongoing this year under the direction of a building committee and much progress has been made with these efforts.
- Replacement of the roof at the Transition Academy and the Cedar roof at the Kellogg Eddy house were completed.
- New gutters were installed at the Parks Garage and Highway Garage. Also replaced portions of the gutters on the Kellogg Eddy historic home.
- Town Hall's electrical panels have been replaced due to age and problems found during monthly inspections.
- Replaced the furnace at the Kelsey House, one of the Town's historic homes.
- Painted boiler rooms and electrical closets in the Town Hall. Also, painted the entrances and corridors of the Police Station.
- The completion of new security system enhancements for the Town Hall, Library and the Senior and Disabled Center which will include additional upgrades in monitoring systems during the coming year as well.
- Completed the inspections of the backflow prevention equipment and sprinkler inspections at various buildings.

2014-2015 Goals

- Lead the Town Hall Building Committee through the design phases of a renovation to the Town Hall leading to a possible referendum in the future.
- Continue a yearly comprehensive survey of the physical conditions of Town Buildings to include infrared inspections of the electrical & mechanical systems to provide a proactive approach to continued scheduled maintenance.
- Continue to schedule roof replacements & major building heating component replacements as priority items and as budget allows during the next year.

Department Phone Numbers	
Assessor	860-665-8530
Building	860-665-8580
Engineering	860-665-8570
Facilities Management	860-665-8579
Finance	860-665-8520
Fire	860-667-5900 (routine) 911 (emergency)
Fire Marshal	860-667-5910
Health District	860-665-8588
Highway Sanitation Division	860-667-5810 860-667-5874
Human Services	860-665-8590
Information Technology	860-665-8555
Lucy Robbins Welles Library	860-665-8700
Parks & Recreation	860-665-8666
Police	860-666-8445 (routine) 911 (emergency)
Registrar of Voters	860-665-8516 (Democratic) 860-665-8517 (Republican)
Revenue Collection	860-665-8540
Senior & Disabled Center	860-665-8778
Town Clerk	860-665-8545
Town Manager	860-665-8510
Town Planner	860-665-8575

Finance Department

Ann Harter, Director

The Department of Finance consists of the Administration and Accounting, the Assessor's office and Revenue Collector's offices. The Administration and Accounting office has the responsibility of administering the Town's finances and accounting for all Town funds. The office provides complete accounting services for all the boards, commissions and departments of the town except the Board of Education. Detailed statements of this accounting appear in the Town's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, which is on file in the Town Clerk's Office, excerpts of which are included in this report. In addition, the office helps develop and administers the Town budget, handles the daily Treasury operations and manages cash and debt obligations.

Mission Statement

To provide accurate, timely financial reporting, information and services to Town departments, the public and policy leaders. We strive to stay current on accounting standards and financial practices and procedures in order to provide cost effective services and financial information to all users of Town financial information.

2013-2014 Highlights

Accounting and Administration

- For the twenty-fourth consecutive year, the Town was awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for fiscal year 2012-2013. The Town received this national recognition for its financial report by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States & Canada.
- Standard & Poor's Ratings Services raised its rating on the Town's general obligation bonds to 'AA+' from 'AA' based on the implementation of its local GO criteria. The Town benefits from a high credit rating of AA+ by Standard & Poor's and Aa2 by Moody's Investor Services.
- In conjunction with the Bond Counsel, a bond resolution for the Town Hall/Community Center Project was prepared as well as information for the public hearing held on June 24th.

Assessor

-S. Steven Juda

The mission of the Newington Assessor's office is to fulfill in a timely manner the requirements of Connecticut state law relative to the assessment of real property, personal property, and motor vehicles, in a way that provides residents, administrators, and professionals with accurate, and timely information, ensuring that all taxpayers are treated in the most equitable manner possible, within a caring and responsive environment.

Real Property is assessed at 70% of a base year of value established on the October 1, 2011 revaluation. Commercial Personal Property and Motor Vehicles are assessed at 70% annually. The Grand List consists of over 12,000 real estate parcels, 1,400 commercial personal property accounts and over 30,000 taxable motor vehicles. The office is also responsible for assisting special service programs by annually updating over 550 elderly, 50 blind, 6,100 special assessment adjustments for veterans, and 250 disabled exemptions for Newington taxpayers.

2013-2014 Highlights

- Provided professional service to general public and taxpayers.
- Completed October 1, 2013 grand list on time as required by law.
- Completed 4 court case appeals on the 2011 grand list which was the last revaluation.
- Continued to maintain and administer the computer interface with the Geographic Information System (GIS) and the Town of Newington website.
- Converted software from Vision 6.5 to Vision 7.0 and enhanced internet web site.

Department Goals FY 2014-2015

- Provide taxpayers with courteous, professional, and responsive service in a timely manner.
- Maintain an equalized tax base according to State Statutes and professional appraisal/assessment standards and complete the October 1, 2014 grand list on time.
- Continue to assure that assessments utilizing the 2011 revaluation of all real estate parcels are equitable and that the process is completed on time.
- Continue with appeals from commercial property owners to the Connecticut court system as a result of value changes that occurred with the October 1, 2011 revaluation.
- Prepare a Request for Proposal for the next revaluation for the October 1, 2015 grand list and start the implementation process for that program.

Finance Department

2013 NET GRAND LIST				
CATEGORY	2012	2013	PERCENT CHANGE	DOLLAR CHANGE
REAL ESTATE	\$2,188,702,373	\$2,197,055,035	0.4%	\$8,352,662
PERSONAL PROPERTY	\$134,889,100	\$136,146,200	0.9%	\$1,257,100
MOTOR VEHICLE	<u>\$213,855,277</u>	<u>\$216,032,070</u>	1.0%	<u>\$2,176,793</u>
TOTAL	\$2,537,446,750	\$2,549,233,305	0.5%	\$11,786,555

MANUFACTURING EQUIPMENT EXEMPTION				
CATEGORY	2012	2013	PERCENT CHANGE	DOLLAR CHANGE
GROSS PP	\$203,070,880	\$205,421,100	1.2%	\$2,350,220
MFG & OTHER	<u>\$68,181,780</u>	<u>\$69,274,900</u>	1.6%	<u>\$1,093,120</u>
NET PP	\$134,889,100	\$136,146,200	0.9%	\$1,257,100

The October 1, 2013 grand list for Newington increased by 0.5% from the prior year. This increase is primarily attributable to new real estate construction. The 2013 grand list is subject to further adjustments by the Board of Assessment Appeals, and pending and future court cases. At the current mill rate of 33.63 and a collection rate of 98% the grand list increase will provide approximately \$388,000 in additional funds.

Total Grand List

The 2013 net grand list shows a net increase of \$11,786,555, or +0.5% above the 2012 net grand list. This increase is due to a number of events that are explained in the following paragraphs.

Real Estate

The net real estate grand list increased from \$2,188,702,373 to \$2,197,055,035, an increase of \$8,352,662 or 0.4%. This is the first increase in the real estate grand list since October 1, 2010. The increase is due to significant new construction that occurred in Newington. The changes to real estate sector of the grand list are illustrated in the table below:

Summary of Significant Real Estate Changes to 2013 Grand List			
<u>2013 Grand List Increases</u>		<u>2013 Grand List Decreases</u>	
Brown Development LLC	\$3,808,238	Board of Assmt. Appeals	-\$827,065
Harvest Village LLC	\$2,324,310	Court & Other Reductions	-\$1,468,022
Victory Gardens Housing LLC	\$2,310,000	Increase in Exemptions	<u>-\$999,264</u>
Properties with Building Permits	\$2,046,063		-\$3,294,351
Wex - Tuck Realty LLC	<u>\$1,158,402</u>		
Increases	\$11,647,013		
Decreases	<u>-\$3,294,351</u>		
Net Change	\$8,352,662		

Motor Vehicles

The 2013 motor vehicle component of the grand list increased by approximately \$2.2 million dollars, which is 1% over the 2012 grand list. The motor vehicle grand list for 2013 is \$216,032,070.

Personal Property

The personal property component of the 2013 grand list experienced an increase of \$1,257,100, or 0.9% above the 2012 grand list on a net basis. There were 648 accounts that increased by \$19,679,510 while 671 accounts decreased by \$13,600,982. Additional manufacturing exemptions offset the increase in asset value for this grand list.

Finance Department

Revenue Collector

-Corinne Aldinger, CCMC

The Tax Office is responsible for the administration of all billing and collection activity for all real estate, motor vehicle and personal property taxes. It is the largest source of the Town's operating revenue, and necessitates the billing and collection of taxes. These taxes are essential to provide the services for the Town's residents, Town departments, youth and elderly programs, and to provide the funds for the Board of Education to operate at peak levels to highly educate the children in our community.

The primary objectives of the Revenue Collector are to secure the maximum collection of revenues due the town, maintain accurate collection records, ensure proper controls and safeguard the revenue collected. When these objectives are accomplished in an efficient manner they reflect the financial well being of the Town, which is the backbone of the municipality in regard to fiscal debt and bonding ability. This office enforces Connecticut State Statutes by operating in accordance with guidelines established by the Office of Policy and Management. Revenue generated by all other Town departments is balanced in the Tax Office and then deposited.

The office of the Revenue Collector also serves as a center for property tax information. The staff assists attorneys, title searchers, real estate agents, residents and others regarding payment history & other information available from the tax records. agents, residents & others regarding payment history & other information available from the tax records.

Tax Collection Activity FY 2013-2014

Taxes on Current Levy	\$83,814,637.31
Taxes on Motor Vehicle Supplemental List	792,024.66
Taxes on Prior Years List	435,574.51
Interest, Liens and Other Fees	344,416.56
Taxes on Advanced Collection 2011 Grand List	5,086,483.55
Taxes and Fees Collected	\$90,473,136.59
Collection Rate on Current Levy	99.13%

TOWN OF NEWINGTON, CT

TOP TWENTY FIVE TAXPAYERS - 2013 GRAND LIST

RANK	TAXPAYER	DESCRIPTION	GROSS
1	CONNECTICUT LIGHT & POWER CO	UTILITY	\$37,283,380
2	GKN AEROSPACE	MANUFACTURING	\$22,872,680
3	IREIT NEWINGTON FAIR LLC	SAMS	\$20,840,428
4	NEWINGTON VF LLC	WALMART	\$19,941,215
5	TLG NEWINGTON LLC	STOP & SHOP/BOB'S	\$17,840,487
6	CENTRO GA TURNPIKE PLAZA LLC	PRICE CHOPPER & DICKS	\$17,360,000
7	NEWINGTON GROSS LLC	STEW LEONARDS	\$17,150,000
8	MANDELL PROPERTIES LLC	PRINTING/MAILING	\$14,000,100
9	HAYES KAUFMAN NEWINGTON ASSOCIATES	RETAIL	\$12,903,881
10	SCELZA/CAMBRIDGE/LANDMARK/BALDWIN	APARTMENTS	\$11,787,839
11	TARGET CORPORATION T 1802	RETAIL	\$10,829,620
12	BALF/TILCON CONNECTICUT INC.	MANUFACTURING	\$10,377,980
13	RENO PROPERTIES II LLC	MANUFACTURING	\$10,020,606
14	LOWES HOME CENTERS INC. #623	RETAIL	\$9,870,000
15	FURNITURE EXECUTIVES NO 4 L P	RETAIL	\$9,800,000
16	HARTFORD HOSPITAL	APARTMENTS/LAB	\$9,621,137
17	SUNBELT RENTALS INC	RENTAL	\$8,710,600
18	NEWINGTON 2007 LLC	MANUFACTURING	\$8,094,191
19	KOHLER MIX SPECIALITIES INC.	MANUFACTURING	\$7,096,100
20	BRE SELECT HOTELS PROPERTIES LLC	COURTYARD MARRIOTT	\$7,083,013
21	SPX CORP.	MANUFACTURING	\$6,759,570
22	GRISWOLD HILLS OF NEWINGTON LTD PARTNER.	APARTMENTS	\$6,668,424
23	CONNECTICUT NATURAL GAS CORP.	UTILITY	\$6,549,780
24	EDAC TECHNOLOGIES CORP.	MANUFACTURING	\$6,318,490
25	BERLIN NEWINGTON ASSOCIATES LLC	RETAIL	<u>\$6,300,000</u>
			\$316,079,521

This list reflects the gross assessment for the properties. Some accounts receive manufacturing exemptions which reduce the actual tax paid.

Newington Community Services

Human Services

Karen Futoma, Director

The Human Services Department provides a variety of human service programs and services for children, youth, adults, elderly, persons with disabilities and families. Service areas include information and referral, community education and coordination, prevention and positive youth and family development, social work and case management, clinical therapy, crisis and disaster response, and economic assistance.

Mission

We serve residents of all ages to achieve their maximum quality of life by increasing their knowledge, skill and self-sufficiency through a comprehensive coordinated continuum of social work & community services.

Our Motto:

“A Helping Hand For All Ages.”

2013-14 Highlights:

- The Town of Newington (Dept. of Human Services) was one of the few municipalities that applied for & was awarded a \$6,000 grant (as well as the Senior & Disabled Center) to provide an “Assister” to help Newington residents sign up for Access Health CT health coverage under the mandated Affordable Healthcare Act. Carol LaBrecque & a contracted person, provided community sign up fairs as well as scheduled individual appointments from October, 2013 through March, 2014. We were contracted to make 300 contacts to promote the program. We almost doubled that with 547 contacts made during that time. These numbers are in addition to the 613 casework individuals seen during this fiscal year.
- Pat Meskill, MSW, LCSW, Clinical Services Coordinator, was hired & joined the department July, 2013. Pat has brought great experience as a former Town of Wethersfield Youth & Social Services Clinical Coordinator with similar background & program experience.
- The Newington CERT grew from 38 members to 53 this past year. They had an active year with booths at the annual Extravaganza & Waterfall Festival to promote community awareness of & interest for CERT membership. Several members & department staff attended the annual Citizen Corp conference, as well. Mayor Woods & Councilor Borjeson & Executive Assistant Jaime Trevelyan also attended the CERT training program & became certified members. An Emergency Preparedness booklet with additional Newington specific information was made available at various locations & the CERT Team distributed them at the election polls, as well. CERT was activated at an overnight winter flooding at a senior housing complex. A temporary shelter was opened until residents were relocated or allowed back in. Monthly meetings were held including additional training workshops on a variety of topics related to emergency response & preparation. CERT was also activated to assist with security & crowd management, as HAM radio operators & at First Aid stations at the annual Memorial Day Parade. They also assisted with the annual Flu Clinics.
- Overall, positive youth development programs grew from 2539 to 2,641 program registrations. These programs include SCORE, ALPS, Adventure Builds Bridges/Police Youth Challenge, NHS Awareness Program, Summer Youth Adventure and the Newington Challenge Course.
- Food bank participation remained at approximately the same level, while holiday basket program participation increased by 5% from 412 to 434 households.
- The department was awarded a second consecutive year \$10,000 OPM grant (June, 2014) for a Adventure Builds Bridges Police/Youth initiative that fosters positive relationships between youth and police. The grant will be implemented during the 2014-2015 academic year.
- A series of Youth and Adult Mental Health First Aid certification trainings were offered to town employees, school personnel and other invited community leaders, as well as a Community Forum on Understanding Mental Health and another on Hoarding.

Prevention and positive youth development programs

are offered through a variety of activities teaching skills in decision-making, problem-solving, communication, team co-operation leadership and community service:

- ◇ Rite of Passage Experience (ROPE) is a three-phase community approach to prevention. 334 sixth-grade students participated in the first phase of ROPE as part of the school health and wellness curriculum.
- ◇ The second phase of ROPE promotes positive leisure time through after-school & summer programs; Student Challenge of Recreation/Education (SCORE) offered after-school activities & opportunities to middle school age youth. There was a decrease in SCORE participation this year from 531 last year to 420 participation slots filled serving 73 youth, but summer registration increased.
- ◇ The Summer Youth Adventure (SYA) Program had a full schedule of cultural, educational and adventure activities seeing an increase from serving 424 to 441 program participation slots filled with 103 youth entering fifth through ninth grade.
- ◇ The third phase of ROPE continues to encourage youth to give back to the community through volunteer service. Youth & adults are also offered community service placements as required by the justice system. Community service projects included community clean ups, assistance with the food bank & high school youth mentoring middle school youth. 47 youth & adults provided community service hours this year. We took fewer individuals but served people who had larger community service hour requirements. The average number of hours increased from 25 to 50 per person, with many more adult offenders requesting hours.
- ◇ The Outdoor Challenge Ropes Course offered low and high element initiatives to 1,366 participants comprised of school age youth, college students, businesses, Houses of Worship, other town youth service bureaus and non-profits. We have seen an increase in participation for the past three years. Two Eagle scouts earned awards for projects enhancing the challenge course. Projects included building a ladder stand and building a low ropes element called “the blind-folded maze.”

Newington Community Services

Human Services

2013-14 Program Highlights Continued:

- ◇ Community education and parent programs sponsored this year included "Getting Ready for Kindergarten" and an eight week CERT training that community volunteers and several staff received.
- ◇ The high school self-awareness group is a collaboration with the high school psychologist and special education services to provide social skill enhancement programs through experiential education opportunities such as hiking, canoeing, geo-caching, challenge course and in-class sessions involving team building exercises. 28 youth participated
- ◇ Human Services co-facilitated the high school "Truth About Hate" program co-sponsored by the Anti-Defamation League and Human Services.
- ◇ The alternate Washington D.C. trip option was provided to 33 8th grade Martin Kellogg students in May with a day spent on the Challenge Course.
- ◇ Field games were also provided for 90 4th grade students end-of-year picnic for Ruth Chaffee.
- ◇ The Juvenile Review Board is an alternative and early means of identifying and assisting youth seventeen and younger whose behaviors put them at risk. The Board is composed of representatives from Police, Schools, Human Services, Juvenile Court, State Department of Children and Families and Interfaith Clergy Association. This year 16 youth and their parents appeared before the Board for incidents such as vandalism, shoplifting, fighting, criminal mischief, disorderly conduct, bullying, truancy, defiance of school rules and domestic conflict. This is a 33% increase from the prior year.
- **The Food Bank, Holiday Food and Gift programs, Energy Assistance, Clothing Closet and Special Needs Fund** assist eligible residents with basic need assistance. Newington households in need continue to feel the impact of the difficult economy as a result of unemployment, underemployment, fixed income, healthcare costs and ever-increasing expenses. The Food Bank averaged 146 households monthly. Monthly usage actually runs between 150-160, but several extreme weather days in the winter forced the closing of the food pantry, which negatively impacts the monthly average. The Open Air Market (Foodshare collaborates with us) provides a free mobile foodshare distribution every other week to approximately 80 unduplicated households and the annual holiday programs served 434 households (an increase from 412 last year) representing 897 children, adults and elderly. Clothing closet use was steady and this year, 357 bags of clothing were distributed compared to 361 last year. This does not include winter clothing distributed to more than 200 households during our Thanksgiving food distribution day. Staff also administered the Operation Fuel Program which saw a rise in applicants.
- Thanks to an increased allotment in Operation Fuel funds, we almost doubled the number of residents who were granted funding. Those served increased from 35 last year to 65 households totaling almost \$30,000 in heating assistance up from \$15,000 awarded last year. Special Needs award increased from 106 to 125 requests this year. Special Needs Funds Assist with emergency bills such as medical, medication, energy & housing.
- ◇ **NEW THIS YEAR:** Rolling industrial food storage shelves were added for easier transfer and storage.
- **More than 200 dedicated volunteers** continue to make a difference to residents in need.
 - ◇ Volunteers help sort, organize, stock, shop for food, pick up donations and assist resident shoppers using the food bank. They also volunteer to coach computer use and prepare and distribute for the holidays, along with general department support. A local AARP chapter and the Newington Public School's Transition Academy students continue to sort and launder clothing donations regularly. Approximately 100 students received backpacks and school supplies in August.
- **Social Casework** was provided to an average monthly caseload of 98 and Youth and Family Counseling handled an average of 22 cases. These programs offer traditional social work and clinical therapy services to all age populations. Social Workers see families at Town Hall and make home visits as needed. Issues brought to the department by residents included health, mental health, financial assistance, child and adolescent development, marriage and family conflict, child and elderly abuse or neglect, domestic violence, housing, transportation, substance abuse and crisis intervention.
- **Boards, Commissions, Committees, ADA, EAP** are coordinated by the Director of Human Services providing staff support for the Youth-Adult Council, Fair Rent and Human Rights Commissions. A monthly report to the Commission on Aging and The Disabled is also provided. The Director also acts as the Town's Coordinator for the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), Affirmative Action and Employee Assistance Program (EAP).

Newington Community Services

Human Services

2014-2015 Goals

- To further develop and train the Newington CERT team to enhance emergency response capacity, while better preparing our residents with resources and information. We will also continue to utilize them in other non-emergency community events, which is proving quite helpful.
- Continue to maintain quality casework services to meet the needs of all Newington residents. Maintain private funding & social work support for emergency basic need assistance in response to increased need & continued diminishing resources.
- Continue to provide quality youth programs and counseling services, while exploring new programs and services based on identified needs. Expand and enhance counseling support through provision of clinical groups.
- To introduce a 4th grade after-school SCORE program
- To introduce a year round mentoring/youth leadership program in 2015.
- Continue to enhance staff skills and knowledge through attendance in training and workshops that will keep us current in ever-changing needs and trends.
- To continue to offer community suicide prevention & other mental health topic presentations/trainings while continuing to provide educational opportunities for Town employees to enhance understanding, identifying & responding to those with mental health issues in a supportive, helpful manner. QPR, Youth Mental Health First Aid will be offered to the public Fall, 2014 & Adult Mental Health First Aid will be offered Spring, 2015.
- Continue to explore grant and fundraising options to support our programs and services, including positive youth development.

Youth-Adult Council

The Youth-Adult Council (YAC) acts as an advisory to the Human Services Department. The members are appointed by the Mayor and represent parents, youth, police, schools, library, business and liaisons from the Town Council, Board of Education and Parks and Recreation. Their purpose is to review youth and family issues and foster community education and support among agencies and residents.

- Each year YAC sponsors the Super Hoop-La Basketball Game involving students from every elementary and middle school. They compete in a friendly tournament to raise funds for three scholarships awarded to graduating high school students. In March, 2014, 94 teams (up from 83 March, 2013) participated with another great year of family and friends cheering them on in the stands. The program has grown so much over the years that it may be moved to a Saturday in 2015. Three high school students were selected to receive scholarships of \$500 each after submitting an essay that reflected their going above and beyond in community service.
- Through an annual grant from the Capital Area Substance Abuse Council, substance abuse prevention/education programs were offered to middle and high school age youth. The grant also supported the High School Graduation Celebration.

Human Rights Commission

The purpose of the Human Rights Commission is to promote understanding & respect among all racial, religious, ethnic & other groups, and to secure equality of, and opportunity for all people. Commission members are appointed by the Town Council & conform to State & Federal laws regarding discrimination.

- During a library sponsored race, HRC members provided an educational activity promoting diversity awareness for young children.
- The Commission provided funding support for the "Truth About Hate" program held at Newington High..
- The Human Rights Commission continued to look at their role and future activities, while struggling with membership stability.



Newington Department of Human Services Staff 2013-2014

Unduplicated Cumulative Cases/Participants

	<u>2013-14</u>	<u>2012-13</u>
Youth & Family Counseling	105	155
Social Casework	613	513
Special Needs	125	106
Food Bank	1,755	1,771
Open Air Market	1,963	2,076
Clothing Closet	270	298
Holiday Food, Gifts	434	412
Positive Youth Development	2,641	2,539
Juvenile Review Board	16	13
Comm. Emergency Response Team	53	38
Information and Referral	7,188	2,784

Lucy Robbins Welles Library

Lisa Masten, Director

Newington's Library continues to be a vital community center providing information, education and cultural enrichment to its patrons, both in-house and virtually through the library's website, Facebook, Twitter and e-mail notifications. Library staff is committed to providing professional, friendly and excellent customer service.

The past year has been exciting for the library as we celebrated our 75th anniversary. The original part of the building that exists today was built 75 years ago from a bequest from Fanny Welles and her sister Mary Eddy Welles in honor of their mother Lucy Robbins Welles. When the doors first opened the library served a population of 5000. Today, the library serves a population of over 30,000 Newington residents as well as many others from around the state. This past year 209,000 people visited the library and another 91,000 visited the library via the library's website. We circulated 377,000 items and the reference staff answered 63,000 questions.

In 1939, the library was a warm & welcoming place with comfortable seating areas and its services included circulating books, story times and book discussions. 75 years later we strive to offer that same environment to our patrons with a focus on service. The items we circulate today include books but have grown to include audio books, DVDs, Blu-Ray DVDs, music CDs, digital music, digital magazines, preloaded eReaders and eBooks. The collection also includes many online resources that patrons can use in the library & from home.

2013-2014 Highlights

Personnel: Several personnel changes: Dorothy Russell was hired as the full-time Reference/Collection Management librarian, replacing Sue Bethune who retired in Feb. 2013 after more than 30 years of dedicated services. Alyssa LaCrosse was hired as the new part-time teen librarian replacing Jennifer Bassett & Amanda Bollacker was hired as a part-time circulation library technician replacing Elsa Batista-Yzaguirre.

Staff continued to take advantage of the great programming offered by the *CT State Library & Connecticut Library Consortium*. Many of the programs were technology related & gave staff opportunities to learn about new & emerging technology. Staff was also given access to supervisory training & information for new programming.

Technology: New services & new technology were offered to our patrons. The library now offers *Freegal*, a digital music service that allows patrons to download and/or stream music from the vast Sony music collection. Another new service that was added was *Wowbrary*. This is a weekly email newsletter that lets patrons know about any new items added to library collection. Patrons can place holds from this newsletter on items that they are interested in. The library also began circulating two *Rokus*. *Rokus* are devices that allow patrons to stream *Netflix* on their TV or device. The library subscribed to several *Netflix* accounts to enable patrons to do this.

The children's program room now has 60" flat screen TV mounted on the wall & wired to allow staff to project from a laptop for programs & class visits. A digital sign was added in the children's room similar to the one in the library lobby that allowed the children's staff to promote library services & upcoming children's programs.

Use of digital downloadable material continued to grow in popularity. Patrons' use of Zinio, a digital magazine service that offered 60 digital magazine titles, increased 196%. The use of eBooks increased as well. The library saw a 385% increase in the use of eBooks. The library subscribes to two eBook services, *Overdrive* and *Freeding*.

The Newington Library is part of a 30 library consortium called *Library Connection*. The consortium migrated to a new library's integrated library system (ILS) called *Sierra* by Innovative Interfaces, Incorporated on June 2. The new ILS offers better functionality for staff & more features in the public library catalog for our patrons. There was a lot of behind the scenes work that had to be done to convert the collection & patron information to have it ready for the migration. Jeanette Francini, Head of Collection Management, Sue Schneider, Circulation Supervisor, Diane Durette, Head of Reference & Assistant Director Karen Benner were instrumental in getting staff ready for the new ILS.

The Library Director worked with Paul Boutot, Director of Information Technology & Jeff Baron, Director of Administrative Services to put together a RFP for the Library Automated Collection Management System. The RFP went out in May & closed on June 5, 2014. The library received CIP funding for this system that would allow the library to manage the circulation of materials in a more efficient way, offer better inventory management as well as better security. The RFP will be awarded during the beginning of the 2014-2015 fiscal year.

The library was very fortunate to receive a technology grant from American Eagle Federal Credit Union Foundation to be used to purchase a 3-D printer, laptop with software and cart to be used to promote creativity and collaboration.

There were many Technology programs that were offered to the public included this year. A total of 35 technology programs were offered to 458 people.

Children's: The children's staff presented a variety of 766 educational & entertainment programs to 24,815 children. The Children's Summer Reading Program "Dig Into Reading" kicked-off a summer of reading & activities related to gardening. Over 1,311 children participated by reading, earning prizes & being entertained by such activities as a library vegetable garden. The children's staff finished out the season by working with the schools to hold award assemblies featuring *Mr. Magic* for all who participated. *The Annual John & Adella Sliva Memorial Young People's Literary Series* event welcomed author Adam Gidwitz. He wowed 3rd & 4th graders with his rendition of the Grimm fairy tale, *Cinderella*. He made a special lunch appearance at the Ruth L. Chaffee School Nutmeg Club & visited the Martin Kellogg Middle School. He rounded out his visit talking one-on-one & signing copies of his *A Tale Dark & Grimm* series at the Library. school children in town. Other highlighted programs throughout the year included a "Reading is Our Thing" winter reading program, the 3rd Annual *Take Your Child to the Library Day*, *Gingerbread House Making*, *Music with the Caseys* & *Sciencetellers*. The staff provided weekly visits to preschools & daycares, hosted school visits at the library & attended many school functions.

Lucy Robbins Welles Library

Highlights Continued

Teens: The teen librarians continued experimenting with types of programs offered. 52 programs were offered to an audience of 1,679 teens. Many of the more popular programs promoted hands on learning & creativity including *Squid Dissection, Making Steampunk Jewelry, DIY Nail Art & Introduction to Zentangle*. The teens had their own summer reading program & the teen area that was reorganized last year has been much easier to browse and offered many books that supported teens assigned reading lists. A very popular program for teens that has been growing stronger each year was the *Teen Volunteer Network*. More than 90 teens have signed up to volunteer the library for programs, special events & other library projects. It has been a great way to promote volunteerism and give teens opportunities for community service.

Adults: Staff planned and implemented 129 programs to 4,861 adults. There was still demand for employment programs like *The Job Search: Age 40 & Above, Networking with Carol Mon & Resume Writing & Interview Techniques*. Movies like *Saving Mr. Banks & Philomena* attracted more than 100 people at each showing. Other highlights in adult programming included very successful adult summer and winter reading programs, summer jazz concerts, *Witness to Holocaust, G. Fox in the 1950s, Aging Gracefully* and *Digging the Dirt on Connecticut's Rich and Famous*.

Library Board of Trustees: The Library Board of Trustees celebrated the library's 75th anniversary this past year. Special events were planned throughout the year to celebrate the library's 75 years of service to the community. The 18th Annual Newington Library's 5K Challenge Road Race, the library board's annual fundraiser had 332 runners/walkers.

Friends of the Library: The Friends had another busy year fundraising & advocating for the Library. A successful membership drive, two book sales, a Wine & Cheese Social & bus trips to New York City & Keene, N.H. for the fall Pumpkin Festival, raised additional funds for the library. Without the Friends, many of the programs would not be possible.

2014-2015 Goals

- Complete the restoration of the areas in the library damaged by the water leak in May 2014.
- Work with the Library Board of Trustees to renovate the Lienhard meeting space to make it more multi-functional & tech-friendly.
- Tag the collection and implement the Automated Collection Management System.
- Purchase the 3-D printer, laptop and card from the technology grant.
- Continue to pursue funding opportunities to offer innovative programming and new services to the public.
- Continue with staff training and professional development.
- Work with the Library Board of Trustees to pursue expansion of the Library in the near future.

Statistical Summary

Circulation	2014	2013	Gain/Loss	% Change
Adult	242,773	246,194	-3,421	-1.39%
Children	124,065	122,130	1,935	1.58%
Young Adult	10,547	13,047	-2,500	-19.16%
Videos	239	802	-563	-70.20%
DVD's	87,988	98,283	-10,295	-10.47%
Downloadable Books	32,438	6,677	25,761	385.82%
Downloadable Mag.	2679	1,269	2,489	196.14%
Download Music#	3,758	0		
Download Movies#	10	0		
E-Readers	190	163	27	16.56%
Museum Passes	954	978	-24	-2.45%
Days Open/Year	325	323	2	0.62%
Avg. Daily Circ/Year	1,161	1,181	-20	-1.65%
Patron Count	208,863	220,086	-11,223	-5.10%
Avg. Patron Count	643	681	-39	-5.68%
Self Checkout Circ.*	4,382	5,505	-1,123	-20.40%
Library Card Reg.	1,613	1,657	-44	-2.66%
Connecticard	95,081	105,638	-10,557	-9.99%
Returns	277,738	308,104	-30,366	-9.86%
Sun. Circulation	13,191	13,642	-451	-3.31%
Sunday Patron Count	7,154	7,278	-124	-1.70%
PUBLIC SERVICES				
Ref. Questions-Adult	43,244	40,176	3,068	7.64%
Ref. Questions-Child	20,048	20,509	-461	-2.25%
Total Ref. Questions	63,292	60,685	2,607	4.30%
Comp. Use Adult	43389	50,603	-7,214	-14.26%
Comp. Use Children^	5,003	4,423	580	13.11%
Total Computer Use	48,392	55,026	-6,634	-12.06%
In-house Database	68,625	123,666	-55,041	-44.51%
Remote Database	114,057	700,995	-586,938	-83.73%
Website Visits	90,334	108,077	-17,743	-16.42%
Holds on Shelf Pulled	11,381	10,593	788	7.44%
Ill-Loans	11,986	10,790	1,196	11.08%
Ill-Borrows	8,241	7,984	257	3.22%
Programs Childrens	766	715	51	7.13%
Programs Childrens	24,815	26,098	-1,283	-4.92%
Programs Teens	52	71	-19	-26.76%
Programs Teens Attendance	1679	2307	-628	-27.22%
Programs Adult	129	121	8	6.61%
Programs Adult Attendance	4,861	4,086	775	18.97%
Notary	160	118	42	35.59%
Volunteer Hours	1,973	1,326	647	48.79%
Mtg. Rm Usage-Out	196	223	-27	-12.11%
Mtg. Rm Usage-In	643	617	26	4.21%
Study Room Usage	2,818	2,812	6	0.20%
Items Added	14,578	13,942	636	4.56%
Items Deleted	7,566	6,605	961	14.55%
Total Library Holdings	179,728	172,716	7,012	4.06%

*The self-service check-out was not working for portions of the year.

#These services were not available last year. ^Includes addition of two iPads.

Senior and Disabled Center

Dianne Stone, Director

Open to all persons aged 55 and older and younger adults with disabilities; the Center's program areas include information and referral, health prevention and promotion services, fitness and wellness, leisure and recreation, social activities and special events, life long learning, supportive services including case management, transportation and nutrition. It was the first Center in the State of Connecticut to be nationally accredited and is the designated Community Focal Point for aging services.

Mission

To support older adults and people with disabilities in the Town of Newington in maintaining and enriching their independence, well-being and quality of life. This is accomplished by:

- *promoting full inclusion in the community;*
- *facilitating access to a comprehensive choice of services and activities;*
- *ensuring that services and activities respond to the diverse needs and interests of the served population, and;*
- *providing ongoing opportunities for life-long learning and growth.*

2013-2014 Highlights

- Held more than 30 different health promotion & disease prevention programs. The Center continues to adopt evidence based programs (interventions that have been proven to have a specific impact & that are designed to be delivered in the community) & currently offers Live-Well (Chronic Disease Self-Management), Diabetes Self Management & Matter of Balance. The Center was awarded a grant to coordinate the Matter of Balance program for a 5 town region by the Jefferson House Institute. The Center also continues to offer the innovative Aging Mastery Program which is being implemented nationwide. The Center's Wellness Clinic continues to be in high demand as do the Footcare Services & weekly blood pressure screenings provided by the Newington Volunteer Ambulance Corps, dental cleanings coordinated by CCHD through a North Central Area Agency on Aging Older Americans Act grant & a low cost massage therapy program.
- The Center remained under construction throughout most of the year with the completion of the porte cochere and major renovations to the Main Office, Cafeteria and Fitness Center. The renovations were funded through both general fund and Center generated revenues.
- Received assistance through sponsorship, in kind donation of goods or services or direct assistance from more than 15 different businesses & agencies including several long term care facilities, health care agencies & town businesses. New partners this year also included the Center for Independent Living, Advocacy Unlimited, Connecticut Community Care, Inc.
- Through the Information & Referral Center 1000+ residents got assistance with supportive programs including Energy Assistance, Renter's Rebate, Medicare Part D, ConnPace, Meals on Wheels, Tax preparation, the Medicare Savings Program (MSP) & case management. The Center was selected as an Assister Site for enrollment in

AccessHealthCT, CT's insurance exchange through the Affordable Care Act. The Center was also selected by the National Council on Aging to pilot an online tool, Economic Check Up ® that provides a screening & recommendations for improving economic security.

- Volunteers are an incredibly valuable resource & this year there were two significant volunteer initiatives. The first was the introduction of a point of sale system to the Gift Shop. Through the support of the IT Department & countless hours of volunteer persistence, the Shop was brought into the current digital century. The second was the development of the Giving Garden. Through a small grant from ACHIEVE and matching funds from Jefferson House, a self-directed team of volunteers planned, designed, constructed, planted and nurtured a raised organic vegetable garden that yielded produce for the Food Pantry.
- Held several annual events including the Annual Expo, a Senior Prom presented by students from the Hartford Magnet Middle School, the annual Police Safety Picnic, Newington Health Care Center Ice Cream Social, a general membership meeting and the Volunteer Recognition dinner. Dial-A-Ride provided 17,991 trips covering 46,709 miles and was used by 240 people. 45% of those trips bring people to the Center, with more than 70% coming for lunch. Other destinations are evenly split between medical, shopping and other. The Out of Town Medical Transportation program, provided through a collaborative partnership with Wethersfield and Rocky Hill and funded by the DOT Matching Grant for Demand Responsive Transportation, continues to be fully utilized.
- Center Director Dianne Stone has been actively involved in representing municipal aging services including an appointment by State Speaker of the House to serve on a six month legislative Task Force to study Senior Safety Zones, re-appointment to the State Commission on Aging, & leadership positions with the Executive Committee of the CT Elder Action Network & in the National Council on Aging/National Institute of Senior Centers (NISC).
- Each month there are 200+ participation opportunities at the Center with some daily, weekly, once a month & one time only. The total recorded attendance for the year was 33,992+ by more than 950 people. The highest recorded activity is fitness with nutrition & leisure close behind. Actual attendance is higher as many participants still do not sign in & there were significant hardware issues with the database system requiring equipment replacement.
- The Senior & Disabled Center has an annual membership and that peaked at just over 1,900 by the end of the year.

2014-2015 Goals

- Continue to assess & respond to the changing needs of older adults and people with disabilities in the community.
- Complete the National Accreditation self-assessment and accreditation process for the 3rd time.
- Continue efforts to strengthen community engagement to support aging in place and emergency planning.
- Build on the professional services of the Center.
- Develop programs and services that maximize independence and promote a high quality of life.

Parks & Recreation

Bruce Till, Superintendent

The Parks and Recreation Department is comprised of two divisions—Recreation and Parks & Grounds—and provides comprehensive recreation services and facilities for Newington residents.

Recreation Division

The Town of Newington has established a firm commitment to recreational resources and opportunities for its residents. The Town operates outdoor swimming pools in Mill Pond Park and Churchill Park. Indoor swimming is available at Newington High School. Tennis enthusiasts can find courts at Churchill Park and Newington High School, along with soft surface courts located at Mill Pond Park. Golfers can enjoy the beauty of the landscape at the Town-owned but privately operated 18-hole Indian Hill Country Club. Several trails and a skate park are also available.

The Parks & Recreation Department offers a wide variety of recreational programs, special events, sports leagues, bus trips, facility rentals (Churchill Park pavilions and Mortensen Community Center) and leisure opportunities for all ages, including the Teen Center, which is open for students in grades 7 to 12. Programs include Summer Playgrounds (Preschool age through Grade 7), Counselor-In-Training Program (Grades 9 & 10), Year-round Aquatics (Preschool through Adult), Community Gardens, Adult Sports Leagues (Men's and Women's Softball, Women's Volleyball, Men's Basketball), Youth Basketball (Grades 1-12) and a host of other programs and special events, including fitness and cultural programs for youth and adults of all ages. Although operated independently, youth sports organizations including T-Ball, Little League, Softball, Challenger Baseball, Soccer, Swim Club, Lacrosse, Travel Basketball, Midget Football and Cheerleading fall under the umbrella of the Parks & Recreation Department. The Department works closely with various citizen committees, civic groups and the Board of Education. The Department's Creative Playtime Preschool program is fully licensed through the State of Connecticut and open to children ages 3 to 5.

The Department also sponsors the annual Extravaganza celebration in July at Mill Pond Park, highlighted by an evening fireworks display.

2013-2014 Highlights

- A total of over 100 programs with approximately 600 classes/sessions were offered throughout the year, and more than 9,000 participants registered for these programs.
- A total of 7 bus trips were offered.
- Approximately 4,000 residents enjoyed picnics at Churchill Park throughout the summer.

- 93 gardeners participated in our Community Garden program at Young Farm.
- The Mortensen Community Center accommodated hundreds of rentals for private events & meetings.
- New programs offered included Drawing Untangled, Painting Untangled, Impressionism – Oil Painting for Everyone, Children's Art Workshop, Power-Up Pilates, Sign and Play, Simply Dazzling Designs Children's Art Workshop and Flower and Butterfly Sketching and Painting.
- Free opportunities for recreation and leisure were offered, including Fun Runs, Concerts at Mill Pond Park, Pictures with Santa/Sleigh Rides, free demonstration classes, as well as free special events such as Touch-A-Truck, Family Fishing Derby, National Trails Day Bird Walk at Cedar Mountain, Night of Lights and more.
- The annual Mill Pond Park Extravaganza included a carnival, Family Pool Party, Family Field Day and a concert in the park, in addition to the traditional crafts, entertainment and fireworks.
- Creative Playtime Preschool Program has remained a popular choice for parents of 3-5 year old children.
- The 16th annual Benefit Golf Tournament held at Indian Hill Country Club was a success, with 81 golfers participating. Proceeds from the tournament were used for community programs such as Camp Sunrise, a camp for children with disabilities.
- A consignment ticket program for Six Flags and Lake Compounce was offered, giving residents the opportunity to purchase discount tickets at the Parks and Recreation office, which could be used for any day of the Six Flags or Lake Compounce operating season.



Parks & Recreation

Parks & Grounds Division

- Mark Ripley, Supervisor

The Parks & Grounds Division is responsible for the year round maintenance of 833 acres of parks and public green spaces, including two community parks, nine neighborhood parks, two historic properties (Kellogg-Eddy House and the Kelsey House), the Young Farm, and all public school grounds. It also maintains the Town greens, three cemeteries, the Municipal Parking Lot, the Town Center, and the grounds of all Newington public buildings. The Division is also responsible for the initial startup of the community garden plots, the picnic & recreation facilities at Churchill Park, a skate park, two outdoor swimming pools, playgrounds, several miles of hiking/biking trails, numerous public rights-of-way & cul-de-sacs, roadside mowing & flower beds & pots, and the placing of flags & decorations & lighting for the holidays. Maintenance activities include mowing, pruning, trash removal, and athletic field preparation for scholastic and recreational use, snow removal for schools and public building parking areas, sidewalks, & school walk routes through Town spaces.

2013-2014 Highlights

The Nutmeg Games used the synthetic turf at Clem LeMire for field hockey and lacrosse. Division personnel paid extra attention to the rest rooms etc. for the ten days they were in town.

- Division personnel trenched and installed electrical conduit for the new gazebo at Mill Pond Park.
- Crew members repaired 15 sprinkler heads on Memorial Field as well as addressing many other irrigation problems at the Clem LeMire Sports Complex.
- Crew members refinished the basketball court in the Mortenson Community Center.
- Crew members cleared snow from the Newington Varsity Football Field for a game Friday.
- The West Meadow Chapel was opened and set up for the Wreaths Across America Ceremony on December 13th. The ceremony is conducted by local veterans in conjunction with the nationwide Wreaths Across America effort.
- Brendan Volz (GKI) began building a new dock for Mill Pond.
- Crew members designed & built a hanging system for our sanders to keep them out of the weather.
- Lester Daigle LT-17 cleaned and repaired cracks in the Churchill Park swimming pool in preparation for a June opening.
- Eric O'Neil & Joe Cirigliano prepared several pieces of equipment to be publicly viewed & demonstrated at the annual Touch-A-Truck event at the Town Hall.
- There were 137 interments in Town cemeteries this year.

Parks in Newington

	Baseball	Softball	Play-ground	Multise Fields*	Tennis	Pool	Volleyball	Bocce	Basket-ball	Trails	Skating Ice	Picnic Shelter	Water Features	Skate Park
Badger Field - <i>Walsh Ave.</i>														
Beacon Park - <i>Beacon St.</i>														
Beechwood Park - <i>Woodbridge Rd.</i>														
Candlewick Park - <i>Lamp Lighter La.</i>														
Churchill Park - <i>Main St.</i>														
Clem Lemire - <i>New Britain Ave.</i>														
Eagle Lantern Park - <i>Eagle Dr.</i>														
Little Brook Park - <i>Little Brook Dr.</i>														
Mill Brook Farms Park - <i>Main St.</i>														
Mill Pond Park - <i>Garfield St.</i>														
Seymour Park - <i>Seventh St.</i>														
Starr Park - <i>Brook St.</i>														
Mary Wells Park - <i>Cedar St.</i>														

Denotes facilities available in that park.

Newington Planning & Development

Building Department

Douglas Jourdan, Building Official

Permits Issued 2013-2014

The Building Department has a number of responsibilities to insure the health, safety and welfare of the residents of Newington. The Department does this by enforcing state building codes and inspections of all commercial/industrial buildings, rental properties and all places of assembly and individual residences. Building codes are laws or ordinances adopted at the local or state level that set minimum safety standards for the construction of residential and commercial buildings. The building codes regulate structural and fire safety, electrical, plumbing and mechanical systems, zoning and energy conservation. The Building Department works very closely with homeowners and contractors in processing and issuance of permits. The Department also works with the Fire Marshal, Town Engineer, Health Director, Police, Social Services and The Health Department.

2013-2014 Highlights

- 2225 inspections were conducted.
- A total of 34 Certificates of Occupancy were issued from July 2013 to June 2014. 11 Certificates of Occupancy were Commercial and 23 were for Single Family Residences.
- Commercial Certificates of Occupancy included:
 - ◆ Bonefish Grill located at 2903 Berlin Turnpike.
 - ◆ Best Market located at 175 Lowrey Place.
 - ◆ Great Clips located at 3117 Berlin Turnpike.
 - ◆ Moe's Southeast Grill located at 3145 Berlin Tpk.
 - ◆ Mortensen's Ice Cream located at 3145 Berlin Tpk.
 - ◆ American Eagle Credit Union located at 3579 Berlin Turnpike.

Type of Permit	#	Value of Permits
Additions and Alterations	283	\$11,339,220.50
Decks	34	265,958.00
Demolition	6	72,335.00
Electrical	466	2,972,071.00
Fence	0	0.00
FSS	0	0.00
Footing/Foundation	44	1,060,000.00
Fuel Tank	21	30,375.00
Garages/Sheds	41	283,836.00
Mechanical	432	3,812,803.50
New Comm.	1	223,000.00
New Municipal	1	20,000.00
New Residential	18	2,720,377.00
Plumbing	343	929,374.00
Pools	25	178,786.00
Roofing/Siding	213	2,884,184.00
Sign	91	210,716.00
Tent	10	24,092.00
Trailer	0	0.00
Total	2029	\$27,027,128.00

Other Income Received	Amount
Town Plan and Zoning Applications Fees	\$11,740.00
Zoning Board of Appeals Applications Fees	75.00
Conservation Commission Applications Fees	9,490.00
Environmental Fees	3,820.00
Work in Right of Way	13,175.00
Copies, Books and Maps	989.50
Engr.	1,165.75
Total	\$40,455.25

Income Received From Permit Fees: \$326,802.00

2014-2015 Goals

- Maintaining State-mandated continuing education for all staff.
- Firm and consistent enforcement of State codes to protect the health, safety and welfare of all Newington residents.

Total Income: \$367,257.25

Number of Inspections: 2225

Newington Planning & Development

Town Planner

Craig Minor, AICP **Town Planner**

The Planning and Development Department provides professional and administrative support to the Town Plan and Zoning Commissioner (TPZ), the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA), the Affordable Housing Monitoring Agency and the Open Space Committee, and administrative support to the Economic Development Commission (EDC). The Department assists the Town Council and the Town Manager by meeting with developers and state officials, providing a long-range perspective on development opportunities, and carrying out special projects as assigned by the Town Manager.

The Department is responsible for providing a wide range of planning and zoning services to the general public, town officials, and the business community. The Department offers hands-on assistance to individuals and businesses that seek various types of zoning approval, as well as vigorous enforcement of the Town Plan and Zoning Commission's zoning regulations and the Town's blight ordinance. The Department also prepares state and federal grant applications, and administers those grants.

Mission

The mission of the Town Planner's office is to assist the Town Plan and Zoning Commission maintain a high quality of life in Newington by promoting sustainable land use and economic growth that conserves the community's natural resources, as well as to assist citizens and businesses achieve their own development goals.

2013-2014 Highlights

- **Town Plan and Zoning Commission:** During fiscal year 2013-2014 the Town Plan and Zoning Commission received approximately 67 petitions for special exceptions, site plan approvals, zoning amendments & various activities & approved the following:
 - **Special Exceptions:** 1 new restaurant; 1 fitness/recreation; 4 sale of alcohol; 11 free-standing commercial signs; 4 special events; 2 day care; 1 golf course; 4 accessory apartments.
 - **Commercial/Retail Site Plans:** 1 tri-annual quarry review; 1 assisted living modification (4,750 s.f.); 1 industrial modification (13,144 s.f.); 1 new commercial (18,913 s.f.).
 - **Zoning Regulations:** Three text amendments (medical marijuana; Low Impact Development; fueling stations). One zone change (Industrial to Planned Development).
 - **Zoning Enforcement:** The Zoning Enforcement Officer investigated & acted upon 218 alleged zoning violations and 71 blight complaints this fiscal year.

The ZEO also issued 589 approvals for signs, building permits. Certificate of Zoning Compliance, etc.

- **Economic Development Commission:**

The Economic Development Commission met eight times during the fiscal year and accomplished the following:

The EDC reassigned "districts" to each EDC commissioner, making commissioners responsible for monitoring business and commercial real estate activity within a specific geographic area, to provide more comprehensive information to the Commission and the Economic Development Director.

The Constitution Square/Market Square signage project was completed, with new signs erected at eight locations.

The EDC addressed issues regarding activity of businesses in the Newington industrial parks as required.

EDC members began planning for an annual "Holiday Event" for town businesses each December. That event is intended to demonstrate the Town's appreciation of the business community, recognize individual businesses for meritorious achievements and increase businesses' familiarity with Town officials.

- **Open Space Committee:** The Open Space Committee did not meet during the 2013-2015 fiscal year.
- **Affordable Housing Monitoring Agency:** The Agency approved the sale of 1 house on Hopkins Drive this fiscal year.
- **Grant Administration:** During this fiscal year the Department prepared the following grant applications:
 - ◆ 2014 Small Cities Grant Application - Cedar Village Senior Housing Renovations (\$800,000). Grant submitted on April 7, 2014; approved in the amount of \$800,000.
 - ◆ Main Street Investment Fund Grant Application - Town Center Streetscape Phase VI (\$500,000). Grant submitted on May 28, 2014; approved in the amount of \$450,000.
 - ◆ During this fiscal year the Dept. continued management of the following grant-funded projects:
 - ◇ LID (Low Impact Development) Technical Assistance Grant (DEEP).
 - ◇ Residential Rehab Program (HUD).
 - ◇ Town Center Streetscape Phase IV and V.
- **Application Fee Revenue:** The Department collected \$15,275 in permit application fees this fiscal year.

Engineering Department

Chris Greenlaw, Town Engineer

The Engineering Department oversees the construction & maintenance of all activities occurring within the Town's right-of-ways. This includes work performed by developers, contractors and/or utility companies. In addition, the department serves as Wetlands Agent to the Conservation Commission & monitors all activities that may impact wetlands and/or watercourses. Engineering provides survey design, plans and estimates for the reconstruction efforts associated with the Town's infrastructure & related projects. Design & estimates are prepared for both the D.P.W. and B.O.E. as it relates to construction design (roadway, parking lots, drainage, etc.) The Engineering Department implements the repair & replacement of sidewalks through out town. Engineering reviews site plans & verifies that the designs satisfy the various town regulations as they relate to roadway geometry, grading, drainage including the new Low Impact Design (L.I.D.) methods and techniques. The Engineering Department has continued to research, catalogue and develop L.I.D. guidelines to further assist designers in development of site plans.

The Town Engineer administers large projects (MDC – Clean Water Project) requiring coordination of meetings with appropriate town staff, state agencies & stakeholders from concept design through to project completion. Project administration includes the review of plans, evaluation of traffic & wetland impacts. This effort may involve monitoring of site operations, coordination with public events, programs & general public outreach efforts. Engineering Dept. calculates bond estimates for subdivisions, single sites & large private developments (e.g. Packard's Way) requiring administration & inspections necessary to determine bond releases. The Town Engineer also serves as the Agent to the Conservation Commission.

2013-2014 Highlights

- The department granted permits for and monitored the installation of 79 private driveways, 138 gas line laterals, 18 gas main, 4 sanitary sewer lateral, 1 water lateral, 1 water main, 7 sidewalks, 2 CNG pavement restorations (for 48 locations), 1 phone line, 3 catch basin, 4 MDC, 3 utility trenches and 4 sewer manholes.
- Engineering Dept. provided the design, construction survey & project oversight necessary for the town forces to construct the L.I.D. demonstration project. The L.I.D. Demonstration project is located at the Clem Lemire fields, is an overflow parking lot designed to demonstrate L.I.D. methods and techniques. This L.I.D. (Low Impact Development – “Green Initiative”) project was a collaborative project by both Public Works & Parks staff to construct an “overflow” parking area. This parking area was designed with specialized pavers (pervious surface) to allow for the infiltration of stormwater (non-traditional design). A rain garden was also installed to intercept & collect run-off from the traditional paved access drive. D.P.W. forces have embraced the opportunity to construct a pervious parking lot utilizing new or non-traditional materials & methods. Engineering oversight has coordinated the efforts (design, estimate, survey, specialized sub-contractors, etc.) to deliver a project incorporating “Green Initiatives.” Construction projects incorporating “Green

Initiatives” utilize techniques to improve stormwater quality, recharge the groundwater and reduce run-off.

- As the Wetland Agent for the Conservation Commission, staff administered 19 applications for residential, retail & commercial sites. This administration process involves meeting with each applicant (and/or design consultant) to assist with the preparation & development of the proposed plans, documents, reports, etc. for Commission review. The commission met for a total of (15) meetings, (3 Special) in order to hear, process & render judgement of the applications. Pursuant to Commission approval (Action) the sites are visited & inspected for the necessary erosion & sedimentation controls for compliance with the conditions of approval. Administrative oversight involves documenting that the necessary stormwater and conservation easements are filed in the land records after the maylars are received & signed by the Chairman. The Engineering Department continues to provide significant administrative assistance to facilitate the monthly applications and/or Agenda items. Administrative support involves scheduling special meetings, public hearings and notifications coupled with the coordination of technical experts & the continuous effort to review & compile the multitude of plan revisions, details, reports, data & correspondence.
- Engineering provides support to Public Works for inquiries as they pertain to drainage (easements), street line, record (plot) plans, etc. Additionally, some inquiries have resulted in field reconnaissance & survey as needed. Engineering Department has continued to provide survey, field analysis & hydraulic design for locations demonstrating repeated flooding, damage and/or creating a hazard to the public. Three areas targeted for design/analysis were Day St., Edward St., and Veterans Dr.
- Engineering Dept. continued to administer the sidewalk maintenance & repair contract. Approximately \$50,000 was allocated to this project. The contract entails methods to repair and/or replace damaged sidewalk within the town R.O.W. A portion of the contract incorporates a provision to raise sidewalk slabs or “mud jacking” at locations where adjoining slabs cause tripping hazards.
- The Town Engineer attends various monthly meetings including, but not limited to: CRCOG Transportation (including Transportation Sub-Committee meetings), staff department head, public works team, Inland Wetlands and D.O.T. meetings as required.
- Engineering staff continues to provide active role in the administrative review & coordination of development bonds. Staff reviews calculations, estimates & conducts field inspections when determining and/or verifying contractor bonds. Engineering Dept. continues to provide & coordinate the multiple filed inspections & re-calculations necessary for the bond reduction process. Pursuant to the evaluation process, Engineering Dept. ultimately recommends bonding amounts & reductions to the TPZ via the Town planner.
- Streetscape Grant: Engineering staff developed a conceptual design & estimate for the Streetscape Grant designated for the Constance Leigh & Lowrey Place location. The Town was a successful candidate with this application, therefore resulting in the future award of monies to facilitate the design & implementation of the next streetscape.

Highway Department

Tom Molloy, Superintendent

The Highway Department and its various divisions are responsible for leaf collection, snow plowing and snow removal, street sweeping, catch basin cleaning and repair, waterway maintenance, landfill operations, refuse collection and disposal, recycling, traffic signals, signage and road markings, fleet maintenance and procurement, road construction and maintenance, alterations and repairs of all Town roads and Rights of Way.

2013-2014 Highlights

- Continued with project coordination of the long term Landfill conversion to Transfer Station.
- Continued with the annual Target Solution on line employee safety training program.
- Hosted the annual MDC sponsored hazardous waste collection program on May 3rd, 2014 and hosted our second annual paper shredding event on June 7, 2014.
- Nine (9) roads totaling approximately 2.2 miles were milled and resurfaced along with drainage improvements on various roads. Roads included in the mill and overlay program include Augusta Drive, Whitewood Road, Harold Drive, Lucas Circle, Cornish Drive, Lincoln Road, Homecrest Street, Broadview Street and Ponderosa Lane.
- Crack sealed over six miles of roadway.
- Constructed Low Impact Development (LID) parking lot project at Clem Lemire Recreational Complex.
- Reconstructed parking lot at the School Bus Garage on Garfield Street.
- Completed paving overlay project at Churchill Park pool parking area.
- Blight remediation was completed at various residential locations.
- Highway Department personnel collected nearly 14,000 cubic yards of leaves from November through December. Four crews consisting of 24 people, including Parks and Grounds personnel were devoted to the program.
- Highway crews responded to 21 snow events totaling 70" of snow and ice.
- Waterway maintenance continued with crews clearing brush and debris including beaver colonies (licensed trappers) in an effort to keep the town waterways flowing properly. Catch basins were cleaned and repaired throughout Town to ensure adequate storm water flow. Annual maintenance also addresses brush and tree trimming as well as waterway dredging.
- Completed the annual vegetation trimming along the banks of Piper Brook.
- Vegetation grinding was performed twice during the year by a private contractor with assistance from Highway personnel and equipment. The Landfill provides a disposal site for Town residents who wish to dispose of grass clippings, leaves, and vegetative waste. It is also a recycling center for items such as metal appliances, scrap metal, propane tanks, used motor oil, automotive batteries, single stream recycling and covered electronic devices.
- Town-wide street sweeping was completed during the month of April.
- Town-wide Christmas tree collection was completed late December / early January.
- Private contractors collect refuse at 9,229 residential homes and 2,240 condominiums and elderly housing complexes each week totaling approximately 9,470 tons of residential municipal solid waste brought to Covanta Energy of Wallingford for fiscal year 2013/2014. In addition 8,022 household bulky waste items, 1,098 condominium bulky waste items and 256 combined metal items were collected curbside throughout the year. 357 television sets over 19" were collected and recycled. 954 mattresses and 523 box springs were collected curbside throughout the year.
- Private contractors collect recyclables at 11,477 residential homes, condominiums and elderly housing complexes. Recyclables are brought to the Automated Material Handling facility in Berlin for processing. Over 2,819 tons of recyclables were collected curbside for fiscal year 2013/2014. The Town is currently contracted to receive \$22.50 per ton of recycling.
- The Traffic Division continued with the blanket replacement of worn out regulatory signs Town-wide, continued with roadway line painting Town-wide along with assisting Highway and other departments as needed.
- The Central Repair Garage is responsible for vehicle and equipment procurement, outfitting and disposal, preventative maintenance and emergency repairs for Police, Fire, Highway, Parks and Grounds, Volunteer Ambulance, Dial-a Ride, and General Government. The Central Repair Garage is also responsible for the Town's fueling facilities. Town Departments rely on repair garage personnel for emergency equipment installation, fabrication, diagnosis and repair of Town owned vehicles and equipment.

Newington Public Works

Information

REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE SEPARATION, PLACEMENT, COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF REFUSE, RECYCLABLES, AND YARD VEGETATION WASTE WITHIN THE TOWN OF NEWINGTON

- **Household Rubbish:** All household refuse is to be placed in the green container provided by the Town for curbside automated collection.
- **Household Recycling:** All household recyclables are now collected Automated Single Stream in the Town provided blue container.
- **Oversized (non metal) Items:** Items noted below may be placed at the curb for weekly pick up in accordance with the requirements indicated.
- **Residents must call the Town's Highway/Sanitation Department at (860) 667-5874 by Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. of each week to schedule an oversized pick up for a Thursday collection.**
 - ◇ **Branches:** Branches placed at the curbside must be tied into bundles (individual branches cannot exceed four (4) inches in diameter or be more than four (4) feet in length) and should be light enough for one man to lift. Households are limited to five (5) bundles each week.
 - ◇ **Wooden and Upholstered Furniture, Carpeting, and other Large Household Items:** These items (mattresses, box springs, wood doors, chairs, couches, etc.) may be placed at the curbside and are limited to two (2) items each week. Items must be able to be loaded into the refuse truck by two men. Carpeting must be rolled up, less than four (4) feet in length, tied, and light enough for one man to lift. There is a limit of five (5) rolls of carpeting per week.
 - ◇ **Building Materials:** Material such as sheetrock, roofing shingles, insulation and other building materials may be disposed of at CWPM located at 475 Christian Lane, Berlin (860) 828-1162. Material disposal fees are on a per ton basis.

NOTE: The disposal of any remodeling or building materials generated by a contractor's work is the responsibility of the contractor and will not be included in the oversize pick up.
 - ◇ **Automobile Tires:** Two (2) tires (rims removed) may be left at the curbside each week. Rims may be disposed of at the Town's Landfill/Recycling Center.
 - ◇ **Electronics Recycling:** Beginning January 1, 2011 covered electronic devices will not be allowed in your curbside rubbish container per State law. Items such as desktop and laptop computers, computer monitors, printers, televisions must be recycled. Residents may dispose of these items at the Newington Landfill. For additional information contact the Sanitation Division at (860) 667-5874.
- **Materials Not Acceptable for Placement in the Curbside Containers:** Dangerous or environmentally unsafe materials or substances including, but not limited to, cleaning fluids, oil base paints, caustics, explosives, acids, poisons, drugs, radioactive materials, asbestos, swimming pool chemicals, etc., should be disposed of on Household Hazardous Waste Collection Days (HHWCD). Please call the Newington Sanitation Department (860) 667-5874 for a schedule of these collection days or visit www.themdc.com.
- **Scrap Metal:** Large appliances and other metal items are collected by the Town's contractor each week at the curbside. **Residents must pre-pay (\$10 for one item, \$5 for each additional item) at the Highway Department on Milk Lane (off Fenn Road) by Monday at 3:00 p.m. to be scheduled for Tuesday pick up.** Residents also have the option of taking these items to the Town's Landfill/Recycling Center on Main Street at no charge. Residents must show proof of residency at the Town landfill. If you have any questions, please call (860) 667-5874.
- **Leaves/Grass Clippings:** **Leaves** will continue to be collected by the Town at the curbside **each fall**. Residents may also take leaves to the Town's Landfill/Recycling Center but must remove leaves from bags, boxes, etc. prior to disposal at the landfill. **Grass clippings** can be left on the lawn, put into a backyard compost pile, or taken to the Town landfill. **Do not put leaves or grass clippings in either curbside container. Rubbish & recycling carts containing grass or leaves will not be emptied.**
- **Waste Motor Oil/Propane Gas Tanks:** Waste motor oil can be disposed of at the Town Highway Garage (off Fenn Road), Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., or at the Town's Landfill/Recycling Center on the weekends. Oil must be delivered and in sealed containers.
- **Propane gas tanks:** From gas grills can be brought to the Town Landfill/Recycling Center.
- **Motor Vehicle Batteries:** May be brought to the Town Landfill/Recycling Center.

Any questions about the Town's rubbish/recycling collection programs may be directed to the Sanitation Division of the Newington Highway Department at (860) 667-5874.

Newington Public Works Information

Snow Plowing Guidelines

1. Prior to a winter storm event, Highway crews may apply treated salt to all roadways.
2. Plowing begins when snow accumulation reaches one half inch (1/2") or forecasts indicate that it will. A maximum of 14 plow trucks may be called out to plow pre-determined snow routes.
3. Once snowfall has stopped, plowing and treated salt applications will continue until all Town roads are clear.

It is the Town's policy to plow the full width of the street, curb to curb, during major storms. This ensures that the stormwater basins are obstruction-free, allowing storm water and snow melt to drain, thus preventing flooding and icing conditions.

Sidewalks

Residents are required to remove snow from their sidewalks within 12 hours after a snowstorm.

Mailbox Damage

The Town will repair or replace mailbox/posts only when there is evidence of the plow or truck striking the mailbox/post (max. \$25).

The Town will not accept responsibility for mailboxes/posts which have fallen or are damaged due to the weight or force of the snow thrown by the plow.

Winter Sand

Winter sand is available in small quantities to residents and is located at the Highway Department on Milk Lane.

Town Vegetation Landfill/Recycling Center

A permit is required to dispose of vegetation. Permits may be obtained at the Highway Department, 281 Milk Lane (off of Fenn Road). No permit required for recyclables. Must show proof of residency.

Location: Main Street, south of Churchill Park

Hours: 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

April - December, Saturday & Sunday

January - March, Saturday Only

Winter Parking Bans

Parking on streets is not allowed for more than 30 minutes between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. on any day November through March.

Parking on any street during any snowfall or for a period of eight hours after the end of a snowfall, or which impedes or interferes with snow plowing operations, is not allowed.

Driveways

While the Highway Department tries to minimize the amount of snow plowed into driveways, some accumulation is unavoidable.

- Plow blades cannot be lifted as they pass by a driveway as a mound of snow would be left in the roadway.
- Snow will be plowed into driveways during curb-to-curb plowing.
- Residents may wish to clear driveways several times during a storm or wait until the storm and plowing operations have ended.
- Shoveling, plowing, or blowing snow into the street is a violation of town ordinances and violators will be subject to fines (Article IV § 367-23).
- Clearing driveway openings is the responsibility of the property owner.

Leaf Collection Guidelines

Leaves should be raked to the edge of the property (not into the street). Plastic bags should not be used as they cannot be recycled. Do not mix leaves with household trash, branches, sticks, or other debris. Leaves may be taken to the Town landfill on Saturdays and Sundays, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. A permit is not required to dump leaves at the landfill.

Refuse Collection

Curbside collection of rubbish and recyclables will be delayed one day on these holidays (unless the holiday falls on a weekend):

Collections are made on the normal day for all other holidays. **WHEN IN DOUBT PUT IT OUT**

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| • New Years Day | • Labor Day |
| • Memorial Day | • Thanksgiving Day |
| • Independence Day | • Christmas Day |

Police Department

Richard Mulhall, Chief of Police

“To Protect and Serve.”

The Newington Police Department consists of 51 full time police officers, 1 training position, 12.5 civilian employees and 2 animal control officers. Officers maintain 24 hour uniformed service to the community in marked patrol vehicles and community services deployment. The department's commitment to the community is to preserve peace and public order, prevent and detect crime, apprehend offenders, and protect persons and property under the laws of the State of Connecticut and the ordinances of the Town of Newington.

2013-2014 Highlights

- **Staffing Level:** During the past two years, we had seven (7) of our fifty two (52) officers retire. We have been conducting recruiting, promotional processes, transfers, and training during this time period. In late September of 2013 we finally reached our authorized strength. We still have two recruits in training at our State's Police Academy, and one should be graduating late in 2013 and the second in early 2014. They will then move into our 14 week Field Training Program, and once they pass this phase of their training, they will be assigned to the Patrol Division of the Police Department
- **Computer Aided Dispatching (CAD) and Records Management Systems replacement project:** The department continued the development and replacement of our CAD and RMS systems that are the core computer systems for the department. The Town Council allocated Phase 2 funding of \$100,000 from the Capitol Budget to continue the project by purchasing software and hardware associated with the project. The department continued to support a number of work teams from Newington and the Capitol Region to complete the CT - Chiefs RMS aspect of the project. The CAD is due to go operational in the 3rd quarter of 2014 with the RMS to follow as soon as possible. At this time, the project consists of the following police departments Bridgeport, East Hartford, Enfield, Hartford, New Britain, Newington, Plainville, South Windsor, and Wethersfield. It is anticipated that the project will become operational by the end of 2014.
- **Mid State Chiefs Regional Major Crime Scene team:** The Regional Mid-State Major Crime Team went operational in the first quarter of 2014. It consists of 12 officers from Berlin, Cromwell, Newington, Rocky Hill, and Wethersfield Police Departments. The unit has been designed to assist the local department with crime scene processing and packaging. The unit has been deployed and has handled several major crime scenes.
- **Commercial Burglaries Solved:** Between September of 2013 and December of 2013, the Newington Police responded to burglaries at six (6) commercial restaurants. Detective Division personnel responded to each incident for the purpose of processing the crime scenes. It was believed that these crimes were committed by the same suspect as the victims were small restaurants. The sus-

pect would target money locations once inside the business, and entry into each business was forced through the rear of the establishment during the overnight hours. Detectives were able to identify similar footwear impressions at four of the crime scenes.

In late November of 2013, another burglary took place at a local restaurant and additional evidence was discovered and DNA samples were taken. These DNA samples were sent to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection Division of Scientific Services. In early January 2014, Newington Police received an Offender Hit Notification Form from the state forensic lab indicating the DNA analyses generated a hit between the DNA casework and the State/National Offender DNA Databases. The hit came back to a convicted felon. At the time, the felon was incarcerated due to a burglary arrest that occurred in Berlin. Detectives discovered that felon's boots were included in his prisoner property. A search and seizure warrant was obtained and the boots were seized as evidence. Once seized, the boots were sent to DESPP lab for comparison to the footwear impressions located at the scenes of the Newington commercial burglaries. Due to the DNA and the footwear impressions, the felon was linked to the numerous commercial burglaries.

After developing the felon as a suspect in the burglaries, detectives learned that the felon had pawned jewelry at a jewelry store in Hartford. This jewelry had been reported stolen during a residential burglary that occurred in December of 2013 in Newington. Detectives used the pawn shop records and identification of the stolen jewelry by its owners to connect the felon to the residential burglary as well.

- **Commercial Counterfeiting Ring Arrested:** In October of 2013, detectives completed an investigation of a counterfeit check cashing ring in which Walmart was the victim. Walmart Loss Prevention reported that a total of 16 counterfeit checks in amounts ranging from \$1,850.00 to \$2,381.09 were cashed at the store for a total loss of \$31,970.88. Loss Prevention provided detectives with copies of the counterfeit checks and surveillance video of each suspect cashing the counterfeit check. The businesses listed on the counterfeit checks were fraudulent but the payees listed on the checks existed. The suspect (s) were able to use an active bank account number that "fooled" the register at the customer service desk and authorized the transactions. Detectives obtained DMV blowback or DOC photos of the payees that were depicted on each check and then compared the photos to the suspect pictured in the surveillance video. Detectives were eventually able to positively identify and obtain arrest warrants for all 16 suspects for forgery and larceny related charges.

Police Department

- **Grants:** We continued to seek grant funding during the past year. We were able to successfully compete for and were awarded the following grants:

2013-2014 Grants

<u>2013/14</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Grant/Local</u>	<u>Percent age</u>
Bulletproof vest	USDOJ	\$3,063/\$3,063	50/50
OSET-Training	PSAP	\$3,058	100
DUI Comprehensive	DOT	\$31,800/10,600	75/25
Building Bridges between Youth and Police	OPM	\$10,000	100
Regional LPR Server	CRCOPA	\$67,288	100
Armor Vehicle	Federal	\$733,000	100
TOTAL GRANT TOTAL		\$848,209 / 13,663	



Major Crime Team Evidence Processing 2013/14

Services experienced by the Dept. are as follows:

2013 —Calls for Service: 27,279; Part 1 Crimes: 813;
Criminal Arrests: 979; DUI Arrests: 88;
Traffic Violations: 6,860; MV Accidents: 1,474

Communications—911 Calls for Service 2013-2014

<u>Month</u>	<u>Wireline</u>	<u>VOIP</u>	<u>Wireless</u>	<u>Total Calls</u>
July 2013	280	37	738	1055
August	307	41	709	1057
Sept.	265	43	636	944
October	277	42	698	1017
Nov.	278	38	715	1031
Dec.	256	40	690	986
Jan. 2014	245	49	685	979
Feb.	235	43	597	875
March	289	33	684	1006
April	266	53	643	962
May	311	60	712	1083
June	319	38	771	1128
YTD	3,328	517	8,278	12,123



2014 Master Patrol Officer Peter Lavery Memorial Motorcycle Run

Newington Public Safety

Fire Marshal

Chris Schroeder, Fire Marshal

The local Fire Marshal is responsible for the enforcement of the Connecticut Fire Safety Code and is required to:

- Annually inspect annually all buildings and facilities with the exception of residential buildings designed to be occupied by one or two families.
- Inspect the installation of flammable and combustible fuel storage tanks.
- Review all plans for new construction and conduct on site inspections to ensure code compliance.
- Establish fire lanes to ensure accessibility of fire apparatus.
- Determine the need and locations of new fire hydrants.
- Investigate all fires or explosions.
- Investigate all fire alarm dispatches to determine proper operation and compliance with the local fire ordinance.
- Issue blasting permits & be on site to ensure safety & compliance with state & federal standards.
- Respond to and investigate reported accidental or intentional release of hazardous materials.

2013-2014 Highlights

- There were no significant fire incidents during the 2013/2014 fiscal year.
- The Fire Marshal's Office and Fire Department received the 2013 Life Safety Achievement Award, presented by the National Association of State Fire Marshals Fire Research & Education Foundation and Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company.
- Personnel continued to make fire prevention and life safety a priority throughout the year by assisting the NVFD Fire Prevention Bureau in delivering fire prevention programs and activities for local schools, businesses, and healthcare facilities.

	<u>2012/2013</u>	<u>2013/2014</u>
Inspections & Inspection Follow-Ups	572	559
Plan Reviews	94	114
Job Site Inspections	58	99
Fire Investigations	22	6
Fire Alarm Trouble	15	16
Complaints	40	32
Hazmat Incidents	04	5
Blast Monitoring	08	84

Newington Volunteer Fire Dept.

Chris Schroeder, Chief

The Newington Volunteer Fire Department is responsible for fire, rescue and hazardous materials response services for residential and commercial properties, provides a comprehensive Fire Prevention and Public Fire Education program designed to meet the specific requirements of both residents and commercial businesses. Oversight is provided by an elected three member Board of Fire Commissioners with powers and duties vested in it by Town Charter.

Established in 1917, the Department is an all volunteer organization comprised of approximately 120 members. A Fire Cadet program provides full-level training equal to that of active firefighters for 16 and 17 year olds interested in fire service.

2013-2014 Highlights

- Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners Robert J. Seiler Sr. passed away in November 2013. Commissioner Brian M. Gallagher was appointed to fill the vacancy.
- The Department hosted its Annual Memorial Day Ceremony, honoring Commissioner Robert J. Seiler & two members who gave their lives in the line of duty; Company 1 Firefighter Francis Kochanowicz, 6/5/62 & Company 2 Firefighter Jay Cole, 12/26/64. The Honor Guard also participated in the Annual Memorial Day Service at Town Hall.
- The Department hosted their Annual 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony at fire headquarters, sounding the building sirens at the times of the attacks on the World Trade Center.
- The Department played an active and lead roll in assisting NVFD, Inc. to plan and raise funds for the new 9/11 Memorial, set to be constructed during the upcoming calendar year.
- The Department participated in several events to raise funds for the Muscular Dystrophy Association and The American Cancer Society.
- The Department assisted in the coordination of the Annual Ride in honor of MPO Peter J. Lavery at Churchill Park.
- Personnel participated in the Annual Parks & Recreation Night of Lights & Carol Sing on Main Street.
- The Department established a Long Range Planning Committee to prepare for the department's needs over the next ten years.
- Personnel began planning for the Department's 100th Anniversary celebration, which is planned for the calendar year of 2017.
- The Department joined other town agencies in participating in the Annual Statewide Severe Weather Exercise in the Emergency Operations Center.

- The Department continued to provide public fire safety education programs covering a large variety of topics to area businesses, schools, daycare centers, health care and assisted living facilities.
- Eight new members joined the department during the year and have completed or are in the process of completing their Firefighter Certification training. In addition, three individuals joined our Cadet Division. Eighteen members resigned or were terminated from the department during the year.

Statistical Summary

	<u>2012/2013</u>	<u>2013/2014</u>
Residential	100	72
Commercial, Industrial, Office	28	14
Hospitals, Schools	16	17
Vehicle	19	19
Rescue, Police Assist	56	65
Dumpster, Rubbish, Grass Brush, Leaves	47	50
Hazard Materials/ Clean-Up	70	39
Investigative Alarms	139	111
False Alarms	108	114
Mutual Aid	18	7
Carbon Monoxide Investigation	78	53
Water Related Incidents/ Pump-Outs	37	41
TOTALS	716	602

Newington Public Schools

Dr. William C. Collins, Superintendent

The Newington Public School System consists of four elementary schools, two middle schools, and one high school. An elected nine member Board of Education, whose powers and duties are specified by Connecticut General Statutes, provides policy oversight and direction to the school administration.

Mission

The Mission of the Newington Public School System, an educational partnership of school, family & community, is to ensure every student acquires the knowledge, skills, & attitudes to continue to learn, live a productive life, and contribute to a diverse, rapidly changing society. This is accomplished within a caring environment through a planned program of quality learning experiences that challenge & encourage each individual to reach full potential.

Vision

Every Student—College, Career and Citizenship ready

District Goal

- All students will apply grade level mathematics skills and concepts.
- All students will comprehend at grade level and be able to apply reading skills to unfamiliar text.
- All students will demonstrate grade appropriate wellness and citizenship.

Anna Reynolds Elementary School

– Dr. Jeremy Visone, Principal

2013-2014 School Goals

- Students will improve their understanding of math concepts & their ability to apply this understanding to various tasks.
- Students will improve their Reading Comprehension skills.
- Students will treat each other with respect.
- Parents will have knowledge about their child's progress in reading & math prior to progress reporting periods.

To accomplish our goal, we:

- Experimented with Common Core State Standard-aligned lessons & teaching principles, including the concept of “reading closely.”
- Learned about & referenced the associated resources for the Measures of Academic Progress assessment we administered for the first time this year.
- Observed other colleagues teach at each grade level.
- Conducted grade level meetings that helped to support instruction in the classroom and served as professional development.
- Participated in a school-wide problem-solving initiative each trimester, during which all students in the school worked with other children to solve a rigorous, common math problem by grade level.
- Provided Tier II (small group, pull out) reading & math intervention that did not interfere with Tier I instruction (classroom).

- Created short-term learning goals at our grade level data teams to focus on specific skills in need of more attention.
- Examined behavioral data for frequency & student recurrences, in an effort to provide behavioral interventions for students in need.
- Implemented a school-wide campaign to increase the number of kind comments & deeds, while reducing the incidence of mean ones.
- Continued our implementation of Positive Behavioral Supports that will help our students to learn & live our Anna Reynolds Elementary School expectations, complete with colorful expectation grids, explicit lessons to teach the expectations, & several positive reinforcement strategies (ex. Bullet filling, classroom bracelets, & principal's lunch pals).
- Created organized systems for communicating the results of student assessments to parents on a regular basis.

Elizabeth Green Elementary School

– Jennifer Michno, Principal

The 2013-2014 school year was an exciting year of changes and growth for the students and staff at Elizabeth Green Elementary School replete with a multitude of efforts at promoting the continued improvement of student achievement, both academically and socially. Highlights include:

- Refinement of a learning target framework to specifically define what students need to know & what they must do with that knowledge. Teachers worked to create learning targets for each unit of study which reflected what is truly important for students to learn.
- Creation of a school-based professional learning committee which used data from teacher surveys & classroom observational data to provide optional professional learning opportunities for teachers throughout the year.
- Infusion of a new teacher evaluation model, focusing on specific indicators of effective teaching & opportunities for teachers to access resources to grow & develop as educators.

John Paterson Elementary School

– Michael Gaydos, Principal

The 2013-2014 school year was an exciting year of changes and growth for the students and staff at John Paterson Elementary School.

2013-2014 School Goals

- All students will demonstrate growth in reading comprehension skills.
- All students will demonstrate growth in math skills.
- Ensure parents have an understanding of how their child/children are performing in school prior to receiving a progress report or report card.

Public Schools

John Paterson Elementary School-Cont'd.

To accomplish this goal, we:

- Utilized instructional data teams to monitor student performance data & plan instruction.
- Identified & provided intervention services to students in need as identified by assessment data.
- Increased instructional & independent opportunities for students to engage in reading informational text in all core areas.
- Fully implemented a new math curriculum in grades 1-4 aligned to the Common Core State Standards and continued to refine our practices with the Math Workshop Model.
- Refined the Data Driven Decision Making process to ensure ALL students received instruction that was focused on their individual needs.
- Implemented & monitored the use of the high yield instructional practice of Learning Targets.
- All certified Staff developed personal goals for a means of increasing parental communication in regards to communicating student performance prior to the distribution of report cards or progress reports.

Ruth Chaffee Elementary School

— *Richard M. DeBellis, Principal*

During the 2013-2014 school year the following initiatives were worked upon in support of the district / school goals:

- Accomplished all four goals on the School Improvement Plan that focused on Numeracy, Literacy, Citizenship, and Parent Communication.
- Implemented new assessments that included Smarter Balanced (Grades 3 & 4) and MAP (Measure of Academic Performance—Grades 2 through 4).
- Provided ongoing teacher training as the new teacher evaluation plan was being implemented during the school year.
- Refined the Math Workshop Model across all grade levels that included utilizing the CCSS for Math.
- Further refined the use of the Data Driven Decision Making process (DDDM) to address children's academic/behavioral needs with a main focus on planning instruction and sharing effective teaching strategies.
- Maintained a School Safe Climate Committee to identify areas that could be improved upon to further support a positive and safe learning environment.

John Wallace Middle School

— *David Milardo, Principal*

2013-2014 Highlights

The 2013-2014 school year was an exciting year of changes & growth for the students & staff at John Wallace Middle School. Our goals for the 2013-2014 school year were:

1. All students will demonstrate growth in mathematical concepts and applications.
2. All students will demonstrate growth in grade level reading comprehension skills.
3. All students will demonstrate growth in their physical wellness.
4. To decrease incidences of behavior that impede student learning.
5. To increase the amount of support parents need to reinforce learning at home.

To accomplish these goals, the John Wallace community:

- Held weekly COP (Community of Practice) meetings to help support instruction and provide ongoing professional development (1, 2).
- Held weekly content-area IDT (Instructional Data Team) meetings for staff to analyze student performance data, design instruction based on that data, and develop common formative assessments. IDT's also created SMART goals to focus on specific skills in need of more attention (1, 2).
- Held monthly SDT (School Data Team) meetings to develop and monitor the 2013-14 School Improvement Plan (1, 2, 3, 4, 5).
- Provided Tier II (small group/pull-out) reading and math intervention (1, 2).
- Developed a new master core academic schedule that provides for hour-long classes in math, science, language arts, and social studies (1, 2).
- Developed a new early intervention plan that streamlines the process and allows for greater programming flexibility scheduling for students (1, 2, 4).
- Developed SRBI teams in the areas of numeracy, literacy, and behavior (1, 2, 4).
- Developed the 2013-14 & 2014-15 School Improvement Plans by the School Data Team. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5).
- Utilized "Learning Targets" & "Performance of Understanding" in all classrooms to help student learning (1, 2, 3).
- Introduced & made available, a grade 8 geometry class (high school level course) to provide students with an opportunity to accelerate their math course progression. (1).
- Created the "NFL Walk Across America" walking challenge to encourage staff & students to increase their levels of physical fitness (3).
- Continued the School Climate Committee, comprised of 15 staff members & representative of all grade levels & content areas. The mission of the School Climate Committee is "to promote pro-social behavior among all John Wallace Middle School students & to create & sustain a safe, secure learning environment for the entire John Wallace community" (4).
- Continued the Discipline Review Board to provide students with opportunities for positive behaviors (4).
- Created action steps (each teacher) to enhance communication with parents (5).

Martin Kellogg Middle School

--Jason S. Lambert - Principal

2013-2014 Highlights

- Successful completion of our 2-year NEASC Accreditation report that provided many commendations & recommendations for continued growth.
- Participation in a variety of fundraisers, social events, & celebrations that provide the student council with funds to support many worthwhile endeavors at Kellogg.
- Continued "Battle of the Books" program that included grade 6 teachers and students from John Wallace Middle School.
- Maintained our sister school partnership, through participation in the AMISTAD program to give students opportunities to interact with students from urban environments.
- Attended grade 8 trips to Washington DC, which included touring various national monuments and touring various museums and exhibitions relevant to the grade 8 social studies curriculum.
- Produced the musical "Peter Pan."
- Developed our School Improvement Planning process to include specific and measurable action plans targeting the areas of math, reading, community outreach and behavior.
- Monthly "School Family" meetings were held this past year, the purpose of which is to help every student develop personal connections with their teachers and fellow students across each grade level while developing individual student success plans.
- Secured a three-year partnership with SERC in the implementation of PBIS to support appropriate school-wide behavior expectations.
- Active participation by students in the town wide art show, winter and spring music concerts, school clubs and activities, and active involvement in the community programs and projects.
- Visiting photographer, Tom Mezzanote, worked with students in grade 5 to complement our light unit in science.
- Active staff participation in various committees including the following:
 - ◇ SRBI Development
 - ◇ Teacher & Administrator Evaluation Committee
 - ◇ Professional Development Committee
 - ◇ Various Curriculum Development Committees aligned to CCSS

Newington High School

—James Wenker - Principal

2013-2014 Highlights

- In August 2013, NHS Library Media Center was renovated to a state-of-the-art facility designed & equipped to support student learning in the 21st century.
- Three new Academy Programs will open at NHS in 2014-2015. The academies are: Culinary & Hospitality, Finance & Business Management Academy & IT & Digital Innovation Academy. Each academy will have a structured & sequenced work-based learning program that will allow students opportunity to examine future career options. The academy programs also received a \$10,000 AT&T Connecticut grant that will enhance the three academy programs to ensure students to engage in real-life experiences in identified careers. An advisory board comprised of professionals in the career areas will be established to keep the educational level in step with advancing technologies & trends within the career themes.
- A Newington High School senior received two art awards of distinction: National Recognition from Scholastic Art for her Gold Key Portfolio and a Carnegie Hall award.
- NHS Digital Animation and Film Class students won two First Place awards at the Connecticut Student Innovation Expo in the areas of Responsible Design Category and Outstanding Documentary.
- Newington High School Wellness Program offered a new senior elective course in Personal Fitness. This new course served students who were interested in learning more about a healthy lifestyle which included exercise, physical activity and well-being.
- Newington High School participated in the Capital Area Mathematics League—Euler Division and placed 9th overall.
- School Counseling Department achieved RAMP (Recognized ASCA Model Program) certification from the American School Counselor Association for providing NHS students with a comprehensive, data-driven school counseling program.
- Students in the Transition Academy were presented with a volunteer recognition award by Human Services in appreciation for the work they do to support several Human Service community initiatives.

Boards and Commissions

AFFORDABLE HOUSING MONITORING AGENCY

Established by the Town Council in 1991, the Affordable Housing Monitoring Agency is responsible for the preparation, adoption and administration of standards for selecting eligible households to participate in affordable housing programs in Newington.

COMMISSION ON AGING AND DISABLED

The Commission on Aging and Disabled, consisting of nine (9) members, is responsible for monitoring and assessing the needs of seniors and people with disabilities in the community. It also provides policy oversight for the Senior and Disabled Center.

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

Created by State Statute, the Board of Assessment Appeals provides a means to review and revise the taxable values of real estate and personal property established by the Town Assessor. The Board serves as the first level of appeal, and its actions are binding until a successful appeal is taken to the Superior Court. While no fees are charged and representation by legal counsel is not necessary, the taxpayer must appear before the Board.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION/ INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY

The Conservation Commission, comprised of seven (7) regular and three (3) alternate members, is responsible for advising and making recommendations to the Town Manager, Town Council, and other boards and commissions concerning the development and conservation of natural resources, which include water resources within the territorial limits of the Town.

As the Town's designated Inland Wetlands Agency, the Commission is responsible for regulating activities that affect the inland wetlands and watercourses of the Town in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes. As such, the Commission has the power to develop and adopt regulations protecting and preserving inland wetlands and watercourses for Town Council approval. In addition, the Commission is charged with administering the regulations under its authority.

DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

The Development Commission, consisting of nine (9) regular members and three (3) alternate members, is established for the promotion and growth of the development resources of the Town of Newington.

DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE

The Downtown Revitalization Committee was established in June 2008 to oversee grant funding used to revitalize the Town's center. The seven (7) member

Committee is comprised of members of the Town Council, Development Commission and the public.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Board of Education consists of nine (9) members elected at each regular Town election for a term of two years. State Statute charges the Board of Education with maintaining public elementary and secondary schools, implementing the educational interest of the State, and providing such other educational activities as in its judgment best serve the interests of the school district.

EMPLOYEE INSURANCE AND PENSION BENEFITS COMMITTEE

The Employee Insurance and Pension Benefits Committee (EIPBC) is composed of nine (9) regular and two (2) alternate members who oversee all aspects of the health insurance programs and pension benefits for employees. The Committee is appointed by the Town Council and serves to oversee the EIPBC Agent of Record. The Committee determines the needs and develops specifications for the employee insurance and pension benefits program, reviews all submitted insurance proposals, periodically reviews employee insurance benefits, and makes recommendations to the Town Manager and Council.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION

Activities of the Environmental Quality Commission date back to 1986, when the Town Council established the Environmental Quality Committee. In October 1987, the Town Council established (by Ordinance) a permanent commission and outlined its scope of authority. The Commission is charged with addressing issues affecting environmental concerns or the quality of life within the town.

Eleven (11) Commissioners are appointed by the Town Council for two year terms. Representation on the Commission includes members of the Newington Fire Department, Volunteer Ambulance, local industry and the Public. There are also five (5) student liaisons representing the two middle schools and the high school.

BOARD OF ETHICS

The Board of Ethics is comprised of seven (7) regular and two (2) alternate members appointed by the Town Council, including two registered Democrats, two registered Republicans, and three unaffiliated or other party registered voters. The Board (a) has the authority to recommend action pertaining to the Code of Ethics to the Town Council, Town Manager, and Board of Education or the Superintendent of Schools; and (b) establish procedures by which the public may initiate complaints alleging a violation of the Code of Ethics.

Boards and Commissions

FAIR RENT COMMISSION

The Fair Rent Commission is comprised of five (5) regular and three (3) alternate members. It has the authority to make studies and investigations, conduct hearings, and receive written complaints relative to rental charges or proposed increases in rental charges on housing accommodations in Newington.

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Pursuant to an act adopted in 1929, the Board of Fire Commissioners was established to manage and control the Newington Fire Department. The Board, comprised of three (3) elected Commissioners, is responsible for the supervision and care of all Fire Department buildings, equipment, and apparatus.

HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Newington Housing Authority was established in 1973 by the Town Council and charged with the responsibility of providing housing for the Town of Newington's elderly population.

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

The purpose of the Human Rights Commission is to promote mutual understanding and respect among all racial, religious, ethnic, and other groups, and to secure equality of, and opportunity for, all people. The Commission seeks compliance with State and Federal laws regarding discrimination. Complaints regarding discrimination can be filed through the Department of Human Services.

LIBRARY BOARD

The Board of Directors of the Lucy Robbins Welles Library, Newington's public Library, is comprised of twelve (12) directors, six (6) of whom are appointed by the Town Council and six (6) of whom are appointed by the Library corporation. Membership is open to any resident of the Town of Newington. The Library Board is charged with managing the affairs of the Library. The Library's operations are funded by the Town of Newington.

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

The Open Space Committee was established in December 2009 to determine the means to acquire, preserve and protect Cedar Mountain and various other open space parcels throughout the Town. The eleven (11) member Committee is comprised of various members of the Town Council. TPZ, Conservation Commission and the public.

BOARD OF PARKS & RECREATION

The Board of Parks & Recreation consists of eleven (11) members who determine the use of Town parks,

public greens, and other public grounds. The Board also plans and arranges recreational facilities and programs for the Town.

COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY SAFETY

The Committee on Community Safety was formed to determine the needs and potential solutions for ensuring the safety of the community, with consideration to future budgetary requirements. The Committee is comprised of thirteen (13) members, three (3) from the Newington Town Council, two (2) from the Board of Education, one (1) from the Youth-Adult Council, and seven (7) from the public.

STANDING INSURANCE COMMITTEE

The Standing Insurance Committee, comprised of nine (9) regular and two (2) alternate members, is responsible for (a) the determination of needs and specifications for Town insurance; (b) recommendation to the Town Council of the appointment and termination of the Agent of Record; (c) recommendation to the Town Council of a proposed Town insurance program; and (d) the Workers Compensation insurance provided by the Town.

TOWN PLAN AND ZONING COMMISSION

The Newington Town Plan and Zoning Commission (TPZ) is a citizen body of seven (7) regular and three (3) alternate members appointed by the Town Council. The Commission's meetings are normally held on the second and fourth Wednesdays. TPZ members also devote time to serve on the Town Center Study Committee, Open Space Committee, New Britain-Hartford Busway Municipal Advisory Committee, and the Capitol Region Council of Government Planning Commission.

YOUTH-ADULT COUNCIL

The Youth-Adult Council acts as an advisory board to the Human Services Department. Appointed by the Mayor, its purpose is to review youth and family issues and foster community education and support among Town agencies and residents. The school system, community groups, concerned citizens and young people all participate in monthly meetings aimed at sharing information and coordinating services.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

A bipartisan appointed body of five (5) regular and three (3) alternate members, the Zoning Board of Appeals' primary function is to hear applications for variances from the Zoning Regulations in which enforcement of regulations could result in a hardship. The Board also hears cases in which the applicant alleges errors in the Zoning Enforcement Officer's orders.

Summary of Town of Newington



Financial Report 2013-2014

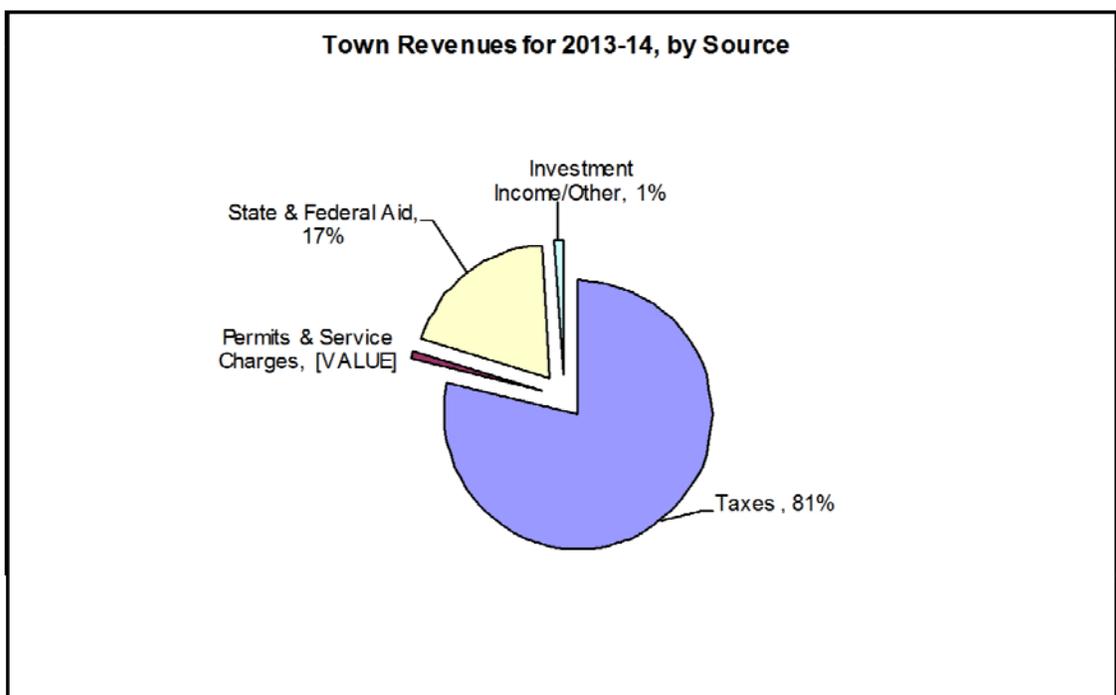
Town Finances FY 2013-2014

- The Town's adopted General Fund budget for 2013-14 totaled \$106,058,696.
- The Mill Rate was 33.63.
- The Town received an upgrade to its credit rating by Standard and Poor's from AA to AA+. The Town benefits from a high credit rating of Aa2 by Moody's Investor Services
- The Town achieved a collection rate of 99.1% on the current levy.
- The Town's bond indebtedness at June 30, 2014 totaled \$8,740,000.
- The Town's actual expenditures were \$102,824,797 and actual revenues totaled \$103,033,955.

The comparative budgetary information, by function and funding source is presented here. A detailed document of the Town's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report is on file in the Town Clerk's office and on the Town's website.

Actual Town Revenues for 2013-14, by Source (\$ thousands)

Source	2012-13	2013-14	\$ Change
Taxes	83,913	85,646	1,733
Permits	402	344	(58)
State & Federal Aid	17,444	17,983	539
Service Charges	574	551	(23)
Investment Income	39	62	23
Other	662	870	208
TOTAL	103,034	105,456	2,422

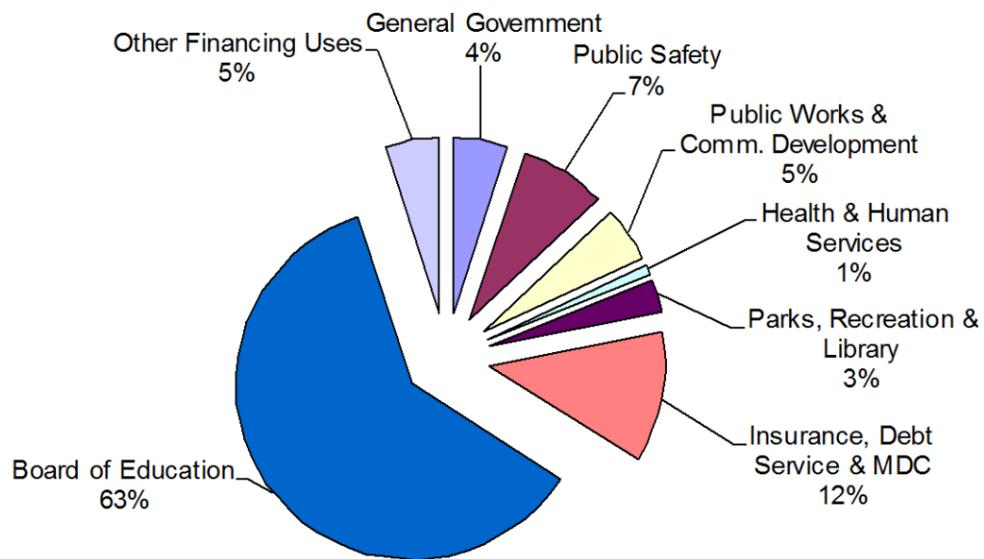


Town Finances FY 2013-2014

Actual Town Expenditures for FY 2013-14, by Function
(\$ thousands)

Function	2012-13	2013-14	\$ Change
General Government	4,298	4,434	136
Public Safety	7,510	7,598	88
Public Works & Comm. Development	4,971	5,215	244
Health & Human Services	1,061	1,119	58
Parks, Recreation & Library	3,143	3,171	28
Insurance, Debt Service & MDC	13,973	12,507	(1,466)
Board of Education	63,347	65,867	2,520
Other Financing Uses	4,522	4,955	433
TOTAL	102,825	104,866	2,041

Town Expenditures for FY 2013-14, By Function



Town Finances FY 2013-2014

Bonds Outstanding June 30, 2014
(in thousands)

Function	Amount
Schools	4,496
General Purpose	4,244
TOTAL	8,740

Schedule of Debt Principal and Interest by Year as of June 30, 2014
(in thousands)

Year Ending June 30	Principal	Interest	Total
2015	1,445	232	1,677
2016	1,040	188	1,228
2017	1,035	157	1,192
2018	1,025	125	1,150
2019	695	91	786
2020-2024	3,315	216	3,531
2025	185	4	189
TOTAL	8,740	1,013	9,753

