

TOWN OF EASTON



ANNUAL REPORT 2010

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Provided here are reports from our Officials, Commissions and heads of departments of the Town and General Purpose Financial Statements for the year ending June 30, 2010. The information compiled provides residents of Easton with a comprehensive review of the operation of the Town, its finances, and educational system.

Your Board of Finance, who is charged with preparing this report, wishes to thank all who supplied the information and data included. We are grateful to Grace Stanczyk, who was responsible for the overall coordination and planning and to Diane Zadrozny for her assistance.

Mark Pompa, Chairman
Board of Finance

WELLS HILL BRIDGE

The new bridge reopened December 5, 2009 after a severe storm washed out its 80-year-old predecessor on April 25, 2006.

Photo by Edward Nagy, Director of Public Works: Faux finish performed under supervision of the Easton Garden Club.



Town of Easton

ANNUAL REPORT

Town Hall
Easton, Connecticut



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GENERAL GOVERNMENT

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Easton is governed by the Town Meeting (which is the Town's legislative body), the Board of Selectmen (its executive and administrative body), and the Board of Finance (its financial body). The Easton Board of Education is responsible for Town schools and the Regional Board of Education is responsible for Joel Barlow High School. These two boards of education share a central office staff with the Redding Board of Education.

The Town is administered through a three-member Board of Selectmen with the First Selectman being the chief executive officer of the Town. The Selectmen serve for two- year terms which commence immediately following the election in odd numbered years. No more than two Selectmen can be from the same political party. The Selectmen hold regular meetings on the first and third Thursdays of each month at 7:30 p.m., usually in the Town Hall conference room. Special meetings are held as required. Citizens are encouraged to attend meetings and time for public comment is allowed.

A number of able boards, commissions, committees, volunteers, and employees assist in the Town's operations. Their reports are contained in this annual report and your attention is directed to them. Without the dedication of each of the individuals involved, Easton would suffer. With their dedication, Easton excels as a great place to live and work.

The municipal building at 660 Morehouse Road, the former Samuel Staples Elementary School is now fully occupied. The new Senior Center opened in March 2009 in the north western wing. The Central Offices of the Easton/Redding Boards of Education moved into a wing in the central portion of the building in January of 2009. The lease for the southerly wing, occupied by Easton Country Day School was renewed on September 1, 2009 for an additional term of seven years with an option that could run another eight years. Easton Country Day School has amended their lease and added an additional 6,780 square feet in the central portion of the building. In addition, The Speech Academy has signed an agreement to lease the rooms in the northernmost section of the building. The basement is currently occupied by the Parks and Recreation Department and is being used for storage.

A new Tax Relief for the Elderly Ordinance was developed and passed at a Town Meeting in September 2008. The new Ordinance offers tax abatements, a tax cap and a tax deferral program, and has been heralded as one of the most beneficial senior tax relief programs in the State. The 2009 Tax Relief Ordinance will remain in effect for three years at which time the program will be reviewed.

Contracts with each of the unions representing Town employees have been settled through June 30, 2014 for the

police, through June 30, 2012 for the highway department, and through June 30, 2012 for Town Hall employees and supervisors. The contract with the firefighters expired on June 30, 2009 and is scheduled for resolution through arbitration. The Human Resources Advisory Committee continues to review individual positions and non-represented positions for recommendations to the Board of Finance.

The Town purchased a 29 acre parcel of land on South Park Avenue from a developer that had proposed a high density housing development. The property is bordered by the Mill River in a section that is one of only a few spawning areas for the Connecticut Brown trout. The property is being leased to the New England Prayer Center who also has been sold an option to purchase the property. Such sale will be subject to deed restrictions and conservation easements in order to protect the critical watercourse.

A large parcel of land located on the northwest corner of Route 136 and Sport Hill Road faces the possibility of development. The owner, Saddle Ridge Developers, had been approved for a 21 lot subdivision with plans to provide for the construction of ten bedroom homes. Following the approval, Saddle Ridge began developing a plan to construct 105, two bedroom residences and has submitted a septic plan for preliminary review by the Health Department. The high density development plan was denied by the Planning and Zoning Commission due to the potential impact on the watershed. The developers have proposed a new plan calling for the construction of 99, two bedroom residences.

The Board of Selectmen thanks the many citizens who have contributed their time and expertise to the Town by serving on its boards, commissions, and committees. We also thank all of you for helping to keep Easton special.

The Board of Selectmen
Thomas A. Herrmann, First Selectman
Robert H. Lessler, Selectman
Scott S. Centrella, Selectman

TOWN CLERK REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS TOWN SEXTON

The Town Clerk and Registrar of Vital Statistics are elected for a two-year term. The Town Sexton for Abandoned Cemeteries is an appointed position. In Easton, the two elected offices and the Town Sexton are combined in one person. A brief summary of these responsibilities are listed below.

- Create, manage, preserve and maintain an archive of land records and other town records from the date of incorporation in 1845 until the present.
- Create and maintain an archival Daily, Grantor and

Grantee Index of Land Records.

- Record and maintain an archival record of Births, Marriages, Deaths and Burials.
- Create, manage, preserve and maintain an archive of all town records including Minutes and Agendas of all Boards, Committees and Commissions.
- Create, manage, preserve and maintain an archive of all Town Meeting Minutes and Records
- Manage the issuance, verification, collection and delivery of Absentee Ballot Applications and Ballots.
- Swear in all Officers and Members of all Boards, Committees and Commissions
- Assist residents and non-residents obtain Connecticut State Sports Licenses. This includes resident and non-resident: firearms; fishing; hunting and fishing; and firearms fishing and hunting. Resident: trapping; junior trapping and over age 65. Non-resident: three day fishing. Also included are HIP permits, handicapped; and junior firearms hunting.
- Sell Pheasant Tags; Migratory Bird Stamps. Assist residents obtain daily and lifetime fishing permits that are free to those age 65 years and older
- Sell fishing permits for Aquarion, Inc. facilities in town
- Sell Dog Licenses for all dogs 6 months old and older. Connecticut state statutes require that all dogs be licensed in the town in which they reside and have a valid rabies certificate that must be presented at the time of licensing. License fees are \$8 for spayed or neutered dogs, and \$19 for male and female dogs. A certificate of spaying or neutering must be presented at the time of licensing. There is a \$1 late fee for each month or fraction of a month that the license is late. Licenses are on sale in the month of June for the following license year that runs from July 1 through June 30 inclusive each year.
- Sell dog kennel licenses
- Provide Notary services
- Provide certified copies of public records.
- Act as Town Sexton for Easton's four abandoned cemeteries owned by the town

Land Records, Maps, Agendas and Minutes

The State Statutes define that a primary function of the Town Clerk's office is to maintain and preserve an archival record of all of the Maps and Land Records relating to real estate transactions. They also require records of all liens and releases including mortgages and mortgage releases. This permits residents and the public to trace and verify titles to property. Similarly, an archival record of the Agendas and Minutes of Boards, Committees and Commissions, Town Meetings and Town Ordinances must be maintained so that a traceable record of town governance issues is available to the public.

On assuming office in 2002, it became clear that the system simply could not handle the volume of documents, and other work, despite the best efforts of the office staff. In addition, the Land Records, Maps, Minutes and Agendas were stored on non-archival paper, in non-archival binders, and were not indexed making retrieval very difficult. The statutorily

required microfilm copies did not exist. As a result, new procedures were established.

At that time, we decided on a long-term plan that included the following:

- Focus first on the Land Records and later on the Minutes, Agendas and other issues
- Clear up the backlog
- Establish as an operating procedure that "an average day's work must be completed each day on average." This is necessary to prevent the backlog from again growing into a large volume of unprocessed work.
- Establish systems capable of handling the work volume efficiently.
- Establish the staff levels needed to get the work done.
- Establish methods of dealing with the large increase in recording and other transactions.
- Establish office hours consistent with the work load and the staffing level
- It was apparent that new technology was required. However, the cost of a commercial solution was prohibitive. Instead, the Town Clerk developed a combination of commercial hardware and proprietary software. Proprietary software was developed at no cost to the town and combined with commercial hardware. This results in a very large, and continuing, annual cost saving to the town.

This strategy has permitted the following changes:

- New Technology was developed to handle point of sale transactions and daily and weekly accounting and reporting. This reduced the work required and improved the accounting accuracy
- The New technology also processed the documents. This resulted in the development of a low cost system for handling the volume of land records and maps. The cost of processing a land record document was reduced by more than 80%.
- The imaging of all of the land records and maps so that these are now available to the public electronically. This enables us to offer easy access to the information and to simplify the making of copies. At the same time, we have been able to restrict access to the delicate old maps and land records and help to preserve them.
- The imaging of all Minutes and Agendas up to the current date
- The initial focus has been on land records. The resources available have now permitted some attention to the Minutes and Agendas problem.
- Software has been developed for numbering Agendas and Minutes when workload permits. This has been implemented for the Board of Selectmen, and Board of Finance agendas and minutes.

Long Term Objectives

Overall, our long-term objectives are as follows:

- Establish a computerized point of sale system for all incoming documents and licenses. The intent is to simplify

the accounting so that at the end of the day and the end of the week it is a simple matter to close the books and allocate funds to the appropriate accounts.

- Establish a computerized system for recording and indexing all Land Records and Maps
- Establish a computer database of images of all Land Records and Maps
- Make our own record volumes in order to reduce the cost and make the volumes available, in paper copy on the shelf and electronically immediately
- Make the land records and maps available on line to interested parties.
- Establish the technology for printing copies of the Land Records and Maps.
- Establish a database of images of all Minutes, Agendas and other town records
- Establish a computerized system for recording and indexing all Minutes, Agendas, and other town records
- Preserve archival records by limiting public access to these original records
- Make applications for Absentee Ballots and Licenses available on line.
- Computerize Absentee Ballot processing
- Convert Agendas and Minutes of Boards and Commissions to archival quality

Current Status

The status of our long-term objectives is as follows:

- The Town Clerk's office is now completely automated.
- Since 2002, we have had our own point of sales system operating successfully. This system permits automatic registration and costing of the more than fifty products that we sell. It also records the funds paid and the method of payment and allocates the funds to the appropriate accounts. At the end of the day, it is a simple matter to close the books and account for all of the funds. It drastically reduces the time required for closing. This reduces errors and greatly simplifies the closing process. It also creates a comprehensive database of all transactions that permits us to evaluate transactions to correct any errors, or omissions, that occur.
- The same point of sale system validates all checks received and creates a permanent electronic record of the transaction including the payor and the reason for the payment. This permits a simple recall of the transaction for invalid checks
- The same point of sale system permits us to mark incoming Land Records with a number, time and date of receipt as required by statute. It has now progressed to permit direct annotation of recording information on the image of the land record documents.
- The point of sale system also permits annotating marginal notes on land records as are required by law, and facilitates the maintenance of a dynamic image record database of Land Records.
- Since 2004 we have been making our own archival books of Land Records and Index books in house eliminating the time delay from shipping offsite

- Since 2004 we have indexed all of the Land Records and Maps in house eliminating the time delay from shipping offsite
- Since 2004 we have numbered all of the Land Records and Maps in house eliminating the time delay from shipping offsite
- The database of images of Land Records, Maps and Liens is complete. Land Records and Liens are updated in real time as new records are received. Maps are scanned in real time, in house, and are now only sent out for microfilming. Overall, this has eliminated the need to refer to the original Maps, and greatly reduced the need to look at paper copies of Records
- A calendar of events is available on the town website
- An email list has been established for direct weekly update of real estate sales.
- Absentee ballots are now handled by proprietary software developed in house for the purpose
- Marriage Licenses and Civil Union licenses are now handled in house using proprietary software developed for the purpose. The program was developed in cooperation with, and approved by, the Connecticut Department of Public Health Vital Statistics Division. This program is now in use in Easton and many towns in Connecticut at no cost to the town
- Dog Licenses are now handled in house using proprietary software developed for the purpose
- Software has been developed for numbering, date, and time stamping Agendas and Minutes. It is in use for the following boards:
 - Board of Selectmen 1983 to date
 - Board of Finance 1981 to date
 - P & Z 1953 to date
 - Easton Board of Education 1958 to date
 - Region 9 Board of Education 1964 to date
 - Town Reports 1986 to date
 - Assignments and Resignations

Other Boards and Commissions will be addressed when workload permits.

- Easton currently has a searchable database for all records by volume and page from 1845, the date of incorporation, to the present day. Records are searchable by name from 1/1/2005 to the present.
- Re-indexing and standardization of the database back to 1955 is in progress.
- Operational improvements permitted the return to normal office hours
- This year we addressed the space and operational limits on the vault. The vault was redesigned and new shelving installed to house the Land Records, Minutes and Agendas, and Maps and other documents. This extended the life of the vault by about 20 years avoiding an expense of at least \$500,000 and was funded off budget.

The first phase of the long-term plan to automate the major operations of the office is essentially complete.

There is still work to be done on Agendas and Minutes but Land Records are now available within 24 hours compared to more than one month previously. Agendas and minutes are available as soon as received which is generally within 48 hours.

The following objectives await the allocation of more resources to address these problems.

- On line, access to the Maps and Land Records awaits software development, or town funding of commercial software acquisition.
- The remaining Minutes and Agendas will be addressed when resources permit. The methods and approaches developed for the Land Records apply directly to the Minutes and Agendas
- The database of images of Minutes and Agendas awaits funding
- Extension of the searchable Land Record database, by name, to 1955

The next phase is to make these records available to the public and others more conveniently. We are in the planning stage to upgrade the systems to permit online access. As usual, the intent is to try to fund these improvements with no impact on the town budget.

OPERATIONS

Fees Collected

The Town Clerk's office collects recording fees, conveyance taxes and other fees. The total amount collected in 2009 was \$278,121. This included \$132,309 conveyance taxes, \$115,552 of recording fees, \$14,772 of copy fees and \$13,415.50 of dog license fees.

Real Estate Sales

In fiscal year, 2010 there was 113 properties transferred. Of these, 83 were for \$100,000 or more. The total number of sales declined from the previous year but the number in excess of \$100,000 increased from 67. This total excludes foreclosures whose value is generally not known. The total value of these sales was \$52,923,698 an increase from \$50,508,575 in the previous year. This is an increase of 4.8%.

The average sales price was \$642,816 compared to \$752,000 in the prior year. The median sales price was \$615,000. Both are less than the prior year. However, the reduction in the strong disparity between these numbers means that the distribution of sales values is less distorted by the market, and they are a better measure of market value, or changes.

Please note that these numbers do not include a large number of transactions between family members, or estates, in which no, or insignificant, funds changed hands. The numbers reported above apply only to homes sold in Easton.

It would be an error to over interpret this information. For example, the decrease in the average price could be caused by the lower priced homes selling better than higher priced

homes because of the poor condition of the national and local, economy. This change in the distribution of sales would have the same effect as reduced prices.

In past years, there appeared to be a tri-modal distribution of home sales. At the lower end of the range, the few sales below \$100,000 probably represented partial ownership, transfers between spouses, undeveloped lots, or special situations. At higher prices, above \$1,300,000, the transactions probably represent the newly built homes that tend to be larger and more expensive, or land sales. In the middle are average home sales.

In 2008-2009, the distribution shifted towards bi-modal with the higher priced homes not in evidence.

2009-2010 sales represent a return to the tri-modal distribution of sales prices, with three distinct groups. One above \$1,000,000, one below \$1,000 and the vast majority in the middle. As before the lower price group includes special situations and quit claim deeds between spouses. The upper price group is the larger houses that were built in the recent past and are selling again. In the middle is the typical house. For this group the average selling price is \$614,171 and the median price is \$610,000. The very close agreement between the average and median sales price indicates that the distribution of prices is normal, and that \$610,000 is a good measure of the average price.

A similar comparison last year results in an average price of \$586,371 and a median price of \$595,008. Again, the similarity of the prices indicates that this is a good estimate of the value for the average home sold.

Combined these two estimates indicate that the average price went up by about \$15,000, or 3.6%.

Maps

All of Easton's maps are now available as images in a comprehensive database. This includes Land Record maps, Assessors maps, Roads, As Built and Fire District maps. These can be reviewed electronically and printed out in a variety of sizes including full size, letter, legal and ledger size. The plan is to make them available on the internet in the future.

This year, without budget impact on the town, we installed new vertical map holders. This was part of the overall effort to increase vault capacity and improve storage conditions for historic documents and maps.

Marriage Licenses

Easton uses proprietary software to completely automate license processing and generate an integrated database. The system uses an electronic version of the Marriage license form developed in conjunction with, and approved by, the State of Connecticut. The use of this system saves the town the significant expense of outside vendors. At the same time, it creates a permanent database and facilitates simple reporting and searching. The software and form is approved for

statewide use and has been adopted by many Town Clerks in Connecticut. A similar system has been developed and is used for Civil Unions.

Births

In fiscal year 2009, there were 47 births to Easton parents.

Marriages and Civil Unions

Civil unions were not authorized in Connecticut until 2005. In fiscal year, 2009 there were 33 marriages and no civil unions in Easton.

Connecticut no longer permits Civil Unions. Instead, the legislature approved same sex marriages and converted all

Fiscal Year	Marriage	Civil Union	Total
2001	52	0	52
2002	33	0	33
2003	39	0	39
2004	52	0	52
2005	44	2	44
2006	38	0	40
2007	31	0	31
2008	35	0	35
2009	33	0	33
2010	43	0	43
TOTAL	400	2	402

previous Civil Unions to Marriages. At the same time, the legislation was changed to require that marriage licenses be issued without Social Security numbers to prevent identity theft. In order to implement this change, it is now required that Marriage licenses be obtained in the municipality in which the ceremony is performed. The Social Security numbers are added to the certificate, when it is returned to the town clerk for recording.

The number of marriages increased almost to the 2005 level. This is the first significant uptick for several years.

Deaths

In fiscal year 2009, there were 44 deaths of Easton residents.

Dog Licenses

Easton uses proprietary software that automates the data entry and processing of dog licenses. This automates the printing of a license form approved by the Department of Agriculture for statewide use. It creates a comprehensive database for future reference. This system saves the town the significant expense of similar systems from vendors including the cost of specialized forms.

We also provide for license renewal by mail. Details of the renewal by mail can be obtained from the Town Clerk's office. It can also be found on the town website. [www.eastonct.gov] We are collecting email addresses as dogs are licensed so that we can build an email address book of dog owners. Each year, as our email list increases, we are able to send out more

renewal reminders by email. The intent is to collect as many email addresses as possible to minimize the cost of reminders and maximize the service to dog owners.

The email program combined with a volunteer group of Seniors who place multiple telephone call reminders to all other dog owners has eliminated all mailing and printing expenses.

During the fiscal year, we issued 1,277 licenses of all kinds. The total fee paid was \$13,415.50 including \$429 of late fees.

The table below summarizes the licenses issued:

DOG LICENSES			
	FY2010	FY2009	CHANGE
MALE	96	91	5
FEMALE	43	53	(10)
SPAYED	585	632	(47)
NEUTERED	545	641	(96)
KENNEL	8	8	0
TOTAL	1277	1425	(148)

There was a significant decline in the number of female, spayed and neutered dogs licensed and a small increase in the number of licensed male dogs.

Elections

The Town Clerk is responsible for processing Absentee Ballot Applications and Absentee Ballots. This requires verification that the voter is registered, retention of a record of who has applied and who has voted, and when, together with a record of which, and when, the ballots were delivered to the Registrar of Voters.

This year, the work has continued with the Assistant Registrar of Voters to develop and improve the proprietary computer based system that automates this entire process and permits real time review of the list of registered voters when an application, or a ballot, is requested. This system has been in place, and used successfully, for several years elections and continues to evolve as we learn how to use it. It provides a valuable service during elections and referenda at no cost to Easton.

Town Sexton

This year after a two-year effort, we finally completed the changes in state statutes that were required for the town to take ownership of the abandoned cemeteries in town. Thanks are due to our elected state legislators, Senator John McKinney and Representative John Stripp for their help in passing the new legislation

The new legislation was used to take ownership of the four cemeteries. This permitted the town to assume maintenance and restoration of the cemeteries and seek external funding for this work. The defunct organization in charge of this function donated the remaining assets to the town for this purpose.

Website

The Easton Town website www.eastonct.gov is divided into departmental sectors. The Town Clerk's section includes the following:

- Calendar of Meetings and Agendas
- Voter Information
- Voter Registration
- Absentee Ballot information
- Marriage License Application
- Marriage License Information
- Dog License information
- Recording Information
- Election Results
- Upcoming Events
- Announcements
- Sample Petition form

Summary

Our overall objective is to facilitate convenient access to the Town Clerk's office, and the information stored there, for all the public, including those who work or cannot get in during office hours. This is a major reason that implementing the town website and internet access to the records is a major objective.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Assistant Town Clerks Joan Kirk and Deborah Szegedi for their assistance and continued and ardent efforts and cooperation in assuring the smooth running of the office during this extended period of change. Jim Bromer, Assistant Registrar of Voters, has been especially helpful in developing the software needed to manage the Absentee Voting applications and ballots and assisting in providing and maintaining the required database of voters.

Respectfully submitted
W. Derek Buckley
Town Clerk
Registrar of Vital Statistics
Town Sexton

TOWN TREASURER

Elected for a two-year term, the Treasurer of the Town of Easton is charged with managing the receipt, custody, investment, and authorized disbursement of the Town's assets. That management involves recording revenues received, establishing accounts that simultaneously safeguard and maximize returns on cash held pending its disbursement, and accounting for the Town's financial activities during the fiscal year. In addition, the Treasurer actively oversees a bonding program to finance the Town's long-term projects.

The Treasurer operates an active investment program designed not only to generate income on cash awaiting disbursement, but also to invest on a longer-term basis in anticipation of the Town's projected capital and other budget requirements.

During fiscal year 2010 the income derived from this program stabilized somewhat, but remained slightly below historic trend. The Federal Reserve Bank's continuing use of lower short-term interest rate targeting and dollar creation in the attempt to encourage lending at attractive rates and support a nascent economic recovery has had the collateral effect of dramatically constricting the interest returns offered by financial institutions and money market investment vehicles. Most of the Town's revenues collected each six months are disbursed relatively quickly to meet budgetary commitments, and therefore, are only held for short periods of time. Consequently, interest income on these funds is produced by short-term, necessarily highly liquid investments, which have generated tepid returns.

The Town's longer-term investments did contribute significantly to the income that was generated. However, unlike money market holdings, these investments are subject to market fluctuation principally caused by the influence of interest rate changes. Consequently, exposure to them has to be tempered in order to minimize the recognition of interim, unrealized losses during any given fiscal year.

Town of Easton Investment Income

Year Ended	General	Other	
<u>June 30</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Total</u>
2010	\$464,405	\$1,221	\$465,626
2009	424,605	4,746	429,351
2008	567,386	9,760	577,146
2007	783,156	20,713	803,869
2006	396,294	23,098	419,392
2005	377,295	33,453	410,748
2004	284,974	21,108	306,082
2003	308,677	13,123	321,800
2002	468,777	63,378	532,155
2001	770,095	24,214	794,309

Following the volatile 2008/2009 borrowing conditions that confronted municipalities, fiscal year 2009/2010 settled into a more normal market environment for highly-qualified borrowers. This normality left no further opportunity to take advantage of the refunding of existing debt similar to that which had been undertaken by the Town in the spring of 2009. Consequently, new borrowing was restricted to the "rolling" of a Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) for one-year. Rates for this short period were extremely favorable in keeping with the generally low short-term interest rate environment noted earlier. By May 2010 the market began to look relatively more attractive for longer-term borrowing through the issuance of Bonds which set the stage for activity undertaken at the beginning of the new fiscal year 2010/2011.

The Town of Easton continued to maintain a Standard & Poor's "AAA" credit rating, the firm's highest rating reserved for municipalities it considers to be the most credit-worthy borrowers. Holding this rating allows the Town to be an active participant in new borrowing and refunding of existing debt at points in time of its own choosing even when news reports

disclose turmoil and difficulty encountered by less financially stable municipalities and states. Receipt and retention of this rating is a testament to the Town's long-term commitment to prudent, measured financial management and the contribution of all those who built that record throughout the years.

In addition to its investment and debt management duties, the Treasurer's office is responsible for Easton's accounting and reporting requirements as well as gathering information for, and aiding in, the preparation and monitoring of each year's fiscal budget. During fiscal year 2010 use of the system, which the Controller installed and first fully implemented in 2009, was expanded to aid various departments in preparing financial information in a more timely and efficient manner.

Beyond its expected financial duties, the Treasurer's office is responsible for the Town's full range of Human Resources responsibilities including payroll management, new employee processing and retirement planning.

Grace Stanczyk, the Town Comptroller, remains the Town's steward of good accounting and budget practice and the source of fiscal information for the Town's officials, department heads, employees and its interested citizenry. Carmen Montero continues as payroll and human resources coordinator responsible for overseeing the daily operation of the Town's relatively small, but not uncomplicated, payroll system. The Town was most fortunate to retain the services of Diane Zadrozny, its former processor of the Town's payables, who returned to Easton after two years with the Town of Stratford. Her past experience in the position provided a seamless transition for a highly visible function that provides a "window" to the Town's ability to conduct its daily business activities in an efficient, professional manner.

Respectfully submitted,
John F. Campbell, Treasurer

TOWN ATTORNEY

Since November of 1997, there has been no single Town attorney for Easton. On September 2, 2004, the Board of Selectmen changed the method of selecting attorneys. Attorneys are now selected not by the First Selectman, but by the Board of Selectmen. The Board of Selectmen has now adopted a comprehensive policy dealing with the use of Town attorneys.

Legal representation is required not only when the Town is a party to litigation, such as in an appeal from an agency decision, but also in connection with more routine matters. In some instances, the interests of the Town are protected by lawyers supplied by our insurance company in a matter where there is insurance coverage.

During the 2009-2010 fiscal year, and into the start of the 2010-2011 fiscal year, Easton was required to make significant use of attorneys. Attorneys have primarily represented the Town and its agencies in connection with land use, labor, tax assessment and bonding matters. Some opinions on legal questions have also been needed. One significant use of counsel was in connection with the proposed Saddle Ridge development including an appeal taken when the project was denied by the Conservation Commission. The Town also continues to require representation in connection with the negotiation of the firefighters' labor contract

The attorneys who have worked for the Town on its various matters express their thanks for the cooperation of the various Town officials.

TAX COLLECTOR

As taxation is a state function, the Tax Collector is governed by state law. Municipalities have no powers of taxation other than those specifically granted by the General Assembly and described in the General Statutes. The Tax Collector performs the duties and exercises the powers prescribed by state law under the supervision of the State Office of Policy and Management. The Tax Collector is elected by the townspeople in odd-numbered years for a two-year term.

The Tax Collector performs administrative functions as follows: plans, organizes, directs and participates in the tax billing and collection activities of the Town with regard to real estate, motor vehicle and personal property taxes in accordance with the established collection cycle; organizes and supervises the preparation and processing of all tax bills; receives, reconciles and deposits tax collections in a timely fashion and turns all monies received over to the Treasurer for deposit in the general fund; oversees the preparation of rate books; prepares tax warrants, rate bills and legal notices; updates, balances and reconciles rate books; prepares reports, records and statistical surveys for the Treasurer, Board of Finance, First Selectman, external auditors, Office of Policy and Management, and U.S. Department of the Census on a regular basis; prepares for the annual external audit.

Also: coordinates with the Assessor and Town Clerk the recording of new and changed property tax information; computes and records certificates of change and lawful corrections in accordance with Sec. 12-167(5); computes and issues prorated motor vehicle tax credits for vehicles that were sold, stolen or totally damaged during the tax year in accordance with PA 82-459; coordinates activities with the Board of Tax Review; prepares paperwork for issuing tax refunds in accordance with Sec. 12-129 and maintains all records of same; coordinates escrow payment systems with financial institutions holding mortgages on properties located in town; prepares revenue loss reports for the state regarding totally disabled, elderly freeze and circuit breaker state tax relief programs; administers the Town tax relief for elderly resident homeowners program according to Town ordinance; performs arithmetic computations with accuracy and maintains records in accordance with generally accepted accounting and bookkeeping practices and principles.

Also: prepares and files a suspense tax list in accordance with Sec. 12-165 and 167 and records suspense collections if and when received; prepares a list of delinquent taxes, indicating list year, amount of tax, interest and lien fees due, and last known address; sends delinquent notices and demands twice yearly in accordance with Sec.12-155; implements collection enforcement procedures against delinquent taxpayers and confers with delinquent taxpayers to arrange payment plans; arranges jeopardy tax collections in accordance with Sec. 12-163; files claims with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for taxes and fees due from bankrupt taxpayers; files tax liens against real property on which delinquent taxes are due at the end of the fiscal year and releases liens when taxes are paid in accordance with Sec. 12-172; prepares and submits to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) listings of delinquent motor vehicle taxpayers and promptly submits follow-up reports when taxes are paid; directs DMV to withhold registrations of delinquent motor vehicle taxpayers in accordance with Sec. 14-33 and 33(a); directs DMV to suspend registrations of taxpayers whose checks in payment of motor vehicle taxes are returned to the Town unpaid.

Also: prepares and recommends an operating budget for the office; organizes, maintains and updates filing systems for the retention of required information and public records; provides information to attorneys, banking officials, town officials and the public regarding tax data and office procedures and policy; confers with the Office of Policy and Management, Assessors, Town Clerk, Comptroller, Treasurer, external auditors, Selectmen and Town Attorney on matters relating to the collection of taxes; posts to rate books every payment made, indicating amount paid and date of payment, and maintains backup records of same; attends regular meetings and a yearly seminar on tax collection with the Connecticut Tax Collector's Association as required by state statute, and in conjunction with the association drafts proposed legislation regarding tax collection for submission to the General Assembly; and deals with the public on a daily basis.

Tax bills on the October 1, 2008 grand list were issued at the rate of 21.7 mills, which is equivalent to \$21.70 in taxes per \$1,000 of net assessed property value. Real estate and personal property tax bills exceeding \$100 were payable in two installments, due July 1, 2009 and January 1, 2010. Motor vehicle taxes were due in full July 1, 2009. Supplemental motor vehicle taxes for newly acquired motor vehicles registered subsequent to October 1, 2008 were due in full January 1, 2010 in accordance with PA 77-343.

Taxpayers have one month from the respective due date in which to pay without penalty, after which interest is collected at the rate of 1-1/2% per month from the due date, in accordance with the state law. The Tax Collector has no discretion in the application of conditions or methods of levy or collection of taxes, and does not have the authority to waive the interest due on delinquent tax bills. As a matter of law, the taxpayer becomes liable to the Town for the tax due by virtue of his ownership of the property; the liability is neither created by nor dependent upon the receipt of a tax bill, and the failure to receive a bill does not relieve the taxpayer of the responsibility to pay the statutorily-required interest due on the late payment.

The Tax Collector is in full compliance with State of Connecticut revenue collection reporting obligations, and copies of the following reports are on file in the Town Clerk's Office:

- a. Tax Collector's Report of Collections, Sec.12-167(1-3). A total of \$35,879,625 in taxes, interest and lien fees was collected during fiscal year 2009-2010.
- b. Report of certificates of change and lawful corrections, Sec. 12-167(5) detailing all additions to and deductions from tax rolls according to list year, name, amount and reason. A total of \$34,952 in additions, and \$102,877 in deductions were made to the grand lists of 2002 and 2004 - 2008.
- c. Report of transfers to suspense, Sec. 12-165 and 167, detailing list year, name, amount and reason. A total of \$8,966 was transferred to suspense from the grand list of 2006.
- d. Report of refunds, Sec.12-129, detailing list year, name, amount and reason. A total of 191 refunds were given, totaling \$89,729 on the grand lists of 2006-2008.
- e. Liens: 75 liens for unpaid real estate taxes on the 2008 grand list were filed on June 30, 2010. Copies of these liens and all lien releases are on file in the town land records.

I am grateful to the townspeople for their support and for giving me the opportunity to serve as Tax Collector. I would also like to thank my assistant, Rachel Maciulewski, and Jane Allen, my temporary help, for their professional and loyal support.

Patrice Hildenbrand, CCMC, Tax Collector
Rachel Maciulewski, Assistant Tax Collector

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT ON COLLECTIONS:

Fiscal Year Ending 6/30/2010
(Conn. Gen. Stat. Sec. 12-167(1-3))

<u>List Year</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>1990-2007</u>
Total amount of unpaid taxes on each rate bill at start of fiscal year	\$35,918,188	\$615,372
Lawful corrections	-54,748	-13,119
Suspense	- 0 -	-8,966
Total amount collected on each rate bill during the fiscal year (tax, int., lien)	T: 35,486,853	271,304
	I: 85,579	123,476
	<u>L: 384</u>	<u>1,752</u>
Total amount uncollected on each rate bill at end of fiscal year (excluding interest & liens)	\$376,587	\$321,983

ASSESSOR

It is the responsibility of the Assessor's office primarily to list and assess all taxable and non-taxable properties located in the Town of Easton. The three categories of taxable properties are Real Estate, Motor Vehicles, and Personal Property. Personal Property such as businesses with office equipment including computers, file cabinets, adding machines etc., and construction businesses etc. Also mains, hydrants, tunnels, unregistered motor vehicles, meters, towers, and any equipment that is used for a business purposes.

The basic value of Real Property is determined by a physical inspection of the land and all structures located thereon, these structures and improvements include dwellings, garages, barns, sheds, pools, tennis courts, and gazebos.

Revaluations are conducted every 5 years and the 10th year a physical inspection is required per State Statute. This is most difficult since the normal duties of the assessor's office and the work involved in performing the revaluation must be conducted concurrently. The last revaluation was done for the October 1, 2006 Grand List, and the next revaluation will be for October 1, 2011.

The Assessor works with the Building Official and his office. Once a month the building department provides a list of building permits for the Assessor, she then proceeds to the property in question to measure any new construction a few times during the year. In addition to measuring, she also lists and assesses the property for tax purposes. Total values are equalized by the use of cost schedules and application of appraisal techniques. The valuation process requires skill, specialized training, experience and use of sound judgment. She then inputs all information in the computer by sketching the structure or structures and any additions, porches, pools or sheds that are included in the building permit.

The Assessor and her assistant coordinates with the Tax Collector and Town Clerk on any new changes in property ownership, foreclosure, etc., and records them on the owners field card and puts all the information in the computer. Deeds are proof read and properties are then determined to be a usable or non-usable sale, which must be reported monthly to the State. All files, map book, street books and field cards are constantly updated as to changes of ownership and all are entered into the computer.

During the tax year, the Assessor and her assistant price and pro rate motor vehicle assessments for vehicles sold, stolen or totaled in accordance with section 12-71 and issue lawful certificates of correction when proof of sale, donation or loss of cars & plate receipt is provided to the Assessors office in accordance with section 12-60 of the general statutes.

Services are also offered to all taxpayers who may have questions regarding their assessments. If the need arises, home visits are also made personally by the Assessor when ever

necessary, to assist the physically handicapped taxpayer.

On matters relating to assessments and elderly forms, the Assessors office prepares the forms for taxpayers on the circuit breaker. The Assessors office calculates the forms for the elderly to be sent to the state for approval. When a tax payer sells their home or deeds it to a family member the exemption is then pro-rated. The Town tax relief for the elderly is also the responsibility of our office and can be applied for if their income complies with the Towns requirement. Applications are sent out and appointments made. Later the Assessor inputs all the dollar amount in the computer which is reflected on the bill for seniors that qualify for the Town Tax Relief.

All veterans' exemptions and personal property are reviewed and updated yearly. Reductions are granted to low-income veterans if they comply with the States required income limit. Disabled and the blind can also receive an exemption when they apply in the Assessor's office.

The Assessors office implements all public Act 490 Farm and Forest reductions. The forms are checked yearly for those eligible for a farm exemption to make sure that Taxpayers are complying by the State Statutes.

Survey maps are updated yearly, and transferred onto the Assessors maps. The Assessor reads the A-2 survey maps and computes the acreage of a subdivision, and or survey to adjust the acreage. A property card is then made up with a new address, corrections or additions. She then inputs the information in the computer for tax bills for the following year. Services are provided to Town officials, departments, and/or commissions, surveyors, attorneys, title searchers, real estate appraisers, F.B.I., United States Internal Revenue Services, etc.

Streets and addresses are updated for the Office of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications for the Department of Public Safety Division of Fire, Emergency, and Building Services. New streets and house numbers are checked for correction and addition.

The Assessor must interpret and put into effect any Connecticut public acts and statutes that are passed each year by State legislature. The acts and statutes are in constant flux and each year many of them are either modified, eliminated, and/or superseded by new laws.

The Assessor also works with the Board of Assessment Appeals on any questions they may have on Tax Payers who appeal their assessments. When and if any adjustments are made the Assessor then inputs all the information into the computer to reflect any changes on the field cards.

The Office of Policy and Management determines the responsibility of the Assessor's office through general statutes of the State of Connecticut.

SUMMARY OF 2009 AND 2010 GRAND LIST

Number of Assessment Lists	2009	2010	Difference
Real Estate	3347	3344	-3
Personal Property	433	440	+7
Motor Vehicles	7439	7374	-65
Gross value of taxable property	2009	2010	
Real Estate	1,585,595,630	1,587,572,710	+1,977,080
Personal Property	13,053,333	13,688,451	+635,118
Motor Vehicles	69,054,630	70,775,070	-1,720,440
TOTAL	1,667,703,593	1,672,036,231	+4,332,638

Teresa Rainieri CCMA II
ASSESSOR

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

The Registrars of Voters, one Democrat and one Republican, are elected state officials whose charge is to guarantee and preserve the voting rights of the citizens of their town in a fair and equitable manner. Upon their election, each registrar appoints a deputy who assists the registrars in the performance of their duties.

The registrars are responsible for most all of the duties concerning elections, with only a few exceptions. The Town Clerk is responsible for absentee ballots until they are delivered to the registrars, in addition to the ballot layout, and submission of nominating petitions.

Although the advent of the scanning machine and procedure for its use has made the voting process much more efficient, the new reporting responsibilities have increased the workload of the election staff, especially for the moderator.

Total ballot count for the November 2010 Municipal Election was 3368 ballots, 212 of which were absentee ballots.

Election Day passed without any problems thanks to our election staff who continue to turn out for every election, working long hours to help make our system work.

Many thanks to the administration, staff, and maintenance crew of Samuel Staples School, and to the town public works department for all their cooperation on Election Day. A special thanks also to the police department who kept a watchful eye on traffic control and the safety of our citizens throughout the entire day.

We will comply, once again, with the Connecticut General Statutes Section 923 which requires us to conduct an annual canvass of the town for the purpose of ascertaining the number of eligible voters. This canvass is held between January and May.

Voter registration summary is, Democrat 1154, Republican 1711, Unaffiliated 2270, and 37 Other, for a total of 5172 voters.

This past year saw the retirement of our two well-respected, dedicated Registrars of Voters, Eunice Hanson and Nick Soares. While they will be missed, Krista Kot, Republican Registrar, and Ron Kowalski, Democratic Registrar, have been elected to fill their positions and look forward to serving the Town of Easton.

The Registrars' Office, located in the Town Hall, is now open two days a week. Krista Kot is available Thursdays from 10:00a.m. to 2:00p.m., and Ron Kowalski is available Fridays from 12:30p.m. to 4:30p.m. Special sessions are held throughout the year for the registration of new voters.

Respectfully submitted,
Krista A. Kot, Republican Registrar
Ronald E. Kowalski, Democratic Registrar

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

The Building Department includes the services required for State of Connecticut Building Codes. It includes one (1) person certified by the State of Connecticut as a Building Official.

The Building Department office is located in the Town Hall and is supported by a part-time secretary who maintains the records and accounting of permits and fees. All types of new construction is received and subsequently permitted through the Building Department.

The Building Department is open:
Monday - Friday 8:30 – 12:30 and 1:00 – 4:30. Permits are accepted 8:30 to 12:00, and 2:00 to 4:00 by appointment.

Subsequent permits are also issued for repair and alterations, pools, plumbing, heating and electrical work. The Building Official performs all field inspections relative to the aforementioned work. Enforcement of the State of Connecticut Building Code is paramount to the duties of the official

The Connecticut General Statutes 29-252-1a, adopts as a reference code the 2005 Connecticut Building Code", 2003 ICC International Building Code, 2003 ICC Residential Code, and National Electric Codes and N.F.P.A. update.

The Building Department researches public record and offers information and assistance for the safety and welfare of the public.

The Building Official prepares an annual operating budget for activities under his control and is responsible for the

maintenance of building plans and records. He determines and initiates regulatory or legal action in cases of violation of building code ordinances.

The Building Department offers its expertise and services to the citizens of Easton and welcomes anyone to visit the department with their building problems or questions.

Respectfully submitted,
E. William Martin, Building Official

2009/2010 Building & Zoning Permits	No. of Permits Issued	Estimated Value
New Residences	1	\$357,545.00
Additions, Alterations & Repairs to Existing Buildings	71	\$76,228.00
New Non-Res. Structures (ie. barns, garages, etc.)	50	\$1,180,816.00
Swimming Pools	8	\$238,400.00
Affordable Housing	0	
Caretakers	0	
Tennis Courts	1	\$50,000.00
Wood Stoves	1	\$2,300.00
Demolition	4	\$8,000.00
TOTAL	136	\$1,913,289.00
Electrical	132	\$9,625.00
Plumbing	83	\$6,665.00
Heating & Air Conditioning	77	\$8,760.00
Tanks, ie. oil etc.	62	\$5,150.00
TOTAL	354	\$30,200.00

Cash Receipts for Permits 2009/2010

Building	Zoning	Total
\$86,214.00	\$5,950.00	\$92,164.00

MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY

The Municipal Agent is a person who is available and responds to the senior population of the community. This is a state-mandated position, which had been established in 1972. Each of the 169 towns in Connecticut has a Municipal Agent. The Municipal Agent reports to the Commission on Aging at a monthly meeting. The duties and responsibilities of the Municipal Agent have increased in proportion to the growth of the elderly population. As the first wave of baby boomers begins turning 65 in 2011, it is important that the Municipal Agent educate them to get onboard for Medicare eligibility by signing up prior to their birthday month.

The agent is familiar with programs such as adult day care, elder abuse prevention, meals on wheels, housing, home health care agencies, mental health, legal referrals and all town, state and federal programs; elderly state and town tax relief, Medicare enrollment, Medicare insurances, Social Security benefits, veteran's programs. The agent is informed of situations compelling enough to require interaction with police/DSS/Senior Protective Services/Probate Court. As people grow older, cases of self-neglect and inability to cope may become a problem or develop into a crisis. The Municipal Agent is mandated to report these cases. The *Senior Support Network List* continues to be updated on a per diem basis.

Issues dealing with family adjustment to aging and health problems are also a concern. More children of the elderly are coming in and requesting information and referrals, as their parents are at risk living alone, or perhaps now living with them. Caregiver's stress is tangible and needs to be addressed prior to a crisis.

The Municipal Agent is a separate department located in the senior center. A monthly newsletter is mailed to 1,810 households. This newsletter, combined with the Senior Center program mailing, continues to be the principal means of disseminating information to seniors regarding resources and benefits. The Municipal Agent also sends the monthly newsletters via email to out-of-town relatives who request that information. This helps to keep families' current on benefits available to their loved ones in Easton.

The Municipal Agent has winter office hours from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm; summer office hours from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, Monday through Friday at the Senior Center. Outreach Worker, Pamela Healy, is also available to visit homebound seniors or any senior who has been referred to her as needing a visit. She is an extension to the Municipal Agent and provides valuable information. She possesses a warm personality and good listening skills. Our seniors have known her for over two decades and cherish Pam. She reports directly to the Municipal Agent. Their collective visits/appointments are reported monthly to *SWCAA*, the *South Western CT Agency on Aging*. Only first names and ages are logged to insure privacy. *SWCAA* uses the statistics from the region to report to the State of Connecticut. This information assures validity for programs and services in place, and collects the necessary data to implement new programs as warranted.

Keeping loved ones in their own homes safely is a priority of the Municipal Agent and Outreach Worker, Pam Healy. Pam maintains a list of private home-health aides and caretakers. References are checked before the individual is added to the list. Information about the pros and cons of hiring private pay individuals against those of an agency is also given to individuals requesting this list. A list of private health care agencies in the area is available as well as a list of repair people whose work has been recommended by Easton residents. Easton seniors/families make the decisions of their own choosing.

Seniors with limited income feel particularly vulnerable in this economic climate, as S.S. and pension incomes have not adjusted in proportion to the increase of the cost of living expenses. The Municipal Agent has information, which could be helpful in addressing the problem. The website www.benefitscheckup.org offers valuable information.

Fuel Assistance applications are filed on an appointment basis from October through March. Strict financial guidelines are set forth by state mandate. The Municipal Agent handles those households with residents age sixty and above. In 2010, she assisted with thirteen applications for seniors, which were then mailed to the ABCD, Inc., Energy Assistance Program in Bridgeport, CT. Two of those applications were homes in foreclosure/bankruptcy.

The Municipal Agent encouraged fifteen low-income seniors to apply for the Medicare Savings Program under the State of Connecticut Department of Social Services. This benefit eliminated the cost of Medicare B, paid the Part D drug premium, and reduced the cost of brand and generic drugs.

A 2010 spring program on Your Medicine: What You Should Know; and an autumn program on A Serene and Beautiful Home – Easing Emotional Attachment to Your Possessions; were each attended by over fifty seniors at the ESC. Nine seniors took a trip to *Middlebrook Farms* assisted living in Trumbull; seven seniors toured *Atria Stratford* assisted living; and ten seniors toured Crosby Commons assisted living in Shelton. Transportation was provided by each facility. Those attending the tours were enlightened as to the amenities provided by these facilities, and the possibility of downsizing from large homes as an alternative style to senior living. Cost was extensively discussed and Easton seniors enjoyed the shared camaraderie.

The Mothers' and Daughters' Charity League prepared holiday baskets in December to deliver to homebound seniors, and the *Easton Garden Club* generously bought and delivered poinsettias to seniors who have difficulty getting out.

The Martha Carrie Schurman Fund was founded by the late Albert Schurman in memory of his wife. Through Al's and local donor's generosity, this fund has helped seniors pay extraordinary bills, and provide other necessities. The Municipal Agent, Outreach Worker, first assesses the monetary crisis. Then the matter is discussed, prioritized on a need basis, and then dispersed confidentially.

As our increasing elderly population continues to require a need for additional assistance/services, the Municipal Agent and Outreach Worker, Pam Healy, will continue to be available to serve them, and will keep the Commission on Aging informed in the process.

Kathleen M. Tressler, MAA/SSS
Municipal Agent on Aging/Senior Social Services
Town of Easton

EASTON SENIOR CENTER

This has been a really great, but busy year for the Easton Senior Center. The Building Committee, consisting of John Bromer, Chairman, Foster McKeon, Vice-Chair, Joseph Schettino and Rocky Sullivan were finally able to receive a permanent Certificate of Occupancy on December 6, 2010. Their exhausting years of dedication in which they spent building our very special center, are finally coming to an end.

The new center has not only won rave reviews, but a special state award for the use of an historic building. The project also was completed on time and under budget at an average cost of \$10 per taxpayer!! \$1,725,000 was raised from federal, state and foundation funds with \$75,000 applied from town funds as a mandatory requirement for receiving a special federal grant.

Special thanks are also due to our grant coordinator and our advisor, Dale Kroop. Without his assistance with all the recording data for both the state and federal government, we would all have had to spend endless hours of collating letters, forms and the like. With his assistance the State of Connecticut recently audited the project and we passed with "flying colors."

The Easton Senior Center continues to fund-raise every year in order to provide programs at no cost to the taxpayers. The down turn in the economy has meant a few more hours of effort for all of us in order to reach our goals, but this year has been a very successful one for acquiring funds. Local and regional residents continue to be really supportive of our programs. Businesses and corporations often send donations for a multitude of great causes. Foundations have become our partners in many new endeavors.

We also pride ourselves in having an integral part of our services connected with efforts to ease the burden of both the elderly, physically challenged and the needy. During this year we have continued to collect food items for the Thanksgiving and the Christmas season. Our knitting group has worked hard to complete an incredible amount of gloves, scarves, and hats for our young friends that are less fortunate than others. We deliver neat and clean secondhand clothes regularly to Woodfield Family Services and the Child First Center at Bridgeport Hospital. We spent two weeks before Christmas packing up toys for those in need at the Sisters of Mercy in Hartford. Even during the inclement weather in winter, seniors continued to work on projects for the needy in their own homes.

The Easton Senior Center was also able to distribute groceries for those in need, in town because of the generosity of the Samuel Staples students and their parents. The students organized a turkey trot that included a non-perishable canned item donated by each of the participants. This was a wonderful success and we hope to partner this event later this year around the holiday season. Cross-generational programs are a welcome treat at the center. Each year we invite young folks to join us for a performance that they have planned and then we enjoy pizza and juice while exchanging stories and cuddly toys. These moments have become traditional at certain times of the year.

Any description of life at the Easton Senior Center would not be complete without during attention to the dedication of our wonderful volunteers that spends hours of their time working for the center. Many of them have completed over fifteen years of service to the Easton community, and many of them do not even live in Easton. Much of our successful fund-raising is directly a result of such efforts. I am especially grateful for their work and for the fact that they continue to make my life a great deal easier!

I am also grateful to Kay Oestreicher, my hard-working assistant, Randy Shapiro, Bus Driver, Heriberto Torres, Bus Driver, Jose Alicea, Custodian, and Terry Calgreen, Custodian. We have a great “family” of really dedicated staff that continue to make the Easton Senior Center one of the best!

Special kudos are also directed to the Easton Senior Center Advisory Board and the Easton Senior Citizen’s Center Inc., all listed below. Throughout the year these dedicated boards help with many different activities to the benefit of the center.

The Easton Community as a whole is a wonderful support system and I remain really grateful that all seniors have an exceptional family to support them. May you all be as blessed as we are for your just “being there.”

Easton Senior Center Advisory Board: Chair: Attorney Sharon Cregeen, Secretary, Prabha Gupta, Mary Burlinson, Florence Eastwood, Walter Eastwood, Anne Fiyalka, Theresa Kelso, Joan Kirk, Eric Lawton, Marilyn Santella, Dr. Sal Santella, (recently retired: Dr. Claire Paolini, Brigitte Shkreli, Alice Weissman.

Easton Senior Citizen’s Center Inc. (Fund-raising group.)
Chair: Attorney David McDonald, Treasurer, Walter Eastwood, Vice-Chair, Nancy Graham, Eleanor Clark, Theresa Kelso, Jackie Reck.

police, social services, EMS, educators, local officials. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss services and programs offered by CWF in the areas of domestic violence and sexual abuse. Their hope is to coordinate a focus group from our area to better serve the needs of local residents.

Throughout the year we attended numerous training seminars in bioterrorism, emergency preparedness, food service sanitation, sewage disposal, drinking water safety, and public health education. We also worked closely with the local schools and newspapers in addressing various public health topics.

Respectfully submitted,
Christopher Michos MD, Director of Health
Polly Edwards RS, Health Officer

	2009/2010	
	Permits	Fee
<u>HEALTH PERMITS</u>	<u>Totals</u>	<u>Totals</u>
SEPTIC (NEW)	15	\$2800.00
SEPTIC (REPAIR)	9	\$1125.00
SEPTIC (REVIEW)	64	\$3650.00
WELLS	6	\$600.00
SOIL TEST	140	\$20150.00
FOOD SERVICE	9	\$950.00
TEMP. FOOD SERVICE	<u>22</u>	<u>\$1040.00</u>
TOTAL	185	\$30,315.00

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The Health Department’s Office is located in the Town Hall and is supported by a Director of Health, a Health Officer, a part-time field worker, along with a secretarial staff who maintains the records and accounting of permits and fees.

Our department covers a multitude of responsibilities. We issue septic and well permits, food service permits, inspect day care centers and schools, and respond to all complaints of a public nature. We routinely monitor communicable infections, working closely with the Epidemiology Section of the State Health Department. We have free literature covering a wide array of public health topics that we keep available to local residents.

In the fall of 2009 we were contacted by Debbie Greenwood from the Center for Women and Families of Eastern Fairfield County (CWF). Our health department worked closely with CWF in organizing and sponsoring an informational presentation on April 21, 2010 to local departments, including

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

EASTON PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The Easton Public Works Department continued in its efforts to maintain and improve the 94.23 miles of roads and in caring for other Department responsibilities.

The department's duties include: snow and ice removal during the winter season; street sweeping; pot hole repairs; roadside mowing; guide rail repairs; installation and repair of street and traffic signs; tree and brush removal; installation and repair of curbing; and maintaining Town bridges, road paving, drainage installation, and catch basin cleaning.

Though the department is a much varied and capable unit dealing with many facets of road construction and repair, the department is most always in people's minds when snow and icy roads occur. Easton had a total of 51" inches of snowfall, which required the Department to plow on 13 different occasions. Sanding of the Town roads occurred 23 times consuming 3,805 tons of sand and salt mixture in the process.

The Public Works Department's spring and summer months are used to prepare roads that will be involved in the Town's chip sealing program for that year. Included in the preparation of the roads are brush cutting, grading back the road edges, removal of boulders from under the existing pavement, patching of these holes, installation of any needed drainage or repairs to existing drainage, sweeping of the road and the application of a leveling course of asphalt to maintain proper drainage, which leads to the application of liquid asphalt and then covered with a layer of 3/8" Trap Rock. The program comes to its completion about a month later when the excess stone is swept up. During the past year, 12.48 miles of road were involved in this program, with the use of 56,573 gallons of road oil and 3,328 tons of bituminous concrete.

This past year the Department's drainage program entailed:

1	Manhole was repaired
3	New catch basins were installed
33	Catch basins were repaired or rebuilt
874	Feet of storm pipe drainage was installed

The Department takes care of all street and traffic control signs on the Town's roads. This past year saw 29 new signs and posts installed and 23 signs repaired or replaced.

The Town's crew continued scheduled work with the bucket truck and was able to once again maintain the Town's parking lot lights and also able to render needed attention to dead trees and hazardous limbs hanging over the Town roadways. The tree work was done in unison with the Town Tree Warden.

Applications for 21 driveway permits and 7 road-opening permits brought in \$700 in fees.

The department joined the Easton Garden Club for its 30th annual Green and Clean Day, which are held to encourage residents to join in and clean up all roadside debris in Town. The Department set up a drop-off area and disposed of the collected debris.

The department continued the maintenance responsibility of the former Samuel Staples School, now known as 660 Morehouse Rd. along with working outside of the Public Works Department which accounted for over 2,111 hours of work throughout the Town in unison with the Park and Recreation Department, Board of Education, Town Hall, Library, Easton Police Department, Animal Control, Easton Fire Department, EMS and the Conservation Commission.

The Wells Hill Road Bridge reopened on December 5, 2009, after having been closed for replacement since the April 2006 storm.

Edward Nagy, P.E. - Director of Public Works/Town Engineer

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

BOARD OF FINANCE

The Board of Finance, operating within the general statutes of the State, is responsible for all Town government finances. The Board is composed of six members elected for six year terms. At each biennial Town election two of these members are elected. In addition, there are three alternate members appointed by the Board of Selectmen. These alternates may serve at Board meetings in the absence of an elected member. The Board meets monthly, with special meetings called for annual budget reviews and as required for other purposes.

In the performance of its duties, the Board exercises all administrative functions necessary in preparing the annual budget for the Town. This process includes discussing with Town officials and department heads their proposed operating and capital expenditures, after which these requests are presented at a public budget hearing for questions and comments. The Board then prepares a final budget which is presented to the Town at the Annual Budget Meeting held on the last Monday in April in conjunction with the Annual Town Meeting. Once the Town approves a budget, the Board sets the tax rate for the ensuing year.

The Board is responsible for selecting an auditor of Town funds and publishing an Annual Town Report. During the year, the Board's concerns are focused on maintaining Town operations and departmental expenditures within approved budget limits. The Board acts to approve transfers between budget line items and special appropriations when necessary.

The 2009-2010 Town Budget in the amount of \$39,834,044(gross) that included appropriations of \$15,847,359 (includes Debt Service) in the Selectman's accounts, \$14,282,534 for the Easton Board of Education, and \$9,619,427 for the Region 9 Board of Education. On the basis of a Grand List of \$1,662,883,678 the Board set a tax rate of 21.6 mills for the fiscal year July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010.

Respectively Submitted by
Mark A. Pompa, Chairman-Board of Finance

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

The Board of Assessment Appeals met for public sessions in fiscal year 2010-2011 during the month of March. The Board of Assessment Appeals also met in September of 2010 for Motor Vehicles.

The March sessions were for taxpayers with a grievance on either Personal or Real Estate property assessments. Tax payers by State Statute must file a form prescribed by law for Real Estate and Personal Property no later than February 20th of any given year to appeal their assessment. The September sessions were for Motor Vehicles only.

All of these sessions were held under the direction of the State Statutes, by which the Board of Assessment Appeals also receives its authority.

Don Calvert, Chairman	Board Members
	Hugh Barry
	Judy Weinstein

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

During the fiscal year the Commission's work has focused on both the future and the past of Easton.

In July 2009 the Town's new historical and archaeological survey of the town, sponsored by the Planning and Zoning Commission and partially funded by the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation, was distributed to Town officials. This study, by Aspetuck Landways consultants, supplements a key recommendation of the Town Plan for conservation of the town's cultural heritage and presents a fascinating picture of Easton's pre-history and its land use development since the beginning of the seventeenth century. The final report, which contains 185 pages of text, tables and historic maps, is accompanied by GIS large-scale maps and many bound appendices which replicate historic records from Easton and adjacent towns and is available for public inspection at the Town Clerk's office, at the Easton Public Library, and at the

office of the Planning and Zoning Commission. This study will greatly assist future efforts to protect town landmarks.

Planning for the future of the Town's 127-acre tract of land along Morehouse and Banks Roads, continued during the fiscal year 2009-2010. Since completion of the new Samuel Staples School on approximately 18 acres at the northerly extremity of the tract, the Commission has compiled detailed mapping of the entire tract, has located and approved sites for an animal control shelter and several recreational ballfields, and has plotted proposed locations for a long hiking trail, a passive recreational meadow, farmland conservation, future ballfields, other public facilities and open space.

Study has continued on the Commission's proposal to discontinue approximately a dozen old Town highways which have fallen into disuse and are no longer maintained by the Town, but which may serve a valuable recreational purpose as hiking trails. Other studies are underway to prepare detailed neighborhood plans for two of the "Town Center" areas identified in the Town Plan: the Town Hall, Public Library, Old Staples School complex, and the vicinity of the Sport Hill Road – Center Road intersection.

During early 2010 the Commission drafted new and Comprehensive Flood Plain Management regulations in order to assure Easton residents continued eligibility to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program under new federal and state mapping and standards. After a public hearing in April, the amendments to the Zoning and Subdivision Regulations and new flood plain mapping took effect on May 30, 2010.

No applications for new permitted uses were approved during the fiscal year. However several amendments to previously approved special permits were granted, the most significant of which allowed for construction of a "9/11 Memorial", preserving the memory of victims of the attack of September 11, 2001, to be located on the Town green in front of the Public Library. In October 2009 the Commission approved an amendment to a February 1991 special permit to allow for dredging of Button Mill Pond. In December 2009 the Commission approved an amendment to Special Permit Application SP-04-05 for Saint Dimitrie Romanian Orthodox Church; the approved site plan included all changes made since the permit was originally approved in September 2004.

In May of 2010 the Commission received a special permit application from the New England Prayer Center, Inc. to construct a prayer center building at the Town-owned 22 South Park Avenue property. Public hearings were held and a special permit was approved, with conditions, in August 2010.

In November 2009 the Commission held public hearings on two cell tower sites at Snow's Farm as proposed by Message Center Management, Inc. In December 2009 the Commission discussed an alternate location for the proposed cell tower at the Town-owned property at Veteran's Park as proposed by the Board of Selectmen. The Commission rendered a favorable

report on the proposed Veteran's Park site, for a location 200 feet eastward, to avoid substantial impact on neighboring properties.

During 2009 and the beginning of 2010 the Commission considered and approved several minor amendments to the approved site plan for the new Town Animal Control Shelter for more functional layout of the facilities.

With one major exception, new development activity generally reflected the national economic recession. One subdivision application was submitted the end of 2009 for a 3 lot subdivision on Silver Hill Road resulting in creation of one new dwelling site. At the end of the fiscal year however, in early July 2010, an affordable housing development for 105 townhouses was proposed for the 124-acre Stone property located between Sport Hill, Silver Hill, Cedar Hill and Westport Roads. The submitted applications sought major amendments to Town Zoning Regulations as well as rezoning of the applicants' property. Public hearings were expected to continue well into the following fiscal year.

New construction activity declined from the previous fiscal year in which 94 permits were issued and three new dwellings were authorized. During 2009-2010 only 82 permits were issued and only three new dwellings were authorized. However, two of the three new dwellings replace an existing dwelling on the same site, so there was only one net gain in total dwellings in Easton. No applications were received for affordable accessory apartments. A total of 81 zoning permits were issued, and two zoning violation enforcement actions were necessary.

A number of municipal referrals from the Board of Selectmen were reviewed during the year, and a report was rendered on each. In September the Commission approved a proposal for Town acquisition of three historic cemeteries, the Center Street, Gilbertown and Lyon Cemeteries. The Commission also endorsed the preservation of the Den Cemetery in northwest Easton, now part of the Centennial Watershed State Forest. In March 2010 the Commission approved applications for permanent signs for the Center Street, Gilbertown and Lyon Cemeteries.

In October 2009 the Commission reported favorably on a referral for the proposed lease of a portion of the former Staples School for the Discovery Magnet School, as an appropriate extension of existing educational use. The same month the Commission received a referral proposing additional parking spaces at "Old" Staples School. The Commission analyzed the potential for additional parking spaces on that site and determined that an additional 35 parking spaces could be achieved with minor construction and re-striping of standard size spaces. The Commission found that removal of storage containers at the northeast corner of the former school building could add 16 new spaces with minimal regrading and concluded that an additional 22 spaces are possible east of the north wing of the building as well. The

Commission's parking analysis plan was forwarded to the Board of Selectmen.

In January of 2010 the Commission reviewed a referral relative to farming uses on Town Property at Morehouse and Banks Roads:

- (1) To permit the leasing of two sections of the property to organic farmers for the purpose of producing a food crop as well as to provide educational opportunities for students; and
- (2) To authorize the placement of an eight-foot-high deer control net fence within the greenbelt easement along Banks and Morehouse Roads.

The Commission found the proposed organic farming use of the property is a permitted use under the Town Zoning Regulations and is consistent with the Town which recommends the preservation of farmland. The eight-foot-high deer control net fence within the greenbelt easement would not adversely affect the neighborhood.

In March 2010 the Commission responded favorably on a referral for the lease of three classrooms in the northeast wing of the former Staples School for "The Speech Academy", as an appropriate extension of existing educational use.

In April 2010 the Commission issued a favorable report for relocation of the Town Park and Recreation offices to the lower level of "Old Samuel Staples" School and in June the Commission approved a referral proposal for an equal area land exchange with the owner of 35 Flat Rock Road.

Regular meetings of the Commission are scheduled for the second and fourth Mondays of each month, at 6:30PM, with public hearings commencing at 7:00PM, usually at the Town Hall conference room, unless otherwise noted. The Commission has provided for four of the scheduled meetings during the fiscal year 2009-2010 be reserved for the discussion of planning issues. Informal courtesy discussions on zoning, planning and subdivision issues are scheduled with the Commission by advance written request. Inquiries on development questions may be directed to the Commission staff any weekday during regular hours at the Town Hall.

The Planning and Zoning Commission is composed of five regular members appointed to offset five-year terms by the Board of Selectmen. Three alternate members, typically appointed to shorter terms, attend all meetings and complement the Commission membership whenever vacancies or absences occur.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Maquat, Chairman

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Easton consists of five regular members and three alternate members who meet on the first Monday of every month at 5:30 p.m. in the Easton Town Hall, unless otherwise noted. Regular members are elected for a term of six years. Both regular members and alternate members are empowered by the Connecticut General Statutes under Section 8-5. In accordance with a town ordinance effective March 6, 1974, alternates are appointed by the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Easton for a term of six years.

During the fiscal year 2009-2010 the Zoning Board of Appeals met in session on seven occasions and heard seven appeals. Variances were granted to five applicants, and two were denied.

John Harris, Chairman

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Easton's Conservation Commission acts as the town's Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency as well as the Conservation Commission.

As the Inlands Wetlands Agency, it enforces the provisions of the State of Connecticut's Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Act. In this capacity, it reviews applications for regulated activities, conducts site visits, and if appropriate, holds public hearings prior to approving or denying a permit request. During the fiscal year from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010, seventeen applications were received, and seventeen were approved. Four public hearings were held. The Wetland Enforcement Officer approved one application and issued two violations. There were two extensions granted, and two violations were removed.

The Commission continually works on revising the Inland Wetland Regulations for the department, as well as the department fee schedule.

All new homeowners who purchase property which has a Conservation easement attached to the parcel of land are notified in writing and given the volume and page numbers of the filed easement on the land records.

The Conservation Commission is also responsible for maintaining town-owned "Open Space" and for planning for future open space acquisitions. To that effect, it works closely with developers and conservation groups and recommends to the Planning and Zoning Commission specific areas to be acquired by the Town or otherwise protected which are in line with the town's Open Space Plan adopted in March of 1994.

Currently, the Town owns nearly three hundred acres of town-managed open space in various parts of Easton, with the single largest piece being the Paine Open Space property on Maple Road. The Commission, through its Trail and Utilization Committee and its Open Space Management Committee, has maintained the existing trails and added more trails for the enjoyment of the people who walk the Paine Open Space. With the help of the Public Works Department, the Commission is able to maintain two farm fields on the property to encourage different species of wildlife.

In 2010, in the interest of preserving history, the Conservation Commission was able to donate, at no cost to the town, the Paine property barn, an English carriage barn dating back to the year 1800. The barn was dismantled, and its new owner hopes to restore it to its former condition. The Commission would like to create a sign telling about the barn, its new location, and the fieldstone foundation that remains.

In the interest of saving money, the Conservation Commission always looks first to its members and town employees before enlisting outside help. In this vein, the Commission would especially like to thank the Public Works Department, along with volunteers Jim Wright and Peter Smith, for all of the work they have done to help improve and maintain the Paine property this past year. The property's previous owner had dug out a sizable area in the southern field. Wanting to return the field to its original state, Conservation enlisted the help of the Public Works Department, which moved much of the sediment pile, created by last year's dredging of Boulder Pond, to the field to begin leveling out the landscape. Public Works also installed curtain drains and 18-inch pipes, as well as created and seeded swales along the main road of the property, allowing for better drainage. By utilizing town employees, as well as volunteers, Conservation saved about \$10,000. In 2011, we hope to work with the Town to maintain cutting of the field, in part, to help prevent brush fires during the summer months.

This year also saw the rerouting of White Oak Trail, as the location and footing needed to be addressed. Conservation is also discussing with the CT Audubon Society the placement of several bat houses throughout the open space areas along the Paine property.

Two thousand eleven promises to be a busy year. A few projects Conservation hopes to work on this year are as follows: The Commission would like to complete removal of stored material from the dredging of Boulder Pond and spread it in the southern field of the Paine property to finish the grading process. In addition, we are planning to seed the soil, in order to help stabilize the area for storage of spoils. We will also continue discussion with the Audubon Society regarding bat boxes, as well as bird boxes. Last, and very important, Conservation is planning to work with the Fire Department regarding placement of a dry hydrant at Boulder Pond, to be used in the event of a brush fire.

The Conservation Office maintains a list of open space parcels, in addition to a list of all recorded Conservation easements. The Commission supplies Conservation easement signs to be installed by applicants along any Conservation easement that they have on their property. A large open space map has been developed by the Commission and put on display in the Easton Library. This map locates all the town-owned open space parcels.

The Commission is a member of the Endangered Lands Coalition, which works to protect the watershed lands that surround and purify the reservoirs, rivers, and streams.

The Conservation Office is open daily from 8:30a.m. to 12:30p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Roy Gosse, Chairman

Officers for the Easton Conservation Commission
Roy Gosse, Chairman
Stephen J. Edwards, Vice-Chairman
Eleanor Sylvestro, Secretary

COMMISSION FOR THE AGING

The Commission for the Aging was established pursuant to Section 7-127a of the General statutes and a Town Ordinance to develop and coordinate programs for the aging in the Town. The Commission consists of five (5) electors of the town of Easton, appointed for 3-year terms, at least three (3) of whom shall be representative the the age group concerned, and three (3) alternates in accordance with the by-laws. The Municipal Agent, Katie Tressler, who is appointed by the First Selectman, serves as an ex-officio member of the Commission in accordance with State Statutes. Mrs. Tressler was recently hired as Municipal Agent, interacts with many seniors and works very closely with the Commission.

The Commission shall:

- a. Study the conditions and needs of elderly persons in Easton in relation to housing, economic, employment, health, recreational and other matters.
- b. Analyze the services for the aged provided by the community, both by public and private agencies.
- c. Develop and coordinate programs.
- d. Make recommendations to the Board of Selectmen regarding the development and integration of public and private agencies in co-operation with State and other services to the extent possible.

The Town may make appropriations for the expenses of the Commission and may, with approval of the board of Selectmen, participate in State, Federal and private programs and grants concerning the elderly. The Commission is authorized and empowered to accept gifts or contribution for

any of its purposes and shall administer the same for such purposes in accordance with the term of the gift as a separate fund subject to appropriations approved by the Board of Finance.

Commission meetings are held at 5:00pm at the Senior Center on the first Monday of each month with the exception of September when the meeting takes place on the Tuesday after the Labor Day holiday. There are no meetings in July, August and January. The meetings are open to the public.

The Commission continues to sponsor seminars for Easton seniors. The feedback from the attendees indicate the seminars are worthwhile and should continue.

Commission members are Cecelia Campbell, Nancy Gavigan, Gail Gay, Carol Hume, Janet Klein, Phyllis Machledt, and Joel Peskay.

EASTON PARKS AND RECREATION

The Parks and Recreation Commission plans, manages, and conducts municipal activities under its own sponsorship. Additionally, the Department promotes, assists and helps coordinate privately sponsored and managed recreation programs for the benefit of all Easton citizens. The mission is also directed toward the planning, acquisition, development, and maintenance of parks and other recreational areas and facilities for the enjoyment of recreational opportunities and the creation of a better living environment.

Easton Parks and Recreation has continued its field development and maintenance programs throughout the Town of Easton. The parks department manages over 50 acres of playing fields and school property including; 5 little league fields, 3 softball fields, several cemeteries, Toth park, 7 playgrounds, 4 tennis courts, 7 soccer / multi-purpose fields and one football field. Recently the department partnered with Easton little league to construct a new regulation baseball field, this joint venture was made possible by the hard work of many Easton volunteers. The department is extremely proud of all the work that has been accomplished at the Morehouse road facility; in addition to the 4 acres of playing fields, the department has installed a state of the art irrigation system, along with the installation of water and electricity for future needs.

Easton Parks and Recreation has remained vigilant in its mission to offer free and cost effective programs to Easton residents. Programmatically, continued growth has been measured in our well subscribed offerings such as martial arts, multi sport programs and our Sunshine Day Camp. Overall, we saw over 2,500 participants in our free and cost-effective programming.

The Extended Day Program at Samuel Staples Elementary School continues to grow in enrollment. While providing a service to working parents the program continues to be enjoyed by elementary school children. It is with extreme pride that the department offers first class day care for the students of Samuel Staples School

The Parks and Recreation Department will strive to continue to offer quality programs and cost-effective municipal recreational opportunities to all of the residents of Easton.

Members of the Parks and Recreation Commission are: Kathi Smith – Chairman, Tom Cable, Kirsten Ceva, Steve Lichtman, Mark D’Augelli, and John Broadbin.

INSURANCE COMMISSION

TOWN OF EASTON INSURANCE SCHEDULE

7/01/09 -7/01/10

Commercial Property Coverage

Blanket Building & Contents	
Agreed Amount and Replacement	\$81,727,188
Contractor’s Equipment	695,065
Fine Arts - Exhibition Floater	200,000
Deductible	1,000

<u>Commercial General Liability</u>	Each occurrence	\$ 1,000,000
Personal Injury/Advertising Injury	Each occurrence	\$ 1,000,000
Medical Expense	Each person	\$ 10,000

<u>Boiler & Machinery</u>	\$100,000,000
Deductible	\$ 2,500

Commercial Automobile

Liability	\$ 1,000,000
Medical Payment	5,000
Uninsured/Underinsured Motorist	1,000,000
Comprehensive	ACV w/\$ 500 deductible
Collision	ACV w/\$1,000 deductible

<u>Public Officials Library</u>	Each claim	\$ 1,000,000
Deductible	Each claim	10,000

<u>Law Enforcement Liability</u>	Each claim	\$1,000,000
Deductible	Each claim	10,000

<u>School Leader’s Legal Liability</u>	Each claim	\$ 1,000,000
Deductible	Each claim	10,000

<u>Following-Form Excess Liability</u>	\$10,000,000
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<u>Pollution Liability</u> (Underground Oil Tanks)	per release	\$ 1,000,000
Deductible	per release	10,000

Workers’ Compensation & Employer Liability

Exp. Mod. 1.13	Statutory
Employer’s Liability	
Each Accident	\$1,000,000
Disease - Policy Limit	\$1,000,000
Disease - Each Employee	\$1,000,000
<u>Blanket Public Employee Dishonesty Bond</u>	\$ 500,000
Excess Position Limit for:	\$ 100,000
Treasurer	
Comptroller	
Accounts Payable/Receptionist	
Human Resources/Comp. Coordinator	
Retirement Plan Bond	\$ 160,000
Surety Bonds	
Tax Collector	\$ 187,500
Assistant Tax Collector	\$ 187,500

PENSION AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS COMMISSION

The commission is comprised of seven appointed electors who serve four-year overlapping terms. The First Selectman is an Ex Officio member. Currently serving are First Selectman Thomas A. Herrmann., Chairman Alan P. Goldbecker, Vice-chairman A. Reynolds Gordon, Secretary Michael Keden, John Harrington, John Smith, Marvin Gelfand and Sandra Neubert.

The Commission holds six regular meetings annually, and special meetings as needed. It serves as Trustee and Administrator of the Town's pension plan, and approves benefit payments, reviews actuarial valuations and assumptions, and selects and monitors investments of pension plan assets. The commission also oversees the group health, life, disability and other welfare benefits provided for Town employees, and when called upon, assists and advises the Town regarding the negotiation of collective bargaining agreements.

The assets of the pension plan continue to be invested in domestic and international stocks and fixed income securities. The overall investment performance of the pension fund assets declined dramatically during the recent financial market drop but less than the market indices. The Town's pension obligations at July 1, 2010 were 76.5% funded. Subsequent stock market conditions have positively impacted the plan's assets.

In recent years the state unilaterally and dramatically enhanced pension benefits for state sponsored pension plans. The same benefits were requested by town employees. Resolution was reached by adopting much of the greatly enhanced benefits with increased contributions from the Town and Town employees. Current and future costs of the enhanced benefits should increase at a moderate rate. Costs of the Town's group health insurance program have escalated rapidly but in line with general experience.

Financial details regarding employee benefit plans are included in the Auditor's Report section of this annual Report.

Respectfully submitted,
Alan P. Goldbecker, Chairman

LAND PRESERVATION & ACQUISITION AUTHORITY

The Land Preservation and Acquisition Authority was established by the Town of Easton, pursuant to Section 7-131p of the Connecticut General Statutes.

The Chair of the Authority, AnJenette Afridi, and one member, Robert Ehlers resigned at the end of 2010. Both individuals were relocating out of state.

The Authority currently has two regular members and two alternates. The members are:

Carolyn Colangelo, Secretary
Victor Alfandre
Jeff Borofsky - Alternate
Irv Snow - Alternate

The Authority shall on behalf of the Town evaluate land for possible acquisition or development rights to such land. The Authority shall make recommendations to the Board of Selectmen as appropriate. Land will be evaluated for acquisition based upon its potential use for open space, recreation, or housing.

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 7-131r, the Town established a Fund to be used for the purpose of acquiring and maintaining land and development rights within the Town of Easton. The Fund does not lapse at the close of the municipal fiscal year and is held in a separate, interest bearing account with all interest and income derived from the assets of the fund paid into the fund and added to the assets of the fund.

The Town, individuals, and public and private entities may all make contributions to this Fund. Any person seeking more detailed information or who is interested in donating land or money to the Fund is encouraged to contact the Authority. The Authority will provide additional information pertaining to conservation easements, deed restrictions, charitable contributions, and testamentary donations upon request.

Respectfully submitted,
Land Preservation & Acquisition Authority
By Carolyn Colangelo, Secretary

COMMITTEES

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

In July of 2009 the Governor signed House Bill #6678(PA#09-232), which allowed municipalities to take ownership of cemeteries of unknown ownership. Mr. Derek Buckley, former Chairman of the Easton Cemetery Committee, spearheaded the research and writing of this Bill, Public Act 09-232 officially took effect on October 1, 2009.

In the Fall of 2009, as a result of Mr. Buckley's efforts the Town of Easton legally took ownership of three historic cemeteries; Center Street, Gilberttown and Lyon. This was an important milestone for the Town and Cemetery Committee, who could now fulfill its charge to provide maintenance and restoration of the newly town-owned cemeteries. In the winter of 2010, a manager was assigned for each newly acquired cemetery and separate management plans were written for all three.

In April, 2010, the Committee held it's first volunteer workday at Gilberttown and Center Street cemeteries under the new jurisdiction of the Town. Forty volunteers from the town and surrounding communities were in attendance. A brief workshop was given about the care and restoration of antique tombstones by restoration specialist, Ruth Shapleigh-Brown, President of the Connecticut Gravestone Network. The tasks accomplished were; brush and leaf removal, removal of the old sign posts and installation of new sign posts, resetting and/or repair of 20 headstones, brush and vine removal from the stonewalls, the brushing and washing of 18 headstones as well as the creation of a photographic inventory of each of the repaired headstones.

The Committee also held a volunteer workday in May and June at Gilberttown cemetery. We focused on the repair and resetting of headstones, and as a result an additional 17 headstones were repaired.

The Committee's current restoration and maintenance goals are focused in the following areas:

1. Reset headstones that are leaning or laying on the ground.
2. Install in new fabricated bases, all headstones that have broken below ground level and are too short to be reset,
3. Repair with epoxy, all headstones that have broken above ground level,
4. Reset the base, compound and epoxy the remaining parts, for all three tier headstones that have come apart,
5. Enter information (photos, inscriptions, name of interred) on all existing headstones into the cemetery inventory computer software,
6. Determine headstones that are missing.

Other Committee accomplishments not aforementioned:

1. The coordination of the grinding of 13 stumps and the removal of grindings in Center Street.
2. The design and fabrication of three cemetery signs.
3. The fabrication of three red cedar sign posts.
4. The spreading of 12 yards of top soil over the ground stump depressions.
5. Creation of a photographic inventory of all stones in Gilberttown prior to repair and restoration work.

The Committee would like to express their heartfelt appreciation to all the volunteers that sacrificed their Saturdays to attend our very productive cemetery workdays.

Committee Members

Full Members Beginning

W. Derek Buckley (Chair)
Phil Doremus (Vice Chair)
Gary Haines
Robert Bloom

Full Members Ending

Gary Haines (Chair)
Lisa Burghardt (Vice Chair)
Phil Doremus
Robert Bloom
Jonathan Fanton

Alternate Members

David Silverglade
Jonathan Fanton

Alternate Members

None

Adjunct Members

Kevin Andrew King
Mary Lou Weinstein

Adjunct Members

Kevin Andrew King
Mark Lyon

Joan Kirk (Secretary)

Joan Kirk (Secretary)

Respectfully submitted,
Gary W. Haines, Chairman
Lisa Burghardt, Vice Chairman

HUMAN RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Human Resources Advisory Committee is charged with advising the First Selectman and the Town's boards, commissions, and other agencies regarding human resources practices and related matters including classification of Town positions.

During the 2010 year, the Committee reviewed and proposed adjustments, as appropriate, to selected job grade classifications and compensation rates.

The membership of the committee during 2009-2010 was Thomas A. Herrmann, Chairman, Elise Broach, William J. Kupinse, Jr., Carmen Montero, and Grace Stanczyk .

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas A. Herrmann, Chairman

EASTON RECYCLING COMMITTEE

The Easton Recycling Committee members are: Thomas Collins, Anthony J. Colonnese, Thomas Dollard, Clinton Salko, Philip Snow, and Ed Nagy, (ex-officio), of the Public Works Department. The purpose of the Committee is to operate a recycling program for Easton within the guidelines of the Southwestern Regional Recycling Operating Committee (SWEROC) and the State Mandate. The Town of Easton voted at a Town Meeting held on September 20, 1989 to join SWEROC, and to start a recycling program in the Town of Easton. SWEROC has contracted with Fairfield County Recycling (FCR) to operate an Intermediate Processing Center (IPC) in Stratford, which accepts recyclable materials. Curbside recycling pickup started January 7, 1991. Recycling tonnage collected by the Town this Fiscal Year was 826.29 tons.

The recycling of junk mail, magazines, catalogs and corrugated cardboard once again has been very successful.

The Towns of Trumbull, Easton and Monroe have put our resources together to form TEaM, which is our combined effort to operate a recycling drop-off center for scrap metal, commingled beverage containers, mixed paper, corrugated cardboard, newspaper, and used tires. It is TEaM's goal to expand this center's capabilities to accept additional recyclable products. Easton's share of recycled materials dropped off was 151.76 tons.

The volume of waste motor oil that was brought to the Public Works facility by Town residents for recycling was 1,925 gallons. This oil was sent to a recycler.

Edward Nagy, P.E. - Director of Public Works

SOLID WASTE REPORT

July 5, 1988, began the commercial operation of the Bridgeport Resource Recovery plant. As of that date, Easton no longer deposited solid waste directly at the Connecticut Resource Recovery Authority (CRRRA) Landfill located in Shelton, Connecticut. The ash produced by the plant is deposited at a Putnam, Connecticut ash landfill. The Resource Recovery plant is designed to burn 657,000 tons of solid waste from the greater Bridgeport region of which the Town of Easton contributed 2,956 tons of solid waste during the 2009-2010 fiscal year. The disposal fee for this solid waste was \$99.00 per ton.

PUBLIC SAFETY

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

The Board of Police Commissioners was created through a Special Act of the State Legislature, which was approved on June 22, 1937. The number of Police Commissioners was changed from three (3) to five (5) members at a Town Meeting held on October 21, 1992. The five (5) unpaid members are appointed for three (3) year terms. Meetings are held monthly or special meetings are scheduled at the request of the Chairman or a majority of the members.

The members are:

Robert Nicola, Commission Chairman
Raymond Martin, Vice-Chairman
Marvin Gelfand, Secretary
Richard Colangelo, Commissioner
Ronald Kowalski, Commissioner

The Board is charged with the organization, general management and control of the Police Department. It is also responsible for appointing a Chief of Police and police officers. It has control and management of all apparatus, equipment, and buildings owned and used by the Town for police purposes and, subject to the approval of the Board of Selectmen. The Police Commission is responsible for the purchases of all equipment for the department.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Nicola, Chairman

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Police Department is charged with the enforcement of laws and preservation of peace within the Town of Easton.

The Easton Police Department exemplifies what this town represents - tradition, honor, commitment, strength and innovation. We dedicate ourselves to work in partnership with the community to provide public safety and to improve the quality of life in every neighborhood within the Town of Easton.

The Police Explorer Program, organized in 2001, is designed to educate and involve young men and women in police operations. In addition to gaining working knowledge of police work, the participants have the opportunity to serve their community, by assisting officers at various community events.

The Easton Police D.A.R.E. Program continues to grow in our elementary and middle schools under the direction of Officer Mark Pastor. Approximately 350 students are presently involved in Drug Abuse Resistance Education, (D.A.R.E.).

The program started in 1990 when only 65 students were registered. Officer Pastor is recognized as one of the leading D.A.R.E. Officers in the State of Connecticut.

The School Resource Officer Program was initiated through a Department of Justice Grant in July of 2005 under the *Community Oriented Policing Service (COPS)* which provides for an enhanced collaborative partnership between the Easton Police Department and the Easton School Community. Officer Mark Pastor was appointed to this position and continues to perform the duties of D.A.R.E. along with the additional duties of School Resource Officer. Those duties include the coordination of school security programs, school bus safety, investigations of all youth and juvenile matters, and developing positive youth and police relations. This officer is assigned to these duties on a daily basis.

The Easton Police Department has again been awarded several federal and state grants over the past years. These grants included a Highway Safety Grant for DUI enforcement, Secure Our School Grant which provided thirty four (34) cameras to monitor the exterior of the Easton Schools, the Bulletproof Vest grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance Program and Homeland Security funding. Through this funding, the department has advanced in technology and has provided our officers with modern and safe equipment to protect this community.

After a 2007 evaluation of the emergency service radio system in Easton, it was determined that there were areas in town where radio reception was inadequate and there was need for significant improvements. A grant was awarded to the Easton Police Department by the Department of Homeland Security in the amount of \$90,000 to upgrade and enhance radio communications for this jurisdiction.

The new system utilizes a Voting Repeater System and Comparator along with our current repeater system to receive radio signals from remote locations within the town. This has enhanced communications for all public safety departments within the town and has provided for increased safety for police and public safety officers who serve this community. Funds from the Emergency Management Grant also provided a new and advanced radio system for the safety of our students, teachers and staff at our schools. This system, one of the first of it's kind in the state, allows our schools to communicate with the Easton Police Department directly over the police radio system. Special radios were installed in the schools which provide the new link to the police radio communications system. In an emergency, this type of communications provides immediate contact with police and emergency service departments.

The department continues as a "First Responder" agency, certified by the State of Connecticut and the Office of Emergency Medical Services, (OEMS). All police patrol vehicles are equipped with Automatic External Defibrillators; all officers are trained and certified to administer early

defibrillation in cases of cardiac arrest. This program continues through the cooperative efforts of the Easton Voluntary Emergency Medical Service, (EVEMS) and the Easton Police Department.

Once again, I wish to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to the citizens of this community for their continuing support and cooperation, and also to the men and women of the Easton Police Department who work with pride and professionalism to make the Town of Easton a safe community.

John F. Solomon
Chief of Police

EASTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICE DEPARTMENT FISCAL YEAR END REPORT
FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2009 - JUNE 30, 2010

<u>ENFORCEMENT</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
MV Violations	366	489	1165
Parking Tickets	23	19	14
MV Warnings	615	718	824
<u>CRIMINAL VIOLATIONS</u>			
ACO Arrests	13	27	39
Arson	0	0	0
Assault	4	6	6
Breach of Peace	3	4	0
Burglary	4	9	2
Criminal Mischief	0	2	4
Criminal Trespassing	1	2	11
Disorderly Conduct	18	20	19
Drugs	2	11	21
JV Referral	0	0	2
DWI	8	6	25
Larceny	3	0	6
Liquor Law Viol.	0	1	25
Robbery	0	0	0
Sex Crimes/Rape	0	0	0
Stolen MV	0	0	0
Weapons Violation	1	1	1
Warrants	17	17	27
Other	7	9	13
Enforcement/Violations Totals	1085	1339	1725

EASTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2009 - JUNE 30, 2010

<u>COMPS & Investigations</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
Accidents	146	158	189
Aided Cases	302	328	292
Alarms	1043	970	846
Animals	744	826	860
Arson	0	0	0
Assault	2	1	3
Assistance	502	533	613
Asst Other Dept	283	313	246
Bomb Threats	0	0	0
Burglary	23	9	12
Child Safety Restraint	98	88	50
Computer Crime	8	6	7
Counterfeit	0	0	1
Crim Mischief/Prop Dmg	35	52	48
C.M. Mailbox	39	34	64
Credit Card/Fraud	9	9	2
Disabled M/V	209	194	182
Domestics	24	43	32
Fingerprints	290	311	256
Fires	164	138	117
Found Prop & Released	47	63	53
Other/General/Littering	19	36	35
Impersonation	0	1	1
Homicide	0	0	0
Juvenile Referrals	1	0	0
Larceny	36	35	27
Lost Property	27	1	33
M/V Found/Lost	4	0	2
M/V Impound	1	0	5
M/V Stolen	3	0	1
Missing Person/Fnd	10	4	9
Narcotics/Drugs	1	4	11
Noise Complaints	92	79	94
Phone Calls	49	56	34
Permits	58	41	26
Record Check	92	139	103
Robbery	0	0	0
Select Enforcement	60	158	183
Sex Crimes	0	0	0
Soliciting	3	9	10
State Property	92	89	109
Subpoena	10	33	14
Suspicious Activity	97	70	76
Suspicious M/V	389	321	367
Suspicious Person	102	97	78
Teletype	125	106	94
Threatening	2	4	2
Town Property	249	254	266
Trespassing	2	9	6
Trucks	9	4	15
Utilities	517	462	507
Validation	4	9	13
Warrants/Arrests/Application	14	9	57
Weapon Law Viol	1	1	1
Youths	29	48	36
M/V Stops/Arrests	901	1059	1351
DWI	7	6	26
Liquor Law Viols	0	2	8
Supplement Rpts.	230	239	201
TOTAL	7204	7491	7674

MUNICIPAL ANIMAL CONTROL

Governed by State Statute, the Municipal Animal Control Department is under the authority of the Chief of Police, who is responsible for the supervision of the Animal Control Officer (ACO) and the daily operations of the department.

The Municipal Animal Control Officer, Kelly Fitch, is empowered by State Statute with the authority to conduct investigations concerning any laws relating to domestic animals, to arrest, issue written complaints and summons any person found in violation of the animal control laws. State Statute further empowers the Animal Control Officer to conduct a search for unlicensed dogs and to seize same (without warrant). Two part-time ACO's currently assist ACO Fitch.

The Town of Easton conducted a survey of unlicensed dogs again this year, in accordance with Section 22-349L of the Connecticut General Statutes. The need for the survey has been occasioned by two factors: an additional 10% rebate to the Town on collected fees and the lack of voluntary registrations. It should be pointed out that delaying licensing results in arrest and a significant fine, in addition to the license fee requirement. **All licenses are renewable between June 1st and July 1st of each year.**

On November 3, 2005, the Board of Selectmen appointed a committee, "The Animal Control Shelter Committee", to consider a new animal shelter for the Town of Easton. In 2007 a STEAP (*Small Town Economic Assistance Program*) Grant in the amount of \$200,000.00 was awarded to the Easton Police Department by the State of Connecticut to assist in the construction of the new shelter.

On February 11, 2008, the Planning & Zoning Commission approved the Town's application to construct and operate an animal control shelter on the Town owned 127-acre tract at the westerly side of Morehouse Road. It is anticipated that the building will be completed during the spring of 2011.

I wish to thank all of our citizens who have helped with animals through their generous donations or time spent at the shelter. Your continued support is sincerely appreciated.

JOHN F. SOLOMON
Chief of Police

DOG WARDEN REPORT
FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2009 - JUNE 30, 2010

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
Comps Investigated	745	829	864
Dogs Destroyed	0	1	4
Cats Destroyed	2	2	1
Dogs Redeemed	50	59	77
Cats Redeemed	0	1	0
Dogs Sold	9	7	24
Cats Sold	29	26	18
Other	0	4	0
Dog Owner Arrests	13	27	39
Dog Bites	6	14	11
Cat Bites	2	0	1
Other	0	0	1
Phone Calls Received	1529	2195	2038
Notices to License	444	657	576

THE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

The Communications Center is under the direction of the Chief of Police who is responsible for the supervision of personnel and the daily operations of this department. The Communications Center operates seven (7) days a week and twenty-four (24) hours a day. All Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Service calls are received and dispatched from this department.

There are three (3) full-time civilian Dispatchers, oretta Harsche, Tata Candee and Matthew Caldwell. There are also seven (7) part-time Dispatchers who cover shifts on the weekends, holidays, and for other emergencies. The Dispatchers are mandated by law to complete the State of Connecticut Telecommunicator training along with additional training in the use of the Connecticut On Line Law Enforcement Communications Teleprocessing System (COLLECT) and the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) computer system.

The following services are provided by the Communications Center:

ETP stickers – this sticker, which is placed on the left rear bumper, is an excellent aid to Police Officers when responding to complaints. It makes the Officer aware that a vehicle is owned by an Easton resident. To obtain an ETP sticker, simply bring your vehicle registration to the Communications Center. If you are a new resident and your registration does not yet reflect your Easton address, please bring proof of residency with you.

Vacant House Checks or VHCs – when going away, feel free to stop by the Communications Center or call the main line and the Dispatcher will obtain emergency contact information from you. This will assist us if any problems arise in your absence. It is advisable that you call a few days in advance of

your departure.

New Residents – If you are a new resident, moving within the state of Connecticut, you can save a trip to DMV by picking up a Change of Address for License and/or Registration card at the Communications Center. Remember that you **MUST** notify DMV of address changes within forty-eight (48) hours of moving. New Residents from out of state must appear at the DMV.

Alarms – emergency contact information can be updated by calling or stopping by the Communications Center. We recommend that all information be updated annually for current phone numbers and alarm codes. A reminder, that per Town Ordinance, all alarm systems should be registered with the Police Department.

RUOK – The Easton Police Department's Telephone Reassurance Program or RUOK, is a free service available to any resident over the age of 60, or to any resident who is disabled. You can sign up for the program by calling or stopping by the Communications Center.

Data Alert – This database alerts the Dispatcher to any disability that has been reported to the department for medical emergency response. When a call comes into the Dispatcher and your name or address is entered into the computer, the data alert will enable the dispatcher to immediately recognize medical disabilities that will save critical time in responding to the needs of those individuals. Please notify this department of any emergency medical information that you feel should be recorded in our **Data Alert System**. This information is kept confidential and used only for emergency response.

JOHN F. SOLOMON
Chief of Police

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

The Board of Fire Commissioners was established by a town ordinance in 1965. The Board manages and controls all matters pertaining to fire protection within the Town, in coordination with the Department's career fire fighters, the Easton Volunteer Fire Company #1, and the Fire Marshal's office.

The commission holds public meetings on the third Wednesday of every month, at 7:30 PM in the Firehouse training room. Fire Marshal Peter Neary, Fire Chief Jim Girardi, other officer and firefighters attend.

The Town's eight career Firefighter's provide 24 hour coverage, with two on duty to answer the alarm. We have immediate response to our emergency calls.

Fire protection and coverage is the Commission's primary concern. We have met with representatives from the Insurance

Standard Organization (ISO) to ensure the Department is in compliance with ISO standards in fire protection. Captain Paul Skrtich chairs a committee to review Fire Department policies, pre-plans and mutual aid response.

Currently, the town own four engines. The Department is still working on plans for replacing the 1987 rescue truck, Engine 3.

Dry hydrants are an on going project for the Department. Dry hydrants are water supplies coming from either ponds or underground water storage tanks. The Fire Department tests and maintains them on a yearly basis. Water supply officer, James Wright, reviews subdivision plans to ensure proper water supplies for fire protection.

The Commission would like to thank our Firefighters, Fire Marshals and the men and women of the Easton Volunteer Fire Co. #1 for their dedication and countless hours of service to the Town of Easton.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robert Monda Chairman
George A. Beno
Ralph Alteri
Anthony Colonnese
Roberta Cable

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Town of Easton provides fire protection by two agencies, the Easton Fire Department, and the Easton Volunteer Fire Company #1. These agencies operate while responding to calls and training as one cohesive unit. The Elected Chiefs of the Volunteer Fire Company are the Chiefs of both agencies.

The establishment of the Easton Volunteer Fire Company #1 happened in November of 1921 and has continuously provided fire protection to the Town of Easton. Currently there are more than 25 active firefighters serving in the Fire Company. These volunteers come from a wide cross-section of Easton's diverse community. These men and woman spend countless hours training for and responding to the wide variety of calls for help. The elected line officers in 2010 were Chief Jim Girardi, 1st Assistant Chief Steve Waugh, and 2nd Assistant Chief Gianmarco Marchetti. The executive officers in 2010 were President Paul Skrtich, Vice President Jim Warner, Secretary Lucy Crossman, and Treasurer James Wright.

The Easton Fire Department was created in 1947. At first there was only one career firefighter who would work the daytime hours during the week. During the 1950's two more firefighters were added to the rolls of the Fire Department. In 1968 the fourth position was added to the roster. In 2007 four additional firefighters were added to the career staff resulting in each shift having two career firefighters. A firefighter works

24 straight hours and then has 72 hours off. This provides staffing in the Fire House 24 hours a day 365 days a year. Many times during the workweek, due to Easton being a bedroom community, the "on-duty" firefighters are at times, the only ones responding to calls. The career firefighters perform the crucial task of maintaining the Town's firefighting equipment. The Town's current career fighters are Wayne Crossman, James Wright, Michael Ohradan, David Davies, Al Doty, Martin Ohradan, Michael Sabia, and Mark Mirowski.

The 2010 calendar year turned out to be an average year. The Department responded to 353 calls during the year. The calls types varied greatly. A breakdown of the most frequent types of calls is as follows: 101 alarm activations, 39 lock-outs, 27 vehicle accidents, and 18 fire related incidents. We also responded to 6 hazardous material releases. All told the Department used 58 different personnel and expended 1,232 person hours responding to calls for help.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the citizens of Easton for their continued support of both agencies, and the Volunteer and Career Firefighters for their countless hours of dedicated service to the town.

Respectfully submitted
Chief Jim Girardi

EASTON VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE

Marge Smith has retired from Easton EMS after being involved with the service for over 35 years, the last 15 years as Chief of the Service. Marge will continue to be President of the Trustees. We thank her for all her dedication and hard work. Carolyn Kearney was appointed as the new Chief of Service for a two year term. We would also like to thank Dave Kmetz for all his help this past year.

Members of the EMS Commission are Mr. Robert Adriani, Chairman, Mrs. Gloria Bindelglass, Dr. James Spak, Dr. Seyed Aleali and Mrs. Adele O'Kane. The Commission meets the second Wednesday of each month at EMS headquarters, anyone interested is invited to attend. The commission's responsibility is to oversee the Town budget for Easton EMS, the activities of the full and part time EMS staff, the maintenance and management of the EMS headquarters and equipment. The Commission also serves as a liaison between the Easton Volunteer Emergency Medical Service and the Town of Easton in an advisory capacity for any matters presented by Easton EMS, and acts in accordance with the ordinance established to run the emergency medical service for the Town of Easton.

The Easton Volunteer Emergency Medical Services consists of 38 volunteers living in and out of Easton, working a three man crew from 6PM to midnight during the week and nights

and weekends when available. Officers and Directors are Mrs. Carolyn Kearney Chief of Service, Marge Smith, President of the Trustees, Mr. Jonathan Arnold, Vice President of the Trustees, and Assistant Chief, Mr. Adam Goldstein, Assistant Chief, Mrs. Victoria Sinnicki, Secretary, Mr. John Smith, Treasurer, Gabe Meszaros Co-Director of Training, Ms. Sandra Snyder, Co-Director of Training, Mrs. Lorraine Mercede, Director of Personnel, Mrs. Michelle Goldstein, Co-Director of Personnel and in charge of Scheduling, Mrs. Peggy Shukie, Director of Public Relations, and Mr. Victor Malendretos, Director of Communications. Victor also represents Easton EMS and the Town of Easton on the Board of Directors of the Emergency Medical Communications Center (C-MED), thereby insuring the town's concerns are presented at these meetings. C-Med facilitates communications between our ambulance and area hospital and between area ambulances as needed. We thank everyone for all their dedications.

Two EMTs, John Snyder and Andrew Rosenthal, work on a full time basis from 7:00am until 3:00pm supplemented by two additional paid per diem EMT/MRTs working from 3:00pm until 6:00pm. We have an agreement with Nelson Ambulance Service who is our designated paramedic intercept service, with AMR as their back-up. In the event of multiple calls or occasional non-availability of volunteers, a mutual aid agreement is in place for backup with the surrounding towns.

The Easton Police Department officers continue to be First Responders to all emergency medical calls. They are fully trained and equipped with Automatic External Defibrillators and other primary resuscitative equipment. Our First Responders and Easton EMS meet recommended Office of Emergency Medical Service Response time requirements established by the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health.

There were 361 calls plus numerous standbys. You may have seen us at the Firemen's carnival, the 5 K Annual DARE Race, Touch-a-truck, the Memorial Day Parade, Bloomin 2010 Metric Bike Tour, the Halloween Bonfire, the Jazz Festival at the ECC to name a few. We also support the Fire Department on standby for fires and specific training events where it is prudent to have medical rescue personnel nearby.

We have monthly training sessions such as practice scenarios, extrication drills, review procedures and policies, and blood borne pathogen class yearly. All of our EMTs and MRTs renew their certification every two years.

The Easton Volunteer Emergency Medical Services honored Peggy Shukie with the Easton EMT of the Year Award for 2010. This award was established to honor Herb Goldman who served Easton for 7 years before his untimely death in 2002. Peggy a long time resident who just moved to Newtown has been with Easton EMS since 2007, and is Director of Publicity. You may have noticed the numerous articles in the paper over the past year, all thanks to Peggy.

EVEMS has participated in a variety of community educational projects as well as provide on site support when necessary. We started a monthly column in the paper titled EMS Corner. We are also available to community organizations such as the Cub Scouts, Brownies, Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts where we give talks on first aid and safety. We EVEMS also supports the DARE program in Easton's schools as well as the Easton Police Explorer Post.

We continue to bill insurance companies for our services with a return of over 85%, allowing for additional income for the town, bringing in on an average of \$100,000 per year.

We would like to thank the citizens of Easton for all their continued support, and encourage residents to call our headquarters to inquire about EMT/MRT and CPR courses. To learn more about Easton volunteer EMS please check our web site .Eastonems.com.

Respectfully submitted

Robert Adraini, Chairman
Easton EMS Commission

Carolyn Kearney, Chief
Easton Volunteer EMS Inc.

PUBLIC LIBRARY

EASTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Easton Public Library plays a dynamic role in the community. The Library not only delivers traditional library services but also functions as the Town Square. In FY 09-10, more than 70,000 visitors crossed the Library's threshold. While the Library's budget allocation represented only 1% of the Town's total budget, the Library reached out to Easton's 7,373 residents so that they could access the information they needed and find reading, listening and viewing material they enjoyed. With the goal of serving every segment of Easton's population, the Library presented formal programs for residents from eight months to 80+ years old.

In FY 2008-2009, the Library Board of Trustees spearheaded a post-occupancy study of the then 12 year old facility. The study revealed changes required to better serve the public were required in five separate areas of the Library. These changes were broken down into phases. Phase I, the reconfiguration of the audio-visual area and new book areas, was completed in the spring of 2009.

Phase II, the relocation of the Young Adult area; and Phase III, the creation of a small business area, were conducted simultaneously. New shelving was needed in the Young Adult area and old shelving was re-purposed in the business area. Phase IV, the reconfiguration of the Children's area, was the most ambitious, in that every children's book had to be moved to accommodate eighty new shelves.

With the completion of the post-occupancy recommendations, library users have benefited from a more spacious bestseller, DVD, CD and audio book area. The relocation of the Young Adult area adjacent to the Children's area mirrors a child's progress toward reading maturity. Moreover, the Library's 'tweens and teens have a larger, semi-private space with display shelving and soft seating. The additional shelving in the Children's area allowed for the reconfiguration of the children's collections and the enlargement of the picture book and easy reader sections. These materials play an enormous role in building the literacy skills new readers need to be successful learners.

The Library recognizes and responds to the needs of its community. While offering a wide range of enrichment activities that encourage children and adults alike to expand their imaginations, express their creativity and exchange ideas, it also provides needed information, with practical applications, to help patrons deal with day to day issues.

In keeping with this theme, the Library hosted programs on retirement planning, investment strategies during hard times, long term care, getting accepted at the college of your choice and saving for college tuition. The most successful of this type of program was "Road Map to Re-employment". With the downturn in the economy, the Library partnered with Ms. Paska Nayden, a member of Transitioning Professionals of Fairfield County, to sponsor this multi-session workshop. The topics covered in the twelve week series included job search and career change strategies, resume writing, and interview techniques. Ms. Nayden also included new employment trends, such as the phone interview, and facilitated networking opportunities. This program met with such success it is now a part of the Library's regular calendar of events.

In April, the Library co-hosted, with Westport Public Library, the second annual "Murder 203: Connecticut's Mystery Festival". The two day conference was, once again, a rousing success with mystery author and Guest of Honor, Mary Jane Clark, mesmerizing the 130 attendees.

In September, the Library's "Practically Perfect Potato Bake" morphed into the Friends of the Library first annual "Country Fair and Cow Chip Raffle". This fund raiser, complete with its star, Dewey the Cow, potato sack races, pie eating contest and penny candy, delighted more than 200 participants. It is a perfect illustration of the type of intergenerational programming the Library provides for Easton's residents.

Together with this new offering, the Friends maintained their traditions of hosting the annual Story Book Parade, Family Fun Night, the Holiday House Tour and the Children's Holiday Party. The Friends of the Library are a vital force in the Library's life. Through the organization's generosity, the Library has been able to offer new services, such as downloadable books, and replace computers, purchase print and audio visual materials, present special programs and much more. The import of the Friends is particularly evident in this

fiscal year when the Library's materials budget suffered a 20% reduction.

Due to the budget cut mentioned above, the Library began leasing best sellers from its book jobber, Baker and Taylor, during this fiscal year. This action was taken in an effort to stretch the Library's purchasing power. The public is pleased that multiple copies of best sellers and other new materials are still available for check out.

This year marked the fifth anniversary of the Library's "Beyond Reading" book discussion group. A total of fifty-five books, representing both fiction and non-fiction and several different genres, have been shared. Some titles were more popular than others but all were worthy of discussion and the attendees eagerly expressed their thoughts, shared their experiences and welcomed the opportunity to spend quality time with their neighbors.

The Library continues to cooperate and collaborate with the local nursery schools, Samuel Staples Elementary School, Helen Keller Middle School, and Joel Barlow High School sharing resources, visiting classes and hosting events. The Library is a natural extension of the education system, available after school with a myriad of resources to aid children with their homework and provide enrichment opportunities.

Well used, the Library experienced a 65% increase in program attendance over last year. Was it the economy? "Staycations?", OR the desire to be a member of the larger community? Whatever the reason, the Library is gratified to know that it is valued and looked upon as the Town's cultural and social gathering place.

Remember—Find It at Your Library!
www.eastonlibrary.org

Respectfully submitted,
Bernadette Baldino
Library Director

FY2009-2010 Statistics
Circulation: 124,806
Registered Borrowers: 3,885
Total Materials: 74, 521

EDUCATION

EASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Town of Easton is served by Samuel Staples Elementary School, Helen Keller Middle School, and Joel Barlow High School. The Easton Board of Education is responsible for the elementary and middle schools; the high school is under the purview of the Region #9 Board of Education. The three autonomous boards of education of Easton, Redding, and Region 9 (ER9 School Districts) share a superintendent, an assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction, and a director of finance and operations.

Easton's school enrollment continues to grow. As of October 1, 2009, Samuel Staples (K-5) student enrollment was 730, and Helen Keller Middle School (6-8) student enrollment was 384.

The Easton Board of Education has provided funding for curriculum development, particularly summer curriculum work in areas such as integrated language arts, mathematics, social studies, science, guidance, health, world languages, information technology, fine arts, and physical education. In consultation with the superintendent of schools, the assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction works closely with school personnel in the development of assessment criteria to measure student achievement in relation to local academic standards and to the academic standards of the Connecticut State Department of Education. The Easton Technology Committee developed a three-year technology plan in the 2009-10 school year, which identifies funding and strategies to ensure that all students become competent in the use of technology.

Professional development for teachers is based on the goals and objectives of the ER9 Strategic Plan, which focuses primarily on curriculum alignment, personalized learning, assessment of student performance and character development. Instructional practices and assessment data designed to assist teachers in working with students, including those who have special needs, are a primary focus of professional development. The school district's standards-based curriculum requires each student to perform academically at a proficient level; school-wide differentiated instruction facilitates student learning.

The Easton School District is member of the Tri-State Consortium, comprised of high-performing school districts in Fairfield County, Long Island, the Greater Westchester Area, and New Jersey. Many Easton administrators and teachers have completed training in the Tri-State Evaluation Protocol and have participated in the evaluation of Tri-State Schools.

The district continues to participate in the Open Choice Program to meet the state mandate to reduce racial isolation. Four children from the Bridgeport School District were

enrolled at Helen Keller Middle School, and four children were enrolled at Samuel Staples Elementary School during the 2009-2010 school year.

The taxpayers of Easton approved a 2009-2010 budget of \$14,282,534 for the Easton School District.

For more information about Easton Public Schools, please visit the ER9 Central Office Web site at www.er9.org, the Samuel Staples Elementary School Web site at www.er9.org/sses, and the Helen Keller Middle School Web site at www.er9.org/hkms.

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #9

Joel Barlow High School is within the purview of Connecticut Regional Board of Education No. 9; the school is located at 100 Black Rock Turnpike (Route 58) in Redding. As of October 1, 2009, 959 students were enrolled in grades nine through twelve.

Of the 99 high school faculty members, 3 have doctorates, 42 have sixth-year certificates or equivalent, 41 have master's degrees, and 13 have bachelor's degrees. The school's picturesque campus of 113 acres accommodates 29 varsity, 11 junior varsity, and six freshmen sport teams. The school's unique Student Activity Program sponsors 58 extracurricular and co-curricular activities during and after school hours.

Joel Barlow High School has received many state and national awards for exemplary curriculum and instruction and for overall excellence in education. It has been identified twice by the United States Department of Education as a School of Excellence. Its Advanced Placement Program has been commended by the Connecticut State Department of Education and the *Washington Post*. The Connecticut School Counselor Association selected the Easton-Redding-Joel Barlow High School Developmental Guidance Curriculum to receive its Outstanding Guidance and Counseling Program Award. The school won several awards in the 2009 CABA Award of Excellence for Educational Communications contest from the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education for its student/parent/guardian handbook, course selection guide, Achieving With Integrity Program, and the ninth grade transition to high school orientations. In recognition of its overall academic excellence, Joel Barlow High School was one of a few, select schools whose curricula and data-based improvements were recognized by the State Board of Education.

The high school has ranked consistently among several top schools in the state for student performance on the mandated Connecticut Academic Performance Test. Student performance on the SAT, SAT II, and Advanced Placement Examinations have been noteworthy. Seniors who took the SAT I achieved a mean score of 580 out of a possible score of

800 in writing, 561 in mathematics, and 571 in reading. Two students were semi-finalists and eight students were commended scholars in the 2010 National Merit Scholarship Program. A total of 195 students took 296 Advanced Placement Examinations in 20 Advanced Placement Subjects. Seventy-six percent of the students achieved a grade of 3 or higher in the examinations. Eighty-eight students took two or more Advanced Placement examinations. Ninety-four percent of the Class of 2010 planned to attend post-secondary institutions. Although the vast majority of Joel Barlow graduates attend college, the spectrum of courses offered at the school is designed to meet the needs of all students, including those students who pursue vocational training.

In addition, *U.S. News & World Report* identified twelve high schools in Connecticut as “silver medalists.” Their comprehensive review of 21,786 American high schools, which evaluated academic programs, college readiness preparation, and performance on state-mandated assessments, determined only 561 top high schools in the country. Using their rating scales, Joel Barlow ranks 4th in the State in college readiness and state performance assessment.

Joel Barlow High School is captured in the poetry of William Butler Yeats who wrote, “Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.” The staff is committed to an open and active exchange of ideas and promotes values, knowledge, and skills that foster personal integrity, intellectual curiosity, individual well-being, and civic responsibility. Further, the staff believes that education can only be accomplished with rigorous expectations if staff and students engage in meaningful relationships and if learning is relevant to the emerging interests of students. The staff and students collaborate to sustain an atmosphere of mutual respect and acceptance of individual differences.

The taxpayers of Easton and Redding approved a 2009-2010 budget of \$20,642,547 for Joel Barlow High School/Regional School District No. 9.

For more information about Joel Barlow High School, please visit the ER9 central-office Web site at www.er9.org and the high school’s Web site at www.joelbarlowps.org.

DEBT SERVICE AND BENEFITS ACCOUNT

Debt Service and Benefits Account
Selectmen’s Budget for the Board of Education
Fiscal year July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010

IN KIND SERVICES:

PENSION

TOWN’S CONTRIBUTION FOR EMPLOYEES	\$102,000
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ACTUARY FEES

1/2 ANNUAL FEE	\$4,750
CHECK WRITING/REFUNDS/MISC.	\$2,054

UNEMPLOYMENT

\$0

EASTON FIRE DISTRICT

Tax	\$2,927
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INSURANCE

GENERAL LIABILITY	\$58,145
WORKER’S COMPENSATION	\$61,697

DEBT SERVICE

PRINCIPAL	\$2,046,500
INTEREST	\$1,002,184

PARK & RECREATION DEPARTMENT SERVICES

MAINTENANCE OF GROUNDS-LABOR COST Helen Keller & Samuel Staples Schools	\$7,500
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PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT SERVICES

BOE TRASH	\$172
PLOWING	\$2,080
SAND & SALT	\$3,680
SWEEPING	\$1,800
OTHER NECESSARY REPAIRS	\$4,059
PERSONNEL WAGES PROVIDED FOR 515 MOREHOUSE ROAD	\$7,225

TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3,306,773
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PROBATE COURT DISTRICT OF TRUMBULL

The Trumbull Probate Court was established by State Statute and commenced operations on January 2, 1959. The Towns of Easton, Monroe and Trumbull are served through this Court. Prior to 1959, the public was served by the Bridgeport Probate Court.

The primary jurisdiction of the Court is to effect the probating of wills and settling of estates and trusts, the appointment of guardians for minors and the mentally retarded, commitments of the mentally ill, conservators for incompetent persons, adoptions and changes of names.

During the period of July 1, 2009, to June 30, 2010, the Trumbull Probate Court processed 1176 new matters. The new matters included the following:

Fee Waivers	23
Estates with Wills	175
Estate without Wills	33
Estate Sales of Real Estate	37
Compromise of Claims	9
Allowance of Final Accounts	160
Other Applications or Petitions	
Small Estate Affidavits	72
Estates for Tax Purposes Only	63
State Aid 4a-16 Estates	49
Other Applications with Hearing	126
Under the Category of Children's Matters:	
Adoptions, Termination of Parental Rights, Emancipations, Temporary Guardianship & Dispositional Hearing	63
Under the Category of Guardians:	
Appointment of Guardians of the Estate	17
Compromise of Claims	14
Allowance of Accounts	17
Other Applications with hearing on Guardians of Estate	31
Guardianship of the Mentally Retarded	66
Under the Category of Conservators:	
Temporary Conservator	6
Conservator of Estate/Person	40
Sales of Real Estate	8
Allowance of Accounts	25
Other Applications	31
Three Year Reviews	12
Under Miscellaneous:	
Trust Applications and	
Accounts Requiring Hearings	59
Name Changes	34

The Honorable John P. Chiota is Judge of Probate:
Chief Clerk: Elizabeth S. Frassinelli, Clerk: Gail J. Hanna and Assistant Clerk.

The Court is located in the Trumbull Town Hall and is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00p.m.

SUMMARIES OF TOWN MEETINGS

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

November 23, 2009; 8.00PM

SAMUEL STAPLES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Present:

Thomas A. Herrmann, First Selectman

Scott S. Centrella, Selectman

Robert H. Lessler, Selectman

W. Derek Buckley, Town Clerk

Other Town Officials:

John Campbell, Treasurer

Andrew Kachele, Chair Board of Finance

Police Chief Solomon

Sal Santella, Chair of the 9/11/Committee

Public – about 80 additional people

Kennel Architect: Mark R. Halstead [203-372-ARCH]

The First Selectman called the meeting to order at 8.07pm. He called upon the Town Clerk to read the Notice of the Meeting. The attached Notice was read to the audience.

1. Elect a Moderator

The First Selectman called for nominations for moderator. Bob Lessler was nominated by Ron Kowalski, seconded by Elise Broach, and elected unanimously by voice vote.

2. Animal Control Shelter Appropriation

The Moderator asked Peg Macaluso, co-chair of the Animal Shelter Committee to describe the project and the reason for the requested appropriation of \$188,000.

She explained that the existing kennel was in very poor condition and not in compliance with state statutes or town ordinances. It had been inspected by the state and was permitted to stay open only because a new shelter was planned. [See attached presentation summary]

The proposed shelter is 2,660 square feet and looks like a ranch house. It contains 12 kennels, 2 isolation kennels, food preparation facilities, exercise facilities, a parking garage and basement. It is in full compliance with state statutes and local ordinances. It has been approved by both P&Z and the Board of Selectmen.

The original budget was \$400,000, which reflected the cost at that time. Because of legal delays and required design changes, the project has incurred additional costs due to prevailing wage requirement [\$40,000] and sound absorption [\$75,000] for a total of \$114,000. They have also been required to provide under floor heating and air conditioning. The original cost has increased to \$514,000, which is further increased by a \$50,000 contingency budget. The total requested appropriation is \$588,000, including \$25,000 of soft costs that have already been spent.

The project will be funded with a \$200,000 STEAP grant and \$200,000 of LOCIP funds plus the \$188,000 requested appropriation. The STEAP grant may be lost if the town does not proceed to build a facility.

Mark Holstein, the architect, described the facility. He said that he and the committee had visited many local facilities to understand how best to design Easton's facility. The building is designed to be low maintenance, inside and outside, with a life expectancy of 50 to 100 years. The main level is 2,440 square feet and the maximum height is 19 feet. It faces into the hillside to absorb sound. They retained an acoustic expert to ensure proper noise control.

Jim Gromiller asked about lighting and security since the facility would be remote. The lighting has been designed to be unobtrusive to the neighbors. Security cameras have been installed. Jim asked if they had motion detectors to switch on the lights and save electricity. They are not included but can be added.

The lowest bid of \$514,000 was from Carlson Construction. Steve Carlson explained that if costs exceed \$400,000, and state money is involved, the project must pay prevailing wages. For Carlson Construction this added \$40,000 to the cost.

Roger Wollen supports the appropriation, because the town needs it badly. He would like a public declaration of their position from the Selectmen. The First Selectman said he would reserve comments to the end.

In response to a question, it was noted that there would be no increase in the animal control staff.

In response to a question from David Cassidy, it was noted that city water would be used for the facility

Doug Heitsmith said he was opposed to the appropriation and the suggested facility. The facility should be scaled back to the original size and cost.

Bud Jennings noted that costs had risen because of delay caused, in part, by the Heitsmith lawsuit.

David Antonez, a Judd Road resident said the facility is overpriced, oversized and inappropriate when we cannot

afford to educate our children and employees have taken a pay cut to balance the budget.

In response to a question about whether a facility is needed Chief Solomon said we do not want to put dogs in Bridgeport or surrounding towns because they are euthanized. We need the facility very badly.

Gowan Dacey said Robert Carlson is suing the town with Bucky Stone, and consequently it is questionable whether the town should contract with his company.

In response to a question about the cost of borrowing, Andy Kachele said \$188,000 is too little to bond alone. It could be paid out of operating funds or borrowed short term and paid off over a couple of years.

In response to a question about the shelf life of the grant, the First Selectman said that the state had been informed at the beginning of 2009 that construction would begin within 18 months. The condition of the state economy puts all of these funds at risk of cancellation.

Val Buckley called the question and was seconded. The question was called by a majority voice vote. See attached resolution. The appropriation was approved by a majority voice vote.

3. 9/11 Memorial

The First Selectman moved to consider the petition and was seconded by Roger Wollen. Consideration was approved by a majority voice vote.

Sal Santella, Chair of the Memorial Committee related the history of the committee and the project. He tried several times to move to table but was unsuccessful because of interruptions.

Jim Gromiller said the whole issue smelled of politics and asked why P&Z were not there.

Andy Kachele said a committee cannot present a motion to table only an individual can do that. He also said that since there was no chance of P&Z and the Committee agreeing to a compromise. This left only two options:

- 1 Put in place a properly worded petition for a town meeting, or
2. The Board of Selectmen should call a town meeting

The First Selectmen said the petition was defective because it did not call for an override of the P&Z decision. On 11/5/2009, the Board of Selectmen agreed to call a meeting but did not know that P&Z and John Hayes had a schedule conflict. Since the petition has to be heard within 21 days it was added to the agenda but the committee agreed to table discussion until January 2010. It is expected that the issue will be addressed in full then. In answer to a question from Jim Gromiller, he said a new petition would not be required.

A meeting to adjourn was proposed, seconded and approved by majority voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 10:10pm.

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
JANUARY 13 2010; 8.00PM
SAMUEL STAPLES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Present:

Thomas A. Herrmann, First Selectman
Scott S. Centrella, Selectman
Robert H. Lessler, Selectman
W. Derek Buckley, Town Clerk

Other Town Officials:

Sal Santella, Chair of the 9/11/Committee
Rob Maquat Chair of P&Z
Nick Soares, Democratic Registrar of Voters
Cheryl Everett, acting Republican Registrar of Voters
Ira Bloom, attorney for the town

Public – about 350 additional people
9/11/ Memorial Architect: Mark R. Halstead [203-372-ARCH]

Introduction

The meeting was called in response to a petition calling for the Town Meeting to reverse a decision by P&Z to reject the grassy area in front of the library as a location for the 9/11 memorial. Throughout this document this area is referred to as the “green”.

Because the call of the meeting provided for voting by paper ballots, if the meeting approved, the registrars were present. They checked people in as they arrived to make sure they were eligible to vote i.e. either registered voters, or on the Grand List of Easton property owners. Because of the large number of people present, this was a lengthy process and the meeting was delayed.

The First Selectman called the meeting to order at 8.42pm. He called upon the Town Clerk to read the Notice of the Meeting. The attached Notice was read to the audience.

1. Elect a Moderator

The First Selectman called for nominations for moderator. Bob Nicola was nominated by Ron Kowalski and seconded by Michael Kot. The moderator could not call for a vote because a point of order was raised. A number of people in the audience wanted to nominate John Harris. Attorney Ira Bloom was called upon to interpret Robert’s Rules. He explained that if there are multiple nominations for Moderator the meeting must vote on them in order of nomination. If the first one nominated is approved, he becomes Moderator. If not the second one is consider until a Moderator is elected. Andy Kachele objected and stated that Robert’s Rules did not override state statutes. The First Selectman as Chairman permitted the nomination of John Harris. He was nominated and seconded. There were no other nominations.

Bob Nicola was then elected Moderator by a majority show of hands as judged by the First Selectman. A motion to count the votes was defeated. Bob Nicola became Moderator at 8.52pm.

2. Item 1 on the Call of the Meeting

The Moderator then moved to Item 1 on the call of the meeting. This called for voting by paper ballot on items 2 and 3. Tom Herrmann proposed and Bob Lessler seconded a motion to vote by paper ballot. This passed unanimously by show of hands.

Tom Herrmann proposed that the Board of Selectmen have five minutes to present. Thereafter, P&Z and the 9/11 Committee each would have 20 minutes to present.

Ira Bloom was called on to explain the procedure.

Bud Jennings asked for recognition of the 9/11 Committee attorney since the town had attorney Bloom to represent them. Bob Nicola said that Bloom was simply there to explain the rules and not representing anybody.

Tom Herrmann explained that item #2 was not about whether we should have a memorial, it was about a specific memorial in a specific location. The 9/11 Committee was appointed by the Board of Selectmen to propose a memorial, probably in front of the library. Subsequently, in response to an 8-24 referral from the Board of Selectmen, P&Z rejected the location for any permanent structure.

Ira Bloom noted that it needed a positive 8-24 response to go forward. The Town Meeting could override P&Z’s rejection. If this happens, the Board of Selectmen must then decide if they want to apply for a special permit to build the memorial on the “green”. This will require modification of the 1993 library special permit.

The 9/11 Committee then presented their case.

Dr. Sal Santella committee co-chair noted:

- the design was appropriate
- the location is appropriate
- it will be built at no cost to the taxpayer
- there are no zoning laws preventing construction
- the master plan does not support P&Z’s position
- P&Z has exceeded its’ authority

Paula Barker then gave an overall presentation in support of Sal Santella’s statements. The presentation is attached.

The first responders from New York at the time of the 9/11 tragedy then gave a moving presentation about their experience that day.

Rob Maquat, Chairman of P&Z then noted:

- they have consistently supported a 9/11/memorial
- they support one on a library site
- they need an application from the Board of Selectmen

- they have met with 9/11 committee many times to try and resolve issues
- the issue is a land use issue and not anything else
- they do not want permanent structures on “green”.
- location restricted use by town plan of adopted in 2007
- P& Z must adhere to master plan
- moving the memorial to north of library achieves that end

John Hayes, town planning consultant, said:

- It will be hidden by parked cars
- It is not dignified
- The proposed area is only 0.13 acres must be a better site
- We will lose 2 out of 8 trees on the site
- this area has been a planned permanent green site since 1984
- He showed a plan with the location and green
- The 2007 master plan speaks in general terms and does not speak of green since it was considered an established area
- P&Z trying to put together a long range plan to use this as a social, cultural and community center

Then he showed an alternate proposed site north of library and noted that it:

- Is well drained
- Is attractive
- Is filled in
- Has disabled access
- septic not an issue

He said if the argument is used that a memorial was not specifically forbidden then a developer could use the argument that a high rise development was not forbidden

Eunice Hanson said:

- She supports the site, design and location
- She thinks it is visible and contemplative
- Listed all young children killed

Ira Bloom let the attorney for Sal Santella speak. He said:

- not true that memorial will set a precedent to break zoning. This is public land not private land
- The town plan designates this area for parking. Memorial is permitted by the plan
- If proposed north side site complies then any site does

Several public speakers made similar comments to the above both in support of and against the proposal.

The question was called and seconded by many members of the public. Ira Bloom explained that a YES vote was a vote to override P&Z and a NO vote was a vote to sustain P&Z's rejection. People then voted by paper ballot. The result was 188 YES and 140 NO. The Town Meeting overrode P&Z.

3. Item 3 on the call of the meeting

There followed heated and chaotic discussion about whether Item #3 was redundant, could it be voted on by voice vote, and a number of other issues.

Finally, Bill Kupinse moved that “the sense of the meeting was that the Selectmen should move in accordance with the petition”. This was seconded and passed by paper ballot. 185 voted YES and 115 voted NO.

A motion to adjourn was moved, seconded and passed by unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 11:15pm

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

APRIL 26, 2010, 8.00pm

SAMUEL STAPLES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Present:

Thomas A. Herrmann, First Selectman
 Scott S. Centrella, Selectman
 Robert H. Lessler, Selectman
 W. Derek Buckley, Town Clerk

Other Town Officials:

Patrice Hildenbrand, Tax Collector
 John Campbell, Treasurer
 Mark Pompa, Chair Board of Finance and all board members
 Easton Board of Education
 Superintendent of Schools
 School Principals

Public – about 60 additional people

The First Selectman called the meeting to order at 8.33pm. Problems with the public address system delayed the opening.

The First Selectman called for nominations for moderator. Bill Kupinse was nominated by Hugh Barry and seconded by Al Treidel. In the absence of any other nominations, the nomination was approved by unanimous voice vote.

The Moderator called upon the Town Clerk to read the call of the meeting. A copy is attached. The Moderator then moved to the attached agenda.

Item 1.

Discuss and act upon the acceptance of the 2009 Annual Town Report

Mark Pompa, Chairman of the Board of Finance noted that the town had completed a successful audit. At the end of the period, the town had an undesignated fund balance of \$3,685,291. This was instrumental in increasing the town's bond rating and lowering financing costs.

A motion to accept the annual report was moved, seconded and passed by unanimous voice vote.

Item 2.

Discuss and take possible action to change by ordinance, the office of the Tax Collector from an elected position to a appointed position

A copy of the proposed ordinance is attached.

Robert Lessler, Selectman said the Board of Selectmen had made the proposal for several reasons:

- it is an administrative job
- it is outside the political arena
- it requires special skills and qualifications
- it would open up a wider pool of candidates

In Fairfield County, there are 14 appointed and 9 elected Tax Collectors. In Connecticut, there are 88 appointed and 80 elected Tax Collectors.

The moderator then called for public comment.

Lee Hanson noted that this is a significant change in how we govern Easton. Why is it proposed now and with so little notice?

Robert Lessler responded that this is not the first time this has come up and it is not a new idea.

Charles Welch asked if, as stated in the newspaper, it is motivated by the Tax Collectors desire to leave town? If so, it is a bad idea if it is based on the economic situation of the incumbent. We should retain the obligation of the Tax Collector to the electors. Vote No.

Dori Wollen noted that existing ordinances require that town officials be resident electors even if appointed. Consequently, even if approved, the Tax Collector would have to live in town. This is a major change with no benefit to either party. Vote No.

Pat Hildenbrand, Easton Tax Collector, said:

- when she was hired she was told it would become an appointed position
- the town has tried three times to change it
- most department heads live out of town
- she cannot live in Easton on her income
- if she leaves the town will suffer

John Harris said:

- he has no complaints with the Tax Collector
 - he thought any decision should not be based on an individual
 - it has not happened in Easton but the Tax Collector could be used as a political weapon
 - Recent events in Stratford are an example. The town leader appointed all of the government officers and took them with him when he left. This left the town with no government.
 - It is better if the officers, including the Tax Collector, serves the voters
 - Power should not be concentrated in the government
- Vote No

Roger Wollen said:

- this is an effort to protect one person
- it is admirable but undesirable and inappropriate

- Pat Hildenbrand has done an excellent job
 - However, the individual is not the issue and the proposal is not right
- Vote No

Grant Monsarrat said:

- he strongly disagrees with the proposed ordinance
 - it is not true that appointing is less political than electing
 - anything that diminishes democracy, as this does, needs a lot of thought
- Vote No

Nanc van Clief said:

- no single wage earner can afford to live in Easton
- can we keep the position as elected but not require residence

Robert Lessler replied that we are governed by state statutes.

Gowan Dacey said:

- he see the obvious haste as a problem
- this was only raised at the Selectmen's meeting a few days ago and there has been no discussion
- Haste will result in a mistake
- South Park Avenue is an example of a "pig in a poke" that we bought in haste.
- It is not a good idea to strengthen the power of the First Selectman despite the comments from Selectman Lessler.

Vote No

In the absence of any more comments, the question was called seconded and voted on. The Moderator said the voice vote was too close to call and request a stand up vote. This resulted in 24 in favor and 42 against. The ordinance proposal was defeated.

Item 3

Discuss and take possible action to amend Section 8.3 of the Solid Waste Ordinance to allow for alternate members on the Solid Waste Commission.

A copy of the proposed amended ordinance is attached.

The question was moved and seconded. The Moderator then asked for comments. The Town Clerk then called for three amendments. These were:

- Revocation. A revocation clause should be added to revoke the existing ordinance if the amended ordinance is approved. The Moderator called for a vote and the amendment was approved by unanimous voice vote
- Effective Date. The ambiguity should be removed by removing the words "after adoption by the Town Meeting". The Moderator called for a vote and the amendment was approved by unanimous voice vote.
- Section 8.3. This was originally written when the commission was established. Consequently, the member's terms were increased to five years on a scheduled basis. This is not required for the current commission since the terms are already established. If left unchanged they would all revert to the previous schedule. The amendment removed

Section 8.3 entirely and substituted the following words:
“The terms of all current members will be unchanged. Two alternate members will be added with five year terms”
The Moderator called for a vote and the amendment was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Item 4

Discuss the proposed annual Town Budget for fiscal year 2010-2011 in the amount of \$40,505,363 as recommended by the Board of Finance

A copy of the proposed budget is attached.

Mark Pompa Chair of the Board of Finance presented the budget [copy attached]. He noted that the Region 9 budget was set by them and would be voted on separately. The proposed budget was the result of many reductions in the town departments. No further reductions were requested from the local Board of Education. The proposed budget would require a 22.4 mil rate.

Roger Wollen noted that Ed Nagy was noted for tight budgets. How would he achieve the two man reduction without loss of service. Ed responded that two full time positions were converted to part time with a savings in benefits.

Charles Welch asked about the funding status of the town pension fund.

Mark Pompa responded that this budget would fund it at the middle of the recommended actuarial range. As a result, it would be funded at approximately 83%.

Charles Welch noted that Connecticut had the worse funded state pension fund in the country [57%] and asked if Easton was part of that fund. Tom Herrmann responded that unionized town employees participate in the state plan.

Art Laske described the budget as balanced, fair and lean and noted that if it failed reductions in the education budget were inevitable.

Al Treidel gave a detailed breakdown of how they arrived at this year's local education budget. He noted that it was 0.3% below last year's.

Jim Gromiller suggested that next year they experiment with self teaching software programs.

The Helen Keller Middle School principal applauded the suggestion. She said they had experimented with Rosetta Stone but it was not compatible with their hardware.

A Judd Road resident asked about the size of the police force and requested a comparative study with other towns.

Tom Herrmann said that negotiations were in progress with the Police on a new contract and he could not comment. He

did say that it was an issue for the Police Commission to address.

The Moderator noted that the Selectmen had decided to submit the budget to a referendum vote and no vote would be taken this evening.

Item 5

Discuss and approve a five-year capital plan

A copy of the proposed five-year capital plan is attached.

Mark Pompa noted that a five year capital plan was a legal requirement. It was not a commitment and was reviewed annually.

The question was proposed, seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

Item 6

Set July 1, 2010 and January 2, 2010 for the 2009 grand list bills

The question was proposed, seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

Item 7

Adjourn the Town Meeting to a machine vote to be held on Tuesday, May 4, 2010 6.00am to 8.00pm at Samuel Staples Elementary School to vote on the annual budget for 2010-2011.

The question was proposed, seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was moved, seconded and passed by unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 9.54pm.

VOTE SUMMARY

EASTON MUNICIPAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 3, 2009 ELECTIONS

OFFICE	ENDORSED	PARTY	VOTES	ELECTED	TERM [FROM-TO]	NUMBER TO BE ELECTED
First Selectman	Thomas A. Herrmann	R	1583	✓	11/3/2009- 11/8/2011	1
	Christopher J. Neubert	D	612	x		
Selectman	Scott S. Centrella	R	1382	✓	11/3/2009- 11/8/2011	2
	Robert H. Lessler	D	794	✓		
Town Clerk	W. Derek Buckley	R	1301	✓	1/4/2010-1/2/2012	1
	Michael S. Kivell	D	879	x		
Treasurer	John F. Campbell	R	1682	✓	11/3/2009- 11/8/2011	1
	No Candidate	D				
Tax Collector	Patrice Hildenbrand	R	1677	✓	11/3/2009- 11/8/2011	1
	No Candidate	D				
Board of Finance [6 year term]	Christine Calvert	R	1242	x	11/3/2009- 11/3/2015	2
	Christian D. Griffin	R	1131	x		
	Elise L. Broach*	D	944	✓		
	Arthur C. Laske III*	D	976	✓		
Board of Finance [2 year term]]	Mark Pompa	R	1256	✓	11/3/2009- 11/8/2011	1
	Thomas H. Partridge	D	900	x		
Board of Education	Adam Dunsby	R	1259	✓	11/3/2009- 11/3/2015	2
	Elin R. Cohen	D	863	✓		
Board of Assessment Appeals	Judy K. Weinstein	D	1272	✓	11/3/2009- 11/3/2015	1
	No Candidate	R				
Zoning Board of Appeals	Victor George	R	1645	✓	11/3/2009- 11/3/2015	2
	Mitchell Greenberg	R	1653	✓		
	No Candidate	D				
	No Candidate	D				

Board of Finance [6 year term]

*Minority Representation rules determine elected candidates.

CONTINUED

OFFICE	ENDORSED	PARTY	VOTES	ELECTED	TERM [FROM-TO]	NUMBER TO BE ELECTED
Constable	George A. Beno	R	1189	✓	11/3/2009-11/8/2011	7
	Gary J. Stevens.	R	1007	✓		
	Joseph L. Silhavy	R	1257	✓		
	John L. Johnston	R	1206	✓		
	Irving Silverman	D	1037	✓		
	Richard F. Greiser	D	930	✓		
	David P. Katz	D	757	x		
	Gloria Bindelglass	D	846	✓		
Library Trustee	Gina Orticelli	R	1257	✓	11/3/2009-11/3/2015	2
	Elaine H. Spicer	D	855	✓		
Region 9 Board of Education	William Allen Baker III	R	1261	✓	11/3/2009-11/5/2013	2
	Catherine D. Gombos	R	1341	✓		
	Margot Z. Abrams	D	867	x		
	Ryan T. Walker	D	779	x		

BUDGET REFERENDUM RESULTS

Samuel Staples Elementary School

Machine Vote

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Question 1: Easton Town Budget

Shall the Town of Easton appropriate the sum of Forty Million, Five Hundred and Five Thousand, Three Hundred Sixty Three Dollars (\$40,505,363) for the annual Town budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011? (This includes Easton's share of the Region 9 budget)

YES 918 NO 471 APPROVED BY 447 VOTES

Question 2 : Region 9 Education Budget

Shall the Regional School District Number 9, Composed of the Towns of Easton and Redding Appropriate and Authorize the Expenditure of Twenty-One Million, Two Hundred Twelve Thousand, and Two Hundred Twelve Dollars (\$21,212,212) as the Operating Budget of the District for the Period of July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011? (Easton's share is \$10,065,195 and Redding's share is \$11,147,017).

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>RESULT</u>
Easton:	883	504	PASSED BY 379
Redding	937	563	PASSED BY 374
REGION 9	1820	1067	PASSED BY 753

TOWN OFFICIALS

Board of Selectmen

Thomas A. Herrmann, First Selectman
Robert H. Lessler
Scott S. Centrella

Town Clerk

W. Derek Buckley

Treasurer

John F. Campbell

Tax Collector

Patrice Hildenbrand

Registrar of Voters

Nicholas Soares, Democratic
Eunice K. Hanson, Republican
November 2010 Election
Ronald Kowalski, Democratic
Krista Kot - Republican

Board of Finance

Elise Broach
C. Lee Hanson
Andrew Kachele
Arthur Laske III
Mark Pompa
Salvatore Tartaglione

Alternates – Claire Gold
Christian D. Griffin
Fred Knopf

Board of Assessment Appeals

Hugh Barry
Donald Calvert
Judy K. Weinstein

Alternates – A. Reynolds Gordon
Lori Mezes
Thomas Sheehan

Library Board

Gail V. Gay
John Vance Hancock
Gina Orticelli
Rita Seclow
Jon Sonneborn
Elaine H. Spicer

Easton Board of Education

Regina Bobroski
Adam Dunsby
Glenn Maiorano
Vida Peskey
Alfred Treidel
Dr. Daniel Underberger

Regional Board of Education (Easton Members)

Margot Abrams
Catherine Gombos
Thomas S. Logie
Judith Shapiro

Constables

George A. Beno
Gloria Bindelglass
Richard Greiser
Jack Johnston

Joseph Silhavy
Irving Silverman
Gary J. Stevens

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Public Works Director/Town Engineer

Edward L. Nagy

Police Chief

John F. Solomon

Comptroller

Grace Stanczyk

Director of Health

Christopher Michos, M.D.
Paula A. Edwards, Health Officer

Emergency Management Director

Lt. Richard Doyle

Building Official

Emil Martin

Fire Chief

James Girardi

Park & Recreation Commission

John Broadbin
Thomas Cable
Kirsten Ceva
Mark D'Augelli
Michael Fleischer
Steve Lichtman
Kathleen Smith

Planning & Zoning Commission

Steve Carlson
Paul Dominianni
Russell Leggett
Robert Maquat, Chair
Wallace Williams

Alternates - Milan Spisek
Darrin Silhavy
Robert DeVillis

Zoning Board of Appeals

Patricia Berlin
Victor George
Mitchell Greenberg
John Harris-Chair
Charles Lynch

Alternates – Gregory Alves
Thomas Dollard
Raymond W. Ganim

Insurance Commission

John Allan
Wendy Bowditch
Peter Pisaretz
Eileen Stirling
Thomas A. Herrmann

Tree Warden

Richard B. McLaughlin

Municipal Agent for the Elderly

Kathleen Tressler

Zoning Enforcement Officer/Wetlands Enforcement Officer

Phillip A. Doremus

Assessor

Teresa Rainieri

Measurer of Wood

Joseph Silhavy

Irving Snow

Fire Marshal

Peter G. Neary

Deputy Marshals - Lucy Crossman

Schuyler Sherwood

Amy Borofsky

Board of Ethics

Kathy Cunningham

Luck Katz

Beverly Nardone

Cleo Sonneborn

Barbara Stowell

Greater Bridgeport Regional Planning Agency

Representatives

Wallace Williams

Peter Neary

Easton Representative to the Southwestern Connecticut

Emergency Medical Services Council

Carolyn Kearney

Emergency Medical Communications Center, Inc

Representative

Victor Malindretos

Police Commission

Richard J. Colangelo, Jr.

Marvin Gelfand

Ronald Kowalski, II*

Raymond Martin

Robert Nicola

*Replaced by Laurie Israel July 1, 2010

Emergency Medical Services Commission

Robert Adriani

Sayed H. Aleali, M.D.

Gloria Bindelglass

Adele O'Kane

James Spak, M.D.

Pension & Employee Benefits Commission

Marvin Gelfand

Alan Goldbecker- Chairman

A. Reynolds Gordon

John Harrington

H. Michael Keden

Sandra Neubert

John Smith

Thomas A. Herrmann

Solid Waste Commission

Thomas Collins

Anthony Colonnese

Thomas Dollard

Clint Salko, Chair

Philip Snow

Advisory Board for the Easton Senior Center

Mary Burlinson

Sharon Cregeen

Anne Fiyalka

Prabha Gupta

Terri Kelso

Eric Lawton

David Pearlstone

Claire J. Paolini, Ph.D.

Marilyn Santella

Sal Santella

Brigitte Shkreli

Alice Weissman

Fire Commission

Ralph Altieri

George Beno

Roberta Cable

Anthony Colonnese

Robert Monda

Conservation Commission

Stephen Corti

Stephen Edwards

Roy Gosse

Marla Manning

John Mehanna

Eleanor Sylvestro

Dori Wollen

Alternates – Catherine Alfandre

Ray Martin

Kenneth Twombly

Commission for the Aging

Cecilia Campbell - Chair

Gail Gay

Carol Hume

Janet Klein

Joel Peskay

Alternates - Nancy Gavigan

Phyllis Machledt

Vacancy

Area Nine Cable Council Representatives

Andy Anderson

Douglas Dempsey

Alternate – David Smith

Connecticut Coastal Fairfield County

Convention & Visitor Bureau

Mary Ann Freeman

Human Resource Advisory Committee

Grace Stanczyk

William J. Kupinse, Jr.

Carmen Montaro

Elise Broach

Vacancy

Thomas A. Herrmann

Safety and Health Committee

Althea J. Falco

Gary Csanadi

Terry Calgreen

Carmen Montaro

Kay Oestreicher

Mary Enos

Gary Simone

Robert Cocivi

Keith Rivoir

Social Services

Josephine Stenqvist, Director

Tax Relief for the Elderly Committee 2007

Cecelia Campbell
Sharon Cregeen
Linda Dollard
Pat Finick
John Gavigan
Marvin Gelfand
A. Reynolds Gordon
John Harrington
Paul Lindoerfer

Cemetery Committee

Robert Bloom
W. Derek Buckley
Phillip Doremus
Gary Haines
Joan Kirk
David Silverglade
Lisa Burghardt-Alternate
James Mellen-Alternate
Jonathan Fanton-Adjunct
Mary Lou Weinstein-Adjunct
Kevin Andrew King-Adjunct

Senior Center Building Committee

John Bromer
Foster McKeon
Joseph Schettino
Robert Sullivan

Animal Control Committee

Peg Macaluso
June Logie
Marvin Gelfand
Marnie Waiwat
Clinton Hackson
Clarence Jennings

Clean Energy Task Force

Catherine Alfandre
Heidi Armster
Katie Callahan
Robert DeVellis
Fred Lovejoy
Regina McNamara

9-11 Memorial Building Committee

Paula Barker
Beverlee Dacey
Andrew Kachele
Liz Maiorano
Sal M. Santella, M.D.

Land Preservation and Acquisition Authority

Victor Alfandre
A.J. Afridi
Carolyn Colangelo
Robert Ehlers
Christopher Neubert
Irving Snow – Alternate
Jeffrey Borofsky - Alternate

TOWN DEPARTMENTS AND EMPLOYEES

Selectman's Office

Thomas A. Herrmann, 1st Selectman
Scott Centrella, Selectman
Robert Lessler, Selectman
Althea Falco, Administrative Assistant
Lauren Miller, Receptionist
Terry Calgreen, Custodian

Town Clerk

W. Derek Buckley, Town Clerk & Registrar of
Vital Statistics
Joan Kirk, Assistant Town Clerk & Assistant
Registrar of Vital Statistics
Deborah Szegedi – Assistant Town Clerk &
Assistant Registrar of Vital Statistics

Treasurer's Office

John Campbell, Treasurer
Grace Stanczyk, Comptroller
Carmen Montero, HRCC
Lauren Miller, Accounts Payable Clerk

Planning & Zoning Department

John Hayes, Land Use Director
Phillip A. Doremus, Zoning Enforcement Officer
Margaret Anania, Secretary

Zoning Board of Appeals

Margaret Anania, Secretary

Building Department

Emil Martin, Building Official
Josephine Stenqvist, Secretary

Health Department

Christopher Michos, M.D., Director of Health
Paula Edwards, Health Official
Sheila Piritzky, Secretary

Conservation Department

Phillip Doremus, Wetlands Enforcement Officer
Janice Greiser, Clerk

Assessor's Office

Teresa Rainieri, Assessor
Louise Oakes, Assessor's Assistant

Tax Collector

Patrice Hildenbrand, Tax Collector
Rachel Maciulewski, Assistant Tax Collector

Municipal Agent for the Elderly

Katie Tressler, Agent
Pamela Healy, Outreach Worker

Senior Center

Valerie Buckley, Director
Cheryl (Kay) Oestreich, Asst Director
Aimee Goerg, Driver
Randy Shapiro, Driver
Heriberto Torres, P/T Driver

Park & Recreation Department

Gary Simone, Director
Lauren DiMartino, Programmer
Danielle Alves, Afterschool Program Coordinator
and Department Secretary
Chris Lemos, Maintenance Supervisor
Walt Litzie, Maintainer I

Library

Bernadette Baldino, Director
Lynn Zafino, Children's/Young Adult Librarian
Lisa Forman, Assistant Director

Assistants

Barbara Fitchen
Ann A. Salvia
Penelope Papadoulis
Michael Pettiti
Nancy Harris
Margaret Timlin
Kristina Sorfozo

Aides

Evan March
Amanda Wenger
Brenden Santoro
Justin Santoro
Jamie VanClief

Police Department

John F. Solomon, Police Chief
James R. Candee, Captain
Richard Doyle, Lieutenant
William Spencer, Sergeant
Jonathan Arnold, Sergeant

Police Officers

Thomas Brennan
Thomas Ceccarelli
Gary Csanadi
Tamra French
John Sollazo
Mark Pastor
David Simpson
Kent Lyman
David Ferguson
Donald Kinahan
Jay Festa

Special Officers

John Bech
Craig Tibbals
Oreibis Flores
Diane Barriga, Administrative Assistant
Bonnie Protsko, Records Clerk I
Joanne Benson, Records Clerk II

Communications Department**Dispatchers**

Matthew Caldwell
Loretta Harsche
Tara Candee

Part Time Dispatchers

Richard Applebaum
Cheryl Smolinsky
Ann Slimak
Joanne Benson
Cari-Ann Logie
Chris Lazar
Eric Lorenz
John Ojarovsky
John Sredzinski

Canine Control

Kelly Fitch, Dog Warden
Marjorie Costa, Assistant Dog Warden
Deborah Ice, Assistant Dog Warden
James McDonald, Assistant Dog Warden

Registrars of Voters

Nicholas Soares, Democrat
Eunice Hanson, Republican

Public Works Department

Edward L. Nagy, Director and Town Engineer
Bruce Bombero, Engineer
Keith Rivoir, Highway Superintendent
Jeanie Schwartz, Secretary
Rachel Maciulewski, Secretary part time
Daniel Treadwell, Garage Mgr/Lead Mechanic
Robert Cocivi, Facilities Technician

Highwaymen

Scott Smith
Don Perkins
Oscar Sampaio
Jamie Correia
Mark Iacobucci
Jason Perkins
Mark Alves
William Bantle, Jr.
William Goessinger
Francisco Jose
Kenneth Schwartz, Jr.
William Bantle, Sr.

Emergency Medical Services

Andrew Rosenthal, EMT
John Snyder, EMT
Marjorie Smith, EMS Service Chief
Jonathan Arnold, EMS Assistant Service Chief
Carolyn Kearney
Bruce Lewis
Chris Lazar

Emergency Management Director

Richard Doyle

Fire Department

James Girardi, Fire Chief
Steve Waugh, Asst Fire Chief
Mark Mirowski, Asst Fire Chief
Peter Neary, Fire Marshal
Schuyler Sherwood, Deputy Fire Marshal
Lucy Crossman, Deputy Fire Marshal

Firemen

Wayne Crossman
Michael Ohradan
James Wright
R. David Davies
Alfred Doty
Michael Sabia, Jr.
Michael Strehan
Mark Mirowski (p/t)
Martin Ohradan

ADMINISTRATION AND TEACHING STAFF

SAMUEL STAPLES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Kimberly Fox Santora

Assistant Principal: Catherine LaTorre

Director of Special Services: Donna Demusis-Dekle

Teachers:

Anderson, Claudia
Arlotta, Jeanine
Ashby, Charleen
Bachelder, Maureen
Bajda, Katie
Barrows, Rachael
Bates, Allan
Brakeman, John
Brown, Carmen
Chatfield, Callen
Clark, Jessica
Clark, Russell
Colasanto, Kristen
Cooper, Donald
Corsino, Kristin
Cox, Kelly
Duffy, Lynne
Durette, Kay
Edwards, Jennifer
Fuller, Amy
Giglio-Opalinski, Elizabeth
Haber, Rachel
Hobbs, Laura
Holroyd, Stephanie
Keleher, Robin
Kloeblen, Elizabeth
Kuruc, Jill
Lambert, Courtney
Lazar, Diane
Linker, Ellen
MacArthur, Carey
Maggi, Courtney
Marchetti, Emily
Menegay, Judith
Menegay, Robert
Minty, Paige
Muccio, Mary
Murray, Timothy
Olschan, Kathryn
Paciello, Sunny Michelle
Pilkington, Dawn
Remmell, Diana
Russo, Christopher
Scholz, Darcy
Simmons, Helen
Traggianese, Amy
Woodford, Karen

Special Education Teachers:

Barnard, Stacey
Breuer, Wanda
Edwards, Tracy
Herman, Kristina
Herrick, Robert
Husted, Shani
Keating, Geraldine
Kessler, Melissa
Morrow, Patricia
Langlois, Laura
Skoczylas, Julianne
Stern, Karen
Wulf, Linda

HELEN KELLER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Principal: Joan Parker

Assistant Principal: Susan Kaplan

Teachers:

Ahearn, Allison
Astle, Kyle
Baker, Michelle
Breyer, David
Broas, Sarah
Brodeur, Cynthia
Carlucci, Katharine
Cioppa, Roberta
Cockerham, Arthur
Culliton, Nancy
Dunkerton, Amber
Harington, Heather Calico
Henry, Paula
Honychurch, Betsey
King, Jean
Kirk, Megan
Klein, Nicole
LaValle, Robert
Maggi, Linda
Marusa, Debora
Moore, Ashleigh
Noone, Elisabeth
Powell, Stacey
Rose, Jennifer
Schweikert, Karen
Scrivani, Ann
Solis, Nicole
Studeney, Jason
Thomas, Patricia
Tramontano, Jean
Ustie, Elizabeth
Walsh, Brian
Weinshel, Carol

Special Education Teachers:

Cuttner, Nancy
Donegan, Tracey
Heran, Kimberly
Klatt, Meredith
Pearson, Eric
Richter, Leslie

JOEL BARLOW HIGH SCHOOL**Principal:** Thomas McMorran**Assistant Principal:** Anne Kipp**Assistant Principal:** Gina Pinn**Director of Special Services:** Patricia Roszko**Teachers:**

Albano, Donna
Anderson, Michelle
Angelis, Michael
Angell, Christopher
Antal, Steven
Atkinson, Mary
Bailey, Beth
Barcham, Dale
Barna, Frederick
Bernardo, Margaret
Breault, Christopher
Brix, Nancy
Brown, Jeffrey
Budd, Jonathan
Cianco, Brian
Correa, Catherine
Crowley, John
D'Amato, Daniela
DelAngelo, Henry
Desmarais, Jennifer
Detelich, Charles
DeVoto, James
Ecsedy, Michael
Egan, Jeanne
Eller, George
Erickson, Ashley
Estes, Lori
Fallo, Kristen
Fricker, Jacob
Gang, Scott
Garvey, Janice
Gervasoni, Fred
Giordano IV, Ralph
Givoni, Julianne
Goodpaster, Pamela
Hamlin, Paul
Horton, Cheryl
Huminski, Carolyn
Huminski, Timothy
Huot, Charles
Intemann, Michael
Kaldawy, Nicole

Keeney, Kristin
Kilbourn, Maureen
Kilbourn, Thomas
Kipp, Anne
Light, Randall
Luzietti, Brian
Magrino, Filomena
Matthews, Jonathan
McElwee, Michael
McMorran, Thomas
McNulty V, Jane
McTague, Julie
Morosky, Katherine
Nocturne, Margaret
Nuzzo, Katherine
Panos, Paula
Pieratti, Maryanne
Pinsky, Jordan
Potpinka, Thomas
Poulos, Christopher
Ramirez, Jennifer
Rao, Christina
Rappelfeld, Brian
Reimold, Scott
Richter, Thomas
Rivers, Daniel
Rowland, Andrea
Salko-Peddle, Sheila
Santangeli, Michael
Sheehy, Mary Ann
Siddell, Kathleen
Skalkos, Leann
Smith, Barbara
Smith, Randall
Sopko, Joseph
Spinner, Daniel
Staley, Jessica
Sugden, Mary Elizabeth
Taubner, Debra
Therien, Beth
VanAusdal, Sandra
Vialotti, Laura
Waterman, Waltraut
Whiting, Jacquelyn
Wright, Alison

Special Education Teachers:

Egan, Margaret
Feranec, Sandra
Hoyt, Rebecca
Hrebin, Mary Pat
Powers, John
Queen, Christine
Roberts, Marlene
Schutt, Cheryl
Straggazi, Matt
Sullivan, Karen

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TOWN DIRECTORY

EMERGENCY - POLICE - FIRE - AMULANCE	911
NON-EMERGENCY	203-268-4111
POLICE - FIRE - AMBULANCE	
TOWN HALL	203-268-6291
FAX	203-268-4928
FIRST SELECTMAN	
ASSESSOR	
TOWN CLERK	
TAX COLLECTOR	
TREASURER	
BUILDING DEPARTMENT	
HEALTH DEPARTMENT	
PLANNING & ZONING	
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	
CONSERVATION	
REGISTRARS	
FAX - TOWN CLERK	203-261-6080
LIBRARY	203-261-0134
SENIOR CENTER	203-268-1145
MUNICIPAL AGENT	203-268-1137
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT	203-268-0714
PARK & RECREATION DEPARTMENT	203-268-7200
DOG WARDEN	203-268-9172
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS - CENTRAL OFFICE	203-261-2513
SAMUEL STAPLES SCHOOL	203-261-3607
HELEN KELLER MIDDLE SCHOOL	203-268-8651
JOEL BARLOW HIGH SCHOOL	203-938-2508
EASTON POST OFFICE	203-261-8386
PROBATE JUDGE - JOHN P. CHIOTA	203-452-5068
FAX	203-452-5092
STATE OFFICIALS - SENATOR JOHN MCKINNEY REPRESENTATIVE JOHN SHABAN	
U.S.OFFICIALS - SENATOR JOSEPH LIEBERMAN SENATOR RICHARD BLUMENTHAL CONGRESSMAN JIM HIMES	

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS - BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Advisory Board Easton Senior Center	2nd Tuesday	5:00 p.m.
Senior Center		
Agricultural Committee	2nd Tuesday	7:00 p.m.
As announced		
Animal Control Committee	2nd and 4th Wednesdays	7:00 p.m.
Police Department		
Annual Town Meeting	Last Monday in April	8:00 p.m.
Samuel Staples School		
Board of Assessment Appeals		
Assessor's Office - Town Hall		
Property Tax Grievances - March		
Motor Vehicle Tax Grievances - September		
Assessor's Office - Town Hall		
Board of Education	Monthly - Check Posting	7:30 p.m.
Helen Keller Middle School		
Board of Ethics	As Required	
Town Hall Conference Room		
Board of Finance	1st Tuesday	7:30 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room		
Board of Selectmen	1st and 3rd Thursdays	7:30 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room		
Board of Zoning Appeals	1st Monday	5:30 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room		
Cemetery Committee	As required	3:00 p.m.
As Announced		
Clean Energy Task Force	4th Thursday	7:30 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room		
Commission for the Aging	1st Monday	5:00 p.m.
Senior Center		
Conservation Commission	2nd and 4th Tuesdays	7:30 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room		
EMS Commission	2nd Wednesday	7:00 p.m.
EMS Headquarters		
Financial Oversight Committee	3rd Tuesday	6:30 p.m.
Joel Barlow High School		
Fire Commission	3rd Wednesday	7:30 p.m.
Firehouse		
Human Resources Advisory Committee	As Required	
Insurance Commission	As Required	
Town Hall Conference Room		
Land Preservation and Acquisition Authority	2nd Tuesday-every other month	7:30 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room		
Library Board of Trustees	1st Monday	7:00 p.m.
Library Conference Room		
9-11 Memorial Building Committee	3rd Wednesday	7:00 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room		
Park & Recreation	1st Monday	7:30 p.m.
Helen Keller Middle School		
Pension Committee	2nd Tues. Jan,May,Aug,and Nov	5:30 p.m.
Joel Barlow High School		

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS - BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Pension & Employee Benefits	2nd Tuesday - Bimonthly	8:30 a.m.
Town Hall Conference Room		
PHNA	4th Monday	2:00 p.m.
As Announced		
Planning & Zoning Commission	2nd and 4th Mondays	6:30 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room		
Police Commission	2nd Monday	5:30 p.m.
As Announced		
Regional Board of Education	Check Posting	7:30 p.m.
Joel Barlow High School		
Safety and Health Committee	As Required	
Town Hall Conference Room		
Senior Center Building Committee	Every Monday	7:15 p.m.
Senior Center		
Solid Waste Commission	2nd Wednesday	4:00 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room		
Tax Relief for the Elderly	As Required	5:30 p.m.
Senior Center		
2001 School Building Committee	As Required	
As Announced		

TOWN CALENDAR

SELECTMAN'S OFFICE	Monday-Friday	8:30-4:30
ASSESSOR	Monday-Friday	8:30-4:30
TOWN CLERK	Monday-Friday	8:30-3:30
TAX COLLECTOR	Monday-Friday	8:30-4:30
TREASURER	Monday-Friday	8:30-4:30
BUILDING DEPARTMENT	Monday-Friday	8:30-12:30&1:00-4:30
HEALTH DEPARTMENT	Monday, Wednesday, Friday	8:30-12:30&1:00-4:30
PLANNING & ZONING	Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri.	9:30-1:30
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	Wednesday	9:30-1:30
CONSERVATION	Monday-Friday	8:30-12:30
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS	Thursday	10:00 – 2:00
LIBRARY	Monday, Friday Tuesday, Wednesday Thursday Saturday Closed Sundays	10:00-5:00 10:00-8:00 10:00-6:00 10:00-3:00
SENIOR CENTER	Monday-Friday	8:00-3:30
MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY	Monday-Friday	8:00-1:00
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT	Monday-Friday	7:00-3:30
PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT	Monday-Friday	8:30-12:30
TAXES DUE	FIRST HALF July 1 st	SECOND HALF January 1 st
DOG LICENSES DUE – TOWK CLERK	June 1 st	
HUNTING & FISHING LICENSES – TOWK CLERK	All Year	
REGISTRATION OF BEES – TOWN CLERK	Before October 1 st	
TRANSFER STATION PERMITS-RECEPTIONIST	Monday-Friday	8:30-4:30
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING	Last Monday in April	8:00 P.M.

THE STAPLES GUARDIAN FUND

Samuel Staples was a thrifty and hard-working farmer from what was then North Fairfield, Connecticut. A life-long bachelor who had no close relatives, Mr. Staples decided to focus his Last Will and Testament dated January 7, 1787 on the establishment of a trust consisting of the Staples farm and other real estate to be known as the Guardian Fund. The annual income derived by the Fund was to be distributed among several school districts within North Fairfield and Norfield (roughly corresponding to today's Towns of Easton and Weston respectively) in proportion to the number of poor children that were schooled in those districts and "to them only". At the time, taxes generally covered the operating expenses of the schools but the scholars were expected to pay a share of their own expenses through tuition assessment. The Staples trust was designed to provide funds to those too poor to pay their share. In the mid 1800's, tuition payments were abandoned and the Guardian Fund evolved into a general school trust fund with annual income divided between Weston and Easton, retaining the ratio of school enrollment to apportion the available funds.

By a Special Act of the Connecticut Legislature in 1921, the trust assets in real estate were authorized to be sold, and to invest the proceeds thereof in accordance with the laws relating to the investment of trust funds, with the income to be disbursed between the two towns pro-rata with the number of the enumerated pupils in each town. Pursuant to a second Special Act of Connecticut Legislature in 1967, the Town of Weston shall distribute its share to a scholarship committee, the members of which shall be appointed by the Weston Guardians of The Staples Guardian Fund and approved by the Weston Board of Selectmen. The Staples Scholarship Committee of Weston shall administer the income received to provide college scholarships for Weston residents on the basis of financial need. In the past, the Town of Easton directed their distributive share into the General Fund of the Town, but in recent years has directed those payments to the Staples Free School Fund.

The original stock certificates are kept at the Town of Weston Town Hall, in the custody of the Town Clerk's office, along with the historical records of the Fund. The Weston Finance Director's responsibilities include being the custodian of the funds, investing these funds as agreed upon by the trustees, paying obligations, and compiling the annual financial statements and supporting schedules.

During fiscal year 2009/2010 the Town of Weston requested that steps to close the Fund be initiated and the Town of Easton's Treasurer as its representative agreed to aid in the exploration of the legal and financial action that might be required. The Fund's corpus had fallen to a point where the efficient and prudent investment management and the annual distribution of the remaining assets had become impracticable and were at a level far below the assets held by Weston's Staples Scholarship Fund and Easton's Staples Free School

Fund - the investment vehicles where the Guardian Fund's distributions have been placed.

The Fund's Committee petitioned the Court of Probate in Fairfield, Connecticut seeking permission to terminate the Fund and distribute its assets as soon as prudently possible in the new fiscal year. A hearing was held in Fairfield before Judge Daniel F. Caruso on March 30, 2010. The Court ordered the termination of the Staples Guardian Fund and that the corpus and accrued income be distributed based upon the ratio of enrollment of students in the public schools within the Towns of Weston and Easton as of October 1, 2009.

As of June 30, 2010 a total of \$74,020.87 was distributed based upon the aforementioned ratio. Weston's portion totaling \$51,814.61 was placed in the Weston School Scholarship Fund. Easton's portion, \$22,206.26, was delivered to the Staples Free School Fund.

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Independent Auditors' Report

Board of Finance
Town of Easton
Easton, Connecticut

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Easton, Connecticut, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2010, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These basic financial statements are the responsibility of the Town's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the basic financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town's internal control over financial reporting. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the basic financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and the significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall basic financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Easton, Connecticut, as of June 30, 2010, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, thereof for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 28, 2010 on our consideration of the Town of Easton, Connecticut's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

Management's discussion and analysis on pages 3 through 9, the budgetary comparison information on pages 45 through 49, are not required parts of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of Easton, Connecticut's basic financial statements. The combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements and schedules are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements and schedules have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Blum, Shapiro & Company, P.C.

December 28, 2010

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2010

Management of the Town of Easton offers readers these financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Town for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010.

The purpose of the MD&A is to provide to the reader an interpretation of the financial information and results of the fiscal year.

Financial Highlights

- The assets of the Town exceeded its liabilities at the close of the most recent year by \$59,851,023 (*net assets*). Of this amount, \$6,108,803 (*unrestricted net assets*) may be used to meet the Town's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.
- The Town's total net assets increased by \$1,290,605. Substantially all of the increase is attributable to capital expenditures in excess of depreciation expense and an increase in investment income.
- As of the close of the current fiscal year, the Town's governmental funds reported a combined deficit ending fund balance of \$(3,328,168). The deficit is attributable to capital projects that have not yet been permanently financed.
- At the end of the current fiscal year, unreserved and undesignated fund balance for the general fund was \$3,619,684 or 8.9% of total general fund expenditures and transfers out.
- The Town's total long-term obligations decreased by \$1,490,000 during the current fiscal year.

Overview of the Basic Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis are intended to serve as an introduction to the Town of Easton's basic financial statements. The Town's basic financial statements comprise three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to basic financial statements. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the Town's finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The statement of net assets presents information on all of the Town's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net assets. Over time, increases or decreases in net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Town is improving or deteriorating.

The statement of activities presents information showing how the Town's net assets changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net assets are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (e.g., uncollected taxes and earned but unused vacation leave).

The government-wide financial statements present only government activities whose functions are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues. The governmental activities of the Town include general government, public safety, public works, health and welfare, education, library, and parks and recreation.

Fund Financial Statements. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Town uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the Town can be divided into three categories: governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds.

Governmental Funds. Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resource, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a Town's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the Town's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

The Town maintains 23 individual governmental funds. Information is presented separately in the governmental fund balance sheet and in the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances for the general fund and bonded capital project fund, both of which are considered to be a major fund. Data from the other 21 governmental funds are combined into a single, aggregated presentation. Individual fund data for each of these nonmajor governmental funds is provided in the form of combining statements elsewhere in this report.

The Town adopts an annual appropriated budget for its general fund. A budgetary comparison statement has been provided for the general fund to demonstrate compliance with this budget.

Proprietary Funds. The Town maintains one proprietary fund. Internal service funds are an accounting device used to accumulate and allocate costs internally among the Town's various functions. The Town uses an internal service fund to account for the Board of Education medical insurance benefits. This activity has been included within governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements.

Fiduciary Funds. Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the Town. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because the resources of those funds are not available to support the Town's own programs. The accounting used for fiduciary funds is much like that used for proprietary funds.

Notes to Basic Financial Statements. The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

Other Information.

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary information concerning the Town's progress in funding its obligation to provide pension benefits to its employees.

The combining statements referred to earlier in connection with nonmajor governmental funds are presented immediately following the required supplementary information on pensions.

Government-Wide Financial Analysis

As noted earlier, net assets may serve over time as a useful indicator of a Town's financial position. In the case of the Town, assets exceeded liabilities by \$59,851,023 at the close of the most recent fiscal year.

A large portion of the Town's net assets (89.7%) reflects its investment in capital assets (e.g., land, construction in progress, land improvements, buildings, building improvements, machinery and equipment and vehicles), less any related debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding. The Town uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the Town's investment in its capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities.

**TOWN OF EASTON NET ASSETS
JUNE 30, 2010 AND 2009**

	Governmental Activities	
	2010	2009
Current and other assets	\$ 12,305,222	\$ 13,388,939
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	93,458,482	92,872,074
Total assets	<u>105,763,704</u>	<u>106,261,013</u>
Long-term debt outstanding	31,303,111	33,352,859
Other liabilities	14,609,570	14,347,736
Total liabilities	<u>45,912,681</u>	<u>47,700,595</u>
Net Assets:		
Invested in capital assets, net of debt	53,742,220	51,600,421
Unrestricted	<u>6,108,803</u>	<u>6,959,997</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>\$ 59,851,023</u>	<u>\$ 58,560,418</u>

None of the Town's net assets represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The remaining balance of unrestricted net assets, \$6,108,803, may be used to meet the Town's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors. At the end of the current fiscal year, the Town is able to report positive balances in both categories of net assets for the Town as a whole.

**TOWN OF EASTON CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2010 AND 2009**

	Governmental Activities	
	2010	2009
Revenues:		
Program revenues:		
Charges for services	\$ 1,748,630	\$ 2,532,048
Operating grants and contributions	2,460,870	2,861,357
Capital grants and contributions		704,000
General revenues:		
Property taxes	36,028,201	36,009,839
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific purposes	280,491	280,850
Investment income	563,996	474,555
Miscellaneous	21,940	47,636
Total revenues	<u>41,104,128</u>	<u>42,910,285</u>
Program expenses:		
General government	3,393,337	4,092,538
Public safety	3,564,387	3,664,813
Public works	3,061,206	3,285,768
Health and welfare	504,100	1,062,518
Education	26,294,245	25,363,524
Library	859,668	776,519
Parks and recreation	791,741	979,176
Interest expense	1,344,839	1,573,181
Total expenses	<u>39,813,523</u>	<u>40,798,037</u>
Increase in Net Assets	1,290,605	2,112,248
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	<u>58,560,418</u>	<u>56,448,170</u>
Net Assets - End of Year	<u>\$ 59,851,023</u>	<u>58,560,418</u>

Capital grants and contributions decreased by \$704,000 (100%) during the year. This decrease is due to a one time grant received last year to fund the construction of the senior center.

Financial Analysis of the Town's Funds

As noted earlier, the Town uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental Funds. The focus of the Town's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the Town's financing requirements. In particular, unreserved fund balance may serve as a useful measure of a Town's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

As of the end of the current fiscal year, governmental funds reported a combined deficit ending fund balance of \$(3,328,168), which is mainly attributed to the issuance of bond anticipation notes.

The general fund is the operating fund of the Town. At the end of the current fiscal year, unreserved, undesignated fund balance was \$3,619,684. As a measure of the general fund's liquidity, it may be useful to compare the unreserved fund balance to total general fund expenditures. Unreserved and undesignated fund balance represents 8.9% of total general fund expenditures and other financing uses, while total fund balance represents 10.4% of that same amount.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

The most significant difference between the original budget and the final amended budget included additional appropriations and revenue transfers in of \$95,211 and budget transfers of \$172,800 from various departments to the transfers out account to purchase equipment. The Board of Finance made a special appropriation to the Senior Center and transferred funds from police special service revenue to cover the expenditure.

A positive budget variance of \$123,701 in the fringe benefit account was mainly due to the increased percentage deductions from employees as well as the reduced premiums in insurance costs due to a change in benefit plans and the employees election to accept "in lieu of" the medical coverage. Also, there is a positive variance in the contingency account as the union contracts have not been settled to date.

Bonded Capital Projects Fund

This fund accounts for financial resources from general obligation bonds to be used for major capital asset construction and/or purchases.

Capital Assets and Debt Administration

Capital Assets. The Town's investment in capital assets as of June 30, 2010 is \$93,458,482 (net of accumulated depreciation). This investment in capital assets includes land, construction in progress, land improvements, buildings, building improvements, machinery and equipment and vehicles.

Major capital asset events during the current fiscal year included the following:

- The Wells Hill Bridge Project.
- The (Old SSES) 660 Morehouse Road Facilities and the Easton Country Day has been renovated with a Fire Suppression System.
- Construction has begun for the new Animal Shelter Facility that is being funded by two (2) grants and bonding.
- A new EMS ambulance was purchased this year.
- The remaining additions and deletions consisted of various equipment and vehicles for Town departments.

TOWN OF EASTON CAPITAL ASSETS
(Net of Depreciation)

	Governmental Activities	
	2010	2009
Land	\$ 19,028,656	\$ 19,028,656
Construction in progress	76,402	1,549,038
Land improvements	476,261	439,332
Buildings	54,568,750	53,822,153
Building improvements	1,290,974	247,665
Machinery and equipment	342,696	337,142
Vehicles	1,491,519	1,519,875
Infrastructure	16,183,224	15,928,213
Total	<u>\$ 93,458,482</u>	<u>\$ 92,872,074</u>

Additional information on the Town's capital assets can be found in Note 5 of this report.

Long-Term Debt. At the end of the current fiscal year, the Town had total debt outstanding of \$39,895,000. All of this debt comprises debt backed by the full faith and credit of the Town.

TOWN OF EASTON OUTSTANDING DEBT
General Obligation Bonds and Notes

	Governmental Activities	
	2010	2009
General obligation bonds - Town improvements	\$ 5,290,500	\$ 5,902,500
General obligation bonds - School improvements	23,554,500	25,557,500
Bond anticipation notes	11,050,000	9,925,000
Total	<u>\$ 39,895,000</u>	<u>\$ 41,385,000</u>

The Town is also obligated for a portion of the Regional School District No. 9 general obligation debt in the net amount of \$9,883,860.

On November 6, 2009, the Town issued \$11,050,000 of bond anticipation notes. These bond anticipation notes bear interest at 1.0% and mature on July 15, 2010, and are for elementary school construction, water main improvements and land acquisition.

During the fiscal year, the Town made bond principal payments of \$2,615,000 for school and general purpose debt.

The Town maintains an "Aa1" credit rating from Moody's Investors Service, Inc., for its general obligation debt.

State statutes limit the amount of general obligation debt a governmental entity may issue to 7 times its tax collections including interest and lien fees and the tax relief for elderly freeze grant. The current debt limitation for the Town is \$251,895,203 which is significantly in excess of the Town's outstanding general obligation debt.

Additional information on the Town's long-term debt can be found in Note 8 of this report.

Economic Factors and Next Year's Budget and Rates

The following are some factors that were considered in preparing the Town's budget for the 2011 fiscal year:

- The unemployment rate for the Town is currently 8.2%. This compares favorably to the state's average unemployment rate of 9.1% and the national average rate of 9.6 %.
- Inflationary trends in the region compare favorably to national indices.
- Town's elected and appointed officials considered Town-wide trends when setting the fiscal year 2011 budget. The Town decided that it was important to continue to support the school system and adopt a budget designed to promote long-term financial stability, conservative budgeting, and while at the same time, providing excellent services to our residents and taxpayers. In order to meet these objectives, work hours have been reduced in many departments, some services were reduced, and layoffs have occurred.
- At June 30, 2010, unreserved and undesignated fund balance in the general fund was \$3,619,684.

Requests for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Town's finances for all those with an interest in the government's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the Chairman, Board of Finance or the Office of the Comptroller, Town of Easton, 225 Center Road, Easton, Connecticut 06612.

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS

JUNE 30, 2010

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Assets:	
Current assets:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,792,504
Investments	8,137,251
Receivables, net	1,234,831
Other assets	1,043
Bond issuance costs	85,964
Total current assets	<u>12,251,593</u>
Noncurrent assets:	
Capital assets:	
Assets not being depreciated	19,105,058
Assets being depreciated, net	74,353,424
Total capital assets	<u>93,458,482</u>
Net pension asset	53,629
Total noncurrent assets	<u>93,512,111</u>
Total assets	<u>105,763,704</u>
Liabilities:	
Current liabilities:	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	2,790,506
Due to Regional School District No. 9	711,373
Unearned revenue	57,691
Bond anticipation notes	11,050,000
Total current liabilities	<u>14,609,570</u>
Noncurrent liabilities:	
Long-term liabilities due within one year	2,590,274
Long-term liabilities due in more than one year	28,712,837
Total noncurrent liabilities	<u>31,303,111</u>
Total liabilities	<u>45,912,681</u>
Net Assets:	
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	53,742,220
Unrestricted	<u>6,108,803</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>\$ 59,851,023</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2010

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues			Net Expenses and Changes in Net Assets
		Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Total Governmental Activities
Governmental activities:					
General government	\$ 3,393,337	\$ 585,936	\$ 48,005	\$	\$ (2,759,396)
Public safety	3,564,387	271,846	67,514		(3,225,027)
Public works	3,061,206	417,865			(2,643,341)
Health and welfare	504,100	106,821	35,152		(362,127)
Education	26,294,245	26,373	2,257,199		(24,010,673)
Library	859,668	55,471	18,000		(786,197)
Parks and recreation	791,741	284,318	35,000		(472,423)
Interest and fiscal charges	1,344,839				(1,344,839)
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 39,813,523	\$ 1,748,630	\$ 2,460,870	\$ -	(35,604,023)
General revenues:					
Property taxes					36,028,201
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs					280,491
Investment income					563,996
Miscellaneous					21,940
Total general revenues					36,894,628
Change in Net Assets					1,290,605
Net Assets - Beginning of Year					58,560,418
Net Assets - End of Year					\$ 59,851,023

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT
BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

JUNE 30, 2010

	<u>General</u>	<u>Bonded Capital Projects</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 589,724	\$ 285,036	\$ 1,900,296	\$ 2,775,056
Investments	7,344,643		792,608	8,137,251
Receivables:				
Property taxes	600,637			600,637
Accounts	116,673		76,159	192,832
Intergovernmental	195,135			195,135
Due from other funds		361,560	736,576	1,098,136
Other assets	<u>1,043</u>			<u>1,043</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 8,847,855</u>	<u>\$ 646,596</u>	<u>\$ 3,505,639</u>	<u>\$ 13,000,090</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES				
Liabilities:				
Accounts payable	\$ 867,967	\$ 389,914	\$ 205,395	\$ 1,463,276
Accrued liabilities	1,047,682			1,047,682
Due to Regional School District No. 9	711,373			711,373
Due to other funds	1,291,707			1,291,707
Unearned revenue	720,242	40,635	3,343	764,220
Bond anticipation notes		10,209,805	840,195	11,050,000
Total liabilities	<u>4,638,971</u>	<u>10,640,354</u>	<u>1,048,933</u>	<u>16,328,258</u>
Fund balances:				
Unreserved, reported in:				
Designated for subsequent year's budget	352,000			352,000
Designated for potential claims	140,000			140,000
Designated for debt service	97,200			97,200
General Fund	3,619,684			3,619,684
Special revenue funds			2,511,838	2,511,838
Capital projects funds		(9,993,758)	(55,132)	(10,048,890)
Total fund balances	<u>4,208,884</u>	<u>(9,993,758)</u>	<u>2,456,706</u>	<u>(3,328,168)</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	<u>\$ 8,847,855</u>	<u>\$ 646,596</u>	<u>\$ 3,505,639</u>	<u>\$ 13,000,090</u>

(Continued on next page)

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT

BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS (CONTINUED)

JUNE 30, 2010

Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet - Governmental Funds

to the Statement of Net Assets:

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net assets (Exhibit I) are different because of the following:

Fund balances - total governmental funds	\$ (3,328,168)
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Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds:

Governmental capital assets	\$ 120,833,144	
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(27,374,662)</u>	
Net capital assets		93,458,482

Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and, therefore, are not recorded in the funds:

Net pension asset	53,629
Property tax receivables greater than 60 days	535,384
Interest receivable on property taxes	246,227
Bond issue costs	85,964
Receivable from the state for school construction projects	171,145

Internal service funds are used by management to charge the costs of risk management to individual funds. The assets and liabilities of the internal service funds are reported with governmental activities in the statement of net assets.

153,664

Long-term liabilities, including bonds payable, are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds:

Bonds and notes payable	(28,845,000)
Interest payable on bonds and notes	(222,193)
Compensated absences	(1,049,045)
Net OPEB obligation	(496,897)
Deferred charges on refunding	195,568
Bond premium	(16,833)
Heart and hypertension	<u>(1,090,904)</u>

Net Assets of Governmental Activities (Exhibit I)	<u>\$ 59,851,023</u>
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES -
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2010

	<u>General</u>	<u>Bonded Capital Projects</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
Revenues:				
Property taxes	\$ 36,066,760	\$	\$	\$ 36,066,760
Intergovernmental	2,035,401		631,874	2,667,275
Charges for services	927,634		831,906	1,759,540
Investment income	465,626	4,401	93,969	563,996
Contributions			85,116	85,116
Total revenues	<u>39,495,421</u>	<u>4,401</u>	<u>1,642,865</u>	<u>41,142,687</u>
Expenditures:				
Current:				
General government	2,082,742		89,506	2,172,248
Public safety	2,310,076		107,627	2,417,703
Public works	2,037,803		297,323	2,335,126
Health and welfare	331,330		37,481	368,811
Education	25,004,081		497,639	25,501,720
Library	540,918		62,536	603,454
Parks and recreation	379,059		240,450	619,509
Employee benefits	2,836,478			2,836,478
Insurance	545,745			545,745
Debt service	4,006,443			4,006,443
Capital outlay		55,695	955,257	1,010,952
Total expenditures	<u>40,074,675</u>	<u>55,695</u>	<u>2,287,819</u>	<u>42,418,189</u>
Deficiency of Revenues over Expenditures	<u>(579,254)</u>	<u>(51,294)</u>	<u>(644,954)</u>	<u>(1,275,502)</u>
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Sale of capital assets	1,450			1,450
Transfers in	100,000		285,498	385,498
Transfers out	(235,803)		(149,695)	(385,498)
Net other financing sources (uses)	<u>(134,353)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>135,803</u>	<u>1,450</u>
Net Change in Fund Balances	(713,607)	(51,294)	(509,151)	(1,274,052)
Fund Balances - Beginning of Year	<u>4,922,491</u>	<u>(9,942,464)</u>	<u>2,965,857</u>	<u>(2,054,116)</u>
Fund Balances - End of Year	<u>\$ 4,208,884</u>	<u>\$ (9,993,758)</u>	<u>\$ 2,456,706</u>	<u>\$ (3,328,168)</u>

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TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES -
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2010

Reconciliation of changes in fund balances - governmental funds to changes in net assets of governmental activities

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities (Exhibit II) are due to:

Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds (Exhibit IV) \$ (1,274,052)

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense.

Capital outlay	2,092,638
Depreciation expense	(1,491,494)

The net effect of various miscellaneous transactions involving capital assets (i.e., sales, trade-ins and donations) is to increase net assets. In the statement of activities, only the loss on the sale of capital assets is reported. However, in the governmental funds, the proceeds from the sale increase financial resources. Thus, the change in net assets differs from the change in fund balance by the cost of the capital assets sold.

(14,736)

Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds and revenues recognized in the fund financial statements are not recognized in the statement of activities:

School building grant receipts	(149,066)
Increase in property tax receivable - accrual basis change	52,730
Increase in property tax interest and lien revenue	(91,289)
Net pension asset	(144,146)

The issuance of long-term debt (e.g., bonds, leases) provides current financial resources to governmental funds, while the repayment of the principal of long-term debt consumes the current financial resources of governmental funds. Neither transaction, however, has any effect on net assets. Also, governmental funds report the effect of issuance costs, premiums, discounts and similar items when debt is first issued, whereas these amounts are deferred and amortized in the statement of activities. The details of long-term debt and related items are as follows:

Principal repayments:	
Payments on bond principal	2,615,000

Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds:

Net OPEB expense	(265,508)
Heart and hypertension claims	(191,620)
Compensated absences	(73,512)
Accrued interest payable	70,355
Amortization of bond premium	3,366
Amortization of bond issue costs	(9,338)
Amortization of deferred charges	(17,779)

Internal Service Funds are used by management to charge costs of medical insurance to individual departments:

The net expense of the activities of the Internal Service Fund is reported with governmental activities	<u>179,056</u>
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Change in Net Assets of Governmental Activities (Exhibit II)	<u>\$ 1,290,605</u>
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT

GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2010

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance With Final Budget</u>
Property Taxes:				
Property taxes, current and prior	\$ 35,510,724	35,510,724	\$ 35,779,918	\$ 269,194
Interest and lien fees	100,000	100,000	226,873	126,873
Telephone access	44,148	44,148	59,969	15,821
Total property taxes	<u>35,654,872</u>	<u>35,654,872</u>	<u>36,066,760</u>	<u>411,888</u>
Intergovernmental:				
Educational assistance:				
Special education and education cost share	593,868	593,868	512,446	(81,422)
School building grant	414,907	414,907	140,343	(274,564)
Other	13,710	13,710	-	(13,710)
Total educational assistance	<u>1,022,485</u>	<u>1,022,485</u>	<u>652,789</u>	<u>(369,696)</u>
Town Assistance:				
Town aid roads	83,332	83,332	113,430	30,098
Infrastructure	615,613	615,613		(615,613)
In lieu of tax loss - boats	4,814	4,814	2,466	(2,348)
Elderly tax relief	41,225	41,225	33,118	(8,107)
Tax relief for the totally disabled			152	152
State owned property	63,617	63,617	63,724	107
Mashantucket Pequot grant	11,965	11,965	8,549	(3,416)
Civil preparedness	2,052	2,052	1,364	(688)
Property tax relief (veterans)	10,329	10,329	7,637	(2,692)
Miscellaneous	15,640	15,640	50,051	34,411
Total town assistance	<u>848,587</u>	<u>848,587</u>	<u>280,491</u>	<u>(568,096)</u>
Total intergovernmental	<u>1,871,072</u>	<u>1,871,072</u>	<u>933,280</u>	<u>(937,792)</u>
Investment Income	<u>375,000</u>	<u>375,000</u>	<u>465,626</u>	<u>90,626</u>
Charges for Services:				
Town clerk	200,000	200,000	196,572	(3,428)
Building inspection fees and permits	120,000	120,000	78,062	(41,938)
Health department	18,000	18,000	30,457	12,457
Planning and zoning	15,000	15,000	10,385	(4,615)
Conservation commission	12,000	12,000	9,348	(2,652)
Police department	65,000	27,327	170,248	142,921
First selectman	85,000	85,000	73,924	(11,076)
Municipal building leases	290,000	290,000	313,308	23,308

(Continued on next page)

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT

GENERAL FUND

SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES

BUDGET AND ACTUAL (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2010

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance With Final Budget</u>
Fire marshal	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 20	\$ (80)
Parks and recreation	7,500	7,500	17,375	9,875
Region 9 tuition	12,000	12,000	9,912	(2,088)
BOE tuition	12,000	12,000	16,461	4,461
Recycling bins	1,000	1,000	750	(250)
Highway department	500	500	812	312
EMS	95,000	95,000	-	(95,000)
Other			-	-
Total charges for services	<u>933,100</u>	<u>895,427</u>	<u>927,634</u>	<u>32,207</u>
Total Revenues	<u>38,834,044</u>	<u>38,796,371</u>	<u>38,393,300</u>	<u>(403,071)</u>
Other Financing Sources:				
Transfer in		100,000	100,000	-
Sale of capital assets			1,450	1,450
Total other financing sources	<u>-</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>101,450</u>	<u>1,450</u>
Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources	<u>\$ 38,834,044</u>	<u>\$ 38,896,371</u>	<u>38,494,750</u>	<u>\$ (401,621)</u>
Budgetary revenues are different than GAAP revenues because:				
State of Connecticut on-behalf contributions to the Connecticut				
State Teachers' Retirement System for Town teachers are not budgeted			<u>1,102,121</u>	
Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources as Reported on the Statement of				
Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds -				
Exhibit IV			<u>\$ 39,596,871</u>	

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT

GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2010

	Original Budget	Additional Appropriations and Transfers	Final Budget	Actual	Variance With Final Budget
General Government:					
Town clerk	\$ 146,017	\$	\$ 146,017	\$ 146,017	\$ -
First selectman	153,892		153,892	149,795	4,097
Probate court	5,400		5,400	5,397	3
Registrar of voters	63,821		63,821	38,205	25,616
Board of finance	7,200		7,200	4,821	2,379
Auditors	35,150		35,150	34,000	1,150
Treasurer	175,401	(4,800)	170,601	170,513	88
Assessor	112,307		112,307	109,377	2,930
Board of assessment appeals	600		600	471	129
Tax collector	91,754		91,754	86,659	5,095
Town attorney	130,000		130,000	91,711	38,289
Planning and zoning commission	111,018		111,018	103,994	7,024
Zoning board of appeals	7,130		7,130	6,449	681
Building department	90,978		90,979	88,210	2,769
Technology Computer	30,463		30,463	18,788	11,675
Town Hall	140,934		140,934	126,764	14,170
Communication dispatchers	212,920		212,920	195,292	17,628
Commission for the elderly	55,593	9,895	65,488	62,258	3,230
Senior center	147,939	10,571	158,510	158,174	336
SSS building	601,920	(83,001)	518,919	482,593	36,326
Cemetery	2,500		2,500	2,500	-
Insurance service fee		8,500	8,500	-	8,500
Public celebrations	500		500	754	(254)
Total general government	<u>2,323,437</u>	<u>(58,835)</u>	<u>2,264,603</u>	<u>2,082,742</u>	<u>181,861</u>
Public Safety:					
Police department	1,481,892	92,327	1,574,219	1,509,699	64,520
Fire department	827,602	(85,000)	742,602	700,961	41,641
Fire marshall	28,086		28,086	20,652	7,434
Emergency management	8,576		8,576	7,727	849
Firehouse rent	40,000		40,000	40,000	-
Conservation commission	36,811		36,811	31,037	5,774
Total public safety	<u>2,422,967</u>	<u>7,327</u>	<u>2,430,294</u>	<u>2,310,076</u>	<u>120,218</u>
Public Works:					
Recycling	125,150		125,150	121,993	3,157
Highway department	1,923,060		1,923,060	1,907,867	15,193
Street lights	1,703		1,703	1,593	110
Engineering and professional services	40,500		40,500	6,350	34,150
Total public works	<u>2,090,413</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,090,413</u>	<u>2,037,803</u>	<u>52,610</u>
Health and Welfare:					
Health director	84,071		84,071	81,018	3,053
EMS commission	265,630		265,630	248,450	17,180
Welfare	4,327		4,327	1,862	2,465
Total health and welfare	<u>354,028</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>354,028</u>	<u>331,330</u>	<u>22,698</u>

(Continued on next page)

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT

GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2010

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Additional Appropriations and Transfers</u>	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance With Final Budget</u>
Education:					
Easton Board of Education:					
General instruction	\$ 6,975,742	\$ (205,363)	\$ 6,770,379	\$ 6,989,455	\$ (219,076)
Kindergarten	10,280	(267)	10,013	9,860	153
Humanities	42,807	95	42,902	40,740	2,162
Integrated language arts	26,363	153	26,516	21,659	4,857
Curriculum	45,612		45,612	42,860	2,752
Industrial technology	2,200		2,200	1,390	810
Science/math technology	46,253	(265)	45,988	43,509	2,479
Physical education/health	4,961	(172)	4,789	4,789	-
Special services	27,065		27,065	22,155	4,910
Special education	3,109,291	36,289	3,145,580	2,924,056	221,524
Guidance	7,558		7,558	4,431	3,127
Health services	163,048	853	163,901	160,510	3,391
Psychological services	14,880	2,700	17,580	12,272	5,308
Speech services	18,300	(3,980)	14,320	3,597	10,723
Educational media services	66,625	10,991	77,616	73,318	4,298
Technology plan	268,840	(4,620)	264,220	270,815	(6,595)
Board of education	50,330		50,330	94,434	(44,104)
Central administration	484,118		484,118	484,118	-
School administration	889,008	1,806	890,814	889,445	1,369
physical plant	1,358,085	54,345	1,412,430	1,403,133	9,297
Student transportation	752,592	23,370	775,962	772,989	2,973
Food service	3,300	(660)	2,640	12,998	(10,358)
Total Easton Board of Education	14,367,258	(84,725)	14,282,533	14,282,533	-
Regional School District No. 9	9,619,427	-	9,619,427	9,619,427	-
Total education	23,986,685	(84,725)	23,901,960	23,901,960	-
Library	564,321		564,321	540,918	23,403
Parks and Recreation:					
Parks and recreation commission	362,129		362,129	340,593	21,536
Tree warden	39,780		39,780	38,466	1,314
Total parks and recreation	401,909	-	401,909	379,059	22,850
Employee Benefits:					
Pensions	790,565		790,565	781,205	9,360
Fringe benefits	1,784,050		1,784,050	1,656,049	128,001
Social Security and Medicare	416,845		416,845	399,224	17,621
Total employee benefits	2,991,460	-	2,991,460	2,836,478	154,982

(Continued on next page)

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT

GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2010

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Additional Appropriations and Transfers</u>	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance With Final Budget</u>
Insurance	\$ 574,000	\$ -	\$ 574,000	\$ 545,745	\$ 28,255
Other-Contingency	100,000	(14,785)	82,745	-	82,745
Debt Service:					
Principal retirement	2,690,000	11,053	2,701,053	2,701,053	-
Interest	1,222,821		1,222,821	1,275,197	(52,376)
Fiscal agent fees	49,000	(11,053)	37,947	30,193	7,754
Total debt service	<u>3,961,821</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,961,821</u>	<u>4,006,443</u>	<u>(44,622)</u>
Total expenditures	<u>39,771,041</u>	<u>(151,018)</u>	<u>39,617,554</u>	<u>38,972,554</u>	<u>645,000</u>
Other Financing Uses:					
Transfers out:					
Dog fund	63,003		63,003	63,003	-
Capital nonrecurring		172,800	172,800	172,800	-
Total other financing uses	<u>63,003</u>	<u>172,800</u>	<u>235,803</u>	<u>235,803</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Expenditures and Other Financing Uses	<u>\$ 39,834,044</u>	<u>\$ 21,782</u>	<u>\$ 39,853,357</u>	39,208,357	<u>\$ 645,000</u>
Budgetary expenditures are different than GAAP expenditures because:					
State of Connecticut on-behalf payments to the Connecticut					
State Teachers' Retirement System for Town teachers are not budgeted				<u>1,102,121</u>	
Total Expenditures and Other Financing Uses as Reported on the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds - Exhibit IV				<u>\$ 40,310,478</u>	

**TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT
REPORT OF TAX COLLECTOR
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2010**

Grand List Year	Uncollected Taxes July 1, 2009	Current Year Levy	Lawful Corrections		Transfers to Suspense	Adjusted Taxes Collectible	Collections		Uncollected Taxes June 30, 2010
			Additions	Deductions			Taxes	Interest and Liens	
2008	\$	\$ 35,918,355	\$ 33,925	\$ 88,990	\$	\$ 35,863,290	\$ 35,486,703	\$ 86,298	\$ 35,573,001
2007			1,087	10,915		304,863	150,016	32,704	182,720
2006	314,691		46	3,760	8,966	121,636	47,761	18,376	66,137
2005	134,316		63			42,912	15,654	8,456	24,110
2004	42,849		73			19,597	12,606	9,080	21,686
2003	19,524					12,436	9,298	8,300	17,598
2002	12,436					10,840	8,380	8,989	17,369
2001	10,840					10,866	6,692	8,222	14,914
2000	10,866					5,075	1,667	2,502	4,169
1999	5,075					6,787	1,595	2,682	4,277
1998	6,787					5,101	1,924	3,572	5,496
1997	5,101					10,439	3,505	7,095	10,600
1996	10,439					14,084	3,352	7,391	10,743
1995	14,084					12,331	3,254	7,764	11,018
1994	12,331					9,580	3,087	7,924	11,011
1993	9,580					8,956	2,662	7,518	10,180
Total	\$ 617,875	\$ 35,918,355	\$ 35,194	\$ 103,665	\$ 8,966	\$ 36,458,793	\$ 35,758,156	\$ 226,873	\$ 35,985,029
Property taxes receivable considered available:									
June 30, 2009							(43,491)		
June 30, 2010							65,253		
Property tax revenues							\$ 35,779,918		

NOTES

TOWN OF EASTON, CT 06612

