



NEWINGTON TOWN REPORT 23/24

Website:
www.newingtonct.gov

Tel: 860-665-8500

Address:
200 Garfield Street

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

2023-2024



Edited by:
Gabriella Morales

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 2023-2024 was 38.36. 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

Jon Trister, 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
Jon Trister



Minority Leader (D)
Mitch Page



Majority Leader (R)
Tim Manke



Councilor
Gail Budrejko



Councilor
Kathy Gonzalez



Councilor
Matthew Plourd



Councilor
Kim Radda



Councilor
David Nagel



Councilor
A.J. Tiniakos

2023-2024 Budget

On April 18, 2023, the Town Council Adopted the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget as follows:

- Total appropriations: \$137,512,573
- Mill Rate: 38.36 mills
- Approved the Town of Newington Long Range Capital Improvement Plan 2023-2024 through 2027-2028

2024-2025 Budget

On April 16, 2024, the Town Council Adopted the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget as follows:

- Total appropriations: \$143,363,916
- Mill Rate: 39.67 mills
- Approved the Town of Newington Long Range Capital Improvement Plan 2024-2025 through 2028-2029

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:

2023-2024 Highlights

- Awarded 2023-2024 Teacher of the Year to Kirsten Narowski, English Teacher at Newington High School.
- Approved a contract with American Medical Response (AMR) for professional ambulance services.
- Ordinance Adopting a Special Appropriation for the Purchase of 28 Garfield Street
- Recognized many civic organizations and residents on their contributions to the Newington community.
- Honored National Therapy Animal Day, LGBTQIA+ Pride Month, National Recreation and Parks Month, and the American Disabilities Act 33rd Anniversary Day.
- Honored several former Town employees in their retirement.
- Made numerous appointments to various boards, commissions and committees.

Newington Administration

Town Manager

Jaime Trevethan
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.

2023-2024 Highlights

- Enhanced the Public Safety Radio infrastructure to improve the efficiency of emergency response services, which includes upgrading radio equipment, expanding coverage areas, ensuring interoperability across departments such as police, fire, and EMS. This is an ongoing project, anticipated to be completed in 2025.
- Assisted with the sale of 690 Cedar Street.
- Secured grants for the Town to help provide financial support, this process includes researching grants from state and federal agencies to develop proposals that align with the Town's goals and needs that would improve the quality of life in Newington. Some improvements include the Mill Ponds Falls Pedestrian Bridge replacement and the Emergency Operations Center.
- The Town received funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) which helps local governments to address pandemic related challenges. The Town's leadership managed and disseminated the funds appropriately to support critical areas of the Town such as public health, infrastructure, economic recovery and community resources.
- 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: Youth Program Coordinator, Principal Clerk, Eligibility Program Coordinator.
- 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

45 Years

- David Farley- Highway

40 Years

- William Califano- Police Traffic

20 Years

- Benjamin Breitkreutz- Grounds
- Paula Quattromani- Senior & Disabled Center
- Eric O'Neil- Grounds

15 Years

- Bailey Francis- Library
- Douglas Jourdan- Building
- Stacey Emmanuel- Tax Collector
- Jaime Trevethan- Senior & Disabled Center
- Jennifer Massaro-Cook- Town Manager
- Derek Aivano- Police
- Derrick Walker- Police
- Reza Abbassi- Police

10 Years

- Michael Costardo- Highway
- Dorothy Russell- Library
- Karen Benner- Library
- Steve Pollock- Information Technology

5 Years

- Joe Waluk- Grounds
- Richard Wells- Highway
- Erik Klein- Highway
- Jamie Johnson- Grounds
- Heather Shonty- Town Manager
- Eric Chapdelaine- Police
- Zachary Cyr- Police
- Thomas Bugbee- Police
- Christopher Cappiello- Police
- Adam Gore- Police
- Larrie Douglas- 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.

2023-2024 Highlights

- The Town of Newington Municipal Election took place on November 7, 2023. The new Mayor and Town Council took their Oath of Office at their Organizational Meeting, held on November 14, 2023.
- The Republican Party held a Presidential Preference Primary on April 2, 2024. The office issued 38 Absentee Ballots for the Republican Presidential Preference Primary. The Democratic Party held a Presidential Preference Primary on April 2, 2024, for which the office issued 87 Absentee Ballots.
- Received a \$8,000 FY2024 Historic Preservation Grant from the State Library to replace 300 Compact Land Record books with Champ binders for preservation and access. Each new binder contains four (4) Land Record books.
- Completed the relocation of all recorded maps to new accessible and portable map cabinets. New map cabinets were acquired in the 2021 Fiscal year. Remaining two (2) cabinets were purchased to complete the project to allow for safer access and mobility.
- The Town Clerk has been continuing to meet with the Secretary of the State's office and other regional Town Clerk's for the review and implementation of the new State-wide Voter Registration System in early 2025.
- Continuing the project of converting large-format Land Record binders to legal-size Champ Binder covers, allowing for easy access and copying of Land Record pages. The images created during the project are being utilized to create a new Land Records index, with linked images. Once completed, this will allow for access to all Land Records beginning in 1871 through the current day. Project was funded using ARPA funds.
- The codification of ordinances and the newly adopted Town Charter were completed by General Code. New supplements were created and supplied to departments.

- A public record shredding event was held in May 11, 2024, for town residents to destroy personal records and decrease solid waste removal costs for the town. This event is expected to continue as an annual or bi-annual event.

2024-2025 Goals

- Ongoing cross-training of staff for continuity of knowledge during educational/training sessions, absences or vacations.
- 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 FY2025 Historic Preservation Grant was submitted to the State Library to continue the process of replacing compact covers into accessible binders.
- Implementation of the Next Request online Freedom of Information Records Request Portal. This project will

Town Clerk Statistical Summary 2023-2024		
LAND RECORDS	2023-2024	2022-2023
Documents	4,323	4,662
Maps	32	25
VITAL STATISTICS		
Births	271	294
Marriages	200	203
Deaths	387	420
LICENSES		
Sporting	378	394
Dog	2,061	2,427
Kennel	2	2
MISCELLANEOUS		
Veteran's Discharges	36	45
Trade Name Certificates	77	70
Liquor Permits	41	48
Notary Public Certificates	91	88
RECEIPTS – TOWN		
Recording Fees	\$129,991.00	\$131,485.00
Conveyance Tax	\$452,768.36	\$510,153.32
Document Preservation	\$13,499.00	\$14,099.00
Vital Statistics	\$63,932.00	\$51,590.00
Dog Licenses	\$2,153.00	\$2,439.50
Sporting Licenses	\$104.00	115.00
Copy Fees	\$22,189.50	22,681.42
Miscellaneous	\$6,146.20	\$5,917.10
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$690,783.06	\$738,480.34
RECEIPTS – STATE		
Document Preservation	\$26,112.00	\$27,760.00
Dog License Surcharge	\$4,758.00	\$5,678.00
Dog Licenses	\$12,892.50	\$14,788.50
Sporting Licenses	\$1,849.00	\$2,232.00
Marriage Surcharge	\$3,298.00	\$2,890.00
State Treasurer	\$199,620.00	\$208,309.00
LoCIP	\$9,693.00	\$10,137.00
TOTAL STATE	\$258,222.50	\$271,794.50
GRAND TOTAL	\$949,005.56	\$1,010,274.84

Newington Administration

Information Technology

Scott Sharlow, Director

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.

2023-2024 Highlights

- Installed, configured, and maintained systems including but not limited to: Computers, Servers, Wireless Access Points, Switches, Firewalls, Cabling, Access Controls, Data Carrier Service, Audio/ Visual, Telephone, and Surveillance Systems
- Processed over 1,000 formal call-for-service tickets from 7/1/2023-6/30/2024
- Maintained and enhanced Town audio/video equipment
- Continued integration of fire records platform with Fire Department (FD) and Dispatch
- Continued management and deployment of Police video evidentiary management system
- Continued work on the cloud migration to the Microsoft365 (MS365) platform
- Migrated financial management application to MS365 for enhanced security
- Managed the Town GIS providing data maintenance and development, map creation, and support
- Went live with an online CAMA and GIS data portal for the public and internal use
- System upgrades for Town Clerk, Police, Fire, Assessor, Tax Collector & Parks and Recreation
- Expanded Town fiber footprint from Main Campus to Mill Pond Park
- Brought fiber from Highway Garage to Police Training Facility at the Milk Lane Campus
- Implemented, tested and deployed software deployment solution for PCs across all departments
- Performed an infrastructure upgrade of Town's Video Management surveillance system
- Reviewed network and physical security to ensure compliance with latest requirements
- Continued maintenance of public wireless at the Senior and Disabled Center (SDC) and Library
- Network infrastructure upgrades at Police Depart-

ment, SDC, Parks and Grounds, and Highway

- Upgrade of the Town's Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) and Security Information and Event Management (SIEM) platforms
- Continued work with the on the PD Traffic Camera and LPR project
- Managed voting technology infrastructure for registration and elections
- Provide guidance and support on Town CLRMN radio integration
- Upgraded backup software and hardware solution to ensure data security
- Support and setup for special events including the Newington Extravaganza
- Performed maintenance and support on the Town A/V portfolio

2024-2025 Goals

- Continued deployment of workstations, laptops and operating systems across all departments
- Deployment of Microsoft 365 cloud-based email and application solution Town agencies
- Migrate PD evidence management solution to MS365 integrated solution
- Provide upgraded network deployments at Town facilities utilizing fiber optic connections
- Replace core firewalls to defend town infrastructure from bad actors
- Work to enhance broadband opportunities for Town residents
- Provide Technology support for the implementation of a PD time management application
- Replace aging mobile devices unable to run latest OS updates
- Work on Dispatch replacement furniture project
- Replace main building UPS in PD Main Data Facility (MDF)
- Deprecate and replace older server OS and applications
- Continue work on Town Emergency Operations Center building project
- Streamline and upgrade Town website ensuring compliance with ADA
- Continue work on the radio conversion to the State CLRMN solution
- Continue working with Town departments to help identify areas where technology can assist them in reaching their goals and objectives
- Maintain and expand the use of the Town's Multi-

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. The department responded to 1,358 requests and completed a total of 1,274 work orders. 368 of those work orders were preventative maintenance tasks.

2023-2024 Highlights

The use of our asset management software called AkitaBox has proven to be a valuable tool. Our productivity and level of service has exponentially increased since the implementation of this software. This was critical in ensuring 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 move forward. Projects will be prioritized according to needs.

Lucy Robbins Welles Library

- 186 work orders completed
- Wallpaper repairs
- Electrical upgrades
- Periodic cleaning completed (Floor waxing, carpet cleaning, window washing)
- Repaired circulator pumps in the Boiler room.
- Outlet and surge protector repairs/replacement
- Life Safety Inspections and compliance
- Exhaust fan for first floor replaced
- Put up and painted plywood to help protect walls in basement
- New people counter installed
- Replaced bollard light on sidewalk
- Changed/replaced compressor on RTU-6
- Painted all of the holding cells walls, benches, and ceilings (in 3 cells)
- Surge Suppression Unit investigation

Police Department

- 172 work orders completed
- Periodic cleaning completed (Floor waxing, carpet cleaning, window washing)
- Life Safety Inspections and compliance
- Radio Project R56 report work completed, new radio racks installed and operational

Town Hall

- 403 work orders completed
- Repaired broken door frame of gym partition wall
- Under Slab Drainage investigation, new test pits and man hole installed
- Adjusted/moved 2 surveillance cameras in the gym
- Generator ATS board replaced
- Periodic cleaning completed (Floor waxing, carpet cleaning, window washing)
- Replaced condenser pump of data room mini split
- Life Safety Inspections and compliance
- New Key pad controls in multiple locations
- HVAC heating control boards for the third floor

Senior Center

- 209 work orders completed
- Window replacement project
- Replaced 3 emergency exit signs and 2 emergency light fixtures
- Periodic cleaning completed (Floor waxing, carpet cleaning, window washing)
- Life Safety Inspections and compliance
- Installation of new grease trap
- Generator replacement planning
- 2 New exhaust fans for 4 bathrooms installed
- Call for aid alarms updated and new signals installed in office

Newington Ambulance Building

- 12 work orders completed
- Exterior light fixture repaired
- Unit heater repaired in garage
- Ductwork investigation
- Water infiltration investigation

Kellogg Eddy House and Kelsey House

- 45 work orders completed

Kelsey House

- Completed maintenance service of basement de-humidifier
- Life Safety Inspections and compliance
- Basement drainage work
- Generator quick connects installed
- Filled cracks between foundation wall and hatchway

Newington Administration Facilities Management

Highlights Continued...

Kellogg-Eddy House

- Completed maintenance service of basement dehumidifier
- Life Safety Inspections and compliance
- Roof project completed
- Basement drainage work
- Underground service replaced by Eversource
- Generator quick connect installed
- Main Electrical Panel Upgrade completed

Highway Garage Site

- 120 Work orders completed
- Top soil hoop house cover replacement
- Added lighting to new work station
- Contractor released to widen 2 overhead doors to fit larger equipment
- Installed new cold weather starting kit for generator
- Periodic cleaning completed (Floor waxing, carpet cleaning, window washing)
- Life Safety Inspections and compliance
- Replaced door tracks of auto door at front entrance
- Removed and replaced flue cap and flashing
- Preventative maintenance of 30 Overhead doors
- Repaired Lighting in the Police Bay of the Mechanics garage

Parks and Grounds Garage

- 112 work orders completed
- Repaired/replaced faulty alarm panel
- Life Safety Inspections and compliance
- Periodic cleaning completed (Floor waxing, carpet cleaning, window washing)
- Main power distribution investigation and upgrades planning process
- Preventative maintenance of 16 overhead doors
- Fix/Replaced missing soffit and wrapped rake edge in metal

Parks and Pools

- Installed new telephone pole and lights following car accident at church hill park
- Rebuilt internal components of old-style electrical panel
- Wired new scoreboard at Clem Lemire Park
- Pump out water from conduit running from Garfield Street to the concession stand
- Rewire for new pump and filter location in the pump house
- Replaced breakers in electrical box for softball

Administrative

- Completion of Solar Projects
- Main street and market square electrical upgrades completed
- Asbestos abatement in PD storage area
- Planning for HVAC RTU replacement at Police Department
- Planning for asphalt roof replacement at Police Department
- Town Hall Campus wayfinding signage
- Town Hall Canopy planning
- Installed security cameras at our shop
- Feasibility study planning
- Silo Demo planning
- Purchase of 28 Garfield Street
- Revisions and implementations of lease agreements
- Highway Garage Security Camera Upgrades
- Start ADA Self Audit

2024-2025 Goals

- EOC planning and construction
- Police Department memorial monument
- Police Department PPE Storage and Data Room remodel
- Police Department HVAC upgrades & roofing replacement
- Feasibility studies for Highway Garage and Parks/ Grounds Garage
- Pursue historical grants for Kellogg-Eddy House for exterior renovations and painting
- Town Hall Canopy project for Human Services entrance and gym exit stairs
- HVAC library upgrades
- Expansion to AkitaBox

Newington Administration

Registrar of Voters

Theresa Avey (R) • Jenni Sehmi (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. **TYPES OF ELECTIONS:**



Elections Administrator-Registrar of Voters:

Register All Voter: Schedule and conduct in-person voter registration sessions, including annual high school voter registration sessions. Receive and process mail-in, online and agency voter registration applications.

Registry Lists and Ballots: Prepare and maintain a list of active and inactive voters. Maintain voter lists for local party caucuses. Prepare a voter list for each polling place. Organize and conduct the annual canvass of voters to ascertain residency. Enroll party members and prepare and maintain party enrollment lists. Remove electors who have moved from the district, died or are disenfranchised from registry lists. Complete certification of ballot orders that are sent and put on file with the Secretary of the State (SOTS).

Conduct Elections: Appoint Deputy Registrars and file the appointments with the Town Clerk. Appoint, train and supervise all poll workers. Declare polling place locations by voting district, including a place where absentee ballots are counted. Ensure polling places meet the requirements of the American Disabilities Act (ADA). Report results of municipal, state and federal elections to SOTS. Participate in recanvassing in the event of a voting discrepancy. Conduct Election Day Registration for all General Elections.

Absentee Voting: Direct Town Clerks to mail absentee ballots to eligible overseas voters. Verify absentee ballot voters on the official voter registry list prior to an election, primary or referendum. Supervise absentee balloting at institutions or dwelling places with 20 or more voters. Appoint and train people to count absentee ballots.

Post Elections Audits: When chosen by lottery, conduct post-election audits of voting tabulators.

Conduct Canvassing: Conduct an annual canvass of voters using the National Change of Address through the USPS. Use reports from the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC) to conduct additional canvassing of voters to ensure accuracy of voter registries.

Training and Records Mandates: Complete 8 hours of mandated annual training each year. Follow all state and federal records retention schedules.

Voting Technology: Ensure the proper maintenance, transportation, storage and preparation of voting machines. Conduct complete pre-election testing of memory cards, tabulators and all ADA voting systems prior to Election Day.

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

2023-2024 Highlights:

- November 7, 2023.
- Eligible Voters 20,932
- Voter turnout for the 11/08/2022 State Election was 37.32%
- Turnout on Election Day Registration was 29 electors.

2024-2025 Goals:

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

Newington Administration

Finance Department

Janet Murphy, Director

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

Mission Statement

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

2023-2024 Highlights

Administration and Accounting

- The Town of Newington's outstanding bonded debt at June 30th 2024 was \$28,435,000 a decrease from the prior year due to the current year payments on the outstanding balance.
- During the fiscal year projects continued to be put forward to the Council to approve for ARPA funding. These funds are required to be encumbered by December 2024 and spent by December 2026. Annual reporting for this grant was done during the Spring of 2024.
- Town continues to update its future debt plan with the assistance of the Town's financial advisor Matthew A. Spoerndle, Senior Managing Director of Phoenix Advisors, LLC.

Assessor's Office

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 2023 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 12,587 Real Estate parcels, 1,487 Business Personal Property accounts and 28,538 Motor Vehicles. The office is also responsible for assisting special service programs by annually updating over 390 elderly tax credits, 18 blind exemptions, 1,654 special assessment adjustments for Veterans and 129 disabled exemptions for Newington taxpayers.

Department Achievements FY 2023-2024

- Provided professional service to general public and taxpayers.
- Completed the October 1, 2023 Grand List on time as required by law.
- Sent out and processed over 500 Income & Expense forms to owners of commercial properties; which were then data entered.
- Sent out and processed 1,487 Business Personal Property Declarations.
- Approved approximately 393 elderly taxpayers for tax relief benefits.

Department Goals FY 2024-2025

- Continue to provide taxpayers with courteous, professional and responsive service.
- Maintain an equalized tax base according to State Statutes and professional appraisal/assessment standards.
- In alignment with State Mandates, the office will be taking steps to complete the October 1, 2025 Real Estate Revaluation to ensure equitable property assessments.

Newington Administration

Finance Department

The final totals for the Grand List are shown below:

TAX EXEMPT:	\$408,794,430	\$408,497,480	(\$ 754,450)	(0.18)%
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TOWN OF NEWINGTON—2023 NET TAXABLE GRAND LIST				
Category	2022 Grand List	2023 Grand List	Dollar Change	% Change
Real Estate	\$2,336,065,427	\$2,351,653,310	\$15,587,883	0.667%
Personal Property	\$202,931,050	\$215,238,750	\$12,307,700	6.0650%
Motor Vehicles	\$330,311,961	\$330,552,703	\$240,742	0.0729%
Total	\$2,869,308,438	\$2,897,444,763	\$ 28,135,325	0.98%
Tax Exempt Real Estate	\$414,532,660	\$421,498,900	\$6,966,240	1.68%
Tax Exempt Personal Property	\$105,633,890	\$118,190,020	\$12,556,130	11.89%

For 2023 Grand List the total amount of personal property exemptions, as we are required by the State of Connecticut to grant, is \$118,190,020 resulting in a lost revenue of \$4,533,769 being redistributed to real estate, motor vehicle and other personal property taxpayers.

The October 1, 2023 **Net Grand List** for the Town of Newington totals **\$2,897,444,763** which is an increase of \$28,136,325 or 0.98% as compared to the 2022 Net Grand List.

This increase is primarily attributable to increases in Real Estate and business Personal Property categories of the Grand List which increased \$15,587,883 and \$12,307,700 respectively.

The **Real Estate** portion of the 2023 Grand List totals **\$2,351,653,310** which is an increase of \$15,587,883 or 0.667% more than the 2022 Grand List.

The increase in the Grand List would have been higher for 2023; however there were reductions made by the Board of Assessment Appeal and 8 court cases were settled. The total reduction to the 2022 Grand List was \$6,030,655, a revenue loss of \$231,335 for one year. In addition, 3313-3333 Berlin Turnpike, Meadow Commons Owner, LLC received approval to amend their Tax Fixing Agreement to start as of October 1, 2023 abating an assessment of \$7,137,170.

The **Personal Property** portion of the 2023 Grand List totals **\$215,238,750** which is an increase of \$12,307,700 or 6.065% over the 2022 Grand List.

The **Motor Vehicle** section of the 2023 Grand List totals **\$330,552,703** which is a nominal increase of \$240,742 or .072% over the 2022 Grand List. The average assessment of a passenger motor vehicle decreased from \$11,862 for the 2022 Grand List to \$11,526 for the 2023 Grand List. Used vehicle values have started to stabilize after two years of increasing values and demand.

The **Tax-Exempt** portion of the 2023 Real Estate Grand List totals **\$421,498,900** which represents 15% decrease of the total **Real Estate Grand List**. The state mandated tax exemption of certain business personal property results in a reduction of the personal property grand list of **\$118,190,020** in assessment resulting in a loss of 35% to the **Personal Property Grand List**. The motor vehicle exemptions is nominal. The totals presented in the chart and discussed are the net Grand List, and excludes non-taxable property.

Newington Administration

Finance Department

Revenue Collector, *Corinne Aldinger, CCMC*

Tax Collection Activity FY 2023-24

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

The primary objectives of the Revenue Collector are to secure the maximum collection of revenues due the town, maintain accurate collection records, ensure proper controls and safeguard the revenue collected. When these objectives are accomplished in an efficient manner they reflect the financial well being of the Town, which is the

backbone of the municipality in regard to fiscal debt and bonding ability. This office enforces Connecticut State Statutes by operating in accordance with guidelines established by the Office of Policy and Management. Revenue generated by all other Town departments is balanced in the Tax Office and then deposited. The office of the Revenue Collector also serves as a center for property tax information. The staff assists attorneys, title searchers, real estate agents, residents and others regarding payment history and other information available from the tax records.

Taxes on Current Levy	\$105,138,836.35
Taxes on Motor Vehicle Supplemental List	1,230,391.73
Taxes on Prior Years' Lists	466,187.32
Interest, Liens and Other Fees	519,706.42
Taxes on Advanced Collection 2022 GL	671,590.91
Taxes and Fees Collected	108,026,712.73
Collection Rate on Current Levy	99.1%

TOWN OF NEWINGTON

2023 GRAND LIST—TOP 25 ASSESSMENTS

<u>RANK</u>	<u>TAXPAYER</u>	<u>USE</u>	<u>GROSS</u>	<u>EXEMPTION</u>	<u>NET</u>
<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>				
<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>				
1	CONN. LIGHT & POWER COMPANY	PUBLIC UTILITY	78,928,990	0	78,928,990
3	NEWINGTON GROSS LLC	RETAIL	19,529,360	0	19,529,360
4	TLG NEWINGTON LLC	RETAIL	18,547,440	0	18,547,440
5	NEWINGTON UE LLC	RETAIL	18,200,000	0	18,200,000
6	IREIT NEWINGTON FAIR LLC	RETAIL	16,404,710	0	16,404,710
2	BRIXMOR GA TURNPIKE PLAZA LLC	RETAIL	16,100,000	0	16,100,000
7	475 WILLARD ASSOCIATES LLC	MANUFACTURING	15,374,940	0	15,374,940
9	CONN NATURAL GAS CORP	PUBLIC UTILITY	13,243,080	0	13,243,080
9	RESIDENCES AT NEWINGTON LLP	APARTMENTS (UC)	11,680,400	0	11,680,400
8	HAYES KAUFMAN NEWINGTON	RETAIL	11,200,000	0	11,200,000
10	TARGET CORPORATION	BIG BOX STORE	10,150,000	0	10,150,000
12	LOWES HOME CENTER INC	BIG BOX RETAIL	9,800,000	0	9,800,000
11	NE FARMINGTON OWNER LLC	HOTEL	9,358,440	0	9,358,440
13	AGREE EASTERN LLC	RETAIL	9,541,420	0	9,541,420
14	FURNITURE EXECUTIVES NO 4 L P	RETAIL	8,820,000	0	8,820,000
15	HARTFORD HOSPITAL	ASSISTED LIVING	7,350,000	0	7,350,000
16	COHEN FAMILY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP	APARTMENTS	7,173,780	0	7,173,780
17	BROWN DEVELOPMENT LLC	RETAIL	6,909,000	0	6,909,000
19	GRISWOLD HILLS OF NEWINGTON ; LTD PARTNERSHIP	APARTMENTS	6,612,480	0	6,612,480
18	FENWOODE APARTMENTS LLC	APARTMENTS	6,531,000	0	6,531,000
20	BERLIN NEWINGTON ASSOCIATES LLC	RETAIL	6,300,000	0	6,300,000
22	GKN AEROSPACE NEWINGTON LLC	MANUFACTURING	1,261,410	0	1,261,410
21	MANDELL PROPERTIES LLC	INDUSTRIAL	6,090,000	0	6,090,000
24	505 NEWINGTON STOLLEY LLC	OFFICE BUILDING	5,908,060	0	5,908,060
25	LANDMARK APARTMENTS LLC	APARTMENTS	5,817,420	0	5,817,420
TOTALS:			335,579,310	0	335,579,310
% OF TOTAL GRAND LIST:			11.56%		

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.

2023-24 Significant Achievements

- Our Financial Casework program again saw a significant increase in the number of cases presenting with multiple issues. Cases involved cases with limited solutions; families with immigration issues; multigenerational households with needs for adult children with undiagnosed disabilities; housing needs including an increase in homeless situations & lack of access to emergency shelters, inability to secure affordable housing & increased evictions from existing housing. We also experienced an increase in requests for oil assistance due to reduced availability of Operation Fuel assistance.
- The food bank offered shopping sessions while maintaining delivery or pick up of pre-packed food. We served an average of 178 households each month and distributed 17,680 bags of food over the course of the year. This is only possible due to the amazing support of so many individuals, businesses, civic organizations, schools, and houses of worship who support the food bank either through volunteer hours, food & grocery donations or cash donations.
- Our Holiday Food & Gift Program is a collaboration with virtually all sectors of the community. I am extremely grateful for the incredible Human Services team who go above & beyond to ensure so many have a brighter holiday; the support of other town departments such as the P&R department who share space for our annual Gift distribution; Facilities who supports our increased needs; the Library who share parking space & modify program times to accommodate our drive through food distribution; Police & Fire who coordinate Stuff a Truck & Cruiser Food & Toy drives; the Senior & Disabled Center who refer clients & assist in delivery of food & gifts; and so many individual town employees who support the program by volunteering & sponsoring individuals with holiday gifts. We assisted 444 households & 898 individuals in November & December in the 2023 holiday program.
- We have very special members of the community that support our programs and assistance given to Newington residents through financial & food/grocery donations. In FY24-We received 237 different food donations from individual residents- several of these donors making weekly or monthly donations and 269 different financial donations. There were 51 memorial donations and two donations were made in honor of people's birthdays. Of note- Carvel donated close to \$8000, and the annual turkey trot organized by neighbors donated close to \$4500 in addition to 2 large mail bins of food, Knights of Columbus donated hundreds of pounds of food monthly and we received food and gift donations from all schools, faith- based organizations and civic organizations in town. Additionally, many businesses also supported us with either food or financial donations.
- We are also incredibly grateful to our close to 100 volunteers who support our programs throughout the year by providing 2195 hours of service, allowing us to meet a much greater need and provide more services.
- JRB- Juvenile Review Board is an opportunity for youth who have committed a minor violation with little expected recidivism to be held accountable and develop a plan to restore justice. Intake & hearing structure was modified to be more youth centered.
- Our youth and family counseling program was fortunate to hire Kayla Hendrickson as Clinical Services Coordinator starting in August of 2023. Kayla provided short term youth & family therapy, assisted residents in connecting with alternative treatment options, coordinated community presentations that addressed Mental Health, Substance Use & General Well-being practices for all.
- Our Youth Program Coordinator-Rik Huggard retired in September of 2023. He was gracious in continuing in a part time capacity in order to maintain programming and share his wealth of knowledge with new hire Brett Manion, who started with us in 2-2024. Brett brought a wealth of experience to the position and continued youth programs including: ALPs to all 5th grade students to explore positive- healthy choices, team work & communication; High School Adventure Club; transitional programs for 4th & 8th graders; SCORE -Student Challenge of Recreation & Education; & Summer Youth Adventure.
- Youth Program Coordinator Huggard was presented with Town Proclamation by Town Council in September 2023 for his many years of exemplary service.

Newington Community Services

Human Services

Achievements Cont..

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Goals for 2024-2025

- Continue to provide quality casework services, increasing connections with all sectors of our community.
- Staff development: Offer training to maintain knowledge on current trends and best practices in social casework & to maintain clinical licensure and certifications required for administration of adventure- based programs.
- Expand Adult to youth mentoring program. Create program coordinating volunteer opportunities for youth. Create program for disconnected youth combining Social emotional learning with interactive games & opportunity to receive membership in pro-social activity.
- Explore options and assistance in marketing with a goal of increased parent & community engagement.
- Expand our Wellness Wednesday Series -offer community education and awareness and de-stigmatization of MH issues.

Annual Statistics

	2022-2023	2023-2024
Youth & Family Counseling	110 Cumulative Cases	128 Cumulative Cases
Avg. Monthly Y & F Cases	9 Households	12 Households (position vacant 3 months in FY24)
Youth/Family Service Hours	181.75 Hours	180 Hours
Total Casework Cases	1,025 Cumulative Cases	1503 Cumulative Cases
Avg. Monthly Casework Cases	85 Households	125 Households
Casework Service Hours	2,196.2 Cum. Hours	2,051.75 Hours
Special Needs Food Bank	127 Cases 1,980 Visits; 23,760 Bags	96 Cases 2,137 Visits; 17,680 Bags
Open Air Market	2,483 Visits	3,092 Visits
Holiday Foods, Gifts	387 HH; 733 Individuals	444 HH; 898 Individuals
Positive Youth Development	1,931 Program Registrations	1,022 Program registrations (Position vacant 5 months)
Juvenile Review Board	20 Cases	19 Cases



"A Helping hand for all ages."

Newington Community Services

Lucy Robbins Welles Library

Lisa Masten, Director

The library continues to have a vital role in Newington providing services, information, a strong collection, programming for all-ages to meet the needs of the community. It celebrated its 85th anniversary in 2024 with a Proclamation presented by Representative Turco and Mayor Trister. This has been a busy year with the library open 322 days including 25 Sunday, 125,114 people visiting the library and 262,228 items checked out. Staff answered 38,973 informational and 1,649 tech questions and pulled and processed 35,632 items that were re-served by patrons.

Staff continued to evaluate current services to determine the effectiveness of each one and modified and streamlined them as needed. Popular services at the library included the free notary service with 783 documents notarized, public computers for internet use and free WiFi access, the *Books-for-You* homebound delivery service, a collaborative effort between the library, dedicated volunteers and the General Federation of Women's Club - Newington/Wethersfield, who delivered and picked up 1,650 items to our homebound patrons and the very popular meeting spaces and study rooms that were constantly in use. Free meeting space for students, individuals, non-profit organizations and internal business meetings was used 3,488 times.

Several online services were added to better serve our patrons. *Educate Station* provided quality educational content for homeschooling families and *LOTE4Kids*, an online database of digital books for children in World Languages. A new online program called *Library Speakers Consortium Virtual Author Talks* offered 2 – 3 live virtual author talks each month with authors like Liane Moriarty and Frida McFadden. A nice bonus about this service is that if patrons were unable to attend the live program, they could watch the recording at a later date.

Staff continued to cultivate a balanced collection of materials to meet the needs of our many patrons. The library offered books, CDS, DVDS, Blue-Rays, magazines and its Library of Things Collection which included items like WiFi Hotspots, lawn games and seeds. The digital collection continued to be developed as well, offering a wide variety of digital books, audiobooks, movies, magazines and music to our patrons, with 42,603 digital items downloaded. Due to the high cost of digital items the library purchases some of the collection to be shared with other libraries in our consortium and other items just for Newington residents.

Library programming was well attended and offered a great variety that appealed to patrons of all ages. Programming was offered in person, virtually and Grab and Go kits. Many of the programs especially for children and teens had waiting lists. For the year, staff offered 801 programs to 22,638 people. Staff also continued to expand outreach efforts with the schools, daycares, senior living facilities and the community.

Several new improvements to the library building included power washing the exterior, painting the entrance to the original library building and adding two new tech friendly study tables in the Quiet Study area. The library received two grants this year. One grant was from the *Hartford Foundation for Public Giving Greater Together Newington Community Fund* that allowed the library to offer new assistive technology to patrons who are visually or hearing impaired. The second grant from *Triumph Group Foundation Grant* funded programming and library materials for kids and teens that advanced education with a focus on STEM.

Our Friends group had three very successful fund-raisers, *Winterfest 2024*, a wine, beer & spirits tasting fundraising event and two book sales in the fall of 2023 and spring of 2024. The Library Board of Trustees held the 27th running of the *Newington Library 5K Challenge Road Race*, hosted a cultural event with the *Larry Gareau Quartet* as part of the *George G. Hanel Fine Arts Series*, offered an in-person author visit with graphic novel author and illustrator Jarrett Krosoczka for all 3rd & 4th graders as part of the *John and Adela Sliva Young People's Literary Series* and continued their work on future library expansion. The board also funded the popular circulating WiFi Hotspot program and continued to offer the *Dining Partner Program*.

In the coming year, we will be focused on increasing our Library of Things, a collection of non-traditional items to check out to the public, 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 towards a possible renovation in the future, and continue to redefine library services and offer the best service to meet the needs of our Newington community.

Newington Community Services Senior and Disabled Center

Jaime Trevethan, Director

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 many programs and services to meet its mission. Open to all persons aged 55 and older and adults with disabilities, the Center identifies eight dimensions of wellness that are 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, received renewed accreditation status in May 2022, and is the designated Community Focal Point for aging services.

2023-2024 Highlights

- The Center was fully operating for the year after the pandemic, providing expanded in-person activities and programs while maintaining telephone and virtual programming for those who wanted to remain at home.
- Highlighted programs for FY 2023-24 included expert presentations on various topics related to healthy aging, meditation, financial planning, scam prevention, balance and falls prevention, nutrition, arts and culture, socials, coffee hours, tech help, holiday celebrations, games such as bingo and setback, numerous exercise and fitness classes for all levels, painting and craft classes, intergenerational programs such as a pen pal program and the WISE program with CCSU students, history lectures, a grief support group, and sign language classes. New programs were started, including pickleball, coffee, coloring & conversation, and balance and strength classes facilitated by Roba Physical Therapy.
- The Annual EXPO event resumed in November 2023 after a three-year pandemic hiatus. The EXPO is a healthy aging fair with over 50 vendors in healthcare, nutrition, finances, housing, and more. Approximately 300 older adults attended the EXPO.

- Applied for, and received Council approval for \$90,000 in APRA funding, as part of \$10 million in ARPA funding available to senior centers in CT. The application was approved by the State Unit on Aging in August 2024.
- Held the annual Safety Picnic with fire, police and EMS personnel cooking, serving, and socializing with members. The Fire Marshall's office provided a brief educational presentation.
- The Bus Trip Committee offered bus day trips to various New England and New York destinations.
- Members were offered online registration for programs using My Senior Center. However, they may still register by calling or stopping by the main office.
- The Center hosted the annual Veteran's Day ceremony, working with the Newington Memorial Day parade committee to provide space for the ceremony and a free lunch for member Veterans and committee members.
- In July 2023, the National Council on Aging identified the Newington Senior & Disabled Center as a nationwide leader in encouraging and implementing strategies for physical activity participation. As such, the Center was featured in the US Department of Health and Human Services midcourse report regarding physical activity guidelines and implementation strategies for older adults.
- In July 2023, the SDC was featured on the National Council on Aging's *Senior Center Spotlight for Professionals* in an article about accessibility in our facilities and our programs.
- The Center hosted the district-wide Art Show for Newington Public Schools in April 2024, and hosted the Fall and Spring Friends of the Library book sales.
- The Newington Art League began showcasing its art in the display cases throughout the Center, rotating collections quarterly. The League also began a weekly drop-in painting session that was open to all.
- Outreach to members and the community continues to be a priority. The popular weekly robocall continued throughout the year, reaching over 1,000 members with important information each Friday. Other outreach methods include frequent social media posts, email, and electronic and hard copy distribution of the monthly Connection Newsletter.

Newington Community Services Senior and Disabled Center

2023-2024 Highlights cont..

- Nutrition remained a core focus for the Center. The in-person congregate meal serves 30-60 individuals aged 60 and older a hot, balanced lunch daily as part of the Federal Nutrition Program. The Meals-On-Wheels program continued with increased use, with volunteers and staff delivering over 1,400 meals to homebound residents each month. The volunteer Coffee Shop is open Monday through Thursday serving coffee, light breakfast and lunch, and snacks. The Center is fortunate to have a dedicated roster of more than 90 volunteers in nutrition, technology, tax preparation, the gift and coffee shops, gardening, and office assistance.
- Through the Information and Referral Center, more than a thousand residents received assistance with supportive programs, including Energy Assistance, Renter's Rebate, Medicare Part D, Meals on Wheels, Tax preparation, the Medicare Savings Program (MSP), and case management. The AARP Tax-Aide program took place from February to April 2024, providing free tax prep to over 200 people.
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- Dial-A-Ride provided 8,249 rides (one-way), a 10% increase over FY 2022-23. The part-time DAR position remains vacant.
- The Center's Giving Garden was fully operable with two leaders and 4-5 volunteers planning, maintaining, and harvesting the garden. Over 500 lbs of organic produce was donated to the Human Services Food Bank.
- Director Jaime Trevethan staffed the Commission on Aging and Disability, served on the Newington Safe Homes Taskforce, as Vice President of the CT Association of Senior Center Professionals, on the LGBTQ+ Movable Senior Center Committee, and on the Age Well Collective Advisory Committee. Mrs. Trevethan completed credits to obtain a CT Certified Municipal Official certification via CCM.
- Mrs. Trevethan was appointed Acting Town Manager on December 18, 2023. Program Coordinator Womer was appointed as Acting Director of the Senior and Disabled Center, and served in the role through June 2024.
- Mrs. Trevethan shared the Acting Town Manager/Senior Center Director positions from June – August 2024 and resumed the full-time Director position on August 12, 2024.

2024-2025 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, and 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 Town of Newington is steadfast in its commitment to creating a thriving community by offering a wide range of recreational resources and opportunities for its residents. Through the Parks and Recreation Department, this dedication is brought to life with an extensive selection of recreational programs, beautiful parks, special events, sports leagues, and facility rentals designed to serve individuals of all ages.

Recreation Division

The Department oversees a variety of facilities, including the pavilions at Churchill Park and Mill Pond Park, the Mortensen Community Center, the Kellogg Eddy House, and the Municipal Parking Lot. During the warmer months, outdoor swimming is available at the pools in Mill Pond Park and Churchill Park, while indoor swimming is offered at the Newington High School Pool during the fall, winter, and spring. Tennis players can enjoy facilities at Churchill Park, Newington High School, and Mill Pond Park, which features both clay and Har-Tru courts. Pickleball enthusiasts have access to outdoor courts at Churchill Park and Eagle Park, as well as eight indoor courts at the Mortensen Community Center. Golfers can experience the scenic 18-hole Indian Hill Golf Course. The Town also boasts picturesque trails on Cedar Mountain, at Deming-Young Farm, and in Churchill Park. Gardening enthusiasts can take advantage of 110 community garden plots located at Deming-Young Farm.

The Recreation Division delivers a wide range of leisure programs tailored to diverse age groups and interests. From year-round aquatics to adult leagues such as Cornhole, Co-ed Volleyball, and Men's Basketball, the Department ensures a vibrant array of recreational opportunities. The Department supports a variety of youth sports organizations operating under the Parks and Recreation umbrella, including T-Ball, Little League, Softball, Challenger Baseball, Wrestling, Soccer, Swim Club, Lacrosse, Travel Basketball, Youth Football, Cheerleading, and Special Olympics. The Department also organizes Camp RECreate, a seven-week summer camp for children in kindergarten through grade 8. The Summer Concert Series features 32 free performances, held Thursday nights at Mill Pond Park and on Saturday nights and Sunday afternoons at the Municipal Parking Lot. The weekly concerts continued at the Municipal Parking Lot during the spring, summer, and fall. Collaboration is a cornerstone of the Department's efforts, as it partners with the Board of Education, church groups, civic organizations, veterans' groups, local businesses, and other town departments. The Mortensen Community Center offers a versatile space for private reservations, events, birthday parties, meetings, and sporting activities year-round. Additionally, the Creative Playtime Preschool

Program, fully licensed as a Child Day Care Center by the State of Connecticut, provides educational and nurturing care for children ages 3 to 5, from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The Department also hosts beloved community events, including *Newington Goes Country* and *Food Truck Friday* in June at Mill Pond Park, the grand four-day *Life. Be in it. Extravaganza* in July at Mill Pond Park, highlighted by the region's largest fireworks display, the *Water Lantern Festival* in September at Mill Pond Park, and *Night of Lights* on Main Street in December.

2023-2024 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 17,000 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 utilizes social media to assist in a comprehensive plan to advertise all programs.
- The Adult Cornhole League continues to be a popular program, running on Thursday nights at Mill Pond Park during the spring, summer, and fall.
- For the first time, the Department offered pickleball clinics through a collaboration with Camp Pickleball. Clinics are available for youth participants, as well as two adult sessions at the beginner and intermediate levels.
- Additional opportunities for recreation and leisure were offered, including DJ pool parties at Churchill Park and Mill Pond Park pools, 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.
- The Creative Playtime Preschool Program continues to attract over 37 families each year, making it a popular choice for parents of children ages 3 to 5. Our flexible program allows parents to select a schedule that fits their needs, offering morning, afternoon, and full-day options. This state-licensed, comprehensive program continues to thrive at its location in the Mortensen Community Center.
- Parents can also enroll their preschool-aged children in the Summer Sunshine Program, which offers a nine-week educational and entertaining experience during the summer months. With activities similar to those of the Creative Playtime Preschool Program, Summer Sunshine provides a seamless continuation of learning and fun.

Newington Community Services

Parks and Recreation

Parks & Rec Cont..

- Year-round aquatics programs were held at Churchill Pool, Mill Pond Pool, and the indoor pool at Newington High School. Over the past year, we certified 32 new lifeguards, 16 new swim instructors, and served approximately 4,800 swim lesson participants.
- Camp RECreate is experiencing continuous growth and drawing increased participation from children. This year's attendance numbers were impressive, with 566 campers throughout the summer. The success of the additional two weeks of Camp S'more is evident, indicating the need to increase the maximum camper capacity.
- Opportunities to advertise in our seasonal program guide were offered again, and we continue to see interest from public/private partnerships including Data-Mail, Church of Christ Congregational, MDC, Happy Harry's Wine and Liquor Warehouse, CMI Sound, Tony Palermino, Jersey Mike's Subs, Haven Hot Chicken, Sports Construction, Sequin Level Lodge No.140, MooYah, The Flash Lady Photography, The Flying Monkey, Kiwanis Club of Newington, Turgeon Insurance Services, Final Cut Sports Barbershop, Cedar Ridge Construction, Callahan's Bowl-O-Rama, iHeart Media, B&M Tree Service LLC, CT Custom Aquatics, Spring Brook Ice & Fuel Service, and Tropical Smoothie.
- Our program guide is directly mailed to over 13,500 households, four times a year, through the Rare Reminder.
- During the awards banquet at the Connecticut Recreation and Parks Association (CRPA) State Conference, the Department was honored with two awards. Jay Bottalico was awarded with the 2023 Public Service Award. The Exercise the Right Choice After-School Program was awarded as the 2023 Program of Merit.

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 the Kiwanis Club of Newington, Eric O'Neil, Bonavita Luxury Lavs, and B&M Tree Service.

Parks and Grounds Division

- The Parks and Grounds Division serves as the steward of Newington's natural and public spaces, managing year-round maintenance across 833 acres of parks and green spaces. This includes the management of three regional parks—Mill Pond Park, Churchill Park, and the Clem Lemire Recreation Complex—as well as eleven neighborhood parks: Badger Field, Bank's Corner, Beacon Park, Beechwood Park, Candlewyck Park, Eagle Park, Lamplighter Park, Little Brook Park, Mary Welles

Park, Seymour Park, and Starr Park. Additionally, the Division oversees three historic properties: the Kellogg-Eddy House, the Kelsey House, and Deming-Young Farm.

- Beyond parks, the Division maintains various public assets, including the Municipal Parking Lot, downtown town-owned properties, and the grounds surrounding all public buildings in Newington. This work encompasses the care of 110 community garden plots, 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 and biking trails, public rights-of-way, 64 cul-de-sacs, roadside mowing, flower beds, and 38 decorative planters located along Main Street, Market Square, Government Center, and a variety of public properties.
- The Division also enhances Newington's public spaces by managing flags, town-wide decorations, and lighting for festive events. It ensures the upkeep of various town facilities, including the Police Department, five fire stations, the Senior and Disabled Center, Town Hall, Lucy Robbins Welles Library, the ambulance building, seven schools, and two park ponds.
- Maintenance tasks include mowing, pruning, trash removal, leaf collection, and preparing athletic fields. The Division also handles snow removal for schools, public building parking lots, sidewalks, and designated school walk routes.
- An essential aspect of their work is the preservation of Newington's urban forest. The Division maintains trees across streets, parks, cemeteries, schools, rights-of-way, and all town-owned properties, with the estimated value of these trees reaching \$30 million.
- In essence, the Parks and Grounds Division is a vital custodian of Newington's green spaces and public areas, ensuring both aesthetic appeal and environmental integrity. Through their extensive responsibilities, they significantly enhance the quality of life for the town's residents.

2023-2024 Highlights

- Installed a new handicap accessible playground at Eagle Park, including new drainage, pathways, cornhole lanes, pickleball court, oversized chess/checkerboard and color coating the basketball court.
- Switched liquid acid feeder system to a dry acid feeder system for safer operations at Churchill and Mill Pond Pools.
- Installed artificial turf at Mill Pond Pool to combat poor growing conditions and muddy feet.
- Repaired cracks and fixed leaking pipes at both

Newington Community Services

Parks and Recreation

2023-2024 Highlights cont..

- Goosinator was purchased for the purpose of deterring the presence of resident Canada Geese in our parks system.
- ABI Force field groomer and Swozi Field Stripper are two new pieces of equipment obtained by Parks & Grounds to improve quality and efficiency of field preparations.
- Rebuilt bullpen mounds and completed warning track and limb pruning at Alumni Baseball Field.
- Replaced multi-purpose, synthetic field at Clem Lemire.
- Installed new multi-use scoreboard and two sets of bleachers at Clem Lemire synthetic field.
- Installed new roof and shingles on shed at Legends Field.
- Installed new storage shed at Mill Pond Concession building.
- Provided setup and support for the Water Lantern Festival, Waterfall Festival, Night of Lights, Life. Be in it. Extravaganza, Wreaths Across America, Memorial Day Parade, Summer Concerts Series at Mill Pond Park, high school football games, the Veterans Day celebration, CRPA Entertainment Showcase and more.
- Installed holiday lighting and decorations in center of town ahead of Night of Lights event.
- 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.
- Parks & Grounds staff continued to provide snow and ice removal services for all parks, Town sidewalks, municipal parking lots, Fire and EMS lots and all Newington Public Schools properties
- Provided ongoing upkeep and maintenance of skate park at Clem Lemire.
- Continued to promote memorial bench program with four new memorial benches installed at Mill Pond Falls. In addition, the Department continued to offer a tree dedication program.
- Fall clean-up at all Town buildings and provided four staff members to support the Highway Department with the annual street curbside leaf collection.
- Rebuilt path, drainage ditch and reseeded banks at Rotary Pavilion at Churchill Park.
- Bathroom renovation was completed at Clem Lemire football concession building and Churchill bathrooms underwent extensive cleaning and were given a fresh coat of paint.
- Soccer field enhancement project continued at various fields including verti-cutting, aeration, overseeding, topdressing, and applications of fertilizer.

- In winter months, staff removed over a dozen street tree stumps.
- Parks & Grounds staff continued to oversee maintenance and care of Town's tree inventory.
- Playground-certified woodchips were added at Seymour Park.
- Resurfaced and repainted basketball court at Candlewyck Park.
- Annual setup, tilling, staking, and irrigation were performed at the 110 community garden plots at Deming-Young Farm.
- Overgrown vegetation was removed from Deming-Young barn.
- Installed over 170 American flags, downtown, in preparation for Memorial Day.
- Responsible for downtown holiday lights and decorations
- Installed Churchill Park Musco Lighting web control system at the softball field.

Cemetery Division

The Cemetery Division is entrusted with the solemn duty of preserving the sanctity and integrity of three significant cemeteries in Newington: Church Street Cemetery, Center Cemetery, and West Meadow Cemetery. Its responsibilities encompass a range of essential tasks, including the sale of grave plots, interments, detailed record-keeping, and dedicated lawn care. The Division also conducts thorough research and provides timely responses to inquiries from residents and extended families regarding cemetery-related matters. In fulfilling its mission, the Cemetery Division serves as a pillar of respect and reverence, ensuring the dignified and respectful stewardship of these sacred grounds.

- West Meadow Cemetery, in collaboration with Newington Memorial Funeral Home, once again hosted a successful Cherish Our Children ceremony in September.
- In December, West Meadow Cemetery proudly participated in the Wreaths Across America ceremony. This event is conducted by local veterans in conjunction with the nationwide Wreaths Across America Organization.
- There were 132 interments at West Meadow Cemetery, consisting of 54 cremations, 52 single depth burials and 26 double depth burials. In West Meadow Cemetery, 107 interments were performed on a weekday, 23 interments were performed on a Saturday, and 2 interments were performed on a Sunday/holiday.

Newington Community Services

Parks and Recreation

Cemetery Division cont..

- There were 14 interments at Center Cemetery, consisting of 13 cremations, 1 single depth burial, and no double depth burials. In Center Cemetery, 11 interments were performed on a weekday, 1 interment was performed on a Saturday, and 2 interments were performed on a Sunday/holiday.
- There were 2 disinterments at West Meadow Cemetery.
- 123 graves were sold at West Meadow Cemetery.
- New arborvitae were installed in Section D, at West Meadow Cemetery, as the beginning of ongoing replacement plan.
- Extensive tree pruning was completed at West Meadow Cemetery.
- 16 graves from West Meadow Cemetery were sold back to the Town of Newington.
- 23 veteran markers were installed.
- West Meadow Cemetery is a very busy and active cemetery, managed diligently by the Parks and Recreation staff. On average, the staff facilitates over two burials and one to two grave sales per week.

They collaborate closely with local funeral homes to

ensure the seamless administration of funeral services. Additionally, the staff maintains 10 acres of meticulously manicured turf and landscaped grounds within the cemetery.

Departmental Goals/Projects for 2024-2025

- Install a new handicap accessible playground at Seymour Park.
- Install new signage at Churchill Park, Clem Lemire Recreation Complex, Mill Pond Park and West Meadow Cemetery.
- Host the CRPA Entertainment Showcase in February 2025.
- Expand pickleball programs.
- Recruit more outdoor national sports tournaments.
- Recruit new indoor basketball and volleyball tournaments and rentals.
- Build town-wide economic growth through programming and special events.
- Install two new basketball courts: Beechwood Park and Lamplighter Park.

PARKS IN NEWINGTON

	Baseball	Softball	Playground	Multiuse Fields*	Tennis	Pool	Volleyball	Bocce	Basketball	Trails	Ice Skating	Picnic Shelter	Water Features	Pickleball	Skatepark
Badger Field - Walsh Avenue															
Beacon Park - Beacon Street															
Beechwood Park - Woodbridge Road															
Candlewyck Park - Lamplighter Lane															
Churchill Park - Main Street															
Clem Lemire - Balducci Way															
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, 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 Planner, Town Engineer, Police, Social Services and the Health Department.

Residential Certificates of Occupancy issued in this fiscal year:

- 45 Peckham Farm Drive, Single Family Residence
- 50 Peckham Farm Drive, Single Family Residence
- 55 Peckham Farm Drive, Single Family residence
- 65 Peckham Farm Drive, Single Family residence
- 75 Peckham Farm Drive, Single Family residence
- 197 Meadow Street, Single family residence 98 Pane Road, residential rental apartments (85 units).

Commercial Certificates of Occupancy issued in this fiscal year:

- 79 East Cedar Street, Dunkin'
- 12 D Fenn Road, Haven Hot Chicken
- 236 West Hill Road, Rockin' Chicken
- 12A Fenn Road, Salsa Fresca
- 3329 Berlin Turnpike, Shake Shack 730 North Mountain Road, Alterations to the Portuguese Club

A total of 13 Certificates of Occupancy were issued from July 2023 to June 2024:

- Single-Family Residence Certificate of Occupancy – 7 issued
- Commercial Certificate of Occupancy – 6 issued

2024-2025 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

Statistical Summary July 1, 2023 — June 30, 2024

Type of Permits	#	Value of Permits
Additions	282	\$11,788,571.00
Decks	41	787,105.00
Demolition	7	81,066.00
Electrical	636	8,562,231.00
Fence	0	0.00
Fire Suppression/Sprinkler	0	0.00
Footing/Foundation	0	206,564.00
Fuel Tank	3	108,010.00
Garages/Sheds	10	107,791.00
Mechanical	406	8,732,836.00
New Commercial	2	293,000.00
New Municipal	0	0.00
New Residential	5	1,742,200.00
Plumbing	207	3,676,384.00
Pools	18	700,076.00
Roofing/Siding	389	6,221,918.00
Sign	36	448,406.00
Solar	125	2,337,468.00
Tent	7	21,799.00
Other	1	1,000.00
Totals	2,175	\$45,771,415.00

Other Income Received	Amount
Town Plan and Zoning Application Fees	\$ 10,770.00
Environmental Fees	3,000.00
Conservation Commission Application Fees	4,115.00
Zoning Board of Appeals	1,040.00
Copies, Books and Maps	247.00
Work in Right of Way	15,625.00
Engineering Copies	477.00
Total	\$35,301.00

Income Received from Permit Fees \$524,541.00
Total Income \$559,842.00

Newington Planning & Development Town Planner

TOWN PLANNER *Paul Dickson, Director*

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.

2023-2024 Highlights

Town Plan and Zoning Commission:

During this fiscal year, the TPZ received approximately 35 petitions for special permits, site plan approvals, zoning amendments and various miscellaneous items, including the following:

Site Plan Approval/Modification:

8 Commercial and Residential site plan approvals and modifications including: garage constructions, residential developments, parking lot expansions, outdoor dining patio and ADA compliance.

Special Permit Approvals:

19 Special Permits including free standing commercial signs; Interior lots, a restaurant, a child care facility, banquet hall, accessory apartment, cannabis hybrid retailer, home occupations, and a café/coffee shop.

Zone Changes and Zoning Text Amendments: 3 Zoning Text Amendments: Banquet Hall, (Section 9.2), Accessory Drive Thru's (Section 3.13.7), Family Child Care Homes and Group Child Care Homes (Add Sec. 3.1.5) (Amend Sec 3.2.8).

Re-subdivision: 2

CGS Section 8-24 Referral- Purchase of Property Located At 28 Garfield St.

The Town Plan and Zoning Commission received \$4560.00 in application fees

Conservation Commission:

During this fiscal year the Conservation Commission received approximately 18 petitions; 07 of those were agent approvals, and 11 were heard by the Commission. The Conservation Commission received \$2,100.00 in application fees.

Economic Development Commission:

The Economic Development Commission held 9 regular meetings during the fiscal year and accomplished the following:

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 5 Petitions, 3 approved and 2 withdrawn. The Department collected \$1040.00 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:

During this fiscal year the Zoning Enforcement Officer:

- Issued 291 Zoning approvals
- Received 1059 questions or complaints about zoning regulations, blight complaints or property information
- Investigated 295 properties relating to blight and/or zoning complaints
- Issued 57 Notices of Zoning Violation
- Issued 49 Notices of Blight Violation
- Removed 567 illegal signs from the Town/State ROW

Newington Public Works

Engineering Department

Chris Zibbideo, Town Engineer

- 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 TON infrastructure improvements.
- Represent TON interests on state (CDOT) projects and utility projects in Newington.
- Facilitate public outreach for high profile/impact infrastructure projects in Newington.
- Represent TON at utility and CDOT meetings, and coordinated with adjacent towns regarding multi-town projects.
- Archive TON 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 TON infrastructure.
- Administer engineering permits for work in TON right-of-way.
- Research and provide engineering data to town attorney to defense TON 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 TON projects and BOE 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 BOE John Patterson parking lot expansion.
- Removed trees and stumps to protect TON 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:

Manage 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.
- \$75k Eversource Rebate for EV charging stations

Manage grant applications:

- \$2,900k 2020 LOTCIP Grant – Maple Hill Avenue and Alumni Avenue 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

Statistical Summaries:

- Total grant value of \$10.8M has 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 BOE.

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.

2023-2024 Highlights

- Continued with project coordination and oversight of the long-term Landfill closure
- Continued with the annual Target Solution on line employee safety training program along with various other training requirements. Completed annual hearing tests for all personnel.
- Hosted annual MDC Hazardous Household Waste Collection event on.
- Conducted annual roadway condition evaluations in preparation for milling and paving
- Assisted Traffic Division with repairs and upgrades to town traffic signals
- Continued oversight of all departmental construction projects.
- Coordinated and provided oversight for paving parking lot at John Wallace School High School
- Twenty-two (28) roads totaling approximately 6.2 miles were milled and paved along with drainage improvements and catch basin repairs on various roads.
- Coordinated crack sealing of approximately 10 miles of road
- Completed repairs or rebuilds on over 100 catch basins throughout town
- Completed major drainage improvements on Farmstead Dr, Hawley St, Parks and Grounds Facility
- Paved pathway and bleacher pad at Clem Lemire
- Completed town-wide roadside tree trimming and vegetation control during the winter months.
- Highway Department personnel collected over 11,100 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 6 snow/ice events totaling over 14" of snow and ice.
- Highway personnel responded to 12 after hour call-ins
- Mechanic personnel responded to 15 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/boxsprings.
- Town-wide street sweeping was completed during the months of April and May.
- Town-wide Christmas tree collection was completed in January.
- Private contractors collect refuse at 9,341 residential homes and 2,240 condominiums and elderly housing complexes totaling approximately 9,624 tons of residential municipal solid waste brought to Murphy Road Recycling of Hartford for fiscal year 2023/2024. In addition 1,563 household bulky waste items, 349 condominium bulky waste items and 327 combined metal items were collected curbside throughout the year. Forty seven (35) television sets over 19" were collected and recycled. 39.51 tons of mattresses and box springs were recycled through the Town's Transfer Station.
- Private contractors collect recyclables at 11,580 residential homes, condominiums and elderly housing complexes. Recyclables were brought to Murphy Road Recycling of Hartford for processing. Over 2,266 tons of recyclables were collected curbside for fiscal year 2023/2024.
- The Central Repair Garage is responsible for vehicle and equipment procurement, outfitting and disposal, preventative maintenance and emergency repairs for Police, Fire, Highway, Parks and Grounds, Volunteer Ambulance, Dial-a Ride, and General Government. The Central Repair Garage is also responsible for the Town's fueling facilities. Town Departments rely on Repair Garage personnel for emergency equipment installation, fabrication, diagnosis and repair of Town owned vehicles and equipment. Mechanics also assist as needed with leaf collection, snow plowing and construction projects.

Newington Public Works Information

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

- **Household Rubbish:** All household refuse is to be placed in the green container provided by the Town for curbside automated collection.
- **Household Recycling:** All household recyclables are 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

Christopher Perry, Chief of Police

"To Protect, Serve, and Partner with the Community"

The Newington Police Department consists of 49 full time police officers, 3 recruit training positions, 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.

2023-2024 Highlights

Department Staffing: During the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the department hired six new police officers. Officers Adam Goncalves, Evan Olsson, Jeremy Rivera, Maria Teles, and Ashley Zielinski were hired as certified Connecticut police officers who transferred from other police departments. Officers Evan Kowalski was hired as entry level officers and trained at the Connecticut Police Academy. The animal control officer position was filled with the hiring of Jessie Sawallich. The department made six promotions. Lieutenant Chris Perry was promoted to the Chief of Police, Sergeant Ryan Deane was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant, Officers Chapdelaine and Douglas were promoted to the rank of Sergeant, Officer Walker was promoted to the rank of Detective, and Officer Ryan Williams was promoted to the rank of Master Police Officer.

Department Activity: During the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the Newington Police Department responded to 30,009 calls for service. The department made 757 criminal arrests and investigated 1,951 criminal offenses. The department investigated 1,389 traffic accidents, which resulted in 151 injuries. There was one fatality. The department made 3,682 traffic stops, with 95 operators failing to pull over. We arrested 52 motorists for driving while under the influence of alcohol/drugs. The department continued to work on the installation of traffic cameras to cover eight of the busier intersections in town. These cameras are designed to provide LPR and CCTV connectivity in the future. Three of the eight intersections are operable with CCTV capability.

Police Department Training: The police department recorded approximately 4804 hours in officer training during the 2023-2024 fiscal period, which is an increase of 540 hours from the previous year. Two Officers attended the University of Louisville Southern Police Institute Command Officers Development Course which is a 400-hour training program. The training division continued to supplement training utilizing the Police One

Academy platform to provide consistent online training.

The training division remains focused on firearms proficiency and continued with the training regimen of bi-annual firearms qualifications; with one of these qualifications occurring in a low-light setting also incorporating use of force training as mandated by state legislation. Officers also received mandated training in body worn cameras. Selected officers attended methods of instruction training. The department continues to schedule specialized training for members of the Detective Division to include Interview and Interrogation, Advanced Interview and Interrogation, Background Investigations, Crime Scene Processing, and Photography. Officers involved in the Mid-State Accident Reconstruction Team continued their attendance in monthly training with the regional accident team. An additional Officer was added to the accident reconstruction team. The initial accident reconstruction training program is 240 hours. Officers assigned to the Capital Region Emergency Response Team train at least twice monthly in tactical operations training. An additional Peer Support member was added to the Police Department which is a 40 hours training.



Police Department staff participated in the annual Ciara McDermott basketball fundraiser.

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.

2023-2024 Highlights

Significant Fire Incidents:

- July 13, 2023 – 2553 Berlin Turnpike
- Holiday Inn Express – Structure Fire (Electrical)
- November 19, 2023 – 3420 Berlin Turnpike
- Friendly's – MVA (Burn Victim)
- November 20, 2023 – 113 Pane Road
- Commercial – Vehicle/Structure Fire
- November 24, 2023 – 49 Old Farm Drive
- Single Family Home – Structure Fire
- June 24, 2024 – Churchill Bridge Drive
- Apartments – Vehicle/Structure Fire

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



Significant Activities:

- The Fire Marshal's Office and Office of Emergency Management brought on an Administrative Aide II to support both offices operations. This is a 60/40 salary split.
- The FMO staff were able to complete 100% of residential inspections and continue to work on inspecting all of the remaining occupancies. The overall compliance for all occupancies is approximately 75% complete.
- FMO staff conducted a total of 1,012 inspection activities which are outlined below.
- All staff maintained the statutorily required continuing education requirement of 90 hours.
- The Fire Marshal Staff supported special events such as Extravaganza, Project Graduation, and the Water Lantern Festival.

Fire Marshal Statistical Summary

Activity	23/24
Inspections	730
Reinspection	70
Plan Reviews	66
Fire Investigations	40
Referral/Complaints	7
Consultations	79
Safe Home Inspections & Follow Ups	25
Blast Monitoring	2



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 was able to put into service the new Truck 2 that was delivered in 2023. Members continued to train and get qualified on the operation of the new apparatus.
- Department Inc. was able to make improvements to the Fire Museum. This included security cameras, new fire alarm, new boiler, new hot water heater, and some asbestos abatement.
- The department was able to purchase a Seek Thermal Imager camera for every SCBA in the department to improve the safety of all firefighters. The department also replaced all Gas meters on apparatus.
- The training division has been very busy this year with a variety of outside training on bail out rescue systems, SCBA Maze, CPR/AED Training, CIRMA Sexual Harassment, CT Fire Academy Class hosted in Newington, Motorola SDI Training for new radio system, SEEK Thermal Training, HAZMAT Training, and officer development.
- The Fire Department was able to continue with Community Events as regular. The Fire Department was involved in the Waterfall Festival, Chamber of Commerce Trick or Treat, Fire Prevention Open House, Cadet Open House, Cadet Easter Egg Hunt, Night of Lights, Stew Leonard's Tree Lighting, Stew Leonard's turkey give away, Autism Awareness Events, Newington Extravaganza as well as many others. The Fire Prevention Bureau also continued their annual school Fire Prevention visits. The department also participated in prom promise for NHS students.
- Overall the department is strong and response/participation rate is high among members in fire response and training. We continue 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 and highly respected in the State and by other area departments. The department is also working on improving its ISO Rating, which currently is a Class 3, by January 2025. The department looks forward to putting new radio system in service in late 2024/ early 2025.

FY 2023-2024 Statistics

1	Fire	94
2	Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Fire)	6
3	Rescue and Emergency Medical Service Incident	43
4	Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	167
5	Service Call	112
6	Good Intent Call	98
7	False Alarm and False Call	319
8	Severe Weather and Natural Disaster	6
9	Special Incident Type	1
Total Volume		846

Newington Fire Department has seen an increase in calls from 818 last year to 846 this year. Mutual Aid Provided to— Berlin, Cromwell, East Farmington, Plainville, Wethersfield, West Hartford— 16

FY 2023-2024 Total Summary

Incidents: 846

Volunteer hours: 61,042.5 (includes incident response, training, and community engagement)

Administrative Hours: 7,678 hours

Total Volunteer Hours: 61,042.5 hours

Department Strength: 97 Regular Members
8 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

NPS engages and empowers students to lead academically successful, socially responsible, compassionate, and purposeful lives. We will foster a thriving learning community that cultivates growth through:

Engaged Learning – provide students rigorous instruction (highly academic learning experiences) that is connected to their lived experiences and the real world making learning valuable and relevant.

Empowering - Instruction affirms, creates a sense of social and emotional safety and honors all students and communities of color including their ethnic, racial, and linguistic identities and develops all students' abilities to recognize and critique social inequities.

Vision

Every day, every NPS student is actively being equipped with the skills and knowledge necessary to become a contributing member of their community, while being highly prepared to thrive in life, and pursue their career or college aspirations upon 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.

2023-2024 Highlights:

ANNA REYNOLDS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – Mr. Jason Smith, Principal

The 2023-2024 school year continued to be a very busy year for Anna Reynolds with the building renovation project fully underway. The school year began with the opening of our Kindergarten and Grade 1 wing completed. In December, just prior to winter break, our Grade 3 - 4 wing was completed and students excitedly moved into their new classrooms. The school year ended with the completion of our Grade 2 wing! We

were able to end the year with a celebration for our special teachers, many of whom had been on a cart for the majority of two years.

Many moving pieces and challenges played out throughout the school year but our teachers and students continued to work hard and persevere. The building opened only a few days prior to the start of the school year, but in collaboration with our custodial staff and transportation, our teachers were able to create warm and exciting learning environments for students. The year ended with our annual field day and Celebration of Learning to celebrate all the accomplishments of our students. In addition, we were again recognized as a "School of Distinction" by the state of Connecticut in the area of Math for "high growth all students."

Our school focus for 2023-24 was:

- Operationalize the three canons (SRBI Guidelines, Courageous Conversations Framework, and Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Brain) to achieve equity.

In order to:

- Develop a school community where all students, with a focus on historically marginalized and underrepresented populations, have a sense of belonging.

To accomplish these goals, we:

- Focused on developing high functioning PLCs
 - ◊ Through the use of professional learning on Culturally Responsive Pedagogy
 - ◊ By interrogating student performance, particularly, focusing on who was benefiting/not benefiting from our instruction
- Operationalized SRBI for Instruction around SEL and Discipline with fidelity for all staff
 - ◊ Formation of a new equity team focused in the area of Discipline
 - ◊ Exploring and Developing Learning Partnerships with Staff
 - ◊ Rewriting our behavioral expectations (Be Kind, Be Engaged, Be Inclusive, and Be Responsible)
- Developed a deeper understanding of and how to engage in Courageous Conversations
 - ◊ Whole staff professional learning on Courageous Conversations that was revisited throughout the school year for a deeper understanding and application of the six conditions
- Maintaining equity at the core of each school committee (Instructional Leadership Team for Equity, Faculty Advisory Committee, Read and Write Across Reynolds committee, etc.)

ELIZABETH GREEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – Mr. James Marciano, Principal

Newington Public Schools

The 23-24 was another exciting year for the Elizabeth Green community.

Our school goals for 2023-2024 were:

- Create structures that build our school community.
- Develop racial consciousness.
- Become culturally relevant “pedagogists”.

Performance goals in both math and reading were partially met. We saw academic performance improvement in Grades K-2. Grades 3 and 4 maintained their previous levels.

To accomplish this, we...

- Continued to meet weekly in PLCs to research, plan, and implement effective practices aimed at reducing learning loss, the opportunity gap, and/or other problems of practice designed professional learning sessions around culturally relevant pedagogy specifically within the text *Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Brain*.
- Continued to examine a number of data sources academic, behavioral, attendance, awards/ recognitions to sharpen and necessitate our focus on educational equity.
- Continued using the Courageous Conversation framework as a tool for discussing race
- utilized co-teaching initiative in grades 2 and 4.
- Continued working in coaching sessions with SERC in support of co-teaching.
- Maintained our student safety and leadership patrol made up of fourth graders who were responsible for helping staff during arrival, dismissal, and on buses and vans.
- 20 racially diverse students participated in an after school leadership program whereby they learned valuable leadership skills.
- Communicated at a minimum weekly with stakeholders regarding a number of school based happenings/initiatives.
- Planned a number of cultural events including opportunities for students to learn about Muslim Holidays, Lunar New Year, recognitions/celebrations of Hispanic Heritage, Black History, Asian and Pacific Islander, Jewish American Heritage etc.

JOHN PATERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – Mr. Michael Gaydos, Principal

Last school year was a year of transition and big changes. We are excited to move forward with new objectives under my new leadership; a Latina leader dedicated to elevating our school's approach to equity and inclusivity. Building on the foundation laid in previous years, our focus now shifts to tangible implementation and deepening our understanding of how marginal-

ized students, particularly students of color, experience education within our system.

Our mission centers on closing the opportunity gap by ensuring high-quality, equitable instruction for every student. This year, we are setting clear expectations for more inclusive practices in classrooms, addressing systemic biases, and creating supportive learning environments. We will also introduce and refine systems for discipline and social-emotional learning, providing structures that empower both staff and students to thrive. With these initiatives, we are ready to build a school culture where every student's background and identity are respected and valued.

Our school goal for 2023-2024 was:

To establish equity-driven Professional Learning Communities (interrogations of the what, why, and how), implement culturally relevant pedagogy, and look at discipline with an equity lens then we will eliminate disparities so that all students are successful, regardless of race.

To accomplish this our work will be:

- Establish and sustain *equity-driven* Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) that critically examine instructional practices, and student data through an equity lens.
- Implement *culturally relevant pedagogy* across all areas and grade levels, ensuring that curriculum, instruction, and assessment reflect and value the diverse experiences of our students.
- Develop and apply a discipline program rooted in restorative justice principles and an understanding of cultural differences in behavior and communication through an equity lens.

As a result:

- Teachers will become more culturally competent and effective in reaching all students
- Students will experience increased engagement, representation, and academic success
- School climate will improve with reduced disciplinary incidents and an increased sense of belonging
- Achievement gaps will narrow as historically marginalized students receive more equitable opportunities and support

RUTH CHAFFEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – Mrs. Beverly Lawrence, Principal

Our school goals for 2023-2024 were:

- 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. (Spring)

Newington Public Schools

Overall Progress: 83% of our students met the benchmark in reading. In math, our students in K-1 met the target of 90% at benchmark. 79% of our students in grades 2-4 were at benchmark. 73% of our students met the benchmark in writing. Of special note, Ruth L. Chaffee was designated a **School of Distinction** for the progress of High Need students in ELA and math for the previous year's scores on the Smarter Balanced Assessment.

Performance by Subgroup

Ethnicity	Reading	K-1 MATH	2-4 Math Composition
Asian	81%	92%	90%
Black	80%	100%	540%
Hispanic	70%	68%	71%
Multiracial	66%	100%	81%
White	90%	95%	83%

Our 24-25 school year goals continue to focus on establishing learning environments and experiences that feature trusting and collaborative relationships in order to build students' self efficacy. This includes an understanding of three fundamental pillars as part of our equity mission: academic rigor, social emotional learning and discipline. Our objectives include:

1. Interrogating our pedagogy and practices to ensure they are:
 - Culturally relevant
 - Content strong
 - Asset based
2. PLCs will continue to engage in equity driven research and analysis
3. Engage in action research that will ensure all students particularly those from marginalized communities are in an environment whereby they can acquire the essential skills and knowledge in order to meet/exceed grade level expectations.

We will do this by:

- Implementing with fidelity the Chaffee Essentials of Instruction
- Applying the tenets of culturally relevant pedagogy: academic mindedness, cultural competence, and socio-political consciousness.
- Implementing a new ELA curriculum
- Deepening our knowledge of the Science of Reading and Thinking Classrooms

- Utilizing the Chaffee Meeting/Agenda structure for PLC effectiveness.

As the new principal of Ruth L. Chaffee, I look forward to leading this amazing group of educators and partnering with our diverse Chaffee families to ensure each and every one of our students leaves with the skills and knowledge to be successful at the next level.

JOHN WALLACE MIDDLE SCHOOL – Mr. Daniel Dias, Principal

Throughout the 2023-2024 school year, the JWMS learning community maintained our efforts to ensure our students were engaged in rigorous, relevant and engaging curriculum. Our amazing staff once again focused on building strong relationships and connections with all of our students. We had a strong focus on equity this year as evidenced by our school wide book study, learning and implementation of, *Courageous Conversations About Race* by Glenn E. Singleton. Our school goals for the 2023-24 school year continued in the areas of literacy, numeracy and supporting our students' social and emotional needs.

Some of the highlights of the 2023-2024 John Wallace School Year include:

- A continued transition towards mastery-based learning instruction and reporting practices.
- A continued focus on transparency and communication. Families and stakeholders were updated throughout the year on school events and we honored and celebrated our diverse community throughout the school year. Use of our language line and Parentsquare for immediate translation allow us to communicate with all stakeholders and break down language barriers.
- Continued our efforts during our advisory period to build relationships and focus on social emotional learning for our students via Rethink ED and RULER. We also added Common Sense Media lessons and honored and celebrated various cultural events such as Hispanic Heritage Month, Black History Month, Asian and Pacific Islander Month and Women's History Month through advisory and other school lessons and events.
- One of our proudest accomplishments was becoming an officially designated No Place For Hate School and our new partnership with the Anti-Defamation League. We began a new tradition of No Place for Hate Week the week before Thanksgiving. This is a celebration of our school community and a strengthening of our shared focus on No Place for Hate.
- Weekly PLC (Professional Learning Community)

Newington Public Schools

grade 6 teachers and students from John Wallace Middle School.

- Performed the musical production “*Newsies*” that included many student, parent and staff participants.
- Participation in a variety of fundraisers, social events, and celebrations that provide 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.
- Active staff and parent participation in various building and district committees including the following:
 - ◊ Instructional Leadership Team
 - ◊ School Climate Committee
 - ◊ Mastery-Based Learning Committees
 - ◊ Teacher and Administrator Evaluation Committee (PDEC)
 - ◊ District Data Team
 - ◊ School and District Equity Team
 - ◊ MK Alliance for Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

NEWINGTON HIGH SCHOOL – Ms. Terra Tigno, Principal

The 2023-24 school year continued to focus on supporting our students and families. Staff continue to focus on creating relevant and engaging learning experiences designed to eliminate the opportunity gap for all of our students; with particular attention to those students from historically marginalized

communities. NHS continues to refine our SRBI processes, data analysis for informed decision making at all levels, and create systems of equity that support every learner in achieving the aspirations of the district's portrait of the graduate.

Once again, our Family of Learners took part in several community service projects and field trip learning experiences, as well as had many academic and extra-curricular celebrations.

Highlights of the Newington High School 2023-2024 school year include:

- In the CTE Department, students earned 708 free college credits for Marketing, Finance, Accounting and Computer Science classes through the College and Career Pathways Program.
- Number of Scholarships offered for 2024: 112, Num-

ber of Recipients that received a Scholarship: 85, Amount of monies awarded was: \$159,425.

- 2,146 - College Applications were submitted this school year.
- In the Wellness Department, we had all schools in the district reporting a higher than 90% participation rate in the State Mandated Physical Fitness Assessments.
- The Wellness department created a new course, Unified Physical Education. Two sections of this course will run during the 2024-25 school year. Unified Physical Education provides a unique opportunity for students of all abilities to collaborate through ongoing educational and physical activities. Students in this course will participate in developmentally appropriate units to increase competence and confidence in a variety of physical activities such as cooperative team games/sports, physical fitness, and lifelong activities.
- Two art teachers, Renee Sawyer and Louise Stepien, became certified UConn ECE instructors. They will be offering two additional advanced courses during the 2024-25 school year: UConn ECE Digital Graphic and Design II and UConn ECE Drawing II. With the addition of these two courses, Newington High School now offers dual enrollment credit through 33 different courses.
- The Science National Honor Society at NHS inducted 85 students this past school year. This number continues to grow each year, as we have more and more students not only excelling in their science classes, but choosing to pursue science related careers upon graduation.
- 54 Newington High School seniors earned the Seal of Biliteracy across various languages: 4 in Italian, 9 in Latin, 1 in Polish, 3 in Portuguese, 42 in Spanish, and 1 in Ukrainian.
- 88 students were inducted into World Language honor societies: 73 in Spanish, 3 in French, 6 in Italian, and 6 in Latin.
- 63 students were inducted into the Mathematics National Honor Society this past school year.
- 64 students were inducted in Rho Kappa, the Social Studies National Honor Society, this past school year.
- 60 students were inducted into the Art National Honor Society (our 1st year of this Honor Society).
- The English department created a new course, Leadership in Literature, to run for the first time this spring. Students will read about leaders around the world and create plans for their own leadership aspirations.
- [Newington High School Profile](#)

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 (7) 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.

Newington

Boards and Commissions

Cont..

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION

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

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

BOARD OF ETHICS

The Board of Ethics is comprised of seven (7) regular and two (2) alternate members appointed by the Town Council, including two (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.

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

Boards and Commissions

Cont...

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 2023-2024

Town of Newington

Town Finances FY 2023-2024

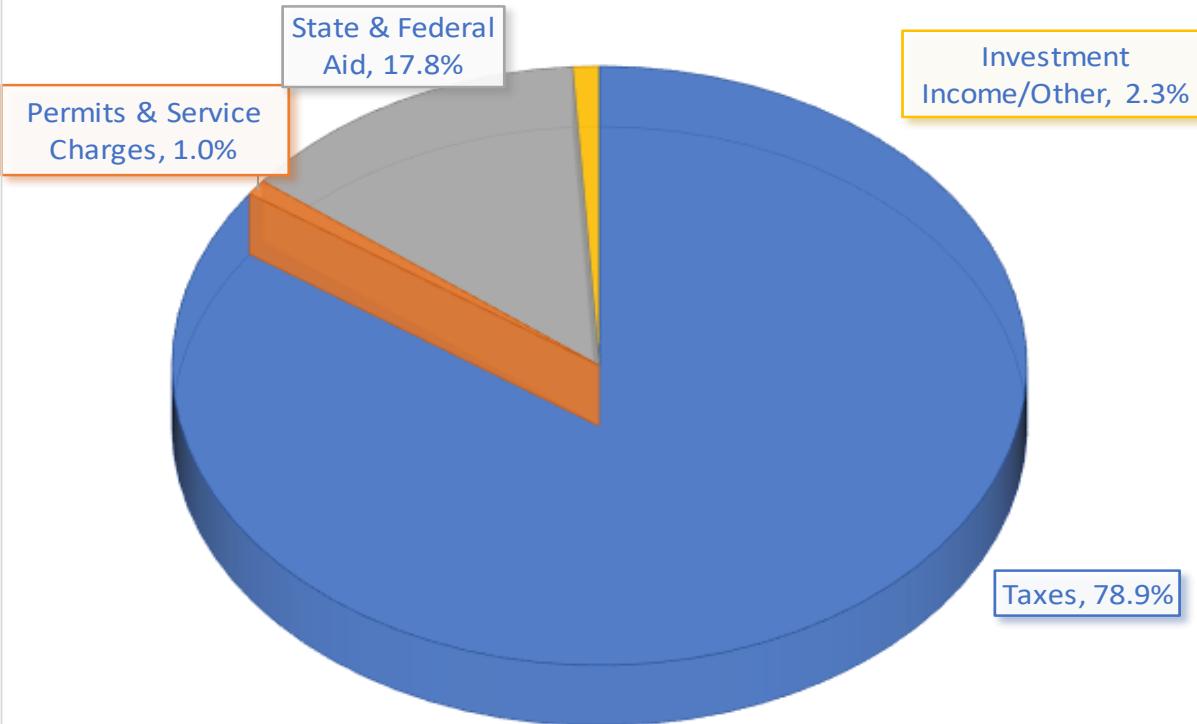
- The Town's adopted General Fund budget for 2023-24 totaled \$137,512,573
- The Mill Rate was 38.36
- The Town achieved a collection rate of 99.02% on the current levy.
- The Town's bond indebtedness at June 30, 2024 totaled \$28,435,000.
- The Town's actual expenditures were \$135,105,838 and actual revenues totaled \$137,617,712.

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 2023-24, by Source
(\$ thousands)

Source	2022-23	2023-24	\$ Change
Taxes	108,227	108,512	285
Permits	2,261	1,386	(875)
State & Federal Aid	22,835	24,568	1,733
Investment Income	2,611	3,152	541
Other	1,613	853	(760)
TOTAL	135,934	137,618	1,684

TOWN REVENUE BY SOURCE, FY 2023-24



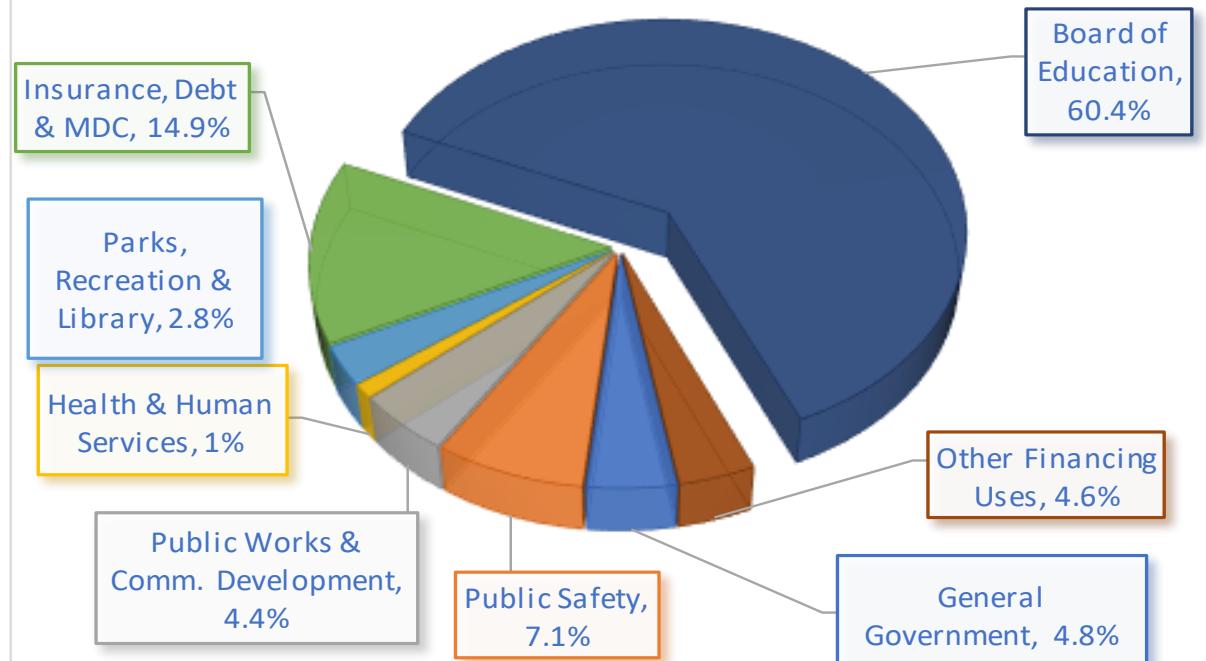
Town of Newington

Town Finances FY 2023-2024

Actual Town Expenditures for FY 2023-24, by Function
(\$ thousands)

Function	2022-23	2023-24	\$ Change
General Government	5,882	6,486	604
Public Safety	9,280	9,627	347
Public Works & Comm. Develop-	5,803	6,005	202
Health & Human Services	1,244	1,252	8
Parks, Recreation & Library	3,589	3,769	180
Insurance, Debt Service & MDC	18,845	20,101	180
Board of Education	78,586	81,652	3,066
Other Financing Uses	10,334	6,214	(4,120)
TOTAL	133,563	135,106	1,543

TOWN EXPENDITURES FOR FY 2023-24, BY FUNCTION



Town of Newington

Town Finances FY 2023-2024

Bonds Outstanding June 30, 2024 (in thousands)

Function	Amount
Schools	14,188
General Purpose	14,247
TOTAL	28,435

Schedule of Debt Principal and Interest by Year as of June 30, 2023 (in thousands)

Year Ending June 30	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	1,885	1,007	2,892
2026	1,700	919	2,619
2027	1,700	833	2,533
2028	1,700	760	2,460
2029	1,700	688	2,388
2030-2034	8,500	2,510	11,010
2035-2044	11,250	1,593	12,843
TOTAL	28,435	8,310	36,745