

ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020



Town of Newington

Website:
www.newingtonct.gov

Tel: 860-665-8500

Address:
200 Garfield Street
Newington, CT 06111

Town of Newington

Annual Report
2019-2020



Edited by:
Heather Shonty
&
Karen Gallicchio

Town Hall
200 Garfield Street
Newington, CT 06111
www.newingtonct.gov

Table of Contents

About Newington	4
Town Government / Administration	5
Town Council	5
Town Manager	6
Town Clerk	7
Information Technology	8
Registrar of Voters	8
Facilities Management	9
Finance Department	10-12
Assessor	10-12
Revenue Collector	12
Community Services	13
Human Services	13
Library	14
Senior and Disabled Center	15
Parks and Recreation	16-18
Parks and Grounds Division	17-18
Community Planning and Development	19
Building Department	19
Town Planner	20
Public Works	21
Engineering	21
Highway Department	22
Information	23-24
Public Safety	25
Newington Police Department	25
Fire Marshal	26
Newington Volunteer Fire Department	27
Newington Public Schools	28-31
Boards and Commissions	32-33
Town Finances	34-37

About 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 2019-2020 was 39.45. The mill rate is applied to the Grand List of fair market value. All commercial and residential properties were revaluated in 2020.

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 settlers 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

Beth DelBuono, 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.



Mayor
Beth DelBuono



Minority Leader
Carol Anest



Majority Leader
Tim Manke



Councilor
Sharon Braverman



Deputy Mayor
Gail Budrejko



Councilor
Michael Camillo



Councilor
John Donahue



Councilor
Chris Milner



Councilor
David Nagel

2019-2020 Budget

On April 16, 2019, the Town Council Adopted the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget as follows:

- Total appropriations: \$123,706,166.
- Mill Rate: 39.45 mills.
- Approved the Town of Newington Long Range Capital Improvement Plan 2019-2020 through 2023-2024.

2020-2021 Budget

On May 19, 2020, the Town Council Adopted the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget as follows:

- Total appropriations: \$125,716,341.
- Mill Rate: 39.28 mills.
- Approved the Town of Newington Long Range Capital Improvement Plan 2020-2021 through 2024-2025.

Duties of the Council on the budget are pursuant to sections C-805 and C-806 of the Town Charter.

Town Council meeting schedules, agendas and related materials, minutes and rules of procedure are available on the Town website:

www.newingtonct.gov

2019-2020 Highlights

- Awarded 2019-2020 Teacher of the Year to Mrs. Stacey Michaud, Special Education Teacher at John Paterson Elementary School.
- Selected Fernando G. Rosa as the 2019 Town of Newington Volunteer of the Year.
- Approved a contract with Owens Realty Services for the performance of a Town-wide Facilities Assessment Report covering all Town and School Buildings, to include all Park Facilities and Structures.
- Appointed Keith Chapman as Town Manager in January 2019.
- Adopted an additional option for property tax relief for residential property of the elderly, permanently and totally disabled.
- Honored several former Town employees in their retirement.
- Made numerous appointments to various boards, commissions and committees.

Newington Administration

Town Manager

Keith Chapman, 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 all Town operations. The Town Manager also serves as the local Traffic Authority, Public Safety Director, and appoints the Local Emergency Planning Coordinator.

2019-2020 Highlights

- Devoted many hours to the Town Hall/Community Center building project, special meetings with Town Hall Renovations Project Building Committee and regular meetings with QAM Architect and Downes Construction Company.
- Filed a Declaration of Civil Preparedness Emergency with the state of Connecticut in response to the COVID-19 outbreak.
- Delivered Town Manager's annual State of the Town Address with Mayor DelBuono on May 20, 2020.
- Introduced light energy efficiencies and met with experts in the solar industry to discuss solar panels for Town and Board of Education facilities.
- Relocated radio equipment to improve the overall communications in Town, in a highly secured location.
- Met with Administration from the Board of Education to discuss conditions of the Anna Reynolds School Building. This building will be included in the facilities assessment.
- Advertised, interviewed applicants and made hiring decisions for all open full-time positions in the Town and Police Department.
- Attended Town Councils' goal setting sessions for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.
- Created an Economic Development team with internal staff to represent the Town of Newington.
- Met monthly with the Public Works team. Implemented weekly Department Head leadership meetings; some topics include management techniques, problem solving and out-of-the-box thinking.
- Met with various residents and constituencies to dialogue about their concerns.
- Worked with staff on enforcement of various blighted properties.
- Met with staff, department heads and union representatives on an as needed basis to address and resolve employee concerns and personnel issues.

Employee Anniversaries

35 Years

- Todd Breton - Facilities

30 Years

- Jim Wells - Highway

25 Years

- Paul Boutot - Information Technology
- William Jameson - Police
- Karen Gagliardi - Human Services
- Zenon Szahaj - Highway
- Gary Williams - Highway

20 Years

- Suzanne Renewicz - Fire
- Sherri Leghorn - Police
- Jason Saccente - Police
- Kathleen Kelliher - Police

15 Years

- Meghan Kennedy - Police
- Jamie DeSimone - Police
- Jeffrey Wagner - Police
- Timothy Cunningham - Police

10 Years

- Cindy Roberts-Diaz - Town Planner
- Elizabeth Kapij - Library

5 Years

- Jennifer Rose Hebert - Library
- Beth Mendelsohn - Library
- Dean Corriveau - Police
- Alan Tancreti - Police

Newington Administration

Town Clerk

James E. Krupiensi, 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, search and retrieval of all Land Records, Veterans' Discharges, Trade Names and Vital Statistics, maintaining the agenda notices and minutes of Town Council and various other boards and commissions, as well as tracking membership and terms for all board and commission members, preparing the election ballot layout and issuing absentee ballots for all elections, keeping abreast of all legislation affecting municipalities (over 600 Statutes are administered through the department), responding to and researching numerous public inquiries, updating the Code of Ordinance, issuing various licenses and permits, and maintaining financial records disclosing fees collected for the Town and the State.

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

2019-2020 Highlights

- The Municipal Election was held on November 5, 2019, for which the office issued 361 Absentee Ballots.
- A Presidential Preference Primary was scheduled for April 28, 2020; but due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, it was postponed to August 11, 2020.
- Received a \$7,500 FY 2020 Historic Preservation Grant from the State Library to begin the removal and replacement of Compact Binders to Champ Binder covers, allowing for easy access and copying of Land Record pages.
- The Town Clerk's office took on the added duty, beginning in April of 2020, of managing the transition of all Boards and Commissions to a Virtual meeting format through the use of Zoom meeting software. This had the added benefit of a Government YouTube page being created for public access to all meetings of the Town.

2020-2021 Goals

- Continue cross-training of staff for continuity of knowledge during training sessions, absences or vacations.
- Continue re-indexing project for all recorded maps to ensure all relevant information is available for Attorneys, Title Searchers, the public and staff within the Land Records' system.
- Implement a bi-annual public record shredding event for town residents to decrease solid waste removal costs within the town.
- Application for a FY 2021 Historic Preservation Grant from the State Library to continue the removal and replacement of Compact Binders to Champ Binder covers, allowing for easy access and copying of Land Record pages.

Town Clerk Statistical Summary 2019-2020

<u>LAND RECORDS</u>	<u>2019-2020</u>	<u>2018-2019</u>
Documents	4,752	4,584
Maps	21	13
<u>VITAL STATISTICS</u>		
Births	254	279
Marriages	195	188
Deaths	431	372
<u>LICENSES</u>		
Sporting	132	245
Dog	1807	2,226
Kennel	1	1
<u>MISCELLANEOUS</u>		
Veterans' Discharges	29	34
Trade Name Certificates	49	77
Liquor Permits	37	56
<u>RECEIPTS – TOWN</u>		
Recording Fees	\$153,460.00	\$125,343.00
Conveyance Tax	\$346,984.20	\$274,399.24
Document Preservation	\$15,845.00	\$14,115.00
Vital Statistics	\$38,112.00	\$34,884.00
Dog Licenses	\$1,793.50	\$2,231.00
Sporting Licenses	\$96.00	\$198.00
Copy Fees	\$23,014.00	\$23,556.50
Miscellaneous	\$4,357.00	\$5,396.00
TOTAL GEN. FUND	\$583,661.70	\$480,122.74
<u>RECEIPTS – STATE</u>		
Document Preservation	\$24,560.00	\$26,200.00
Dog License Surcharge	\$4,164.00	\$5,068.00
Dog Licenses	\$11,039.00	\$13,793.00
Sporting Licenses	\$2,168.00	\$4,096.00
Marriage Surcharge	\$3,468.00	\$2,516.00
State Treasurer	\$253,213.00	\$203,147.00
LoCIP	\$9,159.00	\$9,669.00
TOTAL STATE	\$307,771.00	\$264,489.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$891,432.70	\$744,611.74

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 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.

2019-2020 Highlights

- Supervised the layout, setup and installation of new fiber optic pathways between the Police Department, Senior and Disabled Center, Library and new Town Hall.
- Supervised the installation of new fiber optic cabling between the Police Department, Senior and Disabled Center, Library, Board of Education and new Town Hall
- Migration of 1st generation hyper-converged network infrastructure (HCI) to 2nd generation HCI equipment in both data center locations

- Ordering, setup and deployment of new core networking components to support parallel operations of existing telephony/data networks and migration to new Town Hall networks
- Coordinating all fiber optic and telephony service changes and re-routes to coincide with move from old Town Hall to new Town Hall building
- Coordinating the design and deployment of new wireless network infrastructure in the new Town Hall
- Coordinating the selection of vendors, design and installation of audio/visual packages, door access controls, CCTV security cameras and public address systems in the new Town Hall and Community Center

2020-2021 Goals

- Ensure the smooth migration of telephony and data network infrastructure from the old Town Hall to new Town Hall facility
- Ensure the clean transfer of mission essential services (E911, telephony & data services) during the move to new Town Hall
- Work with town departments to help identify areas where technology can assist them in reaching their goals and objectives for internal and external purposes
- Monitor regional, state and federal opportunities that could benefit the Town of Newington.

Registrar of Voters

Theresa NC Avey (R) • Marie M 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.

Elections Administrator-Registrar of Voters:

- Register & remove all electors, update felony convictions and releases, death records included, and oversee all election materials, which updates the registry and voter files on a daily basis.
- Conduct the State-mandated annual voter registration canvass by NCOA, (National Change of Address), and the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC) in conjunction with 14 other States to update our registry lists.
- 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. Moderators by unfunded mandate must have certification every four years.
- Oversee the central counting of absentee ballots on Election Day.
- Determine that all eight polling places are handicapped accessible, meeting the requirements of the 2002 Help America Vote Act (HAVA) including supervising EDR (Election Day Registration) at Town Hall.
- Oversee the general maintenance of the 18 town-owned voting tabulators, 10 handicapped voting machines, telephones and all related equipment required at each polling place on Election Day including EDR.

- Conduct mandatory supervised absentee balloting at all six institutions.
- Hold mandated and special voter registration sessions.

2019-2020 Highlights

- There were 19,422 registered voters as of November 5, 2019.
- Turnout for Election Day Registration was 4 new electors.
- Voter turnout for the November 5, 2019 Municipal Election was 37.66%.

2020-2021 Goals

- Continue to update our technology of voting and new equipment.
- Establish updated education and training procedures for all election officials.
- Lower the cost of running an election by redistricting with the Census 2020.

Polling Places (all handicapped accessible)

District 1: Town Hall, 131 Cedar Street
District 2: Ruth L. Chaffee School, 160 Superior Avenue
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 Paterson School, 120 Church Street
District 7: Martin Kellogg Middle School, 155 Harding Avenue
District 8: John Wallace Middle School, 71 Halleran Drive
EDR: (Election Day Registration): Town Hall, 131 Cedar St.

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 and maintenance of the major building components such as heating and 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.

2019-2020 Achievements

Library

- Installed LED interior lights
- Coordinated energy credit and interest free loan for LED light improvements
- Installed new roof at east end
- Assessed roof for replacement/repairs

Fire Department:

- Resurfaced FH#4 parking lot

Police Department:

- Installed LED interior lights
- Coordinated energy credit and interest free loan for LED light improvements
- Provided engineering support for Tower on Russell Road

Town Hall:

- Assisted w/accepting/commissioning new building
- Coordinated rebate with Eversource for new construction
- Prepared plan for improving Garfield Street Parking Lot

Senior Center:

- Installed LED interior lights
- Coordinated energy credit and interest free loan for LED light improvements
- Installed chiller and 5 RTU
- Coordinated rebate with Eversource for new equipment
- Removed stumps and abandoned concrete slab
- Installed irrigation system
- Installed irrigation and fiber optic conduit
- Installed new LED parking lot lighting system
- Installed new sidewalks and resurfaced pavement
- Installed new timber guiderail and dumpster pad with PVC enclosure

Churchill Park:

- Coordinated structural repairs
- Assessed condition of corroded steel columns
- Installed temporary structural support
- Removed corroded steel columns that collapsed
- Installed new steel columns
- Assessed leaking pools

Mill Pond Park:

- Assessed leaking pool
- Coordinated MDC sewer lateral emergency repair

Clem Lemire Park:

- Prepared plans for Fit Lot and play scape
- Oversaw light tower foundation design and construction for Legends Field

Emmanuel Fields:

- Prepared engineering plan and coordinated electric power for irrigation system.

2020-2021 Goals

To operate and maintain facilities throughout the Town.

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	860-785-8380
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

Janet Murphy, 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 administer the Town budget, handle the daily Treasury operations and manage 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.

2019-2020 Highlights

Accounting and Administration

- For the thirtieth consecutive year, the Town was awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for fiscal year 2018-2019. The Town received this national recognition for its financial report by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States & Canada.
- The Town went out for the second bonding for the new Town Hall/Community Center project in May and achieved a historically low true interest rate of 1.88 due to market conditions and Standard & Poor's reaffirmation of our high credit rating of AA+.
- The Town of Newington's outstanding bonded debt at June 30th 2020 was \$26,360,000, an increase of \$13.9 million from the prior year.
- Analysis for the Town Hall/Community Center project continued throughout the year along with the final official statement for bonding.
- Town updated its future debt plan with the assistance of the Town's financial advisor Matthew A. Spoerndle, Senior Managing Director of Phoenix Advisors, LLC.
- As we prepared for moving into our new office space, all stored items in our office were reviewed and cleaned out if not included in the move. Also, prior to COVID-19, we had started to prepare for a program to scan our Accounts Payable information into Munis to save on file space.
- The Town of Newington submitted an application to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Management & Homeland Security for reimbursement from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for estimated costs in the amount of \$51,354 associated with COVID-19 containment cost incurred from March to June, 2020.

Assessor

-Steven Kosofsky

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 October 1, 2015, which was the date of the last 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.

2019-2020 Department Achievements

- Agreed to a contract with eQuality Valuations to perform the October 1, 2020 revaluation.
- Provided professional service to general public and taxpayers.
- Completed October 1, 2019 Grand List on time as required by law.
- Sent out 500 Income and Expense forms to owners of commercial properties.
- Processed over 1,450 business personal property declarations.

Department Goals FY 2020-2021

- Complete the October 1, 2020 revaluation of all real property in the Town of Newington.
- Continue to 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.

Finance Department

The month of January 2020 was spent by all staff members finalizing the October 1, 2019 Grand List which was formally signed in front of the Town Clerk on January 31, 2020. The final totals for the Grand List are shown below:

2019 NET GRAND LIST				
CATEGORY	2018 Grand List	2019 Grand List	Dollar Change	% Change
Real Estate	2,253,289,510	2,256,364,870	3,075,360	.14%
Personal Property	154,804,410	163,382,550	8,578,140	5.54%
Motor Vehicle	<u>232,481,010</u>	<u>237,501,404</u>	<u>5,020,394</u>	<u>2.16%</u>
Total	\$2,640,574,930	\$2,657,248,824	\$16,673,894	0.63%

TAX EXEMPT: \$396,956,650 \$402,117,470 \$5,160,820 1.30%

PERSONAL PROPERTY EXEMPTIONS				
	2018 Grand List	2019 Grand List	Dollar Change	% Change
Mfg. Exemption	87,455,520	97,322,410	9,866,890	11.28%
Solar Exemption	3,897,520	3,969,360	71,840	1.84%
Other Exemption	<u>8,014,380</u>	<u>7,393,870</u>	<u>-620,510</u>	<u>-7.74%</u>
Total	\$99,367,420	108,685,640	\$9,318,220	9.38%

At the current mill rate, the total amount of personal property exemptions of 108,685,640 equates to **\$4,287,648** of tax dollars being redistributed to real estate, motor vehicle and other personal property taxpayers.

COMMENTARY ON THE OCTOBER 1, 2019 GRAND LIST

The October 1, 2019 Net Grand List for the Town of Newington totals \$2,657,248,824 which is an increase of \$16,673,894 or 0.63% from the 2018 Grand List total. At the present mill rate of 39.45, this increase would generate an additional **\$657,785** in new tax revenue. This increase is primarily attributable to a significant increase in the business Personal Property section of the Grand List which increased \$8,578,140. These totals are subject to further adjustments by the Board of Assessment Appeals, and any future court cases.

The **Real Estate** section of the 2019 Grand List totals \$2,256,364,870 which is an increase of \$3,075,360 or .14% more than the 2018 Grand List. This increase was attributable to the completion of several new buildings in town including the new O'Reilly's Auto Parts Store at 3443 Berlin Turnpike, the Chick-Fil-A fast food restaurant at 3240 Berlin Turnpike and the Goddard School day care center at 320 Alumni Road. Grand List growth continues to be extremely sluggish due to the absence of any significant economic development projects for the second year in a row.

The **Personal Property** section of the 2019 Grand List totals \$163,382,550 which is an increase of \$8,578,140 or 5.54% over the 2018 Grand List. The gross increase was actually \$17,896,360 or 7.04%; however, this was reduced by an increase of \$9,866,890 or 11.28% in the non-reimbursable State Manufacturing Machinery and Equipment exemption. Significant investment in personal property by Eversource, Edac Technologies, Compu-Data LLC, Stop & Shop Supermarkets, as well as the continuation of future benefits realized as a result of our highly successful audit program were the major sources of the increase in the Personal Property section of the Grand List. Additionally, this increase was despite a large decrease in personal property of over \$7,200,000 located at the United Technology Corporation facility off of Fenn Road.

The **Motor Vehicle** section of the 2019 Grand List totals \$237,501,404 which is an increase of \$5,020,394 or 2.16% over the 2018 Grand List. Although the total number of motor vehicles being assessed was slightly less than last year (-294), the average assessment of the vehicles on the list this year increased from \$8,075 to \$8,324 to reflect the increase in the cost of newer vehicles.

The **Tax Exempt** portion of the 2019 Grand List totals \$402,117,470 and continues to increase as a percentage of the total Grand List to 15.09% up from 14.94% from last year.

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 & 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

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 and other information available from the tax records.

Taxes on Current Levy	\$102,809,072.16
Taxes on Motor Vehicle Supplemental List	1,208,962.24
Taxes on Prior Years' Lists	1,017,774.17
Interest, Liens and Other Fees	512,375.49
Taxes on Advanced Collection 2019 GL	33,231.11
Taxes and Fees Collected	105,581,415.17
Collection Rate on Current Levy	99.3%

2019 GRAND LIST

RANK		TAXPAYER	MAJOR TENANTS	ASSESSMENTS		
2018	2019			GROSS	EXEMPTION	NET
1	1	CL&P/EVERSOURCE	PUBLIC UTILITY PERSONAL PROPERTY	\$54,563,310	\$0	\$54,153,310
2	2	MANDELL PROPERTIES	DATA MAIL & SUBSIDIARIES (HARTFORD AVE)	\$25,786,750	\$16,429,280	\$9,357,470
3	3	IREIT NEWINGTON FAIR	SAM'S CLUB & LA FITNESS (BERLIN TPK)	\$21,509,790	\$0	\$21,509,790
4	4	NEWINGTON VF LLC	WALMART & STAPLES PLAZA (BERLIN TPK)	\$20,300,000	\$0	\$20,300,000
5	5	NEWINGTON GROSS LLC	STEW LEONARDS PLAZA (BERLIN TPK)	\$19,462,690	\$0	\$19,462,690
6	6	GKN AEROSPACE NEWINGTON	AEROSPACE MFG (LOUIS ST)	\$19,259,810	\$15,636,240	\$3,623,570
7	7	TLG NEWINGTON LLC	STOP & SHOP & JOEY GARLIC PLAZA	\$18,315,500	\$0	\$18,315,500
8	8	BRIXMOR GA TURNPIKE PLAZA	DICK'S SPORTING GOODS & PRICE CHOPPER PLAZA	\$17,850,000	\$0	\$17,850,000
9	9	HAYES KAUFMAN NEWINGTON	STOP & SHOP (FENN RD) & STARBUCKS PLAZA & CVS	\$13,724,370	\$0	\$13,724,370
10	10	SCELZA/CAMBRIDGE/BALDWIN	LANDMARK & CAMBRIDGE APARTMENTS	\$13,069,520	\$0	\$13,069,520
11	11	RENO PROPERTIES & SUBS	MFG & REAL ESTATE HOLDINGS	\$12,368,030	\$2,739,700	\$9,628,330
18	12	BALF/TILCON	MINERAL QUARRY (HARTFORD AVE)	\$11,786,250	\$2,423,260	\$9,362,990
13	13	TARGET CORPORATION	RETAIL BOX (BERLIN TPK)	\$11,419,550	\$0	\$11,419,550
12	14	LOWES HOME CENTERS	RETAIL BOX (BERLIN TPK)	\$11,037,360	\$0	\$11,037,360
14	15	FURNITURE EXECUTIVES NO 4 LP	RETAIL BOX (BERLIN TPK)	\$9,845,280	\$0	\$9,845,280
19	16	CONNECTICUT NATURAL GAS	PUBLIC UTILITY PERSONAL PROPERTY	\$9,300,120	\$0	\$9,300,120
17	17	SHELBOURNE NEWINGTON LLC	REAL ESTATE HOLDINGS (FORMER FAFNIR BLDG)	\$9,207,210	\$0	\$9,207,210
16	18	BRE SELECT HOTELS PROPERTIES	COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT (SOUTHEAST RD)	\$9,201,490	\$0	\$9,201,490
15	19	SAPUTO DAIRY FOODS USA	DAIRY PRODUCTS MFG (MILK LANE)	\$8,409,200	\$7,706,310	\$702,890
20	20	COHEN FAMILY PROPERTIES	GLOUCESTER & SALEM VILLAGE APARTMENTS	\$6,855,000	\$0	\$6,855,000
21	21	BERLIN NEWINGTON ASSOC	PARTY CITY/TGIF PLAZA (BERLIN TPK)	\$6,650,000	\$0	\$6,650,000
22	22	GRISWOLD HILLS OF NEWINGTON	GRISWOLD HILL APARTMENTS	\$6,491,590	\$0	\$6,491,590
23	23	FENNWOODE DEVELOPMENT LLC	FENNWOODE APARTMENTS	\$6,300,720	\$0	\$6,300,720
25	24	CERES NEWINGTON ASSOC	JOANN'S / BIG LOTS PLAZA (BERLIN TPK)	\$5,250,000	\$0	\$5,250,000
24	25	UNITED TECHNOLOGIES CORP	INFORMATION TECH CENTER (HOLLY LN)	\$4,325,490	\$0	\$4,325,490
				\$352,289,030	\$44,934,790	\$306,944,240
						11.55%

Newington Community Services

Human Services

Carol LaBrecque, 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.

2019-20 Significant Achievements

- This was a year of challenges with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020. This required a total revision of the methods and protocols for safe delivery of all services. All social work services: financial case management and clinical therapy were provided via phone or zoom. Youth programs were suspended in the spring of 2020, and we were able to offer small group programs starting in the summer and throughout the fall. The food bank distribution methods were totally modified to offer a no-contact pick-up and delivery of pre-packed food. This was much more labor intensive, and we had many new volunteers step to the plate to assist in providing these much needed services. The Senior & Disabled Center graciously contributed to this program by having the dial-a-ride drivers deliver food. The spirit of Newington was seen as the community responded generously—supporting our programs by making financial & food donations. Staff are to be commended as they continued to provide quality services while dealing with the instability of an unprecedented pandemic. They worked as a team to support resident's and each other's anxiety around a constantly changing crisis.

2020-2021 Goals

- Resolve space issues in the new food bank area: freezer capacity/venting, fans in front storage & sorting room, counter for sorting, etc. Hopefully: transition after COVID-19 into client food selection as was the original plan. Secure space for administration of holiday food and gift program in November and December—plan (as building was being planned) was originally to use Community Center Space—need to confirm availability of this space as a town resource.
- Provide additional outreach for casework services so that residents are aware of these services: via Talk to the Mayor & NCTV coverage, web page & social media.
- Enhance youth development and prevention programs, expanding the use of virtual programming which may continue to be necessary as this pandemic plays out.

- Enhance our web page, insuring that frequently needed information is easily accessible and updated frequently. This appears to be an even more needed resource when so many of our services are offered virtually and the town hall being temporarily closed to the public as a result of the pandemic.
- To explore new ways to provide mental health wellness presentations for all populations and outreach establishing connections with those in need of clinical services. We can provide a warm hand off to treatment and/or provide counseling to youth and family situations.
- Fill vacancies on Commissions.

Boards, Commissions, Committees, ADA, EAP Director of Human Services provides staff support for the Youth-Adult Council, Fair Rent and Human Rights Commissions. The Director also acts as the Town's Coordinator for the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), and Employee Assistance Program (EAP).

ANNUAL STATISTICS

	2018-2019	2019-2020
Youth & Family Counseling Avg. Monthly Y & F Cases	173 Cumulative Cases 14 Households	148 Cumulative Cases 12 Households
Youth & Family Service Hrs. Total Casework Cases	645.75 Annual 866 Cumulative Cases	423.5 Hours 889 Cumulative Cases
Avg. Monthly Casework Cases	72 Households	74 Households
Casework Service Hours	1,385.5 Hours	1,388 Hours
Special Needs Food Bank Open Air Market Clothing Closet (closed 9-2018)	107 Cases 1,697 Visits; 7,559 Bags 1,619 Visits 60 Visits; 76 Bags	132 Cases 1,706 Visits; 9,223 Bags 1,390 Visits Clothing Closet Ended
Holiday Foods, Gifts Operation Fuel Applications	444 HH; 929 Individuals 64 HH; \$26,898.92 Grants	391 HH; 788 Individuals 70 HH; \$30,000 Grants
Positive Youth Development	2,582 Program Registrations	1,162 Program Registrations
Juvenile Review Board Information and Referral Educational/Training Participants	17 Cases 7,996 Requests 685 Participants	9 Cases 7,865 Requests 375 Participants



"A Helping hand for all ages."

Lucy Robbins Welles Library

Lisa Masten, Director

The Library continued to work towards its mission of providing informational, cultural and entertainment excellence to its community through our traditional services like the circulation of materials, story times and information assistance to the evolving Library services of today which includes technology assistance, a more diverse digital collection and circulation of non-traditional materials like Wi-Fi hotspots and tablets.

This past year 8,356 people visited the Library (only open 2 full months). We circulated 156,393 items and the reference staff answered 40,130 questions. Additionally, there were 15,966 curbside pickups.

2019-2020 Highlights

The library concluded its 80th Anniversary Celebration Series at the end of 2019 with a holiday concert by *Whisky Tango Foxtrot*. The series was funded by the Library Board of Trustees Legacy Society and George G. Hanel Fine Arts Series. The John & Adella Sliva Young People's Literary Series, another endowment to the board, sponsored children's author Tami Charles, who spoke to all 3rd & 4th graders at the high school. The Friends of the Library had another successful fall book sale and its most successful yet *Winterfest- Wine & Beer Tasting Event* that was held to a sold-out crowd in late January 2020. The Friends and the Trustees also collaborated on the new Dining Partner Program introduced in January 2020 that offered dining tickets to library patrons at selected programs that could be used for special discounts at local restaurants who had made donations to the library.

Library staff continued promoting outreach opportunities and collaboration with the Newington Schools and other town organizations. Weekly visits to pre-schools and daycares, regular school visits, monthly school book talks, work with the Transitional Academy and Buckingham Services and monthly visits to the senior living facilities were some of the ways the staff worked in the community.

Library programming and services evolved and changed to meet the needs of the community. More hands-on technology classes and one-on-one-tech support programs were offered. Programming for children, teens and adults promoted literacy, creativity and cultural enrichment. Many times, the biggest challenge with many programs was the lack of space for the size of the audience. Staff continued to build a strong collection of print and digital materials that supported learning, the love of reading and entertainment.

By the end of February, the library was where it should have been with usage. At this point, 658 programs were offered to 21,380 patrons of all ages. More than 116,260 people had entered the building and over 206,000 items had been checked out. Meeting room use had already exceeded last year's numbers. Staff had already answered more than 41,000 reference questions. The biggest concern we thought we would have for the year was the construction of the new Town Hall and the impact on access to the library and parking. Having anticipated this, staff was creative with times and locations of programs; and despite some inconveniences, patrons still used the library.

However, on March 9, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, everything changed. The library closed its doors to the public on the 16th. Services changed to staff assistance by phone and email and access to a digital collection only. Staff never stopped working and began to figure out how to serve the public safely with the restrictions that were in place. All planning for spring and summer changed on a dime. Money was reallocated to increase the digital collection and online and streaming services. We saw a 107% increase in eBook use and a 139% increase in streaming services. Temporary cards were offered online to access these services. Staff learned how to use Zoom and record and edit videos to offer virtual programming. Grab & Go Kits, Storywalk Boards in the park and Virtual Tech Help are examples of alternative programming ideas. Staff worked with the schools to support its remote learning, purchasing additional digital materials for students and creating webpages that offered supplemental learning sites and things to do from home for all ages.

Fundraising for the library was also severely impacted. The Friends' annual spring book sale was cancelled. The Library Board's annual road race was cancelled. Both organizations had to completely revamp how they raised money for the library.

While the library remained closed during the spring, summer and into the fall, staff was preparing the building to reopen and looking to offer additional services when possible. The library curbside service resumed in June, offering patrons access to the physical collection once again. New carpet was installed in the children's department. An area in the children's department was also refurbished with funds from the 2019 library road race, new energy efficient lighting was mounted throughout the building, and the installation of tempered glass at all service desks was completed. Staff schedules and workspaces were modified to address social distancing and numbers in the building. Moving forward, the plan is to safely reopen the building with the hopes to add more in-person services when possible. Curbside pickup will continue and staff will be offering virtual programming for the foreseeable future. The big goal is to monitor, adjust and think outside of the box to offer the best service possible while the pandemic is still a part of our everyday lives.

Statistical Summary 2019-2020

Items Circulated	227,805
Total Downloads	36,836
Downloads: eBooks & Book Views	18,419
Downloads: Audiobooks	9,703
Downloads: Magazines	2,597
Downloads: Music & Streaming	773
Video streaming	5,344
Museum Pass usage	1,242
Online database usage	23,010
Total # cardholders	10,572
Patron count	116,259
Reference questions answered	43,003
Children's Programs	513
Children's Attendance	17,094
Teen Programs	43
Teen Attendance	2,060
Adult Programs	148
Adult Attendance	3,774
Items added	23,649
Items deleted	16,541
Meeting Rooms' usage	758
Study Room usage	2,878
Homepage visits	101,725
Library holdings-physical & digital	265,975
Volunteer hours	748
Books mended	567
AV repairs	897

Senior and Disabled Center

Dianne Stone, Director

Open to all persons aged 55 and older and adults with disabilities; the Center identifies eight dimensions of well-being which are integral to the program planning process. All programs are planned with the intent to improve participants' physical, social, environmental, financial, spiritual, purpose, emotional or intellectual well-being by providing information, opportunities and assistance in a social setting. These 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.

2019-2020 Highlights

- The mission of the Center, to improve well-being, was consistent throughout the year but the approach took a drastic turn in March. With eight months of programs, services and activities provided by staff and 90+ volunteers to thousands of visitors a month coming to a complete stop on March 13, 2020, the Center staff regrouped and reimagined, transitioned some programs and established new ones to reach members of the community most impacted by the pandemic.
- The Center developed several new programs in March including: a volunteer grocery shopping program, telephone bingo, virtual programs, weekly robocalls. The Center also transitioned existing programs including: weekly grab and go meal distribution (in lieu of congregate lunch), virtual Aging Mastery and Tai Ji Quan, a virtual Volunteer Dinner and Dial-A-Ride delivery services.
- The Center held many new or special programs throughout the year. Some of the successful programs included arts/crafts series, drumming, trivia contests, history classes, art and mindfulness classes, healthy cooking demos, and discussions on various health and consumer protection topics, as well as veterans' coffee hours. Many of these programs were offered in partnership with area organizations and featured expert speakers.
- The Center was selected to participate in a special initiative with the National Council on Aging to provide awareness, training and access to ridesharing as a transportation option. Over several months, the Center successfully enrolled more than 150 participants in the project.
- The Center is a founding member of the CT Healthy Living Collective and, through that, offers multi-week evidence-based programs in spring and fall semesters at no cost to participants and enrolled more than 150 people. These programs include the Aging Mastery Program and Tai Ji Quan: Moving for Better Balance, both funded by Anthem Foundation and Older Americans Act respectively. Other evidence-based programs include A Matter of Balance, Live Well and Live Well Diabetes and Powerful Tools for Caregivers. The CHLC is also the home of the LGBT Moveable Senior Center which Newington is also a founding member.
- Other regularly scheduled programs include a comprehensive continuum including various exercise and fitness classes for all abilities, games and movies, arts and crafts, woodshop, bingo, tech help and more. The Center's Wellness Clinic offers an APRN on site each Monday as well as foot care clinics, dental cleanings coordinated by CCHD and funded by the Older American's Act, blood pressure checks coordinated by Berlin VNA, low-cost massage therapy and more.

- The Center is fortunate to have a dedicated roster of more than 90 volunteers who recorded almost 6,000 hours of service. This includes several self-directed teams of volunteers including the Gift Shop, Coffee Shop, Trips and Travel and the Giving Garden.
- Received assistance through sponsorship, in kind donation of goods or services or direct assistance from more than 40 different businesses and agencies including several long-term care facilities, health care agencies and town businesses.
- Through the Information and Referral Center, more than a thousand residents got assistance with supportive programs including Energy Assistance, Renter's Rebate, Medicare Part D, Meals on Wheels, Tax preparation, the Medicare Savings Program (MSP) and case management.
- The Center provides a congregate lunch program Monday – Friday serving 50-70 people each day in person, transitioning to a grab and go meal in March. In addition, approximately 40-50 residents receive home-delivered meals each day through the Meals on Wheels program. These deliveries were made by volunteers until March when Dial-A-Ride and Center staff took over.
- Held several annual events including a very successful Expo, a Veterans Luncheon, a holiday party, the annual Safety Picnic, an ice cream social, and an end of summer pool party. The annual Senior Prom was cancelled. The Center held the annual Volunteer Recognition dinner with a chicken dinner delivered to volunteers and a live program on NCTV.
- Dial-A-Ride provided 7,302 trips covering 24,694 miles and was used by 183 people. Effective March, only non-urgent medical transportation was provided and the number of passengers served dropped dramatically. With deliveries (meals on wheels, grab and go lunches, food pantry, groceries and program supplies) added to their schedules, drivers were making almost the same number of stops on average as pre-pandemic.
- Center Director Dianne Stone has been actively involved in representing municipal aging services including service on the State Commission on Women, Children and Seniors, and a leadership role with the CT Healthy Living Collective. Additionally, Ms. Stone continued to serve on the Medical Assistance Program Oversight Committee (MAPOC). Additionally, Ms. Stone was elected President of the Connecticut Association of Senior Center Personnel (CASCAP) and Program Coordinator Jaime Trevethan was re-elected Vice President.
- Each month there are 200+ participation opportunities at the Center with some daily, some weekly, some once a month and some one time only. The total recorded attendance for the year was more than 27,141 by more than 873 different people.
- The Senior and Disabled Center has an annual membership, and that peaked at just over 1,500 by the end of the year.

2020-2021 Goals

- Continue to assess and respond to the changing needs of older adults and people with disabilities in the community.
- Continue efforts to strengthen community engagement to support aging in place.
- Build on the professional services of the Center
- Develop programs and services that improve wellbeing with measurable goals and evaluation.

Parks & Recreation

William DeMaio, Superintendent

The Parks & Recreation Department is comprised of three divisions: Recreation, Parks & Grounds, and Cemeteries. Together, they provide comprehensive 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 Parks and Recreation Department offers a wide variety of recreational programs, special events, sports leagues, facility rentals (Churchill and Mill Pond Park pavilions as well as the Mortensen Community Center and the Kellogg Eddy House), and leisure opportunities for all ages. The Town operates outdoor swimming pools at Mill Pond Park and Churchill Park. Indoor swimming is available at Newington High School during the fall, winter, and spring. Tennis enthusiasts can find one court at Churchill Park and nine courts at Newington High School, along with four clay and four Har-Tru tennis courts located at Mill Pond Park. For those interested in the sport of pickleball, there are two courts at Churchill Park. Golfers can enjoy the beauty of the landscape at the town-owned, but privately operated, 18-hole Indian Hill Country Club. The Town is blessed with trails located on Cedar Mountain, behind Deming-Young Farm, and at Churchill Park. The Department offers 110 community garden plots at Deming-Young Farm with fertile farm soil for those who love gardening. Clem Lemire Recreation Complex received several renovations this year. A handicapped accessible pavilion was added to the newly renovated skatepark. In addition, a brand new AARP funded outdoor exercise facility was built. Lastly, a new handicap accessible playground was constructed adjacent to the new AARP exercise facility.

The Recreation Division offers many leisure programs including year-round Aquatics (swim lessons and recreational swimming), Adult Leagues (Cornhole, Women's Volleyball, and Men's Basketball), Youth Basketball (Grades K-12) and a host of other programs and special events, including fitness and cultural arts' programs for youth and adults of all ages. Although operated independently, youth sports organizations including T-Ball, Little League, Softball, Challenger Baseball, Wrestling, Soccer, Swim Club, Lacrosse, Travel Basketball, Youth Football, and Cheerleading all fall under the umbrella of the Parks and Recreation Department. The Department hosts a seven-week summer camp program entitled Camp RECreate for children entering kindergarten through grade 8. The Summer Concert Series offers 14 free concerts on Thursday nights at Mill Pond Park. The Department prides itself on their efforts and ability to work with the Board of Education, church groups, civic organizations, veterans' organizations, the local business community, and all other town departments. The Mortensen Community Center accommodates reservations for private activities, events, birthday parties, meetings, and various sporting events throughout the year. The Department's Creative Playtime Preschool Program is fully licensed as a Child Day Care Center through the State of Connecticut and is open to children ages 3 to 5. The Department also sponsors the annual Life. Be in it. Extravaganza celebration in July at Mill Pond Park, highlighted by the largest fireworks show in the region.

2019-2020 Highlights

- Over 800 programs were offered throughout the year, and there were approximately 21,000 registered participants for these programs.
- Residents reserved picnic sites at Churchill Park; thousands of picnickers enjoyed the park under the pavilions.
- Newington gardeners reserved garden plots in the Community Gardens program at Deming-Young Farm for their vegetable growing pleasure.

- The Department aggressively utilizes social media to assist in a comprehensive plan to advertise all programs.
- The Adult Cornhole League continues to be a popular program for adults, running on Thursday nights at Mill Pond Park during the spring, summer, and fall.
- Several programs were held virtually due to COVID-19.
- A Halloween Party was held, where participants arrived in imaginative costumes to enjoy the festivities.
- Additional opportunities for recreation and leisure were offered, including DJ pool parties at Churchill Park and Mill Pond Park pools, Fun Runs, Edythe & Harry Mandell Summer Concerts Series at Mill Pond Park sponsored by Data-Mail Inc., and pictures with Santa/Sleigh Rides. Other free events held include Touch-A-Truck, Scarecrow Contest, Winter Wonderland, and Night of Lights Celebration.
- Happy Harry's Wine and Liquor sponsored the Kindness Counts Celebration by donating free wine to the Kindness Counts nominees.
- The Creative Playtime Preschool Program continues to attract over 50 families each year and has remained a popular choice for parents of children ages 3-5. Our flexible program allows parents to choose a schedule that suits their needs, offering morning, afternoon, and full day programs. This State licensed, comprehensive program continues to grow with nearly a thousand graduates since its launch in 2007.
- Parents can also enroll their preschool age children in the Summer Sunshine Program. With similar activities to the Creative Playtime Preschool Program, Summer Sunshine offers a seven week educational and entertaining experience during the summer months.
- Opportunities to advertise in our seasonal program guide were offered again, and we continue to see interest from local businesses including Dick's Sporting Goods, Club WAKA, Geico, Ruth's Chris Steak House, the Goddard School, the Back Nine Tavern, Total Vision and more. Our program guide is directly mailed to over 13,000 households four times a year.
- The Exercise the Right Choice program provides care for elementary school students on the early release days. This program has three components: Education, Recreation, and Cultural Arts.
- The Department began a new program to honor our veterans and active military members. A new public/private partnership was established in the amount of \$5,000 with Hindling Sports Builders of West Haven. This partnership enabled us to construct a 22 foot long mobile memorial trailer that showcased service members' names, rank, and branch of the military. Preparations were made for a memorial tour that took place in July.
- The Department recently completed a project of inventorying all of Newington's Town trees. Staff identified trees belonging to the Town of Newington and collected and recorded specific data to be put into a database for future needs.
- A public/private partnership was established with Eversource to help underwrite the cost of live entertainment at the Life. Be in it. Extravaganza.
- At the Connecticut Recreation and Parks Association (CRPA) State Conference Awards Banquet, one of the Department's sponsorship partners, Central Property Services, was recognized. It is owned and operated by Chris Miner, who was awarded the Selected Organization Award for many generous contributions and volunteerism. The Department was also awarded the Program of Merit Award for its annual Motorcycle Madness event.
- The Department continued the tradition of annually honoring businesses, volunteers, and/or civic groups that help the Department better serve its residents with a "Building a Strong Community Special Recognition Award." This year's recipients were Matt Nelson, Trantolo & Trantolo, Church of Christ Congregational, and Rosenberg Orthodontics.

Parks & Recreation

Parks & Grounds Division

Emmett House, Supervisor

The Parks and Grounds Division is responsible for the year round maintenance of 833 acres of parks and public green spaces, including two regional parks: Mill Pond Park and Churchill Park, ten neighborhood parks: Badger Field, Bank's Corner, Beacon Park, Beechwood Park, Candlewyck Park, Eagle Park, Little Brook Park, Mary Welles Park, Seymour Park, and Starr Park, as well as three historic properties: the Kellogg-Eddy House, the Kelsey House, and Deming-Young Farm. The Division maintains the municipal parking lot, the downtown town-owned properties, the grounds of all Newington public buildings, 110 community garden plots, the picnic and recreation facilities at Churchill Park, the skatepark at Clem Lemire Recreation Complex, two outdoor swimming pools (Churchill Park and Mill Pond Park), playgrounds, several miles of hiking/biking trails, numerous public rights-of-way, 64 cul-de-sacs, roadside mowing, numerous flower beds, 17 decorative planters on Main Street, the placing of flags, town wide decorations and lighting for the holidays, 5 Fire Stations, Senior and Disabled Center, Town Hall, Lucy Robbins Welles Library, Ambulance building, and 7 schools. Maintenance activities include mowing, pruning, trash removal, leaf collection, athletic field preparation for scholastic and recreational use, as well as snow removal for schools, public building parking areas, sidewalks, and school walk routes through town spaces. Parks and Grounds is responsible for the maintenance of trees on all streets, parks, cemeteries, schools, rights-of-way, and all town-owned property. The trees are valued at over 30 million dollars.

2019-2020 Highlights

- Assisted with preparations, setup, and clean-up of the annual Life. Be In It. Extravaganza.
- Resurfaced basketball courts in all neighborhood parks.
- Expansion joints at Churchill pool were repaired and the pool was painted.
- Crack repair was performed at Mill Pond pool.
- Completed miles of town wide road side mowing.
- Renovated Memorial Field and Legends Field at Clem Lemire Recreation Complex including removal of lips, installation of new irrigation heads, and installation of Dura Edge infield material.
- Completed landscape renovation including the construction of new beds, the planting of arborvitaes, and the partial installation of an irrigation system at the Lucy Robbins Welles Library.
- Provided setup and support for the Waterfall Festival, Night of Lights, Wreaths Across America, Summer Concerts Series at Mill Pond Park, High School football games, Veterans' Day celebration, and Touch-A-Truck.
- Parks staff continued to provide ongoing maintenance and operation of irrigation systems at town athletic fields, tennis courts, and the Library.
- Provided ongoing maintenance at town park pavilions including a new roof at the middle and lower pavilions at Churchill Park and the construction of a new pavilion at the skatepark.
- Constructed and installed several handicap accessible picnic tables at pavilions at town parks.
- Pruned and removed dead or dying trees in the Anna Reynolds School courtyard for enhanced aesthetics and safety.
- Performed two blight remediations on Pine Street and Eleanor Place.
- Oversaw the installation of the new ADA playground and AARP Exercise Facility at Clem Lemire Recreation Complex.
- Continued to promote memorial bench program with six new memorial benches installed at various parks in town. In addition, the Department has established a new tree dedication program.
- Provided fall clean up at all town buildings and provided additional staff to support the Highway Department with the annual street side leaf collection.
- Parks and Grounds is responsible for all seasonal decorations from holiday decorations to American flags for Memorial Day.
- Soccer field enhancement project continued at Emmanuel Christian Academy fields including verticutting, aeration, overseeding, topdressing, and applications of fertilizer made in anticipation of upcoming irrigation system installation.
- Staff installed new irrigation controllers for athletic fields, as well as overseeing the installation of the new system at the Emmanuel Christian Academy soccer fields.
- In winter months, staff removed over a dozen street tree stumps.
- Playground certified woodchips were added at Beacon Park and Eagle Park playgrounds.
- Like the rest of the world, the Town of Newington Parks and Grounds schedule and work was defined by our response to the COVID-10 pandemic. Implemented new Best Management Safety practices in response to the crisis and altered staff work schedule.
- Parks and Grounds staff collaborated to build a Veterans Memorial trailer to pay tribute to active and retired military men and women.
- New controller and dry chlorine equipment was installed at the pools in hopes of opening this summer.
- Annual setup, tilling, staking, and irrigation was performed at the 110 Community Garden Plots at the Deming-Young Farm.
- Installed over 150 American flags in preparation for Memorial Day.
- Performed extensive repairs on 4 Har-Tru and 4 clay tennis courts at Mill Pond Park. New electric valves, sprinkler heads, and nozzles were installed, and staff repaired broken piping.
- On short notice, due to state imposed COVID-19 restrictions, Parks staff quickly prepared Churchill Park pool for public opening on July 1.

Parks & Recreation

Cemetery Division

The Cemetery Division is responsible for maintaining three cemeteries in town; Church Street Cemetery, Center Cemetery, and West Meadow Cemetery. The Department is responsible for grave sales, interments, and record keeping. The Department also researches and responds to inquiries from local town residents, as well as extended families.

- West Meadow Cemetery, in collaboration with Newington Memorial Funeral Home, once again hosted a successful Cherish Our Children ceremony in September.
- In December, West Meadow Cemetery proudly participated in the Wreaths Across America ceremony. This event is conducted by local veterans in conjunction with the nationwide Wreaths Across America Organization.
- There were 133 interments in West Meadow Cemetery, consisting of 51 cremations, 24 double depth burials, and 58 single depth burials. Additionally, 105 interments were performed on a weekday and 28 interments were performed on a weekend or holiday.
- There were 8 interments in Center Cemetery, consisting of 5 cremations and 3 single depth burials. Also, 7 interments were performed on a weekday and 1 interment was performed on a weekend or holiday.

- 69 plots were sold in Town cemeteries.
- 11 veteran markers were installed.
- West Meadow Cemetery is a very busy and active cemetery. The Parks and Recreation staff average over two burials per week and over one grave sale per week. The staff works cooperatively with local funeral homes to aide in the administration of each funeral service. The staff manicures 10 acres of turf and landscaping at West Meadow Cemetery.



Parks in Newington	Baseball	Softball	Playground	Multise Fields*	Tennis	Pool	Volleyball Bocce	Basketball	Trails	Ice Skating	Picnic Shelter	Water Features	Skatepark	Pickleball
Badger Field - <i>Walsh Ave.</i>														
Beacon Park - <i>Beacon St.</i>														
Beechwood Park - <i>Woodbridge Rd.</i>														
Candlewyck 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>Starr Ave.</i>														
Mary Welles Park - <i>Cedar St.</i>														



Denotes facilities available in that park.

Newington Planning & Development

Building Department

Douglas Jourdan, Building Official

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 in 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, Police, Health Director/Department, and Social Services.

2019-2020 Highlights

- The Commercial Certificates of Occupancy issued in this fiscal year for new businesses in Newington are listed below:

O'Reilly's Auto Parts located at 3443 Berlin Turnpike
 Tony Boloney's located at 2190 Berlin Turnpike
 Salsa's 4 Taqueria located at 2434-3 Berlin Turnpike
 A Dentist Office located at 435-D Willard Avenue
 Universal Supply Co. located at 36 Holly Drive
 Geico Office located at 2434-11 Berlin Turnpike.
 Subway located at 3119 Berlin Turnpike
 Amazon located at 65 Holmes Road
 A 7,500 sq. ft building located at 188 Costello Road

Income Received From Permit Fees: \$290,548.00

Total Income: \$325,574.50

Number of Inspections: 1,799

- A partial Certificate of Occupancy was issued for the new Town Hall (excluding the gym and the community kitchen).
- A total of 10 Certificates of Occupancy were issued from July 2019 to June 2020. Nine were Commercial and one was for a Single-Family Residence.

Permits Issued 2019-2020

Type of Permit	#	Value of Permits
Additions	304	\$8,688,778.00
Decks	45	362,667.00
Demolition	4	59,500.00
Electrical	480	3,541,420.00
Fence	0	0.00
FSS	0	0.00
Footing/Foundation	0	0.00
Fuel Tank	19	69,394.00
Garages/Sheds	8	62,045.00
Mechanical	405	3,976,809.00
New Comm.	1	1,348,000.00
New Municipal	0	48,000.00
New Residential	4	782,490.00
Plumbing	201	807,879.00
Pools	45	457,402.00
Roofing/Siding	259	4,245,941.00
Sign	32	180,894.00
Solar	92	1,374,697.00
Tent	13	51,060.00
Other	0	0.00
Total	1,912	\$26,056,976.00

2020-2021 Goals

- Maintaining State Mandated Continuing Education for all staff.
- Firm and consistent enforcement of all State codes to protect the health, safety and welfare of all Newington residents.

Other Income Received	Amount
Town Planning and Zoning Application Fees	\$11,360.00
Environmental Fees	2,160.00
Conservation Commission Applications Fees	3,680.00
Zoning Board of Appeals	1,300.00
Copies, Books and Maps	494.50
Work in Right of Way	15,450.00
Engineering Copies	582.00
Total	\$35,026.50

Newington Planning & Development

Town Planner

Craig Minor, AICP ***Town Planner***

The Planning and Development 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 zoning regulations and the Town of Newington's blight ordinance.

The Department also prepares State and Federal grant applications.

Mission

The mission of the Planning and Development Department is to help the Town of Newington maintain a high quality of life by promoting sustainable land use and economic growth that conserve the community's natural resources, and to help citizens and businesses achieve their own development goals. The Planning and Development Department provides professional and administrative support to the following boards and commissions: the Town Plan and Zoning Commission, the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Open Space Committee, the Economic Development Commission, the Housing Needs Study Committee, and the Affordable Housing Monitoring Agency:

2019-2020 Highlights

Town Plan and Zoning Commission:

During this fiscal year, the TPZ received and acted upon approximately thirty-six petitions for special permits, site plan approvals, zoning amendments and other items. The Commission also substantially completed work on the new ten-year Plan of Conservation and Development, adopted on August 26, 2020. The Department collected \$6,078 in TPZ application fees this fiscal year.

Zoning Board of Appeals:

During this fiscal year, the Zoning Board of Appeals received three petitions for variances; three were approved. The Department collected \$786 in Zoning Board of Appeals' application fees this fiscal year.

Economic Development Commission:

The Economic Development Commission held six meetings. By using our districts, the Commission was able to reach out to local restaurants and advise them of the Town Planning Department's process to streamline outdoor dining approvals.

Housing Needs Study Committee:

The Housing Needs Study Committee oversaw preparation of an "Affordable Housing Plan" for Newington, recently mandated by Sec. 8-30j of the Connecticut General Statutes. The Affordable Housing Plan is expected to be adopted by the Newington Town Council in the late fall of 2020.

Planning and Development Department Administrative Activities:

- **Zoning Enforcement:**

During this fiscal year, the Zoning Enforcement Officer investigated and acted upon 329 zoning complaints; issued 131 notices of zoning violations; issued 83 zoning approvals; and issued 35 certificates of zoning compliance.

- **Blight Enforcement:**

By Town Ordinance, blight enforcement is conducted by the Zoning Enforcement Officer under the direction of the Town Manager or his designee. During this fiscal year, the Zoning Enforcement Officer investigated 306 complaints of blight.

- **Grants Administration:**

During this fiscal year, the Town Planner continued to administer several grant-funded projects, and prepared and submitted the following grant applications:

Affordable Housing Plan Technical Assistance Grant (to reimburse the Town for the expense of preparing an Affordable Housing Plan).

New Britain Avenue Business District Streetscape Project (UDAG grant).

Engineering Department

Gary Fuerstenberg, Town Engineer

Functions:

- Oversee maintenance, inspection, design and construction of town infrastructure (roads, bridges, sidewalks, parking lots, storm drainage system, dams, etc.).
- Advise Conservation Commission as Wetlands Agent and Planning and Zoning Commission.
- Provide survey, design (engineering analysis and evaluation) and environmental services.
- Prepare engineering recommendations, plans, and estimates for Town infrastructure.
- Represent TON interests on state and federal projects and utility projects in Newington.
- Facilitate public outreach for high profile projects.
- Archive TON infrastructure and engineering data.
- Administer engineering permits and drainage / sidewalk agreements for work in TON right-of-way.

2019-2020 Achievements:

- Evaluated roads and updated RSR database and Road Surface Rating Plan.
- Evaluated sidewalks and coordinated sidewalk maintenance.
- Represented Town of Newington at utility and CDOT meetings, and coordinated with adjacent towns regarding multi-town projects.
- Prepared annual operating budget and Capital Improvement Project budget.
- Advised Town Planning and Zoning Commission and Inland Wetland Commission.
- Managed engineering and facilities staff.
- Provided engineering support for TON and BOE projects. Performed site, topographic, boundary and construction surveys and prepared engineering drawings.
- Supported the Town Hall and Community Center building project and identified closeout items.
- Coordinated senior center parking lot improvements (demolition, lights, sidewalk, pavement, restoration).
- Coordinated energy savings projects (LED conversion) at police department, senior center and library which are expected to save about \$50K annually. Coordinated energy rebate for Town Hall project.
- Coordinated water and electric service for Park irrigation system at youth soccer fields.
- Supported design and construction of Fit Lot at Clem Lemire Facility.

- Coordinated Eversource contributions (\$425K) to restore local roads impacted by utility construction.
- Coordinated MDC contributions (\$45K) to restore local roads impacted by utility construction.
- Prepared 35% design for complete street design for Maple Hill and Robbins Avenue corridor.
- Coordinated conveyance of 10 acres to TON from State (portion of former Cedar Crest Hospital parcel)
- Prepared grant applications with preliminary design and cost estimate:
\$2.9M LOTCIP grant - Maple Hill Avenue - Cedar Street intersection Improvements.

2020-2021 Goals:

- Maintain TON infrastructure.
- Evaluate roads and update road RSR database and Road Surface Rating Plan with GIS.
- Update Road Construction Plan with GIS.
- Update Sidewalk Plan and Bicycle Plan with GIS.
- Apply for state and federal infrastructure grants.
- Perform site, topographic, boundary and construction surveys and prepare engineering drawings for TON infrastructure improvements.
- Advise Town Planning and Zoning Commission.
- Prepare grant applications with preliminary design and cost estimate:
\$300K STEAP grant - Senior center window replacement project.
\$500K Community Connectivity grant - Main Street Sidewalk Connectivity Project.

Statistical Summaries:

- Reviewed 152 driveway and 104 road excavation permit applications (\$17,125 revenue).
- Reviewed 14 Inland Wetland applications (\$2,472 revenue).
- Reviewed 236 zoning applications for wetland and upland review disturbance.

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, Town owned 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.

2019-2020 Highlights

- Continued with project coordination and oversight of the long term Landfill closure/conversion to Transfer Station.
- Continued with the annual Target Solution on line employee safety training program along with various other training requirements. Completed annual hearing tests for all personnel.
- Hosted the annual MDC sponsored Hazardous Household Waste Collection event on August 15, 2020.
- Attended several staff meetings to address COVID-19 preparations, coordinated A-B split shifts for all departmental personnel.
- Conducted annual roadway condition evaluations.
- Continued oversight of all departmental construction projects.
- Hosted one DEEP sponsored landfill training certificate class, attended quarterly Environmental Quality Commission meetings.
- Continued attendance at all meetings for Maple Hill and Robins Avenue roadway improvement LOTCIP Grant.
- Coordinated the pickup, delivery and placement of concrete blocks at several dining establishments to assist with outdoor seating efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Completed annual equipment training for Highway Equipment Operators.
- Fourteen (14) roads totaling approximately 4.0 miles were milled and paved along with drainage improvements on various roads. Roads in the mill and overlay program include: Cambridge Drive, Fleetwood Road, Francis Avenue, Glenview Drive, Goodale Drive, Green Avenue, Holmes Road, Isabell Terrace, Marvis Street, Pascone Place, Patriot Lane, Spruce Street, Sunnyside Road, Woodbridge Road.
- Reconstructed bituminous pathway at Martin Kellogg Middle School.
- Completed drainage improvements, milling and paving of the Newington High School south and east parking lots.
- Hauled, spread and compacted several hundred yards of fill material for the Landfill closure project.
- Constructed new concrete block loading ramp at the Transfer Station.
- Completed subsurface drainage, hauling, filling and grading along with new curbing installation at the Library parcel.
- Began the Senior Center Parking Lot upgrades including trenching for new lighting, sidewalk improvements, drainage improvements, milling, paving, curb replacement and new top soil spreading.
- Performed drainage culvert improvements at Main Street and Dowd Street to address periodic flooding conditions.
- Crews removed deteriorated sidewalks along Garvan Street.
- Completed several storm water catch basin rebuilds throughout Town.
- Completed annual town-wide roadside tree trimming throughout the winter months.
- Crews completed roadside mowing/brush cutting with equipment borrowed from the Town of Prospect.
- Assisted with annual Touch a Truck event.
- Highway Department personnel collected over 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 7 snow/ice events totaling over 24" 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 and clearing of debris.
- Vegetation grinding was performed twice during the year by a private contractor with assistance from Highway personnel and equipment. The Transfer Station 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, covered electronic devices and textiles.
- Town-wide street sweeping was completed during the months of April and May.
- Town-wide Christmas tree collection was completed late December/early January.
- Private contractors collect refuse at 9,316 residential homes and 2,240 condominiums and elderly housing complexes each week totaling approximately 8,585 tons of residential municipal solid waste brought to Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority (MIRA) of Hartford for fiscal year 2019/2020. In addition, 10,634 household bulky waste items, 1,349 condominium bulky waste items and 540 combined metal items were collected curbside throughout the year. Also, 336 television sets over 19" were collected and recycled. Additionally, 1,002 mattresses and 557 box springs were collected curbside.
- Private contractors collected recyclables at 11,563 residential homes, condominiums and elderly housing complexes. Recyclables were brought to Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority (MIRA) of Hartford for processing. Over 2,466 tons of recyclables were collected curbside.
- The Traffic Division continued with the replacement of worn out regulatory and warning signs Town-wide, continued with roadway line painting Town-wide along with assisting Highway and other departments as needed. The division also assisted with traffic control and road closures for the Memorial Day Parade, Library 5K Race, Extravaganza, Car Show, and the Waterfall Festival.
- 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. Mechanics also assist as needed with leaf collection, snow plowing and construction projects.

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 pm 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 person 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 people. Carpeting must be rolled up, less than four (4) feet in length, tied, and light enough for one person 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 415 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 oversized 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 pm to be scheduled for Tuesday pick up.** Residents also have the option of taking these items to the Town's Transfer Station 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 Transfer Station but must remove leaves from bags, boxes, etc. prior to disposal at the Transfer Station. 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 and recycling carts containing grass or leaves will not be emptied.**
- **Waste Motor Oil:** Waste motor oil can be disposed of at the Town Highway Garage (off Fenn Road), Monday – Friday, 8:00 am to 3:00 pm, or at the Town's Transfer Station 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 and Textiles:** May be brought to the Town Transfer Station.

For questions regarding rubbish/recycling collection or the Landfill, please call the Sanitation Division of the Newington Highway Department @ 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, when conditions allow, 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 & is located at the Highway Department on Milk Lane.

Vegetation Disposal -Transfer Station

A permit is required to dispose of vegetation. Permits may be obtained at the Highway Department, 281 Milk Lane (off of Fenn Road) or at the Town Clerk's office, Town Hall. No permit required for recyclables. Must show proof of Residency

Location: 2045 Main Street, south of Churchill Park

Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm

April through December, **Saturday & Sunday**

January through March, **Saturday Only**

Winter Parking Bans

Parking on streets is not allowed for more than 30 minutes between the hours of 2:00 am and 6:00 am 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 am to 5:00 pm. A permit is not required to dispose of leaves at the Transfer Station.

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
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Day

Newington Public Safety Police Department

Stephen Clark, Chief of Police

“To Protect, Serve, and Partner with the Community”

The Newington Police Department consists of 51 full time police officers, one recruit training position, 13.5 civilian employees and 2 part time Animal Control officers. The department’s commitment to the community is to preserve peace and public order, provide community assistance, prevent and deter crimes, apprehend offenders, and protect persons and property in accordance with the laws of the State of Connecticut and the ordinances of the Town of Newington.

2019-2020 Highlights

- **Department Staffing:** During the 2019-2020 fiscal year, the department saw the retirements of Sgt. Brendan Moon and Lt. Michael Morgan after serving the community for 21 years. Two new police officers were hired to fill the vacancies created by the retirements. Melissa Rome and Jeremy Cormier were both hired in April and were certified officers from other police departments in Connecticut. The department also saw the retirement of long time Executive Assistant Roxanne Verbridge.
- **Department Activity:** During the 2019 year, the Newington Police Department responded to 24,265 calls for service. The department made 845 criminal arrests and investigated 1,072 “Part I” crimes, such as robbery, burglary, sexual assault, aggravated assault, arson, and larceny. The department investigated 1,498 traffic accidents, which resulted in 133 injuries. There were no fatalities. The department made 4,170 traffic stops, and arrested 123 motorists for driving while under the influence of alcohol/drugs.
- **Community Outreach:** The Newington Police Department has partnered with the Center for Policing Equity, (CPE), which is an independently funded research organization whose goal is to help police departments ensure fairness in their policing practices and equity in the workplace. The police department has provided CPE with department policies, data on vehicle stops, use of force, and citizen complaints. The CPE will analyze the data and provide a report on department practices that can be shared with elected officials and the community.

- **Police Department Training:** The police department recorded approximately 2,734 hours in officer training during the 2019-2020 fiscal period. Two officers were sent to receive specialized training in dealing with persons in crisis continuing our efforts to expand our Crisis Intervention Team. Also, 12 Officers were sent to use of force liability training while 20 Officers were sent to CT POST recertification training. The training division remains focused on firearms proficiency and continued with the training regimen of bi-annual firearms qualifications; with one of these qualifications occurring in a low-light setting. All officers are exposed to training in response to active shooting and building clearing, as well as taser / OC/ baton / handcuffing, and LOCK-UP training to minimize liability in use of force applications. Selected officers attended methods of instruction training to become a CT certified training instructor as well as juvenile law train the trainer class. Newly promoted Sergeants were sent to first line supervision training. The department continues to schedule specialized training for members of the Detective Division. These programs include evidence collection and crime scene processing including specialized training in sexual assault crime scenes. Detectives attended a training program dealing with statement analysis in interviewing technique as well as cell phone investigations. Officers involved in the Mid-State Accident Reconstruction Team continued their attendance in monthly training with the regional accident team. The Emergency Response Team continues to train monthly in tactical operations’ training.



Newington Public Safety

Fire Marshal

Chris Schroeder/Guy Pelletier, Fire Marshal

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

- Annually inspect 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 and explosions
- Investigate all fire alarm dispatches to determine proper operation and compliance with the local fire alarm ordinance
- Issue blasting permits and be on site to ensure safety and compliance with state and federal standards
- Respond to and investigate reported accidental or intentional release of hazardous materials

2019-2020 Highlights

Significant fire incidents for the 2019-2020 fiscal year included:

09/14/2019: Building Fire – 26 Deer Path
Residential Building Fire

11/23/2019: Kitchen Fire - 2384 Berlin Tpke.
Commercial Building Fire

01/01/2020: Basement Fire - 44 Dartmouth
Residential Building Fire

04/12/2020: Kitchen Fire – 163 Barkledge
Residential Building Fire

06/08/2020: HazMat – 36 Howard
Responded with CT DEEP

06/21/2020: Vehicle Fire – 524 Willard
Engine Compartment Fire

- Chris R. Schroeder retired from the position of Fire Marshal on December 31, 2019, after having served as Fire Marshal since 1995.
- Guy R. Pelletier was promoted from Deputy Fire Marshal to Acting Fire Marshal on January 1, 2020, and was officially appointed to the position of Fire Marshal on February 1, 2020.
- Collin Whalen was appointed as a Deputy Fire Marshal on June 26, 2019, and was officially sworn in during September of 2019.
- Craig Stegmaier was appointed as Deputy Fire Marshal on March 12, 2020.

Fire Marshal Statistical Summary

Inspections	215
Follow Up Inspections	223
Plan Reviews	121
Job Site Inspections	100
Fire Investigations	18
Fire Alarm Trouble	83
Complaints	48
Tank Removals	0
Safe Home Inspections & Follow Ups	72
Hazmat Incidents	7
Blast Monitoring	16

- Provided oversight for standard blasting activity at Balf/Tilcon on Hartford Avenue, monitored and recorded blasting complaints, and coordinated Annual Balf Town Committee Meeting in October of 2019.
- 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.
- Conducted special event inspections for private and public events in town, including the Waterfall Festival, Extravaganza, etc.
- Represented the Fire Marshal's Office on, and participated in monthly meetings of, Newington's Safe Homes Task Force, as well as at meetings and events held by the Connecticut Hoarding Working Group.
- Personnel participated in numerous continuing education courses and seminars throughout the year, in accordance with state mandates.

Newington Office of Emergency Management Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Chris Schroeder, Emergency Management Director

The Newington Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program is part of the Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS), Citizens Corps Council, and the National Citizen Corps effort to incorporate and utilize volunteers in the community. The Citizen Corps is endorsed by the President of the United States and the Federal Department of Homeland Security. CERT members are trained in basic response techniques in order to assist local citizens and first responders in disaster or emergency situations.

CERT Mission Statement: *To provide Newington residents and first responders with a quality resource that is dedicated, trained and equipped to carry out special missions such as but not limited to: emergency shelter operations, amateur radio (ham radio) communication, and any other function ordered by the Town Manager, Emergency Management Director, Fire Chief, Police Chief, and/or their designees.*

Newington Public Safety

Newington Volunteer Fire Dept.

Chris Schroeder, Fire Chief

The Newington Volunteer Fire Department was established in 1917. It is an all-volunteer organization comprised of approximately 120 members. In addition, the Department hosts Fire Cadet and Junior Cadet programs which provide full-level training, equivalent to that of an active firefighter, to 14 through 17 year olds interested in the fire service.

Department members are responsible for the fire, rescue, and hazardous materials' response services for residential and commercial properties in the Town of Newington, CT. The Department also provides comprehensive Fire Prevention and Fire Education programs designed to meet the specific needs and requirements for both residents and commercial businesses. Oversight is provided by three elected members of the Board of Fire Commissioners, whose powers and duties are vested by Town Charter.

2019-2020 Highlights

- The Personnel Division recruited 7 new members, and 16 members retired or resigned. At year's end, the Department was 96 members strong, not including those in the Cadet Division.
- Cadet Division Officers continued to work on improving and expanding their program. The Division serves Cadets (age 16-17) and Junior Cadets (age 14-15). They are currently at their highest membership in Department history, having added 12 new cadets, rounding out the year with 24 total members.
- The Fire Prevention Bureau continued to provide a variety of fire and life safety education programs to area businesses, schools, daycare centers, and healthcare and assisted living facilities.
 - Participated in numerous public and privately sponsored events and meetings
 - Hosted largest Annual Open House event in recent history
- Members participated in a variety of weekly, monthly, and quarterly classroom & field-based training exercises throughout the year, including: specialized rescue and extrication drills, Live Burn evolutions, and Ice Water Rescue drills. Training Division officers worked to adapt regular programming to the ever-changing COVID-19 requirements.
- Total number of Training hours for the year: **5,220 hours**
- Responded along with Task Force 51 to assist with the plane crash at Bradley Field; units supplied station coverage at East Granby Headquarters for all communities West of the airport during the incident.
- NVFD Company 4 celebrated their 65th Anniversary
- Hosted Annual 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony, sounding the building sirens at the times of the attacks on the World Trade Center.
- The Department held its Annual Awards Night celebration in November of 2019. Years of service and special commendation awards were distributed.
- Sue Reniewicz, Secretary, retired after 22 years of dedicated service.

- Hosted Annual Memorial Day Ceremony, honoring two members who gave their lives in the line of duty; Co. 1 Firefighter Francis Kochanowicz, 6/5/62 and Co. 2 Firefighter Jay Cole, 12/26/64. The Honor Guard participated in the town's Annual Memorial Day Service at Town Hall.
- Department members participated in numerous town and privately sponsored events throughout the year:
 - Event to raise funds for the Muscular Dystrophy Association
 - Distributed recruitment and fire prevention materials at the Annual Waterfall Festival on Market Square
 - Assisted with the coordination of the Annual Ride in honor of MPO Peter J. Lavery at Churchill Park
 - Participated in the Emergency Services Food and Gift Drive to benefit Newington Human Services
 - Participated in the Parks and Recreation Night of Lights and Carol Sing on Main Street

Statistical Summary

Structure Fires	34
Vehicle Fires	7
Exterior Fires	34
Other Fires	6
Pressure. Ruptures, Explosions, Overheat	9
Extrications	8
Other Rescue Calls	24
Hazardous Condition Calls	119
Water Problem	17
Other Service Calls	69
Good Intent Calls	49
False Alarm/False Call	284
Severe Weather/Natural Disaster	1
Special Incident Calls	2
Mutual Aid/Standby	6

Newington Public Schools

Dr. Maureen L. Brummett, Superintendent of Schools

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 and community, is to ensure every student acquires the knowledge, skills, and 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 and encourage each individual to reach full potential.

Vision

Every Student—College, Career and Citizenship ready

District Goals

Goal 1. All students receive a high quality personalized education which is rigorous, relevant, and engaging.

Goal 2. Multiple pathways to success ensure equity in supporting all students in being successful PK-12.

Goal 3. District wide culture is respectful and responsive to student and staff needs.

Goal 4. Communication builds strong relationships with students, families, and the community.

Anna Reynolds Elementary School

- *Mr. Jason Smith, Principal*

The 2019-20 school year was a year we will never forget. Throughout the school year, a large focus of our attention was on our social emotional learning and school climate goals. Our student council took on an expanded role, providing daily morning announcements and creating a variety of subcommittees. However, once March came, we faced many new challenges. With the school closure, we grew as a school community, embraced a new digital learning environment and supported the needs of one another throughout the remainder of the school year. While many of our original goals were put on hold, we continued to prioritize the social emotional needs of all students, staff and families.

2019-2020 School Goals

- Enhance literacy instruction to support all learners.
- Improve conditions and develop competencies to ensure equitable access for all learners.
- Improve the pacing and implementation of district curriculum/programs.
- Build capacity to support social and emotional learning.
- Implement consistent behavior protocols school-wide.
- Establish school-wide procedures and routines that build connections and student leadership.

To accomplish these goals, we:

- Implemented Lucy Calkins' Units of Study in the area of writing.
- Provided professional learning in the area of conferring.
- Worked with Teacher's College to provide professional learning opportunities for staff in grades 2-4 with the implementation of Units of Study.
- Developed a common understanding of bands of text complexity.
- Strengthened the impact of Interactive Read Aloud.
- Trained staff on the implementation of Dibels 8th Edition Assessment Protocols.
- Developed a consistent schedule to meet the needs of all students.
- Worked collaboratively with interventionists (Special Education teachers, Reading/Math Interventionists/EL Teacher) to provide students' support.
- Provided professional learning on collaborative teaching techniques.
- Conducted Open Classrooms throughout the year.
- Conducted instructional rounds to monitor our Reader's Workshop implementation.
- Engaged in the PLC process on a weekly basis to employ the 6-step Data Driven Decision Making Process and collaborative unit plan.
- Worked collaboratively with the PTO to help ensure students were excited to learn.
- Developed a foundational understanding of Social Emotional Learning Competencies.
- Increased opportunities for understanding emotions/feelings through School Families.
- Implemented morning announcements.
- Increased opportunities for student leadership (expanded Student Council).

Elizabeth Green Elementary School

- *Mr. James Marciano, Principal*

The 2019-2020 school year was one for the record books. With the school closures beginning in March due to the pandemic, many of our school based initiatives were put on hold. However, there is much to be said about how our students, staff and families adapted to a complete online learning environment for the last trimester of the school year. While it offered many challenges, our school community's efforts, collaboration, flexibility, and determination to ensure connection and continuity for our student's education was impeccable. Our students embraced their new digital learning environments. Our educators created and implemented a whole new instructional playbook, while our families adjusted to having students at home. I couldn't be prouder of our accomplishments in this area. Most of the goals listed below will continue into the coming school year as many were left unevaluated or unachieved.

Newington Public Schools

Elizabeth Green Elementary School

2019-2020 School Goals

- Increase students' ability to read and comprehend grade level texts.
- Increase students' writing proficiency and stamina.
- Increase students' ability to reason and think mathematically.
- Improve staff morale.
- Increase positive communication to parents while also evaluating our homework practices.

To accomplish these goals, we:

- Implemented a new writing program called Units of Study, which is aligned with our reading program.
- Participated in professional learning to refine and/or improve pedagogical practices in writing.
- Used Literacy Coach led lab sites with team selected goals to support educator growth in reading instruction primarily around student engagement.
- Implemented a revised educator evaluation plan focused on increased coaching competencies aimed at better outcomes for educators.
- Participated in district led instructional rounds visiting classrooms and receiving feedback on areas of strength and growth.
- Relunched our bucket filling initiative as a means of identifying and reinforcing positive behaviors throughout the school and took an initial step in looking at behavior and discipline by surveying staff.
- Introduced staff to the social emotional learning competencies.
- Contacted parents more frequently to share positives about their students' academic and/or behavioral strengths and growth.
- Surveyed parents on the effectiveness of homework and adjusted practices.
- Promoted staff spirit days, a teacher parade, along with staff and student recognitions as a way to stay connected and honor efforts during distance learning.
- Continued our community fundraising efforts with Heavenly Hats and PJ Day for CT Children's Hospital while offering enrichment opportunities in robotics and computer coding.

John Paterson Elementary School

- *Mr. Michael Gaydos, Principal*

The 2019-2020 school year was an exciting year of changes and growth for the students and staff at John Paterson.

2019-2020 School Goals

- Increase students' ability to read and comprehend grade level texts.
- Increase students' ability to reason and think mathematically.
- Improve students' ability to monitor and regulate emotions/emotional need and behavior
- Increase positive communication with parents.

To accomplish these goals, we:

- Continued implementation of the Lucy Calkins Units of Study for Reading to enhance literacy instruction.
- Implemented a new writing program called Units of Study, which is aligned with our reading program.
- Participated in professional learning to refine and/or improve pedagogical practices in writing.
- Provided tiered instruction (including intervention services as well as challenge / enrichment opportunities) to meet the needs of all of our learners.
- Participated in district led instructional rounds visiting classrooms and receiving feedback on areas of strength and growth.
- Continued the implementation of the "Zones of Regulation" to help students identify feelings and manage emotions.
- Implemented a school-wide behavior management system that focuses on student self-regulation of feelings and behavior (PRIDE System).
- Introduced staff to the social emotional learning competencies.
- Contacted parents more frequently to share positives about their students' academic and/or behavioral strengths and growth.

Ruth Chaffee Elementary School

- *Mrs. Beverly Lawrence, Principal*

With the school closures beginning in March due to the pandemic, many of our school-based initiatives were put on hold. However, there is much to be said about how our students, staff and families adapted to a complete online learning environment for the last trimester of the school year. While it offered many challenges, our school community's efforts, collaboration, flexibility, and determination to ensure connection and continuity for our student's education was impeccable. Our students embraced their new digital learning environments. Our educators created and implemented a whole new instructional playbook, while our families adjusted to having students at home. I couldn't be prouder of our accomplishments in this area. Most of the goals listed below will continue into the coming school year as many were left unevaluated or unachieved.

2019-2020 School Goals

- Increase students' ability to read and comprehend grade level texts.
- Increase students' ability to reason and think mathematically.
- Increase students' knowledge and understanding of their individual goals for reading and math.
- Cultivate classroom environments to ensure student success, by:
 - ◇ Building relationships
 - ◇ Gathering space, anchor charts and classroom libraries.
 - ◇ Establishing behavioral expectations
 - ◇ Implementing Zones of Regulation
 - ◇ Celebrating consistent expected behavior
 - ◇ Providing students with appropriate work spaces
- Introduce SEL to foster awareness and promote the well-being of students.

Newington Public Schools

Ruth Chaffee Elementary School

To accomplish these goals, we:

- Participated in professional learning to refine and/or improve pedagogical practices in reading and writing.
- Used Literacy Coach led lab sites with team selected goals to support educator growth in reading instruction primarily around student engagement.
- Implemented a revised Educator Evaluation Plan focused on increased coaching competencies aimed at better outcomes for educators.
- Participated in district led instructional rounds visiting classrooms and receiving feedback on areas of strength and growth.
- Introduced staff to the social emotional learning competencies.
- Contacted parents more frequently to share positives about their students' academic and/or behavioral strengths and growth. This included "Star Student" recognition to students that was given weekly, and they received personal phone calls from the principal.
- Surveyed parents on the effectiveness of our communication as it relates to their child's academic and behavioral progress.
- Promoted staff and student spirit days, an inspirational staff sing-along for students, Guest Read Alouds (including media specialist, social worker and principal) a teacher led parade. We also continued to issue our student SOAR cards for exhibiting the 3 Cardinal Rules (Be Safe, Be Responsible, and Be Respectful) as a way to stay connected and honor efforts during distance learning.

John Wallace Middle School

- *Mr. Daniel Dias - Principal*

The 2019-20 school year was an exciting year of changes and growth for the students and staff. Though it was a difficult spring due to COVID-19, our students, staff and stakeholders came together and persevered.

2019-2020 School Goals

- Students will improve their understanding of mathematical thinking (concepts and applications).
- Students will improve their reading comprehension and fluency skills.
- Parents will report an increase on the survey question: "My child's teachers motivate my child(ren) to do well in school".
- Teachers will report an increase on the survey question: "The school's discipline program is effective".

To accomplish these goals, we:

- Continued work in deep learning regarding the Gradual Release Model, Math Workshop Model, and Teacher's College. Professional learning was planned and coordinated by Central Office for 5-12 interdisciplinary learning and by the Wallace administrative team, coaches, staff at the building level.

- Weekly PLC (Professional Learning Community) meetings were supported by Wallace administration, coordinators, and coaches.
- Our monthly SDT (School Data Team) meetings monitored progress toward each of the goals from the 2019-20 School Improvement Plan. The team monitored progress and assisted in planning and facilitating professional learning. In addition, the team made research based recommendations regarding goals and objectives for 2020-2021.
- Our math, literacy, and behavior teams met weekly to discuss student performance data and develop more effective Tier II and Tier III supports. The teams engaged in collaborative learning with Central Office staff and colleagues from Martin Kellogg Middle School in several workshops with SERC.
- Our administrative team monitored and implemented the 2019-20 School Improvement Plan. The School Data Team engaged in the DDDM process, made recommendations and suggested improvements, and members were integral in creating the 2019-2020 school wide goals and Continuous Improvement Plan.
- Evaluation feedback focused on Domains 2 and 3 of the Danielson Evaluation rubric in all classrooms to help student learning
- Continued the Discipline Review Board to provide students with opportunities for positive behaviors.
- Began deep learning and conversations and learning with staff about school climate, social emotional learning and restorative practices.
- A number of Wallace staff members participated on the district's Mastery Based Learning Committee, PDEC, District Data Team and other district wide committees. Staff also participated in various curriculum writing tasks. Wallace staff made significant contributions to these committees. Several Wallace staff members also served and made important contributions to the NPS Reopen Committee during the summer of 2020.

Martin Kellogg Middle School

- *Mr. Jason Lambert - Principal*

During the 2019-20 school year, despite a very challenging spring due to the impact of COVID-19, the MKMS learning community maintained our efforts to support all students as they grow, change and learn. Our school goals this past year focused on the areas of literacy, numeracy, school climate and parent engagement.

2019-2020 School Goals

- Continued transition towards mastery-based learning instruction and reporting practices
- Applied understanding of balanced assessment systems to plan and implement tiered instruction to meet the academic and behavior needs of all learners.
- Refined the DDDM process within the PLC model to target specific areas (i.e. using data to inform instruction, analyzing student work, using multiple data sets, use of technology, and creating units aligned to UBD).
- Applied the Gradual Release of Responsibility framework to support our work with the school-wide workshop model.

Newington

Public Schools

Martin Kellogg Middle School

- Sixth year implementation of PBIS (Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports) that included many special events including pep rallies and positive recognitions to inspire appropriate school behavior and decision-making.
- Further developed grade-level identities (Grade 5 = Pride, Grade 6 = Responsibility, Grade 7 = Respect, and Grade 8 = Integrity), and each grade participated in a community service project related to the respective grade level pillar.
- Participated in school-wide "Reading Renaissance" that placed a priority on reading in all content areas.
- Created the "MKMS Kare Kloset" to support students' hygiene and other needs.
- Continued "Battle of the Books" program that included grade 6 teachers and students from John Wallace Middle School.
- Rehearsed the musical "*The Little Mermaid*" that included over 200 student, parent and staff participants. Although the production was halted, students were still given the opportunity to perform scenes of the play online.
- Participation in a variety of fundraisers, social events, and celebrations that provide the student council with funds to support many worthwhile endeavors at Kellogg.
- Active staff participation in various building and district committees including the following:
 - ◇ Instructional Leadership Team
 - ◇ School Climate Committee
 - ◇ PBIS Committee
 - ◇ School Identity Committee
 - ◇ Mastery-Based Learning Committees
 - ◇ Teacher and Administrator Evaluation Committee (PDEC)
 - ◇ District Data Team
 - ◇ Various Curriculum Development Committees aligned to CCSS & NGSS

Newington High School

- *Ms. Terra Tigno, Principal*

2019-2020 School Achievements

- NHS raised \$6,460 and 14,000 items to be donated to various charities. In addition, NHS raised \$1,675 in support of local businesses impacted by COVID-19.
- Three sections of AP/ECE US History earned six UCONN college credits for their performance. History teacher Mr. James Kravontka has been selected by the United States Holocaust Memorial and Museum in Washington to attend the Blefer Conference (virtually) on July 20 and 21. Mr. Kravontka was also selected by Yad Vashem, Israel's National Holocaust Museum, to participate in the Echoes & Reflections Educational Journey through Poland, slated for this summer but now postponed to summer 2021.
- English teachers worked to promote student independent reading this year. Teachers expanded their classroom libraries to include more options and worked closely with the school library to promote student choice in reading.
- This year science teachers in grades 5-12 fully implemented the Next Generation Science Standards. Students studied scientific concepts through real world problems and phenomena such as plastic in the oceans, the dangers of energy drinks, declining bee populations, arctic explorations and the implications of deforestation.
- Recognition for the Seal of Biliteracy was implemented. This recognition was received by 14 seniors on their transcripts. In addition to Italian ECE, we are pleased to announce that AP Spanish, Latin III/IV Prose and Poetry Honors have been approved by UCONN to run as ECE courses. The Italian IVH ECE class attended the Annual Italian Immersion Day and Quiz Bowl in the fall. They participated in and won 3rd place!
- In Math, Algebra 1A and 1B have been established as new course offerings within the Mathematics Scope and Sequence at Newington High School, affording students the opportunity to learn the foundations of Algebra 1 with significant time to practice and mastery of key concepts.
- Highlights from School Counseling are as follows. Number of Scholarships offered for 2020: **57**, Number of Recipients that received a Scholarship: 79, Amount of monies awarded was: \$115,500. 1383 College Applications were submitted this school year. 499 AP exams administered in 21 Subjects this school year.
- CTE had a busy year. The Finance and Business Management Academy continued to invite guest speakers and judges to enhance classroom experiences, offered opportunities for students to earn up to 9 credits at Capital Community College through NHS business coursework, and enjoyed several successes in both DECA and FBLA to compliment the classroom. The IT & Digital Creation Academy was one of the first in the state to start a chapter of the Computer Science Honor Society which inducted eight students. We had three NCWIT Aspirations in Computing award winners, and our academy teacher won the Connecticut Aspirations teacher award.
- In wellness, this is the first year of a mentorship program in partnership with adaptive physical education students. Distance Learning was fully implemented in both the Health and Physical Education components of the program.
- The Transition academy graduation parade was a big hit!
- NHS Music ensembles and productions received accolades at the CT Halo Awards, the Southington Marching Band Exposition, and the Manchester Jazz Festival. There were 25 Halo nominations and 2 Halo Award Winners Best Costume and Best Featured comic actress. 12 students were selected for the Northern Region Music Festival and 7 students were selected for CT All State Music Festival
- In Fine Arts, 15 students entered artwork into the State Scholastic Arts Competition this year, and Dylan Freeman won gold for his artwork. NHS student artwork was displayed in the Newington Senior and Disabled Center cafeteria. Levi Wyble was recognized by Newington High School at the Connecticut Association of Schools for excellence in fine art.

Boards and Commissions

150th ANNIVERSARY STEERING COMMITTEE

The committee consists of twenty-one (21) members, provides assistance with the planning of celebration events.

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.

ANNA REYNOLDS SCHOOL PROJECT BUILDING

Established by the Town Council May 2019, the Anna Reynolds School Project Building Committee consisting of seven (7) members, is responsible for the oversight of renovations to the Anna Reynolds Elementary School.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Audit Committee, consisting of three (3) members, provides oversight of the financial reporting and audit processes.

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.

BALF TOWN COMMITTEE

Established on May 23, 1989 by Town Council, consisting of one (1) member from the Environmental Quality Commission, two (2) Balf Representatives, two (2) Town Councilors, two (2) residents from the neighborhood surrounding Balf quarry. The committee is responsible for monitoring blasting activity and reviewing complaints.

BUILDING CODE BOARD OF APPEALS

The Building Code Board of Appeals, consisting of five (5) members, provides an appeal process by holding hearings to determine the validity of the Code Official's action.

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.

ECONOMIC 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.

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.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE COMMITTEE

The Emergency Medical Service Committee is composed of seven (7) members, provides oversight and recommends changes in the local emergency medical service plan for the Town.

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.

Boards and Commissions

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.

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.

NEWINGTON 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.

JOINT SHARED SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE

The Joint Shared Services Subcommittee identifies opportunities to provide collaborative services among common governmental bodies.

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.

LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) was established to advise the Town on emergency management matters and policies.

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.

POLICE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The Police Community Council was established in 2016 to foster communication, cooperation and understanding between residents and Newington law enforcement.

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 HALL RENOVATIONS PROJECT BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Town Hall Renovations Project Building Committee, comprised of seven (7) members, is charged to work with the Town Manager and other appropriate Town staff in the oversight of renovations and/or modifications to the Town Hall, including the Mortensen Community Center and shall do such work in accordance with Chapter 8, Article X (Project Building Committees) of the Code of Ordinances; to maintain ongoing collaboration with the Library Expansion Public Building Committee.

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 2019-2020

Town Finances FY 2019-2020

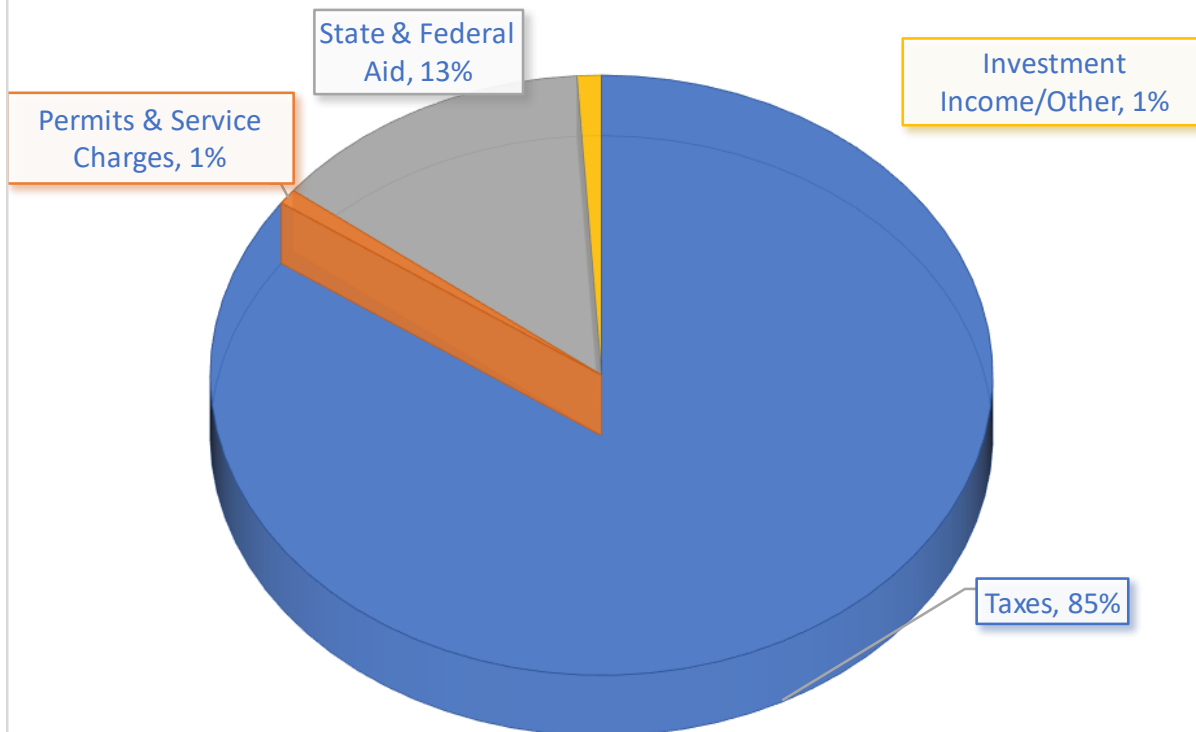
- The Town's adopted General Fund budget for 2019-20 totaled \$123,706,166
- The Mill Rate was 39.45
- The Town achieved a collection rate of 99.10% on the current levy.
- The Town's bond indebtedness at June 30, 2020 totaled \$26,360,000
- The Town's actual expenditures were \$121,639,122 and actual revenues totaled \$125,748,283.

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 2019-20, by Source (\$ thousands)

Source	2018-19	2019-20	\$ Change
Taxes	102,616	106,053	3,437
Permits	296	307	11
State & Federal Aid	16,278	17,169	891
Service Charges	695	767	72
Investment Income	791	460	(331)
Other	1,071	992	(79)
TOTAL	121,747	125,748	4,001

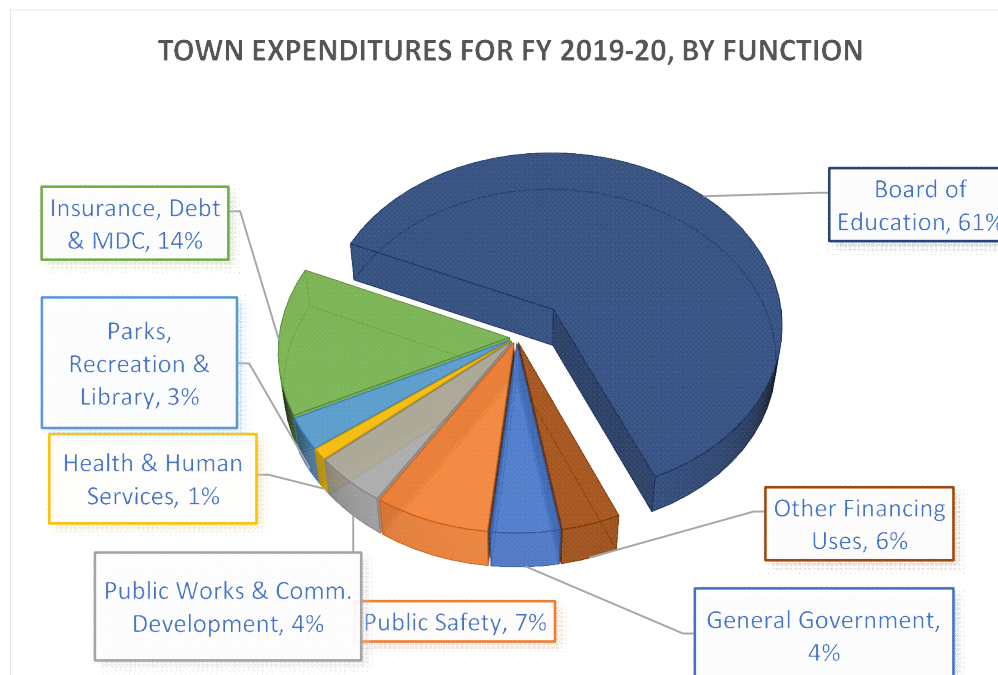
TOWN REVENUE BY SOURCE, FY 2019-20



Town Finances FY 2019-2020

Actual Town Expenditures for FY 2019-20, by Function (\$ thousands)

Function	2018-19	2019-20	\$ Change
General Government	5,180	4,930	(250)
Public Safety	8,661	8,492	(169)
Public Works & Comm. Development	5,515	5,597	82
Health & Human Services	1,222	1,245	23
Parks, Recreation & Library	3,448	3,445	(3)
Insurance, Debt & MDC	16,617	16,404	(211)
Board of Education	71,942	74,088	2,146
Other Financing Uses	4,412	7,438	3,026
TOTAL	116,997	121,639	4,644



Town Finances FY 2019-2020

Bonds Outstanding June 30, 2020
(in thousands)

Function	Amount
Schools	6,692
General Purpose	19,668
TOTAL	26,360

Schedule of Debt Principal and Interest by Year as of June 30, 2020
(in thousands)

Year Ending June 30	Principal	Interest	Total
2021	1,875	876	2,751
2022	1,865	806	2,671
2023	1,850	733	2,583
2024	1,835	660	2,495
2025	1,385	587	1,972
2026	1,200	523	1,723
2027	1,200	463	1,663
TOTAL	11,210	4,648	15,858