

# TOWN OF EASTON



## ANNUAL REPORT 2016

**ABOUT THE COVER**

**“Annual Fireman’s Carnival”**

**Sponsored by Easton Volunteer Fire Company**

*Photograph by Easton resident—Shannon Calvert, [www.hireimagination.com](http://www.hireimagination.com)*

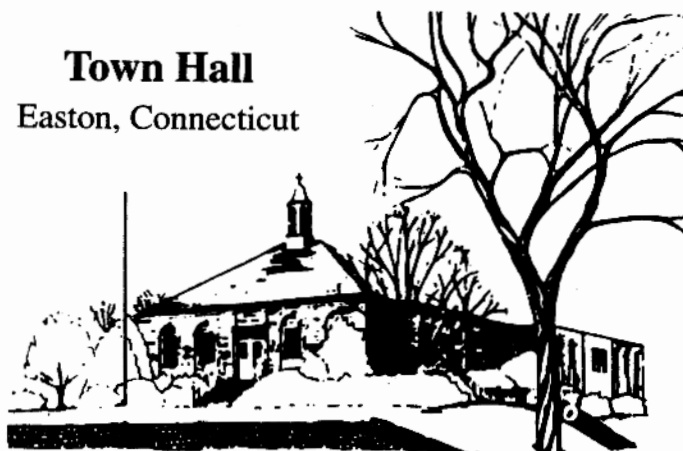


# **Town of Easton**

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## **ANNUAL REPORT**

**Town Hall**  
Easton, Connecticut



## **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, 2016 and some information by calendar year 2016. 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 Christine Calvert, who was responsible for the overall coordination and planning, and to Sophia Vournazos and Janet Haller for their assistance.

Matt Gachi- Chair  
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 superintend the concerns of the Town. The First Selectman is the Chief Executive Officer of the Town and an *ex officio* member of all Town Boards and Commissions. The Board of Selectmen typically meets the first and third Thursday of each month. In 2015-2016, with newly elected Selectman Carolyn Colangelo, the Board of Selectmen made numerous appointments to Town Boards and Commissions. The landscape of Easton faced many changes this year. The *Easton Pavilion* on Morehouse Road was completed offering families a place to picnic on sunny days and shelter when the sky turns grey. The Town said goodbye to three long-time employees with Bill Martin ~ Building Official, Josephine Stenqvist ~ Building Secretary and Althea Falco ~ Administrative Assistant to the First Selectman, welcoming their replacements; Tony Ballaro and Jenna Licursi in the Building Department and Janet Haller as Administrative Assistant to the First Selectman.

## TOWN CLERK REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS TOWN SEXTON

The Town Clerk plays a key role in delivering public service. As an impartial liaison between local government and the public, The Town Clerk is a valuable resource for communicating and ensuring transparency to the public regarding municipal information and records. As the official keeper of land records for the Town of Easton from the date of incorporation in 1845 to the present, the Town Clerk's Office links the past, present and future of Easton. The Secretary of State entrusts the Town Clerk with responsibility for public records, vital statistics, licensing and specific election duties. The office staff includes one Town Clerk (full-time) and two Assistant Town Clerks (one full-time and one part-time).

The responsibilities of the Easton Town Clerk's Office include:

- Maintain and provide access to public records as required by state law and regulations
- Record, index and preserve municipal land records, surveys, and maps
- Retain official records of ordinances, oaths, appointments and petitions
- Post public meeting notices, agendas and minutes
- Record trade names and military discharges
- Issue certificates of authority to justices of the peace and notary publics
- Keep official copies of town budgets, audits and annual reports
- Administer the oath of office to local elected and appointed officials
- Register, index and maintain original birth, marriage and death records
- Issue certified copies of vital statistics records, licenses, burial and cremation permits
- Act as filing repository for municipal office candidates' campaign finance statements
- Notify the Secretary of the State of campaign finance statement filing violations
- Issue new and renewal dog licenses with current rabies certification
- Issue Aquarion Water Company fishing and hiking permits
- Manage the Town's record management and records disposition program
- Maintain and organize the vault for maximization of space and use
- Convene the Annual Town Meeting, special town meetings and public hearings
- Update lists of elected and appointed members of town departments, boards and commissions
- Maintain the Town of Easton website [www.eastonct.gov](http://www.eastonct.gov)

The Town Clerk also works closely with the Registrars of Voters for all primaries, elections, and referenda held in the Town of Easton. Responsibilities include: issue, log and maintain absentee ballot applications; receive new voter registrations; prepare, distribute and deliver to the polls absentee ballots; and report results for elections and referenda. The Town of Easton in cooperation with the Town of Redding shares the Region 9 school district. Due to the continual changes in election laws and voting procedures, accuracy, alertness and knowledge are vital.

Below is a listing of various Town Clerk records for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016:

TYPE	NO. ISSUED
LAND RECORDS	1625
BIRTHS	48
MARRIAGES	24
DEATHS	25
BURIAL PERMITS	18
MAPS AND SURVEYS	21
TRADE NAME CERTIFICATES	22
MILITARY DISCHARGES	3
DOG LICENSES / KENNELS	1323 / 2
TRANSFERS OF PROPERTY	229
AQUARION FISHING PERMITS	23
SPORTSMAN LICENSES	Online only

We continually strive to improve services and keep the public informed. The Town Clerk office maintains the Town of Easton website and works with the other town departments to keep the information and links up-to-date, accessible and accurate. The town website adds significant work load to the



town clerk staff with the uploading of all meeting information, agendas, minutes and notices for all boards and commissions. This is done to keep the town's website safe and secure. The News and Event Calendars on the website list town associated activities, department notices and scheduled meeting information for local boards, committees and commissions. In an effort to provide a convenience to residents and increase compliance with licensing, dog license renewals are available online, by mail or in person. Land records and maps are online in a searchable database with indexes and images. Online index information is free of charge and a subscription service is available for images. E-recording services will be offered in the next fiscal year. Notary public services are free to residents and a fee of \$5 for non-residents. Resources for Justices of the Peace are available online and in the office. Recordings and licenses are received and processed daily until 4:00 p.m.

Town Clerk office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (except for legal holidays). Please refer to the Town of Easton website [www.eastonct.gov](http://www.eastonct.gov) for updated information regarding Town Hall departments and services, resources, board and commission meeting information, and Town news and announcements.

Assistant Town Clerks, Joan Kirk and Deborah Szegegi, and I are always interested in improving our services and accessibility of information. We are committed to serving our residents and customers with expertise, efficiency and a smile! It is a rewarding honor and sincere pleasure to serve Easton residents and visitors to our town as your Town Clerk.

Respectfully submitted,  
Christine Halloran  
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. In recent years this has been done in a challenging interest rate environment. The goals are to invest funds in anticipation of long term projects and capital needs and maximize investment income. The Fed's position of low interest rates has hindered the returns on investments. This is changing slowly, thankfully, but will also work to our disadvantage in the refinancing of the Bond Anticipation Notes (BAN) and bonding which has been at historic low rates. The Town of Easton 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. Grace Stanczyk, Town Comptroller, has maintained this process and is the steward of good accounting and budget practices and keeper of fiscal information not only for the Town but also for the department heads, employees and citizens of Easton. Grace is retiring at the end of this fiscal year and we cannot thank her enough for her contributions to the town.

Suzette Bryan in Human Resources has proven to be an asset and has evolved into the municipal environment, including adjusting to the challenges of new laws including the Affordable Care Act and all that it implies. Janet Haller has continued through most of the year, to process accounts payable and guiding visitors and citizens through the various town departments. We are lucky to have Sophia Vournazos in her position now and she is carrying on tremendously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Wendy Bowditch  
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; computes and records certificates of change and lawful corrections in accordance with Sec. 12-167(5); computes and issues prorated motor vehicle tax credits for vehicles that were sold, stolen, or totally damaged during the tax year in accordance with PA 82-459; coordinates activities with the Board of Tax Review; prepares paperwork for issuing tax



refunds in accordance with Sec. 12-129 and maintains all records of same; coordinates escrow payment systems with financial institutions holding mortgages on properties located in town; prepares revenue loss reports for the state regarding totally disabled, elderly freeze and circuit breaker state tax relief programs; administers the Town tax relief for elderly resident homeowners program according to Town ordinance; performs arithmetic computations with accuracy and maintains records in accordance with generally accepted accounting and bookkeeping practices and principles.

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

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

Tax bills on the October 1, 2014 grand list were issued at the rate of 30.38 mills, which is equivalent to \$30.38 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, 2015 and January 1, 2016. Motor vehicle taxes were due in full July 1, 2015. Supplemental motor vehicle taxes for newly acquired motor vehicles registered subsequent to October 1, 2014 were due in full January 1, 2016 in accordance with PA 77-343.

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

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

- a. Tax Collector's Report of Collections, Sec. 12-167(1-3). A total of \$41,285,752.30 in taxes, interest and lien fees was collected during fiscal year 2015-2016.
- 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 \$25,387.36 in additions, and 92,419.78 in deductions were made to the grand lists of 2006-2014.
- c. Report of transfers to suspense, Sec. 12-165 and 167, detailing list year, name, amount and reason. A total of \$49,373 was transferred to suspense from the grand lists 2000 through 2012.
- d. Report of refunds, Sec. 12-129, detailing list year, name, amount and reason. A total of refunds in the amount of \$28,939 on the grand lists of 2011-2014.
- e. Liens: 119 liens for unpaid real estate taxes on the 2014 grand list were filed on June 30, 2016 and July 7, 2016. Copies of these liens and all lien releases are on file in the town land records.

I thank the town for the opportunity to serve its taxpayers as Tax Collector since July 2016. I also express my appreciation to my predecessor, former Tax Collector and now the Town's Finance Director, Christine Calvert, as well as Meg Timlin, Assistant Tax Collector for the information and guidance they have provided thus far. I would also like to thank Jane Allen, our temporary help, for her professional and loyal support. Having previously worked as secretary to the Easton Conservation Commission, as well as Registrar of Voters, I look forward to serving the town in this new capacity as Tax Collector.

Respectfully submitted,  
Krista Kot, Tax Collector  
Margaret Timlin, Assistant Tax Collector

## TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT ON COLLECTIONS:

Fiscal Year Ending 6/30/2016  
(Conn. Gen. Stat. Sec. 12-167(1-3))

<u>List Year</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>1999-2013</u>
Total amount of unpaid taxes on each rate bill at start of fiscal year	\$40,418,818	\$1,462,910
Lawful corrections	-62,470	-4,562
Suspense	- 0 -	-49,373
Total amount collected on each rate bill during the fiscal year (tax, int., lien, legal)	T: 39,891,208 I: 104,292 L: 176	863,677 423,997 2,401
Total amount uncollected on each rate bill at end of fiscal year (excluding interest & liens)	\$465,139	\$545,297

## ASSESSOR

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

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

Revaluations are conducted every 5 years and the 10th year a physical inspection is required per State Statute. This is most difficult since the normal duties of the assessor's office and the work involved in performing the revaluation must be conducted concurrently.

The Assessor works with the Building Official and his office. Once a month the building department provides a list of building permits for the Assessor. The Assessor then proceeds to the property in question to measure any new construction a few times during the year. In addition to measuring, the Assessor also lists and values the property for tax purposes. Total values are equalized by the use of cost schedules and application of appraisal techniques. The valuation process requires skill, specialized training, experience and use of sound judgment. 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.

The Assessor and assistant coordinate with the Tax Collector and Town Clerk on any new changes in property ownership, foreclosure, etc., and records them on the owners field card and inputs all the information in the computer. 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, map book, street books and field cards are constantly updated as to changes of ownership and all changes are entered into the computer, and reported to the State.

During the tax year, the Assessor and assistant price and pro rate motor vehicles assessments for vehicles sold, stolen or totaled in accordance with section 12-71 and issue lawful certificates of correction when proof of sale, trade-in, or scraped, with a plate receipt 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 forms, the Assessors office prepares the forms for taxpayers on the circuit breaker and the office calculates the forms to be sent to the state for approval. When a tax payer sells their home or deeds it to a family member the exemption is then pro-rated. The Town tax relief for the elderly is also the responsibility of our office and can be applied for if elderly income complies with the Towns requirement.

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

The Assessors office implements all public Act 490 Farm. 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 farm or forest exemption to make sure that Taxpayers are complying with State Statutes.

Survey maps are updated yearly, and transferred onto the Assessors maps. The Assessor reads the A-2 survey maps and computes the acreage of a subdivision, and or survey to adjust the acreage. The property card is then updated or a new card created with a new address, corrections or additions. The Assessor then inputs the information in the computer for tax bills for the following year.

Services are provided to Town officials, departments, and/or commissions, surveyors, attorneys, title searchers, real estate appraisers, F.B.I., United States Internal Revenue Services, etc. Streets and addresses are updated for the Office of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications for the Department

of Public Safety Division of Fire, Emergency, and Building Services. New streets and house numbers are checked for correction and 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.

## **SUMMARY OF 2015 AND 2016 GRAND LIST**

### **NET VALUE OF TAXABLE PROPERTY**

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Real Estate	\$1,243,777,920	\$1,186,203,770	-57,574,150
Personal Property	15,838,244	16,034,568	+196,324
Motor Vehicles	<u>77,387,965</u>	<u>78,393,790</u>	<u>- 1,005,825</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,337,004,129</b>	<b>\$1,280,632,128</b>	<b>-56,372,001</b>

Teresa Rainieri, CCMA II  
ASSESSOR

## **REGISTRAR OF VOTERS**

The Registrars of Voters, one Democrat and one Republican, are elected state officials whose charge is to guarantee and preserve the voting rights of the citizens of their town in a fair and equitable manner. Upon their election, each Registrar appoints a Deputy who assists their respective Registrar in the performance of his or her duties. Krista Kot who had served as the Republican Registrar took over the role of Tax Collector on July 8th, 2016, so Vincent Caprio was appointed and took over the position of Republican Registrar. David Smith continues to serve as the Democratic Registrar, but both serve the public in an apolitical manner to ensure a fair and non-partisan experience for everyone. Jim Bromer serves ably as Deputy Registrar as he has done for many years.

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

Although the advent of the scanning tabulator and procedure for its use has made the voting process much more efficient, technical training and reporting responsibilities, as well as changes and additions to the regulations and statutes have increased the workload of the election staff, especially for the moderators.

All involved in the voting process served well in what was another busy year at the polls, with the Municipal Election on November 3rd, 2015, a Presidential Primary on April 26th, 2016, and the Town Budget Referendum on May 7th, 2016. We wish to acknowledge Jeanne Fones, and Victor George, who served as election moderators for the Primary, Referendum, and the Municipal Election. We are so appreciative of the dedicated election staff that worked the long hours of each of the votes. Their diligent work ensured that all electors were able to exercise their right to vote, and that all votes were accurately counted.

A total of 4595 ballots were cast for the November 8th, 2016 Presidential Election, representing an 80.73 turnout of eligible voters. Hillary Clinton received 2203 votes to Donald Trump's total of 2131.

There had been an influx of voter registrations in the three months prior to the election that reflected itself in the outpouring of electors for the Election. The number of Election Day Registrations (EDR) increased significantly this year. By the end of 2016, there were 5673 registered voters in Easton, representing 1835 Republicans, 1404 Democrats, 2371 unaffiliated, with the remainder split among a number of minor parties.

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.

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>. The Registrars periodically hold voter registration sessions at Joel Barlow High School. We also hold special sessions, at the Town Hall, throughout the year for the registration of new voters, and comply with Connecticut General Statutes Section 9-32, which requires us to conduct an annual canvass of the town to ascertain the number of eligible voters. This canvass is conducted between January and May and is important in helping to maintain an accurate voter list. We encourage everyone contacted to respond to the inquiry to maintain their voting rights. Election Day Registration (EDR) is held in our office, to enable newly eligible voters to register and vote on Election Day.

The Registrars' Office is located in Town Hall and is open on Mondays, from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., and Fridays from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. The Registrars are ably assisted by Assistant Registrars James Bromer and Nathalie Taranto. Either Registrar or the Assistant Registrar will gladly assist town residents with any voter registration or voting issue, regardless of party affiliation.

We encourage residents to contact the Registrars' Office if they would like to participate as poll workers for upcoming

elections. If you would like to participate, please email the office at [Voters@eastonct.gov](mailto:Voters@eastonct.gov) or call 203-268-6291 Ext. 170 or 171.

Respectfully submitted,  
David Smith, Democratic Registrar  
Vincent Caprio, Republican Registrar

## BUILDING DEPARTMENT

The Building Department has been working diligently this year to start to close the many open permits that have been hanging over the department for years. Unfortunately most of the permits are not discovered until the residence goes on the market and the title search is performed. It is very important for homeowners make sure that when a contractor pulls a permit to do work they also close that permit.

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

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

The Building Department is open Monday – Friday 8:30 - 12:30, 1:00 - 4:30

The Building Official's Office Hours are Monday – Friday 8:30 - 10:00 and 2:30 - 4:00

Permits are accepted 8:30 – 12:00 Daily

Research files and requests for copies must be made in person Monday – Wednesday and Friday 1:00 – 4:00pm

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.

The Connecticut General Statutes 29-252-1a, adopts as a reference code to the 2016 Connecticut State Building Code; 2012 IRC International Residential Code, 2012 IBC International Building Code, 2012 IPC International Plumbing Code, 2012 IMC International Mechanical Code, 2012 IECC International Energy Conservation Code, 2012 IEBC International Existing Building Code, ICC A117.1 2009 Accessible Building Code, 2014 NEC National Electric Code and their amendments.

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

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 to visit the department with their building problems and questions.

Respectfully submitted,  
Anthony C. Ballaro  
Building Official

<b><u>Building &amp; Zoning Permits</u></b> <b>2015/2016</b>	<b><u>Permits</u></b> <b>Totals</b>	<b><u>Estimated Value</u></b> <b>Totals</b>
New Residences	7	\$3,685,022.00
Additions, Alterations & Repairs to Existing Buildings	149	\$5,514,168.00
New Non-Res. Structures (ie. barns, garages, etc.)	24	\$474,858.00
Swimming Pools	12	\$511,800.00
Affordable Housing	0	
Caretakers	0	
Tennis Courts	0	
Wood Stoves	5	\$21,343.00
Demolition	5	\$23,165.00
Solar	9	\$127,058.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	211	\$10,357,414.00
Electrical	180	\$17,290.00
Plumbing	115	\$8,915.00
Heating & Air Conditioning	82	\$12,101.00
Tanks, ie. oil etc.	58	\$5,360.00
Building	211	\$110,647.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	646	\$154,313.00

## 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, elderly state and town tax relief, 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 and Outreach Worker, Pam Healy. Lists of caregivers and private health care agencies are available as well as a list of repair people whose work has been recommended by Easton residents. Easton seniors and their families make the decisions to hire services of their own choosing.

The Outreach Worker is available to visit homebound seniors or any senior who welcomes a friendly visit. She is an extension to the Municipal Agent and provides valuable information. She possesses a warm personality and wonderful listening skills. Our seniors have known Pam for over two decades and cherish her visits. She works in conjunction with the Municipal Agent.

Where appropriate, Fuel Assistance applications are filed by appointment only from October 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 ABCD, Inc. website <http://www.abcd.org/energy.html>

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.benefitscheckup.org](http://www.benefitscheckup.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 and Outreach Worker identify 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 or August). The Chairman is Joel Peskay.

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 [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov) or one can visit the local Social Security Administration office located at 3885 Main Street in Bridgeport, CT 06608 or call S.S.A. at either 1-866-331-6399 or 1-800-772-1213.

The Municipal Agent has office hours from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Monday through Friday. 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](mailto:awitherbee@eastonct.gov)

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

## EASTON SENIOR CENTER

This report is dedicated to volunteers Jackie Reck and Margaret Zelisko, who recently died and are sorely missed. We were also extremely sad to note the passing of our Senior Center, Inc. Treasurer, Walter Eastwood. Many volunteers like Jackie, Margaret, and Walter dedicated long periods of time in their lives to the Easton Senior Center. During the course of each calendar year, these are the folks who have worked incredibly long hours for our charitable group, the Easton Senior Citizens' Center, Inc. Time after time they organized several Tag sales, Silent Auctions and special events for the purpose of providing funds for many special senior programs. The Center could not succeed without them. Our Charitable group donates 100% of the funds collected for our Senior Programs.

This year Ron Berry has been appointed Chairman of the Incorporated Fundraising group and Mary Ann Freeman has accepted the position of the Chairwoman of the Easton Senior Center Advisory Board. Their hard work and enthusiasm help to provide a firm foundation for all the successful programs organized for not only Easton seniors, but also for other seniors in the region. To assist the regional aspect of the center, we have been fortunate to receive the assistance of State Senator, Tony Hwang, in pursuing a state grant, to purchase a generator, so that we can establish both a warming and cooling center for times when there is an electrical outage in the neighborhoods.

Our monthly newsletter is "filled to the brim" with exciting things to do. Our center has established several new and invigorating programs this year. Zumba, Weight Lifting, History, and Art Seminars are now and everyday part of our curriculum. We have also presented monthly movie specials, providing a lunch or snack. They have become exceptionally popular. Our music programs provide inspiration from Broadway stars to University Professors, who share their knowledge of Classical composers and special events, such as,

music of the Fifties and Sixties. These have become a requested necessity for each special holiday or seasonal celebration during the year.

We continue to expand our Health Programs and stress continually the wellness aspect of our educational seminars and services. From cholesterol and sugar testing to Mammography and Blood Pressure checkups, we encourage seniors in the region to stay fit on a daily basis. In fact, we now have Zumba, Balance and Stretch, Tai Chi, Yoga and much more so that you can stay healthy and invigorated.

Our transportation is the envy of the region. With the assistance of the exceptional drivers, Randy Shapiro and Herbie Torres, and two state grants, we continue to provide transportation 24/7 for not only the homebound but for physically impaired adults of all ages. Our profound thanks, once again, for all the community donations and efforts on our behalf. Special kudos to our staff, Assistant Director, Kay Oestreicher, Van Drivers, Randy and Herbie, Custodians, Terry and Diana, for keeping our center running smoothly. Thanks for making our life so much easier.

Val Buckley, Director  
Mary Ann Freeman and the Advisory Board  
Ron Berry and the Easton Senior Center Inc. Board

## HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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

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

We are seeing an increase in rental homes and are now dealing with tenant/landlord issues on a regular basis. In addition, we are noticing a number of illegal bed and breakfasts and “vacation rentals by owner” that will need to be addressed by a number of town agencies from a zoning, health, and safety standpoint.

We worked closely this year with the First Selectman Adam Dunsby, Ed Nagy and Bruce Bombero from the Public Works Department, the Board of Education, and both the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health and the Department of Energy and Environment Protection to successfully resolve the septic permit issues at Samuel Staples Elementary School.

We have again seen a substantial increase in the number of temporary food service applications, as local organizations sponsor events that involve the serving of food to the public.

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

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

## 2015/2016 HEALTH PERMITS

<u>HEALTH PERMITS</u>	<u>Permits Totals</u>	<u>Fee Totals</u>
SEPTIC (NEW)	9	\$3,100.00
SEPTIC (REPAIR)	26	\$5,175.00
SEPTIC (REVIEW)	87	\$8,475.00
WELLS	18	\$2,850.00
SOIL TEST	31	\$6,775.00
FOOD SERVICE	24	\$3,150.00
TEMP. FOOD SERVICE	<u>19</u>	<u>\$1,400.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>\$30,925.00</b>



# ***PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT***

## **EASTON PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

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

The department's duties include: snow and ice removal during the winter season; street sweeping; pot hole repairs; roadside mowing; guide rail repairs; installation and repair of street and traffic signs; tree and brush removal; installation and repair of curbing; and maintaining Town bridges, 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 construction, repair and maintenance, the department is most always in people's minds when snow and icy roads occur. Easton had a total of 33" inches of snowfall, which required the Department to plow on 5 different occasions. Sanding of the Town roads occurred 12 times consuming 2,052 tons of sand and salt mixture in the process.

The Public Works Department's spring and summer months are used to prepare roads that will be involved in the Town's chip sealing program for that year. Included in the preparation of the roads are brush cutting, grading back the road edges, removal of boulders from under the existing pavement, patching of these holes, installation of any needed drainage or repairs to existing drainage, sweeping of the road and the application of a leveling course of 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, 7.54 miles of road were involved in this program, with the use of 41,315 gallons of road oil.

This past year the department's drainage program entailed:

4	New catch basins were installed
14	Catch basins were repaired or rebuilt
120	Feet of 18" storm pipe drainage was installed
48	Feet of 24" storm pipe drainage was installed
144	Feet of 30" storm pipe drainage was installed
184	Feet of 36" storm pipe drainage was installed
40	Feet of 54" storm pipe drainage was installed

The department takes care of all street and traffic control signs on the Town's roads. This past year saw 35 new signs and posts installed and 16 signs repaired or replaced.

The section of Center Road, from Morehouse Road to #114 Center Road and the east section of Judd Road from Route 59

to the Easton/Monroe Town line were upgraded by rebuilding catch basins, milling the pavement and then paved with hot mix asphalt.

In April, 2016, as the department was preparing to start maintenance repairs to the South Park Avenue Bridge #04213 by Riverside Lane, it was noticed that the bridge decking had deteriorated more since the last inspection. A State D.O.T. bridge inspector was called to inspect and give us direction. The bridge was temporarily closed to traffic.

The inspector advised the department to call an engineering firm to inspect and give recommendations and a load rating. After a review, by a structural engineering firm, it was determined that the center of the bridge was in good condition and it could be reopened as a one lane bridge with traffic using an alternating stop and go pattern. A replacement bridge is in the design phase at this time.

The Town's crew helped in preparing the site for the new Pavilion at Samuel Staples Elementary School, providing excavation, forming and pouring concrete pillars and concrete slab. The dedication was held on July 21, 2016.

The Town received a \$10,000 State Grant to install an Electric Vehicle Charging station in the Library parking lot for residents/visitors use for the charging of their eco-friendly "electric" vehicles.

The Town purchased a new utility body pickup truck with snow plow and a new tandem axle dump truck with snow plow.

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

Applications for 43 driveway permits and 16 road-opening permits brought in \$1,475 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 2,438 hours of work throughout the Town in unison with the Park and Recreation Department, Board of Education, Town Hall, Library, Easton Police Department, Animal Control, Easton Fire Department, EMS and the Conservation Commission.

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

# ***BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS***

## **BOARD OF FINANCE**

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

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

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

The 2015-2016 Town Budget in the amount of \$42,943,005 included appropriations of \$16,553,312 (includes Debt Service) in the Selectman's accounts, \$15,581,592 for the Easton Board of Education, and \$10,808,101 for the Region 9 Board of Education. On the basis of a Grand List of \$1,330,424,935 the Board set a tax rate of 30.38 mills for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. In addition, on January 25, 2016 a special town meeting was held whereby a special appropriation was approved to allocate \$1,200,000 to the Easton Board of Education to cover the shortfall in the Internal Service Fund for health insurance claims.

Respectively Submitted by  
Matthew Gachi, Chair-Board of Finance

## **BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS**

The Board of Assessment Appeals met for public sessions in fiscal years 2015-2016 during the month of March. In September the Board of Assessment Appeals also met for the 2015 Motor Vehicle appeals.

The March sessions were for taxpayers with a grievance on their Personal Property or Real Estate Property 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.

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

Lori Mezes, Chairman

Board Members:  
John Miranda  
Gloria Kovac

## **PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION**

In its role of planning for the future of our community the Easton Planning and Zoning Commission focused on several major initiatives during the 2015-2016 period.

July 2015 marked the inception of a program to prepare the Town's second comprehensive Plan of Conservation and Development. The present Town Plan, adopted in July 2007, has served the Town well but is required by the General Statutes to be updated decennially, by mid 2017.

The existing Zoning Regulations of Easton were first enacted in 1941. Over the past three-quarters of a century the regulations have evolved, through countless amendments, into a disorganized and out-of-date document poorly suited to Easton's present and future needs. In September 2015 the Commission engaged a special consultant, Planimetrics Inc., to rewrite and reorganize the entire zoning regulations document for consistency with the Town Plan, with current case law, and for administrative clarity. The draft revised regulations were presented at a public information meeting in June 2016. Work on this project continues, under Commission guidance, and the proposed regulations are expected to be brought to public hearing in June or July 2017.

During the months of January through May 2016 the Commission conducted a series of public policy conferences with Town Officials, Boards, Commissions and civic organizations for perspective on Town needs and goals. The participants in these meetings included the Board of Selectmen, the Conservation Commission, the Parks and Recreation Commission, the Board of Education and Schools Administration, the Agricultural Commission, and representatives of the Easton Garden Club, the Historical Society, the Senior Center and Municipal Agent, and others. The comments and recommendations produced by these meetings were compiled in a summary of desirable policy recommendations for the Commission and have guided the initial research and draft of the 2017 Town Plan. During the course of the 2015-2016 fiscal year progress has been made in research on land use, population, and GIS base mapping for the Town.

An important goal of the 2006-2007 Town Plan was reached in the Fall of 2015 with completion of a long-range master plan for the Town's "Morehouse Civic Park". Encompassing the entire 127-acre Town-owned tract at Banks and Morehouse Roads, the plan provides for educational and cultural uses

(Staples School, athletic fields, hiking trails, outdoor classrooms), a range of active recreation facilities, a community-events meadow, and an extensive natural open space forest area along Cricker Brook. Also on the site, supported by special commission studies, are an animal-control shelter, a wireless tower site to enhance local mobile communications, and a field of solar power arrays to provide low-cost energy to Town facilities. After required referrals and public hearing, the plan, was adopted on December 5, 2015 as an addendum to the Town Plan.

In the Spring of 2016 the Commission responded to a request from the Board of Selectmen for advice as to the town's need for age-restricted housing, which asked whether the Town-owned 19.6 acre property at 18-22 South Park Avenue would be an appropriate site. The Commission's report, forwarded to the Board in June 2016, analyzed the site's characteristics and proposed a plan for a low-density residential village of 17 single-family-style homes capable of accommodating 68-70 seniors. The plan would preserve the entire lowland along the Mill River as open space. The future of this Town asset remains unresolved.

Easton has a unique, and vital, responsibility in this populous region to plan for the pure drinking water supply and environmental greenspace on which the health and economy of the whole region depends. The fundamental policies of the present Town Plan, therefore, will continue to underlie the Town Plan of 2016-2017. The Town's long-term goals must be to sustain the environmental quality of the town, especially in its water supply watersheds, to guide new development for consistency with the town's low-density residential character, and to plan for growth in the civic life of the community.

The Commission continued to meet with representatives of the Agricultural Commission of the Town and resolved to pursue a future strategy for preservation of the remaining farmland in Easton. The Town Plan of Conservation and Development 2017 will include recommendations to conserve and encourage family-scale agriculture as an element in sustaining Easton's rural heritage and conservation of its open space.

The Board of Selectmen submitted an advisory referral during the year to locate a school bus depot on town-owned property, for location at the Helen Keller Middle School site or on the town-owned Morehouse Road property. Neither of these projects has been endorsed by the Commission.

Due to a new Public Act regarding the "Discontinuance of Highways and Private Ways by Municipalities: the Commission revisited its report to the Board of Selectmen in May of 2003 proposing the discontinuance of abandoned highways. The Commission concentrated on the discontinuance of 8 or 9 of the sixteen unused or abandoned highways. No action was taken during the fiscal year.

One Scenic Road alteration request, for a new dwelling driveway on Burr Street, was approved by the Commission. There was but one application for special permit during this period. An Application for Amendment to an existing Special Permit by Aquarion Water Company proposed improvements to lighting at their Water Treatment Facility located at 35 Buck Hill Road. The Original special permit had been granted in

1989. After several meetings the application was determined by the Commission to be a minor amendment and therefore, no public hearing would be required. The application was unanimously approved in accordance with Section 7.2.5 of the Easton Zoning Regulations as an improvement to the existing lighting which would not adversely affect the neighborhood.

There was one application submitted in June of 2015 for a change of use of a barn located on Westport Road to create additional living quarters for a caretakers apartment which was ultimately approved in September of 2015 subject to annual verification that the occupant is a non-family member.

There were four subdivision applications before the Commission during the fiscal year. An amendment to a subdivision off Maple Road proposed changes in lot lines and an additional common access driveway; this application was approved by the Commission. One application off West Wind Road was withdrawn after several public hearings due to problems with a common accessway. Two subdivision applications were modified and approved. One of these applications involved a combined property located between Beers Road and Far Horizons Drive which proposed four new lots off a common driveway accessway from Far Horizons Drive. This subdivision was approved but lapsed in November of 2016. The other subdivision was a resubdivision at 17 Adirondack Trail on two adjacent properties, creating one additional lot. After several meetings this application was modified and approved in October 2016.

Several lessor land use issues were before the Commission during the fiscal year. These included a requested amendment to the Zoning Regulations to authorize occasional social and cultural events sponsored by residential homeowners for benefit to the community. This proposed amendment was forwarded to the Consultant preparing the draft update of the Zoning Regulations. The Commission also addressed, at several meetings, the additional parking being constructed on Aspectuck Land Trust preserves off Freeborn Road, as well as expanded parking areas for the Jump Hill Preserve and the Trout Brook Preserve off Wells Hill Road.

Enforcement action was undertaken by the Commission against several large-scale wood processing operations functioning illegally at various locations, the construction of sheds without permits, and other infractions.

A total of 120 zoning permits were issued during the year, seven permits of which were for new dwellings. Reflecting the electric power failures of the last few years, 27 of these permits were for residential electric generators.

For the calendar year 2016 the Commission met at 6:30pm for its January through April meetings, to receive public input during the first half hour, for the update of the Town Plan of Conservation and Development. The Meetings scheduled for May through December 2016 started at the customary hour of 7:00pm. Four of its approximately twenty-four meetings were reserved for discussion of planning issues. The Commission held 24 regular meetings and 2 special meetings during the fiscal year.

The Commission encourages citizen participation in the planning process and customarily reserves the first one-half hour of each of its regular meetings during the year for scheduled appointments.

Regular Meetings of the Commission are typically scheduled for the second and fourth Mondays of each month, at 7:00PM, with public hearings usually commencing at 7:30PM, and are usually held at the Town Hall Conference Room, unless otherwise noted. Inquiries on development questions may be directed to the Commission staff on any weekday during regular hours at the Town Hall.

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Robert Maquat, Chairman

## **ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

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

During the fiscal year 2015-2016 the Zoning Board of Appeals met in session on three occasions and heard 2 appeals of which two applications for variances were approved. The third meeting involved the discussion of potential ramifications in case law involving the Town of Fairfield, E & F Associates, LLC v. Zoning Board of Appeals of Fairfield.

John Harris, Chairman

## **CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

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

As the Inland Wetlands Agency, 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 fiscal year of July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016, twelve Inland Wetlands applications were received, eleven were approved and one was denied. One Determination of Wetland Impact (DWI) was made, and two permit extensions were granted. The Wetlands Enforcement Officer issued six violation notices and lifted three. Periodically the Commission also receives pesticide application notices and notification from neighboring municipalities of projects within 500 feet of the town line.

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. In preparation to update the 1994 Open Space Plan, the Commission updated the Town's Open Space Map to include land owned by the Town, the State, Aquarion and the Aspetuck Land Trust. Updating the 1994 Open Space Plan is expected to be completed in September 2016. In addition, the office maintains a list of recorded Conservation Easements of private property owners. The Commission continues to work 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. The Commission also renders comments to Planning and Zoning on certain applications or issues when requested.

Currently, the Town owns 637 acres of town-managed open space areas including easements with the single largest piece being the Paine Open Space property on Maple Road. Member Steve Corti, as well as the Aspetuck Land Trust trail stewards, headed by Michael Wallace, have worked diligently to maintain the existing trails and create additional trails for the enjoyment of those who visit this beautiful area. .

The Commission thanks Mr. Wallace and the stewards for their dedication to help the upkeep of the Town's open space properties.

The Members also thank Peter Smith, a resident, who continues to help maintain the upper field at Paine at no charge.

Additional thanks go to the Department of Public Works (DPW), headed by Ed Nagy, Director of Public Works, for their ongoing assistance at Paine Open Space.

The Commission continues to work on different projects relating to open space properties. First and foremost will be the completion of the updated Open Space Plan. Other projects include trail markings and further promoting public awareness of the Paine property.

The Commission welcomed one new alternate, Jamie Weinstein .

The Commission is looking forward to another productive year. With Easton's best interests in mind, the Commission is



dedicated to help preserving and protecting its wetlands and waterways, as well as encouraging its residents' enjoyment of their surroundings.

The Conservation Office is open daily from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and our phone number is 203-268-6291, Ext. 123.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dori Wollen, Chair

Officers for the Easton Conservation Commission:  
Dori Wollen, Chair  
Catherine Alfandre, Vice Chair  
Steven Hume, Secretary

## COMMISSION FOR THE AGING

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

The Commission shall:

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

The Town may make appropriations for the expenses of the Commission and may, with approval of the board of Selectmen, participate in State, Federal and private programs and grants concerning the elderly. The Commission is authorized and empowered to accept gifts or contribution for any of its purposes and shall administer the same for such purposes in accordance with the term of the gift as a separate fund subject to appropriations approved by the Board of Finance.

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

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

Commission members are Chair, Joel Peskay, Gail Gay, Phyllis Machledt, Lisa Tasi and Mary Pajonas. Alternates- Karen Martin, Linda Dollard.

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

Easton Park and Recreation was excited to open its first ever Dog Park located at 366 Sport Hill Road. The new Dog Park features a fenced in area for all dogs, benches, along with dispenser and doggie clean up bags. A Dog Park was asked for by the Easton community, and we were very glad to offer this new destination to all of our four-legged friends and families. We are currently looking for a larger space to reallocate the current Dog Park after the overwhelming response from the Easton residents.

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

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

The Easton Park and Recreation Department opened The Easton Arts Center which has grown in abundance. It is a place where children can be creative in an encouraging environment and have the freedom to be expressive through art. They work independently in a supportive environment at the Morehouse Road location.

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

Members of the Park and Recreation Commission are: John Broadbin – Chairman, Tom Cable, Kirsten Ceva, Phil Tamallanca, Dave Gombos, Anthony Martinich and Ray Longo.

## INSURANCE COMMISSION

### TOWN OF EASTON INSURANCE SCHEDULE 7/01/15 - 6/30/16

#### Commercial Property Coverage

Blanket Building & Contents	
Agreed Amount and Replacement	\$84,083,779
Contractor's Equipment	701,656
Fine Arts - Exhibition Floater	200,000
Deductible	1,000

<u>Commercial General Liability</u>	Each occurrence	\$ 1,000,000/3,000,000
Personal Injury/Advertising Injury	Each occurrence	\$ 1,000,000
Medical Expense	Each person	\$ 10,000

<u>Equipment Breakdown</u>	\$100,000,000
Deductible	\$ 2,500

#### Commercial Automobile

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

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

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

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

<u>Following-Form Excess Liability</u>	\$10,000,000
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<u>Pollution Liability</u> (Underground Oil Tanks)	per release	\$ 1,000,000
Deductible	per release	10,000
(location 3)	per release	25,000

#### Workers' Compensation & Employer Liability Statutory

Exp. Mod. 1.19	
Employer's Liability	
Each Accident	\$1,000,000
Disease - Policy Limit	\$1,000,000
Disease - Each Employee	\$1,000,000

#### Blanket Public Employee Dishonesty Bond \$ 500,000

Excess Position Limit for:	\$ 100,000
Treasurer	
Comptroller	
Accounts Payable/Receptionist	
Human Resources/Comp. Coordinator	
Retirement Plan Bond	\$1,000,000
Surety Bonds	
Tax Collector	\$ 187,500
Assistant Tax Collector	\$ 187,500

<u>Cyber Liability</u>	per occurrence	\$1,000,000/2,000,000
Retention	per loss	\$ 10,000

The Insurance Commission is happy to report that in the 2015-2016 budget year we continued the downtrend in workmen's compensation claims that had caused problems for us in the past. Our Insurance company CIRMA has been instrumental in helping us to institute education and workplace reforms that hopefully will continue this downtrend. First Selectman Adam Dunsby has played a pivotal role in working with the management at CIRMA to achieve and further this objective of our commission. It remains our aim to bring the costs of insuring the Town of Easton to a lower level while still protecting the safety of all employees and properties.

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 Adam Dunsby, Chairman Alan P. Goldbecker, Vice-chairman A. Reynolds Gordon, David Bussolatta, John Harrington, John Smith, Marvin Gelfand and Chris Neubert.

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

The assets of the pension plan continue to be invested in domestic and international stocks and fixed income securities. The overall investment performance of the pension fund assets have performed in line with a multi-asset class diversified portfolio. The Town's pension obligations at July 1, 2016 were 86.9% funded.

Effective July 1, 2013 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.

In 2009 the state unilaterally and dramatically enhanced pension benefits for state sponsored pension plans. The same benefits were requested by town employees. Resolution was reached by adopting much of the greatly enhanced benefits with increased contributions from the Town and Town employees. Current and future costs of the enhanced benefits should increase at a moderate rate. Increase in costs of the Town's group health insurance program have moderated due to pressure from competitive bidding. Future costs are expected to rise as a result of the passage of the Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act.

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Alan P. Goldbecker, Chairman

## **EASTON ENERGY TASK FORCE**

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

Some of the Task Force's activities in 2015-16 included:

- Completion of a 300kw solar installation at Samuel Staples Elementary School. This installation (990 panels) is exceeding projections, generating more than half of the school's electricity.
- Completion of a grant-funded detailed energy audit of Helen Keller Middle School, which identified three priority energy improvements.
- Coordinating the state grant-funded installation of an Electric Vehicle Charging Station in the Public Library parking lot.
- Continuing data entry and use of the EPA's Portfolio Manager system to track energy usage and costs in all municipal buildings.
- Organizing a town-wide Electronics Recycling event that generated more than 24,000 pounds of recyclable material from town residents.
- Initiating a series of "Green Spotlight" articles in the Easton Courier to highlight energy-related topics and issues of interest to the entire Easton community.

In October 2015, Easton received a special recognition award from the State Clean Energy Communities program.

In the coming year, the Task Force will encourage further municipal action to reduce energy consumption and to expand renewable energy at Samuel Staples Elementary School.

The 2015-16 task force members were: Cathy Alfandre (Chair), Heidi Armster, Carroll Brooke, Katie Callahan, and Regina McNamara.

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), Victor Alfandre (Secretary), Laurel Fedor, Sal Gilbertie, Irv Silverman, and alternates Lori Cochran Dougall and Ray Longo.

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

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

- Work to understand needs of the local farmers in order to support success, increase economic viability, and the future of agriculture in Easton.
- Keep current with agricultural grant opportunities and educational programming/vocational/business training available to Easton farmers and communicate these offerings through the enhanced self-serve portal through the Agricultural Commission page of Town of Easton website.
- Established working relationships with other Connecticut Ag Commissions, federal and state level agricultural organizations, our Easton Planning and Zoning commission, and other Easton town commissions and committees, to help identify issues and concerns relating to planning for and supporting agriculture in Easton. Research, best practices, and other resources for planning for agriculture in Connecticut municipalities offered.
- Worked with Easton Planning and Zoning commission and other relevant town commissions and committees to begin the review of current policies and regulations that impact agriculture in town.
- Recommended changes as to how agriculture is incorporated into the town's Plan of Conservation and development (POCD) as well as sharing ideas, resources and references to help shape policy regarding Easton laws and regulations dealing with agriculture, agricultural

equipment, buildings and operations and farmland preservation.

- Promoted opportunities to preserve and expand farms in Easton and for citizens to value and support local farms.
- Expanded the awareness of the important role agriculture plays in the future of maintaining the rural characteristics of Easton.

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

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

Submitted by,  
Jean Stetz-Puchalski, Chair

# **COMMITTEES**

## **CEMETERY COMMITTEE**

The Cemetery Committee's restoration and maintenance goals were successfully met with the help of a small group of dedicated volunteers. During the 2015-16 fiscal year we held 29 workdays in Gilbertown, Lyon and Center Street cemeteries with a team of trained volunteers from last year's pool of workers.

The tasks accomplished during our workdays this fiscal year were; resetting and/or repair of 27 headstones and the installation of 4 new bases in Gilbertown cemetery, 8 headstones, 2 footstones, and the installation of 2 new granite bases in Lyon cemetery.

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

1. Reset headstones that are leaning in our cemeteries;
2. Install new fabricated bases for tombstones that have broken below ground level and are too short to reset;
3. Repair with epoxy, the remaining headstones that have broken above ground level;
4. Reset footstones in Gilbertown cemetery;
5. Replace missing steel railings along perimeter of family plots in Center Street and Gilbertown cemeteries.

Other Committee accomplishments not aforementioned:

1. Provided consistent landscape maintenance and leaf/debris removal in Lyon Cemetery.
2. Removed 9 trees that were leaning toward and posed a threat to the tombstones along the northern border of Center Street cemetery. Also, removed approximately 30 feet off the top of the large Norway spruce which was leaning and a threat to the tombstones at Center Street and Aspetuck cemeteries.
3. Safety pruned and removed low hanging limbs on 3 Sugar maples at Lyon cemetery. Also, removed 25 feet off the top and cut back the longer lateral branches on a Sugar maple, along the southern boundary, which is leaning and posing a threat to the cemetery.
4. Identified and marked the 18' X 18' memorial plot encompassing 8 grave plots acquired by the Town in 1904 at Center Street cemetery.
5. Installed 4 cornerstones and the base for the memorial plaque at that location in Center Street cemetery.

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

Prepared by Gary Haines and Phillip Doremus

## **EASTON RECYCLING COMMITTEE**

The purpose of the Committee is to operate a recycling program for Easton within the guidelines of the Southwestern Regional Recycling Operating Committee (SWEROC) and the State Mandate. The Town of Easton voted at a Town Meeting held on September 20, 1989 to join SWEROC, and to start a recycling program in the Town of Easton. SWEROC has contracted with Winters Bros. Waste System in Shelton, which accepts recyclable materials. Curbside recycling pickup started January 7, 1991. Recycling tonnage collected by the Town this Fiscal Year was 924.07 tons. Monthly, the Town receives a \$20.00 per ton rebate from Winters Bros.

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

The Towns of Trumbull, Easton and Monroe have put our resources together to form TEaM, which is our combined effort to operate a recycling drop-off center for scrap metal, commingled beverage containers, mixed paper, corrugated cardboard, newspaper, and used tires 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 1,190 gallons. This oil was sent to a recycler.

Edward Nagy, P.E.  
Director of Public Works

## **SOLID WASTE REPORT**

July 5, 1988, began the commercial operation of the Bridgeport Resource Recovery plant. As of that date, Easton no longer deposited solid waste directly at the Connecticut Resource Recovery Authority (CRRA) Landfill located in Shelton, Connecticut. The ash produced by the plant is deposited at a Putnam, Connecticut ash landfill. The Resource Recovery plant is designed to burn 657,000 tons of solid waste from the greater Bridgeport region of which the Town of Easton contributed 2,702 tons of solid waste during the 2015-2016 fiscal year. The disposal fee for this solid waste was \$104.00 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 monthly or special meetings are scheduled at the request of the Chairman or a majority of the members.

The members are:

Richard Colangelo, Chairman  
Laurie Israel, Vice-chairman  
Thomas Herrmann, Secretary  
Raymond Martin, Commissioner  
Marvin Gelfand, 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, established in 1937 with the creation of the Board of Police Commissioners.

Timothy Shaw was selected as the sixth Chief of the Easton Police Department on July 16, 2015. Officer Glen Ferguson retired from the police department on November 27, 2015. Art Belile was sworn in as a police officer on November 30, 2015. Kent Lyman was promoted to the rank of Detective on January 26, 2016. Mike Kaluta was sworn in as a police officer on January 26, 2016.

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.

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

Timothy J. Shaw  
Chief of Police

## **EASTON POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICE DEPARTMENT FISCAL YEAR END REPORT FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2015 - JUNE 30, 2016**

<b><u>ENFORCEMENT</u></b>	<b><u>2016</u></b>	<b><u>2015</u></b>	<b><u>2014</u></b>
MV Violations	180	288	225
Parking Tickets	3	20	33
MV Written & Verbal Warnings	653	453	534

### **CRIMINAL VIOLATIONS**

ACO Arrests	8	11	9
Arson	0	0	0
Assault	2	2	2
Bad Checks	1	1	1
Breach of Peace	1	2	1
Burglary	11	14	2
Criminal Arrest	38	34	33
Criminal Mischief	10	42	4
Criminal Trespassing	10	5	11
Disorderly Conduct	6	12	12
Drugs	0	3	3
Dumping/Littering	27	16	0
JV Referral	1	2	1
DUI	3	0	9
Larceny	32	25	1
Liquor Law Violation	0	0	11
Robbery	0	0	0
Sex Crimes/Rape	0	1	0
Stolen MV	0	0	0
Weapons Violation	0	0	0
Warrants	6	16	3

## **EASTON POLICE DEPARTMENT FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2015 - JUNE 30, 2016**

<b><u>Comps &amp; Investigations</u></b>	<b><u>2016</u></b>	<b><u>2015</u></b>	<b><u>2014</u></b>
Accidents	176	181	160
Aided Cases	359	383	391
Alarms	855	918	871
Animals	751	808	703
Arson	0	0	0
Assault	2	2	1
Assistance/Traffic	679	620	623
Assist Other Depts.	143	203	167
Bad Checks	1	1	1
Bomb Threats	1	0	0
Burglary	11	14	7
Child Safety Restraint	64	70	66

Citizen Complaint	1	1	4
Computer Crimes	0	0	1
Criminal Mischief/Prop Dmg	10	12	15
Criminal Mischief Mailbox	35	30	29
Fraud Credit Card Theft/ATM	14	10	10
Fraud False Pretense	7	19	3
Fraud Impersonation	14	19	17
Fraud Wire	1	0	0
Criminal Arrest	38	34	33
Disabled Motor Vehicle	158	239	188
Disorderly Conduct	6	2	17
Domestics	20	32	24
Fingerprints	385	304	304
Fire	132	168	157
Found Property & Released	51	53	46
Dumping/Littering	27	16	33
Juvenile Referrals	1	2	0
Larceny	32	25	25
Lost Property	19	24	18
M/V Found/Lost	2	0	0
M/V Impound	0	0	0
M/V Stolen	0	0	1
Missing Person	10	2	7
Narcotics/Drugs	0	3	2
Noise	111	92	124
Phone Calls	74	129	122
Permits	85	87	106
PO Admin	864	475	453
Robbery	0	0	0
Record Check	327	194	107
Selective Enforcement	152	211	78
Sex Crimes/Rape	0	1	0
Soliciting	5	4	3
State Property	64	126	105
Subpoena	16	6	16
Suspicious Activity	94	109	98
Suspicious Motor Vehicle	472	487	491
Suspicious Person	101	111	109
Teletype	261	301	221
Threatening	5	3	0
Town Property	309	353	254
Trespassing	10	5	39
Trucks	0	3	3
Utilities	475	492	401
Validation/COLLECT	0	4	13
Vandalism	16	5	8
Warrants	6	16	11
Weapon Law Violation	0	0	0
Youths	4	4	8
Liquor Law Violations	0	0	2
DUI	3	0	6
Family Offense	2	0	1
MV Stop	732	680	556
Supplement Reports	221	214	258
Other	3	0	2

## MUNICIPAL ANIMAL CONTROL

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

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

Since moving the Animal Control Department to 385 Morehouse Road, ACO Kelly Fitch has continued to keep the new building in terrific shape. Many thanks to Kelly and her staff.

Timothy J. Shaw  
Chief of Police

## MUNICIPAL ANIMAL CONTROL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2015 - JUNE 30, 2016

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Comps Investigated	799	813	703
Dogs Destroyed	1	1	0
Cats Destroyed	1	1	1
Other Destroyed	1	0	1
Dogs Redeemed	49	47	50
Cats Redeemed	2	4	1
Others Redeemed	0	3	
Dogs Sold	8	14	12
Cats Sold	29	16	23
Other Sold	0	0	1
Owner Arrests	8	11	9
Dog Bites	8	10	4
Cat Bites	0	1	1
Other Bites	0	1	2
Phone Calls Received	1674	2084	1633
Notice To License	452	602	478

## THE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

The Communications Center is under the direction of the Chief of Police who appoints a sergeant to supervise the daily operations. There are three full time and five part time dispatchers that man the center.

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 at the PSAP are answered by the specialist who is responsible for dispatching the appropriate emergency service. Nine radio systems are also monitored.

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

Timothy J. Shaw  
Chief of Police

## **BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**

This fiscal year was a year to focus on the management of the fire service operations that occur year in and year out. We had no personnel hires, no contract negotiations and made no major capital purchases. Our personnel avoided significant injury, which is always a primary objective. The Department has successfully responded to the increasing fire alarms and Supplemental First Responder medical calls experienced in recent years. We foresee this high standard of achievement continuing.

As a result, it was possible to expend available effort on recurrent issues, one of which is maintenance. Budget exigencies have caused the department extend replacement dates of some equipment. Engine 4 is now approaching 24 years in service, and has had some significant life extending maintenance in the past. It and other aging engines and all equipment have been carefully maintained with proactive planning to insure longevity beyond originally expected service periods. Other major areas requiring careful planning include communications and data services, where technology is rapidly changing. Change by other emergency services, currently and planned, require us to update equipment judiciously and seek out grants and other funding sources outside the Town Budget. The Chief, the Fire Marshal's Office, the Easton Volunteer Fire Co. and the Career Firefighters have contributed to a successful effort to serve our community.

For the Commission:  
David Buchanan, 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 more than 20 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 2016 were Chief Steven Waugh and 1st Assistant Chief Jim Girardi. The Fire Company executive officers in 2016 were President Casey Meskers, Vice President Adrian Kushner, Secretary Lucy Crossman, and Treasurer Joe Pulchaski.

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. Many times during the workweek, due to Easton being a bedroom community, the "on-duty" firefighters are at times, the only ones responding to calls. 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 2016 were James Wright, Michael Ohradan, David Davies, Al Doty, Martin Ohradan, Michael Sabia, Mark Mirowski and Jon Davis.

The 2016 calendar year was a record year. The Department responded to 578 calls during the year. The call types varied greatly. A breakdown of the most frequent types of calls is as follows: 176 medicals, 114 alarm activations, 62 vehicle accidents, 47 fire related incidents 41 lock-outs and 21 Carbon Monoxide related incidents. I am also proud to report that the department responded to 3 animal rescue calls and rescued 5 puppies and two Newfoundlands from various predicaments.

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.

Respectfully submitted  
Steven Waugh, Chief  
EFD / EVFC



## **EASTON VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE**

Easton Volunteer Emergency Medical Service (EVEMS) recently hired Peter Fiore as a new full-time EMT. He will be working with John Snyder, Monday through Friday from 7AM to 3PM. We also have several per diem personnel who cover the 3 PM to 6 PM shift Monday thru Friday. The rest of the time we rely on our 40 volunteers to cover evenings and weekends. We are pleased to announce we now have two live-in EMT'S, both SHU students, who are responsible for covering the midnight to 6 AM shift, Monday through Friday. EMS members continue to respond to 90% of our calls with the remainder being covered by AMR from Bridgeport. Thanks to the weekend incentive program, we are able to cover calls on the weekends as well.

We are in the process of purchasing a new ambulance to replace 852.

We provide pre-hospital care for all types of emergencies. We responded to 420 911 calls, including storm related accidents, cardiac arrests, heart attacks, breathing emergencies, drug overdoses, domestic violence, motor vehicle accidents and seizures. We also provided standby coverage for fire emergencies and special events, including, but not limited to; an annual rowing event, several bicycle tours through town and the Halloween Bonfire. Where advanced life support is required, paramedics are called in to provide additional medical management. Performing all of these tasks, our members logged in over 8300 volunteer hours, up almost 2000 hours over last year. This is especially noteworthy because the majority of our volunteers hold permanent, full-time positions and still find time to serve our community.

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

EVEMS utilizes what is called "insurance only billing". When the ambulance responds to and transports a patient, the Town of Easton only bills the patient's insurance company. If two ambulances come to the scene because the patient's condition requires advanced life support, the patient will receive only one bill, as we split the cost with the paramedic service that provided assistance. EVEMS does not charge if a patient decides they do not want to be transported to the hospital. The insurance only billing proceeds, of approximately \$100,000 per year, are reverted back to the Town of Easton.

### **EVEMS Officers and Directors**

Carolyn Kearney, Chief of Service  
Victor Malindretos, President of the Trustees and  
Director of Personnel  
Jonathan Arnold, Vice President of the Trustees and  
Assistant Chief  
Adam Goldstein, Assistant Chief  
Victoria Sinnicki, Secretary  
John Smith, Treasurer  
Sandra Snyder, Co- Director of Training  
Andrew Tisdale, Co-Director of Training  
Peggy Shukie, Director of Public Relations  
Victor Malindretos, Director of Communications  
Mary Pat O'Neil, Director of Personnel

Mr. Malindretos also represents Easton EMS and the Town of Easton on the Board of Directors of the Emergency Medical Communications Center (C-MED), thereby insuring the town's concerns are presented at these meetings. C-Med facilitates communications between our ambulance and area hospital and between area ambulances as needed. Mrs. Kearney and Mr. Meszaros represent the town at the Southwest Council EMS monthly meetings, where different EMS services share information regarding the care of patients. We thank everyone for their contribution and dedication.

### **Members of the EMS Commission**

Robert Adriani, Chairman  
Gloria Bindelglass, Secretary  
James Spak, M.D.  
Thomas Bladek M.D.  
Stephen Jones M.D.

The Commission meets the second Wednesday of each month at EMS headquarters, anyone interested is invited to attend. The Commission's responsibility is to oversee the Town budget for Easton EMS, the activities of the full and part time EMS staff, the maintenance and management of the EMS headquarters and equipment. The Commission also serves as a liaison between the Easton Volunteer Emergency Medical Service and the Town of Easton in an advisory capacity for any matters presented by Easton EMS, and acts in accordance with the ordinance established to run the emergency medical service for the Town of Easton.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robert Adraini, Chairman  
Easton EMS Commission

Carolyn Kearney, Chief  
Easton Volunteer EMS

# ***PUBLIC LIBRARY***

## **EASTON PUBLIC LIBRARY**

The Easton Public Library continues to respond to the community's needs by providing educational, cultural, and recreational resources for all ages, through its materials and programs. In addition to its vast print collection of books and periodicals, the Library also offers audiobooks, DVDs, musical CDs, and a vast digital collection, which includes ebooks, downloadable audiobooks, access to music, and many other online resources.

Children's programs continue to be extremely popular and well-attended, especially Preschool Story Time and Baby/Toddler Be-Bop. This past year, the Children's Department introduced a new baby lap-sit program called Bouncing Babies. This program, designed for pre-walkers, fosters the bond between baby and caregiver through nursery rhymes, songs, and movement activities. For our older children, the Library added a Pokemon Club and a 3rd Grade Book Club, and hosted a Holiday party, complete with stories, refreshments, and a visit from Santa! For high school students, the Library continues to offer expanded hours during Mid-Term and Finals weeks, providing a quiet space (and pizza!) for study time. Students also were offered several opportunities to take a practice SAT or ACT exam, in order to become familiar with the process and to hone their test-taking skills. We have also expanded our offering of Adult programs, including a Mindfulness workshop, Yoga classes, Parenting programs, Classic Film Series, and others.

The Library is a central meeting place for many Town departments and local organizations. Recognizing the need for meeting space in town, The Library Board of Trustees undertook a renovation project that converted the Conference Room into a free standing room that can now be used outside of regular Library hours. A separate entrance and restroom were added to the existing room. Like the Community Room, the Conference Room can now be reserved anytime.

This past year also brought some restructuring to the physical space in our Teen and Children's Departments. The Teen area, which had previously been located just past the Circulation Desk, was moved to the rear of the Library, behind the adult stacks. Extra floor space was cleared and furniture was added to create a private yet welcoming space. The children's collection was spread out to encompass the empty space vacated by the teen collection, which ultimately enabled us to expand the children's play area. This was a much needed improvement that our patrons are thrilled about!

Under the leadership of outgoing president Joelle Johnston, the Friends of the Library continues to be a major contributor to the Library. In addition to the Friends' traditional programs – Country Fair/Cow Chip Raffle, Story Book Parade, and Book Sales – the group sponsored its first Pop-Up Paint Night

Fundraiser. Each of the 30 attendees created his/her own paint masterpiece on canvas, while enjoying appetizers, wine, and the opportunity to win raffle prizes. Monetary contributions from the Friends are used for Library materials and to enhance our programs and services.

For all of these reasons, the Easton Public Library continues to be an important and valued community asset.

### **FY 15-16 Statistics**

Circulation: 81,869

Registered Borrowers: 2,807

Total Print/AV Materials: 48,036

Total Electronic/Digital Collections: 6,984

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, and a director of finance and operations. Thomas McMorran, Ed.D. is the superintendent; Stephanie Pierson Ugol, Ed.D. is the assistant superintendent; and Michael Lagas is the interim finance and operations director.

Vital statistics for the 2015-2016 school year include an operating budget of \$15,581,592 to educate 612 students in preK-5 at Samuel Staples Elementary School and 309 students in grades 6-8 in Helen Keller Middle School. The schools employ 169 individuals as teachers, administrators, support personnel and custodians.

Easton students benefit from the caring and committee 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 the process of revising curricula and 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 provide dynamic and student-centered individual's personal signature. 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](http://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.

Redding and Easton taxpayers have been highly supportive of Region 9 over the past several years, in apparent recognition of Barlow's value to its community. The current year's budget of \$23.3 million was approved by more than 2/3 of voters in both towns.

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.

Barlow's student population, which peaked in 2014, now stands at 942 and is expected to continue a gradual decline following the experience of the Easton and Redding elementary and middle schools. Accordingly, one of the Board's challenges is to assure sufficient staffing and other resources to continue to provide excellent education to current and future students while making cost and associated programmatic adjustments appropriate to the reduction in student body.

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 the two towns.

## DEBT SERVICE AND BENEFITS ACCOUNT

Debt Service and Benefits Account  
Selectmen's Budget for the Board of Education  
Fiscal year July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016

### IN KIND SERVICES:

#### PENSION

TOWN'S CONTRIBUTION FOR EMPLOYEES	\$189,000
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#### ACTUARY FEES

1/2 ANNUAL FEE	\$5,000
CHECK WRITING/REFUNDS/MISC.	\$3,488

<u>UNEMPLOYMENT</u>	\$0
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#### EASTON FIRE DISTRICT

Tax	\$0
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#### INSURANCE

GENERAL LIABILITY	\$82,957
WORKER'S COMPENSATION	\$132,089

#### DEBT SERVICE

PRINCIPAL	\$1,793,000
INTEREST	\$502,053

#### PARK & RECREATION DEPARTMENT SERVICES

MAINTENANCE OF GROUNDS-LABOR COST Helen Keller & Samuel Staples Schools	\$27,000
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#### PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT SERVICES

PLOWING	\$800
SAND & SALT	\$1,920
SWEEPING	\$1,440
BOE MISC WORK	\$23,281

<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$2,762,028</b>
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## **PROBATE COURT DISTRICT OF TRUMBULL**

The Trumbull Probate Court, serving Easton, Monroe and Trumbull was established by Connecticut State Statute on January 2, 1959. Prior to the commencement of operations the district was served by the Bridgeport Probate Court.

The primary responsibility of the Court is the probating of wills and settling of estates and trusts; the appointment of guardians for minors and the intellectually disabled; the appointment of conservators for incompetent persons; children's matters; and name changes.

During the period of July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2016, the Trumbull Probate Court processed 2,027 new applications. The new applications include the following:

### **Under the Category of Estates:**

Estates with Wills	197
Estate without Wills	48
Estate Sales of Real Estate	24
Compromise of Claims	7
Ancillary Estates	0
Allowance of Final Accounts	196
Other Applications	168

### **Other Applications or Petitions**

Small Estate Affidavits	137
Estates for Tax Purposes Only	64
State Aid 4a-16 Estates	67
Succession Tax Returns and Extensions	377

### **Under the Category of Children's Matters:**

Adoptions, Termination of Parental Rights, Emancipations, Paternity, Temporary Guardianship & Dispositional Hearing	23
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### **Under the Category of Guardians:**

Guardians of the Estate	37
Guardianships of the Intellectually Disabled	261

### **Under the Category of Conservators:**

Conservator of Estate/Person	53
Sales of Real Estate	7
Allowance of Accounts	26
Other Applications	89

### **Under Miscellaneous:**

Trust Applications and Accounts Requiring Hearings	175
Name Changes	71

The Honorable T. R. Rowe is Judge of Probate

### **Court Staff:**

Gail J. Hanna, Chief Clerk  
Gena Salerno, Assistant Clerk  
Mary Pia, Assistant Clerk  
Brigitt Rees, Assistant Clerk

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

## **SUMMARIES OF TOWN MEETINGS**

(Reference attachments and detail minutes are available for review in the Town Clerk's office or on the Town of Easton website [www.eastonct.gov](http://www.eastonct.gov))

### **SPECIAL TOWN MEETING**

**January 25, 2016 – 7:30 p.m.**

**Samuel Staples Elementary School, 515 Morehouse Road, Easton  
MINUTES**

Present: Adam Dunsby, First Selectman; Robert Lessler, Selectman; Carolyn Colangelo, Selectman; Christine Halloran, Town Clerk

Attendees: Jeff Parker, Board of Education and over 120 members of the public

The First Selectman called to order the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

The First Selectman asked for a motion to nominate a Moderator. Dori Wollen nominated Bill Kupinse. The motion was seconded. The nomination was approved by voice vote.

The Town Clerk read the call of the meeting.

Item 1: Discussion and possible action to change the scope of work for the Wells Hill Bridge Capital Project to the Wells Hill Bridge and South Park Avenue Bridges over the Mill River and near Buck Hill Road (Bridge #04211 and #04213) for design work.

Motion carried by voice vote.

Item 2: Discussion and possible approval of a special appropriation in the amount of \$1,200,000 from the unassigned fund balance to the Board of Education to cover the shortfall in the Internal Service Fund for health insurance claims.

Motion carried by voice vote.

Item 3: Adjournment.

The Motion carried by voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 7:58pm.

Submitted by,  
Christine Halloran, Easton Town Clerk

## **ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

**April 25, 2016 – 7:30 p.m.**

**Samuel Staples Elementary School, 515 Morehouse Road,  
Easton**

### **MINUTES**

Present: Adam Dunsby, First Selectman; Robert Lessler, Selectman; Carolyn Colangelo, Selectman; Christine Halloran, Town Clerk

Attendees: Matthew Gachi, Chair of the Board of Finance; Jeffrey Parker, Board of Education; Vance Hancock, Region 9 Board of Education; and over 60 members of the public

The First Selectman convened the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

The First Selectman asked for a motion to nominate a Moderator. James Riling nominated Scott Centrella. The motion was seconded. The nomination was approved by voice vote.

The Town Clerk read the call of the meeting.

Item 1: Acceptance of the 2015 Annual Town Report.  
Motion carried by voice vote. The 2015 Annual Town Report is accepted.

Item 2: Discussion of the proposed Annual Town Budget of \$43,731,261 for fiscal year 2016-2017 as recommended by the Board of Finance. NOTE: The Town Meeting may act to reduce, but not increase, the proposed Annual Town Budget. The Moderator called for presentation of official comments, discussion, public comment, and questions. Matthew Gachi, Chair of the Board of Finance, presented the 2016-2017 Town of Easton budget. Jeffrey Parker presented the Easton school operating budget. Vance Hancock presented the Region No. 9 budget.

Item 3: Acceptance of the five-year capital project plan.  
Motion carried by voice vote. The five-year capital plan is approved.

Item 4: Set July 1, 2016 – January 2, 2017 for the 2015 grand list bills.  
Motion carried by voice vote. The dates for the grand list bills as set out in the agenda are adopted.

Item 5: Adjournment of the Town meeting to a machine vote to be held on Tuesday, May 3, 2016, 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Samuel Staples Elementary School to vote on the Annual Budget for 2016-2017 or such lower amount as may be approved by the Town Meeting.  
The Motion carried by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:39pm.

Submitted by,  
Christine Halloran  
Easton Town Clerk



## **TOWN OFFICIALS**

### ***Board of Selectmen***

Adam Dunsby, First Selectman  
Robert H. Lessler  
Carolyn M. Colangelo

### ***Town Clerk***

Christine Halloran

### ***Treasurer***

Wendy Bowditch

### ***Tax Collector***

Krista Kot

### ***Registrar of Voters***

Vince Caprio - Republican  
David Smith - Democratic

### ***Board of Finance***

Matthew P. Gachi - Chair  
Paul Lindoerfer  
Andrew Kachele  
Arthur Laske III  
Richard Cremin  
Michael Kot

#### **Alternates –**

Jason Stanevich  
Gregg H. Saunders  
Jamie Weinstein

### ***Board of Assessment Appeals***

Lori Mezes - Chair  
John Miranda  
Gloria R. Kovac

#### **Alternates –**

Thomas Schick  
Vacancy  
Vacancy

### ***Library Board***

Jonathan Sonneborn  
Todd Pajonas  
Gail B. Gay  
Janet Gordon  
Margot Abrams  
Vacancy

### ***Easton Board of Education***

David Bindelglass  
Regina B. Bobroske  
Jenny Elisa Chieda  
Randy Hicks  
Jeffrey F. Parker  
Cindy Shortt

### ***Regional Board of Education (Easton Members)***

J. Vance Hancock  
Catherine Gombos  
Todd Andrew Johnston  
Paul Coppinger

### ***Constables***

David Katz  
Gloria Bindelglass  
John L. Johnston  
William K. Lane  
Irv Silverman  
Darrin Silhavy  
Vincent A. Battaglia

## **APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

### ***Public Works Director/Town Engineer***

Edward L. Nagy

### ***Police Chief***

Timothy Shaw

### ***Finance Director***

Christine Calvert

### ***Director of Health***

Christopher Michos, M.D.  
Polly Edwards, R.S. - Health Officer

### ***Emergency Management Director***

Captain Richard Doyle

### ***Building Official***

Anthony Ballaro

### ***Fire Chief***

Steve Waugh

### ***Park & Recreation Commission***

Robert Klem  
Thomas Cable  
Kirsten Ceva  
David Gombos  
Anthony Martinich  
Philip Tamallanca  
Ray Longo

### ***Planning & Zoning Commission***

Robert Maquat, Chair  
Robert DeVellis  
Milan Spisek  
Wallace Williams  
Ross Ogden

#### **Alternates-**

Raymond Martin  
Alison Sternberg  
Vacancy

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

John Harris - Chair  
Patricia Berlin – Vice Chair  
Raymond W. Ganim  
Victor George  
Charles W. Lynch

#### **Alternates –**

Thomas Dollard  
Mitchell H. Greenberg  
Maureen Williams

### ***Insurance Commission***

Ronald Berry  
Adam Dunsby – 1st Selectman  
Gerard O'Brien  
Sandra Neubert  
Randy Hicks

### ***Tree Warden***

Richard J. Dina

### ***Municipal Agent for the Aging***

Alison Witherbee MSW

### ***Zoning Enforcement Officer/Wetlands***

### ***Enforcement Officer***

Phillip A. Doremus

### ***Assessor***

Teresa Rainieri

### ***Measurer of Wood***

Irving Snow  
Michael Sabia, Sr.

**Fire Marshal**

Peter G. Neary  
Deputy Marshals –  
Lucy Crossman  
Schuyler D. Sherwood  
Amy Borofsky

**Board of Ethics**

Shari Bulter  
Tiffany Tortora  
Craig Sternberg  
Alicia Gorder  
Richard Scalo

**Easton Representative to the Southwestern Connecticut****Emergency Medical Services Council**

Carolyn Kearney

**Emergency Medical Communications Center, Inc.****Representative**

Victor Malindretos

**Police Commission**

Richard J. Colangelo, Jr. - Chair  
Laurie Israel – Vice-Chair  
Marvin Gelfand  
Vincent Battaglia  
Thomas Herrmann

**Emergency Medical Services Commission**

Robert Adriani -Chair  
Gloria Bindelglass  
Thomas Bladek, M.D.  
Stephen Jones, M.D.  
James Spak, M.D.

**Pension & Employee Benefits Commission**

Alan Goldbecker - Chairman  
Marvin Gelfand  
A. Reynolds Gordon  
John Harrington  
Christopher Neubert  
John Smith  
Adam Dunsby – 1st Selectman  
David Bussolotta

**Advisory Board for the Easton Senior Center**

Prabha Gupta  
Elizabeth Drinkwater-Ross  
Sally England  
Anne Fiyalka  
Mary Ann C. Freeman  
Eunice Hanson  
Sal Santella  
Joan Kirk (Ex-Officio)  
Kay Oestricher (Adjunct)  
Vacancy  
Vacancy

**Fire Commission**

John Miranda - Chair  
David Buchanan  
Roberta Cable  
David Katz  
Todd Pajonas

**Conservation Commission**

Dori Wollen - Chair  
Catherine Alfandre - Secretary  
Stephen Corti  
Elliott Leonard  
Steven Hume

Sarah Cwikla  
Vivian Hardison

**Alternate –**

Katherine Reed  
Jamie Weinstein  
Steven Montgomery

**Commission for the Aging**

Joel Peskay, Chair  
Gail B. Gay  
Lisa Tasi  
Phyllis Machledt  
Mary Pajonas

**Alternate –**

Linda Dollard  
Karen Martin

**Area Nine Cable Council Representatives**

Henry L. Anderson  
Douglas Dempsey

**Alternate –**

David Smith

**Safety and Health Committee**

Martin Ohradan  
Suzette Bryan  
Terry Calgreen  
Kay Oestreicher  
Vicki Cram  
Gary Simone  
Bruce Bombero  
Jay Festa  
Lynn Zaffino

**Social Services**

Alison Witherbee

**Cemetery Committee**

Gary Haines - Chair  
Phillip Doremus  
Shaun Malay  
Ray Longo  
Jonathan Fanton-Adjunct  
Mark Lyon-Adjunct  
Kevin Andrew King-Adjunct  
Joan Kirk- Ex-Officio

**Easton Energy Task Force**

Catherine Alfandre - Chair  
Heidi Armster -Secretary  
Katie Callahan  
Regina McNamara  
Vacancy  
Vacancy

**Easton Agricultural Commission**

Jean Stetz-Puchalski - Chair  
Laurel Fedor  
Sal Gilbertie  
Victor Alfandre  
Irv Silverman

**Alternates -**

Lori Cochran Dougall  
Ray Longo

## TOWN DEPARTMENTS AND EMPLOYEES

### Selectman's Office

Adam Dunsby 1st Selectman  
Carrie Colangelo, Selectman  
Robert Lessler, Selectman  
Janet Haller, Administrative Assistant  
Sophia Vournazos, Receptionist  
Terry Calgreen, Custodian

### Town Clerk

Diana Christine Halloran, Town Clerk  
& Registrar of Vital Statistics  
Joan Kirk, Assistant Town Clerk & Assistant  
Registrar of Vital Statistics  
Deborah Szegedi – Assistant Town Clerk &  
Assistant Registrar of Vital Statistics

### Treasurer's Office

Wendy Bowditch, Treasurer  
Christine Calvert, Finance Director  
Suzette Bryan, HRCC  
Sophia Vournazos, Accounts Payable Clerk

### Planning & Zoning Department

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

### Zoning Board of Appeals

Margaret Anania, Clerk

### Building Department

Anthony Ballaro, Building Official  
Jenna Licursi, Secretary

### Health Department

Christopher Michos, M.D., Director of Health  
Polly Edwards, R.S., Health Official  
Sheila Piritzky, Secretary

### Conservation Department

Phillip Doremus, Wetlands Enforcement Officer  
Kiersten Ring, Secretary

### Assessor's Office

Teresa Rainieri, Assessor  
Rachel Maciulewski, Assessor's Assistant

### Tax Collector

Krista Kot, Tax Collector  
Margaret Timlin, Assistant Tax Collector

### Municipal Agent for the Elderly

Alison Witherbee, Agent  
Pamela Healy, Outreach Worker

### Senior Center

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

### Park & Recreation Department

Gary Simone, Director  
Danielle Alves, Programmer  
Keysha Evans, Afterschool Program Coordinator  
Lisa Farasciano, Secretary  
Chris Lemos, Maintenance Supervisor  
Michael Clark, Maintainer I

## Library

Lynn Zaffino, Director  
Mary Beth Rassulo, Assistant Library Director/  
Head of Youth Services  
Elizabeth Portillo, Children's/Teen Librarian  
Myla Christie, Children's Programming Assistant

### Library Assistants

Barbara Fitchen  
Ryan Tice  
Penelope Papadoulis  
Shannon Bruchal  
Kevin Krug

### Library Aides

Olivia Chioffi  
Nicholas Roman  
Gabriella Chioffi  
Christopher Vassallo  
Mackenzie Calvert  
Nathaniel Tomczak  
Nicholas Ferrante

## Police Department

Timothy Shaw, Police Chief  
Richard Doyle, Captain  
Jonathan Arnold, Sergeant  
David Simpson, Sergeant  
William Spencer, Sergeant  
Kent Lyman, Detective

### Police Officers

Arthur Belile  
Thomas Ceccarelli  
Glen Ferguson  
Jay Festa  
Tamra French  
Michael Kaluta  
Donald Kinahan  
Mark Pastor  
John Sollazo  
Craig Tibbals

### Special Officers

John Bech  
Gary Csanadi

### Office Staff

Diane Zadrozny, Administrative Assistant  
Evelyn Santiago-Fox, Records Clerk I

## Communications Department

### Dispatchers

Matthew Caldwell  
Tara Candee  
Andrew Tisdale

### Part Time Dispatchers

Marjorie Arnold  
Christine Bittner  
John Ojarovsky  
Kevin Shevlin, Jr.  
Cheryl Smolinsky

## Animal Control

Kelly Fitch, Animal Control Officer

**Assistant Animal Control Officers**

Christine Bittner  
 Marjorie Costa  
 Tamar Klein  
 Chevonne Spinks

**Registrars of Voters**

David Smith, Democrat  
 Vince Caprio, Republican  
 James Bromer, Assistant Registrar

**Public Works Department**

Edward L. Nagy, Director and Town Engineer  
 Bruce Bombero, Deputy Director  
 Jeanie Schwartz, Secretary  
 Daniel Treadwell, Garage Mgr/Lead Mechanic  
 Jason Perkins, Highway Superintendent  
 Gil Neves, Building Maintenance  
 Martin Ohradan, P/T Maintenance Technician

**Highwaymen**

Don Perkins  
 Oscar Sampaio  
 Jamie Correia  
 Mark Iacobucci  
 Mark Alves  
 William Bantle, Jr.  
 Kenneth Schwartz, Jr.  
 Craig Brotherton  
 Matthew Hurley

**Emergency Medical Services**

Carolyn Kearney, EMS Service Chief  
 Jonathan Arnold, EMS Assistant Service Chief  
 Adam Goldstein, EMS Assistant Service Chief  
 Peter Fiore, EMT  
 John Snyder, EMT  
 Margaret Shukie  
 Marjorie Arnold  
 Joseph Seagren  
 Jacob Simkovitz  
 Chris Barlow  
 Jamie Bairktaris  
 Kevin Seagren  
 Mary Pat O'Neil  
 Todd Olschan

**Emergency Management Director**

Richard Doyle

**Fire Department**

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

**Firemen**

Michael Ohradan  
 James Wright  
 R. David Davies  
 Alfred Doty  
 Michael Sabia, Jr.  
 Mark Mirowski  
 Martin Ohradan  
 Jon Davis

**ADMINISTRATION AND  
TEACHING STAFF****ADMINISTRATORS**

<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>
HKMS	Kaplan, Susan	Principal
HKMS	Burke, Kathy	Assistant Principal
HKMS/SES	Edwards, Tracy	Director, Special Services
HKMS/SES	Freeston, Cheryl	Supervisor, Special Services
SSES	Fox Santora, Kimberly	Principal
SSES	Brownstein, Michael	Assistant Principal

**HELEN KELLER MIDDLE SCHOOL**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>
Ashby, Charleen	Teacher
Augustine, Tara	Special Education Teacher
Bourret, Adam	Teacher
Breyer, David	Teacher
Broas, Sarah	Teacher
Brodeur, Cynthia	Teacher
Burke, Jennifer	Teacher
Colasanto, Kristen	Teacher
Culliton, Nancy	Teacher
Dolecki, Eric	Teacher
Donegan, Tracey	SPED Teacher
Ducsay, Nicole	Teacher
Dunkerton, Amber	Teacher
Fearn, Ethan	Teacher
Harington, Calico	Teacher
Henry, Paula	Teacher
Heran, Kimberly	Social Worker
Hurta, Robin	Teacher
Indorf, Nathaneal	Teacher - HKMS/SES
Jockers, Ryan	Teacher
Klatt, Meredith	Psychologist - HKMS/SES
Langlois, Laura	Assistive Technology - HKMS/SES
Macaluso, John	Teacher
Maggi, Linda	Teacher
Mohr, Ann	Teacher
Musto, Katherine	Speech & Language Pathologist
Newman, Sarah	Teacher
Oliver, Christine	Special Education Teacher
Pearson, Eric	SPED Teacher
Pryor, Linda	Teacher
Quezada, Katty	Library/Media Specialist
Rose, Jennifer	Teacher
Sather, Timothy	Academic Mentor/Social Worker
Schweikert-Mangino, Karen	Teacher
Solis, Nicole	Teacher
Thomas, Patricia	Guidance Counselor
Walsh, Brian	Teacher

**SAMUEL STAPLES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>
Adelman, Lori	Teacher
Alvarez, Meredith	Teacher
Bates, Allan	Teacher
Bizzotto, Melissa	Teacher
Blair, Mary	Teacher
Breuer, Wanda	Speech & Language Pathologist - HKMS/SSSES
Brophy, Tara	Teacher
Cabral, Danica	Psychologist
Calhoun, Caroline	Teacher
Carroll, Courtney	Teacher
Castaldo, Kristine	Library/Media Specialist
Chatfield, Callen	Teacher
Clark, Russell	Teacher
Correa, Catherine	Teacher
DeFilippo, Paige	Teacher
Desiderio, Jillian	School Social Worker
Duffy, Kimberly D.	Teacher
Edwards, Jennifer	Teacher
Faiella, Kristina	Teacher
Forte, JodiAnn	Teacher
Fressola, Kelly	Teacher
Gentile, Amy	Teacher
Giglio, Elizabeth	Teacher
Egler, Stacie	Special Education Teacher
Hickey, Katharine	Special Education Teacher
Hobbs, Laura	Teacher
Holroyd, Stephanie	Teacher
Keating, Geraldine	Special Education Teacher
Keden, Kristen	Teacher
Kessler, Melissa	Special Education Teacher
Kuruc, Jill	Teacher
Lewis, Sarah	Teacher
Macaluso, Kaitlyn	Teacher
MacArthur, Carey	Teacher
Marchetti, Emily	Teacher
Mattera, Karen	Teacher
McGee, Stacey	Special Education Teacher
Murray, Timothy	Teacher
Paciello, Sunny Michelle	Teacher
Pacino, Stacey	Teacher
Piacente, Courtney	Special Education Teacher
Pilkington, Dawn	Teacher
Scholz, Darcy	Teacher
Simmons, Helen	Teacher
Skoczylas, Julianne	Speech & Language Pathologist
Studenly, Jason	Teacher
Swanson, Alyssa	Teacher
Testani, Annabella	Special Education Teacher
Traggianese, Amy	Teacher
Turcotte, Rachael	Teacher
Waters, Heather	Special Education Teacher
Wemyss, Elizabeth	Teacher
Whalen, Heather	Teacher
Woodford, Karen	Teacher
Zazula, Kristin	Teacher

**REGION 9 CERTIFIED STAFF****JOEL BARLOW HIGH SCHOOL**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>
Albano, Donna	Teacher
Angelis, Michael	Teacher
Angell, Christopher	Teacher
Antal, Steven	Teacher
Atkinson, Mary	School Counselor
Bailey, Beth	Teacher
Barcham, Dale	School Psychologist
Barna, Fred	Teacher
Bassino, Deborah	Teacher
Bernardo, Margaret	Teacher
Breault, Christopher	Teacher
Brix, Nancy	Library/Media Specialist
Brown, Jeffrey	Teacher
Brown, Laura	Teacher
Cheng, Catherine	Teacher
D'Amato, Daniela	Teacher
DelAngelo, Henry	School Counselor
Detelich, Charles	Teacher
DeVoto, James	Teacher
Ecsedy, Michael	Teacher
Egan, Jeanne	Teacher
Egan, Margaret	Special Education/ Instructional Leader
Estes, Lori	Teacher
Fallo, Kristen	Teacher
Franco, Milton	Teacher
Fricker, Jacob	Teacher
Gang, Scott	Teacher
Gilmore, Maria	Teacher
Giordano, Ralph	Teacher
Gold, Elisabeth	School Counselor
Goodpaster, Pam	EMT Course
Hart, Sarah	Teacher
Healy, Traci	Teacher
Hermans, Friso	Teacher
Hoyt, Rebecca	School Psychologist
Hrebin, Mary Pat	Teacher
Huminski, Carolyn	Teacher
Huminski, Timothy	Teacher
Intemann, Michael	Teacher
Keeney, Kristin	Teacher
Laudenslager, Shawn	Special Education Teacher
Lavoie, Diane	Special Education Teacher
Light, Randall	Teacher
Luzietti, Brian	Teacher
Magrino, Filomenia	Teacher
Malayter, Alison	Teacher
Mangieri, Deborah	Speech & Language Pathologist
McElwee, Michael	Teacher
McNulty, Vincenza	Teacher
McTague, Julie	STEM Department Chair
Murdoch, Erin	Teacher
Nuzzo, Katharine	Teacher
Pachas, Beth	Teacher



Panos, Paula	Director of School Counseling
Paola, Ryan	Teacher
Pieratti, Maryanne	School Social Worker
Pinsky, Jordan	Teacher
Pollack, Carolyn	Teacher
Potpinka, Thomas	Teacher
Poulos, Christopher	Teacher
Powell, Barbara	Social Studies
Powers, John	English/Special Education
Przybylski, Paige	Teacher
Queen, Christine	Teacher
Ramirez, Jennifer	School Counselor
Reimold, Scott	School Counselor
Rivers, Daniel	Teacher
Roberts, Thomas	Special Education Teacher
Rountos, Steven	Teacher
Rowland, Andrea	Teacher
Salko-Peddle, Sheila	Special Education Teacher
Schemm, Jason	Teacher
Skalkos, Leann	Teacher
Smith, Barbara	Teacher
Smith, Edouard	Teacher
Smith, Randall	Teacher
Sopko, Joseph	Teacher
Sopko, Michelle	Teacher
Staley, Jessica	Teacher
Staron, Angela	Humanities Department Chair
Sugden, Mary Elizabeth	Teacher
Sullivan, Karen	Speech & Language Pathologist
Swift, Ryan	Teacher
Taft, Allison	Teacher
Taubner, Debra	Teacher
Testa, Paul	Teacher
VanAusdal, Sandra	Teacher
Veteri-Muntz, Toni	Special Education Teacher
Whiting, Jacquelyn	Teacher
Wittmann, Gwynne	Teacher
Zabilansky, Megan	Teacher

<b><u>REGION 9 ADMINISTRATORS</u></b>	
<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>POSITION</u></b>
Pin, Gina	Head of School/Assistant Superintendent
Desmarais, Jennifer	Interim Assistant Principal
Sheehy, Mary Ann	Assistant Principal
Santangeli, Michael	Administrator Athletics, Health, PE
Roszko, Patricia	Director of Special Services
Geraghty, Daniel	Dean of Students/Director Student Activities

<b><u>CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF</u></b>	
<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>POSITION</u></b>
McMorran, Thomas	Superintendent of Schools
Pierson Ugol, Stephanie	Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction
Sullivan, Margaret	Director of Finance & Operations
Cram, Vicki	Human Resources Manager
Kovalik, Kathy	Senior Accountant
Ponzio, Laura	Business Manager
Aponte, Cynthia	Administrative Assistant
Burritt, Mary	Data Administrative Assistant
Hepp, Eileen	Receptionist
Luciano, Sharon	Executive Secretary
Montero, Carmen	Payroll Clerk
Reed, Carolyn	Accounts Payable Clerk

## TOWN DIRECTORY

**For specific department hours and information, please visit [www.eastonct.gov](http://www.eastonct.gov).**

Emergency - Police, Fire, Ambulance		911
Non-Emergency		203-268-4111
Town Hall	<b>8:30am - 4:30pm</b>	203-268-6291
Town Hall Fax		203-268-4928
Town Clerk Fax		203-261-6080
Animal Control		203-268-9172
Department of Public Works		203-268-0714
Easton Public Library		203-261-0134
Municipal Agent for the Aging		203-268-1137
Park and Recreation Department		203-268-7200
Senior Center		203-268-1145
Superintendent of Schools - Region 9 Board of Education Central Office		203-261-2513
Samuel Staples Elementary School		203-261-3607
Helen Keller Middle School		203-268-8651
Joel Barlow High School		203-938-2508
Easton Post Office		203-261-8386
Probate Judge	T.R. Rowe	203-452-5068
	Fax	203-452-5092
State Officials	State Representative, District 135 - Adam Dunsby State Senator, District 28 - Tony Hwang	
U.S. Officials	Senator - Richard Blumenthal Senator - Christopher Murphy Congressman, 4th District - Jim Himes	

## IMPORTANT DATES

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**      **Last Monday in April**      **7:00pm**

### TAXES DUE:

<b>FIRST INSTALLMENT</b>	<b>July 1st</b>
<b>SECOND INSTALLMENT</b>	<b>January 1st</b>

### DOG LICENSE MONTH IS JUNE

- \* Renew in June with no late fee penalty
- \*\* Renewal year June 1st to May 30th
- \*\*\* Online renewals available

# SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS - BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

*For specific meeting information, please visit our website [www.eastonct.gov](http://www.eastonct.gov)*

<b>Advisory Board Easton Senior Center</b>	2nd Tuesday	4:00 p.m.
Senior Center		
<b>Agricultural Commission</b>	2nd Wednesday	7:30 p.m.
As Announced		
<b>Area 9 Cable Council</b>	As Required	TBD
<b>Board of Assessment Appeals</b>		
Assessor's Office - Town Hall		
Property Tax Grievances	March	TBD
Motor Vehicle Tax Grievances	September	TBD
<b>Board of Education</b>	Monthly - Check <a href="http://www.eastonct.gov">www.eastonct.gov</a>	7:30 p.m.
Helen Keller Middle School		
<b>Board of Ethics</b>	As Required	
Town Hall Conference Room A		
<b>Board of Finance</b>	1st Tuesday	7:00 p.m.
Senior Center Conference Room		
<b>Board of Fire Commissioners</b>	3rd Wednesday	7:30 p.m.
Firehouse		
<b>Board of Police Commissioners</b>	2nd Monday	5:30 p.m.
As Announced		
<b>Board of Selectmen</b>	1st and 3rd Thursdays	7:30 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room A		
<b>Cemetery Committee</b>	2nd Wednesday	7:00 p.m.
Senior Center		
<b>Commission for the Aging</b>	1st Monday	5:00 p.m.
Senior Center		
<b>Conservation Commission</b>	2nd and 4th Tuesdays	7:30 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room A		
<b>Easton Energy Task Force</b>	3rd Wednesday	7:30 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room A		
<b>EMS Commission</b>	2nd Wednesday	7:00 p.m.
EMS Headquarters		
<b>Insurance Commission</b>	As Required	7:00 p.m.
Town Hall or Library Conference Room		
<b>Library Board of Trustees</b>	1st Monday	7:00 p.m.
Library Conference Room		
<b>Park and Recreation Commission</b>	1st Monday	6:30 p.m.
Park and Recreation Office		
<b>Pension and Employee Benefits</b>	2nd Tuesday - Bimonthly	8:30 a.m.
Town Hall Conference Room A		
<b>Planning and Zoning Commission</b>	2nd and 4th Mondays	7:00 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room A		
<b>Regional Board of Education</b>	Check <a href="http://www.eastonct.gov">www.eastonct.gov</a>	7:30 p.m.
Joel Barlow High School		
<b>Safety and Health Committee</b>	Quarterly	10:00 a.m.
Town Hall or Library Conference Room		
<b>Tax Relief for the Elderly</b>	As Required	
Senior Center		
<b>Town Meeting (ANNUAL)</b>	Last Monday in April	7:00 p.m.
Samuel Staples Elementary School		
<b>Town Meeting (SPECIAL)</b>	As Required	7:00 p.m.
Samuel Staples Elementary School		
<b>Zoning Board of Appeals</b>	1st Monday	5:30 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room A		



## *FINANCIALS\**

*\*For complete financial information, please visit the Town of Easton website: [www.eastonct.gov](http://www.eastonct.gov)*



	Adopted Budget FY 2015/2016	Adopted Budget FY 2016/2017	\$ Amount Change Prior Year	% Change Prior Year
<b><u>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</u></b>				
TOWN CLERK	\$ 167,643	\$ 172,390	\$ 4,747	2.8%
FIRST SELECTMAN	163,994	157,513	(6,481)	-4.0%
PROBATE COURT	3,200	3,575	375	11.7%
ELECTIONS	50,033	54,429	4,396	8.8%
BOARD OF FINANCE	6,100	6,200	100	1.6%
AUDIT FEES	36,750	37,950	1,200	3.3%
TREASURER	196,262	251,892	55,630	28.3%
ASSESSOR	122,809	131,461	8,652	7.0%
BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS	800	925	125	15.6%
TAX COLLECTOR	103,375	105,648	2,273	2.2%
TOWN ATTORNEY	160,000	150,000	(10,000)	-6.3%
PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION	118,380	121,553	3,173	2.7%
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	7,932	8,016	84	1.1%
BUILDING DEPARTMENT	100,740	94,254	(6,486)	-6.4%
TECHNOLOGY	29,404	25,440	(3,964)	-13.5%
TOWN HALL	138,565	133,883	(4,682)	-3.4%
COMMISSION FOR ELDERLY	57,633	59,665	2,032	3.5%
SENIOR CENTER	183,166	187,450	4,284	2.3%
660 MOREHOUSE - OLD SSS BUILDING	376,996	354,145	(22,851)	-6.1%
PUBLIC CELEBRATIONS	200	200	0	0.0%
<b>TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>\$ 2,023,982</b>	<b>\$ 2,056,589</b>	<b>\$ 32,607</b>	<b>1.6%</b>
<b><u>PUBLIC SAFETY</u></b>				
COMM. DISPATCHERS	\$ 244,539	\$ 247,540	\$ 3,001	1.2%
POLICE DEPARTMENT	1,534,200	1,601,808	67,608	4.4%
FIRE DEPARTMENT	778,402	819,243	40,841	5.2%
FIRE MARSHALL	30,887	31,403	516	1.7%
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	11,276	12,411	1,135	10.1%
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY</b>	<b>\$ 2,599,304</b>	<b>\$ 2,712,405</b>	<b>\$ 113,101</b>	<b>4.4%</b>



	Adopted Budget FY 2015/2016	Adopted Budget FY 2016/2017	\$ Amount Change Prior Year	% Change Prior Year
<b><u>PUBLIC WORKS</u></b>				
RECYCLING FUND	\$ 149,295	\$ 150,483	\$ 1,188	0.8%
PUBLIC WORKS HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT	1,741,427	1,813,196	71,769	4.1%
STREET LIGHTS	1,450	1,450	0	0.0%
ENGINEERING & PROF SERVICES	33,300	30,280	(3,020)	-9.1%
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS</b>	<b>\$ 1,925,472</b>	<b>\$ 1,995,409</b>	<b>\$ 69,937</b>	<b>3.6%</b>
<b><u>HEALTH &amp; SANITATION</u></b>				
HEALTH DEPARTMENT	\$ 75,613	\$ 78,447	\$ 2,834	3.7%
EMS COMMISSION	307,141	317,621	10,480	3.4%
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC HEALTH</b>	<b>\$ 382,754</b>	<b>\$ 396,068</b>	<b>\$ 13,314</b>	<b>3.5%</b>
<b><u>OTHER DEPARTMENTS</u></b>				
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	\$ 39,907	\$ 41,558	\$ 1,651	4.1%
PUBLIC WELFARE	4,193	4,334	141	3.4%
LIBRARY	605,743	626,912	21,169	3.5%
PARKS AND REC COMMISSION	386,068	407,213	21,145	5.5%
TREE WARDEN	11,221	11,974	753	6.7%
FIREHOUSE RENT	41,820	42,656	836	2.0%
CEMETERY	2,192	2,192	0	0.0%
ANIMAL CONTROL	91,714	93,205	1,491	1.6%
<b>TOTAL OTHER DEPARTMENTS</b>	<b>\$ 1,182,858</b>	<b>\$ 1,230,044</b>	<b>\$ 47,186</b>	<b>4.0%</b>
<b><u>GENERAL</u></b>				
FRINGE BENEFITS	\$ 1,836,841	\$ 1,823,430	\$ (13,411)	-0.7%
SOCIAL SECURITY & MEDICARE	445,000	462,000	17,000	3.8%
CONTINGENCY	150,000	145,000	(5,000)	-3.3%
<b>TOTAL GENERAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,431,841</b>	<b>\$ 2,430,430</b>	<b>\$ (1,411)</b>	<b>-0.1%</b>
<b>TOTAL NON EDUCATIONAL ACCOUNTS</b>	<b>\$ 10,546,211</b>	<b>\$ 10,820,945</b>	<b>\$ 274,734</b>	<b>2.6%</b>
TOWN'S CAPITAL	783,270	968,896	185,626	23.7%
DEBT SERVICE	3,492,341	3,402,568	(89,773)	-2.6%
PENSION COSTS	867,490	939,390	71,900	8.3%
INSURANCE COSTS	864,000	864,000	0	0.0%
<b>TOTAL TOWN ACCOUNTS</b>	<b>\$ 16,553,312</b>	<b>\$ 16,995,800</b>	<b>\$ 442,487</b>	<b>2.7%</b>
<b><u>EDUCATIONAL ACCOUNTS</u></b>				
EASTON BOE	\$ 15,581,592	\$ 15,746,880	\$ 165,288	1.1%
REGION 9 BOE	10,808,101	10,988,581	180,480	1.7%
<b>TOTAL EDUCATIONAL ACCOUNTS</b>	<b>\$ 26,389,693</b>	<b>\$ 26,735,461</b>	<b>\$ 345,768</b>	<b>1.3%</b>
<b>TOTAL TOWN BUDGET</b>	<b>\$ 42,943,005</b>	<b>\$ 43,731,261</b>	<b>\$ 788,255</b>	<b>1.8%</b>

**RECEIPTS AND ESTIMATED TAX CALCULATION**

	<b>Adopted Budget <u>FY2015/2016</u></b>	<b>Adopted Budget <u>FY2016/2017</u></b>	<b>% Change Prior Year</b>
<b><u>RECEIPTS</u></b>			
PROPERTY TAXES			
CURRENT YEAR	\$ 39,926,027	\$ 40,681,197	1.89%
PRIOR YEAR	175,000	175,000	0.00%
INTEREST AND FEES	120,000	120,000	0.00%
MOTOR VEHICLES	150,000	150,000	0.00%
TELEPHONE ACCESS	18,296	18,296	0.00%
ELDERLY TAX RELIEF	(350,000)	(300,000)	-14.29%
STATE CIRCUIT BREAKER	(34,670)	(34,670)	0.00%
SUB-TOTAL	<u>\$ 40,004,653</u>	<u>\$ 40,809,823</u>	2.01%
TOWN RECEIPTS	\$ 1,329,984	\$ 1,313,731	-1.22%
TREASURER INTEREST	125,000	125,000	0.00%
STATE GRANTS	983,368	982,707	-0.07%
SURPLUS APPROPRIATED TO FINANCE BUDGET	500,000	500,000	0.00%
SUB-TOTAL	<u>\$ 2,938,352</u>	<u>\$ 2,921,438</u>	-0.58%
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 42,943,005	\$ 43,731,261	1.84%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 42,943,005	\$ 43,731,261	1.84%
Tax Revenue Required	\$ 39,926,027	\$ 40,681,197	1.89%
Collection Rate	98.785%	98.785%	0.00%
Gross Revenue Required	40,417,095	41,181,553	1.89%
Grand List	1,330,424,935	1,336,452,269	0.45%
Tax Rate	30.38	30.81	1.43%
		0.43	

## HISTORICAL FINANCIAL DATA

The following table and graphs show selected financial data for the past 10 years. 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 for each year comes from the Required Supplementary Information section of the Town Financial Report.

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

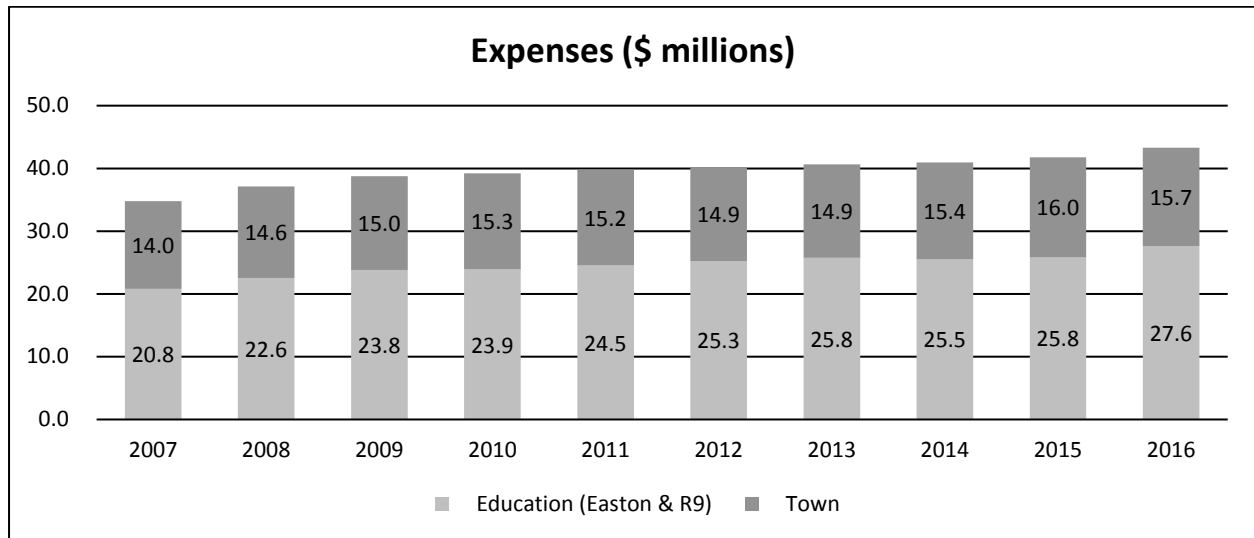
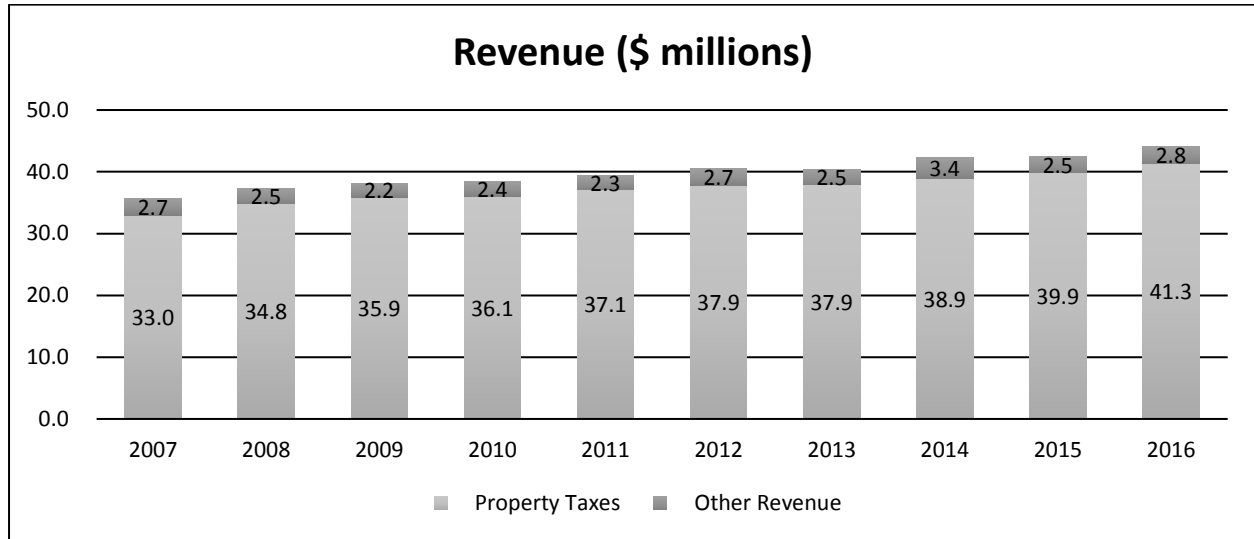
**Education Expenses (Easton & R9):** All expenses for Samuel Staples Elementary School, Hellen Keller Middle School and the portion of the Joel Barlow High School budget allocated to Easton. The data for each year comes from the Required Supplementary Information section of the Town Financial Report.

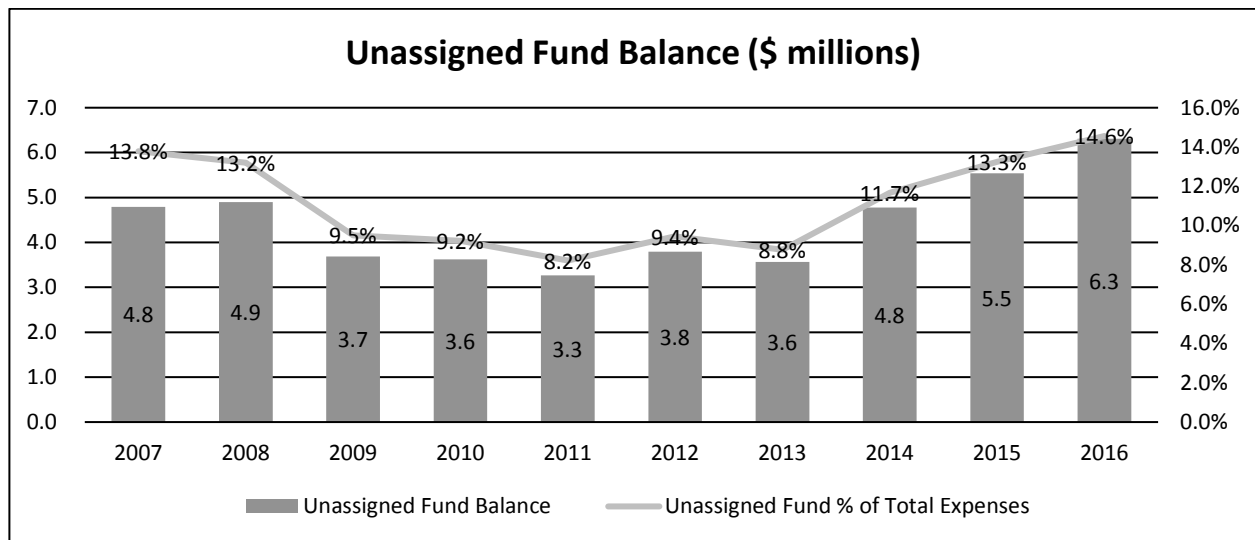
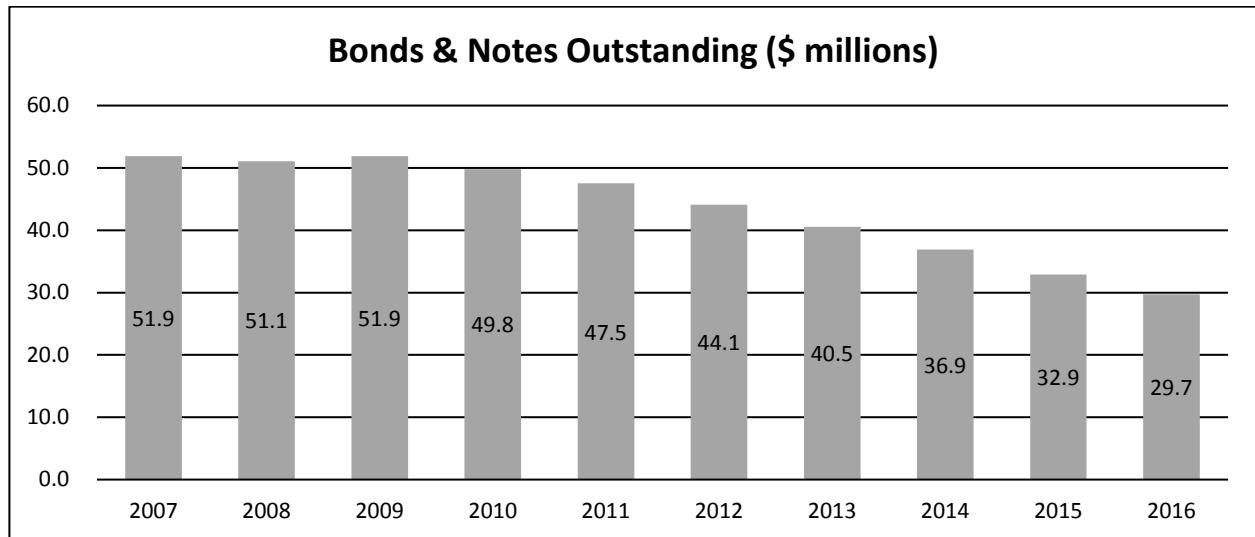
**Other Town Expenses:** All other town expenses (Police, Fire, Public Works, Parks & Rec, etc.) The data for each year comes from the Required Supplementary Information section of the Town Financial Report.

**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 data for each year 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 of the Town's outstanding general obligation bonds and bond anticipation notes plus the portion of the Region 9 School District general obligation debt to which the Town of Easton is obligated. The data for each year comes from the Financial Highlights section of the Management's Discussion and Analysis section of the Town Financial Report.

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Revenue										
Property Taxes	32,999,225	34,821,666	35,907,157	36,066,760	37,094,655	37,864,061	37,901,617	38,898,014	39,914,489	41,307,468
Other Revenue	2,694,920	2,474,312	2,245,708	2,427,990	2,278,423	2,670,106	2,542,238	3,355,499	2,540,836	2,755,476
Total Revenue	35,694,145	37,295,978	38,152,865	38,494,750	39,373,078	40,534,167	40,443,855	42,253,513	42,455,325	44,062,944
Expenses										
Education (Easton & R9)	20,809,914	22,560,536	23,812,961	23,901,960	24,528,540	25,269,448	25,763,045	25,516,586	25,821,507	27,589,693
Town	13,979,332	14,555,313	14,961,206	15,306,397	15,243,442	14,897,480	14,907,529	15,444,171	15,965,202	15,722,490
Total Expenses	34,789,246	37,115,849	38,774,167	39,208,357	39,771,982	40,166,928	40,670,574	40,960,757	41,786,709	43,312,183
Unassigned Fund Balance	4,794,464	4,898,593	3,685,291	3,619,684	3,269,780	3,795,019	3,568,300	4,780,254	5,536,960	6,305,761
Unassigned Fund % of Total Expenses	13.8%	13.2%	9.5%	9.2%	8.2%	9.4%	8.8%	11.7%	13.3%	14.6%
Bonds and Notes Outstanding	51,901,246	51,093,884	51,899,240	49,778,860	47,528,635	44,112,133	40,536,710	36,912,669	32,911,040	29,704,430







## **NOTES**

## NOTES

## **NOTES**



**TOWN OF EASTON, CT 06612**

