

# ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019



## TOWN OF NEWINGTON

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Website:  
[www.newingtonct.gov](http://www.newingtonct.gov)

Tel: 860-665-8500

Address:  
200 Garfield Street  
Newington, CT 06111

# Town of Newington

Annual Report  
2018-2019



Edited by:  
Heather Shonty  
&  
Lisa DeLude

Town Hall  
200 Garfield Street  
Newington, CT 06111  
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# About Newington

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## 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 2018-2019 was 38.50. The mill rate is applied to the Grand List of fair market value. All commercial and residential properties were revaluated in 2015.

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

## Historical Sites

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

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

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

# Newington Government

# Town Council

## ***Roy Zartarian, Mayor***

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

The Town Council consists of the Mayor and eight members elected from the Town at large every two years. The Mayor, elected separately, is a member and presiding official of the Council with power to vote.

The Town Council meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Meetings are broadcast live on Newington Community Television.



Mayor  
Roy Zartarian



Councilor  
Carol Anest



Councilor  
Nicholas Arace



Councilor  
Gail Budrejko



Councilor  
Beth DelBuono



Councilor  
Chris Miner



Councilor  
Tim Manke



Councilor  
James Marocchi



Councilor  
Diana Serra

## **2018-2019 Budget**

On April 16, 2018 the Town Council Adopted the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Budget as follows:

- Total appropriations: \$118,696,585.
- Mill Rate: 38.50 mills.
- Approved the Town of Newington Long Range Capital Improvement Plan 2018-2019 through 2022-2023.

## **2019-2020 Budget**

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

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

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

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

**[www.newingtonct.gov](http://www.newingtonct.gov)**

## **2018-2019 Highlights**

- Awarded 2018-2019 Teacher of the Year to Mrs. Jennifer Freese, Science Teacher at The Medical Sciences Academy at Newington High School.
- Selected Kevin Mason as the 2018 Town of Newington Volunteer of the Year.
- Amended ordinance titled, "Chapter 311, Peddling and Soliciting" to the Newington Code of Ordinances.
- Authorized the Garfield Street Remediation Grant and School CIP with the Newington Board of Education.
- Amended the 150th Anniversary Steering Committee to plan, organize, and execute the 150th celebration of Newington's incorporation.
- Honored several former Town employees in their retirement.
- Made numerous appointments to various boards, commissions and committees.



# Newington Administration

# Town Manager

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## ***Tanya D. Lane , 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.

### **2018-2019 Highlights**

- Devoted many hours to the Town Hall/Community Center building project, special meetings with Town Hall Renovations Project Building Committee and regular meetings with QAM Architect and Downes Construction Company.
- Met with Colliers International firm who's been selected to provide construction oversight as our Clerk of Works for the Town Hall/Community Center project.
- Delivered Town Manager's annual State of the Town Address with Mayor Zartarian on March 7, 2019.
- Attended numerous meetings of CRCOG and participated on the CRCOG Municipal Services Committee and attended several Mid State Collaborative meetings with area towns.
- Advertised, interviewed applicants and made hiring decisions for all open full-time positions in the Town and Police Department.
- Attended the groundbreaking ceremony and reception for the new Town Hall/Community Center project.
- Attended Town Councils' goal setting sessions for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.
- Met monthly with the Public Works team.
- Met with various residents and constituencies to dialogue about their concerns.
- Worked with staff on enforcement of various blighted properties.
- Attended Human Services Volunteer Dinner and the Library Volunteer Recognition Breakfast.
- Met with staff, department heads and union representatives on an as needed basis to address and resolve employee concerns and personnel issues.

### **Employee Anniversaries**

#### **35 Years**

- William Califano– Highway
- Jeff Baron– Administrative Services

#### **30 Years**

- Lester Daigle– Park Grounds
- Mark Ripley– Park Grounds

#### **20 Years**

- Paolo Bordonaro—Highway
- Adrienne Cerniglia– Building
- Brendan Moon– Police
- Michael Morgan– Police
- John Zematis– Police
- John Aselton– Police

#### **15 Years**

- Benjamin Breitreutz– Park Grounds
- Paul Quattromani– Highway
- Eric O'Neil– Park Grounds
- Tanya Lane– Town Manager
- Walter Golembeski– Police
- Roxanne Verbridge– Police

#### **10 Years**

- Linda Cruff– Police
- Bailey Francis– Library
- Jennifer Massaro-Cook– Benefits
- Douglas Jourdan– Building
- Stacey Emmanuel– Tax
- Jaime Trevethan– Senior Center
- Derek Aivano– Police
- Derrick Walker– Police
- Michael Karski– Police

#### **5 Years**

- Michael Costardo– Highway
- Dorothy Russell– Library
- Karen Benner– Library
- Steven Pollock– IT

# Newington Administration

# Town Clerk

## **James E. 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 Ordinance; issuing various licenses and permits; and maintaining financial records disclosing fees collected for the Town and the State.

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

### **2018-2019 Highlights**

- Democratic & Republican Primaries were held on August 14, 2018, which the office issued 172 & 48 Absentee Ballots, respectively.
- A State Election was held on November 6, 2018, during which the office issued 769 Absentee Ballots to residents.
- Codified newly adopted ordinances to the Town Code books and online site.
- Received a \$6,500 FY2019 Historic Preservation Grant from the State Library to preserve the original Grand Lists/Assessment Levy Books beginning in 1870 through 1879.

### **2019-2020 Goals**

- Continued cross-training of staff for continuity of knowledge during training sessions, absences or vacations.
- Continued scanning and microfilming of Vital Records (Birth, Marriage & Death) Certificates from 2012 to present for preservation.
- Preparation for relocation of the office to the new Town Hall through Records Retention for stored non-permanent records and cold storage documents.
- Continued scanning and archival back-up of Town Boards & Commissions minutes.
- Application for a FY2020 Historic Preservation Grant from the State Library to complete the back-file scanning of Land Record images and linking to live indexes. Currently offering image availability back to January 1985 with a live index to January 1976.

| <b><u>Town Clerk Statistical Summary 2018-19</u></b> |                       |                       |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b><u>LAND RECORDS</u></b>                           | <b><u>2018-19</u></b> | <b><u>2017-18</u></b> |
| Documents  | 4,584                 | 4,623                 |
| Maps   | 13                    | 5                     |
| <b><u>VITAL STATISTICS</u></b>                       |                       |                       |
| Births   | 279                   | 261                   |
| Marriages  | 188                   | 216                   |
| Deaths   | 372                   | 363                   |
| <b><u>LICENSES</u></b>                               |                       |                       |
| Sporting   | 245                   | 264                   |
| Dog  | 2,226                 | 2,096                 |
| Kennel   | 1                     | 2                     |
| <b><u>MISCELLANEOUS</u></b>                          |                       |                       |
| Veteran's Discharges                                 | 34                    | 33                    |
| Trade Name Certificates                              | 77                    | 36                    |
| Liquor Permits                                       | 56                    | 49                    |
| <b><u>RECEIPTS – TOWN</u></b>                        |                       |                       |
| Recording Fees                                       | \$125,343.00          | \$139,948.00          |
| Conveyance Tax                                       | \$274,399.24          | \$332,349.20          |
| Document Preservation                                | \$14,115.00           | \$13,713.00           |
| Vital Statistics                                     | \$34,884.00           | \$36,009.00           |
| Dog Licenses   | \$2,231.00            | \$2,097.00            |
| Sporting Licenses                                    | \$198.00              | \$234.00              |
| Copy Fees  | \$23,556.50           | \$24,078.00           |
| Miscellaneous  | \$5,396.00            | \$2,993.00            |
| <b>TOTAL GEN. FUND</b>                               | <b>\$480,122.74</b>   | <b>\$551,421.20</b>   |
| <b><u>RECEIPTS– STATE</u></b>                        |                       |                       |
| Document Preservation                                | \$26,200.00           | \$18,668.00           |
| Dog License Surcharge                                | \$5,068.00            | \$4,690.00            |
| Dog Licenses   | \$13,793.00           | \$12,443.50           |
| Sporting Licenses                                    | \$4,096.00            | \$4,922.00            |
| Marriage Surcharge                                   | \$2,516.00            | \$1,672.00            |
| State Treasurer                                      | \$203,147.00          | \$229,617.00          |
| LoCip  | \$9,669.00            | \$10,416.00           |
| <b>TOTAL STATE</b>                                   | <b>\$264,489.00</b>   | <b>\$282,428.50</b>   |
| <b>GRAND TOTAL</b>                                   | <b>\$744,611.74</b>   | <b>\$833,849.70</b>   |

# Information Technology

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## **Paul Boutot, Chief Information Officer**

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

### **Mission**

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

### **2018-2019 Highlights**

- Deployment of Microsoft Windows 10 operating system to Town managed endpoints.

- Deployment of Microsoft Office 2019 Productivity Suite.
- Deployment of Cyber Security Awareness Training Program.
- Replacement of the Town's 1st generation hyper-converged infrastructure with 2nd generation equipment.

### **2019-2020 Goals**

- Work with Town departments to help identify areas where technology can assist them in reaching their goals and objectives for internal and external purposes.
- Plan, coordinate and work with the Town's vendors as needed on the technology components in the new Town Hall and Community Center.

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# Registrar of Voters

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## **Linda Cultrera (R) • Marie Fox (D)**

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

### **Elections Administrator-Registrar of Voters:**

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

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

### **2018-2019 Highlights**

- There were 18,935 registered voters as of Nov. 6, 2018.
- Turnout on Election Day Registration was approximately 200 electors.
- Voter turnout for the 11/6/18 Gubernatorial election was 72.7%.

### **2019-2020 Goals**

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

### **Polling Places (all handicapped accessible)**

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



# Facilities Management

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

## 2018-2019 Highlights

- Town Hall's roof repairs continued throughout the year on an as-needed basis; a partial roof replacement was completed on the Lucy Robbins Welles Library.
- At the Senior and Disabled Center, a sprinkler system was installed.
- At the Highway Garage, our Town Electrician wired an electric gate at the entrance to secure the premises.
- Installed power for the irrigation system located at 63 Eleanor Place, behind Emmanuel Christian Academy.
- Relocated the generator for the old Town Hall.
- Participated in CIRMA training for Work Safety at the high school.
- Prepared the property for the Transition Academy by providing water and electricity to the trailer located on Mill Street extension.

## 2019-2020 Goals

- Assist the Town Hall & Library Renovations Committee & Town Manager as requested in the building of the new Town Hall/Community Center & future Library addition.
- Continue to schedule roof replacements & major building heating component replacements as priority items and as budget allows during the next year.
- To increase operational effectiveness & efficiency of all Town owned buildings & infrastructure by increasing preventative maintenance.
- Work with all department managers & directors to meet their vision of facilities requirements to meet their specific needs and uses of their buildings and departments and to help promote Building-Wide Energy Efficiency.

| 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)<br>911 (emergency)              |
| Fire Marshal                | 860-667-5910   |
| Health District             | 860-785-8380   |
| Highway Sanitation Division | 860-667-5810<br>860-667-5874                           |
| Human Services              | 860-665-8590   |
| Information Technology      | 860-665-8555   |
| Lucy Robbins Welles Library | 860-665-8700   |
| Parks & Recreation          | 860-665-8666   |
| Police                      | 860-666-8445 (routine)<br>911 (emergency)              |
| Registrar of Voters         | 860-665-8516 (Democratic)<br>860-665-8517 (Republican) |
| Revenue Collection          | 860-665-8540   |
| Senior & Disabled Center    | 860-665-8778   |
| Town Clerk                  | 860-665-8545   |
| Town Manager                | 860-665-8510   |
| Town Planner                | 860-665-8575   |

# Finance Department

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## ***Janet Murphy, Director***

The Department of Finance consists of the Administration and Accounting, the Assessor's office & Revenue Collector's offices. The Administration & 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 & administers the Town budget, handles the daily Treasury operations & manages cash & debt obligations.

### **Mission Statement**

*To provide accurate, timely financial reporting, information & 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.*

### **2018-2019 Highlights**

#### **Accounting and Administration**

- For the twenty-ninth consecutive year, the Town was awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for fiscal year 2017-2018. The Town received this national recognition for its financial report by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States & Canada.
- The Town went out for bonding for the new Town Hall/Community Center project in May. Standard & Poor's reaffirmed our high credit rating of AA+.
- Analysis for Town Hall/Community Center project continued throughout the year along with the final official statement for bonding.
- The Recreation CIP Fund was established to account for funds in excess of \$1M in the Recreation Enterprise Fund which would then be transferred over to the new fund to finance capital items for Parks and Recreation that are not included in the Town CIP.
- Town updated its future debt plan with the assistance of the Town's financial advisor Matthew A. Spoerndle, Senior Managing Director of Phoenix Advisors, LLC.
- A High Deductible Health Plan for IBPO was successfully implemented for the start date of July 1, 2018. Now all Town employees are on the High Deductible Health Plan.
- In response to a Request for Proposal for audit services, interviews were conducted with the Town's audit committee for the appointment of Town auditor. As a result of the interviews and the quality of their proposal, the audit firm of Blum Shapiro of West Harford was recommended and appointed by the Town Council for a four year term.

## **Assessor**

***-Steven Kosofsky***

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

Real Property is assessed at 70% of a base year of value established on October 1, 2015, which was the date of the last revaluation. Commercial Personal Property and Motor Vehicles are assessed at 70% annually. The Grand List consists of over 12,000 real estate parcels, 1,400 commercial personal property accounts and over 30,000 taxable motor vehicles. The office is also responsible for assisting special service programs by annually updating over 550 elderly, 50 blind, 6,100 special assessment adjustments for veterans, and 250 disabled exemptions for Newington taxpayers.

### **2018-2019 Department Achievements**

- Provided professional service to general public and taxpayers.
- Completed October 1, 2018 Grand List on time as required by law.
- Sent out 400 Income and Expense forms to owners of commercial properties.
- Processed over 500 applications for elderly tax relief and sent required reports to the State.
- Hired Jane Kallinich as the new Assessment Technician.

### **Department Goals FY 2019-2020**

- Agree to a contract with eQuality Valuations to perform the October 1, 2020 revaluation.
- Continue to provide taxpayers with courteous, professional & responsive service in a timely manner.
- Maintain an equalized tax base according to State Statutes and professional appraisal/assessment standards.

# Finance Department

The month of January 2019 was spent by all staff members finalizing the October 1, 2018 Grand List which was formally signed in front of the Town Clerk on Thursday, January 31, 2019. The final totals for the Grand List are shown below:

| 2018 NET GRAND LIST |                        |                        |                |                     |
|---------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| CATEGORY            | 2017                   | 2018                   |                |                     |
|                     | GRAND LIST             | GRAND LIST             | PERCENT CHANGE | DOLLAR CHANGE       |
| REAL ESTATE         | \$2,253,662,350        | \$2,253,289,510        | -0.02%         | -\$372,840          |
| PERSONAL PROPERTY   | \$145,795,972          | \$154,804,410          | 6.18%          | \$9,008,438         |
| MOTOR VEHICLE       | <u>\$224,949,705</u>   | <u>\$232,481,010</u>   | <u>3.35%</u>   | <u>\$7,531,305</u>  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>        | <b>\$2,624,408,027</b> | <b>\$2,640,574,930</b> | <b>0.62%</b>   | <b>\$16,166,903</b> |

|             |               |               |        |           |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|--------|-----------|
| TAX EXEMPT: | \$397,034,020 | \$396,956,650 | -0.02% | -\$77,370 |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|--------|-----------|

| PERSONAL PROPERTY EXEMPTION |                    |                    |                |                    |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|
|                             | 2017               | 2018               | PERCENT CHANGE | DOLLAR CHANGE      |
|                             | \$240,896,722      | \$254,171,830      | 5.51%          | \$13,275,108       |
|                             | \$81,609,630       | \$87,455,520       | 7.16%          | \$5,845,890        |
|                             | \$4,237,090        | \$3,897,520        | -8.01%         | \$339,570          |
|                             | <u>\$9,254,030</u> | <u>\$8,014,380</u> | <u>-13.40%</u> | <u>\$1,239,650</u> |
|                             | \$145,795,972      | \$154,804,410      | 6.18%          | \$9,008,438        |

## COMMENTARY ON THE OCTOBER 1, 2018 GRAND LIST

The October 1, 2018 Net Grand List for the Town of Newington totals \$2,640,574,930 which is an increase of \$16,166,903 or 0.62% from the 2017 Grand List total. At the present mill rate of 38.50, this increase would generate an additional **\$622,425** in new tax revenue.

This increase is primarily attributable to a significant increase in the business Personal Property section of the Grand List which increased \$9,008,438.

These totals are subject to further adjustments by the Board of Assessment Appeals, and any future court cases.

The **Real Estate** section of the 2018 Grand List totals \$2,253,289,510 which is a decrease of \$372,840 or .02% less than the 2017 Grand List. This decrease was attributable to the demolition of several buildings in town including the former Eversource complex at 3333 Berlin Turnpike, the former Ruby Tuesday restaurant at 3240 Berlin Turnpike and a large group of vacant buildings located at the Tilcon quarry on Hartford Ave. Additionally, adjustments to the assessments of several commercial buildings that have experienced lengthy total vacancies contributed to the decrease in the total value of real estate in Town. Although there was a small offset due to the completion of 18 residential homes, the absence of any new significant commercial development has continued to affect the overall growth of the real estate portion of the Grand List in Newington.

The **Personal Property** section of the 2018 Grand List totals \$154,804,410 which is an increase of \$9,008,438 or 6.18% over the 2017 Grand List. The gross increase was actually \$13,275,108 or 5.51% however this was reduced by an increase of \$4,266,670 or 4.49% in the non-reimbursable State manufacturing machinery and equipment exemption. Major investment in personal property by Eversource, Stop & Shop Supermarkets, Data Mail, Data Graphics, and Sam's Club as well as the continuation of future benefits realized as a result of our highly successful audit program were the major sources of the increase in the Personal Property section of the Grand List.

The **Motor Vehicle** section of the 2018 Grand List totals \$232,481,010 which is an increase of \$7,531,305 or 3.35% over the 2017 Grand List. Although the total number of motor vehicles being assessed was slightly less than last year (-367), the average assessment of the vehicles on the list this year increased from \$7,715 to \$8,075.

The **Tax Exempt** portion of the 2018 Grand List totals \$396,956,650 which represents 14.94% of the total real estate assessment values in Town.

# Finance Department

## Revenue Collector

-Corinne Aldinger, CCMC

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

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

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

### Tax Collection Activity FY 2018-2019

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Taxes on Current Levy                        | \$99,598,117.72  |
| Taxes on Motor Vehicle Supplemental List     | \$1,213,302.78   |
| Taxes on Prior Years List                    | \$817,651.01     |
| Interest, Liens and Other Fees               | \$456,381.72     |
| Taxes on Advanced Collection 2017 Grand List | \$554,671.57     |
| Taxes and Fees Collected                     | \$102,640,124.80 |
| Collection Rate on Current Levy              | 99.1%            |

| TOWN OF NEWINGTON, CT  |   |                       |                      |
|--|---|-----------------------|----------------------|
| TOP TAXPAYERS - 2018 GRAND LIST  |   |                       |                      |
| RANK   | TAXPAYER                                | DESCRIPTION           | GROSS                |
| 1  | CONNECTICUT LIGHT & POWER CO            | UTILITY               | \$47,472,340         |
| 2  | MANDELL PROPERTIES LLC                  | PRINTING/MAILING      | \$22,312,330         |
| 3  | IREIT NEWINGTON FAIR LLC                | SAMS                  | \$21,509,790         |
| 4  | NEWINGTON VF LLC                        | WALMART               | \$20,300,000         |
| 5  | NEWINGTON GROSS LLC                     | STEW LEONARDS         | \$19,462,690         |
| 6  | GKN AEROSPACE NEWINGTON LLC             | MANUFACTURING         | \$19,288,260         |
| 7  | TLG NEWINGTON LLC                       | STOP & SHOP/BOB'S     | \$18,315,500         |
| 8  | BRIXMOR GA TURNPIKE PLAZA LLC           | PRICE CHOPPER & DICKS | \$17,850,000         |
| 9  | HAYES KAUFMAN NEWINGTON                 | RETAIL                | \$13,724,370         |
| 10   | SCELZA/LANDMARK/CAMBRIDGE/BALDWIN APTS. | APARTMENTS            | \$13,005,440         |
| 11   | RENO PROPERTIES II LLC                  | MANUFACTURING         | \$12,672,910         |
| 12   | LOWES HOME CENTERS INC. #623            | RETAIL                | \$10,968,560         |
| 13   | TARGET CORPORATION T 1802               | RETAIL                | \$10,851,940         |
| 14   | FURNITURE EXECUTIVES NO 4 L P           | RETAIL                | \$9,853,040          |
| 15   | SAPUTO DAIRY FOODS USA                  | RETAIL                | \$9,443,370          |
| 16   | BRE SELECT HOTELS PROPERTIES LLC        | COURTYARD MARRIOTT    | \$9,452,400          |
| 17   | SHELBOURNE NEWINGTON LLC                | RETAIL                | \$9,067,880          |
| 18   | BALF/TILCON                             | MANUFACTURING         | \$8,701,200          |
| 19   | CONNECTICUT NATURAL GAS CORP.           | UTILITY               | \$7,047,650          |
| 20   | COHEN FAMILY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP        | APARTMENTS/RETAIL     | \$6,885,380          |
| 21   | BERLIN NEWINGTON ASSOCIATES LLC         | RETAIL                | \$6,650,000          |
| 22   | GRISWOLD HILLS OF NEWINGTON LTD PRTSHP  | APARTMENTS            | \$6,491,940          |
| 23   | FENNWOODE DEVELOPMENT LLC               | APARTMENTS            | \$6,337,770          |
| 24   | UNITED TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION         | MANUFACTURING         | \$5,532,090          |
| 25   | CERES NEWINGTON ASSOCIATES LLC          | RETAIL                | \$5,250,000          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   |   |                       | <b>\$338,446,850</b> |
| This list reflects the gross assessment for the properties. Some accounts receive manufacturing exemptions which reduce the actual tax paid. |   |                       |                      |

# Newington Community Services

# Human Services

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## **Carol LaBrecque, Director**

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

### **Mission**

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

### **Our Motto:**

"A Helping Hand For All Ages."

### **2018-19 Highlights:**

- The hoarding working group (established in 2014 at our initiation) organized a fifth annual Conference on Hoarding held September 6, 2019. CT Train videotaped the conference so it will be available for viewing online for free. Approximately 350 individuals statewide attended another sold out conference. The focus this year was on all legal aspects of Hoarding.
- The Newington Safe Homes Task Force comprised of various Town departments including health, fire, building and zoning, blight, EMS, animal control, police, human services, and the senior & disabled center continue to meet. The purpose of meeting is to collaborate, address concerns, complaints and identify at-risk residents/housing situations in Newington and work toward resolution of issues thus achieving safer and healthier living environments.
- There continued to be significant collaboration with police, fire, health, building & zoning, senior & disabled center, library, tax, parks & recreation and the schools. This included at-risk situations, crisis intervention, program development and partnering. Staff provided a training to EMS regarding Human Services assistance and appropriate referrals and protocols for same.
- The Department offered a Community Series –"Wellness Wednesdays" that was very well received. Topics included: Alzheimers - everything you wanted to know - Dr. Charles Atkins, Mindfulness - a tool for stress reduction and increased health - Copper Beach, Drumming for Wellness-Carla Pomproicz, Mental Health Awareness Forum: NAMI, Intercommunity, NBGH, Hartford Hospital, FUNN-Functional Understanding Not Needed-Rik Huggard, Love, Laughter, & Self-care including laughter yoga - Judith Stonger, Wake Up Humans - The Body's ability to heal - Dr. Stephen Judson.
- Director LaBrecque attended several ADA trainings to maintain national and state certification as municipal ADA Coordinator.
- The staff again excelled as a team offering personal support to Director LaBrecque during the illness and ultimate passing of her husband. Director LaBrecque would like to extend her appreciation and recognition to an amazing staff who each are dedicated to their role and work together to truly enhance the services offered to the community.

### **Program Highlights:**

**Prevention and positive youth development programs** are offered through a variety of activities teaching skills in decision-making, problem-solving, communication, team cooperation leadership and community service:

**The department received a new SOR (State Opioid Response) grant and worked collaboratively with Rocky Hill, Wethersfield, and Berlin to raise awareness.**

- Positive youth development programs handled 2,582 program registrations during this fiscal year. These programs include SCORE- after school program, ALPS- programs that all fifth grade students participate in as part of their health and wellness curriculum, LEAD- a mentor leadership program, NHS vocational prep class, Summer Youth Adventure and the Newington Challenge Course.
- SUCCESS/ALPS which replaced the former ROPE program last year has us working with fifth-graders to teach decision-making, problem-solving skills earlier. This past year, 328 fifth-grade students participated in this program as part of the school health and wellness curriculum.
- LEAD, Leadership Education Advisor Development, develops high school mentors that will be with our youth programs year round and take a leadership role with summer mentors. This year, 12 students participated in this program.
- Student Challenge of Recreation/Education (SCORE) offered after-school activities and opportunities to middle school age youth. In SCORE this year we had 310 participation slots filled.
- The Summer Youth Adventure (SYA) Program had a full schedule of cultural, educational and adventure activities with 566 participation slots filled with youth entering fifth through ninth grade. This year 93 unduplicated youth participated.
- The high school vocational prep is a collaboration with the high school psychologist and special education services to provide social skill enhancement programs through experiential education opportunities such as hiking, canoeing, geo-caching, challenge course and in-class sessions involving team building exercises. This year 13 youth participated.
- The Outdoor Challenge Ropes Course offered low and high element initiatives to 761 different program registrations comprised of school age youth, college students, businesses, Houses of Worship, other Town youth service bureaus and non-profits.
- Youth and adults are also offered community service placements, many as required by the justice system. Community service projects included community clean ups, assistance with the food bank and high school youth mentoring middle school youth. 13 youth and adults requested community service hours this year. In total they provided 199 hours of community service.
- The alternate Washington D.C. trip option with a day at the Newington Challenge Course was provided to 55 eighth grade John Wallace and Martin Kellogg Middle school students in May.
- Field games were also provided for 90 fourth grade students end-of-year picnic for Ruth Chaffee.
- One collaborative program with the library brought a total of 20 middle and high school youth out to compete at laser tag and participate in adventure activities at the challenge course.

# Newington Community Services

## Human Services

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### **Youth & Family Counseling Programs**

- Youth and Family Counseling handled an average of 14 cases per month receiving a total of 54 service hours on average each month.
- Community education and parent programs sponsored this year included "Getting Ready for Kindergarten", "Having Difficult Conversations with Teens" in collaboration with the Newington Interfaith Clergy Assoc., A-SBIRT training for the school nurses co-facilitated with Judith Stonger of Wheeler Clinic, An overview of Human Services provided to all school social workers and psychologists to promote increased awareness of resources available to the schools through Human Services.
- Pat Meskill and our student intern Ashley Muzik facilitated groups at the high school "Truth About Hate" program sponsored by the Anti-Defamation League held in October.
- The Juvenile Review Board is an alternative and early means of identifying and assisting youth 17 years and younger whose behaviors put them at risk. The Board is composed of representatives from Police, Schools, Human Services, Juvenile Court, State Department of Children and Families. The board met on 17 youth situations this past year. Youth and their parents appeared before the Board for incidents such as vandalism, shoplifting, fighting, criminal mischief, disorderly conduct, bullying, truancy, defiance of school rules and domestic conflict.
- Pat Meskill provided at-risk children training for summer Parks & Rec staff and our summer youth adventure contract staff to identify at-risk situations and protocol for intervention/referral to DCF. Pat also provided ongoing consultation to Parks and Recreation staff.
- Our Clinical Services Coordinator also provides Daycare Center consultation for situations involving young children and review of local daycare policies and procedures as required by the state.
- Pat Meskill served on high school: School Review Board.
- Pat Meskill attended training throughout the year in order to fulfill her required number of CEC's for her clinical license. All staff attended periodic staff development opportunities providing training to keep their skills and knowledge base of ever changing programs current.

### **Financial Casework Program**

Financial Casework Program—Assesses need and assists eligible residents with basic need assistance.

- The Food Bank averaged 141 households monthly. The Mobile Foodshare site (Newington collaborates with them) provides a free food distribution every other week with approximately 135 attendees per month. The annual holiday programs served 444 households representing 929 children, adults and elderly. Clothing closet was used by 60 households from July through September and ended in September as the Transition Academy was moved off site and was no longer able to assist in the laundering and organizing of clothing donations. 176 students received backpacks and school supplies in August.
- The Food Bank and Holiday Food and Gift Program are only possible due to a community wide effort of giving. Many civic organizations, houses of worship, schools, businesses and private residents contributed to these programs. Donations of money, gift cards, food, clothing and gifts were received to support residents in need and youth programs throughout the year.
- Newington HAT participated in the 36th Annual Walk Against Hunger. Pam Wassik served as the Team captain.

- The department continued partnership with the HAT and the General Federation Women's Club in offering weekend backpacks filled with food to supplement weekend food resources. Households with limited income and school aged children often get free and reduced school lunches during the week which eases the food burden, so this program is intended to make resources available for the weekends when families cannot access the school lunches.
- Pam also administered the Operation Fuel Program serving 64 residents with \$26,898.92 in water, heating and/or utility assistance grants.
- Special Needs assisted 107 households. Special Needs Funds assist with emergency bills such as medical, medication, energy and housing.
- We were assisted in all of our programs by close to 200 volunteers and we held a Volunteer Recognition Dinner in April with the theme: Newington Human Services Volunteers are "worth more than gold!"
- **More than 200 dedicated volunteers** continue to make a difference in need.
  - ◊ Volunteers help sort, organize, stock, shop for food, pick up donations and assist resident shoppers using the food bank. They also volunteer to prepare and distribute for the holidays, along with general department support.
  - ◊ One CCSU undergraduate student: Ashley Muzik-supervised by Pat Meskill and one Tunxis undergraduate student: Samantha Nunes supervised by Rik Hug-gard interned this past fiscal year.

### **Social Casework**

Social casework provided to an average monthly caseload of 72 with 1,385 service hours provided during the year. These programs offer traditional social work services to all age populations. Social Workers see families at Town Hall and make home visits as needed. Issues brought to the department by residents included health, mental health, financial assistance, child and elderly abuse or neglect, domestic violence, housing, transportation, substance abuse, safe homes issues, and crisis intervention.

- Continued to provide Medicare retirement counseling for several Town employees.
- Participation in regional SNAP & CLASS Advisory Boards and Geriatric Social Workers Network. We also continue to participate in ACHIEVE (CCHD) and the sub-committee on Prevention, CT Kids & Family coalition, HAT- Newington Hunger Action Team, LEPC- Local Emergency Planning, Statewide Hoarding Working Group, Amplify: re Local Prevention Councils and Regional mental health advisory boards, CYSA- CT Youth Services Association and LIST-local interagency service teams.

### **2019-2020 Goals**

- Continue to maintain quality casework services to meet the needs of Newington residents. Maintain and grow private funding and referral to programs/resources to meet this continuing need.
- Continue to enhance and provide quality youth development and prevention programs and counseling services. Youth programs to include cultural, social and adventure based activities. Expand counseling support through provision of individual and family sessions, clinical/support groups and educational presentations.
- Continue to develop staff skills and knowledge through attendance in training and workshops that will keep us current with ever-changing needs and trends.



# Newington Community Services

## Human Services

### 2018-2019 Goals Continued

- To offer community Wellness series addressing all areas of wellness: physical, emotional, mental health, financial.
- Continue to explore grant and fundraising options to support and enhance our programs.
- Fill vacancies on Commissions.

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

### ANNUAL STATISTICS

|  | <u>2017-2018</u>                 | <u>2018-2019</u>                 |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Youth & Family Counseling<br>Average Monthly Y & F Cases                       | 33-unduplicated<br>12 households | 173— cumulative<br>14 households |
| Youth & Family Service Hours<br>Total Casework Cases                           | 426.5 hrs.<br>358-unduplicated   | 645.75 hrs.<br>866-cumulative    |
| Avg. Monthly Casework Cases<br>Casework Service Hours                          | 87 households<br>1556.25 hrs.    | 72 households<br>1385.5 hrs.     |
| Special Needs  | 73 cases                         | 107 cases                        |
| Food Bank  | 1596 visits                      | 1697 visits                      |
| Open Air Market  | 1495 visits                      | 1619 visits                      |
| Clothing Closet  | 254 visits                       | 60 visits                        |
| Holiday Food, Gifts<br>Positive Youth Development                              | 428 households<br>3291 reg.      | 444 households<br>2582 reg.      |
| Juvenile Review Board<br>Information & Referral<br>Educ./Training Participants | 5 cases<br>7,375 req.<br>716     | 17 cases<br>7,996 req.<br>685    |

\*Households —\*\*More individuals but less hours due to 2 client groups meeting during the same clinical hr.

\*\*\*Less individuals but more service hours due to complexity of presenting needs.



*"A Helping hand for all ages."*

### Youth-Adult Council

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

- Each year YAC sponsors the Super Hoop-La Basketball Game involving students from every elementary and middle school. They compete in a friendly tournament to raise funds for scholarships awarded to graduating high school students. In April, 2019, 160 elementary and middle students participated with family and friends cheering them on in the stands. This event resulted in a Net Profit: \$2,020.93. Two high school students were selected to receive scholarships of \$500 each after submitting an essay that reflected them going above and beyond in community service.
- YAC needs to recruit active youth members as students age out and go off to college and also has a few openings for Service consumers or residents of the community.
- Through an annual local prevention council grant from ERASE, substance abuse prevention/education human services programs were offered to middle and high school age youth. Funds supported IMPACT and LIFESTAR: two presentations used by the high school to illustrate the consequences of poor choices around substance abuse and driving. Funds also went toward Safe Night Graduation, an all-night substance-free graduation celebration at the high school. Funds additionally supported a Newington Library/Human Services collaborative experiential learning program to build problem solving and decision making skills.
- YAC also contributed funds to a high school presentation on safety and social media for youth offered to their parents.

### Human Rights Commission

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

- HRC participated in the Waterfall Festival September 2018.
- HRC had several vacancies making it difficult to achieve a quorum required for official meeting.

### Fair Rent Commission

The purpose of the Fair Rent Commission is to make studies and investigations, conduct hearings and receive complaints relative to rental charges on housing accommodation within its jurisdiction in order to control and eliminate excessive rental charges on such accommodations.

- Fair Rent Commission did not meet this past year.

# Lucy Robbins Welles Library

## ***Lisa Masten, Director***

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

This past year 183,499 people visited the Library and another 100,197 visited the library via the Library's website. We circulated 300,029 items and the reference staff answered 56,346 questions.

## **2018-2019 Highlights**

**80th Anniversary:** The past year has been an exciting one for the library as we celebrated its 80th anniversary. The Lucy Robbins Welles Library Board of Trustees hosted an 80th Anniversary Celebration Series throughout the year offering eight cultural events to commemorate this milestone. Concerts featuring Grayson Hugh and Golden Scrolls, a literary murder mystery tour with Sea Tea Improv and a funny, engaging program with Dr. Gina Barreca were some of the highlights. Other great events held included the sold out Friends Winterfest, the 23rd Annual Newington Library 5K Challenge Road Race, the annual spring and fall Friends book sales and the John & Adella Sliva Young People's Literary Series that featured nationally-known children's author Leslie Bulion.

**Collaboration:** Library staff increased collaboration with the schools, Town departments and senior living facilities. Librarians did regular book talks to all grades at the middle schools and facilitated a regular book discussion at the high school. Thanks to this collaboration, all middle school aged students are now required to participate in the library's summer reading program. Children's librarians did a 6 week story time twice a week for Parks & Rec's young campers this past summer. The Newington Senior & Disabled Center worked with the library to offer library programming at its building throughout the year. And the library added outreach services to Cedar Mountain Commons on a regular basis.

**New Services:** The library added some new formats and services. Patrons can now check out solar mobile device chargers and silicone cake pans. Three online databases were added to support students of all ages: National Geographic for Kids, Auto Repair Source and Creativebug. An additional streaming service was added for those who love British TV and movies, called AcornTV. More mobile shelving was added to make library space more versatile especially during larger events and an outdoor book drop was installed to make returns more convenient. Finally, a new service called Lucy-to-Go was added to allow patrons to have items on hold, checked out to them and brought to their cars at a

prearranged time.

**Children's:** Staff continued to build a strong collection of materials to support school curriculums and offer cultural and educational enrichment. More digital items were integrated into the online catalog to allow patrons to search the entire collection in one place. Staff also continued to offer a variety of programming for all ages. Children's programming emphasized early literacy whether it was building with LEGOs, Pajama Yoga or making crafts. Teen programming promoted creativity and collaboration and each program gave us an opportunity to promote the teen collection and services for teens. Adults were given the same importance with author visits, the popular Made in CT series, movies, technology classes and more.

| <b>Statistical Summary</b>     | <b>2018-2019</b> |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Items circulated               | 300,029          |
| Total downloads                | 31,406           |
| Downloads: eBooks & Book views | 18,556           |
| Downloads: audiobooks          | 7,977            |
| Downloads: magazines           | 1,653            |
| Downloads: music & streaming   | 840              |
| Video streaming                | 2,380            |
| Museum Pass usage              | 1,225            |
| Online database usage          | 87,327           |
| Total # cardholders            | 11,480           |
| Patron count                   | 183,499          |
| Reference questions answered   | 56,346           |
| Children's programs            | 691              |
| Children Attendance            | 21,664           |
| Teen Programs                  | 55               |
| Teen Attendance                | 2,456            |
| Adult Programs                 | 211              |
| Adult Attendance               | 8,243            |
| Items added                    | 35,263           |
| Items deleted                  | 12,814           |
| Meeting Rooms usage            | 1,138            |
| Study Room usage               | 3,127            |
| Homepage visits                | 101,725          |
| Library holdings               | 266,902          |
| Volunteer hours                | 1,185            |
| Books mended                   | 398              |
| AV repairs                     | 1,767            |

# Senior and Disabled Center

## **Dianne Stone, Director**

Open to all persons aged 55 and older and younger adults with disabilities; the Center provides information, opportunities and assistance through its program's and services across all dimensions of wellbeing: physical (health physical activity, nutrition), social, financial, cognitive, purpose, spiritual, environmental and emotional. These include information and referral, health prevention and promotion services, fitness and wellness, leisure and recreation, social activities and special events, life long learning, supportive services including case management, transportation and nutrition. It was the first Center in the State of Connecticut to be nationally accredited and is the designated Community Focal Point for aging services.

## **Mission**

*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.*

## **2018-2019 Highlights**

- Newington Special Olympics Unified Bocce team, Ken Richter and Steve Manzone, represented Team USA in the Special Olympics World Games held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates from March 14-21st. They were the only team selected to compete from Connecticut, and earned a gold medal in the Unified Bocce Doubles. There were over 190 countries represented and 7,000+ athletes competing in the games. Special Olympics was founded 50 years ago, and this was the first time any Middle East country has sponsored the games.
- The Center held many new or special programs throughout the year. Some of the successful programs included ukulele, history, art and mindfulness classes, healthy cooking demos, and discussions on various health topics, veterans coffee hours, and fraud prevention programs. Many of these programs were offered in partnership with area organizations and featured expert speakers.
- The Center offers multi-week evidence-based programs in spring and fall semesters and enrolled more than 150 people. These programs include the Aging Mastery Program, a 10 week program offered by the National Council on Aging with sponsorship by the CT Healthy Living Collective (CHLC) and the Anthem Foundation. The Tai Ji Quan: Moving for Better Balance class was introduced through a partnership with area Centers and the CHLC, which is funded by the North Central Area Agency on Aging. Other evidence-based programs include A Matter of Balance, Live Well and Live Well Diabetes and Powerful Tools for Caregivers.
- Other regularly scheduled programs include a comprehensive continuum including various exercise and fitness classes for all abilities, games and movies, arts and crafts, woodshop, bingo, tech help and more. The Center's Wellness Clinic offers an ARPN on site each Monday as well as foot care clinics, dental cleanings coordinated by CCHD and funded by the Older American's Act, blood pressure checks coordinated by Berlin VNA, low-cost massage therapy and more.
- The Newington Senior Club, an organization that preceded the Center, closed operations at the end of June. Club closures are a common and expected occurrence in the generational shift among older adults from the greatest and silent generations to the boomer generation. Still, it was a significant event in the evolution of the center.
- The LGBT Moveable Senior Center, a first in the nation approach to reaching members of the LGBT community who are underserved and at risk continued into its 5th year. The program is funded through the CHLC. Newington is a leader in this effort and Center Director was selected to present a workshop at a national conference.
- The Center is fortunate to have a dedicated roster of more than 100 volunteers who recorded more than 7,500 hours of service. Even at minimum wage, this represents a value of \$78,000. The Center continues to develop teams of self-directed volunteers to manage programs and areas of operations. Along with the coffee

and gift shop teams, the Trips and Travel team coordinated the year's calendar of trips. In addition to annual and perennial flowers, the Giving Garden produced dozens of varieties of vegetables, fruit and herbs and donated over 1,000 lbs. of produce to the Newington Human Services Food Bank. The volunteers also held plant sales during the growing season to help fund the garden.

- Received assistance through sponsorship, in kind donation of goods or services or direct assistance from more than 40 different businesses and agencies including several long term care facilities, health care agencies and town businesses. Notably, 13 local organizations stepped up at the end of the year to provide lunches for up to 50 participants at a time once a week when the Community Renewal Team reduced service to mitigate budget issues.
- Through the Information and Referral Center more than a thousand residents got assistance with supportive programs including Energy Assistance, Renter's Rebate, Medicare Part D, Meals on Wheels, Tax preparation, the Medicare Savings Program (MSP) and case management.
- The Center offers a congregate lunch program Monday – Friday. The Community Café provides a nutritious and well-balanced meal and an opportunity to socialize in a congenial setting for approximately 50-70 people each day. In addition, approximately 35-40 residents receive home-delivered meals each day through the Meals on Wheels program administered by the Community Renewal Team. Center volunteers receive, organize and deliver meals on three designated routes throughout the town.
- Held several annual events including a very successful Expo, a Senior Prom presented by students from the Hartford Magnet Trinity College Academy, a holiday party catered by the Transition Academy, the annual Safety Picnic, an ice cream social, an end of summer pool party and the Volunteer Recognition dinner.
- Dial-A-Ride provided 12,861 trips covering 38,960 miles, used by 199 people. The Out of Town Medical Transportation program, provided through a collaborative partnership with Wethersfield and Rocky Hill, funded by the DOT Matching Grant for Demand Responsive Transportation, continues to be fully utilized.
- Center Director Dianne Stone has been actively involved in representing municipal aging services including service on the State Commission on Women, Children and Seniors, and a leadership role with the CT Healthy Living Collective. Additionally, Ms. Stone was appointed to Chair, a legislative Task Force on Transportation, she continued to serve on the Medical Assistance Program Oversight Committee (MAPOC). Ms. Stone was also invited to testify before the US House Ways and Means Committee's Social Security Subcommittee in a hearing about social security.
- Each month there are 200+ participation opportunities at the Center with some daily, some weekly, some once a month and some one time only. The total recorded attendance for the year was more than 40,126 by more than 968 different people. The highest recorded activity is fitness with nutrition and leisure close behind. Actual attendance is higher as many participants still do not sign in.
- The Senior and Disabled Center has an annual membership and that peaked at just over 1,500 by the end of the year.

## **2019-2020 Goals**

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

# Parks & Recreation

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## ***William DeMaio, Superintendent***

The Parks and Recreation Department is comprised of three divisions: Recreation, Parks, and Cemeteries and provides comprehensive recreation services and facilities for Newington residents.

### **Recreation Division**

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

The Parks and Recreation Department offers a wide variety of recreational programs, special events, sports leagues, facility rentals (Churchill and Mill Pond Park pavilions as well as the Mortensen Community Center and the Kellogg Eddy House) and leisure opportunities for all ages. Programs offered include a seven-week summer camp program entitled Camp RECreate that operates from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. for children entering kindergarten through grade 8. Camp S'More offers an additional week of fun following the end of the Camp RECreate program for children entering kindergarten through grade 4. Other programs include year-round Aquatics (swim lessons and recreational swimming), Adult Leagues (Cornhole, Women's Volleyball and Men's Basketball), Youth Basketball (Grades K-12) and a host of other programs and special events, including fitness and cultural arts programs for youth and adults of all ages. Although operated independently, youth sports organizations including T-Ball, Little League, Softball, Challenger Baseball, Wrestling, Soccer, Swim Club, Lacrosse, Travel Basketball, Youth Football, and Cheerleading fall under the umbrella of the Parks and Recreation Department. The department has expanded the number of concerts to 14 in total to the Summer Music Festival. The department is very proud of their efforts and ability to work with the Board of Education, church groups, civic organizations, veterans, the local business community, and all town departments. The department's Creative Playtime Preschool Program is fully licensed as a Child Day Care Center through the State of Connecticut and is open to children ages 3 to 5. The department also sponsors the annual Life. Be in It. Extravaganza celebration in July at Mill Pond Park, highlighted by the largest fireworks show in the region.

### **2018-2019 Highlights**

- Over 800 programs were offered throughout the year and there were approximately 21,000 registered participants for these programs.
- 153 residents reserved picnic sites at Churchill Park during the 2018-2019 fiscal year. Over 13,000 picnickers enjoyed the park at these picnics.
- 110 gardeners reserved garden plots in our Community Garden program at Deming-Young Farm for their vegetable growing pleasure.
- The department aggressively utilized social media to assist in a comprehensive plan to advertise all programs.
- The website uses the latest technology providing residents a convenient way to access information regarding programs and special events.
- Online registration through the website has been offered for the past year and a half making registration convenient and easy. This greatly increases the efficiency at which participants can register for programs.

- The Mortensen Community Center accommodated 1,593 reservations for private activities, events, birthday parties, meetings, and various sporting events.
- New programs offered included Fundamentals of Fitness and Nutrition, Let's Play, American Sign Language, additional Gymnastics classes, Start Smart (soccer, basketball & baseball), Summer Band Academy, Field Hockey Sunday Funday (pickup games for adults), Youth Tennis Minicamp, and Low Impact Zumba.
- New events included our Kindness Counts Campaign and a fireworks display at the conclusion of the Motorcycle Madness Event set off from the middle of Mill Pond. In addition, the Night of Lights Celebration was expanded to include clowns, stilt walkers, video game trailer, ice sculpture, live nativity scene, wagon rides, warming fire with S'more's station, and Big Daddy's Racing. All these activities were enjoyed on Main Street, which was closed for the first time for this event.
- A brand new event was brought to Newington. The Water Lantern Festival attracted over 10,000 people to Mill Pond Park. The evening event offered food trucks, music, games and activities, and the release of over 4,000 illuminated, 100% biodegradable, eco-friendly lanterns on Mill Pond.
- The Adult Cornhole League has expanded to 28 teams participating in the summer league and 12 teams participating in the fall league. The league ran on Thursday nights in Mill Pond Park during the summer and fall.
- Club WAKA, also known as World Adult Kickball Association, has continued renting two fields at Mill Pond Park for adult flag football and soccer, and the softball field at Churchill Park for kickball. Club WAKA draws hundreds of young adults each night to the Newington community during the spring, summer, and fall seasons. This program enables adults to socialize, meet new people, and remain active.
- Approximately 800 motorcycles and over 3,000 individuals participated in the fourth annual Motorcycle Madness Event. The event included live music, a beer garden, vendors, awards and prizes, in addition to a fireworks display at the conclusion of the event. The event raised a net profit of \$13,572.51 for the annual Life. Be in it. Extravaganza fireworks.
- A Halloween Party was held, where over 200 participants arrived in costume to enjoy the festivities, Halloween-related activities, and hay wagon rides.
- Additional free opportunities for recreation and leisure were offered, including Police National Night Out, pool parties at Churchill Park and Mill Pond Park pools, Fun Runs, Edythe & Harry Mandell Summer Concerts Series at Mill Pond Park sponsored by Data-Mail Inc., pictures with Santa/Sleigh Rides, and free family fishing classes. Other free events were held, including Touch-A-Truck, National Trails Day Bird Walk at Cedar Mountain, Scarecrow Contest, Winter Wonderland, Night of Lights Celebration and more.
- The annual Life. Be in it. Extravaganza at Mill Pond Park included a carnival, Sundaes on Wednesday sponsored by Church of Christ Congregation, Helicopter Rides sponsored by Century 21 Stamm Realty, Tiki Falls Water Slide sponsored by Rosenberg Orthodontics, Hot Air Balloon Rides sponsored by RE/MAX Precision Realty, Local Craft Beer Tasting, Bring Your Own Cheese (BYOC) Party sponsored by Connecticut Beverage Mart, live concerts, in addition to the traditional crafts, entertainment, activities and a \$26,000 firework show.
- Our Creative Playtime Preschool Program attracts hundreds of families per year and has remained a popular choice for parents of three-five year old children. Our flexible program allows parents to choose a schedule that suits their needs, offering morning, afternoon, and full day programs. This state licensed, comprehensive program continues to grow with nearly a thousand graduates

# Parks & Recreation

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## Highlights Continued

- Since its launch in 2007. Children are exposed to a variety of educational and fun activities including “hands on” play centers, multi-sensory arts and crafts, imaginative music experiences, development of daily living and social skills, and more.
- Parents can also enroll their preschool aged children in the Summer Sunshine Program. With similar activities to the Creative Playtime Preschool Program, Summer Sunshine offers an educational and entertaining experience, while simultaneously acting as a childcare option for families. This past summer, the hours were expanded to offer flexibility to working families. Participants were able to stay anywhere from 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and could choose to do a two-day, three-day, or five-day program.
- Opportunities to advertise in our seasonal program guides were offered again, and we continue to see interest from local businesses, including Dick’s Sporting Goods, Club WAKA, Geico, Ruth’s Chris Steak House, Goddard School, Wave Car Wash, the Back Nine Tavern, Total Vision and more. Our program guide is directly mailed to over 13,000 households four times a year.
- The Exercise the Right Choice (ERC) program provides care for elementary school students on the early release days, also known as “Teacher Tuesdays.” This program has three components: Education, Recreation, and Cultural Arts. Entertainment included magic shows, aviation building classes, juggling lessons, stilt walkers, and DJ classes. Newington High School sports team players visited all four elementary schools and conducted youth activities. The students and staff also created scarecrows for the department’s Scarecrow Contest. There were 82 students enrolled in the program’s third year.

## **Parks & Grounds and Cemeteries Division**

### *Emmett House, Supervisor*

The Parks and Grounds Division is responsible for the year round maintenance of 833 acres of parks and public green spaces, including two community parks: Mill Pond Park and Churchill Park, 10 neighborhood parks: Badger Park, Bank’s Corner, Beechwood Park, Beacon Park, Candlewyck Park, Eagle Park, Little Brook Park, Mary Welles Park, Seymour Park and Starr Park, and three historic properties: Kellogg-Eddy House, Kelsey House, and Deming-Young Farm. The division maintains the Municipal Parking Lot, the Town Center, the grounds of all Newington public buildings, 110 community garden plots, the picnic and recreation facilities at Churchill Park, the skatepark at Clem Lemire Recreation Complex, two outdoor swimming pools: Churchill Park and Mill Pond Park, playgrounds, several miles of hiking/biking trails, numerous public rights-of-way, 64 cul-de-sacs, roadside mowing, numerous flower beds, 17 decorative planters on Main Street, the placing of flags, Town wide decorations and lighting for the holidays, 5 Fire Stations, Senior and Disabled Center, Town Hall, Lucy Robbins Welles Library, Ambulance building, and 7 schools. Maintenance activities include mowing, pruning, trash removal, athletic field preparation for scholastic and recreational use, as well as snow removal for schools and public building parking areas, sidewalks and school walk routes through Town spaces. Parks and Grounds is responsible for the maintenance of trees on all streets, parks, cemeteries, schools, rights-of-way, and all Town owned property. The trees are valued at over 30 million dollars.

## **2018-2019 Highlights**

- The Parks and Grounds Division provided extensive support services for Town wide events such as: Water Fall Festival, Life. Be in It. Extravaganza, Night of Lights, High School foot-

ball games, Mill Pond Concerts, Water Lantern Festival, Touch-A-Truck, Motorcycle Madness, Scarecrow Contest, Memorial Day Parade, Veterans Day Celebrations, and Police National Night Out.

- Parks, Grounds, and Cemetery staff provided several pieces of equipment and volunteered their time so that the equipment could be viewed by the public at the annual Touch-A-Truck event. This event was held at Mill Pond Park and organized by the Parks and Recreation Department.
- For Memorial Day, staff installed 164 American Flags along the streets of Newington.
- Replaced lights on the Christmas tree on the Center Green and installed new lights and trees in front of the shops in the center of Town. The department also purchased new street pole decorations in preparation for the Night of Lights Celebration.
- Staff worked on finishing the Lucy Robbins Welles Library project.
- Constructed a 16 ft. by 16 ft. floating dock in order to set off fireworks from the middle of Mill Pond for the Motorcycle Madness Event.
- Staff members performed maintenance to both Churchill and Mill Pond pools and repaired several cracks and expansion joints.
- Replaced three corroded steel beams at the Churchill Pool bathhouse.
- All the surfaces were regraded and resurfaced at the 4 Har-Tru and 4 clay tennis courts at Mill Pond Park.
- Installed four new plastic swans to help deter the goose population at Mill Pond Park and Churchill Park.
- Crew members repaired numerous pipes, valves, and sprinkler heads on the aging irrigation systems for the various athletic fields.
- Several field base paths were maintained by removing lips, adding clay, and resodding.
- Professionally cleaned and resurfaced the Clem Lemire football field and verified national safety standards with the Gmax test.
- New players’ benches were built and painted for several of the soccer fields.
- The department redesigned and renovated the skatepark at the Clem Lemire Recreation Complex. The asphalt was removed and replaced with monolithic concrete.
- Soccer fields were groomed and lined for the wrap up Youth Soccer tournament that hosted over 100 Towns from all over New England.
- Established a park bench replacement program.
- Installed three chess/checker board tables and one handicap accessible picnic table at the Mill Pond playscape.
- The department installed a Rainbird underground irrigation system at the Mill Pond soccer field. The new system can be run by the controller, a desktop computer, or a cell phone. The system has the ability to identify problems and will shut down if a problem is detected, as well as track water usage. The department also installed a rain gauge to the new system and set it to shut down if “1/8” of rain is detected.
- All soccer fields on the North side of the high school were solid tine aerated and top-dressed with sand.
- Alumni football field was hollow tined aerated and top-dressed to improve plant health and playability.

# Town of Newington

# Parks & Recreation

- Four Parks and Grounds' staff members reported to the Highway Department for six weeks to perform leaf removal on Town streets.
- Two Parks and Grounds' staff members reported to the Highway Department to assist with snow plowing and removal.
- Over the winter, staff trimmed the back fence and wood lines for Town and Board of Education properties.
- The Tree Warden, along with trained staff, were constantly addressing the trimming and removal of the Town's aging tree population.

## Cemetery Division

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

- The department hosted a successful Cherish Our Children ceremony at West Meadow Cemetery in September sponsored by the Newington Memorial Funeral Home.
- The West Meadow Cemetery chapel was opened and set up for the Wreaths Across America Ceremony in December. This ceremony is conducted by local veterans in conjunction with the nationwide Wreaths Across America Organization.
- Over 650 linear feet of new fence was installed at Center Cemetery.
- The chapel at West Meadow Cemetery was updated with new windows and new doors.

- There were 113 interments in West Meadow Cemetery, which included 32 cremations, 46 single depth burials, and 35 double depth burials. In West Meadow Cemetery, 88 interments were done on a weekday and 25 were done on a Saturday.
- There were three interments in Center Cemetery, which included two cremations and one single depth burial. In Center Cemetery, two interments were done on a weekday and one interment was done on a Sunday/Holiday.
- 51 plots were sold in Town cemeteries.
- 16 veteran markers were installed.
- West Meadow Cemetery is a very busy and active cemetery. The Parks and Recreation staff averages over two burials per week and one gravesite sale per week. The staff works cooperatively with the funeral homes to aide in the administration of each funeral service. The staff manicures ten acres of turf at West Meadow Cemetery at the highest level.



| Parks in Newington                          | Baseball | Softball | Playground | Multise Fields* | Tennis | Pool | Volleyball | Bocce | Basketball | Trails | Ice Skating | Picnic Shelter | Water Features | Skatepark | Pickleball |
|---|----------|----------|------------|-----------------|--------|------|------------|-------|------------|--------|-------------|----------------|----------------|-----------|------------|
| Badger Field - <i>Walsh Ave.</i>            |          |          |            |                 |        |      |            |       |            |        |             |                |                |           |            |
| Beacon Park - <i>Beacon St.</i>             |          |          |            |                 |        |      |            |       |            |        |             |                |                |           |            |
| Beechwood Park - <i>Woodbridge Rd.</i>      |          |          |            |                 |        |      |            |       |            |        |             |                |                |           |            |
| Candlewyck Park - <i>Lamp Lighter La.</i>   |          |          |            |                 |        |      |            |       |            |        |             |                |                |           |            |
| Churchill Park - <i>Main St.</i>            |          |          |            |                 |        |      |            |       |            |        |             |                |                |           |            |
| Clem Lemire - <i>New Britain Ave.</i>       |          |          |            |                 |        |      |            |       |            |        |             |                |                |           |            |
| Eagle Lantern Park - <i>Eagle Dr.</i>       |          |          |            |                 |        |      |            |       |            |        |             |                |                |           |            |
| Little Brook Park - <i>Little Brook Dr.</i> |          |          |            |                 |        |      |            |       |            |        |             |                |                |           |            |
| Mill Brook Farms Park - <i>Main St.</i>     |          |          |            |                 |        |      |            |       |            |        |             |                |                |           |            |
| Mill Pond Park - <i>Garfield St.</i>        |          |          |            |                 |        |      |            |       |            |        |             |                |                |           |            |
| Seymour Park - <i>Seventh St.</i>           |          |          |            |                 |        |      |            |       |            |        |             |                |                |           |            |
| Starr Park - <i>Starr Ave.</i>              |          |          |            |                 |        |      |            |       |            |        |             |                |                |           |            |
| Mary Welles Park - <i>Cedar St.</i>         |          |          |            |                 |        |      |            |       |            |        |             |                |                |           |            |



Denotes facilities available in that park.



# Newington Planning & Development

# Building Department

## ***Douglas Jourdan, Building Official***

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

### **2018-2019 Highlights**

- A total of 14 Certificates of Occupancy were issued from July 2018 to June 2019. six Certificates of Occupancy were Commercial and eight were for Single Family Residences.
- Commercial Certificates of Occupancy included:
  - ◆ Zen Wellness located at 2280 Berlin Turnpike
  - ◆ Chick-fil-A - located at 3240 Berlin Turnpike
  - ◆ Pro Health Physicians, Pediatrics, Express care located at 141 Willard Avenue
  - ◆ Artichoke Pizza located at 2391 Berlin Turnpike
  - ◆ Re-Nu 180 Botox located at 262 Brockett Street
  - ◆ Montana Nights Axe Throwing located at 80 Fenn Road

**Income Received From Permit Fees:      \$266,433.00**

**Total Income:                                      \$314,841.25**

**Number of Inspections:                      1,805**

| <b>Other Income Received</b>              | <b>Amount</b>      |
|---|--------------------|
| Town Plan and Zoning Application Fees     | \$13,360.00        |
| Environmental Fees                        | 3,060.00           |
| Conservation Commission Applications Fees | 3,650.00           |
| Zoning Board of Appeals                   | 520.00             |
| Copies, Books and Maps                    | 698.25             |
| Work in Right of Way                      | 26,525.00          |
| Engr. Copies                              | 595.00             |
| <b>Total</b>                              | <b>\$48,408.25</b> |

## **Permits Issued 2018-2019**

| <b>Type of Permit</b> | <b>#</b>    | <b>Value of Permits</b> |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| Additions             | 325         | 6,233,831.00            |
| Decks                 | 54          | 368,721.00              |
| Demolition            | 8           | 52,500.00               |
| Electrical            | 507         | 4,925,966.00            |
| Fence                 | 0           | 0.00                    |
| FSS                   | 0           | 0.00                    |
| Footing/Foundation    | 1           | 20,000.00               |
| Fuel Tank             | 24          | 379,688.00              |
| Garages/Sheds         | 13          | 77,120.00               |
| Mechanical            | 379         | 5,799,985.00            |
| New Comm.             | 2           | 1,265,000.00            |
| New Municipal         | 2           | 22,692,858.00           |
| New Residential       | 6           | 150,000.00              |
| Plumbing              | 271         | 1,984,024.00            |
| Pools                 | 20          | 56,402.00               |
| Roofing/Siding        | 164         | 5,347,113.00            |
| Sign                  | 41          | 257,403.00              |
| Solar                 | 77          | 810,755.00              |
| Tent                  | 9           | 23,569.00               |
| Other                 | 0           | 0.00                    |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>1909</b> | <b>\$50,444,935.00</b>  |

### **2019-2020 Goals**

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

# Newington Planning & Development

# Town Planner

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

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, 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.*

### **2018-2019 Highlights**

**Town Plan and Zoning Commission:** During this fiscal year the TPZ received approximately 52 petitions for special permits, site plan approvals, zoning amendments and various miscellaneous items, including the following:

- **Site Plan Approval:** 11 commercial site plan approvals and modifications totaling 22,910 s.f. of new construction.
- **Special Permit Approvals:** 19 special permits including two free-standing commercial signs; four restaurants; two liquor permits; one rear lot; one outdoor dining; three places of worship; one adult daycare; and two special events.
- **Zone Changes and Zoning Text Amendments:** Denied one zone change (affordable housing); approved four zoning amendment (Transit Village Design District; motor vehicle sales and service; medical marijuana; liquor sales; erosion control).
- **Sec. 8-24 Referrals:** Approved three Sec. 8-24 referrals from the Newington Town Council.

### **Open Space Committee:**

- Reviewed and identified several privately-owned undeveloped parcels that may warrant protection from future development.
- Investigated Wethersfield's "Bicycle Pedestrian Stakeholders" initiative
- Conducted analyses of other towns' Open Space plans for upcoming revision to Newington's POCD.
- Participated in UConn "Urban Forestry Survey".

### **Zoning Board of Appeals:**

- During this fiscal year the ZBA received two petitions for variances; two were approved. The Department collected \$260 in ZBA application fees this fiscal year.

### **Economic Development Commission:**

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

- EDC members participated in a Connecticut Economic Resource Center (CERC) led workshop on Economic Development training for Municipal officials.
- The EDC reestablished "districts" and assigned responsibility for each geographic area to individual Commissioners.
- The Economic Development section of the Town's website was updated and broken links fixed at the request of EDC members.
- EDC members reviewed the Lamont-Bysiewicz Transition Report and considered implications for Newington.
- The EDC began development of a marketing brochure, a script for visiting businesses, a "sales pitch" for Newington and a new slogan to replace "Newington Means Business".
- EDC members discussed various business and planning issues and developments and provided input to the Economic Development Director.

### **Affordable Housing Monitoring Agency:**

- The Agency met once this fiscal year, and approved the sale of two houses on Hopkins Drive.

### **Administrative Activities:**

- **Permit and Application Fee Revenue:** During this fiscal year the Department collected \$7,606 in TPZ permit and application fees, and \$165 in temporary sign permit fees.
- **Zoning Enforcement:** During this fiscal year the Zoning Enforcement Officer investigated and acted upon 329 zoning complaints; issued 131 notices of zoning violations; issued 83 zoning approvals; issued 35 certificates of zoning compliance; and investigated 110 complaints of blight.
- **Grants Administration:** During this fiscal year the Town Planner prepared and submitted the following grant applications:
  - Town Center Streetscape Phase VI (Constance Leigh Streetscape).
  - Small Cities Residential Rehab Program (revolving loan fund for moderate-income homeowners).
  - Connecticut DOT "Community Connectivity" grant (bicycle and pedestrian improvements to Garfield Street).

# Engineering Department

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## ***Gary Fuerstenberg, Town Engineer***

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

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

### **2018-2019 Highlights**

- Evaluated roads and updated road RSR database and Road Surface Rating Plan.
- Evaluated sidewalks and coordinated sidewalk maintenance.
- Represented TON at utility and CDOT meetings, and coordinates with adjacent towns regarding multi-town projects. Prepared annual operating budget. Prepared annual Capital Improvement Project budget. Provides engineering support for TON and BOE.
- Performed site, topographic, boundary and construction surveys and prepared engineering drawings.
- Advised Town Planning and Zoning Commission

and Inland Wetland Commission.

- Supported remediation for significant environmental hazard (large diesel release).
- Coordinated structural repair of the Churchill Park Pool building.
- Coordinated water and electric service for park irrigation system at youth soccer fields.
- Coordinated Eversource contribution to restore local roads used for transmission construction.
- Prepared 35% design for complete street design for Maple Hill and Robbins Avenue corridor.

### **2019-2020 Goals:**

- Maintain TON infrastructure (roads, bridges, sidewalks, parking lots, storm drainage, dams, etc.)
- Evaluate roads and update road RSR database and Road Surface Rating Plan.
- Update Road Construction Plan.
- Prepare Sidewalk Plan.
- Prepare Bicycle Plan.
- Restore LRWL parking lot site.
- Inspect bridges.
- Prepare complete street design for Maple Hill and Robbins Avenue corridor.
- Perform site, topographic, boundary and construction surveys and prepare engineering drawings for TON infrastructure improvements.
- Advise Town Planning and Zoning Commission and Inland Wetland Commission.

### **Statistical Summaries:**

- Reviewed applications for 131 driveways permits and 123 road excavation permits (\$26,275 revenue).
- Reviewed 11 Inland Wetland applications (\$3,398 revenue).
- Reviewed 201 zoning applications for wetland and upland review disturbance.

# Highway Department

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**Tom Molloy, Superintendent**

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

## 2018-2019 Highlights

- Continued with project coordination and oversight of the long term Landfill closure/conversion to Transfer Station. Construction for phases one and two was completed in 2017. Construction for phases three and four began in September 2018.
- Continued with the annual Target Solution online employee safety training program along with various other training requirements. Completed annual hearing tests for all personnel.
- Hosted the annual MDC sponsored Hazardous Household Waste Collection event on May 4, 2019.
- Attended all meetings for Maple Hill and Robbins Avenue roadway improvement LOTCIP Grant
- Conducted annual roadway condition evaluations with Engineering Department.
- Participated in several position vacancies panels within various Town departments.
- Hosted two DEEP sponsored landfill training certificate classes, attended quarterly Environmental Quality Commission meetings.
- Completed the installation of an additional 8,000 gallon above ground fuel tank, two additional fueling dispensers, and one additional key console at the Highway Fueling Facility
- Completed annual equipment training for Highway Equipment Operators
- Completed the sediment cleaning of all Town owned storm water catch basins
- Attended several meetings with Eversource and Town Staff to negotiate road restoration agreements for various Eversource improvement projects
- Fourteen (14) roads totaling approximately 4.0 miles were milled and resurfaced along with drainage improvements on various roads. Roads in the mill and overlay program include: Cambridge Drive, Fleetwood Road, Francis Avenue, Glenview Drive, Goodale Drive, Green Avenue, Holmes Road, Isabell Terrace, Marvis Street, Pascone Place, Patriot Lane, Spruce Street, Sunnyside Road, Woodbridge Road
- Reconstructed over 600' of bituminous pathway at Anna Reynolds School
- Constructed a new hammerhead terminus at the end of Elton Drive
- Backfilled and graded Bus Garage remediation site
- Constructed new gravel access road for new Public Safety Radio Tower
- Completed several storm water catch basin rebuilds throughout Town
- Completed annual town-wide roadside tree trimming throughout the winter months
- Assisted with several evictions and property storage throughout the year
- Assisted with annual Touch a Truck event
- Highway Department personnel collected over 14,000 cubic yards of leaves from November through December. Four crews consisting of 24 people, including Parks and Grounds personnel were devoted to the program.
- Highway crews responded to 15 snow/ice events totaling over 36" of snow and ice.
- Waterway maintenance continued with crews clearing brush and debris including beaver colonies (licensed trappers) in an effort to keep the Town waterways flowing properly. Catch basins were cleaned and repaired throughout Town to ensure adequate storm water flow. Annual maintenance also addresses brush and tree trimming as well as waterway dredging.
- Vegetation grinding was performed twice during the year by a private contractor with assistance from Highway personnel and equipment. The Landfill provides a disposal site for Town residents who wish to dispose of grass clippings, leaves, and vegetative waste. It is also a recycling center for items such as metal appliances, scrap metal, propane tanks, used motor oil, automotive batteries, single stream recycling, covered electronic devices and textiles.
- Town-wide street sweeping was completed during the months of April and May.
- Town-wide Christmas tree collection was completed late December/early January.
- Private contractors collect refuse at 9,315 residential homes and 2,240 condominiums and elderly housing complexes each week totaling approximately 8,415 tons of residential municipal solid waste brought to Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority (MIRA) of Hartford for fiscal year 2018/2019. In addition 10,361 household bulky waste items, 1,345 condominium bulky waste items and 453 combined metal items were collected curbside throughout the year. 334 television sets over 19" were collected and recycled. 974 mattresses and 573 box springs were collected curbside throughout the year.
- Private contractors collect recyclables at 11,562 residential homes, condominiums and elderly housing complexes. Recyclables were brought to Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority (MIRA) of Hartford for processing. Over 2,662 tons of recyclables were collected curbside for fiscal year 2018/2019.
- The Traffic Division continued with the replacement of worn out regulatory and warning signs town-wide, continued with roadway line painting town-wide along with assisting Highway and other departments as needed. The division also assisted with traffic control and road closures for the Memorial Day Parade, Library 5K Race, Extravaganza, Car Show, and the Waterfall Festival.
- The Central Repair Garage is responsible for vehicle and equipment procurement, outfitting and disposal, preventative maintenance and emergency repairs for Police, Fire, Highway, Parks and Grounds, Volunteer Ambulance, Dial-a Ride, and General Government. The Central Repair Garage is also responsible for the Town's fueling facilities. Town Departments rely on Repair Garage personnel for emergency equipment installation, fabrication, diagnosis and repair of Town owned vehicles and equipment. Mechanics also assist as needed with leaf collection, snow plowing and construction projects.

# Newington Public Works

# Information

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

- **Household Rubbish:** All household refuse is to be placed in the green container provided by the Town for curbside automated collection.
- **Household Recycling:** All household recyclables are now collected Automated Single Stream in the Town provided blue container.
- **Oversized (non metal) Items:** Items noted below may be placed at the curb for weekly pick up in accordance with the requirements indicated.
- **Residents must call the Town's Highway/Sanitation Department at (860) 667-5874 by Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. of each week to schedule an oversized pick up for a Thursday collection.**
  - ◇ **Branches:** Branches placed at the curbside must be tied into bundles (individual branches cannot exceed four (4) inches in diameter or be more than four (4) feet in length) and should be light enough for one person to lift. Households are limited to five (5) bundles each week.
  - ◇ **Wooden and Upholstered Furniture, Carpeting, and other Large Household Items:** These items (mattresses, box springs, wood doors, chairs, couches, etc.) may be placed at the curbside and are limited to two (2) items each week. Items must be able to be loaded into the refuse truck by two people. Carpeting must be rolled up, less than four (4) feet in length, tied, and light enough for one person to lift. There is a limit of five (5) rolls of carpeting per week.
  - ◇ **Building Materials:** Material such as sheetrock, roofing shingles, insulation and other building materials may be disposed of at CWPM located at 415 Christian Lane, Berlin (860) 828-1162. Material disposal fees are on a per ton basis.  
**NOTE: The disposal of any remodeling or building materials generated by a contractor's work is the responsibility of the contractor and will not be included in the oversized pick up.**
  - ◇ **Automobile Tires:** Two (2) tires (rims removed) may be left at the curbside each week. Rims may be disposed of at the Town's Landfill/Recycling Center.
  - ◇ **Electronics Recycling:** Beginning January 1, 2011 covered electronic devices will not be allowed in your curbside rubbish container per State law. Items such as desktop and laptop computers, computer monitors, printers, televisions must be recycled. Residents may dispose of these items at the Newington Landfill. For additional information contact the Sanitation Division at (860) 667-5874.
- **Materials Not Acceptable for Placement in the Curbside Containers:** Dangerous or environmentally unsafe materials or substances including, but not limited to, cleaning fluids, oil base paints, caustics, explosives, acids, poisons, drugs, radioactive materials, asbestos, swimming pool chemicals, etc., should be disposed of on Household Hazardous Waste Collection Days (HHWCD). Please call the Newington Sanitation Department (860) 667-5874 for a schedule of these collection days or visit [www.themdc.com](http://www.themdc.com)
- **Scrap Metal:** Large appliances and other metal items are collected by the Town's contractor each week at the curbside. **Residents must pre-pay (\$10 for one item, \$5 for each additional item) at the Highway Department on Milk Lane (off Fenn Road) by Monday at 3:00 p.m. to be scheduled for Tuesday pick up.** Residents also have the option of taking these items to the Town's Landfill/Recycling Center on Main Street at no charge. Residents must show proof of residency at the Town landfill. If you have any questions, please call (860) 667-5874.
- **Leaves/Grass Clippings:** **Leaves** will continue to be collected by the Town at the curbside each fall. Residents may also take leaves to the Town's Landfill/Recycling Center but must remove leaves from bags, boxes, etc. prior to disposal at the landfill. **Grass clippings** can be left on the lawn, put into a backyard compost pile, or taken to the Town landfill. **Do not put leaves or grass clippings in either curbside container. Rubbish and recycling carts containing grass or leaves will not be emptied.**
- **Waste Motor Oil:** Waste motor oil can be disposed of at the Town Highway Garage (off Fenn Road), Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., or at the Town's Landfill/Recycling Center on the weekends. Oil must be delivered and in sealed containers.
- **Propane gas tanks:** From gas grills can be brought to the Town Landfill/Recycling Center.
- **Motor Vehicle Batteries and Textiles:** May be brought to the Town Landfill / Recycling Center.

**For questions regarding rubbish/recycling collection or the Landfill, please call the Sanitation Department Division @ 860-667-5874**  
**Sanitation Division of the Newington Highway Department at (860) 667-5874.**

# Newington Public Works Information

## **Snow Plowing Guidelines**

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

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

## **Sidewalks**

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

## **Mailbox Damage**

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

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

## **Winter Sand**

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

## **Town Vegetation Landfill/Recycling Center**

A permit is required to dispose of vegetation. Permits may be obtained at the Highway Department, 281 Milk Lane (off of Fenn Road) 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 a.m.—5:00 p.m.  
April - December, **Saturday & Sunday**  
January - March, **Saturday Only**  
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

## **Winter Parking Bans**

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

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

## **Driveways**

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

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

## **Leaf Collection Guidelines**

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

## **Refuse Collection**

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

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

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



# Newington Public Safety Police Department

## **Stephen Clark, Chief of Police**

### ***"To Protect and Serve."***

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

### **2018-2019 Highlights**

- **Department Staffing:** During the 2018-2019 fiscal year, the police department hired eight new police officers. Zachary Cyr and David Cyr were sworn in on August 17, 2018. Eric Chapdelaine, a certified officer from Massachusetts, was sworn in on September 17, 2018. Thomas Bugbee, a certified officer in Connecticut, and Christopher Capiello was sworn in on October 1, 2018. Giovanni Zaino, a certified officer in Connecticut, was sworn in on January 14, 2019, and Adam Gore and Larrie Douglas were sworn in on March 25, 2019. The police department saw two retirements of two veteran police officers; Sergeant John Zematis and Officer Wayne Kornbrath.
- **Department Activity:** During the 2018 year, the Newington Police Department responded to 24,927 calls for service. The department made 867 criminal arrests and investigated 809 "Part I" crimes, such as robbery, burglary, sexual assault, aggravated assault, arson, and larceny. The department investigated 1,466 traffic accidents, which resulted in 139 injuries and one fatality. The department made 3,851 traffic stops, and arrested 85 motorists for driving while under the influence of alcohol/drugs.
- **Major Cases:** On April 30, 2019 at approximately 2:00 a.m., a patrol officer observed a vehicle exit a business on the Berlin Turnpike with a registration plate that did not match the vehicle. During the traffic stop, the officer conducted a records check on the driver and learned he was wanted for a shooting by the Stratford Police Department. The driver was taken into custody for Assault in the First Degree and turned over to the Stratford Police Department.  
On April 20, 2019 at 2:44 a.m., Newington officers responded to a business on the Berlin Turnpike on a report of a large fight. Investigation showed two victims were stabbed during the fight and driven to a nearby hospital by friends. One of the victims sustained a life threatening stab wound to the chest. A suspect was later identified, who resides in the Washington, DC area. Both victims recovered from their wounds and refused to cooperate with police investigators.
- **Community Outreach:** The Newington Police Department is committed to developing programs that foster and improve police-community relations. The department continued to provide local residents and business owners with the Citizens Police Academy. Department officers continued to participate in Shop with a Cop, Coffee with a Cop, and the Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run. The department is now offering a self-defense course for local women. The Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) System has been endorsed by the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators, National Academy of Defense Education, and the National Self-Defense Institute, and will be offered several times a year.



On August 7, 2018, the police department partnered with Newington Parks & Recreation and hosted the department's first annual "National Night Out" at Mill Pond Park. National Night Out allows the officers of the Newington Police Department to interact in a positive, non-traditional, manner with residents of the community. The event enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. The event was a great success and will be done annually in August.

- **Police Department Training:** The police department recorded approximately 3,679 hours in officer training during the 2018-2019 fiscal period. This year's training covered several different areas including the continued commitment to our Crisis Intervention Team. Four officers were sent to receive specialized training in dealing with persons in crisis. The training division remains focused on firearms proficiency and continued with the training regimen of bi-annual firearms qualifications; with one of these qualifications occurring in a low-light setting. All officers are exposed to training in response to active shooting and building clearing, as well as taser / OC/ baton / handcuffing, and LOCK-UP training to minimize liability in use of force applications. Selected patrol officers attended impaired driving training and street interrogation programs. The department continues to schedule specialized training for members of the Detective Division. These programs include cell phone and computer evidence collection and crime scene processing, as well as background investigations to assist in the hiring process. Detectives also attended a homicide investigation seminar as well as a training program dealing with investigations into child abuse. Officers involved in the Mid-State Accident Reconstruction Team attended a traffic accident lethality class as well as continuing their attendance in monthly training with the regional accident team. An Administrative Sergeant attended specialized training in human trafficking to become an instructor for the department along with classes presented by the Victim's Advocate's Office. Two officers attended specialized training in basic SWAT operations after their appointment to the ERT team and five officers have attended the POSTC police recruit training academy as new hires for the department.

# Newington Public Safety

# Fire Marshal

## **Chris Schroeder, Fire Marshal**

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

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

### **2018-2019 Highlights**

- Significant fire incidents for the 2018-2019 fiscal year included:
  - ◊ July 7, 2018- An accidental fire in an apartment building at 83 Main Street caused significant damage to the rear exit door and stairwell. The cause of the fire was determined to be the result of the careless disposal of smoking materials.
  - ◊ August 2, 2018- A fire of undetermined origin caused extensive damage to a single family home located at 432 Church Street. There no injuries but the family was relocated as a result of this fire.
  - ◊ March 12, 2019- A fire of undetermined origin caused significant damage to the basement of a single family home located at 80 Hawley Street. There were no injuries but the family was relocated as a result of this fire.
- Provided oversight for standard blasting activity at Balf/Tilcon on Hartford Avenue, monitored and recording blasting complaints, and coordinated Annual Balf Town Committee Meeting in October of 2018.
- Personnel continued to make fire prevention and life safety a priority throughout the year by assisting the NVFD Fire Prevention Bureau in delivering fire prevention programs and activities for local schools, businesses, and healthcare facilities.
- Represented the Fire Marshal's Office and participated in monthly meetings of Newington's Safe Homes Task Force, as well as meetings and events held by the Connecticut Hoarding Working Group.
- The Fire Marshal and Deputy Fire Marshals participated in numerous continuing education courses and seminars throughout the year, in accordance with state mandates.

### **Fire Marshal Statistical Summary**

|                                     |     |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| Inspections & Inspection Follow Ups | 457 |
| Plan Reviews                        | 77  |
| Job Site Inspections                | 62  |
| Fire Investigations                 | 25  |
| Fire Alarm Trouble                  | 91  |
| Complaints                          | 31  |
| Tank Removals                       | 5   |
| Safe Home Inspections & Follow Ups  | 41  |
| Hazmat Incidents                    | 2   |
| Blast Monitoring                    | 18  |

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

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

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

### **2018-2019 Highlights**

- Received FEMA/EMPG grant funds, which helped offset costs associated with training programs, maintenance of the Emergency Operations Center, and various CERT activities.
- CERT members participated in a wide variety of both planned and additional (optional) training exercises throughout the year, including:
  - ◊ Provided assistance with the 2018 "Life. Be In It. Extravaganza" hosted by Parks & Recreation; members were activated for both crowd control and management with the vendor show, as well as fireworks site security.
  - ◊ Assisted the Central Connecticut Health District (CCHD) with their annual flu clinics in October of 2018.
  - ◊ Offered assistance with MDC's Hazardous Waste Collection Day.
  - ◊ Provided traffic control and crowd management for the Lucy Robbins Welles Library Annual 5K Race.
  - ◊ Provided traffic assistance and crowd control during the Parks & Rec. Motorcycle Madness event, held in May of 2019.
  - ◊ Members were activated to assist with the Annual Memorial Day Parade, where they provided assistance with crowd management, communications, and the overall implementation of the event's IAP.

# Newington Public Safety

# Newington Volunteer Fire Dept.

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## ***Chris Schroeder, 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, from ages 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.

### **2018-2019 Highlights**

- Department members participated in a variety of weekly, monthly, and quarterly classroom and field-based training exercises throughout the year, including: specialized rescue and extrication drills, Live Burn evolutions, and Ice Water Rescue drills.
- The Fire Prevention Bureau continued to provide a variety of fire and life safety education programs to area businesses, schools, daycare centers, and healthcare and assisted living facilities.
  - ◊ Participated in numerous public and privately sponsored events and meetings
  - ◊ Hosted Annual Open House Event, which included live fire safety demonstrations
- Cadet Division officers worked to expand and improve their Division; including lowering the age restriction for our youngest members; the Department now accepts individuals between ages 14-15 years-old as "Junior Cadets". The Cadet Division is currently at its highest membership in Department history.
- Department representatives worked with Task Force 51 to establish a regional specialized rescue squad, which is comprised of members from each of the five towns. This group participates in regular training and is prepared to respond to specialized technical rescue incidents in any of these towns.
- Hosted Annual 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony, sounding the building sirens at the times of the attacks on the World Trade Center.
- The Department held its Annual Awards Night celebration in November of 2018. Years of service and special commendation awards were distributed.
- Hosted Annual Memorial Day Ceremony, honoring two members who gave their lives in the line of duty; Co. 1 Firefighter Francis Kochanowicz, 6/5/62 and Co. 2 Firefighter Jay Cole, 12/26/64. The Honor Guard participated in the Town's Annual Memorial Day Service at Town Hall.

- Department members participated in numerous Town and privately sponsored events throughout the year, including:
  - ◊ Several events to raise funds for the Muscular Dystrophy Association and the American Cancer Society.
  - ◊ Distributed recruitment and fire prevention materials at the Annual Waterfall Festival on Market Square.
  - ◊ Assisted with the coordination of the Annual Ride in honor of MPO Peter J. Lavery at Churchill Park.
  - ◊ Coordinated and participated in the Newington Emergency Services Food and Gift Drive, to benefit Newington Human Services in December 2018.
  - ◊ Participated in the Parks & Recreation Night of Lights and Carol Sing on Main Street.

### **Statistical Summary**

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Structure Fires                          | 25  |
| Vehicle Fires                            | 10  |
| Exterior Fires                           | 31  |
| Other Fires                              | 3   |
| Pressure. Ruptures, Explosions, Overheat | 15  |
| Extrications                             | 10  |
| Other Rescue Calls                       | 18  |
| Hazardous Condition Calls                | 73  |
| Water Problem                            | 21  |
| Other Service Calls                      | 46  |
| Good Intent Calls                        | 29  |
| False Alarm/False Call                   | 280 |
| Severe Weather/Natural Disaster          | 0   |
| Special Incident Calls                   | 1   |
| Mutual Aid/Standby                       | 8   |

# Newington Public Schools

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## **Dr. Maureen L. Brummett, Superintendent of Schools**

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

### **Mission**

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

### **Vision**

*Every Student—College, Career and Citizenship ready*

### **District Goal**

*To improve students' reading comprehension and mathematical thinking by developing educator's understanding and usage of balanced assessments to enhance feedback and guide instruction.*

### **2018-2019 General Highlights**

#### **Anna Reynolds Elementary School**

- *Mr. Jason Smith, Principal*

*The 2018-19 school year continued to be an exciting time at Anna Reynolds. As a school, we focused our attention particularly in the area of enhancing our reading instruction and helping to get students excited about learning. Our school hosted many exciting events including our first annual Kindergarten playdate, an author visit, a literacy night, pi day, STEM night, and a Writers/Authors' Night.*

#### **2018-2019 School Goals**

- To utilize balanced assessments to enhance feedback and guide instruction in a safe and supportive school environment as measured by:
  - ♦ An increase performance in reading comprehension.
  - ♦ An increase performance in students' mathematical thinking.
  - ♦ To enhance parent engagement as indicated by:
    - ♦ An increase performance in families indicating that students are excited about learning.

#### **To accomplish these goals, we:**

- Implemented Lucy Calkins' Units of Study in the area of reading.
- Developed a common understanding of the components of Reader's Workshop.
- Provided professional learning in the area of conferring.
- Worked with Teacher's College to provide professional learning opportunities for staff in grades 2-4 with the implementation of Units of Study.
- Developed a consistent schedule to meet the needs of all students.
- Worked collaboratively with interventionists (Special Education teachers, Reading/Math Interventionists/EL Teacher) to provide students support.
- Continued to refine our EIP process.
- Conducted Open Classrooms throughout the year.
- Conducted collegial visits.
- Engaged in the PLC process on a weekly basis to employ the 6-step Data Driven Decision Making Process and collaboratively unit plan.
- Continued implementation of Second Steps that will help our students to learn and live our Anna Reynolds Elementary School expectations.

- Collaboratively with the PTO to help ensure students were excited to learn.
- Taught celebration lessons at the end of each reading unit to help ensure students were excited to learn.

#### **Elizabeth Green Elementary School**

- *Mr. James Marciano, Principal*

*The 2018-2019 school year was an exciting year of growth and development for both our students and staff. We were able to meet 4/5 of our school improvement goals, and we were identified as a school of distinction by the State of CT receiving the highest rating on the accountability index.*

#### **2018-2019 School Goals**

- Increase students' ability to read and comprehend grade level texts.
- Increase students' ability to reason and think mathematically.
- Deepen staff understanding of assessment, its role in the system and applications for improving student outcomes.
- Improve staff morale.
- Increase parents' knowledge of how their child is performing in school prior to the progress report.

#### **To accomplish this, we:**

- Participated in professional learning to deepen our understanding of a balanced assessment system, refine and improve assessment practices, successfully implement new math curriculum, and assist with the refinement of our early intervention practices.
- Implemented a new reading program called Units of Study.
- Participated in professional learning to
  - ♦ Refine and/or improve pedagogical practices with regards to reading instruction.
  - ♦ Refine and/or improve reading assessment practices.
- Engaged in collaborative meetings where staff members put their professional learning into practice in the areas of reading instruction and assessment.
- Engaged in honest conversations around staff morale and implemented improvement strategies.
- Communicated individual student performance scores/achievements in between progress reports.
- Educated parents on progress report ratings and how those are derived.
- Offered enrichment opportunities to students with activities such as unified sports, computer coding, and Makerspace.
- Hosted three academic nights including Literacy Night, STEM Night, and Math Night whereby, families participated in a variety of activities to facilitate enjoyment with these subject areas.
- Partnered with community organizations such as Central Connecticut State University, CT STEM Academy and the Joud Mini Mart in support of our academic nights.
- Received a Warren Bourque Educational Research Grant aimed at improving the resources available in our library for non-English speaking students/families.
- A student won the kindergarten division of Energize CT's annual eesmarks contest where students communicate their energy efficiency knowledge/ideas.
- Our students logged a total of 141,000 minutes in just about three weeks' time raising \$9400 for our PTO in our E. Green Read-a-Thon.
- Participated in community fundraisers such as Heavenly Hats raising money for children who lose their hair from cancer treatments, and pajama day raising money for CT Children's Medical Center.

# Newington Public Schools

## John Paterson Elementary School

- *Michael Gaydos, Principal*

### **2018-2019 School Goals**

- Students will improve reading comprehension skills.
- Students will improve mathematical thinking skills.
- Help parents to understand how to best support their child's learning at home.

### **To accomplish these goals, we:**

- Implemented the Lucy Calkins Units of Study for Reading to enhance literacy instruction.
- Conducted professional learning opportunities for staff to learn and understand "Units of Study" program.
- Engaged in Professional Learning Communities / Grade-Level Data Teams to implement short-cycle improvement plans that enabled us to enhance the data-driven decision making process to target instruction for all students.
- Provided tiered instruction (including intervention services as well as challenge / enrichment opportunities) to meet the needs of all of our learners.
- Continued to implement 1:1 use of Chromebooks in grades 3 & 4 to increase student engagement and foster new learning opportunities.
- Implemented 1:1 Chromebook use in grade 2, and completed a Pilot program for grade 1.
- Initiated a bi-weekly parent newsletter to enhance communication with our school community.
- Continued a special education program that focused on the behavioral and academic needs of students.
- Fully implemented "Zones of Regulation" to help students identify feelings and manage emotions
- Establish a school-wide behavior management system that focuses on student self-regulation of feelings and behavior (PRIDE System).

## Ruth Chaffee Elementary School

- *Mrs. Beverly Lawrence, Principal*

### **2018-2019 School Goals**

- Students in grades 3-4, reading comprehension will improve as evidenced by 60% of students meeting their individual growth target on the Spring MAP assessment.
- Students' reading comprehension, grade 2, will improve as evidenced by 60% of students fall to spring MAP assessment
- Students' mathematical thinking, grades 2-4, will improve as evidenced by 65% of students meeting their individual growth target on the spring to spring MAP assessment.
- Students' reading comprehension, grades K-1, will improve as evidenced by 85% meeting goal in the DRA.

### **We were able to accomplish, and in some cases, exceed our goals by:**

- Foundations program was utilized with fidelity in Grades K-3 which improved our students' phonological and phonemic awareness enhancing their spelling and reading skills.
- In Grades K-4, tutors were strategically placed within each classroom to allow for multiple reading groups to occur simultaneously to meet students at their level.
- Instructional Support Team (principal, instructional coach, reading consultant) conducted weekly meetings to review data, discuss current interventions, and provide appropriate professional learning support to teachers.
- Instructional coach and Literacy Coach provided in-class coaching and demonstration lessons. Weekly and bi-weekly progress monitoring of all students below grade level.

- Implemented and provided embedded professional learning through coaching and modeling with our Units of Study during our Reader's Workshop block.
- Instructional data teams and professional learning focused on conferences with our readers, collecting and analyzing appropriate data to move our learners.
- Provided staff the necessary resources to use evidence-based strategies and instructional practices to meet the diverse learning needs of their students.
- One-hundred percent of our parents participated in a parent/teacher conference via face to face and/or phone.
- We shared pictures of school-wide events (during and/or outside of normal school hours) with every family ensuring that they were kept abreast of the "goings on" at Ruth L. Chaffee via our website and Facebook page.
- We shared positive messages with parents about student's academic and behavior performance two to three times a year (i.e., shared updates about students' progress on benchmark assessments, School families' projects and/or SOAR cards received, etc.).

### **Future practices to ensure that we continue to meet our goals:**

- Continue to make sure that our SIT operates as the lead PLC at Chaffee assisting each grade level in growing in order to improve student achievement in every content area.
- Ensuring that our voice (School wide Leadership Team) is heard and that everyone knows what our shared vision is for our school improvement.

## John Wallace Middle School

- *Mr. Daniel Dias - Principal*

### **2018-2019 School Goals**

- Students will improve their understanding of mathematical thinking (concepts and applications).
- Students will improve their reading comprehension and fluency skills.
- Students will improve their learning time. We will reduce or maintain the number of level 2 referrals from the previous school year.
- Parents will report an increase in the perception that their child's teacher communicates grades and class performance to my child in a timely fashion.
- Teachers will report that morale increased or was maintained at 84%.

### **To accomplish these goals, the John Wallace Community:**

- Engaged in deep learning regarding the Gradual Release Model. Professional learning was planned and coordinated by Central Office for 5-12 interdisciplinary learning and by the Wallace administrative team, coaches, staff at the building level. Teachers engaged in learning and work regarding an understanding gradual release and implementation.
- Weekly PLC (Professional Learning Community) meetings were supported by Wallace administration, coordinators, and coaches. Gradual release, collaborative learning, balanced assessment, Mastery Based learning were emphasized by coaches, coordinators, and administrators in PLC work.
- Our monthly SDT (School Data Team) meetings monitored progress towards each of the goals from the 2018-19 School Improvement Plan. The team engaged in learning regarding changes to the school improvement process and created a Continuous Improvement Plan in the new district format. In addition, the team made research based recommendations regarding goals and objectives for 2019-2020.
- Our math, literacy, and behavior teams met weekly to discuss student performance data and develop more effective Tier II and Tier III supports. The teams engaged in collaborative learning with Central Office staff and colleagues from Martin Kellogg Middle School.
- Our administrative team monitored and implemented the 2018-19 School Improvement Plan. The School Data Team engaged in the

# Newington Public Schools

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DDDM process, made recommendations and suggested improvements, and members were integral in creating the 2019-2020 school wide goals and Continuous Improvement Plan,

- Evaluation feedback focused on Domains 2 and 3 of the Danielson Evaluation rubric in all classrooms to help student learning.
- Continued the Discipline Review Board to provide students with opportunities for positive behaviors.
- Began conversations and learning with staff about school climate, social emotional learning and restorative practices.
- Created action steps (each teacher) to improve the engagement/excitement of students in the building in regards to parent engagement goal.
- Continued with professional learning with all staff regarding Mastery Based Learning and a solid understanding of AOLS (assessments of learning) and AFLs (assessments for learning).
- A number of Wallace staff members participated on the district's Mastery Based Learning Committee, PDEC, District Data Team and other district wide committees. Staff also participated in various curriculum writing tasks. Wallace staff made significant contributions to these committees and in crafting practices and procedures for the shift to Mastery Based Learning, the Educator Evaluation Pilot, and made contributions to various curriculum projects throughout the school year. Wallace staff on PDEC provided professional learning to staff during the May district wide professional learning session.

## **Martin Kellogg Middle School**

- *Mr. Jason S. Lambert - Principal*

*During 2018-19 school year the MKMS school learning community was successful in our efforts to support all students as they grow, change and learn. Our school goals this past year focused on the areas of literacy, numeracy, school climate and parent engagement.*

### **2018-2019 School Highlights**

- Continued Transition towards mastery-based learning instruction and reporting practices.
- Continued Transition towards mastery-based learning instruction and reporting practices.
- Applied understanding of balanced assessment systems to plan and implement tiered instruction to meet the academic and behavior needs of all learners.
- Refined the DDDM process within the PLC model to target specific areas (i.e. using data to inform instruction, analyzing student work, using multiple data sets, use of technology, and creating units aligned to UBD).
- Developed a common understanding of the Gradual Release of Responsibility framework and alignment to educator practice standards to support our work with the school-wide workshop model.
- Fifth year implementation of PBIS (Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports) that included many special events including pep rallies and positive recognitions to inspire appropriate school behavior and decision-making.
- Developed grade-level identities (Grade 5 = Pride, Grade 6 = Responsibility, Grade 7 = respect, and Grade 8 = Integrity), and each grade participated in a community service project related to the respective grade-level pillar.
- For the second year, the MKMS Biomedical Academy participated in the, "Go Baby Go" program that includes a partnership with CCSU to create assistive technology to help young children with mobility needs.
- Participated in school-wide "Reading Renaissance" that placed a priority on reading in all content areas.
- Created "Stairways to Success" to promote hope and optimism through special quotes decorated on every stairwell.
- Continued "Battle of the Books" program that included grade 6

teachers and students from John Wallace Middle School.

- Produced the musical "Mary Poppins" that included over 200 students, parents, and staff participants. The teacher cast performances raised \$2300 that was donated to the Newington Human Services Food Bank and the CCMC Neuro-Oncology Unit in memory of Sophia Alves.
- Participation in a variety of fundraisers, social events, and celebrations that provide the student council with funds to support many worthwhile endeavors at Kellogg.
- Visiting photographer, Tom Mezzanote, worked with students in grade 5 to complement our light unit in science.
- Active staff participation in various building and district committees including the following:
  - ◆ Instructional Leadership Team
  - ◆ School Climate Committee
  - ◆ PBIS Committee
  - ◆ School Identity Committee
  - ◆ Mastery-Based Learning Committees
  - ◆ Teacher and Administrator Evaluation Committee (PDEC)
  - ◆ District Data Teams
  - ◆ Various Curriculum Development Committees aligned to CCSS & NGSS

## **Newington High School**

- *Ms. Terra Tigno - Principal*  
**2018-2019 Highlights**

- NHS Social Studies teacher Mr. James Kravontka has been named the 2019 recipient of the Korzenik Memorial Educator Award recognizing excellence and dedication to Holocaust Education for his proposal, Analyzing, Interpreting and Remembering the Holocaust through Multifarious Imagery, a unit he teaches in his U.S. History and War and the Human Condition classes at Newington High School.
- Mr. Frank McGoldrick again hosted the CCSU Reading Program to NHS to help struggling readers.
- There were 58 students inducted into the Science National Honor Society for the 2018-2019 school year. That bringing the total membership to 97 students at Newington High School.
- On April 18th, 82 students were inducted into the Spanish Honor Society, 14 students were inducted into the Italian Honor Society and 8 students were inducted into the Latin Honor Society. On Friday, April 26, 21 Newington students participated in Connecticut State Latin Day (CSLD) at Holiday Hill in Cheshire, CT.
- #1 High School in ECE program this year with 307% enrollment growth from last year to this year.
- CABE Communication Award for Newington Public Schools Digital Program of Studies. Recipient of 9th Annual AP District Honor Roll for expanding opportunity and improving performance for Advance Placement students.
- The Medical Sciences Academy has had a remarkable first year with three courses up and running with an additional course slated to run next year and provided the students with the opportunity to earn UCONN credit for our Medical Terminology course.
- The Save a Life Tour Distracted/Texting Awareness Program provided by the Connecticut State Department of Education in the fall of 2018.
- Ensembles and productions received accolades at the CT Halo Awards, the Southington Marching Band Exposition, and the Manchester Jazz Festival. Halo Award Winners Best Stage Manager, Best featured comic male performer in a musical and Best featured male performer in a Musical.
- Twelve students were selected for the Northern Region Music Festival. Six students were selected for CT All State Music Festival. Four students were selected for the NAfME All Eastern



# Boards and Commissions

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## **AFFORDABLE HOUSING MONITORING AGENCY**

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

## **ANNA REYNOLDS SCHOOL PROJECT BUILDING**

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

## **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

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

## **COMMISSION ON AGING AND DISABLED**

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

## **BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS**

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

## **BALF TOWN COMMITTEE**

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

## **BUILDING CODE BOARD OF APPEALS**

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

## **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE**

Established by Town Council in 2006, the Capital Improvements Committee consisting of five (5) members, is responsible for oversight of the short range plan for capital projects and equipment purchases.

## **CONSERVATION COMMISSION/ INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY**

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

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

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

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

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

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

## **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE COMMITTEE**

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

## **EMPLOYEE INSURANCE AND PENSION BENEFITS COMMITTEE**

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

## **ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION**

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

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

# Boards and Commissions

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## **BOARD OF ETHICS**

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

## **BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**

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

## **NEWINGTON HOUSING AUTHORITY**

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

## **HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

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

## **JOINT SHARED SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE**

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

## **LIBRARY BOARD**

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

## **LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE**

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

## **OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE**

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

## **BOARD OF PARKS & RECREATION**

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

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

## **POLICE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

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

## **STANDING INSURANCE COMMITTEE**

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

## **TOWN HALL RENOVATIONS PROJECT BUILDING COMMITTEE**

The Town Hall Renovations Project Building Committee, comprised of 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.

## **150th ANNIVERSARY STEERING COMMITTEE**

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

# Summary of Town of Newington



## Financial Report 2018-2019

# Town Finances FY 2018-2019

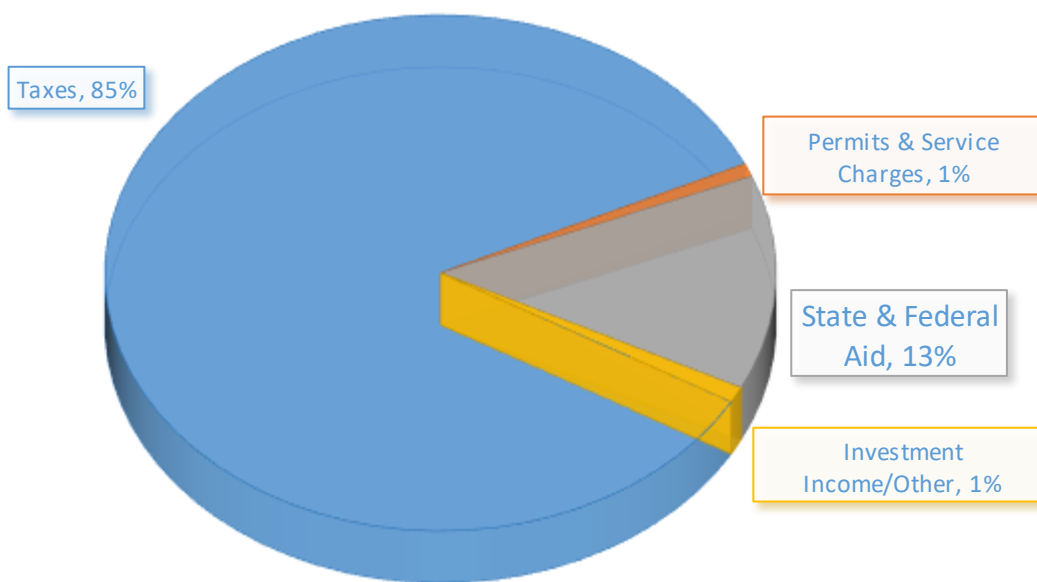
- The Town's adopted General Fund budget for 2018-19 totaled **\$118,696,585**
- The Mill Rate was 38.50
- The Town achieved a collection rate of 99.10% on the current levy.
- The Town's bond indebtedness at June 30, 2019 totaled \$12,500,000
- The Town's actual expenditures were \$116,996,823 and actual revenues totaled \$121,746,719.

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

## Actual Town Revenues for 2018-19, by Source (\$ thousands)

| Source                         | 2017-18        | 2018-19        | \$ Change    |
|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| <b>Taxes</b>                   | 95,968         | 102,616        | 6,648        |
| <b>Permits</b>                 | 396            | 296            | (100)        |
| <b>State &amp; Federal Aid</b> | 14,276         | 16,278         | 2,002        |
| <b>Service Charges</b>         | 655            | 695            | 40           |
| <b>Investment Income</b>       | 378            | 791            | 413          |
| <b>Other</b>                   | 401            | 1,071          | 670          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                   | <b>112,074</b> | <b>121,747</b> | <b>9,673</b> |

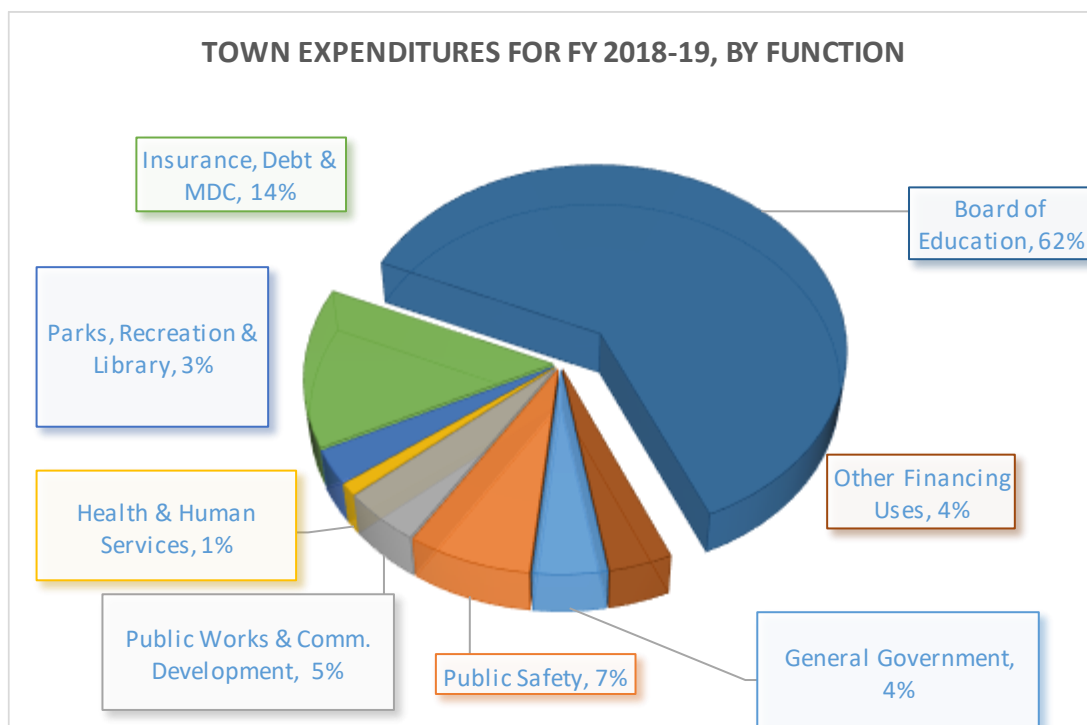
## TOWN REVENUE BY SOURCE, FY 2018-19



# Town Finances FY 2018-2019

## Actual Town Expenditures for FY 2018-19, by Function (\$ thousands)

| Function                         | 2017-18        | 2018-19        | \$ Change    |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| General Government               | 4,715          | 5,180          | 465          |
| Public Safety                    | 8,456          | 8,661          | 205          |
| Public Works & Comm. Development | 5,287          | 5,515          | 228          |
| Health & Human Services          | 1,163          | 1,222          | 59           |
| Parks, Recreation & Library      | 3,349          | 3,448          | 99           |
| Insurance, Debt Service & MDC    | 15,939         | 16,617         | 678          |
| Board of Education               | 70,089         | 71,942         | 1,853        |
| Other Financing Uses             | 3,032          | 4,412          | 1,380        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                     | <b>112,030</b> | <b>116,997</b> | <b>4,967</b> |



# Town Finances FY 2018-2019

**Bonds Outstanding June 30, 2019**  
**(in thousands)**

| Function        | Amount        |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Schools         | 3,266         |
| General Purpose | 9,234         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>    | <b>12,500</b> |

**Schedule of Debt Principal and Interest by Year as of June 30, 2019**  
**(in thousands)**

| Year Ending<br>June 30 | Principal    | Interest     | Total        |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 2020                   | 1,140        | 426          | 1,566        |
| 2021                   | 1,125        | 394          | 1,519        |
| 2022                   | 1,115        | 358          | 1,473        |
| 2023                   | 1,100        | 322          | 1,422        |
| 2024                   | 1,085        | 287          | 1,372        |
| 2025                   | 635          | 251          | 886          |
| 2026                   | 450          | 225          | 675          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>           | <b>6,650</b> | <b>2,263</b> | <b>8,913</b> |

