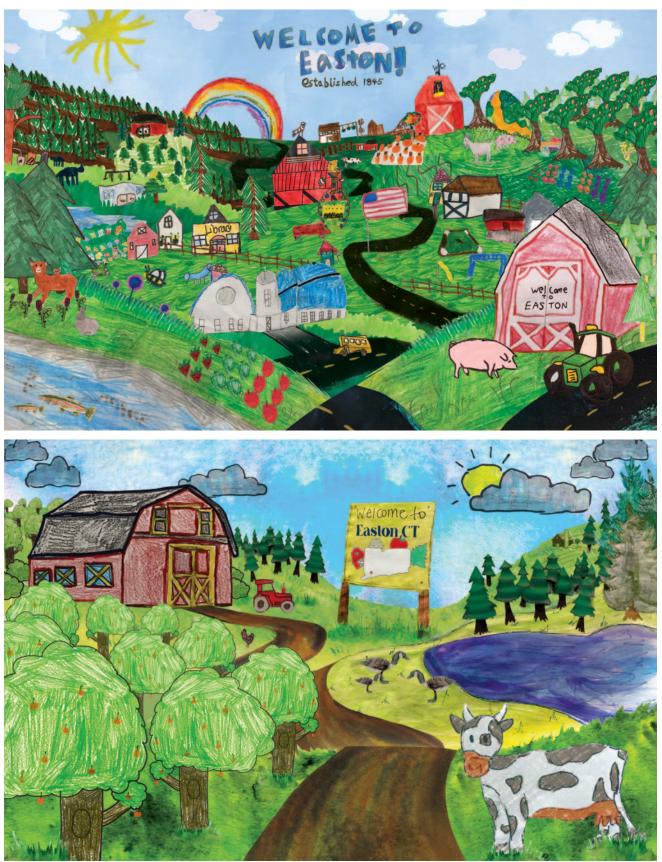
# TOWN OF EASTON



## ANNUAL REPORT 2022

#### **ABOUT THE COVER**

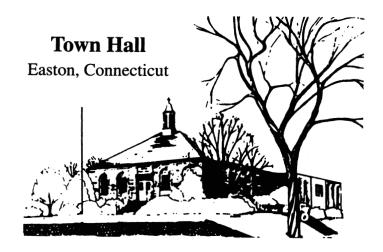
New "Welcome Signs"

July 2022

Representing the work of students at Samuel Staples Elementary School & Helen Keller Middle School



# Town of Easton ANNUAL REPORT



#### 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, 2022 and some information by calendar year 2022. 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 Sophia Vournazos, who was responsible for the overall coordination and planning.

Arthur Laske III Board of Finance

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## GENERAL GOVERNMENT

#### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

The Board of Selectmen is the executive and administrative branch of town government. Its primary charge is to manage the concerns of Easton. The First Selectman is the Chief Executive Officer of the town and an ex officio member of all town Boards, Committees and Commissions. The Board of Selectmen typically meets the first and third Thursday of each month at 7:30pm.

A number of boards, commissions, committees, volunteers, and employees assist in the Town's operations. With their dedication, Easton shines as a great place to live and work. The Board of Selectmen would like to thank the many citizens who have contributed their time and expertise to the Town.

Please go to www.eastonct.gov where you will find information about everything from our form of government to local hiking trails; schools, sports teams and other activities in town. Be sure to sign up for e-notification for information posted on the website by selecting "Subscribe to News" on the town homepage.

The Board of Selectmen

David Bindelglass, First Selectman Robert H. Lessler, Selectman Kristi Sogofsky, Selectman

#### TOWN CLERK REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS TOWN SEXTON

As the hub of local government and a valuable public resource linking the past, present, and future of Easton, the Town Clerk's office ensures the public receives open, transparent communication with municipal information and access to records. Since Easton's incorporation in 1845, the Town Clerk has been the official record keeper and impartial liaison between the public and local government. The Secretary of State delegates and entrusts the Town Clerk with multi-faceted responsibilities for land records, public documents, licensing, vital records, elections, records management and retention duties. In addition, as Registrar of Vital Statistics, the Town Clerk's office maintains and certifies a registry of births, marriages, civil unions, deaths, and fetal deaths. As Town Sexton, duties include permit processing and reporting of all Town burials/interments, disinterments, and removals. Our staff includes one Town Clerk (full-time) and 2 (part-time) Assistant Town Clerks.

#### **Responsibilities:**

- Maintain, manage and provide transparent access to public records per state law and regulations.
- Record, index, retain, and preserve municipal records, including vital records.
- Post public meeting notices, agendas and minutes.
- Record and retain trade names and military discharges.
- Issue certificates of authority to justices of the peace and notary publics.
- Act as filing repository for municipal office candidates' campaign finance statements.
- Issue new/renewal dog licenses, including maintenance of database for Animal Control.
- Issue fishing and hiking permits for Aquarion Water Company.
- Maintain and provide guidance for the Town's general records retention and essential records management duties according to the Connecticut State Library's Office of Public Records Administrator.
- Convene the Annual Town Meeting and special town meetings.
- Maintain records for appointed and elected members of boards, commissions, committees and task forces.
- Collaborate with the Registrars of Voters for primaries, elections and referenda. (Due to continual changes in election laws and voting procedures, accuracy, alertness and knowledge are vital.)
- Coordinate with the Town of Redding with the Region 9 (Easton and Redding) school district.
- Maintain the Town of Easton website www.eastonct.gov with updated information regarding Town Hall departments and services, resources, board and commission meeting information, and Town news and announcements.
- Provide and maintain land records and maps in an online in searchable database with indexes/images (subscription service).
- Offer e-recording, notary public services, and Justice of the Peace resources.

Below is a listing of various Town Clerk records for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022:

| ТҮРЕ                     | NO. ISSUED  |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| LAND RECORDS             | 1298        |
| BIRTHS                   | 72          |
| MARRIAGES                | 24          |
| DEATHS                   | 50          |
| BURIAL PERMITS           | 17          |
| MAPS AND SURVEYS         | 16          |
| TRADE NAME CERTIFICATES  | 15          |
| MILITARY DISCHARGES      | 5           |
| DOG LICENSES / KENNELS   | 832 / 3     |
| TRANSFERS OF PROPERTY    | 154         |
| AQUARION FISHING PERMITS | 10          |
| SPORTSMAN LICENSES       | Online only |
|                          |             |

With the dedicated and enthusiastic support of Assistant Town Clerks, Holly Konstantino and Tina Reynolds, our office is genuinely personable and always committed to proudly serving our residents and customers with information, knowledge, and efficiency.

Serving as your Town Clerk with integrity and commitment continues to be my sincere honor and pleasure!

Submitted by, Deborah Szegedi Easton Town Clerk

#### **TOWN TREASURER**

Elected for a two year term, the Treasurer of the Town of Easton is charged with managing the receipt, investment, and disbursement of the Town's money. This involves maximizing revenues received, establishing accounts that prudently garnish returns 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 account. The goals are to invest funds in anticipation of long term projects and capital needs and maximize investment income. The Town continued to maintain a AAA rating by Standard and Poor's, the highest rating possible. Holding this rating allows the Town to borrow and refund debt at relatively low rates. Retaining this rating is a testament to the Town's long-term commitment to prudent, measured financial management. The Treasurer's office is responsible for Easton's accounting and reporting as well as gathering information for and the preparation and monitoring of each year's budget.

Sophia Vournazos has continued guiding our visitors and citizens through Town Hall. In addition to accounts payable role, she has been crossed trained to process payroll.

The Finance Department looks forward to serving the public.

Respectfully submitted, Christine Calvert Treasurer

#### 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; processes certificates of change and lawful corrections in accordance with Sec. 12-167(5); processes 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, 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 informal 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, Director of Finance, Treasurer, external auditors, Selectmen and Town Attorney on matters relating to the collection of taxes; posts payments 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, 2020 grand list were issued at the rate of 32.35 mills, which is equivalent to \$32.35 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, 2021 and January 1, 2022. Motor vehicle taxes were due in full July 1, 2021. Supplemental motor vehicle taxes for newly acquired motor vehicles registered subsequent to October 1, 2020 were due in full January 1, 2022 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 failure to receive a bill does not relieve the taxpayer of the responsibility to pay the bill, nor 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 \$42,432,950.39 in taxes, interest and lien fees was collected during fiscal year 2021-2022.
- 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 \$75,949.18 in additions, and \$104,435.52 in deductions were made to the grand lists of 2006-2020.
- c. A total of \$29,622.02 was transferred to suspense.
- d. Report of refunds, Sec.12-129, detailing list year, name, amount and reason. A total of refunds were

granted in the amount of \$65,228.17. Liens: 62 liens for unpaid real estate taxes on the 2020 grand list were filed May 23rd and 24th, 2022 (52 regular liens, and 10 for deferred bills). Copies of these liens and all lien releases are on file in the town land records.

Taxpayers continue to utilize the online payment option, available since July 2020, through our vendor, Invoice Cloud, which can be accessed through our web page at eastonct.gov. Please be advised that vendor convenience fees apply.

As always, I thank the Town for the opportunity to serve its taxpayers. I also extend my appreciation to my assistant Lisa Krohne. We look forward to the coming year, serving the Town's taxpayers in whatever ways we are able.

Respectfully submitted, Krista Kot, CCMC, Tax Collector Lisa Krohne, CCMC, Assistant Tax Collector

#### TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT ON COLLECTIONS:

Fiscal Year Ending 6/30/2022 (Conn. Gen. Stat. Sec. 12-167(1-3)

| Grand List Year   | <u>2020</u>   | 2006-2019   |
|---|---------------|-------------|
| Total amount of unpaid taxes on each rate bill              |               |             |
| at start of fiscal year                                     | \$42,136,093  | \$1,659,586 |
| Lawful corrections  | -20,991       | -7,496      |
| Suspense  | -1,279        | -28,343     |
| Total amount collected on e rate bill during the fiscal     | ach           |             |
| year (tax, int., lien, legal)                               | T: 41,645,502 | 434,517     |
|   | I: 109,179    | 241,880     |
|   | <u>L: 692</u> | 1,179       |
|   | 41,755,373    | 677,576     |
| Total amount uncollected or each rate bill at end of fiscal |               |             |
| (excluding interest & liens)                                | \$468,321     | \$1,189,230 |

#### ASSESSOR

It is the responsibility of the Assessor's Office primarily to discover, list and assess all taxable and non-taxable properties in the Town of Easton. The three categories of taxable properties are Real Estate, Motor Vehicles, and Personal Property. Property is assessed as of the October 1st assessment date pursuant to C.G.S. 12-62a. Pursuant to C.G.S. 12-62 a (b) all property is assessed at 70% of its appraised value.

Each property must appear on the Grand List which is an annual record of all taxable and tax-exempt properties in Town. The

Grand List also reflects all property tax exemptions granted to property owners. The Net Taxable Grand List is used to calculate property tax bills. The yearly mill rate for taxes is determined by the Grand Levy (Town Budget less other income) divided by the Net Grand List then multiplied by 1,000.

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. 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 judgement.

Revaluations are conducted every 5 years and the 10th year requires a physical inspection per State Statute. This is most difficult as the normal duties of the Assessor's Office and the work involved in performing the revaluation must be conducted concurrently. For this process, the Town hires a certified Revaluation Company with the oversight and approval of the Assessor.

The Assessor works with the Building Official and his office and on a monthly basis provides a list of new building permits to the Assessor. The Assessor then visits these properties to measure any new construction a few times during the year. The Assessor 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. In addition to measuring, the Assessor also lists and values the property for tax purposes. The Assessor also uses active real estate listings to discover, list and value taxable improvements that have been omitted or completed without permits.

The Assessor and Assistant coordinate with the Town Clerk and Tax Collector on any new changes in property ownership, foreclosures, survey maps, etc., and record them on the property field card and input all the information in the computer for the tax bills. Deeds are proof read and property sales are then determined to be a usable or non-usable, which must be reported monthly to the State. All files, Assessor's Maps, and field cards are updated regularly to reflect changes of ownership, land splits, subdivisions, assessment changes and exemptions.

All owners of business/commercial personal property are required to file annually a Personal Property Declaration with the Assessor's Office no later than November 1st in accordance with C.G.S. 12-41. Owners of business personal property include anyone who conducts any type of business, own horses, farmers, owns non-registered motor vehicles, and owners of motor vehicles registered out of state but garaged in Easton. Connecticut law levies a 25% penalty assessment for failure to file a declaration, omitting property, or filing a declaration late after November 1st without having been approved by the Assessor for a filing extension.

During the tax year, the Assessor and Assistant price and pro rate motor vehicle assessments in accordance with section 12-71 and

issue lawful certificate of correction when proof of sale, trade-in, moved out of state, donated or junked, with a plate cancellation receipt from DMV are provided to the Assessor's 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's Office whenever necessary, to assist the physically handicapped taxpayer.

On matters relating to assessments and elderly programs, the Assessor's Office prepares the forms for taxpayers for the State Elderly Homeowners' Program as well as calculates the forms which are then sent to the State for approval. When a taxpayer sells their home the benefit is then pro-rated. The Town Tax Relief for the Elderly program is also the responsibility of our office and can be applied for if elderly income complies with the Town's requirements.

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

The Assessor's Office recognizes and applies Public Act 490 Farm and Forest. Forest reductions are applied when a property owner owns more than 25 acres and applies with a State Certified Forester. The forms are checked yearly for those eligible for a for farm or forest exemption to make sure that Taxpayers are complying with State Statutes.

Services are provided to Town officials, departments, and/or commissions, surveyors, attorneys, title searchers, real estate appraisers, F.B.I., U.S. IRS, etc.

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

The Assessor and Assistant 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.

Respectfully submitted, Rachel Maciulewski, Assessor Pam Ferraina, Assessor's Assistant

#### SUMMARY OF 2020-2021 GRAND LISTS

#### NET VALUE OF TAXABLE PROPERTY

|                   | 2020            | 2021               | Difference   |
|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Real Estate       | \$1,197,527,050 | \$1,357,989,380    | +160,462,330 |
| Personal Property | 18,663,108      | 21,173,670         | +2,510,562   |
| Motor Vehicles    | 82,854,889      | <u>104,252,810</u> | +21,397,921  |

TOTAL \$1,299,045,047 \$1,483,415,860 +\$184,370,813

#### FIGURES ARE PRIOR TO ADJUSTMENTS OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

#### **REGISTRAR OF VOTERS**

Easton is served by two Registrars of Voters, one Democrat and one Republican, who are elected state officials. They are charged to guarantee and preserve the voting rights of the citizens of our 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. In November, 2020 David Smith was reelected for his fifth term as the Democratic Registrar, and Dori Wollen was elected for her first term as the Republican Registrar. Their term will expire on Dec 31, 2022. Both Registrars serve the public in an apolitical manner to ensure a fair and non-partisan experience for everyone. Jim Bromer continues to serve as the Democratic Deputy Registrar. Susanne Smith and John Allan are the Assistant Registrars.

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, the ballot layout and submission of nominating petitions. The Secretary of the State's office has put a lot of attention to election security and in turn increased the educational requirements re cyber security. Also, while the voting process has become more efficient during the past several years, technical training and reporting responsibilities, as well as changes and additions to the regulations and statutes have increased the workload of both the Registrars, and the Election Moderators.

On July 1, 2022, there were 5344 registered voters in Easton, representing, 1515 Democrats, 1435 Republicans, 2070 unaffiliated, with another 80 split among a number of minor parties.

In January, 2022, the General Assembly completed its redistricting process based on the 2020 census, an event that happens every ten years. As a result Easton was split into two House Districts, #135 and #112(new). The purpose of

redistricting is to establish and maintain voting districts that are faithful to the principle of one-person, one-vote. In Connecticut, responsibility for redrawing legislative and congressional district lines generally rests with the General Assembly. The first 2 District State Election for Easton was to be held in November of 2022.

We could not accomplish all that we do in making sure that elections run smoothly, efficiently, and accurately, without the dedicated assistance of so many election workers, and Town Clerk Christine Halloran and her staff. Due to a family move to Florida, Christine left her job as Town Clerk on April 18th, and her Assistant Clerk, Debbie Szegedi, became Town Clerk on April 19th. We extend special thanks to the administration, staff and maintenance crew of Samuel Staples Elementary School, to the Public Works Department for all 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 and election staff throughout the day of each election.

Residents may register to vote or change their registration in person at our office in Town Hall within certain time guidelines, or by using the online voter registration options at http://govote.ct.gov. In April we held a voter registration sessions at Joel Barlow High School informing and encouraging the senior class about getting them involved with the registration process. In addition, we also hold special sessions, at Town Hall, throughout the year for registering new voters. The annual canvassing required by CGS 9-32 took place between January 1st and May 1st, 2022, which helped ascertain the number of eligible voters. We encourage everyone contacted to respond to the inquiry to maintain their voting rights. Election Day Registration (EDR) is held during Federal and Municipal Elections to enable all eligible voters to register and vote on Election Day. As Registrars, we are working to heighten the awareness of the opportunities Easton residents have to voice their opinion at every electoral opportunity, whether budget referendum, Municipal, State or Federal election.

The Registrars' Office is located in Town Hall and is open on Mondays, from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., and Thursdays from 12:00 noon until 4:00 p.m. Either Registrar or Deputy or Assistant Registrar will gladly assist town residents with any voter registration or voting issue, regardless of party affiliation.

We encourage residents to contact the Registrar's Office if they would like to participate as poll workers for upcoming elections. If anyone interested, please email the office at **voters@eastonct.gov** or call 203-268-6291 Ext. 171.

Respectfully submitted, David Smith, Democratic Registrar Dori Wollen, Republican Registrar

#### **BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

The 2021-2022 Annual Report summarizes the Easton Building Departments highlights and major accomplishments during this fiscal year. The Building Department maintains the quality of professionalism keeping permits and revenue consistent and will continue to work diligently to maintain the strong numbers.

It's "official", Peter Howard is the Town of Easton's Building Official. His expertise and knowledge (20+ years) in the building inspection industry provides us with a great addition to the department. He is also a life-long resident to our town which makes him a valuable asset.

All permit packages are available on our eastonct.gov website and we will soon be testing out online permitting with a company called Metro-cog in hopes that this will ease the accessibility of obtaining permit applications, submitting them and paying for them. We are hoping to have this addition ready for trial by the beginning of the next Fiscal Year. Stay tuned!

The Building Department will continue to provide prompt turnaround of all permits, to be readily accessible to the homeowners, contractors, plumbers, electricians etc., We will continue to maintain a cohesive work ethic and maintain an inviting atmosphere for all who visit. Our goal is to keep our town AMAZING!

The Building Department includes a Building Official certified by the State of Connecticut to enforce the State Building Code and Building Assistant who helps with the permits and all other aspects so to maintain the efficacy of this department.

- The Building Department office is located in the Town Hall.
- All types of new construction is received and subsequently permitted through the Building Department
- Subsequent permits are also issued for repairs 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.

Adopted and Referenced Publications Pursuant to section 29-252 of the Connecticut General Statutes the following national model codes, as amended herein, are adopted and shall be known as the 2022 Connecticut State Building Code: 2021 International Building Code 2021 ICC/ANSI A117.1 Accessible and Usable Buildings and Facilities 2021 International Existing Building Code 2021 International Plumbing Code 2021 International Mechanical Code 2021 International Energy Conservation Code 2020 NFPA 70, National Electrical Code, of the National Fire Protection Association Inc. 2021 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code 2021 International Residential Code.

The Building Official prepares the 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 with questions and/or building requests

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Howard Building Official

#### Fiscal Year 2021-2022

|                                      | Permits | Estimated Value |
|--------------------------------------|---------|-----------------|
| <b>Building &amp; Zoning Permits</b> |         |                 |
| NSFR                                 | 9       | \$6,707,000.00  |
| Additions, Conversions, Renovations  | s 29    | \$2,375,000.00  |
| Accessory Structure/Outbuild         | 26      | \$2,676,500.00  |
| Pools & Hot Tubs                     | 16      | \$1,069,000.00  |
| Solar                                | 45      | \$3,176,871.00  |
| Wood Stoves                          | 9       | \$42,339.00     |
| Demo                                 | 5       | \$628,190.00    |
| Zoning                               | 44      | \$18,812.00     |
| TOTAL                                | 183     | \$16,693,712.00 |
| Mechanical Permits                   |         |                 |
| Electrical                           | 184     | \$36,504.00     |
| Plumbing                             | 81      | \$8,899.00      |
| HVAC                                 | 82      | \$24,572.00     |
| Tanks                                | 94      | \$8,055.00      |
| Single Building Permits              | 139     | \$202,329.00    |
| TOTAL                                | 580     | \$280,359.00    |
| -                                    | Permits | Estimated Value |
| F.Y. TOTALS                          | 763     | \$16,974,071.00 |

#### **MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE AGING**

The Municipal Agent for the Aging, MAA, helps seniors and their families deal with concerns of the elderly; helps them develop an action plan and assists them with solutions and referrals. MAA is a state-mandated position, originally established in 1972, and each of the 169 towns in Connecticut has a Municipal Agent. The Municipal Agent reports to the First Selectman and the Commission for the Aging. The duties and responsibilities of the Municipal Agent have increased in proportion to the growth of the elderly population.

The MAA assists seniors with programs such as adult day care, elder abuse prevention, meals on wheels, housing, home health care, mental health, legal referrals, Medicare enrollment, Medicare insurances, Social Security benefits, and Veterans' programs. Issues dealing with family adjustment to aging and health problems are addressed. Children of the elderly may also use the MAA by requesting information and referrals, as their parents are at risk living alone, or perhaps now living with them. Caregiver stress on the spouse or adult child is becoming more common and requires education and referral prior to a crisis.

The term "Aging in Place" means keeping a loved one in their own home safely and responsibly. This is a priority for the Municipal Agent, Alison Witherbee. 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 and their families make the decisions to hire services of their own choosing.

The Municipal Agent is available to visit home bound seniors who welcome a friendly visit.

Where appropriate, Fuel Assistance applications are filed by appointment only from September through March. Strict financial guidelines are set forth by state mandate. The Municipal Agent can help with these applications, or more information can be obtained on the Alliance for Community Empowerment website: alliancect.org

The Municipal Agent can also assist seniors, who qualify for the Medicare Savings Program under the State of Connecticut Department of Social Services. This benefit eliminates the cost of Medicare part B and reapplication is done on an annual basis. Seniors with limited income can feel particularly vulnerable with the current state of the economy and cutbacks. The Municipal Agent has information which could be helpful in addressing this problem. The website **www.benefits checkup.org** offers valuable information. The *Martha Carrie Schurman Fund* was founded by the late Albert Schurman in memory of his wife. Through Al, and the continued generosity of local donors, this fund helps seniors in crisis pay extraordinary bills, and provide other necessities. The Municipal Agent identifies the financial need of a senior in crisis and disperse funds appropriately and discreetly.

The Commission for the Aging is comprised of six members who meet with the Municipal Agent on the first Monday of every month at 5pm in the Easton Senior Center (the CFA does not meet in July, August and January). The Chairman is Lisa Tasi.

The duties and responsibilities of the Municipal Agent have increased as the first wave of baby boomers began turning 65

in 2011, it has been the Municipal Agent's role to be available to educate this group on Medicare eligibility. Appointments to enroll in Medicare, seminars on Medicare and general information can all be provided by the MAA. For further SSA information the website is or one can visit the local Social Security Administration office located at 35 Courtland Street, 2nd Floor, Bridgeport, CT 06604 or call S.S.A. at either 1-866-331-6399 or 1-800-325-0778.

The Municipal Agent is also responsible for the social services support for the Easton residents under 60, which may include but is not limited to fuel assistance, utilizing Salvation Army Assistance when appropriate, food assistance from the pantry, mental health referrals and referrals to employment assistance programs.

The Municipal Agent office hours are Monday through Friday 8:30am to 3:30pm. The office is located in the Easton Senior Center. Please call **203-268-1137** to make an appointment or drop in during business hours. The MAA is also available by email at awitherbee@eastonct.gov

Alison Witherbee, MSW Municipal Agent for the Aging/ Social Services

#### **EASTON SENIOR CENTER**

It is amazing how quickly this budget year has passed by, and it's time to write the Senior Center portion of the annual report. It has been an extremely busy year for the folks at the senior center, it has also been a year of particularly enthusiastic growth.

We are all able to look back at the 2 years spent dealing with the Covid, but we're very grateful that we were able to have very little issues to deal with. As soon as we were able to relax any rules and regulations imposed by the State we began to accelerate the number of programs that we were able to plan each month. It did not take very long before folks began to visit and sign up for classes.

However, one of the most frustrating problems has been not being able to take procession of our new van, gifted to us by the State of Connecticut, but this will be rectified by March 2023. We will keep the older van and will begin to expand services during the coming year. These special occasions will provide for extra outings for housebound seniors and the disabled, extra shopping hours at the local stores, prescription pickups, and even an occasional breakfast or lunch outing with a friend.

There have been many other changes and expansion of programs including Meditation, Balance class, Tai Chi, Line Dancing, Cooking classes, book club, crafts, history study classes and the like. The Easton Senior Center is especially fortunate to continue to receive many generous donations to ensure that programs can be improved and expanded. It is often said that it is community into itself that is supported by so many different groups, some that belong to the town of Easton, and many others that are enthusiastically supported by other towns in the region.

One of the most rewarding activities that both residents and volunteers spend many endless hours involved in is a collection of foods, clothing, and necessities for needy families. The year 2021-2022 was no exception in describing the complete and utter devotion and generosity that our "special village of support" has participated in. These pursuits will continue year to year!

The Senior Center pursuit and support of "preventative medicine " continues to be an important and necessary part of senior center life. 2021-2022 included help in reserving vaccines; especially in a very large joint flu clinic with CVS, where center staff assisted over 250 seniors fill out vaccine forms prior to their scheduled time and day. Assistant Director, Randy Shapiro made an extraordinary number of calls to make the appointments for COVID vaccine and booster registration time, his efforts made the process of obtaining safe vaccinations more organized and easier for the seniors, as most do not own a computer.

It has been a delight to continue working with our multifaceted Diane Tatnall; Diane continues to encompass several hours of exercise classes including resistance bands, weight class, balance class and chair ball, as well as working on the monthly newsletter including working on all programs for the center.

We are lucky enough to be assisted by an incredible group of volunteers!

Our center continues to expand by leaps and bounds, encouraged by the vibrant local and regional community, not to mention the State of Connecticut that continues to encourage us with the occasional grants. The latter addition allows us to think even more enthusiastically about special programs we can add to make our Easton Senior Center even more special.

There are not enough words to thank those who support our endeavors from month to month, and year to year. God Bless you all,

Val Buckley, Director

#### **HEALTH DISTRICT**

The Aspetuck Health District's main office is located at 180 Bayberry Lane in Westport where many onsite services can be accessed. Satellite offices are located at the Easton and Weston Town Halls. Staff are in each office at hours posted on our web page and by appointment. Contractors and residents are welcome at any of the Health District's offices for regular or urgent business needs, however, submittal of plans and fee payment should be made at the main office by check or credit card. Application forms are available on the web site.

The worst of the COVID-19 pandemic seems to be behind us with pandemic response directives and restrictions being ended by the state. COVID vaccinations are still encouraged. People with health issues, or who know and/or live with loved ones that do have health issues, should still consider taking precautions such as wearing masks, particularly in crowded places. There remains some uncertainty as to what the COVID virus will do next, so public health officials at all levels continue to monitor its prevalence in the community so that appropriate steps can be taken to lessen its impact.

Public Health is concerned with safeguarding and improving the physical, mental, and social well-being of the community as a whole. Staff administers and enforces the applicable State of Connecticut General Statues, Public Health Code, and the state's environmental regulations.

With the return of normalcy to community life, the Health District has begun to offer more community public health education programing at town senior centers, libraries, and other locations on topics such as Fall Prevention/Balance, Managing Arthritis, Pests of Public Health Concern, Diabetes, Hoarding and Healthy Homes, Emergency Preparedness, and more.

Residents of Easton have access to all of the Health District's resources. Please check our web site for more information regarding services and fee schedule. Call Community Health directly at 203.227.9571 ext. 235 for nurse availability and to make appointments. Examples of client services currently available at the Health District's main office in Westport include:

- Travel health office visits and vaccinations.
- Routine pediatric and adult immunizations.
- Flu and COVID immunizations.
- Flu and COVID testing.
- STI and HIV testing.
- Blood pressure screening.
- Tick identification and submission to the state lab for testing.
- Processing animals for rabies for state lab testing after human exposures.
- Monitoring for reportable diseases and conditions (e.g., tuberculosis, elevated blood lead levels, food borne illnesses, STDs) through surveillance, report

analysis, case investigation and coordination with state and local health facilities and providers in an effort to reduce disease transmission throughout the community.

Below is a summary of Easton's public health permit activity over the past year.

#### JULY 1, 2021 - JUNE 30, 2022 HEALTH PERMITS

| HEALTH PERMIT        | PERMIT TOTALS |
|----------------------|---------------|
| NEW HOMES            | 8             |
| ADDITIONS            | 17            |
| RENOVATIONS          | 5             |
| ACCESSORY STRUCTURE  | ES 24         |
| POOLS                | 15            |
| SEPTIC (NEW)         | 17            |
| SEPTIC (REPAIR)      | 23            |
| WELLS                | 12            |
| SOIL TESTS           | 56            |
| FOOD LICENSE (ANNUAL | L) 2          |
| FOOD LICENSE (TEMPOR | ARY) 13       |
| GENERATORS/HVAC      | 93            |

Respectfully Submitted by, Mark A.R. Cooper, Director of Health Aspetuck Health District 180 Bayberry Lane, Westport, CT (203) 227-9571

## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

#### EASTON PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The Easton Public Works Department continued in its efforts to maintain and improve the 94.41 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, pavement preservation, road paving, drainage installation, and catch basin cleaning.

Though the department is a much varied and capable unit dealing with many facets of road con-struction, repair and maintenance, the department is most always in people's minds when snow and icy roads occur. Easton had a total of 29" inches of snowfall, which required the Department to plow on 6 different occasions. Salting of the Town roads occurred 15 times consuming 885 tons of salt 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 roads, installation of any needed drainage or repairs to existing drainage, crack sealing of existing pavement, sweeping of the road and the application of a leveling course of hot mixed asphalt to maintain proper drainage, which leads to the application of hot 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, 6.39 miles of road was involved in this program, with the use of 40,567 gallons of road oil. The driveway and parking areas at Morehouse Fields were included in this year's chip seal program.

This past year the department's drainage program entailed:

- 18 Catch basins were repaired or rebuilt
- 24 Feet of 12" R.C.P. storm drainage pipe installed
- 200 Feet of 48" R.C.P. storm drainage pipe installed

The department takes care of all street and traffic control signs on the Town's roads. This past year saw 18 new signs and 13 posts installed and 21 signs repaired and reset.

A section of Morehouse Rd, from Hoyden's Ln north to 244 Morehouse Rd was upgraded by installing additional and rebuilding catch basins, installing additional storm drainage pipe, and the pavement base was reclaimed and paved with hot mix asphalt. The Tatetuck Brook cross culvert was replaced on Everett Rd. Replacement of the South Park Avenue Bridge #04213 over the Mill River, by Riverside Lane was completed December 2021. A State LOTCIP Grant funded 100% of the construction.

This year's projects include the reconditioning of the 911 Memorial benches ahead of the 20-year anniversary memorial ceremony on September 11, 2021. The benches were power washed, oiled to prolong their life. The Library benches were also included in this reconditioning project. The partial roof replacement at 660 Morehouse Rd began in May 2022 and is expected to be completed in fall 2022.

The Town's crew continued scheduled work with the bucket truck to render needed attention to dead trees and hazardous limbs hanging over the Town roadways. The Emerald Ash Borer has decimated the Town's Ash trees which required removal. The Town's crew removed 136 trees this year. The tree work was done in unison with the Town Tree Warden.

The Town purchased a new CAT 309 Excavator with Attachments.

Applications for 48 driveway permits and 30 road-opening permits brought in \$3,200 in fees.

The department continued the maintenance responsibility of the former Samuel Staples School, now known as 660 Morehouse Rd. along with working outside of the Public Works Department which accounted for over 2028.75 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, EMS and the Conservation Commission.

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 Town Meeting held on the last Monday in April. 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 2021-2022 Town Budget in the amount of \$46,249,385 included appropriations of \$16,766,714 (includes Debt Service) in the Selectman's accounts, \$17,561,351 for the Easton Board of Education, and \$11,921,320 for the Region 9 Board of Education. On the basis of a Grand List of \$1,298,879,767 the Board set a tax rate of 32.35 mills for real estate and personal property and motor vehicles for the fiscal year July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

Respectively submitted by Art Laske, Chair

#### **BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS**

The Board of Assessment Appeals met for public sessions in fiscal year 2021-2022 during the months of April and September.

The April 2022 sessions were for taxpayers with a grievance on their 2021 Real Estate and Personal Property Grand List values. Taxpayers by State Statute must file a form prescribed by law for Real Estate and Personal Property on or before February 20th of any given year to appeal their value.

In September 2021 the Board of Assessment Appeal met for the 2020 Motor Vehicle Grand List appeals.

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

Submitted by: Adam Bonoff Chairman

Board Members: John Miranda Scott Charmoy Thomas Schick Lise Fleuette Gayle Worthington

#### PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

The Town of Easton Zoning Regulations were completely rewritten and reorganized and became effective July 27, 2019. In this fiscal year, the Planning and Zoning Commission, in response to working with these new Regulations, amended a few Sections to provide the citizens of Easton with a clearer understanding of the Zoning regulations and increase housing options for seniors in town. The following Sections were amended: §3250.7 Managed Residential Home (adopted Aug. 9, 2021; effective Sept. 1, 2021); §3310.3 Commercial Vehicle Storage (adopted Aug. 9, 2021; effective Sept. 1, 2021); §3410.3/4/5 Solar Panels (adopted Aug. 9, 2021; effective Sept. 1, 2021); §3410.5 Emergency Generators (adopted Aug. 9, 2021; effective Sept. 1, 2021); §3410.6 Propane Tank (adopted Aug. 9, 2021; effective Sept. 1, 2021); §3430.1 Swimming Pool (adopted Aug. 9, 2021; effective Sept. 1, 2021); §5200 Accessory Apartments (adopted Aug. 9, 2021; effective Sept. 1, 2021); §5340 Managed Residential Home (adopted Aug. 9, 2021; effective Sept. 1, 2021). Additionally, the Commission amended the Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) to include a new section, §6.6 Recommended Plans and Programs to Support Easton's Conservation, Development, and Infrastructure Strategies, and to include a new subsection within that section, §6.6.1 Sport Hill Road Transportation Concept Plan (adopted Aug. 9, 2021; effective Sept. 1, 2021).

The Commission sponsored the "Town of Easton Welcome Sign Art Contest", with special thanks to the Easton Arts Council and Easton Arts Center for their help with the project. Students from Samuel Staples Elementary School and Helen Keller Middle School submitted artwork that made up the collage on two "Welcome to Easton" signs showcasing our town to those who enter. One sign has been installed at the Four Corners, Route 58 at Route 136, and the other sign is to be installed at the southern end of Route 59. The Commission intends to hold another contest for an additional sign to be installed at the northern end of Route 59.

The Commission's Road Safety Audit was completed at the beginning of this year with assistance from the Metropolitan Council of Governments and the Connecticut Department of Transportation. The RSA is a formal safety assessment of Route 59 and Center Road from the Fairfield town line to Route 136. The final report is available on the Town's website and the Commission is working to address the issues found in the audit with other Town Departments. Addressing these issues will increase the safety of all road users, including pedestrians, bicyclists and other non-motorized users. The Town was awarded a Community Connectivity Grant from the Connecticut Department of Transportation in the amount of \$139,200 for an application pursued by the Commission to address pedestrian and bicyclist safety at the intersection of Westport Road and Center Road. This will be the first area addressed in the Road Safety Audit.

The Subdivision Regulations continue to be updated with assistance from Planimetrics. Inc. for consistency with the Town Plan, compliance with current State law, and administrative clarity. This update was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and is intended to be completed in the following fiscal year.

The Commission received several Section 8-24 referrals from the Board of Selectman during this fiscal year. In July, the leasing of one acre of the South Park Property to Easton Grows for the purpose of growing the agricultural product related to hemp was reviewed and found to be consistent with the POCD. Also in July, the outdoor classroom and fencing/shrubbery at Helen Keller Middle School was reviewed and found to be consistent with the POCD. In December, the sale of a portion of the South Park property to the Aspetuck Land Trust was reviewed and found to be consistent with the POCD.

The Commission acted on four Special Permit Applications this fiscal year. An approval was given for the minor modification of the special permit at the Helen Keller Middle School for the installation of a shade covering of the outdoor classroom and the fencing/shrubbery. An approval was given for two ground mounted solar arrays, one located on Bradley Road and one located on Judd Road. Last, an approval with conditions was given for a major home-based business, Easton Veterinary, to expand their facilities and meet current health and safety recommendations.

The Commission did not receive any Subdivision Applications in this fiscal year. However, several miscellaneous actions presented themselves to the Commission. First, they received a petition regarding agricultural poultry and livestock processing structures. This petition ultimately led to zoning amendments for agricultural structures. Further, the Commission requested a revision to the land use fees that included a reduction in fee cost for agricultural uses. Second, a proposal to change a nonconforming use to "Accessory Apartment" from "Medical Office Building," a use allowed under previous zoning regulations but not within the current regulations, was found to be less intensive and allowable. However, the structure must comply with the new requirements in §5200 Accessory Apartments. Third, Public Act 21-29 contained several changes to zoning law that affected the Town with provisions for opting out of some requirements. After an in-depth review and public hearing on the matter, the Commission recommended to the Board of Selectman that the Town opt out of mandated temporary health care structures, parking requirements, and accessory apartments as the recent revision to the zoning regulations addressed these issues as they pertain to the particular circumstances of our Town. Fourth, a request to allow the removal of dead trees and trimming of other trees within a greenbelt easement on the resident's property was permitted pursuant to the recommendations of the Tree Warden. Fifth, the Commission found that the sale of beer under a grocery beer permit reflects the nature and purpose of the existing nonconforming use at Greiser's Coffee and Market and the Easton Village Store, thus allowing for their application to the State of Connecticut.

The Commission appointed a new Zoning Enforcement Officer, Mark DeLieto, to fill the vacancy of Phil Doremus after his retirement. Enforcement action was undertaken by the Commission against the illegal parking of commercial and recreational vehicles, off-site parking, earthwork operations, and setback violations. A total of 143 zoning permits were issued during this fiscal year. Nine permits were issued for new single-family dwellings, 33 for alterations/additions, 11 for major accessory structures, one for a fence, 17 for new pools, 49 for generators, 4 for above ground propane tanks, and 19 for solar permits.

Regular Meetings of the Commission were typically scheduled for the second and fourth Mondays of each month, at 7:00PM, with public hearings usually commencing at 7:30PM, unless noted differently. The meetings were held via Zoom beginning the year as a continuation of dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic until first holding an in-person meeting on August 9, 2021, then regularly holding in-person meetings at the Town Hall Conference Room beginning December 13, 2021. Beginning May 23, 2022, the Commission held hybrid meetings adding Zoom to the in-person meeting in an effort to increase public participation. During this fiscal year the Commission held 14 regular meetings, two special meetings, and four public hearings. Inquiries on development questions were generally directed to the Commission staff on weekdays 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 appointed to three-year terms, attend meetings, and complement the Commission membership whenever vacancies or absences occur.

Respectfully submitted, Raymond Martin, Chairman

#### ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) of the Town of Easton consists of five regular members and three alternate members. The Board meets on the first Tuesday of every month at 5:30 p.m. in the Easton Town Hall. 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. Alternates are appointed by the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Easton for a term of three years.

During the fiscal year of 2021-2022, the ZBA met on seven occasions and heard 4 variance applications, all of which were approved.

Thomas Dollard, 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, it enforces the provisions of the State of Connecticut's Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Act. In this capacity, it reviews applications for regulated activities, conducts site visits, and if appropriate, holds public hearings prior to approving or denying a permit application. During the fiscal year of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, twenty four Inland Wetland applications were received, one was denied and the rest were approved. Five violations were issued. There were no public hearings.

Currently there are five outstanding violations. Periodically the Commission also receives pesticide application notices and notifications from neighboring municipalities of projects within 500 feet of the town line.

In the past year two Commissioners, Vivian Hardison and Sarah Cwickla resigned after many years of service. Two alternate Commissioners, Maria Corti and Karin Niesyn were appointed as full time Commissioners, and Sarah Cwickla became an alternate member. The Commission thanks each and every one for her service to the Town.

As the Conservation Commission it is responsible for maintaining town-owned land designated as "Open Space", as well as for planning future open space acquisitions. To that effect, it works closely with developers and conservation groups, recommending to the Planning and Zoning Commission specific areas to be acquired or otherwise protected, which are in line with the Town's Open Space Plan of 2016. The Commission also renders comments to Planning and Zoning on certain applications or issues when requested. Currently, the Town owns 618 acres of town-managed open space areas, with the single largest piece being the Paine Open Space property on Maple Road. Since the effects of the Pandemic began to be felt in our area, there has been an increase in usage of all open spaces including Paine Open Space. The increase in usage and the recent major storms have resulted in greater need to maintain trails. Dave Logie, Aspetuck Land Trust trail steward Michael Wallace, neighbor Peter Smith and the staff of the Department of Public Works (DPW) have all stepped up their continued support in keeping the trails safe. The Commission would like to thank them all for their assistance. In December, in honor of Steve Corti's many years of helping maintaining the trails at Paine Open Space, the Commission installed a plaque by Boulder Pond showing "For Steve Corti, Selfless Steward of Paine Open Space 2021".

Current and future projects include creating a formal maintenance plan, finishing the entrance at Carriage Drive and clarifying access to other town owned open space areas.

Dori Wollen, Chair

Officers for the Easton Conservation Commission: Dori Wollen, Chair Catherine Alfandre, Vice Chair Department Secretary, Frances M. Daly

#### **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 is appointed by the First Selectman, serves as an exofficio member of the Commission in accordance with State Statutes. The Municipal Agent interacts with many seniors and very closely with the Commission. Alison Witherbee serves as the Municipal Agent and also serves as the Social Services Director.

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, the region and the State of Connecticut, both by public and private agencies.
- c. Provide information on diverse senior issues and promote practical solutions to help seniors make

informed decisions on ongoing changes in the healthcare system.

- d. Develop and coordinate programs for education and enhancement of senior lifestyle.
- e. Advocate for the health, safety and well-being of the town's older residents.
- f. 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 Commission for the Aging Goals for 2023-2024:

- Continue our efforts to assist, support, advocate and educate Easton seniors.
- Serve as an active voice promoting programs and services on behalf of the elderly.
- Work tirelessly to move projects forward to inform Easton seniors on the everchanging landscape of Health Care Costs and issues that are pertinent to overcoming any challenges facing the elderly. These include collaborations with other Senior Citizens and Aging Groups within the state and at national level as well as our local first responders.

The Commission will continue to sponsor and support various seminars and workshops for Easton seniors in cooperation with SWCCA (Southwestern CT Agency on Aging), CHOICES (Connecticut's programs for Health Insurance, Outreach, Information and Eligibility Screening) and SMP (The Senior Medicare Patrol Program).

We look forward to supporting our seniors, assisting and enhancing efforts to meet the needs of our aging population. As community ambassadors, the Commission on Aging provides leadership, advocacy, community awareness and partnerships to initiate change toward an all-age-friendly, livable community.

Commission members are Chair, Lisa Tasi; Linda Dollard, Anne Hughes, Melinda O'Brien, Diane Parker, along with Alternate members Nanette DeWester and Jessica DiPietro.

#### EASTON PARK AND RECREATION

The Park 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 Park and Recreation has continued its field development and maintenance programs throughout the Town of Easton. The parks department manages over 60 acres of playing fields and school property including; multiple baseball fields, several cemeteries, Aspetuck Park, 5 playgrounds, 2 tennis courts, 7 soccer / multi-purpose fields and one football field. Our field use and activity account have allowed us to earmark funds for multiple capital improvements including the renovation of the Sport Hill Road tennis courts.

Easton Park and Recreation has remained vigilant in its mission to offer free and cost-effective programs to Easton residents. We were able resume additional indoor programming in Fall 2021 as the Covid pandemic slowed.

The Extended Day Program at Samuel Staples Elementary School continues to provide a service to working parents and is 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.

Members of the Park and Recreation Commission are: Rocky Sullivan – Chairman, Kacey Gormley, Chris Barcello, Kerry Caylor, Dave Gombos and Carolyn Oppenheim.

#### **INSURANCE COMMISSION**

#### Town of Easton and Easton Board of Education Insurance Schedule 7/01/21 - 6/30/22

| Commercial Property Coverag<br>Blanket Building & Conter<br>Agreed Amount and Repla<br>Contractor's Equipment<br>Fine Arts - Exhibition Float<br>Deductible | nts<br>cement  | \$84,044,591<br>992,468<br>200,000<br>1,000                                 |
|---|--|---|
| Commercial General Liability<br>Personal Injury/Advertising<br>Medical Expense  |  |   |
| Equipment Breakdown<br>Deductible   |  | \$100,000,000<br>\$ 10,000  |
| Commercial Automobile<br>Liability<br>Medical Payment<br>Uninsured/Underinsured M<br>Comprehensive<br>Collision   | ACV w/\$   | \$ 1,000,000<br>5,000<br>1,000,000<br>5 500 deductible<br>51,000 deductible |
| Public Officials Library<br>Deductible  | Each claim<br>Each claim                             | \$ 1,000,000<br>10,000  |
| Law Enforcement Liability<br>Deductible   | Each claim<br>Each claim                             | \$1,000,000<br>10,000   |
| School Leader's Legal Liabilit<br>Deductible  | y Each claim<br>Each claim                           | \$ 1,000,000<br>10,000  |
| Following-Form Excess Liabil  | ity  | \$10,000,000  |
| Pollution Liability(Underground C<br>Deductible   | Dil Tanks) per release<br>per release<br>per release | \$ 1,000,000<br>10,000<br>25,000  |
| Workers' Compensation & Em<br>Exp. Mod. 1.07<br>Employer's Liability<br>Each Accident<br>Disease - Policy Limit<br>Disease - Each Employee                  | nployer Liability                                    | Statutory<br>\$1,000,000<br>\$1,000,000<br>\$1,000,000                      |
| Blanket Public Employee Dish<br>Deductible<br>Excess Position Limit for:<br>Treasurer, Comptroller,<br>Human Resources/Com<br>Retirement Plan Bond - ER     | Accounts Payable/Rece<br>p. Coordinator              | \$ 500,000<br>\$ 5,000<br>\$ 100,000<br>ptionist<br>\$1,000,000             |
| Cyber Policy - Easton and BOI<br>Retention  | <u>E</u><br>Easton per loss<br>BOE per loss          | \$2,000,000<br>\$ 15,000<br>\$ 25,000                                       |
| Fiduciary   | Limit of Liability \$1,00                            | 0,000 Retention 0   |

The Insurance Commission is responsible for managing and evaluating Insurance coverage for the Town of Easton. We work closely with Town Hall to contain the costs of all our policies and have enjoyed some success in this regard the past few years. We enjoy a good relationship with our main insurer CIRMA (Connecticut Interlocal Risk Management Agency) who provides us with information on any new changes in the Municipal Insurance Industry, as well as helping us to make sure all our workers are protected and safe.

Gerard O'Brien, Chair Insurance Commission

#### 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 Dr. David Bindelglass, Interim Chairman A. Reynolds Gordon, David Bussolatta, John Harrington, Robert Sadowski, Logan Shedd and Stephen Landa.

The Commission would like to thank Former Chairman Alan P. Goldbecker who stepped down in April, 2022 after many years of service.

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, 2022 were 92.8% funded.

Effective July 1, 2012 the defined benefit pension plan for employees, other than police and fire departments, was closed to new employees and replaced by a defined contribution plan. Under the new plan, the Town will contribute a minimum of 4% of the eligible salary and match up to 7% for participating employees.

Respectfully submitted, A. Reynolds Gordon, Chairman

#### EASTON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT TASK FORCE

The mission of the Easton Energy & Environment Task Force is to enhance municipal, commercial, and residential environmental stewardship by identifying, proposing, and implementing measures that improve the town's sustainability and (where possible) cost savings, and by promoting important initiatives that may benefit residents. Some of the Task Force's activities in 2021-22 included:

- Ongoing oversight of a 600+ kw solar installation at Samuel Staples Elementary School, tracking performance metrics and staying in communication with the two system owners, CT Green Bank and Skyview Ventures. Together, phases 1 and 2 generate enough electricity to cover nearly 100% of the school's demand and in 2021-22 saved the town more than \$33,000. The task force regularly updates a spreadsheet to track costs and savings.
- Applying for and being awarded a grant (more than \$3,000) from the Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP) to improve recycling quality / reduce recycling contamination. The Task Force began planning for implementation in Summer 2022. A first article about current recycling issues was written by Grace Foley on the Task Force's behalf and submitted to the Easton Courier.
- A 3-in-1 Recycling Event (electronics recycling, prescription drug take-back, and returnable cans/bottles recycling) in October 2021 that included "curbside pickup" for seniors. More than 200 cars passed through the event, which was coordinated with the Easton Police and Easton EMS. Information about recycling "do's and don'ts" was also distributed to residents coming through the event.
- Hosting a first-ever Electric Vehicle Car Show to celebrate Earth Day. This event also overlapped and promoted the Prescription Drug Takeback organized by the Easton Police Department.
- Exploring Electric Vehicle readiness for the town vehicle fleet.
- Preparing an information flyer for residents (posted to town website) on steps to take if they are considering the installation of residential solar.
- Supporting the kickoff of the first "Food Rescue" in town to recover unused produce from residents' gardens and local farms and share that produce with local seniors and regional food banks. This effort was organized by Food Rescue US in collaboration with the Easton Municipal Agent for the Aging.

• The Task Force also participated periodically in regional and statewide forums like Sustainable Fairfield County and the CT Energy Network.

In the coming year, the Task Force will continue to implement the recycling grant, promote renewable energy and electric vehicles, explore additional ways to reduce energy consumption, improve recycling, and promote other environmental initiatives.

The 2021-22 task force members were: Cathy Alfandre, Heidi Armster, Jeff Borofsky, Katie Callahan, Lise Fleuette, and Bobby Morganti. Other members of the community participated regularly in meetings and projects, including Diane Geisert, Emily Marshall, and Joan Winter. Public Works Director, Ed Nagy, participated frequently. Grace Foley also participated as a liaison from Joel Barlow High School.

Respectfully submitted, Cathy Alfandre (Chair)

#### 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 members Jean Stetz-Puchalski (Chair), Denise Hebner (Secretary), Amy Wolfcale, Matthew Oricchio, Victor Alfandre and alternates Jacob Conover and Lori Cochran Dougall.

The Commission is charged with supporting and promoting 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.

During this reporting period we emphasized educational, preservation and economic development. We:

- Worked to understand the needs of local farmers in order to support success, increase economic viability, and promote a future for agriculture in Easton.
- Kept current with agricultural grant opportunities and educational programming/vocational/business training available to Easton farmers.

- Updated Town of Easton website to communicate agricultural offerings and enhanced the self-serve portal on the Agricultural Commission page of our Town of Easton website.
- Collaborated with other Connecticut Ag Commissions, federal and state level agricultural organizations, our Easton Planning and Zoning commission (P&Z), and other Easton Town commissions and committees, to help identify issues and concerns relating to planning for and supporting agriculture in Easton.
- Continued collaboration with the Town assessor's office to help farms understand how to obtain and file for Farm Classification to qualify for agricultural tax exemptions. Maintained Farm Classification link on the Ag Commission website encouraging farms to prepare for filing with the Town Assessor's office.
- Continued promoting Easton as a destination for local agriculture and agritourism.
- Communicated the important role agriculture plays in attracting residents and maintaining open space.
- Facilitated new farming arrangement for the land at Samuel Staples Elementary School.
- Collaborated with Easton Planning and Zoning commission and Easton residents to improve language in document 3440 to retain farming opportunities within Easton without losing the character of the town.
- Served in an advisory capacity to Easton Grows for the pilot project on Easton's South Park property.
- Continued supervisory role of farming projects on town land which include 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 educational opportunity for the students at the school as well as an historical lesson in Easton's agrarian roots.

Regular meetings of the Agricultural Commission are scheduled for the 2nd Wednesday of each month except the months of June and July whereby meetings are not scheduled. The Commission meets at 7:45PM in the Easton Public Library Community Room unless otherwise noted.

Submitted by, Matt Oricchio, Agricultural Commission Board Chair

### **COMMITTEES**

#### **CEMETERY COMMITTEE**

The Cemetery Committee's restoration, maintenance, and engagement goals were successfully met with contractor support as needed. During the 2021-2022 fiscal year the tasks accomplished were:

#### **Center Street Cemetery**

Cleaned gravestones with D2 solution and sponsored a cleaning day with local volunteers. Provided consistent landscape maintenance and leaf/debris, and managed tree pruning and limb removal, set restored historic Center Street Cemetery gate on post at potter's field gravesite and managed site area plantings. Removed and replaced bases that were obstructing mowing. Maintained and edged the Fanton Family grave area, trimmed, and mowed along stonewall as needed.

#### **Gilbertown Cemetery**

Provided consistent landscape maintenance and leaf /debris removal, trimmed around gravestones, planned the removal of dead trees and brush, removed poison ivy and invasive plants along stonewall. Reset Perry gravestone and base and the stone next to the Samuel Staples stone which included cleaning the mortise. Applied D2 cleaning solution to tombstones as needed.

#### Lyon Cemetery

Provided consistent landscape maintenance and leaf /debris removal. Planned for downed stones to be reset and repaired.

#### **Den Cemetery**

Committee member site visit conducted with permission and attendance of Aquarian Water Company staff and Connecticut state archaeological experts to review, discuss, and determine maintenance and repair needs of cemetery.

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

- 1. Create an appropriate budget and fundraising opportunities to the support ongoing needs;
- 2. Plan a sustainable, cost-effective approach to the plantings and landscaping within the cemeteries;
- 3. Continue to: reset headstones that are leaning in our cemeteries; install in new fabricated bases for all headstones that have broken below ground level and are too short to be reset; repair with epoxy, the remaining headstones and footstones that have broken above ground level in Gilbertown, Center, and Lyon Cemeteries;
- 4. Maintain any brush and tree growth that is encroaching upon the perimeter of all cemeteries.
- 5. Apply D2 biological cleaning solution to tombstones and preserve and restore fragile stones.

Committee Engagement Accomplishments:

- 1. Tour given and volunteer activities created to increase awareness, education, and promote community engagement.
- 2. Cross-organizational partnerships were expanded to increase collaboration with; the Easton Garden Club (to collaborate on property design and sustainability initiatives), Parks and Recreation and Christ Church leadership to foster community engagement and fundraising opportunities, and Aquarian Water Company and local archeological experts to plan for possible collaborative restoration and maintenance of Den Cemetery.
- 3. A strategic planning process is developing with committee members, led by Jamie Weinstein. The committee is focusing on better resource management, budgeting, and fundraising to support our objectives. The committee's continued mission/vision is to not only preserve and maintain our historic cemeteries but also to foster engagement ensuring that the cemeteries are a living memorial that honors our past while serving the present and future of Easton.

Committee Members are Nanette DeWester, Chair, Frank Pagliaro, Deirdra Preis, Jamie Weinstein, Elizabeth Boyce, and Joan Kirk Secretary.

#### **EASTON RECYCLING**

The purpose of the Committee is to operate a recycling program for Easton within the guidelines of the Greater Bridgeport Regional Recycling Interlocal Committee (GBRRIC) and the State DEEP Mandate. The Town of Easton voted at a Town Meeting held on April 30, 2018 to join GBRRIC, and for a recycling program in the Town of Easton. GBRRIC has contracted with Oak Ridge Recycling in Shelton, which accepts recyclable materials. Curbside recycling pickup started January 7, 1991. Recycling tonnage collected by the Town this Fiscal Year was 886 tons. Monthly, the Town pays Oak Ridge Recycling to process our recycling and ship it to Asia. The cost began the year at \$41.69 per ton and decreased quarterly to the current rate of \$37.47 per ton.

The recycling of junk mail, magazines, catalogs, corrugated cardboard and commingled beverage containers 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 and electronics, including computers, printers, FAX machines, television sets, etc. 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 489 gallons.

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 Town of Easton voted at a Town Meeting held on January 13, 2014 to join Greater Bridgeport Regional Solid Waste Interlocal Committee known as (GBRSWIC). 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 2,817 tons of solid waste during the 2021-2022 fiscal year. The disposal fee for this solid waste was \$116.00 per ton.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

#### **BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS**

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

The members are:

Richard Colangelo Jr., Chairman David Smith, Vice-chairman Victor Alfandre, Secretary Laurie Israel, Commissioner Vincent Battaglia, Commissioner

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, was established in 1937 with the creation of the Board of Police Commissioners.

Richard J. Doyle is the current Chief of the Easton Police Department. In addition to the Chief there are 14 other Police Officers in Easton. A Captain, Detective, three Sergeants and nine Police Officers. One officer is a School Resource Officer, one is a K-9 Officer and one is a certified Child Passenger Safety officer that is available for car seat safety checks by appointment only.

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

All 15 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.

In August of 2021, the department received a Red Drug Disposal Collection Box, it is located in the police lobby 24/7 365 days a year, as well as an annual Drug Take Back Day that takes place around April of each year.

The Chief was recognized by the CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence First 100 plus and Officer Telesco received the CT Police Commission Meritorious Service award.

The Easton Police Department received at no charge, two (2) Speed Display signs from CT Training and Technical Assistance Center (T2 Center) at the University of Connecticut to assist in reducing speeds to aid the safety of the public.

We dedicate ourselves to work in partnership with the community to provide public safety and to improve the quality of life for all those that live, work, or pass through the Town of Easton. In turn the men and women illustrate the dedication that Easton police officers have towards their community as well as to their brother and sister officers. Thank you to the residents of Easton for their continued support.

Richard J. Doyle Chief of Police

#### EASTON POLICE DEPARTMENT FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2021 - JUNE 30, 2022

| ENFORCEMENT<br>Infractions<br>Written & Verbal Warnings<br>Parking Violations | 2022<br>143<br>442<br>2 | 2021<br>106<br>377<br>2 | 2020<br>312<br>861<br>2 |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>CRIMINAL VIOLATIONS &amp;</b>  | & OTHER                 | 2                       |                         |
| ACO Arrests   | 2                       | 2                       | 3                       |
| Arson   | 0                       | 0                       | 0                       |
| Assault   | 1                       | 1                       | 2                       |
| Breach of Peace   | 1                       | 1                       | 5                       |
| Burglary  | 1                       | 7                       | 11                      |
| Criminal Arrests/Misdeameanors  | 43                      | 44                      | 83                      |
| Criminal Mischief   | 12                      | 26                      | 18                      |
| Criminal Trespassing  | 2                       | 2                       | 1                       |
| Disorderly Conduct  | 9                       | 9                       | 11                      |
| DUI   | 2                       | 10                      | 6                       |
| Liquor Law Violation  | 0                       | 0                       | 0                       |
| Narcotics/Drugs   | 1                       | 14                      | 15                      |
| Other Offenses  | 19                      | 18                      | 35                      |
| Robbery   | 0                       | 0                       | 0                       |
| Sexual Offense  | 1                       | 1                       | 1                       |
| Weapon Violation  | 0                       | 1                       | 1                       |

#### **EASTON POLICE DEPARTMENT** FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2021 - JUNE 30, 2022

| FISCAL TEAK JULT I,                | 2021 <b>-</b> J | 011E 30, 202 | .2          |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|
| Comps & Investigations             | <u>2022</u>     | <u>2021</u>  | <u>2020</u> |
| 911 Error/Transfer/Abandon Calls   | 651             | 651          | 521         |
| Accident                           | 134             | 130          | 134         |
| Aided Case                         | 592             | 449          | 425         |
| Alarm                              | 565             | 605          | 629         |
| Animal                             | 409             | 422          | 454         |
| Assistance, All Other              | 521             | 585          | 535         |
| Bomb Threat                        | 0               | 0            | 0           |
| Child Safety Restraint             | 20              | 3            | 0           |
| Citizen Complaint                  | 0               | 0            | 0           |
| Computer Crime / Hacking           | 2               | 1            | 0           |
| Criminal Mischief Mailbox          | 5               | 8            | 9           |
| Criminal Mischief / Prop Dmg       | 7               | 18           | 9           |
| Disabled Motor Vehicle             | 155             | 129          | 123         |
| Domestic Calls                     | 21              | 18           | 29          |
| Dumping/General Littering          | 27              | 46           | 41          |
| Erratic Driver Reported            | 96              | 101          | 86          |
| Extortion/Blackmail                | 0               | 0            | 1           |
| Fingerprint                        | 290             | 375          | 334         |
| Fire Call                          | 116             | 132          | 96          |
| Found Property                     | 41              | 45           | 41          |
| Fraud Offenses                     | 40              | 78           | 74          |
| JV Assistance/Offense              | 26              | 36           | 18          |
| K9 Assist                          | 25              | 37           | 50          |
| Larceny                            | 49              | 50           | 52          |
| Lockout, MV/Building               | 20              | 18           | 14          |
| Lost Property                      | 16              | 23           | 15          |
| Missing Person Reported            | 6               | 5            | 6           |
| Motor Vehicle Stolen               | 12              | 9            | 9           |
| Motor Vehicle Stops                | 447             | 493          | 1,213       |
| Motor Vehicle Found/Locate         | 5               | 7            | 5           |
| Noise Complaints                   | 85              | 74           | 87          |
| Permit, All Other                  | 34              | 40           | 15          |
| Permit, Pistol Temporary           | 45              | 128          | 25          |
| PO Admin                           | 296             | 271          | 216         |
| Programmed Patrol                  | 571             | 504          | 494         |
| Records Request                    | 268             | 300          | 277         |
| School Detail                      | 435             | 447          | 270         |
| Selective Enforcement              | 100             | 144          | 153         |
| Soliciting Complaint               | 2               | 3            | 2           |
| Subpoena                           | 2               | 4            | 2           |
| Supplemental Reports               | 108             | 150          | 193         |
| Suspicious Activity                | 70              | 85           | 78          |
| Suspicious Motor Vehicle           | 204             | 217          | 234         |
| Suspicious Person                  | 43              | 70           | 83          |
| Teletype                           | 175             | 130          | 161         |
| Threatening/Intimidation/Harassing |                 | 15           | 20          |
| Total Records                      | 7,320           | 7,700        | 8,128       |
| Town - State - Utility Properties  | 452             | 549          | 439         |
| Traffic Complaint                  | 34              | 34           | 35          |
| Trespass, Simple                   | 11              | 14           | 15          |
| Trucks, Thru                       | 0               | 0            | 1           |
| Vacant House Check                 | 4               | 5            | 150         |
| Vandalism                          | 1               | 2            | 3           |
| Voluntary Firearms Surrender       | 7               | 2            | 11          |
| Warrant Entry                      | 24              | 9            | 15          |
| Welfare Check                      | 42              | 64           | 70          |
| Shure Cheek                        | 14              | τU           | 10          |

#### 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 daily operations of the department.

The Municipal Animal Control Department is currently staffed by two part time Animal Control Officers. ACO Deb Ice, and Assistant Animal Control Officer (AACO) Donielle Kish who patrol the Town of Easton to enforce animal control, ordinance and related regulations and laws. 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. The Town of Easton conducts a survey of unlicensed dogs annually, all licenses are required annually between June 1st and July 1st of each year.

The Animal Control Department is located at 385 Morehouse Road. Many thanks to the staff and all the citizens who have donated to the shelter throughout the years. Your continued support is sincerely appreciated.

Richard J. Doyle Chief of Police

#### MUNICIPAL ANIMAL CONTROL REPORT FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2021 - JUNE 30, 2022

|                      | <u>2022</u> | <u>2021</u> | <u>2020</u> |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Comps Investigated   | 1160        | 1396        | 946         |
| Dogs Euthanized      | 0           | 0           | 1           |
| Cats Euthanized      | 0           | 0           | 0           |
| Other Euthanized     | 0           | 0           | 0           |
| Dogs Redeemed        | 7           | 7           | 21          |
| Cats Redeemed        | 0           | 0           | 0           |
| Others Redeemed      | 0           | 0           | 0           |
| Dogs Adopted         | 13          | 7           | 11          |
| Cats Adopted         | 6           | 13          | 17          |
| Other Adopted        | 4           | 14          | 4           |
| Owner Arrests        | 2           | 2           | 3           |
| Dog Bites            | 6           | 4           | 10          |
| Cat Bites            | 0           | 0           | 0           |
| Other Bites          | 0           | 0           | 0           |
| Phone Calls Received | 1595        | 1389        | 1575        |
| Notice To License    | 250         | 289         | 331         |

#### 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 is currently staffed by three full time and five part time dispatchers that man the center 24/7.

The dispatch center has two dispatch consoles which improve the efficiency of the center.

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, including fire and EMS, 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 are trained in: 911 calltaking, Emergency Medical Dispatching, NCIC/Collect, and the Office of Statewide Emergency Telecommunication Dispatch Protocols.

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, numerous walk-in inquiries and maintaining constant radio contact with police officers on patrol.

Richard J. Doyle Chief of Police

#### **BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**

Fire protection in our Town is provided by a combination fire service consisting of Career Firefighters, who are Town employees, and Volunteer Firefighters, who are members of Easton Volunteer Fire Company No. 1, Inc., an independent entity whose membership provides manpower and other valuable support to our fire service. All of Easton's firefighters are trained and perform as professionals, and the Town relies on the Volunteers for the additional personnel beyond the Career Firefighters to accomplish the missions assigned. The Board is concerned with continuing reduction of volunteerism in our society and reviews closely volunteer participation in our system. The Volunteer Fire Co. is working on this issue, too. The Board of Fire Commissioners (Board) encourages residents to consider becoming a Volunteer Firefighter.

The Pandemic had affected us in many ways, but this wound down by the end of 21-22. By year end operations had returned to a familiar "normal", though we reflect the trials experienced. The team that saw the fire service of Easton through should be proud of their performance under the strain. The Commission thanks all of you!

The call volume was within our normal range of calls. Supplemental First Responder medical call volume has stabilized. This aspect of the Fire Department's duties is providing a valuable service benefit to our community.

The Volunteer's Carnival had its second post pandemic season in August. It is always uplifting to see the community's support of the Carnival, which contributes to a sound Volunteer Company component of the Fire Service in Town.

The career firefighters' outstanding efforts to care for our equipment continued. The Department is always working to economize where possible while maintaining quality service and complying with governmental regulation and NFPA standards. The need for an outside study of the emergency service planning, including communications, rural water supply, response distances, insurance ratings and personnel issues came into meaningful discussion. Obviously, this matter also affects other Easton departments, as we share dispatch capacity, jointly respond to various calls and such. The Board and the Chiefs continue to work with Selectman's office as the Study, now engaged, moves forward. This Board, the Department and the Fire Marshal's office will continue to work to enhance the safety of the community through cooperation with other Town entities on issues that involve multiple agencies in the belief that cooperation will provide a lasting and better end result at the lowest cost.

The Board thanks Volunteer Fire Company No. 1, Inc., the Career Firefighters, the Fire Marshal and his Deputies, and the Fire Chief and other fire officers for their contribution to the Town.

For the Board of Fire Commissioners: David H. Buchanan, Jr., Chairman

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT

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

The Easton Volunteer Fire Company N#1 Inc was established in 1921. Since then, it has provided continuous fire protection to the Town of Easton. Currently there are 16 active firefighters serving in the Fire Company. These volunteers come from a wide cross-section of Easton's community and spend countless hours training for and responding to a wide variety of calls for help. The elected line officers in 2021/2022 were Chief Robert Klem and Assistant Chief Steven Waugh. The Fire Company executive officers in 2021/2022 were President James McCarthy, Vice President David Wheatley, Secretary Lucy Crossman, and Treasurer Jim Wright.

The Easton Fire Department was created in 1947. There are currently eight career firefighters who are on staff with the Easton Fire Department. The firehouse is staffed by a rotating crew of two firefighters working a 24-hour shift. This provides staffing in the Fire House 24 hours a day 365 days a year. In addition to their other duties, the career firefighters perform the crucial task of maintaining the Town's firefighting equipment. The Town's career fighters in 2021/2022 were David Davies, Al Doty, Martin Ohradan, Michael Sabia, Mark Mirowski, Jon Davis, Alex Cohen and Dan Magner.

The Department responded to 516 calls during the year ending June 30, 2022. The call types varied greatly. A breakdown of the most frequent types of calls are as follows: 182 medicals, 94 alarm activations, 42 vehicle accidents, 14 fire related incidents 27 lockouts and 20 Carbon Monoxide related incidents.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the citizens of Easton for their continued support of both agencies. I would also like to thank the Volunteer and Career Firefighters for their countless hours of dedicated service to the town and the organization. It is their constant vigilance that help to keep the citizens of Easton safe throughout the year.

Like many organizations in Easton, the volunteer fire company relies on volunteers to fulfill its mission. Also like many organizations in town we are seeing a significant decline in volunteer participation in our organization. Easton like many small towns relies on volunteers to fill a wide variety of rolls in the community. I would urge all of you to get involved in an aspect of your community, whether it is one of the many boards and commissions in town government, sports teams, scouting, EMS or the organization that I am a member of – The Easton Volunteer Fire Company. Please volunteer in your community, you will not regret it.

Respectfully submitted, Robert Klem, Chief EFD / EVFC

#### EASTON VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE

Easton Volunteer Emergency Medical Service (EVEMS) strives to provide full time year round coverage to the community. In the 2021-2022 fiscal year we provided prehospital care for a wide range of medical emergencies including, but not limited to, motor vehicle accidents, cardiac arrests, chest pain, breathing emergencies, drug overdoses, domestic violence assaults, and psychiatric issues. Our average response time of 9.54 minutes continues to be below the state average of twelve minutes.

EVEMS consists of 45 active volunteers and two paid EMT's, staffing two town owned ambulance. This year we replaced our 2009 ambulance in accordance with our 10-year replacement plan. We also added 8 new members to our service. Our dedicated volunteers, many of whom hold full time jobs, come from Easton and the surrounding towns. Our paid EMT's provide coverage Monday through Friday from 7 am to 3 pm, and are supplemented by two additional per diem EMT/EMR's who work from 3:00 pm until 6:00 pm, when our volunteers take over. Our volunteers typically work a three man crew and staff the ambulances from 6:00 pm until Midnight. Our live-in program consisting of College students cover midnight to 7am. Additionally, we have an agreement with, local area ambulance services, to provide back up and paramedic support when needed.

EVEMS received 628 emergency calls in 2021-2022, a 7 % increase in call volume from the previous year. We were able to respond to 94%, of them. Our weekend response rates were up again, thanks in part to the incentive program initiated a few years ago. Overall, EVEMS response rate continues to meet and exceed the state required minimums.

In addition to responding to calls, our members stood by at over two dozen special events and attended skill and knowledge-based training sessions monthly. Some of the events covered in 2021-2022 included in house and remote training sessions, Firemen's Carnival, the Memorial Day parade, the Dare Race, and the Easton EMS charity Fireworks display. Our recycling program, initiated several years ago as a means of earning money for training devices, has continued to be a big success. All told, our 45 members (active and administrative) logged over 15,013 volunteer hours in 2022.

**EVEMS** Officers and Directors:

Jonathan Arnold, Chief of Service Adam Goldstein, Asst. Chief of Operations, Coordinator of Continuing Education Stephen Brunetti, Asst. Chief of Administration Mary Pat O'Neil, Director of Personnel Matt Caldwell, Secretary Adam Goldstein, Co-Treasurer Lorraine Mercede, Co-Treasurer Margie Arnold, Director of Training Madlyn Andrews, Director of Recruitment Victor Malindretos, Director of Communications, President of EVEMS Inc. Peter Fiore, Full Time, day EMT Josh Meszaros, Full Time, day EMT

In addition to their service in our community, some of our officers represent the service and the town in other capacities. Mr. Malindretos sits on the Board of Directors of the Emergency Medical Communications Center (C-MED). C-MED facilitates communications between our ambulance and area hospitals and between area ambulances as needed. Mr. Malindretos presence on this board ensures that the Town's interests and concerns are well represented at their meetings. Mr. Goldstein and Mr. Brunetti represent EVEMS at the Southwest EMS Council monthly meetings. These meetings provide a regional forum where all EMS organizations are invited to share information regarding patient care. Mr. Goldstein also represents EVEMS at the monthly joint hospital's meetings. These meetings provide direct connection and feedback from Bridgeport and St. Vincent's Hospitals to our members on patient outcome and updates in the latest trends in medical science. Our members, volunteer and paid, are dedicated to the service and the town and we thank each and every one of them for their contributions.

Members of the EMS Commission: Robert Adriani, Chairman Gloria Bindelglass, Secretary James Spak, MD Vincent Mase, MD Thomas Bladek, MD

The Commission's responsibilities include overseeing EMS's portion of the Town's budget, managing the activities of the full and part time EMS staff and overseeing the maintenance and management of EVEMS 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. The Commission acts in accordance with the ordinance established to run the emergency medical service for the Town. The Commission meets the second Wednesday of each month at EMS headquarters, anyone interested is invited to attend.

EVEMS continues to use "insurance only billing" whereby Easton Volunteer EMS will only bill the patient's insurance company. Additionally, we will not bill a patient who refuses transport, or those with no insurance. All billing proceeds are reverted to the Town of Easton and EVEMS does not receive any compensation from the insurance billing. For 2022 EMS billed out \$363,696.23. Due to strict Medi-Care rules the town has only been able to collect \$160,000.

We would like to thank the citizens of Easton for all their continued support, while we continue to work towards our goal of replacing out 90 plus year old building with a purpose built EMS building. Easton Volunteer EMS members have NEVER had a purpose built building. We have lived in a tent, a single car garage and a retired/ repurposed firehouse. We encourage residents to call our headquarters (203) 452-9595 to inquire about EMT and CPR courses. To learn more about us, please check our web site, www.Eastonems.com or visit us on FACEBOOK and Instagram.

## **PUBLIC LIBRARY**

The Easton Public Library continues to serve the community by providing a robust collection of materials (both physical and digital), programs for all ages, meeting rooms/study spaces, technology assistance, and much more.

With funds received from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), the Library purchased a 2-person study booth, which has been well received and is getting a lot of use. The grant funds also enabled us to improve our Wi-Fi access and purchase new furniture for the back patio. This year saw a return to in-person programs, which enables us to better connect with our patrons. As a result, our Youth Services Programming Assistant position was taken off furlough. This left a vacancy in the Circulation Department, which was filled by Larry Kaufman.

Our 2022 One Book/One Town Community Read was Piglet: *The Unexpected Story of a Deaf Blind Pink Puppy and His Family* by Melissa Shapiro, DVM. Many people came out to meet Piglet when he and Melissa visited the Library. The Library served as the inaugural host of the Unfinished Lives Project, created by Anne McGee of the Center for Family Justice. This exhibit consists of shadow boxes created by McGee to honor individuals lost to domestic violence.

We also continued our partnerships with many Easton organizations, including collaborating with Christ Church Easton for a movie and Drag Queen Storytime. The Library started a collection of games and puzzles for borrowing, and our "Library of Things" collection continues to grow with novelty cake pans and molds. The Library continues to offer a variety of adult programs, including a weekly crocheting/knitting group, two monthly book discussion groups, the annual Classic Film series, author talks, and other programs on topics of interest.

Summer Reading 2021 saw the return of in-person programs, many outdoors, for the Youth Services Department. These include Movie Night Under the Stars at Aspetuck Park, a collaboration with Parks & Recreation and the Easton Community Center; and a Sidewalk Chalk Art Show for all ages with the Easton Arts Council. We collaborated with ER9 on a successful Story Time and craft outreach for the SSES Summer Enrichment Program and offered weekly Stuffed Animal Story Time on the Lawn, an Outdoor Obstacle Course, and our first year of Easton Geocaching (in collaboration with the Easton Garden Club). Our Grab and Go Crafts continue to be extremely popular (we have handed out hundreds since introducing them in 2020). The colder weather brought us inside for a Winter Library Scavenger Hunt, a Stuffed Animal Sleepover at the Library, Digital Animation with the JBHS Robotics Team, a Chess Workshop & Tournament with Team DIG USA, and College Admissions programs with C2 Education and Stand Out for College, LLC. The Lenihan School of Irish Dance visited in March for an interactive and

educational experience for all ages. We celebrated Neurodiversity Week in collaboration with EDIT, offering a Sensory Story Time and an Infinity Symbol Community Collage project. Spring offered us good reason to use the new Library Patio for Water Color Painting and other fun programs outdoors. In June we partnered with Easton Pride to offer a Pride Story Time at the Library and a month-long community collage project: Faces of Pride. Both the Faces of Pride collage and the Neurodiversity Symbol collage are on permanent display in the Library. We wrapped up the year with an introduction to what turned out to be a very popular program: Story Time on the Go, visiting different locations throughout Easton with books and crafts for a fun, outdoor experience.

The Friends of the Library group, under the leadership of President Beth Cliff, continues to support the Library through its fundraising programs, including the annual book sale, the Tree Lighting/Holiday Market, the Wine & Cheese Tasting, and Library Giving Day. Friends' funds support the following: the purchase of museum passes for our patrons' use; the One Book/One Town Community Read program; the Summer Reading program; and much more. This year, the Friends generously funded the clean-up and renovation of the Library's back patio. They also donated funds for new patio umbrellas (supplemented by the Historical Society of Easton). We are extremely grateful to the Friends for all they do.

FY '21-'22 Statistics Circulation: 59,312 Total Print/AV/Digital Collections: 61,608 Registered Borrowers: 3843

Respectfully submitted, Lynn Zaffino, Library Director

### **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 six-member 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 (the "E/R/9 Schools") share a superintendent, an assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction, a director of finance and operations, and a director of technology and digital learning.

The 2021-2022 budget for Easton was \$17,561,143. There were 577 students in preK-5 at Samuel Staples Elementary School and 316 students in grades 6-8 in Helen Keller Middle

School. The schools employ 159 staff which consist of teachers, administrators, support personnel, and custodians.

Easton students benefit from the caring and committed efforts of dedicated professionals who are adept at nurturing student academic and social wellbeing. A comprehensive curriculum equips students with the core competencies delineated in state and national curriculum standards. District personnel continue shifting instructional practices to ensure that our students will be well prepared to meet heightened academic expectations.

Both the elementary and the middle schools consistently rank among the highest performing schools in the state and in Fairfield County as measured by standardized tests. Recognizing, however, that we should aspire to more than high test scores, we aim to help educate the whole child for lifelong learning. Toward that end, partnerships between home and school, as well as between our schools and the whole community, are critical. When woven together, these partnerships create an educational fabric of particular distinction.

For more information about the Easton Public Schools, please visit the E/R/9 website at www.er9.org and follow the links to Samuel Staples Elementary School and Helen Keller Middle School.

#### **REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 9 JOEL BARLOW HIGH SCHOOL**

The Region 9 School District is a separate school district from Redding and Easton that covers the regional high school known as Joel Barlow, which provides high school education to Redding and Easton students. Joel Barlow High School enjoys a strong reputation based on articulating specific goals and aligning the efforts of faculty, staff, and students toward achieving them.

Academically, Barlow's stated goal is for students "to grow as knowledgeable and skilled critical thinkers who communicate effectively and are capable of resolving complex problems by working individually and in community on authentic work."

Equally important is Barlow's complementary focus on the social climate at the high school, for which the stated goal is "to promote a culture and climate in which staff and students live as active and informed citizens who collaborate effectively to achieve common goals; and that they do this by treating each other with respect while assuming personal responsibility for their action and success."

Barlow continues to be one of the highest-performing high schools in the state academically, while at the same time, student participation in co-curricular activities and athletics is also exceptionally high. Barlow sports teams are not only competitive on the field, but are consistently recognized by their opponents for qualities of sportsmanship. To further integrate Barlow within its surrounding communities, the school has developed and launched the "Community Assets Network," an internet-supported program with three main goals: to provide career exploration and experience; enhance what is taught in the classroom; and to serve the community. "Assets" -- individuals, groups or places that serve as resources for students -- will be mapped online to connect students with residents, businesses and nonprofits in Easton, Redding and surrounding areas. Professionals willing to speak in schools or host students for internships or job shadowing, and organizations offering volunteer opportunities and field trip destinations to show classroom material in the real world, are examples of what the program will offer.

Joel Barlow's student population, which peaked in 2014, now stands at 768 students. Enrollment is predicted to decline until 2025 and gradually rebound to current levels by 2030.

The Region 9 Board of Education, consisting of four members from each town, both oversees Barlow's operation and, by law, serves as its own Board of Finance, responsible for setting the annual operating budget and putting forward major capital projects for approval by a combined majority of Redding and Easton voters. Region 9 shares the superintendent and other key administrative personnel and services with its sister districts in Easton and Redding.

#### DEBT SERVICE AND BENEFITS ACCOUNT Selectmen's Budget for the Board of Education Fiscal year July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

#### IN KIND SERVICES:

| PENSION                               |              |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| TOWN'S CONTRIBUTION                   |              |
| FOR EMPLOYEES                         | \$256,684    |
|                                       |              |
| ACTUARY FEES                          |              |
| 1/2 ANNUAL FEE                        | \$6,330      |
| CHECK WRITING/REFUNDS/MISC.           |              |
|                                       |              |
| <u>UNEMPLOYMENT</u>                   | \$0          |
|                                       |              |
| EASTON FIRE DISTRICT                  | <b>\$</b> \$ |
| Tax                                   | \$0          |
|                                       |              |
| INSURANCE                             | ¢110.014     |
| GENERAL LIABILITY                     | \$110,914    |
| WORKER'S COMPENSATION                 | \$56,453     |
| CYBER                                 | \$18,291     |
| DEBT SERVICE                          |              |
| PRINCIPAL                             | \$1,895,000  |
| INTEREST                              | \$1,895,000  |
| INTEREST                              | \$139,411    |
| PARK & RECREATION DEPARTMENT SERV     | VICES        |
| MAINTENANCE OF GROUNDS-LABOR          |              |
| Helen Keller & Samuel Staples Schools | \$8,500      |
|                                       | 40,000       |
| PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT SERVICES      |              |
| BOE MISC WORK                         | \$7,765      |
|                                       |              |
| TOTAL EXPENSES                        | \$2,519,348  |

#### PROBATE COURT DISTRICT OF TRUMBULL

The District of Trumbull Probate Court serves Easton, Monroe and Trumbull and was established by Connecticut State Statute on January 2, 1959. Connecticut's Probate Courts are responsible for a broad range of cases involving children, seniors, adults with intellectual disability and decedent estates. Given the sensitive nature of the matters that we handle, the mission of the Probate Court system is to provide an approachable forum for families to resolve their cases in a fair, economical and just environment.

Several years ago, our district participated in a pilot program for electronic filing. This system is in full-swing, allowing both attorneys and individuals to submit applications and documentation by electronic means. This has streamlined the process by instant delivery and is a cost-saver for those using this method. In addition, users enjoy the benefit of immediate electronic notification upon issuance of any hearing notice, order, or case-related information.

During the Covid pandemic, the Probate Court remained opened to continue to address the needs of the community. In addition to the usual applications, the Court processed numerous conservatorships, DNR orders and custody of the remains due to Covid. The Court also instituted a video conferencing system to accommodate those who were not able or uncomfortable attending hearings in person.

The Trumbull Probate Court continues to strive to make the Court more user-friendly for those who are self-represented and to treat everyone with compassion and understanding, while still administering justice.

The Honorable T. R. Rowe is Judge of the District of Trumbull Probate Court

Staff: Gail J. Hanna, Chief Clerk Renata Olechno, Assistant Clerk Christy Hayes, Assistant Clerk Stephanie Miller, Assistant Clerk

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

#### SUMMARIES OF TOWN MEETINGS

(Reference attachments and detailed minutes are available for review in the Town Clerk's office or on the Town of Easton website www.eastonct.gov)

#### Town of Easton-Annual Town Meeting MINUTES April 25,2022 - 7:00 p.m. Samuel Staples Elementary School, 515 Morehouse Road, Easton

#### Present:

David Bindelglass, First Selectman Kristi Sogofsky, Selectman Robert Lessler, Selectman Deborah Szegedi, Town Clerk

Presenters and Attendees: Art Laske, Chair, Board of Finance Jon Stinson, Chair Board of Education Mike D'Agostino, Chair Region 9 Board of Education About 100-110 Easton Residents, 10 board members.

Meeting livestream available on Facebook and Zoom with over 236 livestream viewers. Recording Available at https://www.facebook.comlevents(s/annual-townmeeting/4991167253356641

Registrars of Voters checked-in attendees with identification at entrance.

David Bindelglass convened the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

The Town Clerk read the call of the meeting.

The First Selectman wished Happy Birthday to Town Resident Dolly Curtis.

The First Selectman asked for a motion to nominate a Moderator. Ira Kaplan nominated Victor Alfandre. The motion was seconded by Maureen Williams. No further nominations. The nomination was approved by voice vote.

#### 1.Discussion of the proposed Annual Town Budget of \$46,721,617 for fiscal year 2022-2023 as recommended by the Board of Finance to a machine vote.

Presentation by Board of Finance

Presentation by Board of Education

Presentation by Region 9

The Board of Finance Presentation is available on the Town Website

https://www.eastonct.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif3071/f/pages/20 22 budget presentation for public hearing 61.23 0.pdf

Art Laske, Chair of the Board of Finance summarized the presentation for the budget proposal for FY 2022/2023. Jon Stinson, Chair of the Easton Board of Education, summarized the presentation for the final Board of Education 2022-2023 School Year Budget. Mike D'Agostino, Chair of the Region 9 Board of Education, Summarized the presentation for the Region 9 2022-2023 School Year. The Moderator called for any questions or comments after each presentation. Residents commented. The Moderator indicated that the item would go to a machine vote.

#### 2. Acceptance of the five-year capital plan project.

Art Laske, Chair of the Board of Finance, presented the fiveyear capital project plan. The Moderator asked for any questions or Public Comment. Having none the Moderator requested that all in favor say "aye" and asked, "all opposed?" Motion passes by voice vote. The five-year capital plan was approved.

## 3. Set July 1, 2022 — January 2, 2023 for the 2021 Grand List bills.

There was no presenter for this item. The Moderator called for a motion to set July 1, 2022 — January 2, 2023 for the 2021 Grand List bills. Motion was moved and seconded. Moderator asked for discussion there was none. The Moderator requested that all in favor of setting the July 1, 2022 —January 2, 2023 for the 2021 Grand List bills signify by saying "aye" and "all opposed?" Motion was carried by voice vote. The dates for the grand list bills as set out in the motion were adopted.

## 4. Approve the proposed amendment of the Library Ordinance.

The Moderator called for a motion to approve the proposed amendment of the Library Ordinance. Motion was moved and seconded. Moderator asked if any questions. Residents inquired about what is the Library Ordinance? First Selectman David Bindelglass spoke about the Ordinance. Copy of the Ordinance is available on the Town Website https://www.eastonct.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif3071(f/news/libr ary ordinance.pdf

Veronica Rozo, Chair of the Library Board of Trustees spoke about why we need this ordinance. No further comments. The Moderator requested that all in favor of the proposed amendment of the Library Ordinance signify by saying "aye" and "all opposed?" Motion was carried by voice vote. The proposed amendment of the Library Ordinance was Approved.

#### 5. Discussion and acceptance of an Open Space Warranty Deed for 40 far Horizons Drive from Stefan Abelin.

The Moderator called for a motion to open discussion. The motion was moved and seconded. Dori Wollen, Chair of the Conservation Commission spoke in depth about this Open Space Warranty Deed. The Moderator asked for any questions or Public Comment. 1 Resident had a question. No further questions or comments. The Moderator requested that all in favor of the proposed Open Space Warranty Deed for 40 far Horizons Drive from Stefan Abelin signify by saying "aye" and "all opposed?" Motion was carried by voice vote. The Open Space Warranty Deed for 40 far Horizons Drive from Stefan Abelin was accepted.

#### 6. Approve the Demolition Delay Ordinance.

The Moderator called for a motion to open discussion. The motion was moved and seconded.

First Selectman David Bindelglass spoke about the ordinance. A Historical Society Member spoke about the Ordinance. Selectmen Robert Lessler and Kristi Sogofsky also spoke about the Ordinance. Members of the public commented. No further questions or comments. The Moderator indicated that the item would go to a machine vote on May 3. Copy of the Ordinance is available online https://www.eastonct.gov/sites/g/files/vvhlif3071/f/news/de mo delay ordinance.pdf

## 7. Approve the Town of Easton to sell 18.70+/- acres of the property at 18-22 South Park Avenue to the Aspetuck Land Trust for \$470,000.

The Moderator called for a motion to open discussion. The motion was moved and seconded. First Selectman David Bindelglass spoke about what we are voting on. Bill Krakel Easton Resident and President of the Aspetuck Land Trust spoke about the 18.70+/- acres of the property at 18-22 South Park Avenue. Selectman Bindelglass spoke of the passage of the Land Use Ordinance that it is mandated that any sale, lease or purchase of public land must be voted on and go through the Town Meeting process that's why it this is being presented to you. Copy of the Land Use Ordinance can be found here

https://ecode360.comlEA2974/laws/LF1426606.pdf

The Moderator anticipating a large amount of comments requested that comments be kept to the topic at hand and be limited to 3 minutes. The Moderator opened the floor to public comment. Several Residents spoke. No further questions or comments. The Moderator moved to that the Town of Easton to sell 18.70+/- acres of the property at 18-22 South Park Avenue to the Aspetuck Land Trust for \$470,000 to a machine vote on May 3. The Moderator requested that all in favor signify by saying "aye" and "all opposed?" The Moderator called for a Motion to adjourn the Town Meeting. Motion moved and seconded.

Adjournment of the Annual Town Meeting to a machine vote to be held on Tuesday, May 3, 2022, 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Samuel Staples Elementary School to vote on the Annual Budget for 20222023, Demolition Delay Ordinance and the Town of Easton to sell 18.70+/acres of the property at 1822 South Park Avenue to the Aspetuck Land Trust for \$470,000.

The Moderator adjourned the Town Meeting to a machine vote to be held on Tuesday, May 3, 2022, 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Samuel Staples Elementary School to vote on agenda items #2, #7 and #8. No further discussion or public comment. The Meeting adjourned at 9:51 p.m.

Submitted by, Deborah Szegedi Easton Town Clerk

#### Town of Easton-Special Town Meeting MINUTES May 31, 2022 – 7:00 p.m. Samuel Staples Elementary School, 515 Morehouse Road, Easton

Present: David Bindelglass, First Selectman Kristi Sogofsky, Selectman Robert Lessler, Selectman Deborah Szegedi, Town Clerk

Presenters and Attendees: Beverly Dacey-Preserve 06612 Citizens for Easton- Andrew Kupinse

About 200-225 Easton Residents

Meeting livestream available on Facebook and Zoom with over 218 livestream viewers. Recording Available at https://www.facebook.com/events/409259687731787/

Registrars of Voters checked-in attendees with identification at entrance.

David Bindelglass convened the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

The Town Clerk read the call of the meeting.

The First Selectman had a couple of points to make. He talked about intensive discussions and some research on the part the Town Attorney and other Attorneys who have taken the role happen to be citizens. One of the questions was about permanency which after further dialogue by the First Selectman said is off the table. Ground rules for the meeting were discussed. In order to construct a conservation easement, which is a legal document it is clear that the statement on the top of the petition leaves some things open to question. It is the opinion of the Town and the Town Council that we should be still be having this meeting to act on the statement. He also discussed about inviting amendments to this to make it a constructive document. He talked about after the presentations to entertain possible amendments.

The First Selectman said next item of business is to select a Moderator and asked for nominations. Tom Herrmann and Victor Alfandre were nominated. The 2 candidates were asked to come to the front of room. A hand count was done for each candidate. Tom Herrmman won the nomination. There were 2 presentations given. Beverly Dacey gave the first presentation for Preserve 06612. The second presentation was from Andrew Kupinse who took over his late Father's spot. Both of these presentations are available on the bottom of the page of the Town Website https://www.eastonct.gov/home/news/05312022-specialtown-meeting-700-pm-sses

The moderator thanked both presenters consistent told the members of the public that consistent with Robert's Rules of Order we will now look to have a motion to accept proposed agenda item, have it seconded, and then we can begin our discussion, debate, deliberation. The motion as it is made will be subject to amendments. The moderator asked if there was a motion to approve the agenda item as it is presented to this legislative body. The motion was moved by Jeff Parker and seconded by Reynolds Gordon. The moderator then asked if anyone wanted to speak on behalf of this to raise their hands.

Members of the Public spoke All Comments can be viewed at https://www.facebook.com/events/409259687731787/

The First Selectman made a comment that the conservation easement is not a 7 sentence document it is a complex legal document. Vote tonight to give the Board of Selectmen enough direction to create and come back to the Town for approval.

Bev Dacey commented that the whole purpose of the petition was precipitated by the remaining 10 acres is in the Affordable Housing Plan.

Kristi commented the question is the post card this is what we are voting on tonight. Not the Affordable Housing Plan.

The moderator called for any amendments.

Ren Gordon proposed the following amendment to read as follows :

The Town of Easton shall provide a permanent conservation easement on the remaining portion of the real property owned by the Town and commonly known as 18-22 South Park Avenue. The permanent conservation easement will provide that the property remains in a natural and open condition for the conservation, open space, agriculture, green space or water supply purposes. The easement will include a requirement that the property be made available to the public for passive recreational purposes and such temporary uses by the Town for Town purposes, as may be approved from time to time by the Board of Selectmen. This permanent conservation easement will not preclude the Town from selling the property to Aspetuck Land Trust Inc. at a time when the purchase price is determined by independent appraisal and Aspetuck Land Trust has the funds to accomplish this sale.

The moderator said that Mr. Gordon has made a motion would anyone like to second the motion. The motion was seconded by Art Laske.

The Moderator asked for any comments. None were made. The Moderator called the question all in favor of the amended motion as made and seconded signify by saying Aye. All those opposed say Nay. The Nay's have it.

The Moderator asked if anyone else had an amendment?

Art Laske proposed the following amendment to read as follows:

The Town of Easton shall provide a permanent conservation easement on the remaining portion of the real property owned by the Town and commonly known as 18-22 South Park Avenue. The permanent conservation easement will provide that the property remains in a natural and open condition for the conservation, open space, agriculture, green space ,water supply purposes, or educational purposes in coordination with the Easton Park & Rec Commission and/or Easton Board of Education including, upon the approval by the Board of Selectmen, the construction of facilities any necessary educational or sanitary . The easement will include a requirement that the property be made available to the public for passive recreational purposes. This permanent conservation easement will not preclude the Town from selling the property to Aspetuck Land Trust Inc. at a time when the purchase price is determined by independent appraisal and Aspetuck Land Trust has the funds to accomplish this sale.

The moderator asked if anyone would like to second the motion?

It was seconded.

The Moderator as if anyone had any comments?

June Logie commented.

The Moderator asked if anyone else had any comments? Dori Wollen commented.

The Moderator asked if anyone else had an amendment?

Ira Kaplan proposed the following amendment to read as follows:

The Town of Easton shall provide a conservation easement on the remaining portion of the real property owned by the Town and commonly known as 18-22 South Park Avenue. The permanent conservation easement will provide that the property remains in a natural and open condition for the conservation, open space, agriculture, green space or water supply purposes. The easement will include a requirement that the property be made available to the public for passive recreational purposes. This conservation easement will not preclude the Town from selling the property to Aspetuck Land Trust Inc. at a time when the purchase price is determined by independent appraisal and Aspetuck Land Trust has the funds to accomplish this sale.

#### This conservation easement will be in place through the April 2023 Annual Town Meeting at which time it will be subject to reconsideration by the Town Body.

The moderator asked if anyone would like to second the motion?

It was seconded by Rocky Sullivan.

The Moderator as if anyone had any comments? No comments were made.

The Moderator called the question all in favor of the amended motion as made and seconded signify by saying Aye. All those opposed say Nay. The Nay's have it.

The Moderator asked if anyone else had an amendment.

Kathy Alfandre proposed the following amendment to read as follows:

The Town of Easton shall provide a permanent conservation easement on the remaining portion of the real property owned by the Town and commonly known as 18-22 South Park Avenue. The permanent conservation easement will be finalized by forthcoming deliberations to ensure that all risks and future concerns are addressed. When finalized the permanent easement will provide that the property remains in a natural and open condition for the conservation, open space, agriculture, green space or water supply purposes. The easement will include a requirement that the property be made available to the public for passive recreational purposes. This permanent conservation easement will not preclude the Town from selling the property to Aspetuck Land Trust Inc. at a time when the purchase price is determined by independent appraisal and Aspetuck Land Trust has the funds to accomplish this sale.

The moderator asked if anyone would like to second the motion?

It was seconded.

The Moderator as if anyone had any questions or comments? Any further discussions?

June Logie had a question for Kathy Alfandre, she wanted to know who would do the deliberations?

Kathy Alfandre responded that she did not include that because, she did not know but her understanding based on prior statements by the First Selectman is that there must be some process to flush out the contents of the conservation easement because it is a legal document so whatever those deliberations are would be how this would be finalized.

Jeff Becker asked how to do we get to the point where we know who's going to do what and, by when? He talked about how we are mostly in agreement that we want this done. We want the conservation easement voted on tonight, even though there is details in the specifics about exactly the legal language that must get done. Obviously, we don't have that today, but we'd like to know that this in place and that we don't suffer the risk of somebody coming up with a development proposal tomorrow that undermines all the effort we put in it to get this done tonight.

The moderator asked if there were any other comments on the post?

Ren Gordon called the question. The moderator responded with: "you can call the question if there no other comments. Question can be called with a 2/3 vote. Is there a second person to call the question?"

All in favor of calling the question signify by saying Aye, all opposed say Nay.

Was a very close voice vote moderator thought it was a Nay vote that won.

Dana Benson had one brief comment, he was not sure if the amended language was needed.

The moderator asked if there are any other comments? No comments were made.

The moderator stated that if there are no other comments the all-in favor of the proposed amendment signifies by saying Aye, those opposed say Nay. The Nay's have it.

The moderator asked if there are any other proposals?

Andrew Kupinse had an amendment he spoke of the details of working out the amendment. Andrew Kupinse needed a few minutes to work on his amendment.

The moderator asked if anyone else would like to propose an amendment?

Andy Kachele proposed to add a sentence at the end, a very simple sentence.

His amendment shall read as follows:

The Town of Easton shall provide a permanent conservation easement on the remaining portion of the real property owned by the Town and commonly known as 18-22 South Park Avenue. The permanent conservation easement will provide that the property remains in a natural and open condition for the conservation, open space, agriculture, green space or water supply purposes. The easement will include a requirement that the property be made available to the public for passive recreational purposes. This permanent conservation easement will not preclude the Town from selling the property to Aspetuck Land Trust Inc. at a time when the purchase price is determined by independent appraisal and Aspetuck Land Trust has the funds to accomplish this sale. Final language for the easement will be developed under the auspices of the Board of Selectmen expeditiously and presented promptly back to a future Town Meeting for final approval.

The moderator asked if this was clear to everyone, and would anyone like to second the motion? It was seconded.

The moderator asked would anyone who like to comment on the sentence that was added?

Bev Dacey commented that Andy's amendment has some merit, but it needs dates & deadlines.

The moderator asked if everyone is clear on the sentence that Mr. Kachele brought forward to amend the motion? Does anyone want to speak on it?

First Selectman David Bindelglass had a comment. He spoke of the fundamental change of accommodating the Blaze's living on the property. He asked if Mr. Kachele would pull his question to allow Andrew to present a better final language.

The moderator asked if there are no other comments on the motion made by Mr. Kachele all in favor of the proposed amendment signify by saying Aye, those opposed say Nay. The Nay's have it.

Andrew Kupinse came back up with his proposed amendment. He proposed amendment is as follows:

The Town of Easton hereby instructs the Board of Selectmen to place a permanent conservation easement **or restriction** on the remaining portion of the real property owned by the Town and commonly known as 18-22 South Park Avenue. The permanent conservation easement **or restriction** will provide that the property remains in a natural and open condition for the conservation, open space, agriculture, green space or water supply purposes. The easement or restriction will include a requirement that the property be made available to the public for passive recreational purposes. This permanent conservation easement **or restriction** will not preclude the Town from selling the property to Aspetuck Land Trust Inc. at a time when the purchase price is determined by independent appraisal and Aspetuck Land Trust has the funds to accomplish this sale.

The conservation restriction shall be drafted and shall provide for an accurate description of the subject property and define the passive recreational activities to be allowed. Further, the conservation restriction or easement shall allow for the continued residential occupancy of a portion of the subject property by the existing tenants on terms acceptable to the Town of Easton. The conservation restriction or easement in final form shall be brought back expeditiously to another Special Town Meeting upon completion.

The moderator asked if anyone would like to second the motion? It was seconded.

The moderator asked if there were any comments on Mr. Kupinse's amendment?

John Meyer had a question about what rules would apply to the Special Town Meeting?

The moderator asked if there were any comments?

First Selectman David Bindelglass commented that what is going to come back to the Town Meeting is a legal document. It is impractical for the Town Meeting to rewrite so the recourse would still be a recourse is to vote it down at the at the Town Meeting and force the Selectmen to go back to the drawing board and fix whatever it is that is undoable. But at some point, to construct a legal document you must let the lawyers sit down and do this with the Selectmen.

The moderator asked if there were any other comments?

No comments, the moderator called the question. "All in favor of the amendment as proposed by Mr. Kupinse signify by saying Aye, all opposed say Nay.

The moderator had the public signify by saying Aye and raising their hands, all opposed say Nay and raise your hand. Anyone obtaining signify by saying Nay and raising your hand.

No abstentions.

The Aye's Have it.

The moderator stated that the amendment has passed we now have an amended motion for this body, and we need to vote on the motion as amended. All those in favor of the motion as amended signify by saying Aye, all opposed say Nay, anyone obtaining signify by saying Nay.

No abstentions, the motion carries.

Moderator asked to accept a motion to adjourn, motion was made and seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

Submitted by, Deborah Szegedi Easton Town Clerk

## **TOWN & APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

**Board of Selectmen** Dr. David Bindelglass, First Selectman Robert H. Lessler Kristi Sogofsky Town Clerk Deborah Szegedi Treasurer Christine Calvert Tax Collector Krista Kot **Registrar of Voters** Dori Wollen - Republican David Smith - Democrat **Board of Finance** Arthur Laske III - Chair Andrew Kachele Ira Kaplan Jacqueline Kaufman Michael Kot Paul Skrtich Alternates -Michael Gutowski Gregg H. Saunders Maureen P. Williams **Board of Assessment Appeals** Adam Bonoff - Chair Scott Charmoy John Miranda Alternates -Lise Fluette Thomas Schick Gayle Worthington Library Board of Trustees Veronica Rozo – Chair Gloria Bindelglass Adrienne Burke Linda Dollard Shari Pearlman Paul Wizda Alternates-Elizabeth Boyce Renee Neiger **Board of Education (Easton)** Jon Stinson - Chair Randy Hicks Jennifer DeJesus Jeffery F. Parker Devon Wible Alicia Young **Region 9 Board of Education (Easton Members)** Todd Andrew Johnston Sarah Lehberger Karen O'Brien Kathy Thompson **Constables** Gloria Bindelglass David Katz

Anthony B. Farmer Ray Martin III Chris Peritore Darrin Silhavy Irv Silverman **Public Works Director/Town Engineer** Edward L. Nagy, PE **Police Chief Richard Doyle Finance Director** Christine Calvert Aspetuck Health District Mark Cooper, MPH, RS - Director of Health **Emergency Management Director** Chief Richard Doyle **Building Official** Peter Howard Assessor Rachel Maciulewski Municipal Agent for the Aging/Social Services Director Alison Witherbee, MSW Zoning Enforcement Officer/Wetlands Enforcement Officer Mark DeLieto Fire Chief Robert Klem Park and Recreation Commission Robert Sullivan - Chair Chris Barcello Chase Cameron Kerry Caylor Kacey Gormley David Gombos Carolyn Oppenheim Planning and Zoning Commission Raymond Martin - Chair John Foley Robert Maquat Ross Ogden Alison Sternberg Alternates -Louis DiPietro Jay Habansky **Raymond Ganim** Zoning Board of Appeals Thomas Dollard - Chair Stephanie Christie Elizabeth Burns Victor George James Wright Alternates -Charles Lynch Scott Charmoy Davis Owen **Insurance** Commission Gerard O'Brien - Chair Ronald Berry Dr. David Bindelglass - 1st Selectman Randy Hicks - Board of Education Representative Nicole Massini

Tree Warden Richard J. Dina Measurer of Wood Irving Snow Michael Sabia, Sr. Fire Marshal Peter G. Neary **Board of Ethics** Vivian Hardison Benjamin Lehberger Emma Montoya Mark Peyser Craig Steinberg **Emergency Medical Services** Jonathan Arnold Easton Representative to the Southwestern Connecticut **Emergency Medical Services Council** Stephen Brunetti **Emergency Medical Communications Center, Inc.** Representative Victor Malindretos **Board of Police Commissioners** Richard J. Colangelo, Jr. - Chair Victor Alfandre Vincent Battaglia Laurie Israel David Smith **Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Commission** Robert Adriani - Chair Gloria Bindelglass Thomas Bladek, M.D. Vincent Mase, M.D. James Spak, M.D. Pension and Employee Benefits Commission A. Reynolds Gordon - Chair Dr. David Bindelglass - 1st Selectman David Bussolotta John Harrington Steve Landa Logan Shedd Robert Sadowski Easton Senior Center Advisory Board Mary Ann C. Freeman - Chair Wendy Bowditch Jim Bromer Pat Camuto Sally England Althea Falco Prabha Gupta Eunice Hanson Slavica Prevelige Randy Shapiro - Ex-Officio **Board of Fire Commissioners** David Buchanan - Chair Roberta Cable David Katz John Miranda James Yeotsas

**Conservation Commission** Dori Wollen - Chair Catherine Alfandre Maria Corti Karen Nievsen Elliott Leonard David Logie Steven Montgomery Alternates -Sarah Cwikla Vacant Vacant Commission for the Aging Lisa Tasi - Chair Linda Dollard Anne Hughes Melinda Testa O'Brien Diane Parker Alternates -Katie Callahan Nanette DeWester Vacant Area Nine Cable Council Representatives Henry L. Anderson Douglas Dempsey Alternate -David Smith Safety and Health Committee Martin Ohradan - Chair Danielle Alves Dr. David Bindelglass - 1st Selectman Bruce Bombero Terry Calgreen Christine Calvert Vicki Cram Jay Festa Peter Fiore Randy Shaprio Lynn Zaffino Vacant **Cemetery Committee** Nanette DeWester - Chair Elizabeth Boyce Joan Kirk - Adjunct Frank Pagliaro Deidra Preis Jamie Weinstein Vacant Easton Energy & Environment Task Force Catherine Alfandre - Chair Heidi Armster Jeffrey Borofsky Katie Callahan Lise Fluette Robert Morganti Agricultural Commission Jean Stetz-Puchalski - Chair Victor Alfandre Lori Cochran Dougall

Matthew Oricchio Amy Wolfcale Alternates – Denise Hebner Sage Rega Easton Diversity & Inclusion Task Force Whendi Cook Broderick Hilary Desmond Kevin Oliver Adam Parker Darrell Harris Elaine O'Keefe Vacant-Alternate Vacant-Alternate **Catchment** Area Councils Sarah Donovan

## TOWN DEPARTMENTS AND EMPLOYEES

Selectman's Office Dr. David Bindelglass, 1st Selectman Robert Lessler, Selectman Kristi Sogofsky, Selectman Ginger Fiore, Administrative Assistant Sophia Vournazos, Receptionist Terry Calgreen, Custodian **Town Clerk** Deborah Szegedi, Town Clerk & **Registrar of Vital Statistics** Holly Konstantino, Assistant Town Clerk & Assistant Registrar of Vital Statistics Tina Reynolds, Assistant Town Clerk & Assistant Registrar of Vital Statistics **Treasurer's Office** Christine Calvert, Finance Director/Treasurer Vacant, HRCC Sophia Vournazos, Accounts Payable Clerk **Planning and Zoning Department** Mark DeLieto, Zoning Enforcement Officer Justin Giorlando, Land Use Director Karen Velky, Clerk **Zoning Board of Appeals** Karen Velky, Clerk **Building Department** Peter Howard, Building Official Nicole Costantino, Secretary **Aspetuck Health District** Mark Cooper, MPH, RS - Director of Health **Conservation Department** Mark DeLieto, Wetlands Enforcement Officer Fran Daly, Secretary **Assessor's Office** Rachel Maciulewski, Assessor Pam Ferraina, Assessor's Assistant **Tax Collector** Krista Kot, Tax Collector Lisa Krohne, Assistant Tax Collector

Municipal Agent for the Elderly/Social Services Director Alison Witherbee, MSW Senior Center Valerie Buckley, Director Randy Shapiro, Assistant Director Richard (Dennis) Scofield, Driver Diane Tatnall, P/T Custodian Emil Sokol, P/T Driver **Park and Recreation Department** Danielle Alves, Director Lisa Farasciano, Programmer Keysha Evans, Afterschool Program Coordinator Eleni Yiannakides, Secretary Chris Lemos, Maintenance Supervisor Michael Clark, Maintainer I Library Lynn Zaffino, Director Mary Beth Rassulo, Assistant Library Director/ Head of Youth Services Kristine Oulman, Youth Services Librarian **Library Assistants** Shannon Bruchal Bob Knapik Penelope Papadoulis Kerry Santoro Ryan Tice **Police Department** Richard Doyle, Police Chief Jonathan Arnold, Captain Arthur Belile, Sergeant Thomas Ceccarelli, Sergeant William Spencer, Sergeant Kent Lyman, Detective **Police Officers** Jav Festa Tamra French Michael Kaluta Luis Rodriguez Robert Roj John Sollazzo Thomas Steinke Anthony Telesco Craig Tibbals **Office Staff** Diane Zadrozny, Administrative Assistant Evelyn Santiago-Fox, Records Clerk I **Communications Department Dispatchers** Matthew Caldwell Tara Candee Dawn Rice **Part Time Dispatchers** Francisco Acosta Roger Conner Gabrielle Montanez Andrew Tisdale Kevin Shevlin, Jr.

### **Animal Control**

Deborah Ice - Assistant Donielle Kish - Assistant

## **Registrars of Voters**

David Smith, Democrat Dori Wollen, Republican Jim Bromer, Assistant Registrar

#### **Public Works Department**

Elliott Dolzani

Julia Hirsch

Alex Keaton

Chloe Lancaster

Mary Pat O'Neil

Kevin Shevlin, Jr.

Margaret Shukie

Andrew Tisdale

**Richard Doyle** 

**Emergency Management Director** 

Robert Klem, Fire Chief

Peter Neary, Fire Marshal

Steve Waugh, Asst. Fire Chief

Schuyler Sherwood, Deputy Fire Marshal

Max Victor

**Fire Department** 

Joseph Seagren

Jack Sheehan

Todd Olschan

Edward L. Nagy, Director and Town Engineer, PE Bruce Bombero, Deputy Director/Asst Engineer PE LS Jenna Licursi, Secretary Steve Haller, Garage Mgr/Lead Mechanic Jason Perkins, Highway Superintendent Gil Neves, Building Maintenance Martin Ohradan, P/T Maintenance Technician Highwaymen Mark Alves William Bantle, Jr. Craig Brotherton Michael Corning Jamie Correia Alex Masloski Don Perkins Oscar Sampaio Kenneth Schwartz, Jr. **Emergency Medical Services** Jonathan Arnold, EMS Service Chief Adam Goldstein, EMS Assistant Service Chief Carolyn Kearney, EMS Assistant Service Chief Full Time EMS Peter Fiore Josh Meszaros Part Time EMS Paco Acosta Madelyn Andrews Stephen Brunetti Cristina DiPalma

#### Firefighters

Alex Cohen R. Dave Davies Jon Davis Alfred Doty Daniel Magner Mark Mirowski Martin Ohradan Michael Sabia, Jr.

As of 6/30/2022

## ADMINISTRATION AND TEACHING STAFF

#### **ADMINISTRATORS**

| <u>SCHOOL</u> | NAME                  | <b>POSITION</b>     |
|---------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| HKMS          | Clapp, Steven         | Principal           |
| HKMS          | Mohr, Annie           | Assistant Principal |
| HKMS/SSES     | Del Conte, Jennifer   | Director,           |
|               |                       | Special Services    |
| HKMS/SSES     | Fenech, Nicole        | Supervisor,         |
|               |                       | Special Services    |
| SSES          | Fox Santora, Kimberly | Principal           |
| SSES          | Brownstein, Michael   | Assistant Principal |

#### HELEN KELLER MIDDLE SCHOOL

<u>NAME</u> POSITION Ackley, Douglas Teacher Aponte, Dana Teacher Baca, Matthew Teacher Brever, David Teacher Brodeur, Cynthia Teacher Burke, Jennifer Teacher Cerra, Jose Teacher Assistive Technology -Cronin, Katrina **HKMS/SSES** Fisher, Rhegan Speech & Language Pathologist D'Agostino, Paul Teacher Dolecki, Eric Teacher Donegan, Tracey Special Education Teacher Dunkerton, Amber Teacher Fearn, Ethan Teacher Gale, Allison Library/Media Specialist Teacher Gasiewski, Marguerite Gidley, Sarah Teacher Harington, Calico Teacher Hauptman, Amy Teacher Heran, Kimberly Social Worker Jockers, Ryan Teacher Klatt, Meredith School Psychologist Lapane, Alyssa Special Education Teacher Teacher Macaluso, John Maggi, Linda Teacher Mancini, Erika Teacher

| Pearson, EricSpecial Education TeacherRogers, KevinTeacherRose, JenniferTeacher |
|---|
| 100 gene, 110 m 1 e menter  |
| Rose, Jennifer Teacher  |
|   |
| Sather, Timothy Academic Mentor/School  |
| Counselor   |
| Solis, Nicole Teacher   |
| Terry, Sara School Counselor  |
| Tiani, Elizabeth Teacher  |
| Tilghman, Francis (Joyce) Special Education Teacher                             |
| Trubiano, Meghan Special Education Teacher                                      |
| Walsh, Brian Teacher  |

#### SAMUEL STAPLES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

NAME Adelman, Lori Angiolillo, Sarah Augustine, Tara Bates, Allan Bizzotto, Melissa Blair, Mary Bourret, Adam Brophy, Tara Carr. Caitlin Carroll, Courtney Castaldo, Kristine Cedrone, Melissa Cerreta-Figueroa, Karen Charles, Danica Chatfield, Callen Colasanto, Kristen Correa, Catherine Danyliw, Courtney DeLise, Amelia Desiderio, Jillian Duffy, Kimberly D. Edwards, Jennifer Faiella, Kristina Forte, JodiAnn Foster, Giovanna Gentile, Amy Giglio, Elizabeth Haydu, Hannah Heebner, Claire Hine, Megan Hobbs, Laura Holroyd, Stephanie Teacher Keating, Geraldine Keden, Kristen Macaluso, Kaitlyn MacArthur, Carey Marchetti, Emily Marcioch, Jill Martin, Jeanine Mattera, Karen Paciello, Michelle (Sunny) Teacher Pacino, Stacey Teacher

POSITION Teacher Teacher Special Education Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher School Psychologist Teacher Library/Media Specialist Special Education Teacher Speech & Language Pathologist School Psychologist Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher School Social Worker Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher Special Education Teacher Teacher Special Education Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher Special Education Teacher Teacher

Piacente, Courtney Pilkington, Dawn Pomer, Kristen Scholz, Darcy Severson, Katherine Skoczylas, Julianne Swanson, Alyssa Teixeira, Ashley Tilow, Jessica Velazquez, Alissa Vilanova, Heather Zazula, Kristin

Tacher Teacher Teacher Teacher Special Education Teacher Speech & Language Pathologist Teacher **Special Education Teacher** Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher

#### **REGION 9 CERTIFIED STAFF**

#### JOEL BARLOW HIGH SCHOOL

NAME Albano, Donna Angelis, Michael Angell, Christopher Antal, Steven Atkinson, Mary Bailey, Beth Barna, Fred Bernardo, Margaret Breault, Christopher Brown, Jeffrey Brown, Laura Cohen, Alyssa Cowit, Philip D'Amato, Daniela DeAngelo, David DelAngelo, Henry DeVoto, James Egan, Jeanne Estes, Lori Fallo, Kristen Franco, Milton Fricker, Jacob Fulton, Shanee Gale, Lindsay Gang, Scott Gilmore, Maria Giordano, Ralph Gold, Elisabeth Gutierrez, Jose Hoyt, Rebecca Hrebin, Mary Pat Huminski, Carolyn Huminski, Timothy Intemann, Michael Jordan, Sarah Kaufman, Emily Keeney, Kristin Kennedy, Jessica Lanehart, Megan Lavoie, Diane

POSITION Teacher Teacher Director of LRIT, Teacher Teacher School Counselor Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher Special Education Teacher Teacher School Psychologist Special Education Teacher Teacher Special Education Dept. Chair School Counselor Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher Speech & Language Pathologist Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher School Counselor Teacher School Psychologist Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher Speech & Language Pathologist Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher Special Education Teacher

Light, Randall Luzietti, Brian Marasco, Caroline Martorana, Kristina McElwee, Michael Nichols, Kelsey Nuzzo, Katharine O'Brien, Elizabeth Pachas, Beth Panos, Paula Paola, Ryan Pieratti, Maryanne Pinsky, Erin Pinsky, Jordan Potpinka, Thomas Poulos, Christopher Powell, Barbara Ramirez, Jennifer Reimold, Scott Rhode, Jonathan Rivers, Daniel Roberts, Thomas Rowland, Andrea Salko-Peddle, Sheila Schemm, Jason Scholl, Catherine Smith, Barbara Smith, Edouard Smith, Maeve Smith, Randall Sopko, Joseph Sopko, Michelle Staron, Angela Stephens, Kailyn Sugden, Mary Elizabeth Swift, Ryan Taubner, Debra Testa, Paul Torv, Daniel Veteri-Muntz, Toni Williams, Brianna Wittmann, Gwynne

Teacher Teacher School Social Worker Special Education Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher Speech & Language Pathologist Teacher Director of School Counseling Teacher School Social Worker Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher School Counselor School Counselor Special Education Teacher Teacher Special Education Teacher Teacher Special Education Teacher Teacher/STEM Dept Chair Special Education Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher/Humanities Dept Chair Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher Teacher Special Education Teacher Teacher

Teacher

# **REGION 9 ADMINISTRATORS**

NAME Almeida, Mario Hussey, Tracy Desmarais, Jennifer McTague, Julie Santangeli, Michael

NAME

Robushi, Deanna

Whalen, Launa

## POSITION Head of School/Asst. Superintendent Director of Special Education Services Assistant Principal Assistant Principal Administrator Athletics. Health, PE

#### **CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF**

| <u>NAME</u>             | <u>POSITION</u>                  |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| McKinnon, Jason         | Superintendent of Schools        |
| Pierson Ugol, Stephanie | Assistsant Superintendent for    |
|                         | Curriculum & Instruction         |
| Petruzzelli, Scott      | Director of Finance & Operations |
| Scrofani, Sara          | Director of Technology & Digital |
|                         | Learning                         |
| Cram, Vicki             | Human Resources Manager          |
| DeMarco, Cynthia        | Executive Secretary              |
| Gotthardt, Christine    | Benefits/Payroll Clerk           |
| Kallas, Patricia        | Benefits/Payroll Clerk           |
| Kovacs, Laurine         | Account Payable Clerk            |
| Outhouse, Cathy         | Senior Accountant                |
| Reinisch, Aisha         | Administrative Assistant         |
|                         |                                  |

**Business Operations Manager** Administrative Assistant

# **TOWN DIRECTORY**

## TO CHECK SPECIFIC DEPARTMENT HOURS AND INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT WWW.EASTONCT.GOV

| Emergency - Police, Fire, Ambulance<br>Non-Emergency  |   | 911<br>203-268-4111  |
|---|---|--|
| Town Hall<br>Town Hall Fax<br>Town Clerk Fax  | 8:30am - 4:30pm   | 203-268-6291<br>203-268-4928<br>203-261-6080   |
| Animal Control<br>Department of Public Works<br>Easton Public Library<br>Municipal Agent for the Aging<br>Park and Recreation Department<br>Senior Center |   | 203-268-9172<br>203-268-0714<br>203-261-0134<br>203-268-1137<br>203-268-7200<br>203-268-1145 |
| Superintendent of Schools – Region 9<br>Board of Education Central Office   |   | 203-261-2513   |
| Samuel Staples Elementary School<br>Helen Keller Middle School<br>Joel Barlow High School   |   | 203-261-3607<br>203-268-8651<br>203-938-2508   |
| Easton Post Office  |   | 203-261-8386   |
| Probate Judge   | T.R. Rowe<br>Fax  | 203-452-5068<br>203-452-5092   |
| State Officials   | State Representative, District 135 – Anne Hughes<br>State Senator, District 28 - Tony Hwang           |  |
| U.S. Officials  | Senator - Richard Blumenthal<br>Senator - Christopher Murphy<br>Congressman, 4th District - Jim Himes |  |
| IMPORTANT DATES:  |   |  |
| ANNUAL TOWN MEETING   | Samuel Staples Elementary School<br>Last Monday in April 7:00pm                                       |  |
| TAXES DUE   | FIRST INSTALLMENTJuly 1stSECOND INSTALLMENTJanuary 1st  |  |

**DOG LICENSE MONTH IS JUNE (RENEW** in June with no late fee penalty - online renewals available)

# SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS - BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

For specific meeting information, please visit our website www.eastonct.gov

| Advisory Board Easton Senior Center  | 2nd Tuesday  | 3:30 p.m.              |
|--|--|------------------------|
| Senior Center  |  |                        |
| Agricultural Commission  | 2nd Wednesday  | 7:45 p.m.              |
| Easton Library Community Room  |  |                        |
| Area 9 Cable Council   | As Required  | TBD                    |
| Board of Assessment Appeals  |  |                        |
| Assessor's Office - Town Hall  |  |                        |
| Property Tax Grievances  | March  | TBD                    |
| Motor Vehicle Tax Grievances   | September  | TBD                    |
| Board of Education   | Monthly - Check www.eastonct.gov                       | 7:00 p.m.              |
| Helen Keller Middle School   |  |                        |
| Board of Ethics  | As Required  |                        |
| Town Hall Conference Room  |  |                        |
| Board of Finance   | 1st Tuesday  | 7:00 p.m.              |
| Senior Center Conference Room  |  |                        |
| Board of Fire Commissioners  | 3rd Wednesday  | 7:30 p.m.              |
| Firehouse  |  |                        |
| Board of Police Commissioners  | 2nd Monday   | 5:30 p.m.              |
| Library Community Room   |  | 1                      |
| Board of Selectmen   | 1st and 3rd Thursdays                                  | 7:30 p.m.              |
| Town Hall Conference Room  |  |                        |
| Cemetery Committee   | 2nd Wednesday  | 7:00 p.m.              |
| Senior Center  |  |                        |
| 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  |  |                        |
| Easton Diversity & Inclusion Task Force  | 1st Thursday   | 7:30 p.m.              |
| Library  |  |                        |
| Easton Energy & Environment Task Force   | 3rd Wednesday  | 7:30 p.m.              |
| Town Hall Conference Room  |  |                        |
| EMS Commission   | 2nd Wednesday  | 7:00 p.m.              |
| EMS Headquarters   |  |                        |
| Insurance Commission   | As Required  | 6:00 p.m.              |
| Library Conference Room  |  |                        |
| Library Board of Trustees  | 1st Monday   | 7:00 p.m.              |
| Library Conference Room  |  |                        |
| Park and Recreation Commission   | 1st Monday   | 6:30 p.m.              |
| Park and Recreation Office   |  |                        |
| Pension and Employee Benefits  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> or 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday - Bimonthly | 8:30 a.m.              |
| Town Hall Conference Room  |  |                        |
| Planning and Zoning Commission   | 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays           | 7:00 p.m.              |
| Town Hall Conference Room  |  |                        |
| Regional Board of Education  | Check www.eastonct.gov                                 | 7:00 p.m.              |
| Joel Barlow High School  |  |                        |
| Safety and Health Committee  | Quarterly  | 10:00 a.m.             |
| Library Conterence Room  |  |                        |
| Library Conference Room  |  | 1                      |
| Tax Relief for the Elderly   | As Required  |                        |
| Tax Relief for the Elderly           Senior Center   | ^  |                        |
| Tax Relief for the Elderly         Senior Center         Town Meeting (ANNUAL)   | As Required<br>Last Monday in April                    | 7:00 p.m.              |
| Tax Relief for the Elderly         Senior Center         Town Meeting (ANNUAL)         Samuel Staples Elementary School                                | Last Monday in April                                   |                        |
| Tax Relief for the Elderly         Senior Center         Town Meeting (ANNUAL)         Samuel Staples Elementary School         Town Meeting (SPECIAL) | ^  | 7:00 p.m.<br>7:00 p.m. |
| Tax Relief for the Elderly         Senior Center         Town Meeting (ANNUAL)   | Last Monday in April                                   |                        |



# FINANCIALS\*

\*For complete financial information, please visit the Town of Easton website: www.eastonct.gov



|  |    | Adopted<br>Budget<br>FY 2021/2022 |    | Adopted<br>Budget<br>FY 2022/2023 | \$ A | .mount Change<br><u>Prior Year</u> | % Change<br><u>Prior Year</u> |
|--|----|-----------------------------------|----|-----------------------------------|------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <u>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</u>                    |    |                                   |    |                                   |      |                                    |                               |
| TOWN CLERK                                   | \$ | 175,368                           | \$ | 185,477                           | \$   | 10,109                             | 5.8%                          |
| FIRST SELECTMAN                              |    | 162,368                           |    | 143,221                           |      | (19,147)                           | -11.8%                        |
| PROBATE COURT                                |    | 3,440                             |    | 3,432                             |      | (8)                                | -0.2%                         |
| ELECTIONS                                    |    | 74,598                            |    | 80,809                            |      | 6,211                              | 8.3%                          |
| BOARD OF FINANCE                             |    | 3,000                             |    | 3,000                             |      | 0                                  | 0.0%                          |
| AUDIT FEES                                   |    | 37,500                            |    | 39,000                            |      | 1,500                              | 4.0%                          |
| TREASURER                                    |    | 238,316                           |    | 241,526                           |      | 3,210                              | 1.3%                          |
| ASSESSOR                                     |    | 135,158                           |    | 145,136                           |      | 9,978                              | 7.4%                          |
| BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS<br>TAX COLLECTOR |    | 350<br>108,755                    |    | 900<br>113,638                    |      | 550<br>4,883                       | 157.1%<br>4.5%                |
| TOWN ATTORNEY                                |    | 108,755                           |    | 113,038                           |      | 4,005                              | 4.3 <i>%</i><br>0.0%          |
| PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION               |    | 126,953                           |    | 130,318                           |      | 3,365                              | 2.7%                          |
| ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS                      |    | 8,486                             |    | 8,112                             |      | (374)                              | -4.4%                         |
| BUILDING DEPARTMENT                          |    | 98,024                            |    | 72,140                            |      | (25,884)                           | -26.4%                        |
| TECHNOLOGY                                   |    | 42,000                            |    | 30,000                            |      | (12,000)                           | -28.6%                        |
| TOWN HALL                                    |    | 121,509                           |    | 127,294                           |      | 5,785                              | 4.8%                          |
| COMMISSION FOR ELDERLY                       |    | 67,262                            |    | 69,431                            |      | 2,169                              | 3.2%                          |
| SENIOR CENTER                                |    | 215,969                           |    | 227,520                           |      | 11,551                             | 5.3%                          |
| 660 MOREHOUSE - OLD SSS BUILDING             |    | 271,238                           |    | 277,141                           |      | 5,903                              | 2.2%                          |
| TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT                     | \$ | 1,990,294                         | \$ | 1,998,095                         | \$   | 7,801                              | 0.4%                          |
| PUBLIC SAFETY                                |    |                                   |    |                                   |      |                                    |                               |
| COMM. DISPATCHERS                            | \$ | 279,619                           | \$ | 300,806                           | \$   | 21,187                             | 7.6%                          |
| POLICE DEPARTMENT                            |    | 1,760,137                         |    | 1,896,689                         |      | 136,552                            | 7.8%                          |
| FIRE DEPARTMENT                              |    | 999,802                           |    | 934,491                           |      | (65,311)                           | -6.5%                         |
| FIRE MARSHAL                                 |    | 32,289                            |    | 37,971                            |      | 5,682                              | 17.6%                         |
| EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT                         |    | 30,319                            |    | 25,934                            |      | (4,385)                            | -14.5%                        |
| TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY                          | \$ | 3,102,166                         | \$ | 3,195,891                         | \$   | 93,725                             | 3.0%                          |
| <u>PUBLIC WORKS</u>                          |    |                                   |    |                                   |      |                                    |                               |
| RECYCLING FUND                               | \$ | 246,818                           | \$ | 243,515                           | \$   | (3,303)                            | -1.3%                         |
| PUBLIC WORKS HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT              |    | 1,892,958                         | *  | 1,993,269                         | Ŧ    | 100,311                            | 5.3%                          |
| STREET LIGHTS                                |    | 1,400                             |    | 1,400                             |      | 0                                  | 0.0%                          |
| ENGINEERING & PROF SERVICES                  |    | 18,980                            |    | 21,116                            |      | 2,136                              | 11.3%                         |
| TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS                           | \$ | 2,160,156                         | \$ | 2,259,300                         | \$   | 99,144                             | 4.6%                          |

| <u>HEALTH &amp; SANITATION</u>          | Adopted<br>Budget<br><u>FY 2021/2022</u> |                    | Adopted<br>Budget<br><u>FY 2022/2023</u> |                                       | \$ Amount Change<br><u>Prior Year</u> |                   | % Change<br><u>Prior Year</u> |  |
|---|--|--------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| HEALTH DEPARTMENT<br>EMS COMMISSION     | \$                                       | 120,000<br>347,985 | \$                                       | 125,000<br>380,796                    | \$                                    | 5,000<br>32,811   | 4.2%<br>9.4%                  |  |
| TOTAL PUBLIC HEALTH                     | \$                                       | 467,985            | \$                                       | 505,796                               | \$                                    | 37,811            | 8.1%                          |  |
| <b>OTHER DEPARTMENTS</b>                |  |                    |  |                                       |                                       |                   |                               |  |
| CONSERVATION COMMISSION                 | \$                                       | 43,916             | \$                                       | 45,555                                | \$                                    | 1,639             | 3.7%                          |  |
| SOCIAL SERVICE                          |  | 5,244              |  | 7,347                                 |                                       | 2,103             | 40.1%                         |  |
| LIBRARY                                 |  | 618,377            |  | 642,823                               |                                       | 24,446            | 4.0%                          |  |
| PARKS AND REC COMMISSION<br>TREE WARDEN |  | 384,748<br>20,110  |  | 399,893<br>17,186                     |                                       | 15,145<br>(2,924) | 3.9%<br>-14.5%                |  |
| FIREHOUSE RENT                          |  | 20,110<br>50,900   |  | 52,220                                |                                       | (2,924)           | -14.5%<br>2.6%                |  |
| CEMETERY                                |  | 1,220              |  | 1,220                                 |                                       | 1,520             | 2.0%                          |  |
| ANIMAL CONTROL                          |  | 81,092             |  | 90,088                                |                                       | 8,996             | 11.1%                         |  |
| TOTAL OTHER DEPARTMENTS                 | \$                                       |                    | \$                                       | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | \$                                    | 50,725            | 4.2%                          |  |
| <u>GENERAL</u>                          |  |                    |  |                                       |                                       |                   |                               |  |
| FRINGE BENEFITS                         | \$                                       | 1,556,659          | \$                                       | 1,535,602                             | \$                                    | (21,057)          | -1.4%                         |  |
| SOCIAL SECURITY & MEDICARE              |  | 490,833            |  | 540,750                               |                                       | 49,917            | 10.2%                         |  |
| CONTINGENCY                             |  | 125,000            |  | 100,000                               |                                       | (25,000)          | -20.0%                        |  |
| TOTAL GENERAL                           | \$                                       | 2,172,492          | \$                                       | 2,176,352                             | \$                                    | 3,860             | 0.2%                          |  |
| TOTAL NON EDUCATIONAL ACCOUNTS          | \$                                       | 11,098,700         | \$                                       | 11,391,766                            | \$                                    | 293,066           | 2.6%                          |  |
| TOWN'S CAPITAL                          |  | 797,650            |  | 876,149                               |                                       | 78,499            | 9.8%                          |  |
| DEBT SERVICE                            |  | 2,922,864          |  | 2,003,800                             |                                       | (919,064)         | -31.4%                        |  |
| PENSION COSTS                           |  | 1,249,500          |  | 1,016,100                             |                                       | (233,400)         | -18.7%                        |  |
| INSURANCE COSTS                         |  | 698,000            |  | 756,750                               |                                       | 58,750            | 8.4%                          |  |
| TOTAL TOWN ACCOUNTS                     | \$                                       | 16,766,714         | \$                                       | 16,044,565                            | \$                                    | (722,149)         | -4.3%                         |  |
| EDUCATIONAL ACCOUNTS                    |  |                    |  |                                       |                                       |                   |                               |  |
| EASTON BOE                              | \$                                       | 17,561,351         | \$                                       | 17,960,142                            | \$                                    | 398,791           | 2.3%                          |  |
| REGION 9 BOE                            | 4  | 11,921,320         |  | 12,716,910                            | •                                     | 795,590           | 6.7%                          |  |
| TOTAL EDUCATIONAL ACCOUNTS              | \$                                       | 29,482,671         | \$                                       | 30,677,052                            | \$                                    | 1,194,381         | 4.1%                          |  |
| TOTAL TOWN BUDGET                       | \$                                       | 46,249,385         | \$                                       | 46,721,617                            | \$                                    | 472,232           | 1.0%                          |  |
|   | φ  | 10,277,000         | ψ  | 10,721,017                            | Ψ                                     | :/2,202           | 1.0 /0                        |  |

# **RECEIPTS AND ESTIMATED TAX CALCULATION**

|  | Adopted<br>Budget<br><u>FY2021/2022</u> |    | Adopted<br>Budget<br><u>FY2022/2023</u> | % Change<br>Prior Year |
|--|---|----|---|------------------------|
| <u>RECEIPTS</u>                        |   |    |   |                        |
| PROPERTY TAXES                         |   |    |   |                        |
| CURRENT YEAR                           | \$<br>41,503,548                        | \$ | 41,649,526                              | 0.35%                  |
| PRIOR YEAR                             | 175,000                                 |    | 175,000                                 | 0.00%                  |
| INTEREST AND FEES                      | 120,000                                 |    | 120,000                                 | 0.00%                  |
| MOTOR VEHICLES - SUPPLEMENTAL          | 150,000                                 |    | 250,000                                 | 66.67%                 |
| TELEPHONE ACCESS                       | 14,409                                  |    | 14,409                                  | 0.00%                  |
| ELDERLY TAX RELIEF                     | (295,000)                               |    | (295,000)                               | 0.00%                  |
| STATE CIRCUIT BREAKER                  | (27,082)                                |    | (27,082)                                | 0.00%                  |
| SUB-TOTAL                              | \$<br>41,640,875                        | \$ | 41,886,853                              | 0.59%                  |
|  |   |    |   |                        |
| TOWN RECEIPTS                          | \$<br>1,269,700                         | \$ | 1,293,500                               | 1.87%                  |
| TREASURER INTEREST                     | 75,000                                  |    | 100,000                                 | 33.33%                 |
| STATE GRANTS                           | 513,810                                 |    | 491,264                                 | -4.39%                 |
| SURPLUS APPROPRIATED TO FINANCE BUDGET | 2,750,000                               |    | 2,950,000                               | 7.27%                  |
| SUB-TOTAL                              | \$<br>4,608,510                         | \$ | 4,834,764                               | 4.91%                  |
| TOTAL REVENUE                          | \$<br>46,249,385                        | \$ | 46,721,617                              | 1.02%                  |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES                     | \$<br>46,249,385                        | \$ | 46,721,617                              | 1.02%                  |
|  |   |    |   |                        |
| Tax Revenue Required                   | \$<br>41,503,548                        | \$ | 41,649,526                              | 0.35%                  |
| Collection Rate                        | 98.785%                                 |    | 98.785%                                 | 0.00%                  |
| Gross Revenue Required                 | 42,014,019                              |    | 42,161,793                              | 0.35%                  |
| Grand List                             | 1,298,879,767                           |    | 1,482,708,040                           | 14.15%                 |
| Tax Rate                               | 32.35                                   |    | 28.44                                   | -12.09%                |

## HISTORICAL FINANCIAL DATA

The following table and graphs show selected financial data for the past 10 years. The amounts for revenue and expenditures are actual amounts for each year. The financial data presented are:

**Property Taxes**: The total amount of taxes collected, including current and delinquent real estate, motor vehicle and personal property taxes, leans and interest. The data comes from the Required Supplementary Information section (RSI-1A) of the Town Financial Report.

**Other Revenue**: All other revenue collected by the town including intergovernmental grants, investment income, fees for town services such as building and zoning permits, health permits and Town Clerk recording fees. The data comes from the Required Supplementary Information section (RSI-1A) of the Town Financial Report.

**Education Expenditures (Easton & R9)**: Actual operating and capital expenditures for Samuel Staples Elementary School, Hellen Keller Middle School and the portion of the Region 9 School District budget allocated to Easton. The data comes from the Required Supplementary Information section (RSI-1B) of the Town Financial Report.

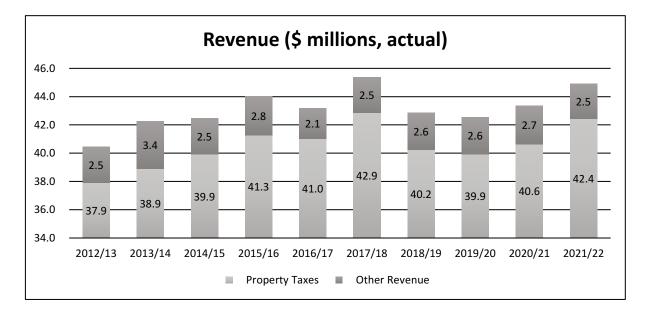
**Other Town Expenditures**: All other actual town expenditures (Police, Fire, Public Works, Parks & Rec, etc.) The data comes from the Required Supplementary Information section (RSI-1B) of the Town Financial Report.

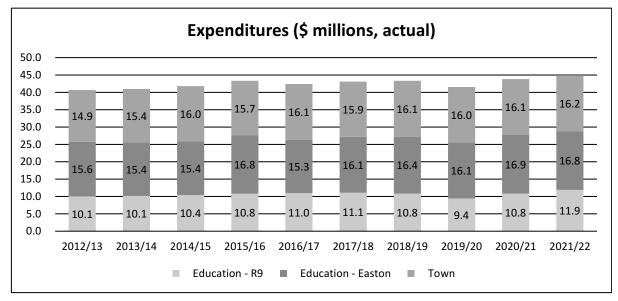
**Unassigned Fund Balance**: The portion of the Town's General Fund that is not assigned or committed to a budgeted item or otherwise restricted in its use. The Balance, and its percentage of total General Fund expenditures and transfers out, comes from the Financial Highlights section of the Management's Discussion and Analysis section of the Town Financial Report.

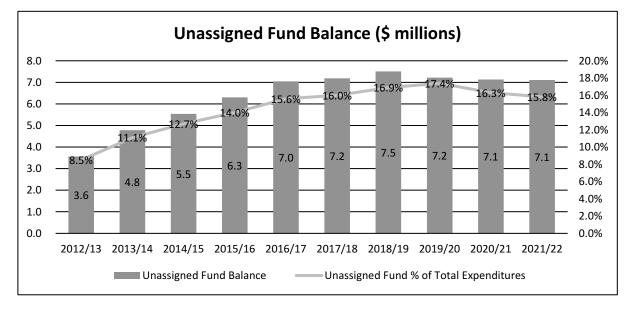
**Bonds and Notes Outstanding**: The total of all the Town's outstanding general obligation bonds plus the portion of the Region 9 School District general obligation debt to which the Town of Easton is obligated. The data comes from the Trend Information section of the Town Financial Report, Table 3 - "Direct and Overlapping Debt."

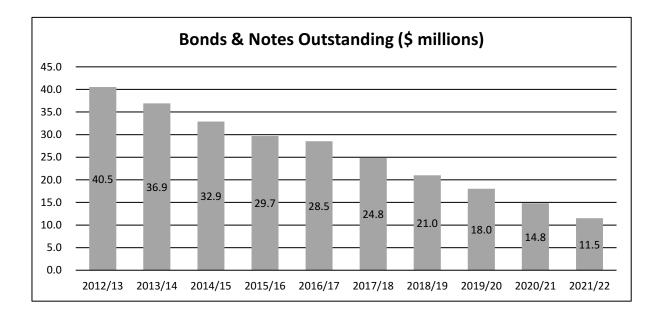
|                    | 2012/13 | 2013/14 | 2014/15 | 2015/16 | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 |
|--------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Revenue            |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
| Property Taxes     | 37.9    | 38.9    | 39.9    | 41.3    | 41.0    | 42.9    | 40.2    | 39.9    | 40.6    | 42.4    |
| Other Revenue      | 2.5     | 3.4     | 2.5     | 2.8     | 2.1     | 2.5     | 2.6     | 2.6     | 2.7     | 2.5     |
| Total Revenue      | 40.4    | 42.3    | 42.5    | 44.0    | 43.2    | 45.4    | 42.9    | 42.6    | 43.3    | 44.9    |
| Expenditures       |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
| Education - R9     | 10.1    | 10.1    | 10.4    | 10.8    | 11.0    | 11.1    | 10.8    | 9.4     | 10.8    | 11.9    |
| Education - East   | 15.6    | 15.4    | 15.4    | 16.8    | 15.3    | 16.1    | 16.4    | 16.1    | 16.9    | 16.8    |
| Town               | 14.9    | 15.4    | 16.0    | 15.7    | 16.1    | 15.9    | 16.1    | 16.0    | 16.1    | 16.2    |
| Total Expenditures | 40.7    | 41.0    | 41.8    | 43.3    | 42.4    | 43.1    | 43.3    | 41.5    | 43.8    | 44.9    |
| Unassigned Fund B  | 3.6     | 4.8     | 5.5     | 6.3     | 7.0     | 7.2     | 7.5     | 7.2     | 7.1     | 7.1     |
| Unassigned Fund    |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
| % of Total         | 8.5%    | 11.1%   | 12.7%   | 14.0%   | 15.6%   | 16.0%   | 16.9%   | 17.4%   | 16.3%   | 15.8%   |
| Expenditures       |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
| Bonds and Notes C  | 40.5    | 36.9    | 32.9    | 29.7    | 28.5    | 24.8    | 21.0    | 18.0    | 14.8    | 11.5    |
| Mill Rate          | 29.10   | 29.30   | 29.90   | 30.38   | 30.81   | 33.38   | 31.38   | 31.33   | 31.00   | 32.35   |

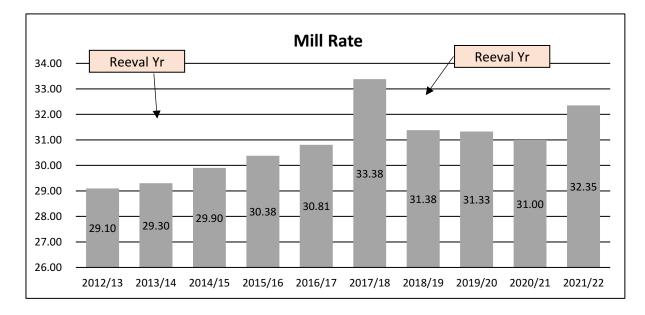
Mill Rate: As set by the Board of Finance each year. Property Tax = (Assessed Value/1000) x Mill Rate











# NOTES

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TOWN OF EASTON, CT 06612

