

ANNUAL REPORT

2021-2022



Photos available on <https://www.newingtonhistoricalsociety.org/>

Happy 150th Newington

Website:
www.newingtononct.gov

Tel: 860-665-8500

Address:
200 Garfield Street
Newington, CT 06111

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 and 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 and Disabled Center	860-665-8778
Town Clerk	860-665-8545
Town Manager	860-665-8510
Town Planner	860-665-8575

Town of Newington

Annual Report

2021-2022



Edited by:
Karen Gallicchio

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

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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 2021-2022 was 38.81. 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.

The **Deming-Young Farm Foundation**, Inc. (DYFF), located 282 Church Street, was founded in February 2001 in response to the Town of Newington's request for proposal to save the 1784 Thomas Deming farmhouse from demolition. In April 2001, the foundation was incorporated and later that year received 501c3 status. The mission of the DYFF is the restoration and preservation of the 1784 farmhouse.

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 and available on the Newington Government YouTube page.



Mayor
Beth DelBuono



Minority Leader (D)
Mitch Page



Majority Leader (R)
Tim Manke



Councilor
Sharon Braverman



Deputy Mayor
Gail Budrejko



Councilor
Michael Camillo



Councilor
John Donahue



Councilor
Kim Radda



Councilor
David Nagel

2021-2022 Budget

On April 20, 2021, the Town Council Adopted the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget as follows:

- Total appropriations: \$129,404,908.
- Mill Rate: 38.81 mills.
- Approved the Town of Newington Long Range Capital Improvement Plan 2021-2022 through 2025-2026.

2022-2023 Budget

On April 19, 2022, the Town Council Adopted the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget as follows:

- Total appropriations: \$134,023,411.
- Mill Rate: 38.49 mills.
- Approved the Town of Newington Long Range Capital Improvement Plan 2022-2023 through 2026-2027.

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:

2021-2022 Highlights

- Awarded 2021-2022 Teacher of the Year to Christopher Klatt, English Language Arts Teacher at John Wallace Middle School.
- Selected Patty Foley and Newington CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) as the 2021 Town of Newington Volunteers of the Year.
- Approved the creation of the 5-member Charter Revision Commission in February 2022.
- A Crime Petition regarding increased car break ins and thefts was submitted to state legislators in hopes they would include this topic for discussion at their Special Session.
- Approved requests for Tax Assessment Fixing Agreements for development at 3333 Berlin Turnpike, Meadow Commons and 227 Pane Road, the Pike Apartment Complex.
- Approval of the amendment to the Newington Code of Ordinances, Permanent Municipal Building Commission.
- 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
(Submitted by James Krupienski, Acting Town Manager)

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

2020-2021 Highlights

- As a result of the pandemic, the Declaration of Civil Preparedness Emergency continued until May 2022, the Town Hall modified some services but mainly remained open with precautionary measures.
- In partnership with the Economic Development team, new developments including residential and retail projects are in the process of fruition.
- The Town executed an agreement with Sonick Group, a company who provides grant writing services to our departments to help secure fiscal resources.
- With the operating hours, Monday through Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, it has been a challenge for patrons who work similar business hours to visit the Town Hall. Most have to take time off of work to complete personal or business needs. In efforts to better serve the community, the Town Manager's office distributed an internal survey and found an alternative schedule as one of the most favorable for employees. A pilot work hour program began on July 1st and will be reevaluated after we receive feedback from the public.
- Regionalized the Animal Control Officer position in the Police Department with the Town of Wethersfield.
- Updated the classification plan, reviewed existing job descriptions and revised them to reflect current responsibilities and proposed new jobs to the classification plan. This would include the following positions: Operations/Project Manager, Deputy Police Chief, Deputy Assessor, and Assistant Town Manager.
- Advertised, interviewed applicants and made hiring decisions for all open full-time positions in the Town and Police Department.
- 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

25 Years

- Maryann Ficocelli– Police Department
- Hermas Lavoie– Highway
- Theresa McCusker– Senior & Disabled Center

20 Years

- Paul Camara– Police

15 Years

- Lisa Delude– Human Services
- Corinne Aldinger– Tax
- Richard Huggard– Human Services
- Timothy Buggee– Police
- Shannon LaChance –Police
- Henry Rodriguez- Police
- Matthew D'Esposito– Police
- Timothy Rinaldo– Police

10 Years

- Steve Winiarski– Grounds
- John DiBiase– Highway
- Shawn Brennan– Facilities
- Erik Lundin– Highway
- Timothy Lapierre– Grounds
- John DiMaria– Engineering
- Karen Halpert– Senior & Disabled Center
- Pam Wassik– Human Services

5 Years

- Timothy Bodine– Facilities
- James Krupienski– Town Clerk
- Kieran Kilkenny– Building
- Tommy Williams– Police
- Gabriella Lambros– Police
- Tyler Zajac– Police

Newington Administration

Town Clerk

James Krupienski, 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, Veteran's 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 Ordinances; 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.

2021-2022 Highlights

- The Municipal Election was held on November 2, 2021, for which the office issued 1,163 Absentee Ballots.
- Received a \$7,500 FY 2022 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.
- The Town Clerk's office trained Staff Commission Liaisons in the use of Zoom meeting software to assist their Boards or Commissions with the Virtual meeting format. The Government YouTube page has been beneficial for residents and staff for review of publicly accessible meetings of the Town.
- The public record shredding event was held in September, 2021 and June, 2022, for town residents to destroy personal records and decrease solid waste removal costs for the town. This event is expected to continue into the future.

2022-2023 Goals

- Ongoing cross-training of staff for continuity of knowledge during educational/training sessions, absences or vacations.
- Complete the relocation of all recorded maps to new accessible and portable map cabinets. New map cabinets were acquired in the 2021 Fiscal year.
- Continued scheduling of the bi-annual public record shredding event for town residents to destroy personal files and to decrease solid waste removal costs within the Town.
- Application for a FY 2023 Historic Preservation Grant from the State Library to begin the process of scanning and reformatting forty-five (45) large-format Land Record volumes.

Town Clerk Statistical Summary 2021-2022		
LAND RECORDS	2021-2022	2020-2021
Documents	5,618	6,113
Maps	29	28
VITAL STATISTICS		
Births	264	289
Marriages	216	230
Deaths	421	411
LICENSES		
Sporting	208	16
Dog	2,130	2,349
Kennel	2	3
MISCELLANEOUS		
Veteran's Discharges	10	26
Trade Name Certificates	64	69
Liquor Permits	48	26
RECEIPTS – TOWN		
Recording Fees	\$199,603.00	\$232,054.00
Conveyance Tax	\$702,332.74	\$476,251.04
Document Preservation	\$19,676.00	\$21,977.00
Vital Statistics	\$41,737.00	\$37,096.00
Dog Licenses	\$2,128.00	\$2,342.00
Sporting Licenses	\$92.00	\$12.00
Copy Fees	\$29,475.50	\$28,061.00
Miscellaneous	\$5,792.65	\$3,717.60
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$1,000,836.89	\$801,510.64
RECEIPTS – STATE		
Document Preservation	\$28,848.00	\$27,928.00
Dog License Surcharge	\$4,936.00	\$5,382.00
Dog Licenses	\$12,770.00	\$13,828.50
Sporting Licenses	\$2,068.00	\$370.00
Marriage Surcharge	\$3,638.00	\$3,264.00
State Treasurer	\$323,068.00	\$388,936.00
LoCIP	\$10,734.00	\$10,137.00
TOTAL STATE	\$386,062.00	\$449,845.50
GRAND TOTAL	\$1,386,898.89	\$1,251,356.14

Newington Administration

Information Technology

Paul Boutot, Chief Information Officer
(submitted by Scott Sharlow)

The Department of Information and Technology is a centralized internal service department that provides technical resources (support, software, hardware, services, direction, and leadership) to all Town departments. The office provides services including customer care, Geographic Information System (GIS), computer and network management, telephones, electronic mail, wireless and mobile communications, web site, and support for business and desktop software applications. High priority customer support is provided 7-days-a-week, 24-hours-a-day, year round. The office is responsible for all computer system implementations, network security, and the tactical and strategic planning for technology services and solutions to support Town functions.

2021-2022 Highlights

- Installed, configured, and maintained systems including but not limited to: Computers, Servers, Wireless Access Points, Switches, Firewalls, Cabling, Door Access Controls, Audio/Visual Systems, Telephone Systems and Data Carrier Service
- Processed over 1,200 help desk work order tickets
- Maintained and enhanced Town audio/video equipment to support remote and hybrid meetings
- Installed and integrated new fire records' platform with PD Computer Aided Dispatch solution
- Deployment of Body Worn and In Car camera evidentiary management system for Public Safety
- Procured Microsoft 365 licensing for all Town departments
- Managed the Town's GIS providing maintenance, development, map creation, and support
- Completed system upgrades for Town Clerk, Police, Fire, Assessor, Tax Collector and Parks and Recreation

- Implemented, customized, and deployed new imaging solution for PC deployment
- Implemented, tested, and deployed software deployment solution for PCs across all departments
- Performed an infrastructure upgrade of Town's Video Management surveillance system
- Continued work to ensure operations are compliant with the latest standards and requirements
- Continued partnership with State of CT CEN on free community wireless internet solution at the Senior and Disabled Center and Public Library
- Network infrastructure upgrades at Police Department, Library and Senior and Disabled Center
- Upgrade of the Town's Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) and Security Information and Event Management (SIEM) platforms
- Upgraded backup software and hardware solution to ensure data security
- Support and setup for special events including the Newington Extravaganza

2022-2023 Goals

- Continue deployment of new workstations, laptops and operating systems across all departments
- Deployment of Microsoft 365 cloud-based solution for all Town departments
- Provide upgraded network deployments at remote Town facilities utilizing fiber optic connections
- Work with website vendor to perform reorganization and redesign the site
- Work with Town departments to help identify areas where technology can assist them in reaching their goals and objectives for internal and external purposes

Newington Administration

Facilities Management

Joe Salamone, Director

The Facilities Management Department has the main responsibility to provide for the physical maintenance of Town Manager designated buildings, to the level allowed by Town Council approved funding. Typically, this includes repair and maintenance of the major building components such as heating and cooling systems, roofing and life safety components. The Department also manages capital improvement projects for these same buildings whether funded by the Town or through grant funding. In addition, the Department responds to approximately 600 work orders/service requests a year.

2021-2022 Highlights

A new Operations/Project Manager was hired in April of 2022. This was critical to ensure the appropriate level of compliance and oversight associated with the ongoing initiatives of our Town Facilities. Evaluation of the Owen Reports, the needs of the building occupants and the Town's resources, are ongoing. This approach will continue to be the foundation for the Facilities Department's planning process moving forward. Projects will be prioritized according to needs.

Lucy Robbins Welles Library

- Multiple HVAC upgrades including Controllers, Fan Motors and Circulating Valves
- New vestibule heater
- Removal of old and installation of new illuminated exit signs
- Removal of old and installation of new emergency lighting
- New roof drain installation

Police Department

- EOC/PPE Supply Storage and Data Space, construction documents and bids received
- Body camera transfer/charging station
- Multiple interior upgrades and repairs
- Condenser evolution and repair
- Planning of 3 RTU replacements
- Mechanical valve and pump controller replacement

Town Hall

- Completion of RTU curb replacement
- Ongoing efforts for Solar project - 95% complete
- Replacement of security glass in Parks and Recreation, Tax, and Human Services
- Drywall repairs and contract compliance
- New cabinetry for a more conducive work flow in tax
- New filing storage for planning, permits, and engineering departments
- New lighting in Building Department and Assessors' office
- Upgrades to Human Services food pantry
- Elevator safety recall/upgrades completed
- Window Tinting

Kellogg Eddy House

- Roof replacement bid awarded

Newington Ambulance Building

- Roof replacement completed
- Mold remediation and associated repairs

Senior and Disabled Center

- Ongoing efforts for Solar project
- Roof drain relocation
- Generator replacement planning
- New outdoor air sensor associated with the chiller
- Window replacement project planning

American Legion Building

- Removed and replaced architectural shingles
- Removed and replaced vinyl siding
- Removed and replaced gutters
- Repainted front entrance
- Rebuilt existing chimney

Fire Department

- Ongoing efforts for Solar project at Station #2 & #3
- Planning for new roof at Station #2
- New HVAC equipment at Station #5
- New roof at the Fire Museum Building

Newington High School

- Removed and replaced 132,000 square feet of roofing

Highway Garage

- Removed and replaced the salt shed roof
- Installed new ventilation system in the welding shop

Administrative

- Created an Operations/Project Manager position and hire
- Created a Carpenter position and hire
- Bid and awarded new cleaning contract
- Awarded & implemented new asset management software

2022-2023 Goals

- Town Hall Signage completion; Solar project completion
- Fire Station #2 roof completion
- Kellogg Eddy House and Garage roof completion
- Replacement of EV Charging Station at Market Square
- Senior Center window replacement project
- Automobile accident at Town Hall - Insurance Claim
- Grounds Maint. Garage Exterior Sheathing replacement
- Grounds Maint. Salt Shed replacement investigation
- Grounds Maint. Break Room roof investigation/repair
- Boiler replacement at the Fire Museum
- Selection of On Call Architectural services
- EOC planning
- Police Department Shoot House roof replacement
- Highway Garage security camera upgrades
- Police Department security camera upgrades
- Electrical upgrades to Market Square/Main Street
- Police Department Memorial Monument
- Kelsey House exterior painting
- Library water damage repairs - Insurance Claim
- Police Department Storage and Data Room remodel
- State Radio Project - Motorola
- Police Department - 3 RTU replacements

Newington Administration

Registrar of Voters

Theresa Avey (R) • Marie Fox (D)

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

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 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 five institutions.
- Hold mandated and special voter making sessions.

2021-2022 Highlights

- Successfully conducted a Municipal Election during the COVID pandemic. COVID was one of the reasons that could be used for requesting an absentee ballot.
- There were 20,737 registered voters as of November 2, 2021.
- Turnout on Election Day Registration was 8 electors.
- Voter turnout for the 11/02/2021 Municipal was 34.79%.

Polling Locations (all handicapped accessible)

District 1: Mortensen Community Center, 200 Garfield Street
District 2: Ruth 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 Halloran 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 Halloran Drive
EDR (Election Day Registration): Town Hall Mortensen Community Center, 200 Garfield Street

The Census was completed, and the Reapportionment Committee realigned our State Assembly Districts, making our 27th District part of Newington and part of New Britain and giving us a new 20th District which is a part of West Hartford, removing 24th and 29th Districts. With this change, we redistricted, reducing from 8 polling districts to 7 polling districts. District 1, 2, 4, 5 & 7 Assembly District 27th; and District 3 & 6 Assembly District 20th. On March 8, 2022, Town Council voted and approved the new Voting Districts.

The office also made the change that all standalone referenda and town committee primaries be held in one single location determined by this office.

New Polling Locations (all handicapped accessible)

District 1: Mortensen Community Center, 200 Garfield Street
District 2: Ruth Chaffee School, 160 Superior Avenue
District 3: Anna Reynolds School, 85 Reservoir Road
District 4: Elizabeth Green School, 30 Thomas Street
District 5: John Paterson School, 120 Church Street
District 6: John Wallace Middle School, 71 Halloran Drive
District 7: Martin Kellogg Middle School, 155 Harding Avenue
EDR: (Election Day Registration): Town Hall Mortensen Community Center, 200 Garfield Street

2022-2023 Goals

- Continue to update our technology of voting and new equipment.
- Establish updated education and training procedures for all election officials.



Registrar of Voters (ROV) Staff above with Connecticut Secretary of the State Stephanie Thomas (ABOVE) 



Newington Administration

Finance Department

Janet Murphy, Director

The Department of Finance consists of the Administration and Accounting, Assessor's, 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, handles the daily Treasury operations and manages cash and debt obligations.

Mission Statement

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

2021-2022 Highlights

Administration and Accounting

- For the 32nd consecutive year, the Town submitted their application to be awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for fiscal year 2020-2021. Due to a backlog in reviewing the reports, the Town is still waiting for the results.
- The Town is preparing to go out for the first bonding on the Anna Reynolds School Renovation project in the Spring of 2023. Our current credit rating from Standard & Poor is AA+.
- The Town of Newington's outstanding bonded debt on June 30th, 2022 was \$22,620,000, a decrease of \$1.9 million from the prior year.
- During the spring of 2022, the Town provided to small businesses a COVID relief grant in the amount up to \$10,000. This funding was made available under the federal ARPA grant. There was \$265,000 worth of grants distributed, and a second application period is being scheduled for the Fall of 2022.
- Projects for ARPA funding are being discussed and presented to the Council for approval. Annual reporting on this grant was done during the Spring of 2022.
- 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.
- Work has begun with our financial software vendor Tyler-Munis to put in place the Employee Self-Serve portal. This will allow employees to access their payroll stubs and items such as W-2 forms from their home. After the full project is completed, it will include on-line recruiting and benefit enrollment.

Assessor, Steven Kosofsky (submitted by Fauna Eller)

Mission Statement

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 as of the October 1, 2020 revaluation. Revaluations are performed as required every 5 years. The 2021 Real Estate Grand List totals reflect the changes in the real estate grand list for new construction, additions, demolitions, reductions for appeals through the Board of Assessment Appeals and through superior court, over the base revaluation year in 2020. Business Personal Property and Motor Vehicles are assessed at 70% annually. The Grand List consists of over 12,500 real estate parcels, 1,450 business personal property accounts and over 27,500 motor vehicles. The office is also responsible for assisting special service programs by annually updating over 450 elderly tax credits, 20 blind exemptions, 2,270 special assessment adjustments for veterans, and 188 disabled exemptions for Newington taxpayers.

Department Achievements FY 2021-2022

- Provided professional service to general public and taxpayers.
- Completed October 1, 2021 Grand List on time as required by law.
- Sent out and processed 500 Income and Expense forms to owners of commercial properties, which have also been data entered.
- Sent out and processed over 1,450 business Personal Property Declarations.
- Approved approximately 450 elderly taxpayers for tax relief benefits totaling just under \$500,000.

Department Goals FY 2022-2023

- Continue to defend tax appeals filed on the October 1, 2020 revaluation; 31 were filed, 20 have been settled, 11 remain open.
- 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.

Newington Administration Finance Department

The month of January 2022 was spent by all staff members finalizing the October 1, 2021 Grand List which was formally signed in front of the Town Clerk on January 28, 2022. The final totals for the Grand List are shown below:

TOWN OF NEWINGTON—2021 NET TAXABLE GRAND LIST - February 1, 2022				
Category	2020 Grand List	2021 Grand List	Dollar Change	% Change
Real Estate	2,360,076,490	2,349,430,650	(10,645,840)	(0.45)%
Personal Property	169,607,780	193,713,798	24,106,018	14.21%
Motor Vehicles	245,810,126	301,002,746	55,192,620	22.45%
Total	\$2,775,494,396	\$2,844,147,194	\$ 68,652,798	2.47%

TAX EXEMPT: \$416,960,650 \$408,794,430 (\$ 8,166,220) (1.96)%

PERSONAL PROPERTY EXEMPTIONS				
	2020 Grand List	2021 Grand List	Dollar Change	% Change
Mfg. Exemption	91,951,820	85,529,920	(6,421,900)	(6.98)%
Solar Exemption	5,297,610	5,450,070	152,460	2.88%
Other Exemption	7,471,900	13,957,720	6,485,820	86.80%
Total Exemptions	\$104,721,330	\$104,937,710	\$ 216,380	0.21%

At the current mill rate, the total amount of personal property exemptions of 104,937,710 equates to **\$4,039,052** of tax dollars being redistributed to real estate, motor vehicle and other personal property taxpayers.

COMMENTARY ON THE OCTOBER 1, 2021 GRAND LIST

The October 1, 2021 Net Grand List for the Town of Newington totals **\$2,844,147,194** which is an increase of \$68,652,798 or 2.47% from the 2020 Net Grand List total.

At the present mill rate of 38.81, this would generate an additional **\$4,551,272** in new tax revenue. This, however, was not realized, as the governor capped the mill rate for motor vehicles at 32.46 mills, a loss in potential revenue of just under **\$1,815,046**.

This increase is primarily attributable to a significant increase in the registered Motor Vehicles and Business Personal Property sections of the Grand List which increased \$55,192,620 and \$24,106,018 respectively.

The **Real Estate** portion of the 2021 Grand List totals **\$2,349,430,650** which is a decrease of \$10,645,840 or 0.45% less than the 2020 Grand List.

The **Personal Property** section of the 2021 Grand List totals **\$193,713,798** which is an increase of \$24,106,018 or 14.21% over the 2020 Grand List.

The **Motor Vehicle** section of the 2021 Grand List totals **\$301,002,746** which is an increase of \$55,192,620 or 22.45% over the 2020 Grand List. The average assessment of the vehicles on the list this year increased from \$8,964 to \$11,637 to reflect the increase in the cost of vehicles.

The **Tax-Exempt** portion of the 2021 Real Estate Grand List totals \$408,794,430 which represents 14.8% decrease of the total Real Estate Grand List. The totals presented in the chart and discussed above are the net Grand List, excluding non-taxable property.

Newington Administration

Finance Department

Revenue Collector, Corinne Aldinger, CCMC

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

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

generated by all other Town departments is balanced in the Tax Office and then deposited. The office of the Revenue Collector also serves as a center for property tax information. The staff assists attorneys, title searchers, real estate agents, residents and others regarding payment history and other information available from the tax records.

Tax Collection Activity FY 2021-22

Taxes on Current Levy	\$104,519,156.77
Taxes on Motor Vehicle Supplemental List	1,239,250.41
Taxes on Prior Years' Lists	534,454.48
Interest, Liens and Other Fees	371,541.59
Taxes on Advanced Collection 2021 GL	614,780.63
Taxes and Fees Collected	107,279,183.88
Collection Rate on Current Levy	99.5%

TOWN OF NEWINGTON

2021 GRAND LIST—TOP 25 ASSESSMENTS

<u>RANK</u>	<u>TAXPAYER</u>	<u>MAJOR TENANTS</u>	<u>GROSS</u>	<u>EXEMPTION</u>	<u>NET</u>
2020	2021				
1	1 CL&P CO/EVERSOURCE	PUBLIC UTILITY PERSONAL PROPERTY	74,524,860	0	74,524,860
3	2 IREIT NEWINGTON FAIR	SAM'S CLUB & LA FITNESS (BERLIN TPK)	23,150,610	0	23,150,610
5	3 HAYES KAUFMAN NEWINGTON	STOP & SHOP (FENN RD) & STARBUCKS PLAZA & CVS (MAIN ST)	21,229,420	0	21,229,420
6	4 TLG NEWINGTON LLC	STOP & SHOP & JOEY GARLIC PLAZA (KITTS LANE)	20,909,940		20,909,940
2	5 MANDELL PROPERTIES	DATA MAIL & SUBSIDIARIES (HARTFORD AVE)	20,300,660	6,763,590	13,537,070
7	6 BRIXMOR GA TURNPIKE PLAZA LLC	DICK'S & PRICE CHOPPER & CHILIS PLAZA (BERLIN TPK)	20,150,380	0	20,150,380
8	7 NEWINGTON VF LLC	WALMART & STAPLES PLAZA (BERLIN TPK)	19,975,400	0	19,975,400
9	8 NEWINGTON GROSS LLC	STEW LEONARDS PLAZA (BERLIN TPK)	19,529,360	0	19,529,360
10	9 EDAC TECHNOLOGIES CORP	MANUFACTURER (RICHARD ST)	19,436,820	15,596,320	3,840,500
11	10 RENO PROPERTIES & SUBSIDIARIES	MFG & REAL ESTATE HOLDINGS (PANE RD & ROCKWELL)	16,609,030	2,347,470	14,261,560
4	11 GKN AEROSPACE NEWINGTON LLC	AEROSPACE MFG (LOUIS ST)	16,504,010	13,831,350	2,672,660
12	12 SCELZA/CAMBRIDGE/BALDWIN	LANDMARK & CAMBRIDGE APARTMENTS	15,253,600	0	15,253,600
13	13 SHELBOURNE NEWINGTON LLC	REAL ESTATE HOLDINGS (FORMER FAFNIR BLDG)	15,047,420	0	15,047,420
15	14 CONNECTICUT NATURAL GAS	PUBLIC UTILITY PERSONAL PROPERTY	14,645,080	0	14,645,080
14	15 TARGET CORPORATION #T1802	RETAIL BIG BOX (BERLIN TPK)	12,801,970	0	12,801,970
17	16 LOWES HOME CENTERS INC #623	RETAIL BIG BOX (BERLIN TPK)	12,585,270	0	12,585,270
18	17 BALF/TILCON	MINERAL QUARRY (HARTFORD AVE)	11,816,320	2,285,680	9,530,640
16	18 NE FARMINGTON OWNER LLC	COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT (SOUTHEAST ROAD)	10,121,730	0	10,121,730
19	19 FURNITURE EXECUTIVES NO 4 LP	RAYMOUR & FLANIGAN/BEST BUY (BERLIN TPK)	9,854,440	0	9,854,440
21	20 COHEN FAMILY PROPERTIES	GLOUCESTER & SALEM VILLAGE APARTMENTS	8,770,570	0	8,770,570
22	21 PRIME STORAGE NEWINGTON LLC	PUBLIC STORAGE FACILITY (ALUMNI ROAD)	8,326,830	0	8,326,830
20	22 HTFD HOSPITAL (CEDAR MT COMMS)	ELDERLY ASSISTED LIVING (JOHN H STEWART DR)	7,505,720	0	7,505,720
25	23 BROWN DEVELOPMENT LLC	AMERICAN EAGLE/STARBUCKS/BASSETT/ (BERLIN TPK)	6,909,000	0	6,909,000
24	24 FENNWOODE DEVELOPMENT LLC	FENNWOODE APARTMENTS	6,721,200	0	6,721,200
23	25 SAPUTO DAIRY FOODS USA	DAIRY PRODUCTS MFG (MILK LANE)	6,655,300	6,132,300	523,000
TOTALS:			419,334,940	46,956,710	372,378,230
% OF TOTAL GRAND LIST:		13.09%			

Newington Community Services

Human Services

Carol LaBrecque, Director

Overview

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 financial case management, clinical therapy, crisis and disaster response, and economic assistance.

2021-22 Significant Achievements

- This year revealed a community gradually exiting the negative impact of the COVID pandemic. Clients were extremely pleased to be making connections in person for counseling and casework, shopping and choosing their own groceries and holiday gifts, as well as participating in youth adventure programs and community presentations in person. Numerous households, however, revealed issues that had been unattended to during COVID, now creating more complex needs to be addressed.
- We saw a significant increase in the number of cases presenting with multiple complicated issues, thus requiring more hours of case management to reach service goals.
- Youth programs were offered in-person following recommended safety practices.
- The food bank added client-choice shopping sessions while maintaining delivery or pick up of pre-packed food. We were assisted with an average of 200 volunteer hours each month. Wellness checks/conversations continued to be provided to Food Bank recipients and casework clients.
- Secured, dedicated, easily accessible space for administration of holiday food and gift programs in November and December, through collaboration with Parks and Recreation providing space for gift distribution, and the library providing parking lot space for drive through food distribution.
- Staff provided quality services, untangling the web of intertwined needs that were presented. A noted increase in housing needs, lack of access to emergency shelters, difficulty in connecting in a timely manner to mental health and substance use disorder treatment.
- We instituted a centralized database system that can keep HIPPA compliant case notes, registrations for programs, document volunteer hours and donations, and track various service programs such as the food bank and the holiday food and gift program. We are still in the initial learning stages of the available features and functions of this system.

Goals for 2022-2023

- Explore and pursue an enhancement of healthy choices available through the food bank.
- Continue to provide quality casework services, increasing connections with all sectors of our community that may identify and refer those in need.
- Staff development to maintain knowledge base on current trends and best practices. Offer training to maintain clinical licensure and certifications required for administration of adventure-based programs.
- Continue to offer a wide array of positive youth development programs which offer youth connections in their community and increased resiliency. Address trending issues for youth, including vaping, substance use, prevention programs, increased report of anxiety, truancy, and legalized cannabis use.
- Continue to offer user friendly access to information relevant to our service population via updated department web page. Explore expanded use of social media.
- To revitalize our clinical services through securing positive leadership in the Clinical Coordinator position, outreach, community collaboration, increased counseling services, education and awareness, and de-stigmatization of Mental Health issues. Unfortunately, the Clinical Coordinator position which was filled in September 2021 is again vacant as of October 2022, so we will be seeking a permanent replacement for this position.
- Fill vacancies on Commissions.

ANNUAL STATISTICS

	2021-2022	2020-2021
Youth & Family Counseling	78 Cumulative Cases (position vacant 7/21 to 10/21)	90 Cumulative Cases
Avg. Monthly Y & F Cases	14 Households (once position filled)	7.5 Households
Youth & Family Service Hrs.	304 Annual	645.75 Annual
Total Casework Cases	972 Cumulative Cases	1,040 Cumulative Cases
Avg. Monthly Casework Cases	81 Households	87 Households
Casework Service Hours	1,842 Hours	1,787 Hours
Special Needs Food Bank	158 Cases 1,584 Visits; 17,493 Bags	102 Cases 1,970 Visits; 1,887 Bags
Open Air Market	2,497 Visits	2,203 Visits
Holiday Foods, Gifts	355 HH; 697 Individuals	418 HH; 827 Individuals
Operation Fuel Applications	57 HH; \$26,974.60 Grants	64 HH; \$26,898.92 Grants
Positive Youth Development	1,736 Program Registrations	597 Program Registrations
Juvenile Review Board	6 Cases	13 Cases
Information and Referral	2,859 Requests	6,143 Requests
Educational/Training Participants	75 Participants	0 Participants



Newington Community Services

Lucy Robbins Welles Library

Lisa Masten, Director

The library had another year of twists and turns as Newington continued to navigate the ramifications of the pandemic. The library building had been open since April 29, 2021. Staff had never stopped working when the building was closed. Despite a slight blip at the end of August when the COVID rate skyrocketed and the building closed for several weeks, the library has been open ever since. Initially, when the library reopened, services were limited to browsing, one-hour computer use by appointment, virtual programming, Grab & Go Kits, and information assistance. As the year progressed, the library was able to open more, offering seating and quiet study space and services that had not been available since March 2020 when the pandemic hit.

Library services that were modified due to the pandemic continued to evolve throughout the year. *The Lucy-to-Go* curbside service went from next day pickup to immediate pickup once arrangements were made. The *Books-for-You* homebound delivery service was offered to residents living in Newington senior living facilities as well as residential homes thanks to the collaboration with the GFWC of Newington/Wethersfield. Outreach to these senior living facilities resumed in early 2022. The library now has two notaries, giving the library the ability to offer free notary services weekdays as well as one evening a week and two Saturdays a month. Study rooms and free meeting space opened, and monthly art exhibits were displayed in the Community Room. The hours of the library were expanded with the library open now six days a week including four evenings. The big news was that for the first time in six years, the library was once again open for 25 Sundays beginning in November 2021. During the year, 33,146 items were downloaded, staff filled 3,173 curbside transactions, answered 44,077 reference transactions, welcomed 71,408 people through the doors, and circulated 191,218 items.

Several new services were added to better serve our patrons. The children's staff introduced *Topic Totes for Teachers* and *Sight Word Reading Bundles* for parents teaching their children to read. New online services added included *Museum Key* that allows patrons to register for passes online and print it out from home and *Springshare* that allows patrons to register for library programs online. A new library app is also available that gives patrons access to the library catalog, their library account and the ability to create a digital version of their library card on their device.

Building and maintaining a well-balanced, diverse collection both in print and digital formats to meet the needs of the Newington community remained a priority. Staff had been increasing the digital collection over the past two years to meet the demand and continued to do so as demand remained high. Bestselling books were purchased in multiple formats including print, large print, audio and digital. Materials were also purchased to support the school curriculums.

Library programming was offered virtually and in-person. Virtual programs included pre-recorded programs or live programs via Zoom. Staff had to master recording, editing and uploading to *YouTube* for pre-recorded programs and learning the ins and outs of Zooms for live virtual programming.

Thanks to collaborations with the Chamber of Commerce, local organizations and area libraries, the library was able to offer a wide variety of virtual programming for all ages. Outdoor programming was offered in the spring (weather permitting). In-person programming began at the beginning of 2022 with story times, and we slowly added programs for all ages as the COVID numbers declined. For the year, staff offered 484 programs to 14,308 people.

A new roof was put on a major part of the library to address the leaks from the previous year. There were several substantial additional roof leaks in the spring of June 2022 in a different area that were resolved but will need additional repairs in the coming year. The library received an ARPA grant specific to libraries to replace technology furniture on the first floor and a grant from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving Greater Together Newington Community Fund to add 10 additional mobile hotspots to circulate to Newington residents.

Our Friends group held a new fundraiser called I Love Lucy Because... where people purchased hearts that were hung in the library, and they were finally able to have their indoor Spring Book Sale in 2022. The Library Board of Trustees was busy holding its 2021 road race fundraiser in the fall and the spring road race at its normal time of year in May 2022, as well as working with a consultant to update its library expansion feasibility study.

In the coming year, we will be focused on re-engaging with the community to bring people back, staying vigilant against the increasing efforts to censor and ban books, continuing to look for grant money to offer new services, work with the Library Board toward a possible renovation in the future, and continue to reimagine library services to best meet the needs and offer the best service to our Newington community.

Statistical Summary	2021-2022
Items Circulated	191,218
Total Downloads	33,146
Downloads: eBooks & Book Views & Magazines	19,876
Downloads: Audiobooks	10,684
Downloads: Music & Video Streaming	2,586
Museum Pass Usage	408
Online Database Usage-Adult	133,723
Online Database Usage-Children & Teen	98,653
Library Curbside Pickups	3,173
Holds on Shelf Pulled for Patrons	21,971
Total #Cardholders	8,529
Patron Count	71,388
Reference Transactions	44,077
Children's Programs	260
Children's Attendance	8,453
Teen Programs	39
Teen Attendance	519
Adult Programs	185
Adult Attendance	5,336
Items Added	28,666
Items Deleted	12,552
Meeting Rooms Usage (outside groups)	6
Study Room Usage	0
Library Holdings– Physical Holdings & Digital	292,463
Volunteer Hours	219
Books Mended	985
AV Repairs	576

Newington Community Services Senior and Disabled Center

Report prepared by Jaime Trevethan

The Mission of the Newington Senior and Disabled Center is to improve the well-being of older adults and adults with disabilities in the Town of Newington.

The Newington Senior and Disabled Center offers a wide array of programs and services to meet its mission.

Open to all persons aged 55 and older and adults with disabilities, the Center identifies eight well-being dimensions integral to the program planning process. Staff plans programs 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, lifelong learning, and supportive services including case management, transportation, and nutrition. It was the first Center in Connecticut to be nationally accredited, receiving renewed accreditation status in May 2022, and is the designated Community Focal Point for aging services.

2021-2022 Highlights

- The COVID pandemic significantly impacted the Center. As the infection rate fluctuated, there was a continual reassessment and revision of plans regarding in-person activities and programs. In consultation with the Central CT Health District and the Emergency Management staff, in March 2022 the Center began a gradual reopening, with the goal to resume all in-person operations by the end of 2022.
- As of June 30, 2022, most of the daily activities and services had returned, with plans to resume activities such as the Gift Shop, bus trips, and larger events by Fall 2022.
- The Center's mission to improve well-being drove decision-making focused on staying healthy, active, and connected.
- The Center developed new communication tools and a high-tech (virtual), low-tech (telephone), and no-tech (in-person with social distancing) program framework to engage both those returning to the Center for in-person activities and to combat social isolation for those remaining at home.
- Highlighted programs for FY 2021-22 included expert presentations on various topics related to healthy aging, meditation, financial planning, scam prevention, balance and fall prevention, American and European history, pop culture, ice cream socials, coffee hours, tech help, trivia contests and concerts, games such as bingo and setback, numerous exercise and fitness classes for all levels, arts and craft instruction, intergenerational programs such as a pen pal program and the WISE program with CCSU students, Neurocize, programs in conjunction with Parks and Recreation, such as the annual Pool Party, a walking challenge and evidence-based courses such as A Matter of Balance.
- Center Director Dianne Stone retired on January 1, 2022. Jaime Trevethan was appointed to the Director position. On April 14, 2022, Josey Aux was appointed to the vacant Administrative Coordinator position.
- The Center became a hub for COVID vaccine-related information and resources, tests, and masks. Staff hosted five CCHD vaccine and booster clinics and fielded hundreds of phone calls about vaccine availability, often assisting those without internet access with making appointments at various vaccination clinics. In a coordinated effort with the Emergency Management Department and Human Services, COVID at-home tests and N-95 masks were distributed when available through drive-through events and home delivery.
- On May 27, 2022, the National Council on Aging and the National Institute of Senior Centers voted to approve the Center's national accreditation. Accreditation ensures that the Center operates at the highest level of national standards. It also opens avenues to be at the forefront in developing new, innovative, evidence-based programs and services and gives us an advantage when applying for competitive grant funding.
- Outreach to members and the community continued to be a priority. The popular weekly robocall continued through the year, reaching over 1,000 members with important information each Friday. Other outreach methods included frequent social media posts, email, and electronic and hard copy distribution of the monthly Connection Newsletter.
- Nutrition remained a core focus for the Center. The in-person congregate meal returned in April 2022, serving 30-50 folks ages 60+ a hot, balanced lunch each day as part of the Federal Nutrition Program. The Meals-On-Wheels program continued with increased use, with volunteers and staff delivering over 1,100 meals to homebound residents each month. The volunteer Coffee Shop reopened in April 2022, serving coffee, light breakfast, and snacks. The Center is fortunate to have a dedicated roster of more than 90 volunteers in nutrition, technology, tax preparation, the gift shop, gardening, and office assistance.
- 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. Staff established effective methods to provide services for all COVID operating levels, including in-person, telephone, mail, and a drop box at the Center. The AARP Tax-Aide program took place February through April 2022, providing free tax preparation to over 200 people.
- Dial-A-Ride resumed full operations in early 2022, providing 1,890 rides (one-way) to 115 participants. In addition, Dial-A-Ride drivers delivered over 1,000 meals for the Meals on Wheels program, delivered COVID tests and masks to those with transportation challenges, and assisted with deliveries for the Newington Human Services Food Bank.
- The Center's Giving Garden was fully operable with two leaders and 2-3 volunteers planting, maintaining, and harvesting the garden. Over 600 pounds of organic produce was donated to the Human Services Food Bank.
- Facilities completed several large building projects over the year, including replacing the HVAC system; and Parks refreshed outdoor landscaping. Interior displays were reorganized and refreshed throughout. Plans are underway to replace all of the windows in the Center.
- Director Jaime Trevethan was appointed as a CT Healthy Living Collective Advisory Committee member and elected Vice President of the CT Association of Senior Center Personnel. She is active in local and statewide groups that focus on providing resources on successful aging in the community.

2022-2023 Goals

- Continue efforts to strengthen community engagement to support aging in place.
- Build on the professional services of the Center and ensure a safe, welcoming, & well-maintained facility.
- Continue to find ways to address social isolation, and deliver programs and services to isolated older adults.

Newington Community Services

Parks and Recreation

William DeMaio, Superintendent

The Parks and Recreation Department is comprised of three divisions: Recreation, Parks and 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 Park and Mill Pond Park pavilions, as well as the Mortensen Community Center, the Kellogg Eddy House, and the Municipal Parking Lot), 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 outdoor courts at Churchill Park and eight indoor courts at the Mortensen Community Center. Golfers can enjoy the beauty of the landscape at the town-owned, privately operated, 18-hole Indian Hill Golf Course. 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. Comprehensive renovations to Memorial Softball Field and Legends Baseball Field were also completed. For the first time ever, lights were installed at Legends Baseball Field.

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, Cheerleading, and Special Olympics 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 34 free concerts on Thursday nights at Mill Pond Park and Saturday nights and Sunday afternoons at the Municipal Parking Lot. Due to COVID, weekly concerts were held in the spring, summer, and fall at the Municipal Parking Lot. The Department prides itself on their efforts and the 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 hosted Newington Goes Country, Food Truck Friday, and Motorcycle Madness in the month of June. 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.

2021-2022 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; over 15,000 picnickers enjoyed the park at the pavilions.
- Newington gardeners reserved garden plots in the Community Gardens' program at Deming-Young Farm for their vegetable growing pleasure.
- The Department aggressively utilized social media to assist in a comprehensive plan to advertise all programs.
- The Adult Cornhole League continued to be a popular program for adults, running on Thursday nights at Mill Pond Park during the spring, summer, and fall.
- Additional opportunities for recreation and leisure were offered, including DJ pool parties at Churchill Park and Mill Pond Park pools, Fun Runs, and The Edythe & Harry Mandell Summer Concert Series at Mill Pond Park sponsored by Data-Mail Inc. The Night of Lights' celebration was held on Main Street in December.
- The Creative Playtime Preschool Program continued to attract over 40 families each year and has remained a popular choice for parents of children ages 3 to 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 at its location in the Mortensen Community Center.
- 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 nine-week educational and entertaining experience during the summer months.
- Summer Camp RECreate continued to grow and attract more participation of children. This year's numbers were significantly increased; and for the first time, the Department had to enforce a maximum on the program. The additional week of camp, Camp S'more, was such a success last year that we added a second week.
- Opportunities to advertise in our seasonal program guide were offered again, and we continued to see interest from public/private partnerships including Geico, Data-Mail, Hindling Sports Builders, Church of Christ Congregational, AARP, MDC, Happy Harry's Wine and Liquor Warehouse, CMI Sound, Tony Palermino, Sequin Level Lodge No. 140, MooYah, WhipLash & Spa, Baby Bee's, The Flash Lady Photography, The Flying Monkey, Trantolo & Trantolo, West

Newington Community Services

Parks and Recreation

Hill Automotive, TJ's on Cedar, Kiwanis Club of Newington, Campbell Cooling LLC, The Flood Law Firm LLC, iHeart Media, B&M Tree Service LLC, The Bar & Grill, Century 21 North East, CT Custom Aquatics, Revolution Sports Club and CycleFish.

- Our program guide was directly mailed to over 13,000 households, four times a year.
- For the third year, the Department provided a program to honor our veterans and active military members. A public/private partnership was established, for the third year, in the amount of \$5,000 with Hinding Sports Builders of West Haven. This partnership enabled us to construct a 22 ft. long mobile memorial trailer that showcased service members' names and their branch of the military.
- At the Connecticut Recreation and Parks Association (CRPA) State Conference Awards Banquet, the Rotary Club of Newington was awarded the 2021 Selected Organization Award. The Rotary Club of Newington has been an essential supporter of the Newington Parks and Recreation Department and has contributed greatly to the betterment of the Town's parks and programs.
- The Department continued the tradition of annually honoring businesses, volunteers, and/or civic groups that help the Department better serve its residents with "Building a Strong Community Special Recognition Awards." This year's recipients were McBride Wayside Carpet Company, Hinding Sports Builders, The Flood Law Firm, and the Rotary Club of Newington.
- The Scarecrow Contest was held again, after a 2-year sabbatical due to COVID.

Parks and Grounds Division

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 Pool and Mill Pond Pool), playgrounds, several miles of hiking/biking trails, numerous public rights-of-way, 64 cul-de-sacs, roadside mowing, numerous flower beds, 26 decorative planters on Main Street, Market Square, and Government Center, 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 public 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.

2021-2022 Highlights

- Renovated Beacon Park, which includes a handicapped accessible playground, new drainage, pathways, and color coding the basketball court.
- Resurfaced basketball courts in several neighborhood parks.
- Switched liquid acid feeder system to a dry acid feeder system for safer operations at Churchill and Mill Pond Pools.
- Repaired cracks and fixed leaking pipes at both pools.
- Completed miles of town-wide roadside mowing.
- Renovated two high school softball fields and Badger Little League Field including removal of lips, installation of new irrigation systems, and installation of new Dura Edge infield material.
- Staff designed and installed a new flower bed with a large "N", consisting of blue and gold flowers, at Town Hall.
- Provided setup and support for the Waterfall Festival, Night of Lights, Wreaths Across America, Summer Concert Series at Mill Pond Park, high school football games, the Veterans Day celebration, and more.
- Parks staff continued to provide ongoing maintenance and operation of irrigation systems at town athletic fields, tennis courts, Lucy Robbins Welles Library, and Government Center.
- Provided ongoing upkeep and maintenance of skate park at Clem Lemire.
- Continued to promote memorial bench program with three new memorial benches installed at various parks in town. In addition, the Department continued to offer a tree dedication program.
- Staff built a new pavilion at the Municipal Parking Lot island for the Summer Concert Series.
- Completed fall cleanup at all Town buildings and provided four staff members to support the Highway Department with the annual curbside leaf collection.
- Soccer field enhancement project continued at Emmanuel Christian Academy fields, including verti-cutting, aeration, overseeding, topdressing, and applications of fertilizer.
- In winter months, staff removed over a dozen street tree stumps.
- Playground certified wood chips were added at Beacon Park and Eagle Park playgrounds.
- Staff prepared athletic fields in order to host internationally attended lacrosse tournament in conjunction with the NCAA Championship in Hartford.
- Parks and Grounds' staff continued to service and provide Veterans Memorial Trailer to pay tribute to active and retired military men and women.
- Annual setup, tilling, staking and irrigation were performed at the 110 community garden plots at Deming-Young Farm.
- Installed over 170 American flags in preparation for Memorial Day. In addition, a set of spring flags and a set of fall flags have been hung on the downtown poles.

Newington Community Services

Parks and Recreation

- Was responsible for all downtown holiday lights and decorations.
- Performed extensive repairs on four Har-Tru and four clay tennis courts at Mill Pond Park. New irrigation, electric valves, sprinkler heads, and nozzles were installed, and staff repaired broken piping at the tennis courts.
- Installed Churchill Park Musco Lighting web-control system at the softball field.
- Installed new irrigation system at Town Hall, Police Department, and Lucy Robbins Welles Library.

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, record keeping, and lawn care. The Department also researches and responds to cemetery inquiries from 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 con-

ducted by local veterans in conjunction with the nationwide Wreaths Across America Organization.

- There were 156 interments in West Meadow Cemetery, consisting of 73 cremations, 52 single depth burials and 31 double depth burials. In West Meadow Cemetery, 126 interments were performed on a weekday, 28 interments were performed on a Saturday, and 2 interments were performed on a Sunday/holiday.
- There were 11 interments in Center Cemetery, consisting of 7 cremations, 4 single depth burials, and no double depth burials. In Center Cemetery, 7 interments were performed on a weekday, and 4 interments were performed on a Saturday. There were no Sunday/holiday interments.
- 78 graves were sold in West Meadow Cemetery; 4 graves from West Meadow Cemetery were sold back to the Town of Newington. There was 1 disinterment at West Meadow Cemetery. 15 veteran markers were installed. There were 2 names changed on a deed.
- West Meadow Cemetery is a very busy and active cemetery. The Parks and Recreation staff average over three burials per week and two grave sales per week. The staff works cooperatively with local funeral homes to aid in the administration of each funeral service. The staff manicures 10 acres of turf and landscaping at West Meadow Cemetery. Staff completed half of the new expansion of Section F in West Meadow Cemetery.

PARKS IN NEWINGTON

	Baseball	Softball	Playground	Multisport Fields*	Tennis	Pool	Volleyball	Basketball	Bocce	Trails	Skating	Ice	Skatepark	Water Features	Picnic Shelter	Pickleball
Badger Field - Walsh Avenue																
Beacon Park - Beacon Street																
Beechwood Park - Woodbridge Road																
Candlewyck Park - Lamplighter Lane																
Churchill Park - Main Street																
Clem Lemire - New Britain Avenue																
Eagle Lantern Park - Eagle Drive																
Little Brook Park - Little Brook Drive																
Mill Brook Farms Park - Main Street																
Mill Pond Park - Garfield Street																
Seymour Park - Seventh Street																
Starr Park - Starr Avenue																
Mary Welles Park - Cedar Street																



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, Social Services and the Health Department.

Residential Certificates of Occupancy issued this fiscal year were:

- 25 Moreland Avenue
- 5 Deming Farm Drive
- 51 East Robbins Avenue
- 615 Church Street – **partial certificate**
- 35 Moreland Avenue

Commercial Certificates of Occupancy issued this fiscal year were:

- 90 Faith Road – Maintenance Garage with offices
- 1603 Southeast Road – Dick's Sporting Goods
- 187 Costello Road – storage building
- 135 Fenn Road – addition & renovation
- 18A Cedar Street – Physical Therapy facility
- 743 North Mountain Road – alteration & renovation
- 94 Pane Road – "What a Ruff Life" Doggy Daycare & Lodging
- 3219 Berlin Turnpike – Urgent Care – medical fit out
- 2530 Berlin Turnpike – The Car Wash Center
- 3153 Berlin Turnpike – Metro Mattress – tenant improvements

Other Income Received	Amount
Town Plan and Zoning Application Fees	\$40,296.80
Environmental Fees	4,200.00
Conservation Commission Application Fees	10,325.00
Zoning Board of Appeals	1,560.00
Copies, Books and Maps	713.00
Work in Right of Way	17,585.00
Engineering Copies	245.50
Total	\$74,925.30

Income Received from Permit Fees \$729,779.00
Total Income \$804,704.30
Number of Inspections 2,255

Listed below are Commercial permits, those that have been approved, and others that still need review:

- Forward Approach Physical Therapy at 18A Cedar Street
- The Church of Christ Congregational at 1075 Main Street
- Craftbird Sandos & Tenders at 1044 Main Street
- Modern Edge at 2434 Berlin Turnpike, Unit 12

- Flash Car Wash at 16 Fenn Road
- Woodspring Suites at 712 Cedar Street
- Montana Nights Axe Throwing at 80 Fenn Road
- Cumberland Farms at 724 Cedar Street
- New Eagles Nest gas station/convenience store at 4 Hartford Avenue
- Temporary Halloween shop at 3067 Berlin Turnpike
- Lucy Robbins Welles Library at 100 Garfield Street
- Courtyard at Marriott at 1583 Southeast Road
- Car Wash Center at 2530 Berlin Turnpike
- Five-tenant retail building at 12 Fenn Road
- Medical Center at 3219 Berlin Turnpike
- iKura Sushi Bar & Grill at 134 Market Square
- "What a Ruff Life" Doggy Daycare & Lodging at 94 Pane Road
- New commercial building at 203 Costello Road
- Signage for name change from Shell Station to Mobil Station at 295 Main Street
- Jersey Mike's & Tropical Smoothie Café at 12 Fenn Road
- Chase Bank at 3180 Berlin Turnpike
- 36-unit apartment building at 550 Cedar Street
- Clubhouse at Cedar Point, 550 Cedar Street

Statistical Summary July 1, 2021 — June 30, 2022

Type of Permits	#	Value of Permits
Additions	300	\$10,141,131.67
Decks	58	536,826.00
Demolition	4	92,000.00
Electrical	523	7,405,554.00
Fence	0	0.00
Fire Suppression/Sprinkler	0	0.00
Footing/Foundation	1	3,900.00
Fuel Tank	5	11,475.00
Garages/Sheds	12	145,000.00
Mechanical	527	6,375,100.06
New Commercial	11	21,653,090.00
New Municipal	0	0.00
New Residential	3	4,900,377.00
Plumbing	261	2,417,494.24
Pools	32	449,009.00
Roofing/Siding	312	7,904,273.69
Sign	26	190,938.00
Solar	93	1,572,155.00
Tent	4	6,000.00
Trailer	0	0.00
Other	34	291,878.04
Totals	2,206	\$64,096,201.70

2022-2023 Goals

- Maintain 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.

Newington Planning & Development Town Planner

TOWN PLANNER

Renata Bertotti, Director (prepared by Erik Hinkley)

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

The Department is responsible for providing a wide range of planning and zoning services to the general public, Town officials, and the business community. The Department offers hands-on assistance to individuals and businesses that seek various types of zoning approval, as well as vigorous enforcement of the 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.

2021-2022 Highlights

Town Plan and Zoning Commission:

During this fiscal year, the TPZ received approximately 56 petitions for special permits, site plan approvals, zoning amendments, and various miscellaneous items, including the following:

Site Plan Approval/Modification: 11 Commercial and Residential site plan approvals and modifications including residential developments, car washes, and other commercial sites.

Special Permit Approvals: 25 Special Permits including free standing commercial signs, restaurants, a brew pub, liquor permits, interior lots, a special event, and home businesses.

Zone Changes and Zoning Text Amendments: 12 Zoning Text Amendments: apartments in the B zone, chickens, TOD, outdoor dining, a drive thru in the PD Zone, and 2 zone map changes.

Subdivisions/Re-Subdivisions: 4 residential subdivisions totaling approximately 32 lots.

Sec. 8-24 Referrals: Approved 3 Sec. 8-24 referrals from the Newington Town Council.

Conservation Commission:

During this fiscal year, the Conservation Commission received approximately 27 petitions: 15 of those were agent approvals and 12 were heard by the Commission. The Conservation Commission received \$10,040 in application fees.

Economic Development Commission:

The Economic Development Commission held 8 regular meetings during the fiscal year and accomplished the following:

- The Beautification Committee continues to assist with planters, flags, etc. for downtown businesses.
- The Commission continues to partner with the Chamber of Commerce to enhance economic development within the Town of Newington.

Zoning Board of Appeals:

During this fiscal year, the ZBA received 6 Petitions: 3 were approved and 3 were denied. The Department collected \$1,560 in ZBA application fees this fiscal year.

Affordable Housing Monitoring Agency: This agency did not have any business or hold any meetings this fiscal year.

Administrative Activities:

- Permit and Application Fee Revenue: During this fiscal year, the Department collected \$35,030 in TPZ permit and application fees.
- Zoning Enforcement: During this fiscal year, the Zoning Enforcement Officer investigated and acted upon 98 zoning complaints, issued 39 zoning approvals, issued 17 certificates of zoning compliance, and investigated 35 complaints of blight.
- Collected \$24,000 in fines for a zoning enforcement violation.

Newington Public Works

Engineering Department

Gary Fuerstenberg, Town Engineer

Functions:

- Support economic development, public works, and public safety work groups.
- Oversee construction and maintenance of town infrastructure (roads, bridges, sidewalks, parking lots, storm drainage, dams, etc.).
- Advise Town Council, Conservation Commission and Town Plan and Zoning Commission regarding public safety, traffic safety, compliance with Town regulations (site geometry, grading, drainage).
- Provide survey, design (engineering analysis and evaluation), and environmental services.
- Prepare engineering recommendations, plans, and estimates for Town infrastructure improvements.
- Perform site, topographic, boundary and construction surveys and prepare engineering drawings for Town of Newington infrastructure improvements.
- Represent Town of Newington interests on state (CDOT) projects and utility projects in Newington.
- Facilitate public outreach for high profile/impact infrastructure projects in Newington.
- Represent Town of Newington at utility and CDOT meetings, and coordinate with adjacent towns regarding multi-town projects.
- Archive Town of Newington infrastructure and engineering data.
- Prepare annual operating budget and annual Capital Improvement Project budget.
- Apply for state and federal infrastructure grants for maintaining and improving Town of Newington infrastructure.
- Administer engineering permits for work in Town of Newington right-of-way.
- Research and provide engineering data to town attorney to defend Town of Newington against lawsuits.

Achievements:

- Supported ~\$200M in economic development activity, public works and public safety.
- Coordinated Frontier contribution (~\$50K) to restore local roads (Pebble Drive neighborhood) impacted by utility construction.
- Completed design, obtained easements, received CDOT approval, bid, retained an inspector, received \$3.3M in funding, and began construction on the Maple Hill Avenue and Robbins Avenue Complete Streets Project.
- Evaluated roads and updated road RSR database and Road Surface Rating Plan.
- Performed site, topographic, boundary and construction surveys and prepared engineering drawings and cost estimates for Town of Newington and Board of Education projects.
- Coordinated lease for dog park and designed and oversaw construction of Newington Dog Park.
- Evaluated Town-owned bridges under 20 feet long.
- Assessed Camp Avenue alternatives.

- Prepared site survey, concept plans, and design plans for Board of Education John Paterson parking lot expansion.
- Removed trees and stumps to protect Town of Newington infrastructure (sidewalks, roads, curbs, drainage, etc.).
- Repaired ~2,500 feet of damaged and deteriorated sidewalk.
- Removed ~700 feet of damaged and deteriorated sidewalk.
- Installed ~150 feet of new sidewalk.
- Designed and installed Pheasant Run drainage improvement project.
- Designed and installed drainage improvements for Badger Field.
- Designed and installed parking lot improvements for the Community Center (functional deficiency remnant from Town Hall project).
- Designed and installed parking lot improvements for the Police Department (code deficiency remnant from Town Hall project).

Projects:

- Managed grant projects:
 - ◊ \$80K 2017 Community Connectivity Grant – Garfield Street.
 - ◊ \$3,340K 2018 LOTCIP Grant – Maple Hill Avenue and Robbins Avenue Complete Street Project.
 - ◊ \$128K STEAP grant - Senior center window replacement project.
- Managed grant applications:
 - ◊ \$2,900K 2020 LOTCIP Grant – Maple Hill Avenue and Alumni Road Complete Street Project.
 - ◊ \$2,175K 2022 LOTCIP Grant – Episcopal Road and Rowley Street Improvements.
 - ◊ \$500K 2020 State Bond Request – South End (Elm Hill) Business District Streetscape Project.
 - ◊ \$800K 2020 Urban Funding Grant – North End Business District Streetscape Project.
 - ◊ \$525K 2020 Community Connectivity Grant - Main Street Sidewalk Connectivity Project.
 - ◊ \$150K NRCS Emergency Watershed Program.
 - ◊ \$100K CDEEP VW Settlement Grant for EV charging stations.
 - ◊ \$75K Eversource Rebate for EV charging stations.

Statistical Summaries:

- Total grant value of \$10.8M had an economic development value of about \$270M.
- Reviewed applications for 100+ driveway permits and 100+ road excavation permits.
- Reviewed 2,000+ routine CBYD tickets and 100+ emergency CBYD tickets.
- Supported about 50 projects for Town Manager, Highway, Planning, Facilities, Parks, and Board of Education.

Newington Public Works

Highway Department

Robert Hillman, 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, transfer station operations, refuse collection and disposal, recycling, fleet maintenance and procurement, road construction and maintenance, alterations and repairs of all Town roads and Rights of Way. The Department also works in collaboration with other town departments in maintaining Town owned traffic signals, signage and road markings.

2021-2022 Highlights

- Continued with project coordination and oversight of the long term Landfill closure/conversion to Transfer Station.
- Continued with the annual Target Solution online employee safety training program, along with various other training requirements. Completed annual hearing tests for all personnel.
- Hosted annual MDC Hazardous Household Waste Collection event on April 30, 2022.
- Conducted annual roadway condition evaluations.
- Continued oversight of all departmental construction projects.
- Attended Environmental Quality Commission meetings.
- Coordinated the pickup, delivery and placement of concrete blocks at several dining establishments to assist with outdoor seating efforts during the pandemic.
- Completed annual equipment training for Highway Equipment Operators.
- Forty five (45) roads totaling approximately 9.8 miles were milled and paved along with drainage improvements and catch basin repairs on various roads.
- Milled and paved pathway at Eagle Park.
- Reconstructed section of the pathway at John Wallace Middle School.
- Reconstructed pathway at Newington High School near softball fields.
- Installed ADA parking space at Beechwood Park.
- Crews removed deteriorated sidewalks along Centerwood Road and Theodore Street.
- Completed drainage projects/repairs on Camp Avenue and Newington High School.
- Constructed parking area for walking path on Cedar Mountain.
- Installed underdrain at the Badger Field detention basin to improve drainage.
- Completed annual town-wide roadside tree trimming throughout the winter months.
- Assisted with several evictions and property storage throughout the year.
- Highway Department personnel collected over 12,500 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 9 snow/ice events totaling over 37" of snow and ice.
- Highway personnel responded to 14 after hour call-ins.
- Mechanic personnel responded to 6 after hour call-ins.
- 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. Maintenance also includes 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, textiles and mattresses/box springs.
- Town-wide street sweeping was completed during the months of April and May.
- Town-wide Christmas tree collection was completed in January.
- Private contractors collected refuse at 9,329 residential homes and 2,240 condominiums and elderly housing complexes each week, totaling approximately 8,821 tons of residential municipal solid waste brought to Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority (MIRA) of Hartford for fiscal year 2021/2022. In addition, 2,453 household bulky waste items, 689 condominium bulky waste items, and 487 combined metal items were collected curbside throughout the year. Eighty three (83) television sets over 19" were collected and recycled. 1,786 mattresses and box springs were recycled through the Town's Transfer Station.
- Private contractors collected recyclables at 11,569 residential homes, condominiums, and elderly housing complexes. Recyclables were brought to Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority (MIRA) of Hartford for processing. Over 2,351 tons of recyclables were collected curbside for fiscal year 2021/2022.
- The Central Repair Garage was 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 was also responsible for the Town's fueling facilities. Town Departments relied on Repair Garage personnel for emergency equipment installation, fabrication, diagnosis and repair of Town owned vehicles and equipment. Mechanics also assisted 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 collected Single Stream in the Town provided blue container.
- **Oversized or bulky items (non metal) may be picked up curbside for a fee. Residents must call Trash Away @ 860-229-1164 by Tuesday at 3:30 pm of each week to schedule a Thursday collection. Limit of two (2) items per week. See list of acceptable items below. Please visit website (www.newingtononct.gov/1328/Oversized-Bulk-Items) for the updated fees.**
 - ◊ **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. Limit of five (5) bundles per 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.
 - ◊ **Automobile Tires:** Tires (rims removed) may be left at the curbside each week. Rims may be disposed of at the Town's Landfill/Recycling Center.
- **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.**
- **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.themdct.com.
- **Scrap Metal:** Large appliances and other metal items are collected by the Town's contractor each week at curbside. **Residents must pre-pay (\$12 for one item, \$5 for each additional item) before 3:00 pm to be scheduled for Tuesday pickup.** Please contact Trash Away @ 860-229-1164. **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 through 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.
- **Additional Items Accepted at the Town's Transfer Station: Propane Tanks, Textiles, Mattresses and Box Springs.**
- **Electronics Recycling:** Covered electronic devices such as desktop and laptop computers, computer monitors, printers, and televisions must be recycled and are not allowed in your curbside rubbish container per State law. Residents may dispose of these items at the Newington Landfill. For additional information, contact the Sanitation Division at (860) 667-5874.

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 to 5:00 pm

April through December, **Saturday and Sunday**

January through March, **Saturday Only**

Refuse Collection

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

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

Collections are made on the normal day for all other holidays.

WHEN IN DOUBT, PUT IT OUT

Newington Public Works Information

Snow Plowing Guidelines

- Prior to a winter storm event, Highway crews may apply treated salt to all roadways.
- 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.
- 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 (maximum \$25).

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

Winter Sand

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

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 Transfer Station on Saturdays and Sundays, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. A permit is not required to dispose of leaves at the Transfer Station.

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, 1 recruit training position, 14.5 civilian employees and 1 animal control officer. 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.

2021-2022 Highlights

Department Staffing: During the 2021-2022 fiscal year, the department hired seven new police officers. Officers Juan Pagan, Maria Teles, Jordyn Backman, Ashley Zielinski, and Liam Lynch were hired as certified Connecticut police officers who transferred from other police departments. Officers Nicholas Casasanta and John Torres were hired as entry level officers and trained at the Connecticut Police Academy. The department made two promotions. Lieutenant Nicholas Miano was promoted to Deputy Police Chief and Officer Mark Benham was promoted to Sergeant.

Department Activity: During the 2021 year, the Newington Police Department responded to 22,941 calls for service. The department made 690 criminal arrests and investigated 1,593 criminal offenses. The department investigated 1,233 traffic accidents, which resulted in 131 injuries. There were two fatalities. The department made 1,884 traffic stops, and arrested 81 motorists for driving while under the influence of alcohol/drugs. The department continued to work on a police body worn camera system, which is mandated by Connecticut law. Each police officer is required to wear a body worn camera while on duty.

Police Department Training: The police department recorded approximately 2,918 hours in officer training during the 2021-2022 fiscal period, which is an increase of 771 hours from the previous year. The training division continued to supplement training utilizing the Police One Academy platform to provide online social distance training to combat the decline in training availability due to the COVID pandemic. The training division remained 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 also incorporating use of force training as mandated by state legislation. Officers also received mandated training in body worn cameras. All officers were exposed to training in response to active shooting and building clearing. The department began training officers in a new program,

"Officer Survival" designed to minimize liability in use of force applications and increase officer safety. All officers also received annual training mandated in the House Bill 6004 Police Accountability Legislation. Selected officers attended methods of instruction training to become certified CT POST training instructors in areas such as de-escalation, use of force practices, and firearms. Selected officers were trained and received certification to become Drone Pilots. 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 regarding Homicide Investigations, Intelligence, Call Record Analysis, and Human Trafficking. Officers involved in the Mid-State Accident Reconstruction Team continued their attendance in monthly training with the regional accident team. The Emergency Response Team continued to train monthly in tactical operations training. Crisis Negotiators were also training in specialized crisis negotiation practices.



"Thank you to the members of the public that are supporting Newington Police Officers when they participate in the 2022 Special Olympics CT Law Enforcement Torch Run on June 2nd."

Newington Public Safety Fire Marshal

DJ Zordan, Fire Marshal

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

- Perform inspections on buildings, with the exception of one-and two-family dwellings to ensure compliance with the Connecticut State Fire Safety Code and the Connecticut State Fire Prevention Code.
- Review all plans for new construction and conduct on-site inspections to ensure code compliance.
- Establish fire lanes to ensure accessibility of fire apparatus.
- Investigate fires and explosions to determine the origin and cause.
- Issue blasting permits and be on site to ensure safety and compliance with state and federal regulations.
- Respond to and investigate reported accidental or intentional release of hazardous materials.
- Participate in fire prevention and community risk reduction programs.

2021-2022 Highlights

Significant Fire Incidents:

- July 16, 2021 – Building Fire at 2553 Berlin Turnpike
- July 24, 2021 – Building Fire at 16 Superior Avenue
- September 5, 2021 – Building Fire at 125 Stamm Road
- November 15, 2021 – Building Fire at 154 Hillcrest Avenue
- December 25, 2021 – 50 Fenn Road – person on fire
- January 1, 2022 – Building Fire at 134 Cedar Ridge
- January 9, 2022 – Building Fire at 73 Dalewood Road
- February 14, 2022 – Vehicle Fire at 168 Connecticut Avenue
- March 1, 2022 – Building Fire at 1431 Willard Ave
- April 3, 2022 – Building Fire at 175 Lowrey Place
- May 10, 2022 – Building Fire at 33 Reservoir Road
- June 13, 2022 – Building Fire at 160 Forest Drive

Ford F-150 Fire Marshal vehicle, set up with equipment for both code enforcement and fire investigations.

Significant Activities:

- The Fire Marshal's Office staff was increased from 4 inspectors to 7 inspectors by implementing per diem staffing. The additional staff were brought on-board periodically throughout the year. The additional staffing was implemented without incurring an increase to the budget.
- An inspection schedule was developed and implemented (January 2022) to ensure statutory compliance with the inspection frequencies set by the State of Connecticut – Office of the State Fire Marshal.
- The above-mentioned inspection schedule will also provide for statistical information relating to inspection compliance. At the end of this fiscal year, the Fire Marshal's Office was approximately 70% compliant.
- Implemented an equipment purchasing plan to purchase and update equipment required to perform fire investigations.
- The Fire Marshal Staff supported special events such as Extravaganza, Project Graduation, Motorcycle Madness, and the Water Lantern Festival. This includes an additional 33 inspections of mobile food vehicles.

Fire Marshal Statistical Summary

Activity	20/21	21/22
Periodic Inspections	272	663
Reinspection	208	185
Plan Reviews	92	40
Fire Investigations	49	40
Referral/Complaints	46	27
Consultations	1	124
Safe Home Inspections & Follow Ups	62	59
Blast Monitoring	14	16



Newington Public Safety

Newington Volunteer Fire Dept.

Jeffrey Trommer, 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 14-17 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.

Department Highlights:

The Fire Department worked on specifications for a new Engine to replace the current Engine 2, which was approved by the Town Manager and Town Council. The department is excited to await the current final construction of the new Truck 2 which should be delivered in mid to late January 2023. The department also worked with the IT Director and Town Manager to finalize the Town Radio System, which will be a major improvement for safety of all our members.

The department continued to make facility upgrades to the department firehouses. Boiler replacement at Company 5, along with painting, a new roof, garage doors, and interior lighting. Garage door repairs were completed at all five firehouses this year, also. Many exterior door improvements/replacement were completed at all firehouses.

The department is in the transition stage of switching all the department reporting over to the Alpine RedNMX software. Staff has been working with IT to move over to this new CAD software, due to the current Firehouse Software not being supported after December 31, 2022.

The Fire Department was able to continue with Community Events as usual. The Fire Department was involved in the BAPS Walk-A-thon, Waterfall Festival, Chamber of Commerce Trick or Treat, Fire Prevention Open House, Cadet Open House, Night of Lights, and a special Make a Wish, as well as many others. The Fire Prevention Bureau also continued their annual school Fire Prevention visits.

Overall, the department is strong, and response/participation rate is high among members. We continued to see a steady flow of applicants to fill vacancies caused by attrition. The attrition rate over the last year has been mainly due to changes in member's employment status, moving out of state or personal/family dynamics. Our Recruitment and Retention Program as well as our very successful Cadet Program has been a model for area departments. This, coupled with the support from town leadership, is the reason why the Newington Fire Department is one of the largest, most successful volunteer fire departments in the area.

FY 2021/2022 Statistics:

Structure Fires	42
Vehicle Fires	9
Exterior Fires	29
Other Fires	0
Pressure, Ruptures, Explosions, Overheat	6
Extrications	16
Other Rescue Calls	16
Hazardous Condition Calls	129
Water Problem	50
Other Service Calls	93
Good Intent Calls	68
False Alarm/False Call	262
Severe Weather/Natural Disaster	1
Special Incident Calls	4
Mutual Aid/Standby	30

Newington Fire Department saw a slight decrease in calls from 836 last year to 755. There was a notable increase in mutual aid responses from 26 to 35 over a one year period.

Volunteer hours are broken down as follows:

Incident Response: 14,008 hours
Administration: 4,713 hours
Non-Incident/Community Service: 7,927 hours
Training Hours: 4,903 hours

FY 2021-2022 Total Summary

Incidents: 755
Volunteer Hours: 31,551
Department Strength: 94 Regular Member
26 Cadets

Newington Public Schools

Dr. Maureen 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 Newington Public Schools will cultivate a strong, ongoing partnership of school, family and community to ensure an equitable educational experience for all students. Our educational community will support the social/emotional and academic growth of all students. Newington Public School students will have a strong voice within their school community and graduate with a passion for their post-secondary plan and with the skills outlined in the Portrait of a Graduate.

Vision

Every Newington Public School student will be a contributing member of their community and highly prepared for life after graduation.

District Goals

- *Goal 1: Each and every student has equitable access to high quality education that is rigorous, relevant and engaging.*
- *Goal 2: District, school, and classroom culture embed culturally responsive practices that are respectful and responsive to students, families, and staff.*
- *Goal 3: All educators and support staff implement highly effective practices focused on equity.*
- *Goal 4: All facilities support and adapt to evolving programs of study while providing equitable access to Newington's technology platform.*

2021-2022 Highlights:

ANNA REYNOLDS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – Mr. Jason Smith, Principal

The 2021-2022 school was very busy at Anna Reynolds. While academically, we focused on closing any gaps that existed due to the impacts of COVID, a great deal of planning also went into preparing for the renovation project that officially began this past summer. A detailed phasing plan for the renovation project was developed and shared with all stakeholders during the school year.

The end of the year brought the return of our annual Spring Concert and End of the Year PTO Picnic, both being able to be held in person.

The Anna Reynolds Renovation Project began this past summer. The front parking lot was redesigned, temporary spaces were built in the Media Center, and various areas of the building were abated. The offices and former Kindergarten wing are currently under construction, with an anticipated completion at the end of December. At that time, Wing B (primarily Grade 1 and 2 wing) will go under construction.

Goals for the 2021-22 school year:

- Operationalize SRBI with fidelity with all staff.
- Explore culturally responsive pedagogy.
- Develop high functioning PLCs focused on Teaching and Learning.
- To ensure each and every student has equitable access to high quality education that is rigorous, relevant, and engaging.

To accomplish these goals, we:

- Provided ongoing professional learning to teachers to effectively support implementation of the Courageous Conversations Framework.
- Worked collectively and relentlessly to monitor the learning of Hispanic, Black, ML and Students with Disabilities to ensure equity.
- Provided ongoing professional development to all staff focused on assessments' results and SRBI decision making.
- Monitored the impact of instruction through progress monitoring, and developed just in time intervention/differentiation for whom instruction has not been effective.
- Implemented literacy based curriculum blocks (FUNdations, Reader's Workshop, Writing Workshop) with fidelity.
- Implemented revised math units.
- Partnered with UConn to pilot Data-Based Individualization (DBI) to increase literacy achievement and apply principles to our Early Intervention Process.

ELIZABETH GREEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – Mr. James Mariano, Principal

The 21-22 school year turned out to be more challenging than the previous pandemic year. It might have been due to the hope of a return to normalcy that wasn't fulfilled or the effects of a strained educational system on students, staff and families. Regardless, our school community endured as noted below:

Goals for the 2021-22 school year:

- Effectively collaborate within professional learning communities in order to meet the varying academic, social, emotional, behavioral needs of our students.
- Continue implementation of social and emotional learning (SEL) initiative with staff and students.
- Communicate effectively with our stakeholders.

Performance goals in math were met, partially met in reading, and more learning is needed as we work towards reducing the opportunity gap for typically marginalized groups, specifically students of color.

To accomplish these goals, we:

- Met weekly in PLCs to research, plan, and implement effective practices aimed at reducing learning loss, the opportunity gap, and/or other problems of practice.

Newington Public Schools

- Continued implementation of an SEL approach called RULER. Year 2, we introduced foundational concepts to students that included core routines and tools reinforcing them consistently throughout the year.
- Presented RULER more formally to parents/guardians deepening their understanding of it and its use at our school.
- Continued implementation of a parallel SEL program called Rethink, providing teachers and students units and lessons focused on the five SEL competencies.
- Examined a number of data sources: academic, behavioral, attendance, awards/recognitions to sharpen and necessitate our focus on educational equity.
- Introduced the Courageous Conversation framework to educators as a tool for discussing race.
- Engaged educators in grades K-4 in learning focused on Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Brain.
- Implemented a co-teaching initiative in grades 3 and 4 whereby a general educator in those grades, partnered with a special educator, work collaboratively within the classroom to educate during core instruction.
- Developed a student safety and leadership patrol made up of 23 fourth graders who were responsible for helping staff during arrival, dismissal, and on buses and vans.
- Communicated at minimum weekly with stakeholders regarding a number of school-based happenings/initiatives.
- Received boxes of school supplies from Staples to be distributed to students.
- Installed a basketball hoop on our playground thanks to our PTO.
- Continued our community fundraising efforts with PJ day for CT Children's Hospital; Voices of Children, an organization that supports children dealing with the effects of war in Ukraine; Jeans for World Down Syndrome Day; and others.

- Staff provided tiered instruction (including intervention services as well as challenge/enrichment opportunities) to meet the needs of all of our learners.
- Staff engaged in professional learning and implemented practices focused on culturally responsive pedagogy.
- Staff participated in RULER training.
- Reinstituted our school-wide behavior management system that focuses on student self-regulation of feelings and behavior (PRIDE System).
- Reinstituted School Families.
- Contacted parents more frequently to share positives about their student's academic and/or behavioral strengths and growth.

RUTH CHAFFEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – Mrs. Beverly Lawrence, Principal

During the 2021-2022 school year, we were able to gain some sense of normalcy for our students and staff. We continued to focus on our school goals:

- Reading Goals: At least 90% of students meeting benchmark on identified focus areas in reading and a reduction in the achievement gap of 5%.
- Math Goals: At least 90% of students meeting benchmark on identified focus areas in math and a reduction in the achievement gap of 5%.

In addition to our academic goals, focusing on Social and Emotional Learning, utilizing both ReThink Ed and Zones of Regulation was equally important to the success of our students. Both emphasized gaining a better understanding of one's self, setting goals, practicing resilience, managing anxiety, etc.

Our overall data: ninety (90%) percent of our students met benchmark in the spring in reading; 78% percent met benchmark in the Spring in math. We continue to make significant gains in closing the opportunity gap for our students in each subgroup.

Once again, our educators revised and implemented the playbook of all playbooks, simultaneously managing large class sizes, focusing on unfinished learning and "now" learning. I couldn't be more proud of our accomplishments meeting our students' academic, but most importantly, social and emotional needs. Most of the goals listed below will continue into the coming school year:

Our goals for the 2022-2023 school year:

- All staff will engage in collaborative PLCs with a laser-like focus on closing the opportunity gap.
- Educators work collectively and relentlessly to monitor the learning of Hispanic students, Black students, and students with exceptionalities.
- Staff will develop and maintain personal relationships with Hispanic and Black students and students with exceptionalities.
- Research and apply culturally relevant pedagogy to our learning setting, starting with the Ready for Rigor Framework.

JOHN PATERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – Mr. Michael Gaydos, Principal

The 2021-2022 school year was an exciting year of changes and growth as we worked daily to return to some sort of "normalcy". Efforts were focused on reinstituting many of our systems that were in place and effective pre-COVID. While initial goals were established in June and refined in October, we continued to focus on addressing unfinished learning, student and staff social emotional needs, and equitable instructional practices.

Goals for the 2021-22 school year:

- Address unfinished learning through equitable instructional practices.
- Ensure PLC's (Professional Learning Communities) are high functioning and focused on teaching and learning.
- Improve students' ability to monitor and regulate emotions/ emotional needs and behavior.

To accomplish these goals, we:

- Partnered with SERC (State Education Resource Center) to refined our tiered intervention and early intervention systems.
- PLC's identified, disaggregated, and analyzed student achievement data to monitor patterns among subgroups of students to inform practices.

Newington Public Schools

- Grade level and Intervention teams monitor progress of students not yet performing at benchmark academically or behaviorally (as determined by NPS trendlines) and identify and implement strategies for improvement.

Our Benchmarks are:

- At least 70% of students will meet the benchmark on identified focus areas in reading and math; 65% of students in each subgroup will meet the benchmark on the same identified focus areas.
- At least 80% of students will meet the benchmark on identified focus areas in reading and math; 75% of students in each subgroup will meet the benchmark on the same identified focus areas.
- At least 90% of students will meet the benchmark on identified focus areas in reading and math; 85% of students in each subgroup will meet the benchmark on the same identified focus areas.

We will continue to:

- Teachers design unit plans by collaborating with grade-level colleagues that include clear learning targets aligned with the standards/curriculum, keeping students' cultural diversity in mind. (*November 1st - Ongoing*)
- Teachers develop personal relationships and connections with students by incorporating students' interests and cultures into instruction. (*February 1st - Ongoing*)
- Teachers incorporate culturally relevant experiences, materials, and texts into daily instruction. (*May 31st - Ongoing*)
- Grade level and Intervention teams monitor progress of students not yet performing at benchmark academically or behaviorally (as determined by NPS trendlines) and identify and implement strategies for improvement.
- Conversations and actions (around academics and behavior) are based on students who are historically marginalized (Hispanic, Black, and students with Exceptionalities).
 - ◊ Multiple student work samples are disaggregated by race to determine trends and develop action plans at PLCs.
 - ◊ Research within our PLCs and RC Intervention Team around culturally relevant teaching.
 - ◊ Utilize information gained from our research to develop lessons and activities that are culturally relevant.

We look forward to another terrific school year where we will focus on the whole child, with a laser-like focus on culturally relevant pedagogy. In addition, it is important for us to reestablish our partnership with our parents, focusing on parent communication and engagement. The 2022-2023 school year will certainly yield better results.

JOHN WALLACE MIDDLE SCHOOL – Mr. Daniel Dias, Principal

Much to the relief of our staff, students and families, the John Wallace Middle School 2021-22 school year began fully in person and remained throughout the school year. Though still addressing challenges posed by COVID, the JWMS learning community maintained our efforts to ensure our students were engaged in a relevant and rigorous curriculum, and our amazing

staff once again focused on building strong relationships with all of our students.

Our school goals for the 2021-22 school year continued in the areas of literacy, numeracy and supporting our students' social and emotional needs. We also focused on supporting our professional learning communities to ensure we were operating at high levels.

Some of the highlights of the 2021-2022 John Wallace school year include:

- A continued transition towards master-based learning instruction and reporting practices.
- A continued focus on transparency and communication. Families and stakeholders were updated throughout the year on health and safety information and school protocols through school messenger and weekly newsletter to families.
- We safely ran our traditional year-end events such as Olympic Day, Grade 8 Field Trips to Storrs Adventure Park and New York City and the Grade 8 Celebration and Dance.
- Continued "Battle of the Books" program that included all grade 6 students, teachers and staff from Martin Kellogg Middle School.
- Continued our efforts during our advisory period to build relationships and focus on social emotional learning for our students via Rethink ED and RULER.
- Continued work in deep learning regarding the Gradual Release Model, Math Workshop Model, and Teacher's College.
- Weekly PLC (Professional Learning Community) meetings were supported by Wallace administration, coordinators, and coaches; common goals for all PLCs to reach Stage 5 or higher in their practice.
- Our math, literacy, and behavior teams met weekly to discuss student performance data and develop more effective Tier II and Tier III supports.
- The establishment of the JWMS Equity Committee.
- A number of Wallace staff members participated on the district's Mastery Based Learning Committee, Teacher and Administrator Evaluation Committee PDEC, District Data Team, and the District Equity Team.
- Various Curriculum Development Committees aligned to CCSS & NGSS. Wallace staff participated in various curriculum writing tasks and made significant contributions to these committees.

MARTIN KELLOGG MIDDLE SCHOOL – Mr. Jason Lambert, Principal

During the 2021-2022 school year, the Martin Kellogg Middle School learning community continued to fine-tune our effectiveness, supporting all students as they grow, change and learn. Along with a continued focus in the areas of literacy, numeracy, school climate and parent engagement, a concerted effort was made to support our students' social and emotional needs.

Newington Public Schools

Some of the highlights of the Martin Kellogg 2021-2022 school year include:

- 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.
- Reinvigorated our work using the Gradual Release of Responsibility framework to support our school-wide workshop model.
- 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 a school-wide “Reading Renaissance” that placed a priority on reading in all content areas.
- Continued “Battle of the Books” program that included grade 6 teachers and students from John Wallace Middle School.
- Performed the musical production “Willy Wonka” that included many student, parent and staff participants.
- Continued staff training in the RULER model.
- Implemented components of Lucy Calkins Reading Units of Study in grades 5 through 8.
- Participation in a variety of fundraisers, social events, and celebrations that provided the student council with funds to support many worthwhile endeavors at Kellogg.
- Reinvigorated our PLC work with a heightened focus on equitable practices.
- Supported staff in their ability to facilitate culturally responsive and SEL practices embedded in their respective curricula.
- Reinvigorated PBIS supports, namely in grades 7 and 8.
- 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

The 2021-22 school year started off in a “hybrid model” of instruction. Staff and students remained flexible and resilient as we transitioned back to in-person teaching and learning. We focused our efforts on the social, emotional well-being of our students and kept safety as our top priority. Our Family of Learners enjoyed being back in the classrooms, together, and seeing each other face-to-face.

Highlights of the Newington High School 2021-2022 school year include:

- The School Counseling team received the Connecticut Comprehensive School Counseling Program of the year award from the Connecticut School Counseling Association.
- 56 Scholarships offered for 2022; 122 Recipients received a Scholarship; amount of monies awarded was \$132,200.
- 1,680 College Applications were submitted this school year.
- The Science National Honor Society at NHS inducted 74 students this past school year.
- EL teacher Tom Myler and Social Studies teachers Steve Cowell and Erica Hunt worked collaboratively to implement “sheltered instruction” protocols in two U.S. History classes. This instructional model affords multilingual students the opportunity to learn important course-related content while improving their English language skills.
- Newington High School offered a Mathematics and Social Studies Credit Recovery Program for 15 students, and a Credit Advancement Program for 13 math students. These programs utilized Edgenuity, an online curriculum, coupled with mathematics and social studies teachers’ coaching and modeling. All 28 students recovered their math and/or social studies credit or earned their Geometry credit.
- 32 Newington High School seniors earned the Seal of Biliteracy.
- 92 students were inducted into various World Language honor societies; specifically, 73 students in Spanish, 9 students in Latin, 7 students in Italian, and 3 students in French.
- The Art Department began a new tradition with the NPS Artist Spotlight at Town Hall and honored Serena Wang as the first student from NHS to have her work hung as part of this year-long exhibit.
- The Art Department had a record number of entries for the CT Scholastic Arts Competition and had three students earn awards for their work.
- The NHS Career Academies returned to in-person Lunch & Learn events, hosting speakers from Hartford HealthCare, Burke Aerospace, The LEGO Group, Travelers, local bakeries, and more.
- The Music Department started out school year 21-22 under the previous year’s highly limiting restrictions of 12 feet apart for musicians. As the year progressed, restrictions were slowly lifted; and by the spring, we were rehearsing close to normal. We were able to put on an in person musical (“*Into the Woods*”) in the spring with no masks. The production was a huge success and felt like a victory after two very difficult years.
- The Music Department had 10 students accepted to Northern Regionals in January. Unfortunately, the festival was cancelled at the last minute due to the very high COVID numbers. All State was in person in the spring, the first in-person festival since early 2020. Eight students were accepted to All State, which was the highest number in recent years.

Newington

Boards and Commissions

150th ANNIVERSARY STEERING COMMITTEE

The committee consists of twenty-one (21) members and 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.

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.

ANNA REYNOLDS SCHOOL PROJECT BUILDING COMMITTEE

Established by the Town Council in 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.

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.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

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

BALF-TOWN COMMITTEE

Established on May 23, 1989 by Town Council, this Committee consists of one (1) member from the Environmental Quality Commission, two (2) Balf Representatives, two (2) Town Councilors, and 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.

CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

The Charter Revision Commission, comprised of five (5) members, is charged with reviewing the current Town of Newington Charter for any inconsistencies with current standards in the State of Connecticut and for any inconsistencies that may currently exist with the State of Connecticut Constitution and/or with any Connecticut General Statutes.

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 Economic 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 comprised 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.

Newington

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 (2) registered Democrats, two (2) registered Republicans, and three (3) 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) establishes 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.

MILL POND PARK POOL PROJECT BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Mill Pond Park Pool Project Building Committee, comprised of seven (7) members, of which two (2) shall be representatives of the Town Council, two (2) shall be representatives of the Board of Parks and Recreation, and three (3) members from the public. Established to work with the Town Manager (and/or his or her designee) and any other appropriate Town staff in the oversight of the Mill Pond Park Pool Project and related activity. Such improvements shall comply with the appropriate sections of the Fire Code, Health Code, Building Code and OSHA regulations, regulations of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and any other health and/or safety code regulations currently in force.

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 2021-2022

Town of Newington

Town Finances FY 2021-2022

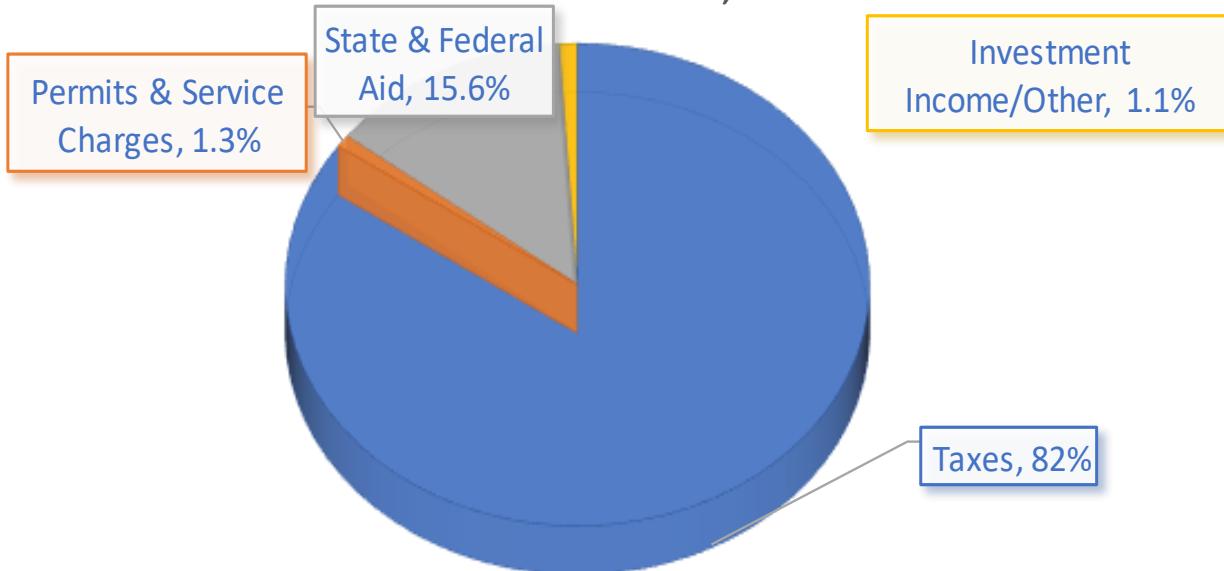
- The Town's adopted General Fund budget for 2020-21 totaled \$129,404,908
- The Mill Rate was 38.81
- The Town achieved a collection rate of 99.22% on the current levy.
- The Town's bond indebtedness at June 30, 2022 totaled \$22,620,000
- The Town's actual expenditures were \$128,209,316, and actual revenues totaled \$130,905,122.

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

Actual Town Revenues for 2021-22, by Source
(\$ thousands)

Source	2020-21	2021-22	Dollar Change
Taxes	105,253	107,312	2,059
Permits	446	613	167
State & Federal Aid	18,426	20,412	1,986
Service Charges	849	1,063	214
Investment Income	90	(108)	(198)
Other	2,623	1,613	(1,010)
TOTAL	127,687	130,905	3,218

TOWN REVENUE BY SOURCE, FY 2021-22



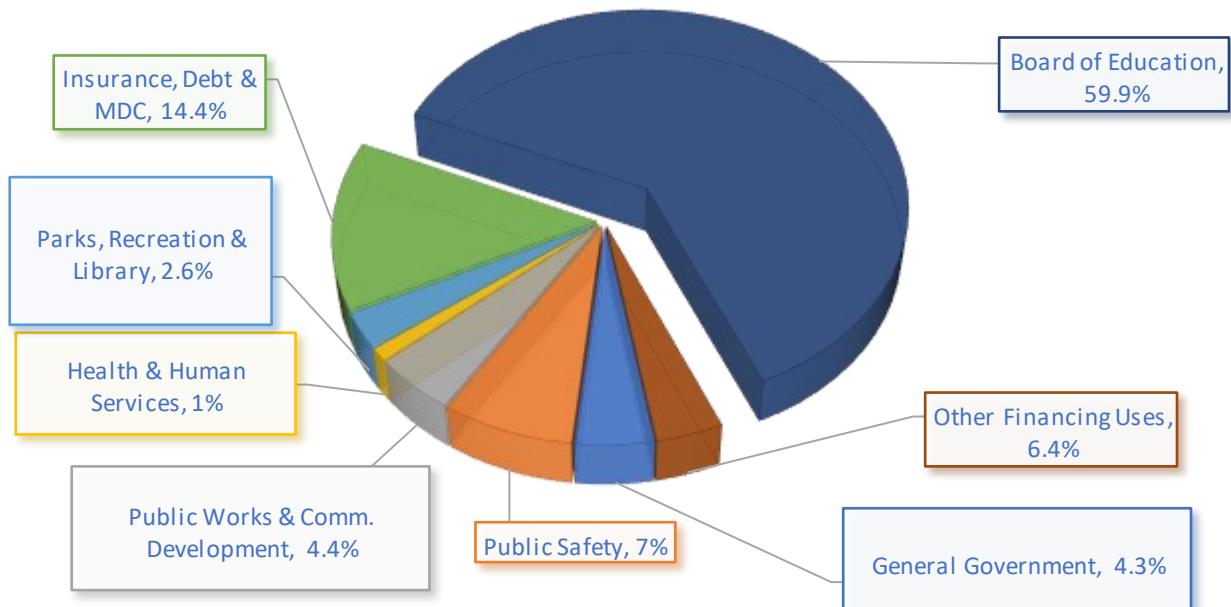
Town of Newington

Town Finances FY 2021-2022

Actual Town Expenditures for FY 2021-22, by Function
(\$ thousands)

Function	2020-21	2021-22	Dollar Change
General Government	4,932	5,492	560
Public Safety	8,902	9,173	271
Public Works & Comm. Development	5,724	5,580	(144)
Health & Human Services	1,068	1,222	154
Parks, Recreation & Library	3,457	3,344	(113)
Insurance, Debt Service & MDC	19,081	18,524	(557)
Board of Education	75,049	76,695	1,646
Other Financing Uses	4,519	8,179	3,660
TOTAL	122,732	128,209	5,477

TOWN EXPENDITURES FOR FY 2021-22, BY FUNCTION



Town of Newington

Town Finances FY 2021-2022

Bonds Outstanding June 30, 2022 (in thousands)

Function	Amount
Schools	5,682
General Purpose	16,938
TOTAL	22,620

Schedule of Debt Principal and Interest by Year as of June 30, 2022 (in thousands)

Year Ending June 30	Principal	Interest	Total
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
2028	1,200	415	1,615
2029	1,200	367	1,567
TOTAL	9,870	3,748	13,618