

TOWN OF EASTON



ANNUAL REPORT
2012

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Provided here are reports from our Officials, Commissions and heads of departments of the Town and General Purpose Financial Statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012 and some information by calendar year 2012. 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.

Fred Knopf, Chair
Board of Finance

Photo credit: Shannon Calvert, October 2011, North Street barn in approaching storm.

TOWN OF EASTON, CT 06612





Town of Easton

ANNUAL REPORT

Town Hall
Easton, Connecticut



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GENERAL GOVERNMENT

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Easton is governed by the Board of Selectmen (its executive and administrative body), the Board of Finance (its financial body), and the Town Meeting (which is the Town's legislative 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 northwestern 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 March 2012. The new Ordinance offers tax abatements, and a tax deferral program, and has been heralded as one of the most beneficial senior tax relief programs in the State. The 2012 Tax Relief Ordinance will remain in effect for three years at which time the program will be reviewed.

Contracts with the supervisors and clerical workers unions representing Town employees have been settled through June

30, 2015. The contract with the Easton police union has been settled through June 30, 2014, and the contract with the highway department union has been settled through June 30, 2014. The contract with the firefighters expired on June 30, 2012 and is currently scheduled for 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 retains a purchase option on 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 continues to face 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 Planning and Zoning Commission denied the high-density development plan 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 Planning and Zoning Commission also denied that plan due to the potential impact on the watershed. The applicant has appealed the denial with the State of Connecticut Superior Court in New Britain and the matter is scheduled for trial during the summer of 2013.

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

Like all elected officials the Town Clerk and Registrar of Vital Statistics are independent. They are elected for a two-year term. Like all elected officials the duties of the office are defined by statute. For the Town Clerk they include the following:

- Create, manage, preserve and maintain an archive of land records and other 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 records including Minutes and Agendas of all Authorities, 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, HIP permits, handicapped; and junior firearms hunting.
- 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.

Public Records

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 in Easton. 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 continuing to grow 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, staffing level and public service needs
- 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, weekly and annual 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 web based system to permit access seven days a week and twenty four hours a day.
- Establish a computerized system for recording and indexing all Land Records and Maps and a computer database of images of all Land Records and Maps
- Make our own record books to reduce the cost and make them 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 processing of Absentee Ballots
- Make available on-line a calendar of events and meetings in Easton.
- Convert Agendas and Minutes of Boards and Commissions to archival quality
- Improve the convenience and comfort of computer viewing of records so that the paper records are rarely used. Long term this will help preserve the paper records and greatly reduce the need for the public to go into the vault. In turn this will make better use of the vault space and greatly extend its life. *Thus saving taxpayers operating expenses.*

Current Status

Initially it was necessary to drastically reduce office hours in order to regain operational control and provide an acceptable level of public service. As the backlog was cleared and more of the operations were computerized it was possible to gradually increase office hours. Office hours increased from three hours to four hours on 9/3/2002; five hours on 2/10/2003; five and one half hours on 12/11/2008; seven hours on 8/25/2009 (matching other Easton town offices), and seven and one half hours on 8/22/2011.

Additional improvements facilitated the further increase in office hours on 8/22/2011. At that time the focus changed to user preferences. A survey was completed of the office hours of other Town Hall department. In addition, Town Clerk's office users were asked what they preferred. The results were:

- Although the Town Hall is officially open from 8.30am until 4.30pm, lunch breaks limit public access to seven hours.
- Many departments open and close at the same time but take lunch at different times.
- The most serious issue with users was that because of lunch breaks and because they vary, they have to wait for different departments to re-open. This is major problem for those who travel a distance, or are trying to complete business during their lunch break.
- A preference for earlier opening so that business could be completed on the way to work.

The Town Clerk user survey also showed that:

- Office users are approximately 10% employees with the remainder equally divided between residents and professionals such as title searchers, attorneys, realtors.
- User activity peaks at about 10.30am and there is a second peak at approximately 2pm. More than 99.9% of users have visited by 3pm.

The Town Clerk's office hours were changed to better fit these user preferences and characteristics.

The Town Clerk's office is now open when users prefer and for longer than any other town hall office without any additional cost to the taxpayer.

The office is open from 8.00am to 3.30pm without closing for lunch. Employees still work until 4pm but the last half hour of the day is used to complete all of the administrative work so that the records will be available next day. I also volunteer my personal time to cover special events like absentee ballots. This allows me to keep budgets to a minimum.

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 sale 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, week or year 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 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 system also annotates 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 reducing cost and 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
- Documents are indexed daily and transmitted electronically to our offsite auditor for verification as required by statute. Records are usually indexed and available for electronic search next day compared to thirty days previously.
- 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 this 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 1/1/1979 to the present day.
- Re-indexing and standardization of the database back to 1955 is in progress.

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

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 remaining task is web access to records and services all day every day. The first major step in that direction has now been completed by separating the Town Clerk's data from other town data on a separate server. This permits additional security and several layers of backup of the Town Clerk data including 'cloud' storage. Cloud storage provides distributed storage combined with web based access Easton will be independent of local storm impact and power interruptions. Web software development is in progress.

Ordinances

A project to make Easton ordinances available on the web has been in progress this year. An outside vendor is working on formulating, arranging and hosting the ordinances. In the absence of funding Easton's share of the work has been completed on a volunteer basis when time permits.

OPERATIONS

Fees Collected

The Town Clerk's office collects recording fees, conveyance taxes and other fees. The total amount collected in fiscal year 2011-2012 was \$664,157. This included \$124,629 in town conveyance taxes, \$392,844 in state conveyance taxes, \$120,895 of recording fees, \$15,155 of copy fees and \$10,641 of dog license fees.

Real Estate Sales

In fiscal year 2011-2012 there were 209 properties transferred. This includes 89 sales and 120 quit claims. Of these, 87 were for \$100,000 or more, an increase from 75 in the prior year. This total excludes foreclosures whose value is generally not known. The total value of these sales was \$51,151,598 an increase from \$42,265,366 in the previous year. This is an increase of 21%.

The average sales price was \$605,460 compared to \$543,408 in the previous year and \$642,816 in the year before. This is a increase of 11% from last year.

disparity between the average and median price means that the distribution of sales values is less distorted by the market, and they are a better measure of market value, or price changes.

Please note that for 120 transactions no, or insignificant, funds changed hands. The numbers reported above apply only to homes sold in Easton.

Maps

All maps of Easton properties 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.

Electronic access and the new vertical map holders have resulted in the original maps being rarely viewed. This is a major step forward in preserving them. 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 2011-2012, there were 41 births to Easton parents compared to 35 in the prior year.

Marriages and Civil Unions

Civil unions were not authorized in Connecticut until 2005. They were discontinued in fiscal year 2009-2010. In fiscal year, 2010-2011 there were 33 marriages compared to 33 in the prior year.

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

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Marriages</u>
2000-2001	52
2001-2002	33
2002-2003	39
2003-2004	52
2004-2005	44
2005-2006	38
2006-2007	31
2007-2008	35
2008-2009	33
2009-2010	43
2010-2011	33
2011-2012	30

The number of marriages continued to decline to below the fiscal year 2006-2007 level.

Deaths

In fiscal year 2009, there were 54 deaths of Easton residents compared to 51 in the prior year.

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:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>DOG LICENSES</u>	
	<u>2010-2011</u>	<u>2011-2012</u>
Female	36	32
Male	80	59
Spayed	529	420
Neutered	582	512
<u>Kennel</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>
Total	1233	1029

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.

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 why implementing the new 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 involves recording revenues received, establishing accounts that simultaneously safeguard and maximize returns on cash prior to disbursement and accounting for the Town's financial activities during the fiscal year. Duties also include overseeing the bonding and debt service for the Town.

The Treasurer operates and monitors an active investment program designed not only to generate income but to invest funds in anticipation of long term projects and capital needs. The Fed's long term position of a zero interest rate environment has hindered the returns on investments. It has also worked to our advantage in the refinancing of the Bond Anticipation Notes (BAN) which rolled at historic low rates. Most of the town's revenues collected every six months are disbursed relatively quickly necessitating liquidity; also hindering the ability to use what little advantage there is in the longer end of the yield curve.

Town of Easton Investment Income

<u>F/Y</u>	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total</u>
2012	\$ 243,884	\$ 0	\$ 243,884
2011	187,049	0	187,049
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	377,296	33,453	410,748
2004	284,974	21,108	306,082
2003	308,677	63,378	321,800

The Town of Easton continued to maintain a Standard & Poor's long term rating of AAA, the highest rating possible. Holding this rating allows the town to borrow and refund debt at the best possible rates. Retaining 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.

The Treasurer's office is responsible for Easton's accounting and reporting requirements as well as gathering information for and the preparation and monitoring of each year's fiscal budget. Grace Stanczyk, Town Comptroller, maintains this process and is the steward of good accounting and budget practices and keeper of fiscal information not only for the Town but also for the department heads, employees and citizens of Easton.

The Treasurer's office is responsible for a full range of Human Resources including payroll, employee processing and pension/retirement planning. Carmen Montero continues to fulfill this challenging position in a responsible manner.

The Treasurer's office is responsible for processing accounts payable. Diane Zadrozny is our ongoing, highly visible and efficient accounts payable person, greeting those visiting and phoning Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy Bowditch
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 2011-2012 fiscal year, and into the start of the 2012-2013 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, tax assessment appeals, tax collection, bonding matters, and labor matters. Some opinions on legal questions have also been needed. One significant use of counsel was in connection with the proposed Saddle Ridge development. The Town also continues to require representation in connection with the negotiation of certain labor contracts.

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, 2010 grand list were issued at the rate of 22.95 mills, which is equivalent to \$22.95 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, 2011 and January 1, 2012. Motor vehicle taxes were due in full July 1, 2011. Supplemental motor vehicle taxes for newly acquired motor vehicles registered subsequent to October 1, 2010 were due in full January 1, 2012 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 \$37,820,693 in taxes, interest and lien fees was collected during fiscal year 2011-2012.

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 \$28,165 in additions, and \$129,320 in deductions were made to the grand lists of 1995-2010.

c. Report of transfers to suspense, Sec. 12-165 and 167, detailing list year, name, amount and reason. A total of \$12,223 was transferred to suspense from the grand list of 2004-2008.

d. Report of refunds, Sec.12-129, detailing list year, name, amount and reason. A total of 112 refunds were given, totaling \$44,102 on the grand lists of 2008-2010.

e. Liens: 34 liens for unpaid real estate taxes on the 2010 grand list were filed on June 30, 2012. Copies of these liens and all lien releases are on file in the town land records.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Calvert, Tax Collector
Margaret Timlin, Assistant Tax Collector

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT ON COLLECTIONS:

Fiscal Year Ending 6/30/2012
(Conn. Gen. Stat. Sec. 12-167(1-3))

<u>List Year</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>1990-2009</u>
Total amount of unpaid taxes on each rate bill at start of fiscal year	\$38,069,886	\$798,130
Lawful corrections	-36,407	-64,748
Suspense	- 0 -	-12,223
Total amount collected on each rate bill during the fiscal year (tax, int., lien)	T: 37,508,478 I: 82,688 L: 312	162,576 65,895 744
Total amount uncollected on each rate bill at end of fiscal year (excluding interest & liens)	\$525,001	\$558,583

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 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 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 sales, 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 changes are entered into the computer.

During the tax year, the Assessor and her assistant price and pro rate motor vehicles assessments for vehicles sold, stolen or totaled in accordance with section 12-71 and issue lawful certificates of correction when proof of sale & 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 whenever 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.

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

SUMMARY OF 2011 AND 2012 GRAND LIST

Number of Assessment Lists	2011	2012	Difference
Real Estate	3341	3380	+39
Personal Property	456	469	+13
Motor Vehicles	7306	7350	+44
Gross value of taxable property			
Real Estate	1,229,826,810	1,234,507,060	+4,680,250
Personal Property	13,969,787	14,512,921	+543,134
Motor Vehicles	75,155,660	74,052,690	-1,102,970
TOTAL	1,318,952,257	1,323,072,671	+4,120,414

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 their respective Registrar in the performance of his or her duties.

The Registrars are responsible for most all of the duties concerning elections, with 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, associated technical training and reporting responsibilities have increased the workload of the election staff, especially for the moderator.

Total ballot count for the November 6, 2012 Presidential Election was 5,423 ballots, 441 of which were absentee ballots. 31 Eastonites voted via Overseas Ballots, and 66 by Presidential Ballot. As of Election Day, Easton's voter registration was: 1,175 Democrat; 1,749 Republican; 2,367 Unaffiliated; and 35 other.

Election Day ran smoothly again this year thanks to our dedicated poll workers, who continue to turn out for every election, working long hours to help make our system work.

We extend special thanks to the administration, staff, and maintenance crew of Samuel Staples Elementary School, to the Public Works Department for all of their cooperation and assistance leading up to and including Election Day, and to the officers of the Easton Police Department who, as usual, kept a watchful eye on traffic control and ensured the safety of our citizens throughout the day.

All involved in the voting process served well in what was an especially busy year at the polls, with the Republican Presidential Preference Primary on April 24, 2012, the annual town budget referendum on May 8, 2012, the Primary for United States Senator on August 14, 2012, a Special Election for Town Treasurer on October 26, 2012, and, of course, the Presidential Election on November 6, 2012.

Residents may register to vote or change their registration by using the mail-in voter registration form, or in person. We also hold special sessions throughout the year for the registration of new voters, and will once again comply with Section 9-32 of the Connecticut General Statutes, which requires us to conduct an annual canvass of the town to ascertain the number of eligible voters. This canvass is held between January and May and is important in helping to maintain an accurate voter list.

The Registrars' Office is located in Town Hall and is open two days a week. Krista Kot, Republican Registrar, is available Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and Ron Kowalski, Democratic Registrar, is available Fridays from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Registrars are ably assisted by Assistant Registrar James Bromer. Either Registrar or the Assistant Registrar will gladly assist town residents with any voter registration or voting issue, regardless of party affiliation.

Respectfully submitted,
Krista A. Kot, Republican Registrar
Ron 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.

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

2011/2012 Building & Zoning Permits	No. of Permits Issued	Estimated Value
New Residences	2	\$832,132.00
Additions, Alterations & Repairs to Existing Buildings	77	\$2,353,222.00
New Non-Res. Structures (ie. barns, garages, etc.)	67	\$1,436,307.00
Swimming Pools	14	\$729,920.00
Affordable Housing	0	
Caretakers	0	
Tennis Courts	0	
Wood Stoves	4	\$9,895.00
Demolition	5	\$15,592.00
Solar	2	\$53,640.00
TOTAL	171	\$5,430,813.00
Electrical	200	\$17,655.00
Plumbing	159	\$9,565.00
Heating & Air Conditioning	55	\$7,200.00
Tanks, ie. oil etc.	59	\$5,520.00
Building	171	\$61,224.00
TOTAL	644	\$101,164.00

MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY

The Municipal Agent on Aging, MAA, is a person who is available to, and responds to, the senior population of the community. This is a state-mandated position, originally 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, normally scheduled on the first Monday on the month. 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 began turning 65 in 2011, it has been vital that the Municipal Agent be available to educate this group on Medicare eligibility. If his/her situation warrants, then she encourages the senior to sign up through the Social Security Administration prior to their 65th birthday month. They can do this by: 1) visiting the web at www.socialsecurity.gov; 2) visiting the local Social Security Administration office located at - 3885 Main Street; Bridgeport, CT 06608; 3) phoning the S.S.A. at either: a) The Bridgeport office: 1-866-331-6399 or b) the national number: 1-800-772-1213.

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** is revised 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 on the spouse or adult child is becoming more common and requires education and referral prior to a crisis.

The Municipal Agent is a separate department located in the senior center. She was able to mail a monthly newsletter to 1,825 households. This newsletter, combined with the Senior Center program monthly mailing, continues to be the principal means of disseminating information to seniors regarding resources and benefits. The Municipal Agent's monthly newsletter will be accessible through the Easton Senior Center website: www.eastonseniors.com. This letter assists in keeping families' current regarding 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. Seniors, family members, or caretakers, should call ahead at 203-268-1137 to make an office appointment.

Outreach Worker, Pamela Healy, is available to visit homebound seniors or any senior who welcomes a friendly visit. She is an extension to the Municipal Agent and provides valuable information. She possesses a warm personality and wonderful listening skills. Our seniors have known Pam for over two decades and cherish her visits. She reports directly to the Municipal Agent. Their collective visits/appointments are logged and reported monthly to *SWCAA, the South Western CT Agency on Aging*. Only first names and ages are recorded to insure privacy. *SWCAA* uses the statistics from the region to report to the State of Connecticut. This information confirms validity for programs and services in place, and collects the necessary data to implement new programs as warranted. The agency has a great website: www.swcaa.org 203-333-9288.

Keeping loved ones in their own homes safely is a priority of the Municipal Agent, Katie Tressler, and Outreach Worker, Pam Healy. Lists of caregivers and private health care agencies are available as well as a list of repair people whose work has been recommended by Easton residents. Easton seniors/families make the decisions to hire services of their own choosing.

Seniors with limited income feel particularly vulnerable with the current state of the economy and cutbacks. 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 2012, she assisted with thirteen applications for seniors, which were then mailed or delivered to the ABCD, Inc., Energy Assistance Program in Bridgeport, CT. Two of those applications were homes in foreclosure/bankruptcy.

The Municipal Agent encouraged numerous eligible 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. Reapplication is done on an annual basis.

On **National Health Care Decision Day**, April 16, 2012, a program was presented by the Law Offices of Eliovson & Tenore. In May, a program entitled, **"Tips for Maintaining Your Independence"** was offered by Diane Terrace, Director of the Wellness Center of Crosby Commons Assisted Living. A four week, twice weekly program, **A Matter of Balance**, began in early June, 2012. In September, 2012, a program that consisted of an overview of senior health services was offered by SWCAA. An autumn program in October was presented by Harriette Trevino on **Senior Fraud Protection**. Each program was well attended by interested seniors, was highly informative, and opened relevant discussions. A tour was scheduled to the following Benchmark Senior Living Community: **Middlebrook Farms Assisted Living**, with a

memory care unit, of Trumbull CT. Transportation and lunch were included in the tour. Those attending the tour were enlightened as to the amenities provided by this kind of facility, and the possibility of downsizing from a large home to an alternative style of senior living. Easton seniors enjoyed 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, as well as those seniors who needed cheering. These organizations each provide a unique outreach to this town.

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 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, RN/MAA/SSS
Municipal Agent on Aging/Senior Social Services
Town of Easton

EASTON SENIOR CENTER

In spite of dire economic predictions concerning national fund-raising, the Easton Senior Citizen's Center Inc. our charitable, fund-raising group, has continued to successfully acquire funds for programs, and this year has been no exception. A wonderful supportive community, several tag sales, grants, a silent auction and a special live auction, chaired by Maryellen Diana and assisted by auctioneer, TV personality, David Smith, have provided over \$50,000 for new and innovative projects for seniors, retirees and physically challenged adults.

Over thirty volunteers, some providing up to twenty three years of service to the Easton community, remain the backbone of the center. Without their assistance and dedication, the Easton Senior Center would not be the tremendous success it is today.

The Easton Lions Club continues to be an essential support system as it provides funds annually to maintain our computer (IT) program. This includes special monitors and software for the visually impaired. This is a really popular addition to our center this year.

Another spectacular fund-raiser, the Taste of Easton, was chaired by the Democratic Town Committee and organizers,

Robin Pantalena and Wiley Mullins. The proceeds provided a brand new portable defibrillator for use in the center.

Outreach to both local and regional communities remains an essential part of our day to day experiences. The knitting circle once again decorated the "giving tree" with over five hundred handmade gloves, hats and scarves, for the needy at the holiday season. At Thanksgiving, eighty- four turkey dinners were distributed to agencies aiding unemployed and needy families. Each week, clothing donated by Easton residents, is taken to Woodfield Family Services in Bridgeport.

Cross-generational events have also been an essential part of the Easton Senior Center 2011-12 program. Visits from the Easton Country Day and Samuel Staples Students continue to provide great life-building skills for all age groups. Our high school, boy scouts, and girl scouts community service program continues to provide a means of completing service hours for many students of all ages. There are also opportunities for local churches to take advantage of this same service project to complete "work in the community" requirements.

Special kudos to my Assistant Director, Kay Oestreicher, who works for endless hours on Easton Senior Center projects, and to the Advisory Board and the Inc. group, and all who play a very important part in the successful continuation of our programs. Thanks are due especially to all Easton residents, our very necessary support system.

Thank you for making my life so much easier.
Val Buckley, Director.

Advisory Board Chair: Attorney Sharon Cregeen, Secretary, Brabha Gupta, Mary Burlinson, Maryellen Diana, Florence Eastwood, Anne Fiyalka, Eunice Hanson, Dr. & Mrs. Sal Santella, Associate, Joan Kirk.

Easton Senior Citizens' Center, Inc. Board: Attorney David McDonald, Vice Chair, Nancy Graham, Secretary, Jackie Reck, Treasurer, Walter Eastwood, Eleanor Baldyga.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The Easton Health Department is located in the Easton Town Hall and is supported by a Director of Health, a Health Officer, a part-time field worker, and 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 health nature. We routinely monitor communicable diseases, 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.

The Easton Health Department had a very busy 2011/2012 year. We were involved in soil testing a large tract of land for intensive development in the northeast section of town. And

like many other town departments we were involved in the aftermath of Hurricane Irene, working closely with the Easton Police Department in providing services to the residents. We have also seen a substantial increase in the number of temporary food service applications, as local organizations sponsor events that involve the serving of food to the public.

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 work 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

	2011/2012	
<u>HEALTH PERMITS</u>	<u>Permits</u>	<u>Fee</u>
	<u>Totals</u>	<u>Totals</u>
SEPTIC (NEW)	13	\$2,600.00
SEPTIC (REPAIR)	8	\$1,000.00
SEPTIC (REVIEW)	67	\$3,700.00
WELLS	8	\$800.00
SOIL TEST	85	\$12,750.00
FOOD SERVICE	11	\$1,500.00
TEMP. FOOD SERVICE	18	\$890.00
DAY CARE	<u>1</u>	<u>\$75.00</u>
TOTAL	192	\$23,315.00

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 21" inches of snowfall, which required the Department to plow on 5 different occasions. Sanding of the Town roads occurred 6 times consuming 756 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, 4.66 miles of road were involved in this program, with the use of 46,303 gallons of road oil, 1,517 of 3/8" trap rock and 4,391 tons of bituminous concrete.

Due to Hurricane Irene and Storm Alfred, the Town applied for federal aide to help with the cost in cleaning up the down trees, hangers and debris and was reimbursed \$38,686 and \$94,506 respectively for labor and equipment costs for the two storms.

This past year the Department's drainage program entailed:

- 2 New catch basins were installed
- 9 Catch basins were repaired or rebuilt
- 338 Feet of curtain drain pipe was installed at Samuel Staples Elem. School and Delaware Road
- 90 Feet of storm pipe drainage was installed on various roads

The Department takes care of all street and traffic control signs on the Town's roads. This past year saw 11 new signs and posts installed and 19 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 19 driveway permits and 21 road-opening permits brought in \$1,000 in fees.

The department joined the Easton Garden Club for its 32nd 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 to over 3,180 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 department also continued with the site work for the new animal shelter which included work on the driveway, excavation for the electric and gas lines which amounted to over 1,527 hours.

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 2011-2012 Town Budget in the amount of \$41,113,936(gross) that included appropriations of \$15,702,981 (includes Debt Service) in the Selectman's accounts, \$14,962,405 for the Easton Board of Education, and \$10,448,550 for the Region 9 Board of Education. On the basis of a Grand List of \$1,671,603,481 the Board set a tax rate of 22.9 mills for the fiscal year July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012.

Respectively Submitted by
Fred N. Knopf, Chair-Board of Finance

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

The Board of Assessment Appeals met for public sessions in fiscal year 2012-2013 during the month of March. The Board of Assessment Appeals also met in September of 2012 for Motor Vehicles.

The March sessions were for taxpayers with a grievance on either Personal or Real Estate property assessments. Taxpayers 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.

Lori Mezes, Chairman

Board Members

A. Gordon Reynolds

Dennis Kokenos

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

The foundation of Easton's land use policies, on which our Town Plan of Conservation and Development is based, is protection of the public water supply watershed which underlies nearly 90% of the town's land area. It is this resource which sustains a wholesome drinking water supply for hundreds of thousands of residents in the nearby area as well as a pristine natural environment for Easton and much of central Fairfield County.

As noted in our last annual report, this policy was challenged in 2010 and 2011 by a series of development applications for an affordable housing community "Saddle Ridge Village" to be constructed on a 124-acre tract between Sport Hill, Silver Hill, Cedar Hill and Westport Roads. These applications sought to alter the Town Plan and the Zoning Regulations to allow 105, later amended to 99, townhouses over the 96 acres of buildable land in the tract.

The amended final Saddle Ridge applications were unanimously denied by this Commission on August 8, 2011 and the developer's appeal is currently pending in Superior Court.

Resolutions adopted by the Commission denying the six Saddle Ridge applications strongly focused on the vital importance of protecting the public water supply. The resolutions included well documented testimony from the Commission's expert engineer, from the State Department of Health, from the State Department of Environmental Protection, from Aquarion Water Company, from the

Connecticut Fund for the Environment, from experts retained by the intervenors, and from many others. This landmark case involves the issue of whether the affordable housing initiatives of General Statutes Section 8-30g can override the broad public interest in assuring a safe public water supply for many thousands of State residents.

At this mid-point between the comprehensive planning studies of 2003-2006 which underlie the present Town Plan and the work which will be required for its update due in 2016, the Commission has started laying the foundations for the next Town Plan. Assistance is being provided by the Greater Bridgeport Regional Council to update our GIS (geographic information system) base maps and various planning studies are underway for areas targeted in the present Town Plan. In particular planning and research during the year focused on future development and conservation of the Town's 127-acre tract at Morehouse and Banks Roads, on the small commercial "center" at Sport Hill and Center Roads, and on updating the Town Zoning and Subdivision Regulations.

As the national and regional economic slowdown continued during 2011 and 2012, development activity in Easton remained at a low ebb. Except for the "Saddle Ridge Village" proposal discussed above, there were but two subdivision applications. Of these, one application, approved on September 12, 2011, created eight parcels on the westerly side of Sport Hill Road which are being conveyed in stages to the Aspetuck Land Trust. The other application, a resubdivision on Brianna Lane, created one new building lot. A total of 157 zoning permits were issued for the year, only one of which was for a new dwelling. However, reflecting the electric power failures of last year, 90 of those permits were for residential electric generators.

One special permit was approved by the Commission, on July 23, 2012, for a riding academy with indoor riding ring, stabling and boarding of horses and several outdoor paddocks located at 120 Eden Hill Road. Equestrian activities at other locations generated controversy during the year and two lawsuits concerning enforcement of the zoning regulations governing horse farms are pending. A minor amendment to an existing special permit was approved by the Commission in July 2011, authorizing removal of a rock wall, considered hazardous, adjacent to the Town's "Little League Field" on Morehouse Road.

Applications for alteration of Town Scenic Road frontages at two locations were considered by the Commission, and each received a qualified favorable report to the Board of Selectmen. One allowed reconstruction of a frontage stone wall, partly encroaching on the Town right-of-way, at 112 Wells Hill Road. The other allowed a fence and a gate to close off an old lane at 33 Norton Road. In other referral matters, the Commission reported favorably in February 2012 on the Town's acquisition and lease-back of a small residential property at 358 Westport Road. The Commission continues to monitor referrals on land use matters as received from

adjoining towns and the Greater Bridgeport Regional Council, responding when any impact on Easton is foreseen.

The Commission encourages citizen participation in the planning process and customarily reserves the first one-half hour of each of its regular meetings during the year for scheduled appointments. Regular meetings of the Commission are scheduled for the second and fourth Mondays of each month. For the calendar year 2013 the Commission has scheduled all meetings to begin at 7:00PM. Four of its approximately twenty-four meetings are reserved for discussion of planning issues. 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 2011-2012 the Zoning Board of Appeals met in session on eight occasions and heard four appeals. Variances were granted to three applicants.

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 Inland Wetlands Agency, the Conservation Commission 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, 2011 to June 30, 2012, sixteen applications were received, all of which were approved. Among the approved applications was one amended application, as well as one permit approved by Phillip Doremus, D.A., W.E.O. (Designated Agent, Wetlands Enforcement Officer). Mr. Doremus also issued four violations during this time and subsequently lifted three.

The Commission is currently in the process of amending the Inland Wetlands Regulations for the department, using state-mandated updates. When approved by the Commission, the newly-amended regulations will be sent to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection for review and will eventually be voted on at a public hearing later this year.

The Conservation Commission is also responsible for maintaining town-owned "Open Space" and planning for future open space acquisitions. To that effect, the Commission 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. This past year, Aspetuck Land Trust (a non-profit Connecticut corporation dedicated to preserving open space in Easton and surrounding towns) received a generous donation from Mrs. Henry B. duPont III of a 34-acre tract of land known as "Randall's Farm Nature Preserve", located off of Sport Hill Road. Although not counted among Easton's open space parcels, it is a wonderful addition to the collective open space properties within the Town's borders.

Currently, Easton owns nearly three hundred acres of Town-managed open space, 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. In this vein, the Members would again like to thank Peter Smith for his continued hard work at the property. Additional thanks go to the employees of the Department of Public Works (DPW), headed by Ed Nagy, for their much-appreciated cooperation over the past year. With Public Works' assistance, the Commission continues to maintain two farm fields on the Paine Open Space property in order to encourage various species of wildlife. The Department of Public Works also removed the pond dredging spoils pile from next to the pond at the Paine property and used

it elsewhere on the property to smooth over some uneven rutted ground. The DPW also, at the Commission's request, placed boulders near the entrance to the Paine Property to discourage trespassing by unauthorized vehicles.

The Members would also like to acknowledge Aspetuck Land Trust Trail Stewards Mike Wallace and Midge Krisak, for their tireless marking of the open space trail system and for their hard work after Hurricane Sandy, helping Commission Member Steve Corti assess the damage to the various trails on the Poindexter and Paine Open Space properties. The Commission also appreciates the assistance provided throughout the year by David Brant and Lisa Brodlie of Aspetuck Land Trust in providing guidance and materials to the Trail Stewards. All of their hard work is greatly appreciated by the Commission.

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 on their property. Additionally, a large open space map, developed by the Commission, is on display in the Easton Library.

The Members are looking forward to a productive new year. There are a number of small projects the Commission has in mind, one of which is to install signage at the site of the old Paine barn. In this vein, the Commission thanks former Alternate Member Ken Twombly and his son for the donation and planting of ornamental grasses (*Panicum*) near the fencing next to the foundation that remained after the Paine barn was removed from the site.

With Easton's best interests in mind, the Commission is dedicated to helping to preserve and protect its wetlands and waterways, as well as encourage its residents' enjoyment of their surroundings.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Roy Gosse, Chairman

Officers for the Easton Conservation Commission
Roy Gosse, Chairman
Stephen J. Edwards, Vice-Chairman
Dori Wollen, 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 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 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 5:00 pm 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 indicates the seminars are worthwhile and should continue.

Commission members are Acting Chair, Joel Peskay; Gail Gay; Margaret Silvestri, Janet Klein, Phyllis Machledt, and Paul Diana, Alternate.

The Commission on Aging members are sincerely grateful to the late Cecelia Campbell for the years of dedicated leadership she generously donated from the heart.

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, Dave Gombos, John Broadbin and Phil Tamallanca.

INSURANCE COMMISSION

TOWN OF EASTON INSURANCE SCHEDULE

7/01/11 -7/01/12

Commercial Property Coverage

Blanket Building & Contents	
Agreed Amount and Replacement	\$81,652,188
Contractor's Equipment	695,065
Fine Arts - Exhibition Floater	200,000
Deductible	1,000

Commercial General Liability Each occurrence \$ 1,000,000/3,000,000

Personal Injury/Advertising Injury	Each occurrence	\$ 1,000,000
Medical Expense	Each person	\$ 10,000

Equipment Breakdown \$100,000,000

Deductible	\$ 2,500
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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

Public Officials Liability Each claim \$ 1,000,000

Deductible	Each claim	10,000
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Law Enforcement Liability Each claim \$1,000,000

Deductible	Each claim	10,000
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School Leader's Legal Liability Each claim \$ 1,000,000

Deductible	Each claim	10,000
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Following-Form Excess Liability \$10,000,000

Pollution Liability(Underground Oil Tanks) per release \$ 1,000,000

Deductible	per release	10,000
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Workers' Compensation & Employer Liability Statutory

Exp. Mod. 1.22	
Employer's Liability	
Each Accident	\$1,000,000
Disease - Policy Limit	\$1,000,000
Disease - Each Employee	\$1,000,000

Blanket Public Employee Dishonesty Bond \$ 500,000

Excess Position Limit for:	\$ 100,000
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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 Chris 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 have performed in line with a multi-asset class diversified portfolio. The Town's pension obligations at July 1, 2012 were 83.8% funded. Subsequent stock market conditions have modestly increased the plan's assets.

In 2009 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. Future costs are expected to rise sharply as a result of the passage of the Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act.

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

Carolyn Colangelo, Secretary
Victor Alfandre
Christopher Neubert
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,
Carolyn Colangelo, Secretary
Land Preservation & Acquisition Authority

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

The purpose of the Agricultural commission is to act in an advisory capacity to the Board of Selectmen and other town boards and commissions on agricultural matters.

The commission consists of five members and two alternates who are electors of the town of Easton. Serving during this reporting period are Commission members Jean Stetz-Puchalski (Chair), Patti Popp (Secretary), Victor Alfandre, Sal Gilbertie, Irv Silverman and Alternates Lori Cochran Dougall and Laurel Fedor.

The Commission is charged with supporting, promoting, and encouraging agriculture and agricultural pursuits in the town of Easton. It serves as a conduit between non-profit agencies, civic organizations, municipal boards and commissions, elected and appointed government officials, businesses, farmers, and persons engaged in agricultural pursuits at the local, state, and federal level. The commission advises the Board of Selectmen, the land use boards, commissions and

officials on issues relating to agriculture and planning for agriculture in Easton.

Emphasis during this reporting period has been on education and development.

- Worked to understand the needs of the local farmers in order to support success, increase economic viability, and the future of agriculture in Easton.
- Learned of agricultural grant opportunities and educational programming/vocational/business training available to Easton farmers and how best to communicate these offerings.
- Established working relationships with other Connecticut Ag Commissions, federal and state level agricultural organizations, our Easton Planning and Zoning commission, and other Easton town commissions and committees, to help identify issues and concerns relating to planning for and supporting agriculture in Easton.
- Researched best practices for planning for agriculture in Connecticut municipalities, including participating in a survey project sponsored by the Connecticut Farm Bureau to poll Connecticut farmers on awareness of supporting regulations and tax exemptions supporting agriculture in our Connecticut municipalities.
- Worked with Easton Planning and Zoning commission and other relevant town commissions and committees to begin the review of current policies and regulations that impact agriculture in town.
- Recommended changes as to how agriculture is incorporated into the town's Plan of Conservation and development (POCD) as well as sharing ideas, resources and references to help shape policy regarding Easton laws and regulations dealing with agriculture, agricultural equipment, buildings and operations and farmland preservation.
- Continued to promote opportunities to preserve and expand farms in Easton and for citizens to value and support local farms. Furthermore, expanded the awareness of the important role agriculture plays in the future of maintaining the rural characteristics of Easton.

Current farming projects on town land include the leasing of two sections of the property located at Morehouse and Banks Road in front of Samuel Staples Elementary School (SSES). The plots are being farmed organically. The project provides an education opportunity for the students at the school as well as a historical lesson in Easton's agrarian roots.

Regular meetings of the Agricultural Commission are scheduled for the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:30PM at the Town Hall meeting room A unless otherwise noted.

Respectfully submitted by,
Jean Stetz-Puchalski, Chair

CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE

The Easton Clean Energy Task Force was established in 2006 to help the town achieve the goals of the statewide Clean Energy Communities Program. The original intent of the program was to foster municipal support for and community awareness of renewable energy. Starting in 2012, the program expanded to include a focus on energy efficiency and conservation as well. In keeping with this broader focus, Easton signed this year a new Clean Energy Communities Municipal Pledge, which has three components: 1) a commitment to reduce municipal building energy consumption by 20% by 2018; 2) a commitment to purchase 20% of municipal energy from renewable sources by 2018; and 3) an agreement to promote energy efficiency and renewable energy in the community.

Some of the Task Force's activities this year included:

- Communicating with municipal leaders about the changing state program and the new municipal "pledge." Because of its commitment, the town will be eligible for new state grants that can be used for energy efficiency and renewable energy purposes.
- Continuing to encourage town residents to sign up for the voluntary CleanEnergyOptions™ program through United Illuminating. Easton has achieved the 12th highest signup rate in CT.
- Awarding a grant to the Helen Keller eighth grade science teachers to help teach students about renewable energy sources.
- Helping to sponsor a high school student debate on renewable energy issues.
- Supporting town wide electronics and sneaker recycling events.

In the coming year, the Task Force will support important town efforts to measure and reduce energy consumption, including initial energy benchmarking of all town buildings and development of an action plan that will identify and prioritize future energy efficiency projects.

The current task force members are: Cathy Alfandre (Chair), Heidi Armster, Carroll Brooke, Katie Callahan, and Fred Lovejoy.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Alfandre (chair)

COMMITTEES

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

The Cemetery Committee's restoration and maintenance goals were successfully met with the help of small group of dedicated volunteers. During the 2011-12 fiscal year we held seven workdays in Gilberttown and Center Street cemeteries with a team of trained volunteers from last year's pool of workers.

The tasks accomplished during our workdays this fiscal year were; brush and leaf removal, resetting and/or repair of 25 headstones in Gilberttown, 8 headstones in Center and 2 in Lyon Cemetery, brush and vine removal from the stonewalls, the brushing and washing of 6 headstones in Center Cemetery as well as a complete photographic inventory of the before and after restoration work in Gilberttown Cemetery.

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

1. Reset headstones that are leaning in our cemeteries
2. Install in new fabricated bases to all headstones that have broken below ground level and are too short to be reset,
3. Repair with epoxy, the remaining headstones that have broken above ground level
4. Enter information (photos, inscriptions, name of interred) on all existing headstones into the cemetery inventory computer software for Center Street Cemetery.
5. Reset footstones in Gilberttown Cemetery

Other Committee accomplishments not aforementioned:

1. Provided consistent landscape maintenance and leaf/debris removal in Lyon Cemetery.
2. Ten headstones in Gilberttown were reset in bases that we had fabricated in 2011.
3. Creation of three brochures outlining Gilberttown, Center and Lyon Cemetery's history, location and cemetery regulations. These brochures are displayed in Town Hall.

The Committee would like to express their heartfelt appreciation to all the volunteers who have dedicated their time to maintaining our town's cemeteries.

Prepared by Gary Haines and Lisa Burghardt

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 2012 year, the Committee reviewed and proposed adjustments, as appropriate, of selected job grade classifications and compensation rates.

The membership of the committee during 2011-2012 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: Anthony J. Colonnese, Jeff Gombos, 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 773 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.

The volume of waste motor oil that was brought to the Public Works facility by Town residents for recycling was 1,575 gallons. This oil was sent to a recycler.

This past fiscal year, the Pubic Works Department along with TEaM, have had a container at the Trumbull Transfer Station for the collection of electronics, including computers, printers, FAX machines, television sets, etc.

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 (CRRA) 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 2,937 tons of solid waste during the 2011-2012 fiscal year. The disposal fee for this solid waste was \$99.00 per ton.

9/11 MEMORIAL

On January 13, 2010 members of the 9/11 Memorial Committee convened at Town meeting to "Consider and act upon the following petition pursuant to C.G.S. Section 7-7: 'A petition for the primary purpose of discussion and action regarding the Easton 9/11 Memorial as designed by the 9/11 Memorial Committee and shown in this present rendering and specifically for placement and construction on the grassy area in the parking lot in front of the Easton Library.'" By majority vote the Town authorized the 9/11 Memorial construction. Members of the Memorial Design committee include:

Paula Barker
Beverlee Dacey
Maureen George
Heather Linardos
Liz Maiorano
Lea Sylvestro
Sal Santella (Chair)
Mark Halstead (Architect)

All design and site evaluation work was pro bono.

On April 1, 2010 the Town Board of Selectmen charged a new committee with the 9/11 Memorial construction. Over \$38,533.00 have been raised from private donations allowing for construction to begin in the fall of 2011. Members of the 9/11 Memorial Building Committee include:

Paula Barker
Beverlee Dacey
Andy Kachele
Liz Maiorano
Sal Santella
Mark Halstead (Architect)

I was Chairman of the original 9/11 committee for 5 years and raised enough money to build the Memorial.

A new building committee was formed in April 2010 for which I was the treasurer.

There was a dedication on June 3rd 2012 which was well attended by not only Easton citizens but many from the surrounding communities. It was a most exciting day for the Hansons.

Recently the Building committee was terminated and up keep is in the hands of the Library.

Sincerely, Sal Santella

ANIMAL CONTROL SHELTER BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Easton Animal Control Shelter (EACS) building committee is comprised of seven members; Co-Chairs Peggy Macaluso and Marnie Waiwat, Clarence Jennings, Marvin Gelfand, June Logie, Andrea Kingsley, Joseph Macaluso and Easton Police Department representatives Chief John Solomon and ACO Kelly Fitch. Clint Hackenson has resigned from the committee at this time.

The town had approved \$588,000.00 for the construction of a new EACS to be located on town-owned property on Morehouse Road. The planned 2,600 square foot shelter is designed to blend in with the surrounding area and sits back approximately 500 feet from Morehouse Road. The shelter is designed with 12 dog kennels (10 regular and 2 isolation) and support areas. The plan also features a separate cat/small animal room, utility room, office area, multi-purpose room (adoption and education), animal bathing room, storage areas and a vehicle garage. The shelter is designed with high energy efficient systems and has received incentives from United Illuminating and Southern Connecticut Gas Company. Carlson Construction was awarded the contract as the low bidder and construction has continued. During this year outside and inside work is being done at the shelter. Easton Highway Department has continued with grading work and will be constructing animal play areas in the following year. They will also be installing interior dog kennels. The EACS was scheduled to be completed and opened this year, however construction delays have pushed the completion date to Spring of 2013.

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 to five members at a Town Meeting held on October 21, 1992. The five members are appointed for three 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, Chairman
Raymond Martin, Vice-chairman
Marvin Gelfand, Commissioner
Richard Colangelo, Commissioner
Laurie Israel, Secretary

The Board shall have all the powers of Boards of Police Commissioners pursuant to section 7-276 of the Connecticut General Statutes and shall maintain control and manage the police department of the Town. It is responsible for appointing a Chief of Police and police officers. It has control and management of all apparatus, equipment and buildings used by the Town for police purposes and, subject to the approval of the Board of Selectmen.

The Board is the sole and exclusive "traffic authority" under the provisions of section 14-297 of the Connecticut General Statutes for and within the limits of the Town.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard J. Colangelo Jr., Chairman

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Easton Police Department, established in 1937 with the creation of the Board of Police Commissioners. June 2012 marked the 75th anniversary of the Department. The Department plans on celebrating the occasion with an open house at the Department's headquarters.

The December 2011 retirement of Chief John Solomon and the July 2011 retirement of veteran police officer Gary Csanadi brought the number of officers to fourteen. Captain James Candee was appointed Chief of Police on January 1, 2012.

The police department provides 24/7 coverage to the town. In addition to general patrol duties, which all ranks perform, officers are also tasked as first responders to medical calls, school resource officer, K9 officer, emergency response team

members, Communication and Animal Control Division supervisors and public relations specialists, just to name a few.

All police officers are certified by the Connecticut Police Officer Standards and Training Council. In order to keep their certification officers must attend a minimum of sixty hours of review training every three years. Many Easton officers exceed this minimum.

I would like to thank the people of Easton for their continued support. In turn the men and women of your police department will serve with professionalism, integrity and honor.

James R. Candee
Chief of Police

EASTON POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICE DEPARTMENT FISCAL YEAR END REPORT FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2011 - JUNE 30, 2012

<u>ENFORCEMENT</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
MV Violations	446	448	366
Parking Tickets	17	9	23
MV Warnings	583	515	615

<u>CRIMINAL VIOLATIONS</u>			
ACO Arrests	9	7	13
Arson	0	0	0
Assault	8	11	4
Breach of Peace	9	2	3
Burglary	0	3	4
Criminal Mischief	2	2	0
Criminal Trespassing	10	7	1
Disorderly Conduct	11	14	18
Drugs	16	3	2
JV Referral	2	3	0
DWI	6	5	8
Larceny	5	2	3
Liquor Law Viol.	24	3	0
Robbery	0	0	0
Sex Crimes/Rape	0	0	0
Stolen MV	0	0	0
Weapons Violation	0	0	1
Warrants	2	5	17
Other	35	10	7
Enforcement/Violations Totals	1185	1049	1085

EASTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2011 - JUNE 30, 2012

<u>COMPS & Investigations</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
Accident	111	144	146
Aided Case	373	352	302
Alarm	903	958	1043
Animal	517	682	744
Arson	3	0	0
Assault	17	1	2
Assistance	531	526	502
Assist Other Dept.	298	302	283
Bomb Threats	0	0	0
Burglary	1	15	23
Child Restraint System	58	77	98
Citizens Complaint	3	0	0
Computer Crimes	7	5	8
Counterfeit	0	0	0
Criminal Mischief/Prop Dmg	18	35	35
Criminal Mischief Mail Box	31	48	39
Credit Card/Fraud	20	12	9
Disabled Motor Vehicle	184	214	209
Domestics	22	23	24
Fingerprints	202	239	290
Fire Call	151	141	164
Found Property	37	42	47
Other/General/Littering	38	16	19
Impersonation	1	3	0
Intimidation	0	0	0
Homicide	0	0	0
Juvenile Referrals	0	2	1
Larceny	25	15	36
Lost Property	16	15	27
M/V Found/Lost	1	0	4
M/V Impound	0	0	1
M/V Stolen	1	1	3
Missing Person	7	7	10
Narcotics/Drugs	8	4	1
Noise Complaints	96	98	92
Phone Call	36	29	49
Permits	61	42	58
Record Check	80	98	92
Robbery	0	0	0
Selective Enforcement	121	72	60
Sex Crimes	0	0	0
Soliciting	28	10	3
State Property	90	111	92
Subpoena	14	13	10
Suspicious Activity	84	100	97
Suspicious Motor Vehicle	427	366	389
Suspicious Person	87	118	102
Teletype	268	150	125
Threatening/D	7	4	2
Town Property	219	227	249
Trespassing	5	5	2
Truck	3	7	9
Utilities	535	542	517
Validations	1	0	4
Warrants	14	6	14
Weapon Law Violation	0	0	1
Youths	31	18	29
MV Stops/Arrests	954	847	901
DWI	4	6	7
Liquor Law Violation	2	1	0
Supplemental Reports	<u>136</u>	<u>195</u>	<u>230</u>
Total	6887	6944	7204

MUNICIPAL ANIMAL CONTROL

Governed by State Statute, the Municipal Animal Control Department is under the authority of the Chief of Police who has appointed a sergeant to oversee the day to day operations.

The Municipal Animal Control Department is currently staffed by one full time and three part time Animal Control Officers. These officers are empowered by state statute to conduct investigations, issue written complaints and summonses and to arrest any person found in violation of state animal control laws. They also conduct an annual survey of unlicensed dogs.

The wait for the construction of the new animal shelter continues. No date has been set for completion. I would like to thank those serving on the New Shelter Committee. Your hard work and perseverance is greatly appreciated.

James R. Candee
Chief of Police

MUNICIPAL ANIMAL CONTROL REPORT
FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2011 - JUNE 30, 2012

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
Comps Investigated	520	678	745
Dogs Destroyed	0	3	0
Cats Destroyed	0	1	2
Dogs Redeemed	35	37	50
Cats Redeemed	0	1	0
Dogs Sold	3	18	9
Cats Sold	20	15	29
Other	0	0	4
Dog Owner Arrests	9	6	13
Dog Bites	7	6	6
Cat Bites	0	1	2
Other	0	0	0
Phone Calls Received	1278	1436	1529
Notice To License	275	608	444

THE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

The Communications Center is under the direction of the Chief of Police who appoints a sergeant to supervise the daily operations.

The Center, staffed 24 hours a day seven days a week by a single certified telecommunications specialist, is the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) for the Town. All E911 calls received at the PSAP are answered by the specialist who is responsible for dispatching the appropriate emergency service. Nine radio systems are also monitored.

Communications Center personnel also act as receptionists for the police department with duties that include; intake of citizens' complaints for police officers, distribution of ETP stickers (police crime prevention program), routing routine telephone calls and maintaining constant radio contact with police officers on patrol.

James R. Candee
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, Asst. Chiefs Steve Waugh, Paul Skrtich and other officer's and firefighters attend.

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

The towns ISO rating for Fire protection coverage is a concern for the Fire Commission. The ISO concluded that the Town has poor coverage beyond the five mile radius of the Fire Dept., to include the north end and some areas in southwest section of town. Homes beyond the limit are subject to much higher Insurance cost. Some suggestions to remedy this problem would be to build a satellite fire station or an automatic mutual aid response from neighboring towns. The later requires a significant commitment from other departments.

The town has four fire apparatus. The Department has completed plans and has excepted a bid from Pierce Manufacturing. The new rescue truck replaces the 1987 engine and is expected to be delivered July 2012.

Dry hydrants are an on going project for the Department. Dry hydrants are water supplies from either ponds or underground water storage tanks. The Fire Department tests and maintains them on a yearly basis. Some ponds have silted over and now require repairs. 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 from two agencies, the Easton Fire Department, and the Easton Volunteer Fire Company #1. These agencies operate as one cohesive unit while responding to calls and training. The Chief Officers 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 it has continuously provided fire protection to the Town of Easton. Currently there are more than 20 active firefighters serving in the Fire Company. These volunteers come from a wide cross-section of Easton's community. These men and woman spend countless hours training for and responding to a wide variety of calls for help. The elected line officers in 2012 were Chief Jim Girardi, 1st Assistant Chief Steve Waugh, and 2nd Assistant Chief Paul Skrtich. The Fire Company executive officers in 2012 were President Russell Neary, succeeded by Casey Meskers, Vice President Casey Meskers, Secretary Lucy Crossman, and Treasurer Joe Pulchaski.

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 a 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 2012 calendar year turned out to be a challenging year. The Department responded to 347 calls during the year. The call types varied greatly. A breakdown of the most frequent types of calls is as follows: 115 alarm activations, 30 vehicle accidents, 27 lock-outs and 22 fire related incidents. The Department made aggressive stops on several fires saving the structures and thousand in damages for the homeowners. We also responded to 32 Carbon Monoxide related incidents. All told the Department used 41 different personnel and expended 469 person hours responding to calls for help. The Department

replaced Engine 3, a 1987 Pierce Dash with a new Pierce Arrow XT. This new engine has an upgraded Amkus hydraulic extrication system which will better serve us in dealing with the specialty metals in newer cars. Hopefully this new Pierce will be with us for years to come.

It is with sadness that I report that the Department lost Lt. Russell Neary on October 29th, of 2012. Russ was killed during Storm Sandy while returning from a reported structure fire. Russ was a member of the Volunteer Fire Company and Easton EMS. Russ' passing is a great loss for the town of Easton and both organizations. Russ will be missed by his friends in the Fire Company and EMS.

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
Jim Girardi, Chief
EFD / EVFC

EASTON VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE

We lost a valued friend and colleague this year. Russell Neary (Emergency Medical Responder) died in the line of duty while working with the fire department clearing trees during the hurricane.

During the hurricane we had 2 crews at EMS headquarters around the clock, available to provide care to the citizens of Easton.

Easton Volunteer Emergency Medical Service (EVEMS) consists of 40 volunteers, and 2 full time EMT's. We also have several per diem personnel that work from 3 to 6 PM Monday thru Friday to provide coverage when our volunteers are not available. We staff two town-owned ambulances.

EVEMS received 409 calls for help in 2012 with EMS members responding to over 80% of those calls, an increase from last year. Thanks to the weekend incentive program we were able to cover more of our calls on the weekend.

In addition to responding to calls volunteers stood by at over two dozen special events and attended monthly training. Performing all these tasks members logged in over 8217 volunteer hours, an increase of 950 hours. This is especially noteworthy because the majority of our volunteers hold permanent, full-time positions and still find time to serve our community by volunteering with EVEMS.

We provide pre-hospital care for all types of emergencies. In 2012, we responded to a broad range of calls including calls

for storm related accidents, cardiac arrests, heart attacks, breathing emergencies, drug overdoses, domestic violence, motor vehicle accidents and seizures. Where advanced life support is required, paramedics are called in to provide additional medical management.

Every call is important to EVEMS volunteers, and we realize that every minute counts in an emergency situation. Our average response time is 7 ½ minutes, which is significantly less than the State maximum of 12 minutes.

EVEMS utilizes what is called "insurance only billing". When the ambulance responds to and transports a patient, the Town of Easton only bills the patient's insurance company. If two ambulances come to the scene because we need a paramedic, patients will receive only one bill, as we split the cost with the paramedic service that provided assistance. EVEMS does not charge if patients decide they do not want to be transported to the hospital. All billing proceeds are reverted to the Town of Easton and EVEMS does not receive any compensation from the insurance only billing. For 2012, the insurance only billing proceeds totaled \$110,900.

In our efforts to expand membership and enhance our volunteer coverage, Christopher Neary (an EVEMS volunteer and paramedic) is currently conducting a four (4) month long EMT class.

EVEMS was instrumental in bringing Safety Day to the Easton Green. During the Safety Day activities, over 12 local organizations were on hand to provide safety information as it related to their organization. We plan to make Safety Day and annual event.

EVEMS Officers and Directors

Carolyn Kearney, Chief of Service
Dave Kmetz, President of the Trustees
Jonathan Arnold, Vice President of the Trustees
and Assistant Chief
Adam Goldstein, Assistant Chief
Victoria Sinnicki, Secretary
John Smith, Treasurer
Gabe Meszaros Co-Director of Training
Sandra Snyder, Co- Director of Training
Brian Hepp Assistant to the Directors of Training
Lorraine Mercede, Director of Personnel
Peggy Shukie, Director of Public Relations
Victor Malindretos, Director of Communications

Mr. Malindretos 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. Mrs. Kearney and Mr. Meszaros represent the town at the Southwest Council EMS monthly meetings, where different EMS services share information regarding the care of patients.

We thank everyone for their contribution and dedication.

Members of the EMS Commission

Robert Adriani, Chairman	Seyed Aleali, M.D.
Gloria Bindelglass, Secretary	Adele O’Kane
James Spak, M.D.	

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.

Respectfully submitted,	
Robert Adriani, Chairman	Carolyn Kearney, Chief
Easton EMS Commission	Easton Volunteer EMS

PUBLIC LIBRARY

EASTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

In 1933, at a Town Meeting, the citizens of Easton voted to establish a Public Library. The Library’s mission to help people of all ages lead richer, more interesting lives by providing access to books and other cultural resources has basically remained the same. Since that time, the Library has also become a welcoming community center for all of Easton’s residents. While the nature of the Library’s mission has not changed, how it goes about accomplishing its mission has.

The Library has made efforts to adjust to providing information and recreational resources in digital form. Major reference materials such as the Encyclopaedia Britannica and Value Line are no longer available in print and eBooks are growing in popularity among our patrons. The Library currently offers a total of 35 on-line databases covering a range of topics from anatomy to taxes, business to genealogy, poetry to job searching. American News Magazines, The Easton Courier and Connecticut Post are also available on-line. The Library subscribes to both the Encyclopaedia Britannica and World Book Encyclopedia online. Only Easton residents with valid Easton Public Library cards may access these resources.

Through library service providers, One Click Digital and Overdrive, the Library now has over 5,000 downloadable audio books and more than 6,000 eBooks available for loan. Once again, only Easton residents with valid Easton Public Library cards may access this service. All databases,

downloadable books and eBooks can be accessed remotely. While digital resources increase, patrons still value traditional resources. Librarians and print books are still important in the digital age. In this fiscal year, 67,338 print items were borrowed from the Library. Children’s books, particularly picture books, are as popular as ever. A trip to the Library with a parent or grandparent, to read among the stacks, is still an exciting way for a child to pass an afternoon and a great way to make lasting memories.

The Library continues to provide our youngest users with fun educational programs. Once again this year, children attended a wide range of programs, including story times for 6 months to 5 year olds, and book discussions, film screenings and arts and crafts programs for children between 5 – 13 years of age. These programs nurture a love of reading and supplement the children’s formal education. “Dream Big”, the theme of the summer reading program, was reflected in the number of children and adults that participated in the five week event. The 169 youthful participants read a total of 2,346 books and the 85 adult participants read a total of 278 books.

Murder 203: Connecticut’s Mystery Festival was a success with best selling author Michael Palmer, presiding as Guest of Honor. Mr. Palmer, famous for medical thrillers, and eighteen additional mystery authors, delighted the audience during several panel discussions. In May, Beyond Reading, our adult book discussion group, celebrated its eighth anniversary. The book club experience adds deeper meaning, greater understanding and sometimes pure joy to each book read and discussed.

The Friends of the Library continues to be an outstanding supporter of the Library. Each year the Friends provide funds for Library enhancements to benefit Easton’s citizens, young and old alike. Most recently, the Friends have contributed to the acquisitions of eBooks and adult best sellers and additional children’s fiction and non-fiction books. Friends programs, such as the annual Country Fair Cow Chip raffle and bi-annual book sales, bring Easton residents together for fellowship and fun. The 20th annual Storybook Parade stepped off from Staples parking lot with floats and costumes as colorful and creative as ever. This indispensable organization is vital to the life of the Library.

The Easton Public Library plays an important role in the community. Its resources and programs provide the citizenry with opportunities to learn; its meeting spaces provide residents with a place to gather together socially, for cultural programs or to participate in the business of local organizations; its gallery space allows artists to exhibit their work and citizens to enjoy various art forms.

While technology changes at an incredible pace and the world becomes smaller and larger simultaneously, the Library remains committed to providing resources to aid community members in facing their challenges and enjoying their successes in 2013.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Bernadette Baldino, Library Director

FY 2011-2012 Statistics

Circulation: 102,353
Registered Borrowers: 3,411
Total Materials: 77,481

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. Bernard A. Josefsberg, Ed.D. is the superintendent of the three school districts; Stephanie Pierson Ugol is the assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction; Margaret Sullivan is the director of finance and operations.

Vital statistics for the 2011-2012 school year include an operating budget of \$14,962,405 to educate 666 students in grades pre K-5 at Samuel Staples Elementary School and 390 students in grades 6-8 in Helen Keller Middle School. The Easton Schools employ 159 staff members: 90 teachers, 5 administrators, 60 support personnel and 9 custodians.

Easton students benefit from the caring and committed efforts of dedicated professionals who are adept at nurturing academic and social wellbeing. A comprehensive curriculum equips students with the core competencies that are delineated in Connecticut's Curricular Frameworks and the soon-to-be implemented national Common Core Standards. Anticipating that implementation, we are in the process of revising our curricula and shifting our instruction to ensure that our students will be well prepared to meet the Common Core's heightened academic expectations.

Each school possesses a distinct honor. Through the support of the Easton PTA, Samuel Staples Elementary School is a member of the HOT (Higher Order Thinking) Schools program. Established in 1994, the HOT Schools program works with select Connecticut schools to promote teaching and learning in, about, and through the arts in a democratic setting. Helen Keller Middle School is the recipient of the 2011 Blue

Ribbon Schools Award, given by the U.S. Department of Education. The Blue Ribbon Schools program identifies best practices in school leadership and teaching. Helen Keller shared this prestigious accolade with only 4 other Connecticut public schools and 255 public schools nationwide.

The Easton Public Schools have consistently ranked among several top schools in the state, as well as other high-performing districts in Fairfield County, for student performance on the Connecticut Mastery Test. As Connecticut begins implementing the Common Core State Standards, we will also begin transitioning to a new standardized state assessment through the Smarter Balanced testing consortium, beginning in 2015. Measures of student performance will include opportunities to demonstrate perseverance and critical thinking across content disciplines.

Our public schools aim to provide a dynamic and student-centered learning experience for all students, marked with each individual's personal signature. Toward that end, partnerships between home and school, as well as between our schools and the Easton community, are critical. Woven together, these partnerships create an educational fabric of particular distinction.

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

Joel Barlow High School is under the administration 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, 2011, 1008 students were enrolled in grades nine through twelve.

Of the 97 high school faculty members, 4 have doctorates, 40 have sixth-year certificates or equivalent, 42 have master's degrees, and 11 have bachelor's degrees. The school's picturesque campus of 113 acres accommodates 31 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. Dr. Thomas McMorran serves as assistant superintendent/head of school.

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, the Washington Post, and The College Board. In 2011 Joel Barlow High School was among 388 high schools in

the U.S. and Canada honored by the College Board for improving student access to advanced placement courses while maintaining high scores on the national advanced placement tests. 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. Over the years, the school has won many awards in the CABA Award of Excellence for Educational Communications contest from the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education. In 2011 the school won for its student/parent/guardian handbook and course selection guide. 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. In 2011, Barlow was one of only five schools in the United States to receive the Blue Apple award for excellence in its Health, Wellness, and Physical Fitness curricula.

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 574 out of a possible score of 800 in writing, 562 in mathematics, and 559 in reading. Three students were semi-finalists and thirteen students were commended scholars in the 2012 National Merit Scholarship Program. A total of 212 students took 368 Advanced Placement Examinations in 22 Advanced Placement Subjects. Ninety-one percent of the students achieved a grade of 3 or higher in the examinations. Advanced Placement exams are required of all Advanced Placement students. One hundred students took two or more Advanced Placement examinations. Ninety-five percent of the Class of 2012 planned to attend post-secondary institutions.

Newsweek listed Joel Barlow as one of only twelve Connecticut high schools on their list of the top 500 U.S. high schools. The schools were rated on graduation rate, number of AP tests taken per graduate, average advanced placement scores, average SAT/ACT scores, number of advanced placement courses offered, and the rate of students going to college. In the fall of 2011, ConnCan, an advocacy group for Connecticut public schools, listed Joel Barlow High School 4th out of 170 public high schools in the state.

The ideals of Joel Barlow High School are 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 2011-2012 budget of \$21,700,000 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, 2011 - June 30, 2012

IN KIND SERVICES:

PENSION

TOWN'S CONTRIBUTION FOR EMPLOYEES	\$170,000
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ACTUARY FEES

1/2 ANNUAL FEE	\$5,380
CHECK WRITING/REFUNDS/MISC.	\$1,848

UNEMPLOYMENT

\$0

EASTON FIRE DISTRICT

Tax	\$0
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INSURANCE

GENERAL LIABILITY	\$77,667
WORKER'S COMPENSATION	\$69,717

DEBT SERVICE

PRINCIPAL	\$1,579,500
INTEREST	\$573,371

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	\$0
PLOWING	\$800
SAND & SALT	\$960
SWEEPING	\$1,440
BOE MISC WORK	\$30,166

TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,518,349
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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, 2011, to June 30, 2012, the Trumbull Probate Court processed 1174 new matters. The new matters included the following:

Fee Waivers	25
Estates with Wills	220
Estate without Wills	37
Estate Sales of Real Estate	31
Compromise of Claims	4
Allowance for Spouse and/or Family	3
Allowance of Final Accounts	206
Other Applications or Petitions	19
Small Estate Affidavits	101
Estates for Tax Purposes Only	72
State Aid 4a-16 Estates	15
Other Applications with Hearing	63
Will Contests	5
Informal Status Conferences	25
Under the Category of Children's Matters:	
Adoptions, Termination of Parental Rights, Emancipations, Temporary Guardianship & Dispositional Hearing	55
Under the Category of Guardians:	
Appointment of Guardians of the Estate	14
Compromise of Claims	8
Allowance of Accounts	4
Other Applications with hearing on Guardians of Estate	16
Guardianship of the Mentally Retarded	34
Under the Category of Conservators:	
Temporary Conservator	3
Conservator of Estate/Person	42
Sales of Real Estate	5
Allowance of Accounts	18
Other Applications	41
Three Year Reviews	1

Under Miscellaneous:

Trust Applications and	82
Accounts Requiring Hearings	25
Name Changes	

The Honorable T. R. Rowe is Judge of Probate:
Chief Clerk: Elizabeth S. Frassinelli; Clerk: Gail J. Hanna.

The Court is located in the Trumbull Town Hall and is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30p.m.

SUMMARIES OF TOWN MEETINGS

(Reference attachments in minutes are available for review in the Town Clerk's office.)

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

MARCH 19, 2012 7.00pm

SAMUEL STAPLES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MINUTES

Present:

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

Other Town Officials:

Christine Calvert, Treasurer
Claire Gold, alternate member of the Board of Finance
Lee Hanson, Board of Finance member
Andrew Kachele, Board of Finance member
Fred Knopf, Chair Board of Finance
Easton Board of Education
Paul Lindoerfer, Chair Easton Tax Relief Committee

Public — about 30 members of the public

The meeting was video recorded

The First Selectman called the meeting to order at 7:06pm.

The First Selectman called for nominations for moderator. Bill Kupinse was nominated and seconded. 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 Approve Proposed revisions of the 2012 Senior Tax Relief Ordinance

A copy of the existing ordinance and the proposed changes is available in the Town Clerk's office. A copy is attached. The revised ordinance will be available later

Paul Lindoerfer presented a review of the major features of the Tax Relief Program and the proposed changes. He also summarized some senior concerns.

A copy of his presentation is attached.

The motion was proposed, seconded and passed by a majority voice vote.

Item 2: Discuss and Approve Proposed Changes in the Incentive Plans for Easton Volunteer Firefighters and Volunteer Emergency Medical Service Personnel

Paul Lindoerfer summarized the existing ordinances. A copy is attached.

He noted that they were needed to attract volunteers especially for the more difficult times like weekends and overnight. They provide a cash incentive since many volunteers do not live in town. One of the proposed changes is to permit town residents to take the credit as a tax reduction.

A copy of his presentation is attached.

The motion was proposed, seconded and passed by a majority voice vote.

A motion to adjourn as proposed, seconded and passed by unanimous voice vote.

W. Derek Buckley
Easton Town Clerk

**EASTON CONNECTICUT
REPUBLICAN
PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY
APRIL 24, 2012**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>VOTES</u>	
	<u>#</u>	<u>%</u>
NEWT GINGRICH	22	9.7%
RON PAUL	23	10.1%
MITT ROMNEY	166	73.1%
RICK SANTORUM	9	4.0%
UNCOMMITTED	7	3.1%
TOTAL	227	100.0%
REGISTERED REPUBLICANS	1679	
TOTAL VOTE	227	13.5%

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
APRIL 30, 2012 800pm
SAMUEL STAPLES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
MINUTES**

Present:

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

Other Town Officials:

Grace Stanczyk, Comptroller
Christine Calvert, Treasurer
Claire Gold, alternate member of the Board of Finance
Lee Hanson, Board of Finance member
Andrew Kachele, Board of Finance member
Fred Knopf, Chair Board of Finance
Easton Board of Education
Region 9 Board of Education

Public — about 30 members of the public about 60 people in total

The meeting was video recorded

The First Selectman called the meeting to order at 8:08pm.

The First Selectman called for nominations for moderator. Dennis Laccavole was nominated and seconded. 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 Accept the Annual Town Report

The motion was proposed and seconded. In the absence of any discussion or comment the motion was approved by unanimous voice vote. A copy of the Annual Town Report is attached.

The motion was proposed, seconded and passed by a majority voice vote.

Item 2: Discuss the Proposed Annual Town Budget of \$40,678,346 for fiscal year 2012-2013 as recommended by the Board of Finance.

The motion was proposed and seconded.

Fred Knopf reviewed the proposed budget and the process for establishing the budget. He noted that the budget mil rate would be affected by the recent town wide revaluation. In general, the mean devaluation was 23%. As a guideline only, devaluations more than this would reduce taxes. Devaluations less than this would increase taxes.

Adam Dunsby reviewed the Easton education budget.

Kathy Gombos reviewed the Region 9 budget. She noted that in 2011-2012 there were 1009 students while in 2012-2013 there will be 1019. However, Easton's share will decline as will their share of the overall budget.

She noted that several expensive issues lie ahead. The new roof on the old section could cost about \$4,000,000 and would be bonded since the operating budget could not absorb it.

The athletic fields and bleachers were also in need of renovation. The bleachers are a safety issue and the field needs anew surface.

Gown Dacey noted that Easton's share declined because 20 families moved their children to private school compared to 8 in Redding.

Cathy Gombos responded that Region 9 interviews the parents. They find that many parents want their children to go to schools they have attended. Others are seeking religious education the Region 9 does not offer.

In answer to a question from Liz Mariano, Cathy responded that they have a budget of about \$22,000,000 and 1000 students. This is an average of about \$22,000 per student.

Douglas Tomczak asked if cell towers at the schools had been considered as an additional revenue source. For him more money meant better education. Cathy responded that was likely to be controversial because of a potential negative impact on the students.

The motion was called and passed by voice vote.

Item 3: Discuss and approve the Five Year Capital Plan.

The motion was proposed, seconded and passed by voice vote without discussion or comment.

Item 4: Discuss and set July 1, 2012 and January 2, 2013 for the 2011 grand list.

The motion was proposed, seconded and passed by voice vote without discussion or comment

Item 5: Discuss and accept a Fishing Easement and Pedestrian Access from the Joan Wheeler DuPont, Trustee.

The motion was proposed, seconded and passed by voice vote without discussion or comment

Item 6: Discuss and approve the use of LOCIP funds for the Purchase of Narrow Band Radios for the Fire Department and Digital portable radios and pagers for the EMS Department.

The motion was proposed, seconded and passed by voice vote without discussion or comment

Item 7: Adjourn the Town Meeting to a machine vote to be held on Tuesday, May 8, 2012, 6.00am to 8.00pm at Samuel Staples Elementary School to vote on the annual budget for 2012-2013 of \$40,678,346 or such lower amount as may be approved by the Town Meetings.

The motion was proposed, seconded and passed by unanimous voice vote without discussion or comment.

The meeting adjourned at 8.55pm

W. Derek Buckley
Easton Town Clerk

**BUDGET REFERENDUM RESULTS
EASTON, CONNECTICUT
MAY 8, 2012**

Easton Budget

Shall the Town of Easton appropriate the sum of Forty Million, Six Hundred and Seventy Eight Thousand, Three Hundred, Forty Six Dollars (\$40,678,346) for the annual Town budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013? (This includes Easton's share of the Region 9 budget)

YES	646
NO	<u>254</u>
Majority	392
Abstain	0
Total votes	900 [18%]
Registered voters	4999

The EASTON budget was approved by 392 votes

Region 9 Budget

Shall the Regional School District Number 9, composed of the Towns of Easton and Redding appropriate and authorize the Expenditure of Twenty Two Million, Twenty Three Thousand Dollars, Four Hundred Forty Four Dollars (\$22,023,444) as the operating budget of the District for the fiscal year July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013? (Easton's share is \$10,115,368 and Redding's share is \$11,908,076.)

	<u>EASTON</u>	<u>REDDING</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
YES	627	721	1348
NO	<u>272</u>	<u>448</u>	<u>720</u>
Majority	355	273	628
Abstain	1		
Total Votes	900	1169	

The Region 9 budget was approved in Easton by 355 votes
The Region 9 budget was approved in Redding by 273 votes
The Region 9 budget was approved in Region 9 by 628 votes

W Derek Buckley
Easton Town Clerk

EASTON MUNICIPAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 8, 2011 ELECTIONS

OFFICE	ENDORSED	ELECTED	PARTY	VOTES	TERM [FROM-TO]	NUMBER TO BE ELECTED		
First Selectman	Thomas A. Herrmann No Candidate	√ x	Republican Democrat	1098 337	11/3/2009-11/8/2011	1	R	1435
Selectman	Scott S. Centrella Robert H. Lessler	√ √	Republican Democrat	973 632	11/3/2009-11/8/2011	2	R D	1605
Town Clerk	W. Derek Buckley Michael S. Kivell	√ x	Republican Democrat	1101 598	1/4/2010-1/2/2012	1	R D	1699
Treasurer	Christine Calvert No Candidate	√	Republican Democrat	1335	11/3/2009-11/8/2011	1	R	1335
Tax Collector	Patrice Hildenbrand David Smith	√	Republican Democrat	1025 655	11/3/2009-11/8/2011	1	R	1680
Board of Finance [6 year term]	C. Lee Hanson Fred Knopf Paul Lindoerfer Louis Paul Rosamilia	x x √ √	Republican Republican Democrat Democrat	1242 1131 944 976	11/3/2009-11/3/2015	2	R R D D	
Board of Finance [2 year term]]	Christian D. Griffin Claire S. Gold	√ x	Republican Democrat	960 693	11/3/2009-11/8/2011	1	R D	1653
Board of Education Full Term	Jeffery Parker Daniel Uderberger	√ √	Republican Democrat	1028 612	11/3/2009-11/3/2015	2	R D	1640
Board of Education Four Year Vacancy	No Candidate Vida Peskey	√ √	Republican Democrat		11/3/2009-11/3/2015	2		954
Board of Education Two Year Vacancy	No Candidate Regina Bobroske	√ √	Republican Democrat		11/3/2009-11/3/2015	2	D	959
Board of Assessment Appeals Full Term	Lori Mezes No Candidate	√	Democrat Republican	1290	11/3/2009-11/3/2015	1	R	1290
Board of Assessment Appeals Four Year Vacancy	No Candidate A. Reynolds Gordon	√	Democrat Republican	926	11/3/2009-11/3/2015	1	D	926
Board of Assessment Appeals Two Year Vacancy	Dennis J. Kokenos No Candidate	√	Republican Democrat	1278	11/3/2009-11/3/2015	1	R	1278
Zoning Board of Appeals	John W. Harris No Candidate	√	Republican Democrat	1289	11/3/2009-11/3/2015	2		1289
Constable	George A. Beno John L. Johnston Gary J. Stevens. Joseph L. Silhavy Gloria Bindelglass Richard F. Greiser Irving Silverman	√ √ √ √ √ √ x √	Republican Republican Republican Republican Democrat Democrat Democrat Democrat	1189 1007 1257 1206 1037 930 757	11/3/2009-11/8/2011	7		1165
Library Director	Todd Pajonas Jonathan Sonneborn	√ √	Republican Democrat	835 678	11/3/2009-11/3/2015	2		1513
Region 9 Board of Education Full Term	Carolyn M. Colangelo J. Vance Hancock Paul N. Coppinger No Candidate	√ √ x x	Republican Republican Democrat Democrat	1261 1341 867	11/3/2009-11/5/2013	2		2602
Region 9 Board of Education Two Year Vacancy	Todd Andrew Johnston Margot Z. Abrams No Candidate No Candidate	√ √ x x	Republican Republican Democrat Democrat	870 710	11/3/2009-11/5/2013	2		1580
Board of Finance [6 year term] -Minority Representation rules determine elected candidates								
ELECTED	√							
NOT ELECTED	x							

TOWN OFFICIALS

Board of Selectmen

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

Town Clerk

W. Derek Buckley

Treasurer

Wendy Bowditch

Tax Collector

Christine Calvert

Registrar of Voters

Ronald Kowalski, Democratic
Krista Kot - Republican

Board of Finance

Elise Broach
Christian D. Griffin
C. Lee Hanson
Andrew Kachele
Fred Knopf
Arthur Laske III

Alternates – Claire Gold
Elise Nappi
Paul Lindoerfer

Board of Assessment Appeals

Dennis Kokenos
A. Reynolds Gordon
Lori Mezes

Alternates – John Miranda
Gloria Kovac
Vacancy

Library Board

Gail V. Gay
Todd R. Pajonas
Gina Orticelli
Rita Seclow
Jon Sonneborn
Elaine H. Spicer

Easton Board of Education

Regina Bobroske
Adam Dunsby
Glenn Maiorano
Vida Peskey
Jeffrey Parker
Dr. Daniel Underberger

Regional Board of Education (Easton Members)

Catherine Gombos
Todd Andrew Johnston
Carolyn Colangelo
J. Vance Hancock

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

James R. Candee

Comptroller

Grace Stanczyk

Director of Health

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

Emergency Management Director

Captain Richard Doyle

Building Official

Emil Martin

Fire Chief

Steve Waugh

Park & Recreation Commission

John Broadbin
Thomas Cable
Kirsten Ceva
Philip Tamallanca
David Gombos
Steve Lichtman
Kathleen Smith

Planning & Zoning Commission

Steve Carlson
Paul Dominianni
Milan Spisek
Robert Maquat, Chair
Wallace Williams

Alternates - Ross Ogden
Robert DeVellis
Vacancy

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

BOE Designee
Gerard O'Brien
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
Lucy Katz
Michael Kot
Richard Scalo
Cleo Sonneborn

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
Laurie Israel
Raymond Martin
Vincent Battaglia

Emergency Medical Services Commission

Robert Adriani
Seyed 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
Christopher Neubert
John Smith
Thomas A. Herrmann

Solid Waste Commission

Thomas Collins
Anthony Colonnese
Philip Snow
Jeff Gombos
Vacancy

Advisory Board for the Easton Senior Center

Mary Burlinson
Sharon Cregeen
Florence Eastwood
Anne Fiyalka
Prabha Gupta
Eric Lawton
Maryellen Diana

Marilyn Santella
Sal Santella
Eunice Hanson

Fire Commission

Ralph Altieri
George Beno
Roberta Cable
Anthony Colonnese
Robert Monda

Conservation Commission

Stephen Corti
Stephen Edwards
Roy Gosse
Marla Manning
Steven Hume
Catherine Alfandre
Dori Wollen

Alternates –3 vacancies

Commission for the Aging

Gail Gay
Margaret Silvestri
Janet Klein
Joel Peskay
Phyllis Machledt

Alternates - Vacancy
Vacancy
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

Bernadette Baldino
Althea J. Falco
Terry Calgreen
Carmen Montaro
Martin Ohradan
Andy Rosenthal
Kay Oestreicher
Vicki Cram
Gary Simone
Bruce Bombero
Jay Festa

Social Services

Josephine Stenqvist - Director

Cemetery Committee

Robert Bloom
Phillip Doremus
Gary Haines

David Silverglade
Lisa Burghardt
Jonathan Fanton-Adjunct
Mary Lou Weinstein-Adjunct
Kevin Andrew King-Adjunct

Animal Control Committee

Peg Macaluso
June Logie
Marvin Gelfand
Marnie Waiwat
Joe Macaluso

Clean Energy Task Force

Catherine Alfandre
Heidi Armster
Katie Callahan
Fred Lovejoy
Carroll Brooke

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
Carolyn Colangelo
Christopher Neubert
Irving Snow – Alternate
Jeffrey Borofsky – Alternate

Easton Agricultural Commission

Jean Stetz-Puchalski
Patti Popp
Sal Gilbertie
Victor Alfandre
Irv Silverman

Alternates

Lori Cochran Dougall
Laurel Fedor

TOWN DEPARTMENTS AND EMPLOYEES

Selectman's Office

Thomas A. Herrmann, 1st Selectman
Scott Centrella, Selectman
Robert Lessler, Selectman
Althea Falco, Administrative Assistant
Diane Zadrozny, 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

Christine Calvert – May 2012, Treasurer
Wendy Bowditch, Treasurer
Grace Stanczyk, Comptroller
Carmen Montero, HRCC
Diane Zadrozny, 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
Krista Kot, Clerk

Assessor's Office

Teresa Rainieri, Assessor
Rachel Maciulewski, Assessor's Assistant

Tax Collector

Patrice Hildenbrand – June 2012 Tax Collector
Christine Calvert, Tax Collector
Margaret Timlin, Assistant Tax Collector

Municipal Agent for the Elderly

Katie Tressler, Agent
Pamela Healy, Outreach Worker

Senior Center

Valerie Buckley, Director
Cheryl (Kay) Oestreicher, Asst Director
Randy Shapiro, Driver
Heriberto Torres, P/T Driver
Chris Luckart, P/T Custodian

Park & Recreation Department

Gary Simone, Director
Danielle Alves, Programmer
Cristina Degenarro, Afterschool Program
Coordinator

Lisa Farasciano, Department Secretary
Chris Lemos, Maintenance Supervisor
Walt Litzie, Maintainer I

Library

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

Assistants

Barbara Fitchen
Nancy Harris
Penelope Papadoulis
Michael Pettiti
Ann A. Salvia

Aides

Anne Giroux
Kevin Krug
Brianna Mkissick
Brady Sezon

Police Department

John F. Solomon – December 2011, Police Chief
James R. Candee – December 2011, Captain –
Police Chief from January 2012
Richard Doyle – June 2012, Lieutenant,
Captain from July 2012
William Spencer, Sergeant
Jonathan Arnold, Sergeant

Police Officers

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

Special Officers

John Bech
Gary Csanadi - PT
Craig Tibbals
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

Cheryl Smolinsky
Ann Cook
Joanne Benson
Cari-Ann Logie-Ttszka
Chris Lazar
John Ojarovsky
Christina Sampaio
John Sredzinski

Canine Control

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

Registrars of Voters

Ron Kowalski, Democrat
Krista Kot, Republican

Public Works Department

Edward L. Nagy, Director and Town Engineer
Bruce Bombero, Engineer
Jeanie Schwartz, Secretary
Daniel Treadwell, Garage Mgr/Lead Mechanic
Robert Cocivi, Facilities Technician
Gil Neves, Maintenance Technician

Highwaymen

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

Emergency Medical Services

Andrew Rosenthal, EMT
John Snyder, EMT
Carolyn Kearney, EMS Service Chief
Jonathan Arnold, EMS Assistant Service Chief
Adam Goldstein, EMS Assistant Service Chief
Bruce Lewis
Chris Lazar
Margaret Shukie
Gabor Meszaros
Gabor Meszros, Jr.
Marjorie Arnold
Diane Nizlek
Sherman Turner

Emergency Management Director

Richard Doyle

Fire Department

James Girardi, Fire Chief
Steve Waugh, Asst Fire Chief
Paul Skirtch, 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.
Mark Mirowski
Martin Ohradan

ADMINISTRATION AND TEACHING STAFF

HELEN KELLER MIDDLE SCHOOL

1	Ashby, Charleen	Teacher
2	Bourret, Adam	Teacher
3	Broas, Sarah	Teacher
4	Brodeur, Cynthia	Teacher
5	Carlucci, Katharine	Teacher
6	Cockerham, Arthur	Teacher
7	Colasanto, Kristen	Teacher
8	Cole, Eliza	Teacher
9	Culliton, Nancy	Teacher
10	Cuttner, Nancy	Teacher
11	D'Elisa, Teresa	School Psychologist
12	Dolecki, Eric A.	Teacher
13	Donegan, Tracey	Teacher Special Ed
14	Ducsay, Nicole	Teacher
15	Dunkerton, Amber	Teacher
16	Fearn, Ethan A.	Teacher
17	Gallo, Susan	Teacher
18	Gioielli, Christine	Teacher Special Ed
19	Guild, Megan	Teacher
20	Harington, Heather Calico	Teacher
21	Henry, Paula	Teacher
22	Heran, Kimberly	Teacher Special Ed
23	Hurta, Robin	Teacher
24	Klatt, Meredith	School Psychologist
25	Maggi, Linda	Teacher
26	Mangino, Karen	Teacher
27	Marchetti, Emily	Teacher
28	Minort-Kale, Jeannine	Teacher
29	Mohr, Ann	Teacher
30	Newman, Sarah	Teacher
31	Pearson, Eric	Teacher Special Ed
32	Rose, Jennifer	Teacher Special Ed
33	Schupp, Jeffrey	Teacher
34	Solis, Nicole	Teacher
35	Thomas, Patricia	Director of Guidance
36	Veteri, Toni E.	Teacher Special Ed
37	Walsh, Brian	Teacher

Fox Santora, Kimberly Principal
Brownstein, Michael Assistant Principal
Friedlander, Janie Director
Special Services

SAMUEL STAPLES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1	Anderson, Claudia	Teacher
2	Bachelder, Maureen	Teacher
3	Bajda, Katie	Teacher
4	Barnard, Stacey	Teacher Special Ed
5	Barrows, Rachael	Teacher
6	Bates, Allan	Teacher
7	Bizzotto, Melissa	Teacher
8	Brakeman, John	Teacher
9	Breuer, Wanda	Teacher Special Ed
10	Breyer, David A.	Teacher

11	Brophy, Tara	Teacher
12	Carroll, Courtney	Teacher
13	Chatfield, Callen	Teacher
14	Chiappetta, Morgan	Teacher
15	Clark, Russell	Teacher
16	Cooper, Donald	Teacher
17	DeFilippo, Paige	Teacher
18	Duffy, Kimberly D.	Teacher
19	Duffy, Lynne	Teacher
20	Durma, Stacey	Teacher
21	Edwards, Jennifer	Teacher
22	Edwards, Tracy	Teacher Special Ed
23	Fressola, Kelly	Teacher
24	Gentile, Amy	Teacher
25	Giglio-Opalinski, Elizabeth L.	Teacher
26	Herman, Kristina	Teacher Special Ed
27	Herrick, Robert	School Psychologist
28	Hobbs, Laura	Teacher
29	Holroyd, Stephanie	Teacher
30	Keating, Geraldine	Teacher Special Ed
31	Keden, Kristen	Teacher
32	Kessler, Melissa	Teacher Special Ed
33	King, Jean	Teacher
34	Kuruc, Jill M.	Teacher
35	Langlois, Laura	Teacher Special Ed
36	Lazar, Diane	Teacher
37	MacArthur, Carey	Teacher
38	Marusa, Debora	Teacher
39	Menegay, Robert	Teacher
40	Murray, Timothy	Teacher
41	Olschan, Kathryn	Teacher
42	Paciello, Sunny Michelle	Teacher
43	Piacente, Courtney	Teacher
44	Pilkington, Dawn	Teacher
45	Remmell, Diana M.	Teacher
46	Schneider, Jeanine	Teacher
47	Scholz, Darcy	Teacher
48	Scouart, Melissa	Teacher
49	Simmons, Helen	Teacher
50	Skoczylas, Julianne	Teacher Special Ed
51	Stern, Karen	Teacher Special Ed
52	Studeney, Jason	Teacher
53	Traggianese, Amy	Teacher
54	Ward, Jason	Teacher
55	Wemyss, Elizabeth	Teacher
56	Woodford, Karen	Teacher
57	Wulf, Linda	Teacher
58	Zazula, Kristin	Teacher

Kaplan, Susan Principal
Burke, Kathy Assistant Principal

REGION 9 CERTIFIED STAFF 2012 - 2013

1	Albano, Donna	Teacher
2	Angelis, Michael	Teacher
3	Angell, Christopher	Teacher
4	Antal, Steven	Teacher
5	Bailey, Beth	Teacher
6	Barcham, Dale	Teacher Special Ed
7	Barna, Frederick	Teacher
8	Bernardo, Margaret	Teacher
9	Breault, Christopher	Teacher
10	Brix, Nancy	Teacher
11	Brown, Jeffrey	Teacher Special Ed
12	Budd, Jonathan S.	Teacher
13	Ciancio, Brian	Teacher
14	Classey, Paige	Teacher
15	Correa, Catherine	Teacher
16	Crowley, John	Teacher
17	D'Amato, Daniela	Teacher
18	Desmarais, Jennifer	Teacher
19	Detelich, Charles	Teacher
20	DeVoto, James	Teacher
21	Ecsedy, Michael	Teacher
22	Egan, Jeanne F.	Teacher
23	Egan, Margaret	Teacher Special Ed
24	Estes, Lori	Teacher
25	Fallo, Kristen	Teacher
26	Feranec, Sandra	Teacher Special Ed
27	Fricker, Jacob E.	Teacher
28	Gang, Scott	Teacher
29	Garvey, Janice	Teacher
30	Gilmore, Maria	Teacher
31	Giordano, Ralph	Teacher
32	Givoni, Julianne	Teacher
33	Gold, Elisabeth	Teacher
34	Goodpaster, Pamela	Teacher
35	Hrebin, Mary P.	Teacher Special Ed
36	Huminski, Carolyn	Teacher
37	Huminski, Timothy	Teacher
38	Intemann, Michael	Teacher
39	Keeney, Kristin	Teacher
40	Light, Randall	Teacher
41	Luzietti, Brian H.	Teacher
42	Magrino, Filomena	Teacher
43	Malayter, Alison	Teacher
44	Matthews, Jonathan	Teacher
45	McElwee, Michael	Teacher
46	McNulty, Vincenza Jane	Teacher
47	McTague, Julie	Teacher
48	Murdoch, Erin	Teacher
49	Nocturne, Margaret	Teacher
50	Nuzzo, Katherine	Teacher
51	Pieratti, Maryanne	Teacher
52	Pinsky, Jordan	Teacher
53	Potpinka, Thomas	Teacher
54	Poulos, Christopher	Teacher
55	Powell, Barbara	Teacher
56	Powers, John	Teacher Special Ed
57	Queen, Christine	Teacher Special Ed

58	Rao, Christina	Teacher
59	Rivers, Daniel	Teacher
60	Roberts, Thomas	Teacher Special Ed
61	Rountos, Steven	Teacher
62	Rowland, Andrea Jean	Teacher
63	Salko-Peddle, Sheila H.	Teacher Special Ed
64	Schemm, Jason	Teacher
65	Skalkos, Leann	Teacher
66	Smith, Barbara	Teacher
67	Smith, Randall	Teacher
68	Sopko, Joseph S.	Teacher
69	Sopko, Michelle S.	Teacher
70	Spinner, Daniel	Teacher
71	Staley, Jessica	Teacher
72	Staron, Angela	Teacher
73	Stragazzi, Matthew	Teacher
74	Sugden, Mary Elizabeth	Teacher
75	Sullivan, Karen E.	Teacher Special Ed
76	Swift, Ryan	Teacher
77	Taubner, Debra	Teacher
78	Testa, Paul	Teacher
79	Therien, Beth	Teacher
80	VanAusdal, Sandra	Teacher
81	Vialotti, Laura	Teacher
82	Waterman, Waltraut	Teacher
83	Whiting, Jacquelyn	Teacher
84	Zabilansky, Megan	Teacher

REGION 9 ADMINISTRATORS

1	Atkinson, Mary	Guidance Counselor
2	DelAngelo, Henry	Guidance Counselor
3	Higgins, Patrick	Admin-Student/ Staff Svc
4	Hoyt, Rebecca	School Psychologist
5	Panos, Paula	Director of Guidance
6	Pin, Gina	Assistant Principal
7	Ramirez, Jennifer Short	Guidance Counselor
8	Reimold, Scott	Guidance Counselor
9	Roszkowski, Patricia	Director Special Services
10	Santangeli, Michael	Admin-PE/Health
11	Sheehy, Mary Ann	Assistant Principal
12	McMorran, Thomas	Principal

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TOWN DIRECTORY

Emergency - Police - Fire - Ambulance	911
Non-Emergency	203-268-4111
Police - Fire - Ambulance	
Town Hall	203-268-6291
Town Hall Fax	203-268-4928
First Selectman	
Assessor	
Tax Collector	
Treasurer	
Building Department	
Health Department	
Planning and Zoning Department	
Zoning Board of Appeals	
Conservation Department	
Registrar of Voters	
Town Clerk Fax	203-261-6080
Library	203-268-0134
Senior Center	203-268-1145
Municipal Agent for the Elderly	203-268-1137
Department of Public Works	203-268-0714
Park and Recreation Department	203-268-7200
Dog Warden	203-268-9172
Superintendent of Schools - Central Office	203-261-2513
Samuel Staples Elementary 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 Christopher Murphy 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 Commission	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.
Senior Center 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	
As Announced		
Planning & Zoning Commission	2nd and 4th Mondays	7:00 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		
Solid Waste Commission	2nd Wednesday	4:00 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room		
Tax Relief for the Elderly	As Required	
Senior Center		

TOWN CALENDAR

SELECTMAN'S OFFICE	Monday-Friday	8:30-4:30
ASSESSOR	Monday-Friday	8:30-4:30
TOWN CLERK	Monday-Friday	8:00-3:30
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	Monday, Wednesday., Thurs., Fri.	10:30-3:00
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	Tuesday	10:30-3:00
CONSERVATION	Monday-Friday	8:30-12:30
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS	Thursday Friday	10:00 – 2:00 12:30 – 4:30
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.



Accounting | Tax | Business Consulting

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, 2012, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These 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 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. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and the significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall 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, 2012, 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 7, 2012 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, 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 on 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.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis on pages 3 through 9, the budgetary comparison information on pages 45 through 49 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of Easton, Connecticut's financial statements as a whole. 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 financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare 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 certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements and schedules are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Blum, Shapiro & Company, P.C.

December 7, 2012

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2012

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, 2012.

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 \$62,719,763 (net assets). Of this amount, \$6,836,931 (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 \$2,813,881. 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 \$(268,592). The deficit is attributable to capital projects that have not yet been permanently financed.
- At the end of the current fiscal year, unassigned fund balance for the general fund was \$3,795,019 or 9.5% of total general fund expenditures and transfers out.

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 several 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 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 \$62,719,763 at the close of the most recent fiscal year.

A large portion of the Town's net assets (89%) 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, 2012 AND 2011**

	Governmental Activities	
	2012	2011
Current and other assets	\$ 12,545,813	\$ 11,778,630
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	<u>92,251,775</u>	<u>92,448,395</u>
Total assets	<u>104,797,588</u>	<u>104,227,025</u>
 Long-term debt outstanding	 31,239,090	 32,523,414
Other liabilities	<u>10,838,735</u>	<u>11,797,729</u>
Total liabilities	<u>42,077,825</u>	<u>44,321,143</u>
 Net Assets:		
Invested in capital assets, net of debt	55,882,832	55,630,433
Unrestricted	<u>6,836,931</u>	<u>4,275,449</u>
 Total Net Assets	 <u>\$ 62,719,763</u>	 <u>\$ 59,905,882</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, \$6,836,931 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, 2012 AND 2011**

	Governmental Activities	
	2012	2011
Revenues:		
Program revenues:		
Charges for services	\$ 2,214,792	\$ 1,834,112
Operating grants and contributions	2,459,793	2,574,110
General revenues:		
Property taxes	38,129,333	37,141,113
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific purposes	251,744	222,757
Investment income	281,849	238,911
Miscellaneous	261,739	44,219
Total revenues	<u>44,179,256</u>	<u>42,055,222</u>
Program expenses:		
General government	3,261,556	3,607,371
Public safety	3,772,713	4,080,618
Public works	3,175,031	3,300,634
Health and welfare	516,153	505,771
Education	27,954,061	27,090,890
Library	954,638	799,462
Parks and recreation	826,622	853,867
Interest expense	904,601	1,761,750
Total expenses	<u>41,365,375</u>	<u>42,000,363</u>
Increase in Net Assets	2,813,881	54,859
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	<u>59,905,882</u>	<u>59,851,023</u>
Net Assets - End of Year	<u>\$ 62,719,763</u>	<u>\$ 59,905,882</u>

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 \$(268,592), 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, unassigned fund balance was \$3,795,019. As a measure of the general fund's liquidity, it may be useful to compare the unassigned fund balance to total general fund expenditures. Unassigned fund balance represents 9.5% 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 of \$30,000 and budget transfers of \$71,088 from various departments to the transfers out account to purchase equipment. The Board of Finance made special appropriations to the Emergency Management, Senior Center, Town Attorney and Professional Services' budgets and transferred funds from police special service revenue to cover expenditures.

The following departments had positive budget variances as follows

- Debt Service in the amount of \$287,856 due to refunding of Bonds.
- The Public Works department in the amount of \$285,507 due to a very mild winter that saved funds in overtime and highway road salt.
- Fringe Benefits in the amount of \$177,000 due to increased percentage deductions and the election to accept "in lieu of" medical coverage.
- Board of Education returning funds of \$141,507.
- 660 Morehouse Road (Old SSS) in the amount of \$62,226 due to the very mild winter and increased reimbursements for utilities.
- Library in the amount of \$42,805 due to the savings from a very mild winter and one vacant position for part of the fiscal year.

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, 2012 is \$92,251,775 (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 construction of the new Animal Shelter Facility that is being funded by two (2) grants, STEAP and LOCIP and Town bonding.
- The remaining additions and deletions consisted of various equipment and vehicles for Town departments.

TOWN OF EASTON CAPITAL ASSETS
(Net of Depreciation)

	Governmental Activities	
	2012	2011
Land	\$ 19,028,656	\$ 19,028,656
Construction in progress	427,896	427,896
Land improvements	434,904	454,466
Buildings	52,785,406	53,668,877
Building improvements	1,269,239	1,304,789
Machinery and equipment	384,094	351,721
Vehicles	2,423,628	1,372,634
Infrastructure	<u>15,497,952</u>	<u>15,839,356</u>
Total	<u>\$ 92,251,775</u>	<u>\$ 92,448,395</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 \$34,889,000. 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	
	2012	2011
General obligation bonds - Town improvements	\$ 5,433,000	\$ 6,107,000
General obligation bonds - School improvements	21,028,000	22,522,000
General obligation bonds - Sewer improvements	304,000	326,000
Bond anticipation notes	<u>8,124,000</u>	<u>8,500,000</u>
Total	<u>\$ 34,889,000</u>	<u>\$ 37,455,000</u>

The Town is also obligated for a portion of the Regional School District No. 9 general obligation debt in the net amount of \$9,223,133.

On July 8, 2011, the Town issued \$8,124,000 of bond anticipation notes. These bond anticipation notes bear interest at 1.0% and mature on July 6, 2012 and are for elementary school construction and land acquisition.

During the fiscal year, the Town made bond principal payments of \$2,280,000 for school and general purpose debt.

The Town maintains an "AAA" credit rating from Standard and Poor's, 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 \$265,022,233 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 2013 fiscal year:

- The unemployment rate for the Town is currently 5.7%. This compares favorably to the state's average unemployment rate of 8.2% and the national average rate of 7.6%.
- 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 2013 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 and some services were reduced.
- At June 30, 2012, unassigned fund balance in the general fund was \$3,795,019.

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, 2012

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Assets:	
Current assets:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,549,659
Investments	6,319,120
Receivables, net	1,521,188
Other assets	727,981
Bond issuance costs	176,851
Total current assets	<u>12,294,799</u>
Noncurrent assets:	
Capital assets:	
Assets not being depreciated	19,456,552
Assets being depreciated, net	72,795,223
Total capital assets	<u>92,251,775</u>
Net pension asset	251,014
Total noncurrent assets	<u>92,502,789</u>
Total assets	<u>104,797,588</u>
Liabilities:	
Current liabilities:	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	1,713,051
Due to Regional School District No. 9	693,511
Unearned revenue	308,173
Bond anticipation notes	8,124,000
Total current liabilities	<u>10,838,735</u>
Noncurrent liabilities:	
Long-term liabilities due within one year	2,686,741
Long-term liabilities due in more than one year	28,552,349
Total noncurrent liabilities	<u>31,239,090</u>
Total liabilities	<u>42,077,825</u>
Net Assets:	
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	55,882,832
Unrestricted	<u>6,836,931</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>\$ 62,719,763</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, 2012

Functions/Programs	Program Revenues				Net Expenses and Changes in Net Assets
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Total Governmental Activities
Governmental activities:					
General government	\$ 3,261,556	\$ 720,918	\$ 15,495	\$ 580,006	\$ (1,945,137)
Public safety	3,772,713	518,421	17,245		(3,237,047)
Public works	3,175,031	395,874			(2,779,157)
Health and welfare	516,153	105,206	19,805		(391,142)
Education	27,954,061	39,509	2,407,248		(25,507,304)
Library	954,638	133,884			(820,754)
Parks and recreation	826,622	300,980			(525,642)
Interest and fiscal charges	904,601				(904,601)
Total Governmental Activities	<u>\$ 41,365,375</u>	<u>\$ 2,214,792</u>	<u>\$ 2,459,793</u>	<u>\$ 580,006</u>	<u>(36,110,784)</u>
General revenues:					
Property taxes					38,129,333
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs					251,744
Investment income					281,849
Miscellaneous					261,739
Total general revenues					<u>38,924,665</u>
Change in Net Assets					2,813,881
Net Assets - Beginning of Year					<u>59,905,882</u>
Net Assets - End of Year					<u>\$ 62,719,763</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT
BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2012

	<u>General</u>	<u>Bonded Capital Projects</u>	<u>Capital Nonrecurring Projects</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
ASSETS					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 782,663	\$	\$ 481,879	\$ 1,943,623	\$ 3,208,165
Investments	5,442,923		105,465	770,732	6,319,120
Receivables:					
Property taxes	983,584				983,584
Accounts	143,288		42,830	58,134	244,252
Intergovernmental	181,201		544,280	2,500	727,981
Due from other funds	104,900				104,900
Total Assets	<u>\$ 7,638,559</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,174,454</u>	<u>\$ 2,774,989</u>	<u>\$ 11,588,002</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES					
Liabilities:					
Accounts payable	\$ 450,879	\$ 28,353	\$ 13,497	\$ 124,504	\$ 617,233
Accrued liabilities	878,097				878,097
Due to Regional School District No. 9	693,511				693,511
Due to other funds	316,541	104,900			421,441
Deferred revenue	1,122,312				1,122,312
Bond anticipation notes		8,124,000			8,124,000
Total liabilities	<u>3,461,340</u>	<u>8,257,253</u>	<u>13,497</u>	<u>124,504</u>	<u>11,856,594</u>
Fund balances:					
Restricted				157,778	157,778
Committed			1,160,957	2,525,664	3,686,621
Assigned	382,200				382,200
Unassigned	3,795,019	(8,257,253)		(32,957)	(4,495,191)
Total fund balances	<u>4,177,219</u>	<u>(8,257,253)</u>	<u>1,160,957</u>	<u>2,650,485</u>	<u>(268,592)</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	<u>\$ 7,638,559</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,174,454</u>	<u>\$ 2,774,989</u>	<u>\$ 11,588,002</u>

(Continued on next page)

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT

BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS (CONTINUED)

JUNE 30, 2012

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	\$	(268,592)
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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	\$	122,643,346	
Less accumulated depreciation		(30,391,571)	
Net capital assets			92,251,775

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

Net pension asset	251,014
Property tax receivables greater than 60 days	799,989
Interest receivable on property taxes	293,352
Bond issue costs	176,851
Receivable from the state for school construction projects	14,960

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.

567,121

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	(26,765,000)
Compensated absences	(999,495)
Capital lease payable	(964,042)
Net OPEB obligation	(1,121,432)
Interest payable on bonds and notes	(127,617)
Deferred charges on refunding	5,395
Unamortized bond premium	(521,296)
Heart and hypertension	(873,220)

Net Assets of Governmental Activities (Exhibit I)	\$	<u>62,719,763</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, 2012

	<u>General</u>	<u>Bonded Capital Projects</u>	<u>Capital Nonrecurring Projects</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
Revenues:					
Property taxes	\$ 37,864,061	\$	\$	\$	\$ 37,864,061
Intergovernmental	2,366,020		580,006	321,888	3,267,914
Charges for services	1,480,688	77,853		907,628	2,466,169
Investment income	243,904	141	16	37,788	281,849
Contributions			130	28,596	28,726
Total revenues	<u>41,954,673</u>	<u>77,994</u>	<u>580,152</u>	<u>1,295,900</u>	<u>43,908,719</u>
Expenditures:					
Current:					
General government	1,950,414			113,816	2,064,230
Public safety	2,532,072			87,810	2,619,882
Public works	1,839,025			276,813	2,115,838
Health and welfare	329,184			35,181	364,365
Education	26,784,954			309,609	27,094,563
Library	523,656			143,237	666,893
Parks and recreation	378,364			298,269	676,633
Employee benefits	3,234,146				3,234,146
Insurance	638,232				638,232
Debt service	3,446,341				3,446,341
Capital outlay		17,236	1,308,372	41,016	1,366,624
Total expenditures	<u>41,656,388</u>	<u>17,236</u>	<u>1,308,372</u>	<u>1,305,751</u>	<u>44,287,747</u>
Deficiency of Revenues over Expenditures	<u>298,285</u>	<u>60,758</u>	<u>(728,220)</u>	<u>(9,851)</u>	<u>(379,028)</u>
Other Financing Sources (Uses):					
Proceeds from sale of refunding bonds	6,810,000				6,810,000
Premium on refunded bonds	298,387				298,387
Payment to refunded bond escrow	(6,995,628)				(6,995,628)
Proceeds from capital leases			1,092,050		1,092,050
Transfers in	95,000		85,354	67,717	248,071
Transfers out	(138,805)			(109,266)	(248,071)
Net other financing sources	<u>68,954</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,177,404</u>	<u>(41,549)</u>	<u>1,204,809</u>
Net Change in Fund Balances	367,239	60,758	449,184	(51,400)	825,781
Fund Balances - Beginning of Year	<u>3,809,980</u>	<u>(8,318,011)</u>	<u>711,773</u>	<u>2,701,885</u>	<u>(1,094,373)</u>
Fund Balances - End of Year	<u>\$ 4,177,219</u>	<u>\$ (8,257,253)</u>	<u>\$ 1,160,957</u>	<u>\$ 2,650,485</u>	<u>\$ (268,592)</u>

(Continued on next page)

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2012

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) \$ 825,781

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	1,278,332
Depreciation expense	(1,468,951)

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.

(6,001)

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	(5,175)
Increase in property tax receivable - accrual basis change	(18,953)
Increase in property tax interest and lien revenue	284,225
Net pension asset	195,697

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:

Proceeds from sale of bonds	
Bond premium	(298,387)
Bond issuance costs	112,759
Deferred charges on refunding	2,606
Bond principal repayments	2,280,000
Proceeds from sale of refunding bonds	(6,810,000)
Payment to refunded bond escrow	6,995,628
Proceeds from capital lease	(1,092,050)

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	(327,894)
Heart and hypertension claims	190,511
Compensated absences	57,177
Accrued interest payable	118,936
Amortization of bond premium	45,966
Amortization of bond issue costs	(18,527)
Capital lease payments	128,008

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

The net revenue of the activities of the Internal Service Fund is reported with governmental activities	344,193
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Change in Net Assets of Governmental Activities (Exhibit II)	\$ 2,813,881
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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, 2012

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance With Final Budget</u>
Property Taxes:				
Property taxes, current and prior	\$ 37,854,342	37,854,342	\$ 37,624,913	\$ (229,429)
Interest and lien fees	100,000	100,000	151,588	51,588
Telephone access	48,000	48,000	87,560	39,560
Total property taxes	<u>38,002,342</u>	<u>38,002,342</u>	<u>37,864,061</u>	<u>(138,281)</u>
Intergovernmental:				
Educational assistance:				
Special education and education cost share	593,868	593,868	591,500	(2,368)
School building grant	5,269	5,269	5,569	300
Other	12,174	12,174	-	(12,174)
Total educational assistance	<u>611,311</u>	<u>611,311</u>	<u>597,069</u>	<u>(14,242)</u>
Town assistance:				
Town aid roads	113,430	113,430	113,610	180
Infrastructure	615,613	615,613	26,000	(589,613)
In lieu of tax loss - boats	4,814	4,814	-	(4,814)
Elderly tax relief	37,360	37,360	39,626	2,266
Tax relief for the totally disabled			75	75
State owned property	58,831	58,831	58,855	24
Manufacturing			528	528
Municipal revenue sharing			528	528
Mashantucket Pequot grant	8,652	8,652	5,760	(2,892)
Civil preparedness	4,800	4,800	-	(4,800)
Property tax relief (veterans)	8,247	8,247	6,762	(1,485)
Miscellaneous	15,000	15,000	1,701	(13,299)
Total town assistance	<u>866,747</u>	<u>866,747</u>	<u>253,445</u>	<u>(613,302)</u>
Total intergovernmental	<u>1,478,058</u>	<u>1,478,058</u>	<u>850,514</u>	<u>(627,544)</u>
Investment Income	<u>315,000</u>	<u>315,000</u>	<u>243,904</u>	<u>(71,096)</u>
Charges for Services:				
Town clerk	175,000	175,000	183,546	8,546
Building inspection fees and permits	120,000	120,000	101,844	(18,156)
Health department	15,000	15,000	23,615	8,615
Planning and zoning	10,000	10,000	14,662	4,662
Conservation commission	5,000	5,000	6,092	1,092
Police department	100,000	100,000	404,185	304,185
First selectman	80,000	80,000	81,841	1,841
Municipal building leases	340,450	340,450	367,986	27,536

(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, 2012

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance With Final Budget</u>
Fire marshal	\$ 40	\$ 40	\$ -	\$ (40)
Parks and recreation	29,541	29,541	18,579	(10,962)
Region 9 tuition	10,169	10,169	31,827	21,658
BOE tuition	11,979	11,979	7,682	(4,297)
Recycling bins			777	777
Highway department	1,500	1,500	1,271	(229)
Other	21,857	21,857	236,781	214,924
Total charges for services	<u>920,536</u>	<u>920,536</u>	<u>1,480,688</u>	<u>560,152</u>
Total Revenues	<u>40,715,936</u>	<u>40,715,936</u>	<u>40,439,167</u>	<u>(276,769)</u>
Other Financing Sources:				
Sale of capital assets			1,031	1,031
Transfer in - EMS	<u>95,000</u>	<u>95,000</u>	<u>95,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Total other financing sources	<u>95,000</u>	<u>95,000</u>	<u>95,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources	<u>\$ 40,810,936</u>	<u>\$ 40,810,936</u>	<u>40,534,167</u>	<u>\$ (276,769)</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			1,515,506	
Premium on refunding bonds			298,387	
Proceeds from sale of refunding bonds			<u>6,810,000</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>\$ 49,158,060</u>	

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2012

	Original Budget	Additional Appropriations and Transfers	Final Budget	Actual	Variance With Final Budget
General Government:					
Town clerk	\$ 153,301	\$ 2,183	\$ 155,484	\$ 155,480	\$ 4
First selectman	155,780	1,842	157,622	148,583	9,039
Probate court	4,625		4,625	4,625	-
Registrar of voters	63,437	704	64,141	44,001	20,140
Board of finance	6,500		6,500	3,441	3,059
Auditors	37,300		37,300	35,000	2,300
Treasurer	177,981	3,461	181,442	180,500	942
Assessor	104,423	2,515	106,938	106,361	577
Board of assessment appeals	800		800	673	127
Tax collector	93,885		93,885	90,813	3,072
Town attorney	90,000	11,000	101,000	100,038	962
Planning and zoning commission	109,131		109,131	101,660	7,471
Zoning board of appeals	7,412		7,412	6,156	1,256
Building department	93,491	2,289	95,780	94,047	1,733
Technology computer	25,854		25,854	21,766	4,088
Town Hall	136,061		136,061	108,668	27,393
Communication dispatchers	228,746		228,746	211,850	16,896
Commission for the elderly	52,371	1,263	53,634	53,289	345
Senior center	165,554	1,153	166,707	166,707	-
SSS building	376,323		376,323	314,097	62,226
Cemetery	2,432		2,432	2,425	7
Public celebrations	450		450	234	216
Total general government	<u>2,085,857</u>	<u>26,410</u>	<u>2,112,267</u>	<u>1,950,414</u>	<u>161,853</u>
Public Safety:					
Police department	1,408,561	262,667	1,671,228	1,667,177	4,051
Fire department	806,282	(46,016)	760,266	749,374	10,892
Fire marshal	28,200		28,200	20,832	7,368
Emergency management	8,712	12,000	20,712	20,039	673
Firehouse rent	41,000		41,000	41,000	-
Conservation commission	36,270		36,270	33,650	2,620
Total public safety	<u>2,329,025</u>	<u>228,651</u>	<u>2,557,676</u>	<u>2,532,072</u>	<u>25,604</u>
Public Works:					
Recycling	128,567		128,567	115,582	12,985
Highway department	1,947,484	6,719	1,954,203	1,684,326	269,877
Street lights	1,432		1,432	1,187	245
Engineering and professional services	39,330	1,000	40,330	37,930	2,400
Total public works	<u>2,116,813</u>	<u>7,719</u>	<u>2,124,532</u>	<u>1,839,025</u>	<u>285,507</u>
Health and Welfare:					
Health director	65,017	8,178	73,195	72,917	278
EMS commission	268,986		268,986	254,386	14,600
Welfare	4,120		4,120	1,881	2,239
Total health and welfare	<u>338,123</u>	<u>8,178</u>	<u>346,301</u>	<u>329,184</u>	<u>17,117</u>

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2012

	Original Budget	Additional Appropriations and Transfers	Final Budget	Actual	Variance With Final Budget
Education:					
Easton Board of Education:					
General instruction	\$ 7,084,883	\$ (10,449)	\$ 7,074,434	\$ 7,020,831	\$ 53,603
Kindergarten	11,126	(800)	10,326	8,296	2,030
Humanities	20,313	668	20,981	19,789	1,192
Integrated language arts	31,205	(1,002)	30,203	29,779	424
Curriculum	59,931	(8,997)	50,934	41,131	9,803
Science/math technology	25,674	7,572	33,246	31,144	2,102
Physical education/health	4,671	(211)	4,460	4,457	3
Special services	32,580		32,580	43,931	(11,351)
Special education	3,330,774	(54,258)	3,276,516	3,230,917	45,599
Guidance	7,281	26	7,307	8,887	(1,580)
Health services	172,277	794	173,071	168,597	4,474
Psychological services	12,100	1,705	13,805	10,010	3,795
Speech services	16,600		16,600	3,663	12,937
Educational media services	61,362	571	61,933	58,059	3,874
Technology plan	311,306		311,306	376,335	(65,029)
Board of education	71,540		71,540	117,676	(46,136)
Central administration	529,034		529,034	529,034	-
School administration	972,389	(645)	971,744	944,193	27,551
physical plant	1,449,567	1,372	1,450,939	1,331,599	119,340
Student transportation	754,492	63,654	818,146	842,216	(24,070)
Food service	3,300		3,300	354	2,946
Total Easton Board of Education	14,962,405	-	14,962,405	14,820,898	141,507
Regional School District No. 9	10,448,550		10,448,550	10,448,550	-
Total education	25,410,955	-	25,410,955	25,269,448	141,507
Library	559,789	6,671	566,460	523,656	42,804
Parks and Recreation:					
Parks and recreation commission	359,373	2,773	362,146	339,883	22,263
Tree warden	39,280		39,280	38,481	799
Total parks and recreation	398,653	2,773	401,426	378,364	23,062
Employee Benefits:					
Pensions	1,004,604	20,000	1,024,604	1,024,515	89
Fringe benefits	1,987,174	(7,076)	1,980,098	1,802,123	177,975
Social Security and Medicare	420,970		420,970	407,508	13,462
Total employee benefits	3,412,748	12,924	3,425,672	3,234,146	191,526

(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, 2012

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Additional Appropriations and Transfers</u>	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance With Final Budget</u>
Insurance	\$ 647,818	\$ -	\$ 647,818	\$ 638,232	\$ 9,586
Other-Contingency	125,000	(117,715)	7,285	-	7,285
Debt Service:					
Principal retirement	3,621,438		3,621,438	2,348,500	1,272,938
Interest			-	965,437	(965,437)
Fiscal agent fees			-	19,645	(19,645)
Total debt service	<u>3,621,438</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,621,438</u>	<u>3,333,582</u>	<u>287,856</u>
Total expenditures	<u>41,046,219</u>	<u>175,611</u>	<u>41,221,830</u>	<u>40,028,123</u>	<u>1,193,707</u>
Other Financing Uses:					
Transfers out:					
Dog fund	67,717		67,717	67,717	-
Capital nonrecurring		71,088	71,088	71,088	-
Total other financing uses	<u>67,717</u>	<u>71,088</u>	<u>138,805</u>	<u>138,805</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Expenditures and Other Financing Uses	\$ <u>41,113,936</u>	\$ <u>246,699</u>	\$ <u>41,360,635</u>	40,166,928	\$ <u>1,193,707</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				1,515,506	
Payment to refunded bond escrow				6,995,628	
Issuance costs on bond refunding				<u>112,759</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>48,790,821</u>	

**TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT
REPORT OF TAX COLLECTOR
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2012**

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