

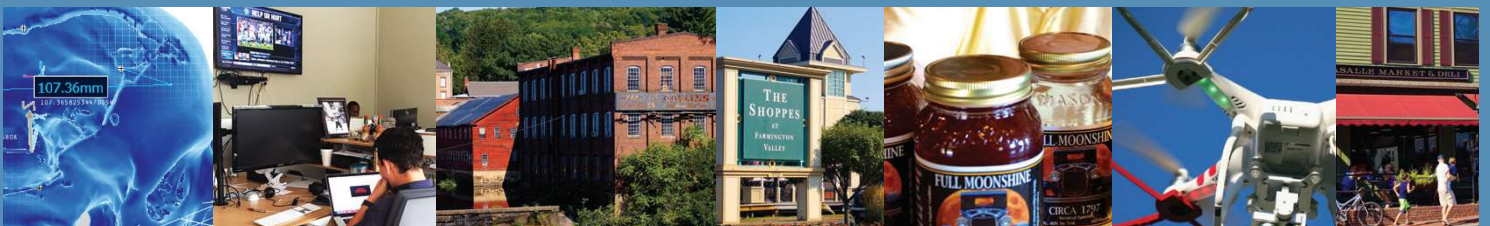
CANTON



Small Town, Big Impact

Town of Canton Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2020-2021



Town of Canton Annual Report Fiscal Year 2020-2021

The Town of Canton has dedicated its 2021 Annual Report to the Farmington Valley Health District in recognition of its outstanding work providing public health services to the town during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020-2021. The FVHD was exceptionally well led, well managed and well organized during this time. In addition to managing the District's COVID emergency preparedness response, the FVHD continued its work of food safety and health inspection services in the face of the pandemic.

In the uncertainty of the early days of pandemic, the FVHD had the most current, reliable information available. As data about case rates began to accumulate, FVHD became the reliable source of information about the situation in our town. Jennifer Kertanis, the FVHD Director, established weekly teleconferences with school superintendents, town emergency management officials, and town government officials. These meetings became the most authoritative source of data to us for what was happening in our town and the place to ask questions of knowledgeable, informed officials. In addition to data reporting, FVHD provided subject matter expertise to businesses and workplaces regarding COVID mitigation strategies and to the general public on isolation and quarantine through their contact tracing efforts.

As the pandemic evolved and vaccine became available, the FVHD had already prepared and practiced for mass vaccination. The FVHD worked diligently with the State for allocations of vaccine dosages and rapidly acquired the necessary equipment and ancillary supplies to properly store vaccine and administer it. The FVHD worked closely with Town emergency management and the visiting nurses association to mobilize medical and non-medical volunteers who have supported more than 90 vaccination clinics administering approximately 22,000 doses. The clinics began on December 28, 2020 with priority given to first responders and front line workers and then pivoted when the State went to age based vaccination eligibility. Since then FVHD has also held clinics to vaccinate school faculty and staff and also eligible children.

The mobile vaccination clinics further strained the FVHD's staff, but they responded superbly. Setting up each clinic resembled the demands of organizing a marching army. Scheduling appointments, tracking vaccinations administered, and completing paperwork represented a workload surge. The clinics were masterfully run and terrifically organized.

The FVHD was able to respond rapidly because they were well prepared. They were able to respond in an orderly way because they were well led. They were able to respond accurately with relevant data because they knew where to get the information and what the town needed. As a result of the terrific work of the FVHD in the face of the COVID pandemic, the Town of Canton proudly dedicates its 2021 Annual Report to the Farmington Valley Health District.



**Town of Canton Annual Report
Fiscal Year 2020-2021**

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**Town of Canton Annual Report
Fiscal Year 2020-2021**

**TOWN MEETING
MINUTES & ELECTION
RESULTS**



TOWN OF CANTON
NOTICE OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING - OCTOBER 20, 2020
REFERENDUM - NOVEMBER 3, 2020

A special town meeting of the electors and citizens qualified to vote in town meetings of the Town of Canton, Connecticut, will be held at the High School Auditorium, 76 Simonds Avenue, in Canton, Connecticut, on Tuesday, October 20, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. for the following purposes:

1. To consider a resolution,
 - (a) to appropriate \$4,885,000 for costs in connection with the reconstruction of Washburn Road Bridge over Jim Brook, West Road Bridge over Cherry Brook, and Old Canton Road Bridge over Rattlesnake Brook, contemplated to include testing and analysis, demolition of the existing bridges, access improvements and other related work and improvements; and to authorize the application for, the acceptance of, and the expenditure of the grants to partially fund the appropriation. The appropriation may be spent for design and construction costs, demolition and site improvements, appurtenances, equipment, materials, testing and inspection costs, surveying, engineering and other consultant fees, legal fees, net temporary interest and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project or it's financing. The Board of Selectmen shall determine the scope and particulars of the project, and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, including the deletion of components thereof; and the entire appropriation may be spent on the reduced or modified project. A portion of the appropriation shall be applied to reimburse the Town's undesignated General Fund balance for advances in an amount not to exceed \$771,221.50 in connection with costs of reconstruction of the West Road Bridge over Cherry Brook as approved by the Board of Finance at meeting held June 24, 2020. The Town anticipates receiving grants in the estimated amount of approximately \$2,409,000 to defray in part the appropriation for the project from the State of Connecticut pursuant to the Local Bridge Program (Chapter 240, Part IIb of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended), for an estimated net project cost of approximately \$2,476,000;
 - (b) to authorize the issue of bonds or notes of the Town in an amount not to exceed \$4,885,000 to finance the appropriation for the project, and to authorize the issue of temporary notes of the Town in an amount not to exceed \$4,885,000 in anticipation of such bonds or notes and the receipt of grants; to provide that the amount of bond and notes authorized to be issued shall be reduced by the amount of grants received by the Town for the project; to authorize the First Selectman and the Treasurer of the Town to determine the amounts, dates, interest rates, maturities, redemption provisions, form and other details of the bonds or notes and temporary notes, and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to issue the bonds or notes and temporary notes; to take such action to allow temporary advances of available funds which the Town reasonably expects will be reimbursed from the proceeds of borrowings; and to authorize the First Selectman and the Treasurer to bind the Town pursuant to such representations and covenants as they deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain the continued exemption from federal income taxation of interest on the bonds or notes and temporary notes authorized by the resolution if issued on a tax-exempt basis, including covenants to pay rebates of investment earnings to the United States in future years and to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the bonds or notes to provide secondary market

disclosure information, which agreements may include such terms as they deem advisable or appropriate in order to comply with applicable laws or rules pertaining to the sale or purchase of such bonds or notes and temporary notes;

(c) to authorize the First Selectman, the Chief Administrative Officer, or other proper officers or officials of the Town to apply for and accept grants and loans to finance the appropriation for the project, and to enter into any grant or loan agreement prescribed by the State of Connecticut or any other grantor or lender, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen, the First Selectman, the Treasurer, the Chief Administrative Officer, and other proper officers and officials of the Town to take any other actions necessary to obtain such grants or loans, including without limitation grants or loans pursuant to the State of Connecticut Local Bridge Program; and

(d) to authorize the Board of Selectmen, the First Selectman, the Treasurer, the Chief Administrative Officer, and other proper officers and officials of the Town to take all other action which is necessary or desirable to construct and complete the project and to issue bonds, notes or temporary notes to finance the aforesaid appropriation.

2. Pursuant to Sections 7-7, 9-369 and 9-369d of the General Statutes to adjourn said town meeting at its conclusion and to submit the resolution to be presented under item 1 of this Notice to referendum vote on Tuesday, November 3, 2020, between the hours of 6:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M., in conjunction with the election to be held on that date. Application for absentee ballots should be made to the Town Clerk's office. Electors shall vote on the question at the following polling place: Cafeteria Room, Canton High School, 76 Simonds Avenue, Canton, Connecticut. Persons qualified to vote in town meetings who are not electors shall vote on the question at the following polling place: Room #208 at Canton High School.

The aforesaid resolution will be placed on the ballots under the following heading:

“SHALL THE TOWN OF CANTON APPROPRIATE \$4,885,000 FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF WASHBURN ROAD BRIDGE OVER JIM BROOK, WEST ROAD BRIDGE OVER CHERRY BROOK, AND OLD CANTON ROAD BRIDGE OVER RATTLESNAKE BROOK; AND AUTHORIZE THE ISSUE OF BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE THE PORTION OF THE APPROPRIATION NOT FUNDED FROM GRANTS (ESTIMATED NET PROJECT COST OF APPROXIMATELY \$2,476,000)?”

Voters approving the resolution will vote “Yes” and those opposing the resolution will vote “No.”

THE COMPLETE TEXT OF THE RESOLUTION TO BE PRESENTED UNDER ITEM 1 OF THIS NOTICE IS ON FILE AND AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS, OR, WHEN REQUESTED, WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE BY MAIL.

Dated at Canton, Connecticut, this 13th day of October, 2020.

Board of Selectmen

MINUTES OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
OF THE TOWN OF CANTON
HELD OCTOBER 20, 2020
Canton High School Auditorium

A special town meeting of the electors and citizens qualified to vote in town meetings of the Town of Canton, Connecticut, was held at the Canton High School Auditorium, 76 Simonds Ave, Canton, Connecticut, on October 20, 2020 at 7:00pm. David Leff served as moderator of the meeting and Linda Smith acted as clerk.

There being no objection, the reading of the notice of the meeting was waived. An abbreviated reading of the notice and the whole Return of Notice was read by the clerk. The notice was published in the Hartford Courant on October 13, 2020, and is recorded in these records immediately preceding these minutes.

Item 1. (FYE 2021 Bridge Replacements Project)

The Moderator called for the presentation of the resolution warned under item 1 of the notice appropriating \$4,885,000 for the FYE 2021 Bridge Replacements Project. William Volovski moved the resolution for adoption, which motion was seconded by Gail Deutsch. In the absence of objection, the reading of the full text of the resolution into the minutes was waived, explanatory text having been made available to those in attendance. A copy of the full text of the resolution is recorded following these minutes.

The Moderator stated that since the Selectmen of the Town on their own initiative, had designated this item for submission to the voters in the manner provided by Section 7-7 of the General Statutes, it will be necessary to order a referendum on the resolution and adjourn this meeting after a reasonable discussion.

First Selectman Robert Bessel introduced DPW Director Robert Martin. Mr. Martin explained that the Town of Canton has 29 bridges on local roads. In April of 2018 we received a letter from the State of CT requesting we inspect 3 of those bridges. An RFP was awarded in which all 29 bridges were eventually inspected.

Project Administrator Glenn Cusano provided a PowerPoint presentation outlining the 3 bridges identified in the referendum question. This Power Point presentation follows these minutes.

Chief Administrative Officer Robert Skinner summarized the financial impact of the proposed bonding. See Power Point slide #10 for details.

The Moderator then stated that the meeting was open for discussion of the foregoing resolution. There were no comments or questions from the audience.

The Moderator declared that the town meeting was adjourned (motion by Robert Bessel; seconded by Warren Humphrey) to a referendum vote and that the resolution would be placed upon the ballots under the headings as set out in the Notice of the Special Town Meeting. Voters approving a resolution will vote "Yes" and those opposing said resolution will vote "No". Application for absentee

ballots should be made to the Town Clerk's office. Electors shall vote on the question at their respective polling places. Persons qualified to vote in town meetings who are not electors will vote at the following polling place: Canton High School, 76 Simonds Ave, Canton, CT, Room #208.

The town meeting adjourned at 7:26pm for a referendum vote on the resolution under item 1 of the Notice.

Filed 10/21/20

Linda Smith, Canton Town Clerk

Attachment: Full text of FYE 2021 Bridge Replacements Project Bond Resolution

RESOLUTION OF TOWN MEETING
APPROPRIATING \$4,885,000 FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF WASHBURN ROAD BRIDGE OVER JIM BROOK, WEST ROAD BRIDGE OVER CHERRY BROOK, AND OLD CANTON ROAD BRIDGE OVER RATTLESNAKE BROOK; AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE THE PORTION OF THE APPROPRIATION NOT FUNDED FROM GRANTS (ESTIMATED NET PROJECT COST OF APPROXIMATELY \$2,476,000)
OCTOBER 20, 2020

RESOLVED,

1. That the Town of Canton appropriate FOUR MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED EIGHTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$4,885,000) for costs in connection with the reconstruction of Washburn Road Bridge over Jim Brook, West Road Bridge over Cherry Brook, and Old Canton Road Bridge over Rattlesnake Brook, contemplated to include testing and analysis, demolition of the existing bridges, access improvements and other related work and improvements. The appropriation may be spent for design and construction costs, demolition and site improvements, appurtenances, equipment, materials, testing and inspection costs, surveying, engineering and other consultant fees, legal fees, net temporary interest and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project or its financing. The Board of Selectmen shall determine the scope and particulars of the project, and may reduce or modify the scope of the project, including the deletion of components thereof; and the entire appropriation may be spent on the reduced or modified project. A portion of the appropriation shall be applied to reimburse the Town's undesignated General Fund balance for advances in an amount not to exceed \$771,221.50 in connection with costs of reconstruction of the West Road Bridge over Cherry Brook as approved by the Board of Finance at meeting held June 24, 2020. The Town anticipates receiving grants in the estimated amount of approximately \$2,409,000 to defray in part the appropriation for the project from the State of Connecticut pursuant to the Local Bridge Program (Chapter 240, Part IIb of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended), for an estimated net project cost of approximately \$2,476,000. The application for, the acceptance of, and the expenditure of the aforesaid grants are hereby approved.

2. That the Town issue its bonds or notes in an amount not to exceed FOUR MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED EIGHTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$4,885,000) to finance the appropriation for the project. The amount of bond and notes authorized to be issued shall be reduced by the amount of grants received by the Town for the project. The bonds or notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-369 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, and any other

enabling acts. The bonds, notes or temporary notes shall be general obligations of the Town secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town.

3. That the Town issue and renew its temporary notes from time to time in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of the bonds or notes and the receipt of grants for the project. The amount of the temporary notes outstanding at any time shall not exceed FOUR MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED EIGHTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$4,885,000). The temporary notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-378 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, and any other enabling acts. The temporary notes shall be general obligations of the Town secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town. The Town shall comply with the provisions of Section 7-378a of the General Statutes if the temporary notes do not mature within the time permitted by said Section 7-378.

4. That the First Selectman and the Treasurer of the Town shall sign any bonds, notes or temporary notes by their manual or facsimile signatures. The law firm of Day Pitney LLP is designated as bond counsel to approve the legality of the bonds, notes or temporary notes. The First Selectman and the Treasurer are authorized to determine the amounts, dates, interest rates, maturities, redemption provisions, form and other details of the bonds, notes or temporary notes; to designate one or more banks or trust companies to be certifying bank, registrar, transfer agent and paying agent for the bonds, notes or temporary notes; to provide for the keeping of a record of the bonds or notes; to designate a financial advisor to the Town in connection with the sale of the bonds, notes or temporary notes; to sell the bonds, notes or temporary notes at public or private sale; to deliver the bonds, notes or temporary notes; and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to issue the bonds, notes or temporary notes.

5. That the Town hereby declares its official intent under Federal Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 that project costs may be paid from temporary advances of available funds and that (except to the extent reimbursed from grant moneys) the Town reasonably expects to reimburse any such advances from the proceeds of borrowings in an aggregate principal amount not in excess of the amount of borrowing authorized above for the project. The First Selectman and the Treasurer are authorized to amend such declaration of official intent as they deem necessary or advisable and to bind the Town pursuant to such representations and covenants as they deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain the continued exemption from federal income taxation of interest on the bonds, notes or temporary notes authorized by this resolution, if issued on a tax-exempt basis, including covenants to pay rebates of investment earnings to the United States in future years.

6. That the First Selectman and the Treasurer are authorized to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the bonds, notes or temporary notes to provide secondary market disclosure information, which agreements may include such terms as they deem advisable or appropriate in order to comply with applicable laws or rules pertaining to the sale or purchase of such bonds, notes or temporary notes.

7. That the First Selectman, the Chief Administrative Officer, or other proper officers or officials of the Town, on behalf of the Town, are authorized to apply for and accept grants and loans to finance the appropriation for the project, and to enter into any grant or loan agreement prescribed by the State of Connecticut or any other grantor or lender, and the Board of Selectmen, the First Selectman, the Treasurer, the Chief Administrative Officer, and other proper officers and officials of the Town are authorized to take any other actions necessary to obtain such grants or loans, including without limitation grants or loans pursuant to the Local Bridge Program (Chapter 240, Part IIb of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended), or to any other present or future legislation, and

to implement such grant or loan agreements. Any grant proceeds may be used to pay project costs or principal and interest on bonds or notes issued to finance the project.

8. That the Board of Selectmen, the First Selectman, the Treasurer, the Chief Administrative Officer, and other proper officers and officials of the Town are authorized to take all other action which is necessary or desirable to construct and complete the project and to issue bonds, notes or temporary notes to finance the aforesaid appropriation.

REFERENDUM RESULTS
November 3, 2020
Canton High School Auditorium

A referendum was held on Tuesday, November 3, 2020, between the hours of 6am and 8pm regarding the resolution contained herein. Absentee ballot counting continued on November 4, 2020. The Moderator announced that the question had been approved by the following vote:

“SHALL THE TOWN OF CANTON APPROPRIATE \$4,885,000 FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF WASHBURN ROAD BRIDGE OVER JIM BROOK, WEST ROAD BRIDGE OVER CHERRY BROOK, AND OLD CANTON ROAD BRIDGE OVER RATTLESNAKE BROOK; AND AUTHORIZE THE ISSUE OF BONDS AND NOTES TO FINANCE THE PORTION OF THE APPROPRIATION NOT FUNDED FROM GRANTS (ESTIMATED NET PROJECT COST OF APPROXIMATELY \$2,476,000)?”

Number of “Yes” votes	4220
Number of “No” votes	1687

LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF CANTON, CONNECTICUT
VIRTUAL ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
Wednesday, January 27, 2021

People can hear the meeting and make comments/questions by calling the following number: 1-929-436-2866
Webinar ID: 810 5634 9340
Passcode: 222781

Or view the meeting by using the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81056349340?pwd=UGhZRUFNYnk1aGplQ2lFblpnL3RCdz09>

Notice is hereby given to the electors of the Town of Canton and those qualified taxpayers lawfully entitled to vote in Canton Town Meetings pursuant to Section 7-6 of the Connecticut General Statutes

that the Town of Canton will hold a virtual Annual Town Meeting on Wednesday, January 27, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. to:

Accept the Annual Report pursuant to Charter Section 3.04 and to dedicate the Annual Report to the Cherry Brook Garden Club and the Collinsville Pollen Trail at Allen Place in recognition of their volunteer efforts to beautify the Town and improve our natural environment.

In accordance with the Town Charter, no binding votes will be taken.

Dated at Canton, Connecticut this 19th day of January, 2021
Board of Selectmen

TOWN OF CANTON, CONNECTICUT
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
Wednesday, January 27, 2021

The Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Canton was held virtually on Wednesday, January 27, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. Robert Bessel, First Selectman, acted as Moderator. Mr. Bessel called the meeting to order at 7:01p.m. The Town Clerk, Linda Smith, read the call of the meeting and the return of notice.

The meeting began with a dedication of the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Annual Report to the Cherry Brook Garden Club and Collinsville Pollen Trail at Allen Place. Mr. Bessel recognized Executive Assistant Claudia Nardi and the entire staff for their efforts in putting the report together. It is located on the town website for all to read.

Mr. Bessel dedicated with gratitude and respect, the Town of Canton's FY 2019-2020 Annual Report to the Cherry Brook Garden Club and the Collinsville Pollen Trail at Allen Place for their volunteer efforts to beautify the Town and improve our environment by managing gardens and trails in Canton. The Garden Club's motto is to conserve the irreplaceable, to improve what they grow and to exhibit the best. This is shown through the club's ability to promote an interest and knowledge of gardening through civic improvements. One of the many missions of the Cherry Brook Garden Club is civic beautification. The club has beautified Canton with flowers along bike and walking trails, town buildings such as the Canton Public Library and the Canton Community Center along with the bandstand at the Town Green. Cherry Brook Garden Club has fun while improving the appearance of our town and this effort is admired by everyone who visits Canton. Annual luncheons, monthly meetings and annual plant sales are some of the many ways the Garden Club stays motivated. Additionally, each year they provide beautiful wreaths to municipal buildings for all to enjoy. It is evident that they take pride in the Canton community by sharing knowledge and enthusiasm for all things green and growing! The Collinsville Pollen Trail is a community planting effort aimed at building an extended native plant garden. Its mission is planting for pollinators, biodiversity, birds and generally bringing wildlife back into our lives while creating a welcoming space for residents and visitors. The Pollen Trail project began several years ago, headed by Canton resident, Karen Berger, along with the Cherry Brook Garden Club and the

UConn Extension Master Gardener Program. In March 2019, Eversource's Vegetation Management team supervised the clearing of the trail of trees to ensure that electrical service would not be compromised. This created an area for design for the Collinsville Pollen Trail. The collaborative effort with Eversource, the Town's Public Works department and community volunteers allowed the first phase of planting which consisted of 31 native shrubs in the fall of 2019. Thanks to continued collaboration with the Town, community volunteers and the Cherry Brook Garden Club, empty areas along the trail will soon be filled with native trees, pollinator-attracting shrubs and perennials in the hope of returning wildlife to the Allen place area. For anyone who has walked along that area, they can see that much of this is already in place for all to enjoy.

Mr. Bessel welcomed on to the call Angie Roman, Karen Berger, Holly Hambleton, Gail Deutsch, Jenny Abel, Teresa Barger, Glenn Cusano, and Bob Martin. The collaboration between the group and the Town have made it a success.

Karen Berger spoke on behalf of the Collinsville Pollen Trail at Allen Place. She thanked the Board of Selectmen, CAO Robert Skinner and DPW Director Robert Martin, Tom Richardson and the entire DPW staff whose support made the project possible. She also recognized Teresa Barger and Jenny Abel for bringing their talents to the project. The area was transformed from a hedge of knotweed to a robust native habitat. Multiple large-scale pollinator beds were planted with over 200 native grasses and perennials donated by Monroe Nursery, UConn Master Gardeners, members of Cherry Brook Garden Club and Eversource. Over fifty volunteers worked over 700 hours last summer planting, weeding, watering, cutting knotweed, mowing, and removing invasive species. The honor of this dedication validates that work. The group hopes to see everyone on the trail in 2021.

Angie Roman, President of the Cherry Brook Garden Club, expressed her appreciation for this recognition of the club and its members for their involvement in so many projects throughout town. She recognized the support given to them from the Town, the Board of Selectmen, and the Department of Public Works. The Club looks forward to continuing its work with, and for, the town for many years to come.

The group provided a short video of the progress that was made. This video will be posted to the town website.

Gail Deutsch commented that the site looks simple but the amount of scientific research that went into it was amazing.

Karen Berger commented that every stem of knotweed has been removed going down the bank towards Rattlesnake Brook. The scenic view in this area will be kept open. They also want to speak with DPW about future sites in Canton for starting smaller pollinator gardens.

Bob Martin commented that it was a pleasure working with these groups on this project.

Holly Hambleton also commented that the path looks great in the snow and is being actively used.

Comments:

Sarah Faulkner - Dyer Ave

Paul Barrow - Pine Acres Drive

There being no further business or discussion, Bill Volovski made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Gail Deutsch.

The meeting adjourned at 7:26pm

Linda Smith, Town Clerk

Received for record Jan 28, 2021

Legal Notice
Town of Canton Budget Referendum
May 11, 2021

Pursuant to Article X of the Canton Town Charter, a Town Budget Referendum will be held on Tuesday, May 11, 2021 from 6am-8pm at the Canton Community Center, 40 Dyer Ave, for all electors and those qualified to vote in Town Meetings in the Town of Canton.

The Electors of the Town of Canton and any citizen of the United States of the age of eighteen years or more who, jointly or severally, is liable to the Town of Canton for taxes assessed against them on an assessment of not less than \$1,000 on the last completed grand list of the Town is hereby warned to meet at 40 Dyer Avenue, Canton, CT on Tuesday, May 11, 2021 to cast their vote on the following question:

“SHALL THE BOARD OF FINANCE’S RECOMMENDED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021/2022 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$41,893,332 BE APPROVED?”

Voting machines will be used. The polls will be opened at 6am and will remain open until 8pm.

A summary of the recommended annual budget is available for public inspection at the office of the Town Clerk, the Canton Public Library, and at www.townofcantonct.org .

Jennifer Rottkamp

Chairman, Board of Finance

The Canton budget passed with a vote of:

YES	313
NO	111

LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF CANTON, CONNECTICUT
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
Wednesday, June 9, 2021

Notice is hereby given to the electors of the Town of Canton and those qualified taxpayers lawfully entitled to vote in Canton Town Meetings pursuant to Section 7-6 of the Connecticut General Statutes that a Special Town Meeting will be commenced on Wednesday, June 9, 2021 at 7:00 PM in Room F located at the Canton Public Library & Community Center, 40 Dyer Avenue, Canton, Connecticut, to consider and take action on the following questions:

1. Shall the Town of Canton approve submitting a Neighborhood Assistance Act grant application in the amount of \$47,895 to the Department of Revenue Services on behalf of the ARC of the Farmington Valley for the purpose of funding energy efficiency measures?
2. Shall the Town of Canton approve submitting a Neighborhood Assistance Act grant application in the amount of \$122,000 on behalf of New Horizons, Inc. for the purposes of funding energy efficient windows?
3. Shall the Town of Canton approve submitting a Neighborhood Assistance Act grant application in the amount of \$30,100 on behalf of FOCUS Center for Autism, Inc. for the purpose of funding energy efficiency measures?

Copies of the Neighborhood Assistance Act applications can be located on line at www.townofcantonct.org and in the office of the Town Clerk and at the Canton Public Library.

Dated at Canton, Connecticut this 1st day of June, 2021

Board of Selectmen
Robert Bessel
First Selectman

TOWN OF CANTON, CONNECTICUT
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
Wednesday, June 9, 2021

A Special Town Meeting of the Town of Canton was held on Wednesday, June 9, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Canton Public Library and Community Center, 40 Dyer Avenue, Collinsville, CT. David Leff, Moderator, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Town Clerk, Linda Smith, read the call of the meeting and the return of notice.

1. Robert Bessel moved that the meeting consider and take action on the following question:
 - a. Shall the Town of Canton approve submitting a Neighborhood Assistance Act grant application in the amount of \$47,895 to the Department of Revenue Services on behalf of the ARC of the Farmington Valley for the purpose of funding energy efficiency measures?

Seconded by Tim LeGeyt.

Discussion:

As a matter of procedure, Chief Administrative Officer Robert Skinner explained that this meeting, although being live streamed, is an in-person meeting and votes counted will be from those eligible and in physical attendance at the meeting.

The town's role in the Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) is essentially an administrative function to seek applicants, review applications, forward them on to a town meeting, and (if approved at town meeting) eventually send to the Department of Revenue Services, so that tax credits can be established for corporations who make donations to the non-profits listed in the applications. No town tax dollars are involved in this process. For the non-profits that enter this process, it can be very rewarding.

The first application is from the ACR of Farmington Valley. They are seeking funds to purchase LED lighting in order to promote energy efficiency.

COMMENTS:

1. David Sinish – 20 Dyer Ave

There being no further comments, a voice vote was called.

The motion vote passed unanimously.

2. Robert Bessel moved that the meeting consider and take action on the following question:
 - a. Shall the Town of Canton approve submitting a Neighborhood Assistance Act grant application in the amount of \$122,000 on behalf of New Horizons, Inc. for the purposes of funding energy efficient windows?

Seconded by Gail Deutsch.

Discussion:

CAO Skinner explained that New Horizons does business in Canton as Cherry Brook Health Center. Their windows were installed 27 years ago and they are looking to make them more energy efficient.

NO COMMENTS

There being no further comments, a voice vote was called.
The motion vote passed unanimously.

3. Robert Bessel moved that the meeting consider and take action on the following question:
 - a. Shall the Town of Canton approve submitting a Neighborhood Assistance Act grant application in the amount of \$30,100 on behalf of FOCUS Center for Autism, Inc. for the purpose of funding energy efficiency measures?

Seconded by Bill Volovski.

Discussion:

CAO Skinner explained that this is another application from a non-profit looking to improve their energy efficiency.

NO COMMENTS

There being no further comments, a voice vote was called.
The motion vote passed unanimously.

There being no further business before the Special town Meeting, Robert Bessel made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Katie Kenney.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10pm

Linda Smith, Town Clerk

Received for record June 10, 2021



PRINCIPAL OFFICIALS

TOWN OF CANTON
PRINCIPAL TOWN OFFICIALS
June 30, 2021

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Robert Bessel, First Selectman

Warren Humphrey
William Volovski

Timothy LeGeyt
Gail Deutsch

BOARD OF FINANCE

Jennifer Rottkamp, Chairman

Andrew Lavery
Kenneth S. Humphrey
Katie Kenney

Jonathan Webb
Sarah Faulkner

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Julie Ausere, Chairman

Kim Sullivan
Erika Hayes
Ryan O'Donnell
Nicholas Aligizakis

Maria Bradley
Ana Cavanaugh
Jack Powell
Joe Scheideler

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Chief Administrative Officer
Chief of Police/Director of Emergency Management
Finance Officer/Treasurer
Tax Collector
Assessor
Town Clerk
Project Administrator
Director of Planning and Community Development
Director of Public Works
Library Director
Parks and Recreation Director
Building Official
Fire Marshal
Senior/Social Services Director (Interim)

Robert Skinner
Christopher Arciero
William Geiger
Christine Silansky
Kerri Kazlauskas
Linda Smith
Glenn Cusano
Neil Pade
Robert Martin
Sarah McCusker
Taryn Schragger
Jerry Waters
Timothy Tharau
Tonoa Jackson

EDUCATION

Superintendent of Schools
Assistant to the Superintendent for Financial Affairs

Kevin D. Case
Martha Guidry

Town of Canton Annual Report
Fiscal Year 2020-2021



AUDITOR'S REPORT

TOWN OF CANTON, CONNECTICUT
 SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES -
 BUDGET AND ACTUAL - BUDGETARY BASIS - GENERAL FUND (UNAUDITED)
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance With Final Budget Over (Under)
	Original	Final		
PROPERTY TAXES				
Current year tax collections	\$ 35,380,296	\$ 35,380,296	\$ 35,465,768	\$ 85,472
Prior year tax collections	155,000	155,000	129,408	(25,592)
Tax interest and liens	90,000	90,000	144,174	54,174
Total property taxes	<u>35,625,296</u>	<u>35,625,296</u>	<u>35,739,350</u>	<u>114,054</u>
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUES				
Town aid road	256,218	256,218	256,285	67
Education cost-sharing	3,412,918	3,412,918	3,419,620	6,702
State PILOT - disabled	793	793	756	(37)
State PILOT-veterans	2,198	2,198	2,118	(80)
State PILOT - State property	9,325	9,325	9,325	-
State PILOT - manufacturing	-	-	7,994	7,994
Housing Authority	12,000	12,000	18,962	6,962
Total intergovernmental revenues	<u>3,693,452</u>	<u>3,693,452</u>	<u>3,715,060</u>	<u>21,608</u>
CHARGES FOR SERVICES				
Telecom tax	20,000	20,000	21,690	1,690
BOE tuition fees	315,000	315,000	395,556	80,556
Hunting and fishing licenses	100	100	48	(52)
Town clerk miscellaneous permits and licenses	10,000	10,000	9,186	(814)
Dog licenses	1,300	1,300	1,351	51
Fire Marshall permits and fire reports	600	600	270	(330)
Building licenses and permits	190,000	190,000	310,409	120,409
Land use licenses and permits	1,200	1,200	2,748	1,548
Zoning license & fees	3,000	3,000	4,170	1,170
Zoning applications	6,000	6,000	7,521	1,521
Aquifer Protection applications	400	400	-	(400)
Planning applications	800	800	700	(100)
ZBA appeal fee	400	400	390	(10)
Inland wetlands	1,500	1,500	1,700	200
BOE miscellaneous revenue	6,000	6,000	24,823	18,823
Town clerk conveyance tax	220,000	220,000	329,524	109,524
Tax and town clerk printing services	12,000	12,000	13,218	1,218
Tax CPACE Admin Fee	-	-	500	500
Bad check fees	300	300	220	(80)

(Continued)

TOWN OF CANTON, CONNECTICUT
 SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES -
 BUDGET AND ACTUAL - BUDGETARY BASIS - GENERAL FUND (UNAUDITED) *(Concluded)*
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance With Final Budget Over (Under)
	Original	Final		
CHARGES FOR SERVICES <i>(Continued)</i>				
Police printing and duplicating services	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200	\$ 501	\$ (699)
Private duty - administration	90,000	90,000	89,363	(637)
Police gun permits	4,800	4,800	11,900	7,100
Police raffle tickets	100	100	-	(100)
Alarm registration fees	300	300	200	(100)
Vendor permits	200	200	1,360	1,160
Traffic fines	4,500	4,500	7,855	3,355
Police miscellaneous	1,500	1,500	1,983	483
Dog license/shelter fee	11,280	11,280	11,708	428
Dog adoption fee	10	10	-	(10)
Insurance rebates	18,000	18,000	10,477	(7,523)
Rental town property	9,000	9,000	-	(9,000)
AT&T tower	23,000	23,000	23,184	184
BOS miscellaneous revenue	3,000	3,000	5,324	2,324
Dial-a-Ride tickets	3,000	3,000	3,470	470
Swimming pool fees	20,000	20,000	30,966	10,966
Pool daily attendance fee	9,000	9,000	6,737	(2,263)
Land use printing and duplicating services	75	75	9	(66)
Library printing and duplicating services	2,000	2,000	531	(1,469)
Library income	7,000	7,000	263	(6,737)
Total charges for services	996,565	996,565	1,329,855	333,290
INVESTMENT INCOME	165,000	165,000	67,287	(97,713)
Total revenues	40,480,313	40,480,313	40,851,552	371,239
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES				
Appropriations of fund balance	200,000	511,118	-	(511,118)
Total other financing sources	200,000	511,118	-	(511,118)
Total revenues and other other financing sources	\$ 40,680,313	\$ 40,991,431	\$ 40,851,552	(139,879) <i>(Continued)</i>

TOWN OF CANTON, CONNECTICUT
 SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES-
 BUDGET AND ACTUAL - BUDGETARY BASIS - GENERAL FUND (UNAUDITED)
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance With Final Budget Over (Under)
	Original	Final		
GENERAL GOVERNMENT				
Board of Selectmen	\$ 32,379	\$ 29,149	\$ 29,149	\$ -
Chief Administrator	267,145	258,501	258,501	-
Election	35,765	31,155	31,155	-
Probate court	3,907	3,907	3,907	-
Town counsel	58,000	50,483	50,483	-
Town clerk	144,343	145,607	145,607	-
Information technologies	104,310	104,751	104,751	-
Total general government	<u>645,849</u>	<u>623,553</u>	<u>623,553</u>	<u>-</u>
FINANCE				
Board of Finance	72,600	72,600	61,643	(10,957)
Finance	413,080	442,008	442,008	-
Assessor	102,129	101,828	101,828	-
Tax collector	107,161	108,503	108,503	-
Total finance	<u>694,970</u>	<u>724,939</u>	<u>713,982</u>	<u>(10,957)</u>
PUBLIC SAFETY				
Police	2,085,014	2,136,277	2,117,591	(18,686)
Service incentive	23,244	23,976	23,976	-
Fire services	406,226	397,887	397,887	-
Fire marshal	61,992	60,685	60,685	-
Emergency services	186,731	186,731	186,731	-
Total public safety	<u>2,763,207</u>	<u>2,805,556</u>	<u>2,786,870</u>	<u>(18,686)</u>
PUBLIC WORKS				
Town hall	301,838	322,732	322,732	-
Park department	119,597	114,855	114,855	-
General highway	1,148,787	1,184,012	1,169,446	(14,566)
Town garage	38,585	38,585	38,585	-
Utilities	236,200	226,042	226,042	-
Community center	94,625	94,625	94,625	-
Total public works	<u>1,939,632</u>	<u>1,980,851</u>	<u>1,966,285</u>	<u>(14,566)</u>

(Continued)

TOWN OF CANTON, CONNECTICUT
 SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES -
 BUDGET AND ACTUAL - BUDGETARY BASIS - GENERAL FUND (UNAUDITED) *(Concluded)*
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance With Final Budget Over (Under)
	Original	Final		
HUMAN SERVICES				
Community agencies	\$ 97,785	\$ 94,978	\$ 94,978	\$ -
Senior/Social services	216,381	214,713	214,713	-
Park and recreation	175,124	192,319	192,319	-
Library	640,609	612,557	612,557	-
Total human services	<u>1,129,899</u>	<u>1,114,567</u>	<u>1,114,567</u>	<u>-</u>
INSURANCE				
	<u>300,287</u>	<u>276,051</u>	<u>276,051</u>	<u>-</u>
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT				
Building official	65,159	63,374	63,374	-
Town planner	318,430	312,701	312,701	-
Total planning and development	<u>383,589</u>	<u>376,075</u>	<u>376,075</u>	<u>-</u>
FRINGE BENEFITS				
	<u>2,351,533</u>	<u>2,387,874</u>	<u>2,386,269</u>	<u>(1,605)</u>
CONTINGENCY				
	<u>80,500</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
EDUCATION				
Education - operations	27,438,282	27,438,282	27,074,909	(363,373)
Education - transfer of portion of year end surplus to Capital Improvements	-	-	101,000	101,000
Total education	<u>27,438,282</u>	<u>27,438,282</u>	<u>27,175,909</u>	<u>(262,373)</u>
DEBT SERVICE				
Principal	1,480,000	1,480,000	1,480,000	-
Interest	432,913	432,913	432,913	-
Total debt service	<u>1,912,913</u>	<u>1,912,913</u>	<u>1,912,913</u>	<u>-</u>
Total expenditures	<u>39,640,661</u>	<u>39,640,661</u>	<u>39,332,474</u>	<u>(308,187)</u>
OTHER FINANCING USES				
Transfers out:				
Emergency Services Fund	165,677	165,677	165,677	-
Youth Services Bureau	11,300	11,300	11,300	-
Capital and Nonrecurring Fund	862,675	1,173,793	1,173,793	-
Total other financing uses	<u>1,039,652</u>	<u>1,350,770</u>	<u>1,350,770</u>	<u>-</u>
Total expenditures and other financing uses	<u>\$ 40,680,313</u>	<u>\$ 40,991,431</u>	<u>\$ 40,683,244</u>	<u>\$ (308,187)</u>

(Concluded)

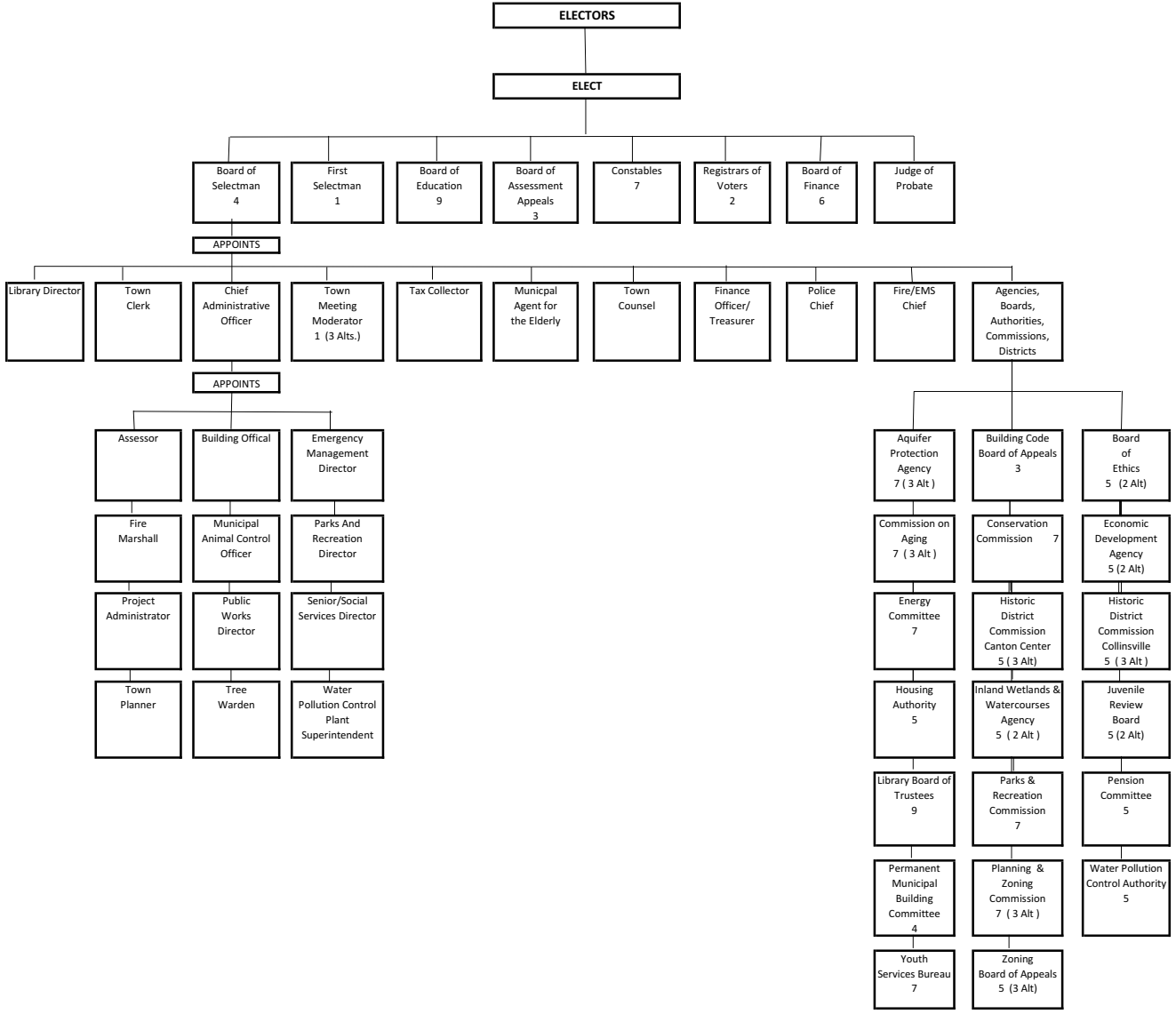
TOWN OF CANTON, CONNECTICUT
 SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY TAXES LEVIED, COLLECTED AND OUTSTANDING
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

Grand List Year Fees	Balance Collections Uncollected Interest and June 30, 2020 Total	Current Uncollected Levy June 30, 2021	Lawful Corrections		Transfers Balance To Suspense	Balance To Be Collected	Taxes	Lien
			Additions	Deductions				
2004	\$ 21,768	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 21,768	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2005	22,604	-	-	-	-	22,604	-	85
2006	23,393	-	-	-	-	23,393	-	130
2007	23,792	-	-	-	-	23,792	-	-
2008	29,407	-	-	-	-	29,407	-	54
2009	30,178	-	-	-	-	30,178	-	319
2010	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	450
2011	30,559	-	-	-	-	30,559	-	102
2012	31,126	-	-	-	-	31,126	-	1,596
2013	33,033	-	-	-	-	33,033	-	970
2014	34,313	-	195	-	-	34,508	300	1,341
2015	38,280	-	-	-	1,018	37,262	1,697	1,281
2016	62,577	-	-	-	1,605	60,972	7,573	5,693
2017	97,053	-	470	-	1,155	96,368	33,278	9,929
2018	223,280	-	5,118	11,727	2,116	214,555	114,980	26,663
Total prior years	701,363	-	5,783	11,727	27,662	667,757	157,828	48,613
2019	-	35,613,978	293,525	193,294	3,470	35,710,739	35,434,027	98,513
Total	\$ 701,363	\$ 35,613,978	\$ 299,308	\$ 205,021	\$ 31,132	\$ 36,378,496	\$ 35,591,855	\$ 147,126



TOWN OF CANTON ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

**TOWN OF CANTON, CONNECTICUT
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART**





ANNUAL REPORT

AQUIFER PROTECTION AGENCY

The Aquifer Protection Agency (“APA”) is a registration and permitting agency charged by the State of Connecticut to review, evaluate, and take action on existing and proposed regulated activities potentially having an adverse environmental impact on public drinking ground water supplies.

During fiscal year 2020-2021, the APA held no regular meeting and no special meetings.

The APA has an Authorized Agent who reports to the Agency the status of and compliance with all permits and registrations issued under its authority and to also acts as the APA’s enforcement officer.

The APA operates with seven (7) regular members and two (2) alternates.

The APA holds regular quarterly meetings and special meetings on an as-needed basis on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:50 p.m. All meetings are open to the public.

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

The Assessor's Office is responsible for the preparation of the Town's annual Grand List. The Grand List is a complete listing of all properties in town, their ownership and assessed value as of October 1st each year. The 2020 Grand List as of October 1, 2020 was \$1,107,802,290. The overall 2020 Grand List increased by \$15,896,116 or 1.46%. This information is then used by the Board of Finance to help determine the mill rate and in preparing the July tax bills. The Town is required to revalue all real estate assessments once every five years to 70% of their fair market value. The revaluation took place in 2018; the next is in the fall of 2023.

Listed below are the three categories that make up the Grand List. The amounts reported are prior to any adjustments made by the Board of Assessment Appeals.

Real Estate Increased from \$947,455,115 to \$954,848,835 or 0.78%. Real estate increased due to residential and commercial development. Canton had seven newly constructed buildings completed and ten partially constructed buildings. In addition, discrepancies found when comparing our data to Realtor.com increased the list by \$554,800. Homes are assessed at 70% of their market value, as done in all CT municipalities.

Personal Property increased \$51,794,460 to \$57,791,630 or 11.58%. Items that make up personal property include business furniture, fixtures, office equipment, computers, leased equipment, industrial and construction equipment, utility poles, pipes, cables and conduits. Personal Property is assessed each year at 70% of its value. Additionally, a 15% increase penalty was instituted for non-filers.

Motor Vehicles increased \$92,656,599 to \$95,161,825 or 2.70%. Included in this figure are all motor vehicles registered and garaged in Canton on October 1st of each year. Motor Vehicles are valued using the NADA Pricing Guide unless they are registered as a Historic Vehicle.

In preparation of the Grand List, tax maps are kept current. Extensive fieldwork is completed to update our records for building changes. This office is also responsible for the administration of the veterans, blind and disabled exemption programs and the State and Town elderly tax relief program. This year a total of \$247,768.80 was granted in elderly tax relief tax relief to 131 property owners.

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

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As required by State law, the Board of Assessment Appeals meets in March concerning all appeals for Real Property from the Grand List of October 1, 2020 and in September to hear Motor Vehicle appeals only. Any property owner who felt the assessment of their property due to the Revaluation was inaccurate could appeal to the Board.

A total of sixteen (8) appeals were heard; (6 Real Estate, 2 Personal Property, and 1 Motor Vehicle).

The results of these appeals were:

Real Estate	2 Granted	4 Denied
Personal Property	0 Granted	1 Denied
Motor Vehicles	0 Granted	1 Denied

Final Grand List after the Board of Assessment Appeals

<u>Gross</u>	<u>Exemptions</u>	<u>Net</u>
1,194,861,095	87,184,857	1,107,676,500

Board of Assessment Appeals Members

David Sinish, Chairman
Joe Pelehach
Brad Parliman

BOARD OF ETHICS

During FY2021-2021 all scheduled regular meetings of the Board of Ethics were cancelled. The Board received two notices of recusals for possible conflicts of interest from two town officials. The two vacancies in the board of seven members were filled by the Board of Selectmen by appointing two alternates, Paul Barrow and Roger Rousseau.

The Board of Ethics meets when needed at 7:00 PM on the third Tuesday of the month at the Canton Community Center, 40 Dyer Avenue unless scheduled otherwise. The Board of Ethics meeting schedule, meeting agendas and minutes are posted on the Town of Canton website: www.townofcantonct.org. The public is welcome to attend.

David R. Kubas, Chairman
Canton Board of Ethics
December 30, 2021

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Chapter 541 of the Connecticut General Statutes sets forth the need, duties, requirements and conditions for the Building Department. Chapter 541, part 1.a. of the CGS also states that all towns, cities and boroughs in the State of Connecticut shall use this code as their Building Code. This department is responsible for issuing all building and associated permits. Plan review, various inspections and the issuance of Certificates of Occupancy or Completion are among the duties of the office. The Building Official, performing the duties of the office on a part-time basis, conducted a total of 887 inspections. The Building Department will continue in its efforts to provide customer service and promote safety and general welfare in the construction environment while enforcing the building codes.

Permit Statistics

Type	Count	Fees	Cost Of Construction
Building - Commercial - Alterations	25	\$8,625.40	\$620,072.35
Building - Commercial - Electrical	42	\$18,424.00	\$1,981,707.17
Building - Commercial - Fitout	4	\$8,770.00	\$625,945.00
Building - Commercial - Mechanical	24	\$9,461.42	\$838,399.83
Building - Commercial - New Construction	6	\$101,878.00	\$7,308,350.00
Building - Commercial - Plumbing	21	\$3,591.00	\$129,878.00
Building - Commercial - Roofing	4	\$448.00	\$128,924.10
Building - Commercial - Siding	1	\$1,386.00	\$98,037.00
Building - Commercial - Signage	1	\$112.00	\$8,000.00
Building - Commercial - Sprinkler System	6	\$1,428.00	\$101,170.00
Building - Residential - Alterations	74	\$19,264.00	\$1,357,874.06
Building - Residential - Chimney Liner	4	\$140.00	\$8,660.00
Building - Residential - Deck	25	\$3,514.00	\$229,937.00
Building - Residential - Demolition	7	\$731.20	\$52,782.00
Building - Residential - Electrical	169	\$9,492.00	\$846,838.00
Building - Residential - Finished Basement	10	\$3,332.00	\$237,000.00
Building - Residential - Gas Log Insert	15	\$840.00	\$53,771.64
Building - Residential - Mechanical	260	\$25,406.00	\$1,872,812.92
Building - Residential - New Construction	23	\$17,329.00	\$1,235,900.00
Building - Residential - New Home	5	\$19,908.00	\$1,422,000.00
Building - Residential - Photo-voltaic	21	\$10,759.00	\$768,340.00
Building - Residential - Plumbing	95	\$3,976.00	\$348,294.60
Building - Residential - Roofing	89	\$16,156.00	\$1,119,172.32
Building - Residential - Shed	9	\$1,652.00	\$115,763.79
Building - Residential - Siding	8	\$2,226.00	\$155,626.50
Building - Residential - Swimming Pool	20	\$11,088.00	\$785,766.00
Building - Residential - Window Replacement	24	\$3,724.00	\$244,902.25
Total:	992	\$303,661.02	\$22,695,924.53

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Canton Conservation Commission is authorized under CGS 7-1319 and Chapter 149 of the Town of Canton code. The primary functions of the Conservation Commission are to monitor and make recommendations regarding the development, conservation, supervision and regulation of natural resources including water resources in the Town of Canton. The Commission conducts research into the utilization of land areas of the municipality, prepares maps and publications, inventories natural resources and keeps an index of all open space areas, publicly or privately owned, including marshlands, swamps and other wetlands, for the purpose of obtaining information on the proper use of such areas. From time to time, the Conservation Commission makes recommendations to the Planning and Zoning Commission, Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency, and other municipal agencies regarding plans and programs for the development, protection, and other use of such areas, as well as on proposed land use changes, land protection plans, and management of municipally-owned open spaces or natural areas.

The Conservation Commission takes the lead role for the community in identifying, evaluating, and recommending open space lands for acquisition. In 2019-2020, the Commission completed the Town of Canton's Natural Resources Inventory, continued to make progress on initiatives recognized in Canton's Plan of Conservation and Development, and provided input to other Town commissions with regard to wetlands and other development-related issues.

During 2020-2021, the Conservation Commission met twelve (12) times. The Commission currently consists of seven (7) members and meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

The Canton Economic Development Agency (EDA) continued to work diligently to remove obstacles to responsible development in town. The Agency provides recommendations for events designed to enhance economic activity in town, and has been working on re-designing the town's website to improve access to information/resources for residents and visitors.

The EDA is an all-volunteer agency appointed by the Board of Selectmen with a mission to:

- Conduct research into the economic conditions and trends of the town;
- Make recommendations to appropriate officials and agencies of the town regarding actions to improve economic conditions and development; and,
- Seek to coordinate the activities of and cooperate with unofficial bodies organized to promote such economic development.

The EDA is comprised of five regular members and two alternate members appointed by the Board of Selectmen. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Members of the local business community and the general public are welcome to attend. The EDA held twelve (12) regular meetings and one (1) special meeting during this fiscal year.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

The Finance Department administers the Town's financial activities, including accounting, accounts receivable, accounts payable, payroll, pensions and other employee benefits. Detailed audited financial statements are published annually in the Town's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), which is on file in the Town Clerk's office and available on the Town's website in December of each year. The Finance Officer & Treasurer prepares monthly reports for the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance on revenues and expenditures, identifying and analyzing variances to budget as they arise. In addition, the Finance Officer works with the Chief Administrative Officer and school Superintendent to develop the Town's annual operating and capital expenditure budgets.

The Finance Department of the Town and Board of Education are merged to create a more streamlined organizational structure. The Town also implemented the same Infinite Visions accounting software platform that the Board of Education has used for many years, providing for potential future efficiency gains.

In September 2021 we were informed that the Town of Canton received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the fiscal year 2019-20 from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada for the 21st consecutive year. As of the writing of this summary, the Finance team is working diligently with our external auditors to extend the award streak to for our 2020-21 financial results.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS FOR FISCAL 2019-20 (UNAUDITED)

- The Town's adopted General Fund budget for 2020-21 totaled \$40,680,313.
- The Town's actual General Fund expenditures were \$40,683,244 and actual revenues totaled \$40,851,552.
- The mil rate was 32.59.
- The Town maintained a credit rating of AAA from Standard & Poor's.
- The Town's unallocated fund balance at year-end was approximately \$7.8 million.

A recap of the Town's long-term debt outstanding appears below:

<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>	<u>Outstanding Amount (000)</u>
School Construction – Refinance	10/15/24	\$1,395
Capital Projects – Aug 2013	08/15/33	4,425
Capital Projects – June 2015	06/01/35	3,885
Highway Dept. Garage – October 2017	10/15/37	3,240
Total		<u>\$12,945</u>

FIRE/EMS

The Town of Canton Fire and EMS Department is responsible for fire & emergency medical services within the Town of Canton. The Department routinely provides and receives mutual aid through mutual aid agreements with surrounding towns, as well as supports the State fire taskforce plan. The Department also provides hazardous material response, coverage of large public events, as well as fire prevention education services.

Fire Department Operations is a combination of both volunteer and paid part time staff. The Department current has nine part time firefighters who supplement response Monday through Friday. The EMS Operations is also a combination of both volunteer staff and subcontracted personnel to staff the primary ambulance. Paramedic coverage is on a 24 hour basis. The second ambulance is mostly staffed by volunteer personnel when available.

Total volunteer membership is 63 members, 30 are assigned to the fire division, 6 are assigned to the fire police division, and 24 are assigned to the EMS division. The Department also has 3 administrative positions.

In fiscal year 2020/2021 the Department responded to a total of 1550 calls for service, a 7.26% increase compared fiscal year 2019/2020. Fire only calls totaled 370, a 22% increase compared fiscal year 2019/2020 & EMS only calls totaled 1180, a 3.23% increase compared to fiscal year 2019/2020.

The Fire Department responded to six structure fires & eight water rescues during the fiscal year of 2020/2021.

Covid-19 has continued to have a significant impact on the Department, including how we respond to Covid-19 calls & recruitment/retention of members for the EMS Division.

In April of this year the Town appointed Johnathan Gotaski as Chief of Department after the resignation of Chief Bruce Lockwood. Chief Gotaski appointed Joe Ouimette as Assistant Chief of Fire Operations.

Training for the entire Department is provided through a combination of in-house and out-sourced methods. All members are currently up to date with all State and OSHA requirements. The Department has also begun to train more frequently with surrounding mutual aid partners for better fire-ground operations.

The Department responds from three firehouses & utilizes 14 pieces of equipment.

- 3- Class A Engines
- 1 – Engine/Tanker
- 1 – Tanker
- 1 – Quint Aerial Ladder
- 2 – Utility Pickup Trucks · 2 – Ambulances
- 1 – Paramedic Fly Car
- 1 – Fire Police Vehicle
- 1 – Rescue Boat

FIRE MARSHAL

The Office of the Fire Marshal is responsible for the following services to the Town of Canton:

- Conduct fire and life safety code inspections in accordance with the Connecticut General Statute 29-305 and the Connecticut Fire Safety Code.
- Investigate all fires within the Town of Canton in accordance with CGS 29-302.
- Review plans for new construction and existing building renovations/alterations for compliance of the Connecticut Fire Safety codes.
- In compliance with Connecticut Regulations grant permits for open burning and blasting.
- Provided fire prevention and code enforcement education to the residents and business owners of the Town of Canton.

The main goal of the inspection is to provide the residents and business owners with safer buildings. The Fire Marshal position is part-time 25 hour a week. This office will continue in its efforts to provide fire and life safety presentations to residents, schools and businesses within the Town of Canton.

FIRST SELECTMEN AND CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

As fiscal year 2020-21 closed on June 30, Canton's overriding focus was economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The year began in the throes of pandemic restrictions with a mask mandate at town hall, many businesses shuttered and vaccine approval months away. Yet the warmer weather allowed townspeople to get outside and rediscover the beautiful town we live in.

Canton residents took advantage of town parks, playing fields, river activities and trails. We saw record numbers of river tubers, hikers and sports enthusiasts. Restaurants began outdoor service, with many given permission to set up tables on the street. Canton Main Street opened a mask-only version of the popular farmers market on Sunday mornings.

Pandemic relief funds began to alleviate the financial pressures on workers whose jobs had been furloughed or eliminated altogether. Office workers went 'virtual' for their work days where they found fierce competition for Internet bandwidth due to remote learning arrangements and other home-based workers using the same resources.

Schools reopened in September, relieving pressure on parents and students alike. Few outbreaks were reported, and schools promptly quarantined the students and staff who were in contact with the infected person.

Unemployment decreased from 8.2% in June 2020 to 5.4% in August, 2020 and finished the year at 5.2%. Still, restaurants and other workplaces that served the general public found it difficult to attract and retain workers. Many of these establishments curtailed hours, went 'takeout only' or closed altogether.

When the first COVID-19 vaccine was approved in December, 2020, Canton residents stepped up. First responders received the first doses, followed by the most vulnerable populations. By June 30, 76.6% of Canton residents had initiated the vaccination process and 70.7% were fully vaccinated. The number of confirmed cases decreased substantially from the highest number - 361 confirmed cases in January to just 7 confirmed cases in June.

Canton experienced an additional 424 COVID cases in FY 2020-2021, bringing the total number of cases to 517 as of June 30, 2021. A total of 38 Canton residents lost their lives to COVID-19 since the onset of the pandemic in March 2020.

Other pressing issues before the Town were commercial development, grand list growth, reconstruction of town bridge, replacement of the Collinsville Fire and EMS House, relocation of the Dyer Softball Field to Canton High School, remediating the PFAS spill near Cherry Brook Primary School, building a more equitable climate for Canton's increasingly diverse community, and developing a plan for \$3,034,667 in one-time funding through the American Rescue Plan Act.

Commercial development slowed in the fall of 2020. The Aldi's store had been built, construction of 102 apartments at 5 Cherry Brook was moving slowly, and the axe factory was under contract to a developer who

had neither the plan nor the financial resources to move forward. By late spring 2021, the development picture had changed dramatically.

- Axe Factory - A new developer presented a workable plan and the financial resources to see it through to completion. He negotiated a new sale and purchase agreement with a final close date in the first quarter of 2022. Businesses renting space in the Collins axe factory began to consider alternate locations during redevelopment.
- Canton Village - This area of town became active in 2020-21. Applegate Farm moved into the empty McDonalds restaurant at Canton Village, a transformation that was featured on the front page of the Hartford Courant. Next door, plans to replace the dilapidated Gulf Station were approved and demolition of the old structure begun. A new restaurateur bought the Mikado Restaurant and began planning to renovate the structure in the year ahead.
- Route 44 - A proposed EV showroom and fueling station became the subject of extended debate before the Planning and Zoning Commission. After seven months of testimony by neighbors and experts, the application was denied. A plan to build a new dealership complex across from the Shops was approved with construction scheduled to begin in FY 2021-22.
- Sewer Capacity - Questions about sewer capacity were answered in FY 2020-21. During periods of dry weather, sewer plant ran at 50% of its full capacity. In wet weather, the plant was at maximum capacity. The tow conducted an extensive search for system leaks and infiltration. The chief culprit was a pitted sewer main which will be relined in FY 2022-23.

The Town's **Grand List** increased 1.44% in 2020 following an increase of 1.07% in 2019. Chief causes for growth were increases in personal and commercial property. Home sales continued at a strong clip, adding conveyance fees to town income. While the year ahead may not match this record growth, the Town is well positioned for future Grand List increases as commercial projects come online.

Canton Hydro construction continued throughout the year. The turbine was installed and connected to the electric grid for a 'dry commission' by regulators. Workers continued to construct the spillway that will direct river water to the turbine plus gates to control water flow. At the close of FY 2020-21, Canton Hydro expected to be generating power by the fall of 2021.

Reconstruction of Town Bridge continued with dismantling of the bridge trusses and shipment of the metal pieces to Pennsylvania for galvanizing and prime coat painting. In the meanwhile, the piers were reinforced and trees cleared for return of the bridge structure. The galvanizing process revealed defects in some of the metal members that required additional attention, delaying the return of the bridge. At year end, the treated bridge pieces were scheduled to return in the summer of 2021 for reconstruction, final painting and return to the piers before paving.

Replacement of the Collinsville Fire and EMS House was scheduled for town consideration in the fall of 2021. The Board of Selectmen decided that the pandemic's economic impact had diminished sufficiently for the town to decide the fire station question. Unfortunately, increases in labor and material cost raised the price of the project to \$5.3 million without including the cost of relocating the Dyer Avenue Little League Field.

Dyer Avenue Field was approved for relocation in order to make room for the new Collinsville Fire and EMS House. The decision was made with the cooperation of the Canton Little League which has operated Dyer Field since 1951. The new site, at the entrance to Canton Middle and High School, will be cleared and prepped for the new field in late summer.

Detailed studies of the **PFAS Chemical Spill** at Cherry Brook Primary School revealed the extent of remediation required to return the site to full use. On the advice of a hydrologist hired by the town (GZE Engineering), soils, ground water and abutters wells were tested for contamination. A plan remediation plan was presented to the town with several options, including novel remediation methods that could reduce cost. The town collaborated with the Connecticut Departments of Energy and Environmental Protection and Public Health to determine which remediation method would work best. The chosen method could become a model of similar PFAS spills across the country.

Equity became a major Board of Education focus and a starting point for discussions around town. The Canton Board of Education adopted a statement on equity and commitment to examine curriculum, staffing, school activities and community. The Board of Selectmen adopted a similar statement in the hopes of recognizing how unconscious biases hold us back and to develop strategies to interrupt these biases.

Three Million Dollars was promised to the town as a result of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). To determine how best to invest this money, the Town's Capital Improvement Committee (CIP) was asked to recommend possible uses of the ARPA funds. The CIP Committee was chosen because its members represent all three boards (Education, Finance and Selectmen). Their full plan is focused on enhancing residents' quality of life, which suffered as a result of the COVID pandemic. Major impacts would be felt in:

- Health/Well-being
- Safety
- Outdoor Recreation
- Tourism/Museums and Small Business Support
- Facility Improvements

A vote will be taken after public hearings in 2021-22 before any of the money can be spent.

The **election** of 2020 resulted in changes in representation at the General Assembly. Eleni Kavros DeGraw replaced Leslee Hill as CT-17 Representative. Further changes occurred on the Board of Education when Nicholas Aligzakis resigned and Ryan O'Donnell replaced him.

The **Chief Administrator's Office** continued to perform the many duties of his office, including hiring of Town staff, union negotiations, contract administration for capital projects, acting as purchasing agent and implementing policies and directives adopted by the Board of Selectmen. These tasks could not have been performed without the dedicated efforts of CAO Executive Assistant Claudia Nardi and CAO Clerk Lisa Moulton in the Chief Administrator's Office.

INLAND WETLAND & WATERCOURSES AGENCY

The Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency (“IWWA”) is a permitting agency charged by the State of Connecticut to review, evaluate, enforce and take action on proposed regulated activities potentially having an adverse environmental impact on wetlands and/or watercourses.

During fiscal year 2020-2021, the IWWA held eleven (11) regular meetings, one (1) site walk, and three (3) special meetings. They processed fifteen (15) applications, no Jurisdictional Determinations, and held six (6) Show Cause Hearings.

Show Cause Hearing Violations:

1. Property owner conducted a regulated activity within a watercourse and/or wetland soil. Photos indicated that machinery was used in or around a pond, which appeared muddy, often indicative of disturbance. A small stockpile of material was photographed next to the pond, as well.
2. Property owner conducted a regulated activity within wetland soils and/or the Upland Review Area. Photos indicated that earthwork occurred in conjunction with what appeared to be an attempt to enlarge the yard area to the rear of the property, as indicated by the large quantity of tree removal, inclusive of stumps.
3. Property owner conducted a regulated activity within wetland soils and/or the Upland Review Area. Photos indicated that earthwork occurred in conjunction with what appeared to be an attempt to enlarge the yard area south of the building, as indicated by the pilings of material edging out the new cleared area. North of the building, disturbance was identified in photographs right next to the brook.
4. Property owner conducted a regulated activity within a watercourse, wetland soil, and/or the Upland Review Area. Photos indicated the deposition of materials in what appeared to be an attempt to block, fill, divert, and physically alter, and/ or modify, a water course that travels from west to east down towards the public street.
5. Property owner conducted a regulated activity within a watercourse, wetland soil, and/or the Upland Review Area. Photos indicated the cutting of trees, deposition of material, erection of a structure without permits, and the possible use of land in violation of the Conservation Easement agreement held by the Town of Canton.
6. An application before the Agency to correct a prior Notice of Violation ran out of statutory time and without an applicant granting the Agency an extension of time, an application must be acted on. The Agency had not received the information requested and as a result of that voted unanimously to deny the application. Because this application was both for retroactive and future work, the retroactive activities (request to clear trees alongside an existing pond) were unpermitted and therefore in violation.

The IWWA has an Authorized Agent who is allowed to permit minor activities in upland review areas but not within wetlands or watercourses themselves. The Authorized Agent reports to the Agency all permits issued under its authority at regular meetings and also acts as the IWWA’s enforcement officer. The wetlands agent issued twelve (12) authorized agent approvals under this authority during the fiscal year.

The IWWA is currently functioning with full complement of (5) regular members and two (2) alternate members. The IWWA holds its regular meetings on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. In addition to its regular meetings, the Commission holds special meetings/site-walks as needed. All meetings are open to the public.

LAND USE OFFICE

Description of Department Functions and Services:

The Land Use Office assists the Town land use and development commissions to adopt plans, policies, regulations and programs to promote the sound long-range development, general welfare and safety of the community. This includes the preservation of property values, conservation of natural resources, and preservation of historic resources, in balance with the development of a strong economic base. These changes are guided by the Town's Plan of Conservation and Development, Zoning Regulations, Inland Wetland and Watercourse Regulations, and Subdivision Regulations. The Commissions served by the Land Use Office include the: Planning and Zoning Commission; Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency; Zoning Board of Appeals; Economic Development Agency; Conservation Commission; Aquifer Protection Agency; Canton Center Historic District Commission; Collinsville Historic District Commission; and POCD Plan Implementation Committee. The Land Use Office also manages a public help desk that provides guidance to developers, private citizens and other interested parties in regard to land use and development policies and regulations in pursuit of improving the future sound development of the Town.

Commission Achievements:

The Land Use Commissions processed a total of 34 applications and/or referrals as follows: Zoning Board of Appeals (5); Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency (15); Aquifer Protection Agency (0); and Planning and Zoning Commission (14).

Also, this year the Assistant Planner/Zoning & Wetlands Enforcement Officer continued the process of consistently enforcing regulatory approvals of Land Use Commissions, as well as overseeing general compliance with the regulations.

During this past year, the position has issued:

- 37 Sign Permits
- 1 Temporary Use and Activities Permit
- 2 Mobile Vendor Permits
- 3 Form-Based Code Type 1 Permits
- 12 IWWA Authorized Agent Applications
- 66 Zoning Permits
- 13 Minor Site Plan Modifications
- 5 Certificates of Zoning Compliance
- 3 Notices of Violations
- 0 Observation of Violations
- 6 Cease and Desist Orders
- 2 Municipal Citations

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The mission of the Canton Parks and Recreation Department is to provide a wide range of recreational and leisure opportunities in an effort to enhance the quality of life for all Canton residents and promote positive physical, social and emotional experiences. In our effort to achieve this goal we will continue to provide safe, attractive and well maintained facilities. The slogan of our department is “Creating Community through Parks, Programs, and People”, and we encourage new program ideas and interests to be shared with us.

The department main office is located in the Canton Community Center, and is overseen by the Parks & Recreation Commission; a full-time Parks & Recreation Director, Taryn Schrager; a part-time Recreation Supervisor, Kellie Faust; and a full-time Recreation Coordinator, Claire Boughton. The Parks and Recreation Department employs approximately 60 seasonal employees, including aquatics, summer camp, maintenance and school year program staff, as well as dozens of contracted instructors and companies throughout the year.

Department programs and events are released in seasonal brochures, email blasts and Facebook posts. Additional information and program details can be found at the Canton Parks and Recreation website, www.cantonrec.org, and on Facebook, www.facebook.com/Canton-Parks-and-Recreation. The website also includes registration capabilities to allow for program registration 24 hours a day and a facility calendar and guide that gives information and schedules for Town parks and facilities.

The Canton Parks and Recreation Department has continued to adapt to the constantly changing health situation throughout 2020 and 2021. Department staff worked to get as many programs as possible to be streamed online, including enrichment, dance and acting programs for kids, and adult fitness classes. Working within state guidelines, the Canton Parks and Recreation Department was able to once again provide safe camp programs, including the Explorers Day Camp, sports, enrichment and specialty camps; and a more expanded pool season that included measures to ensure that our staff and facility users were able to enjoy the pool while remaining as safe as possible.

Programs

Canton Parks and Recreation offers programs throughout the year for all ages and ability levels. Activities include the popular Explorers Day Camp; Red Cross classes such as swimming lessons, lifeguard certification, Water Safety Instructor certification, babysitting and CPR/First Aid/AED certifications ; Dusky Dolphins Swim Team; Beyond the Bell after school program; adult sports leagues and fitness classes; youth sports programs, camps and clinics; enrichment classes and camps; a winter recreational basketball league; and a winter ski bus, just to name a few.

Events

The Canton Parks and Recreation Department offers many free or low cost family special events throughout the year. Events normally include Spook-A-Palooza; Holiday House Lights contest; Breakfast with Santa; Canton Family Ice Skating Day; Valentines Parents Night Out; Easter Egg-Stravaganza; Spring Clean-Up; Dive-In Movie Nights; Teen Night at the Pool; Sundae Funday; Pooch Plunge; and seasonal Movie Nights in the Park.

Parks and Projects

The Canton Parks and Recreation Department provides oversight of town park facilities and athletic fields. Mills Pond Park is the town's primary recreation facility. The 40-acre park holds Mills Pond Pool, a 50-meter Olympic swimming pool; a smaller wading pool; a playground; a skate park; 2 full-size basketball courts; pavilion area; 4 tennis courts, including 1 with pickleball lines; and a multi-use field space that hosts a range of sporting activities including baseball, softball, lacrosse, soccer, football and field hockey. The Canton Parks and Recreation Department also schedules and provides oversight to the Canton Community Gardens, Bicentennial Park, Dyer Field, Canton Green and Millennium Fields.

Future Initiatives

- Work on the development and building of a splash pad at Mills Pond Park.
- Bring back the Canton Summer Concert Series once health & safety trends allow.
- Build an outdoor fitness space with approved special revenue fund surplus money to provide free outdoor fitness opportunities to residents.
- Continue to partner with and support the Friends of Canton Dog Park, Inc.
- Continue to develop and implement more indoor & outdoor winter programs.
- Continue to develop and expand our virtual and hybrid programming opportunities.
- Continue to offer online gaming opportunities for individuals and teams.
- Explore ways of funding projects and future initiatives outlined in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.
- effort to create an eco-friendly dog park at 79 Commerce Drive (park opening November 2020).
- Coordinate the installation of trees at Mills Pond Park that will contribute to the beauty of the park and the safety of park users.
- Continue to develop and implement more outdoor winter programs, if current health and safety situations allow.
- Continue to develop and expand our virtual and hybrid programming opportunities.
- Work to offer online gaming opportunities for individuals and teams.
- Build an outdoor fitness space with approved special revenue fund surplus money to provide free outdoor fitness opportunities to residents.
- Explore ways of funding projects and future initiatives outlined in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

The Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) carries out its usual delegated authority through regular monthly meetings with the aid of the Land Use Coordinator and the Town Planner. Approvals of the PZC are monitored and enforced by the Zoning Enforcement Officer. The Enforcement Officer also oversees and enforces general compliance with the zoning regulations, and reports monthly to the PZC and Zoning Board of Appeals.

In Fiscal Year 2020-2021, the PZC held twelve (12) regular meetings, three (3) special meetings, one (1) site walk, processed fourteen (14) applications and two (2) requests for referral.

The PZC is comprised of seven (7) regular members, two (2) alternate members, and has one (1) vacancy. Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. All meetings are open to the public and the Commission welcomes input from town residents and property owners for all public hearings.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Canton Police Department (CPD) was established as a permanent police department in 1970. Currently, the CPD department has an authorized strength of 16 sworn officers (including 1 Chief, 1 Captain, 4 Sergeants, 9 officers and 1 Detective), 4 full-time communications/dispatcher positions, 4 part-time civilians (4 part-time dispatchers, 1 crossing guard) and 1 administrative assistant. All the CPD police officers are POST certified and are first responders in all medical and fire emergencies. All CPD Dispatchers are certified through the state of Connecticut Office of Emergency Telecommunications. CPD officers patrol over 25 square miles and serves a population of approximately 10,000 residents.

Dec. 2020-Nov. 2021 (to date) Highlights

1. The Canton Police Department (CPD) was successful in its efforts that resulted in over-whelming support at the town special meeting and vote to increase the authorized patrol strength to sixteen (16) sworn officers. Following the retirement of the CPD Detective, Canton Police Department hired a lateral transfer certified police officer from the UCONN Police Department. An entry level selection process is underway for a projected academy start date in January 2022. Also, CPD conducted a promotional process to promote an officer to the position of Sergeant to fill the vacancy caused by a military call-up of a sergeant.
2. CPD personnel continued its exceptional service to the community despite the ongoing COVID emergency.
3. CPD personnel participated in two (2) federally funded grant programs for highway safety (Distracted Driving and High Risk Rural Road Speed Enforcement). In addition, Canton Police Officer participated in the annual State DOT Seatbelt WAVE campaign.
4. CPD personnel participated in the River Access Committee to address on-going issues concerning access, events and crime along the Farmington River in Canton.

5. Chief Arciero became the chairman of the CIRMA Statewide Law Enforcement Advisory Council.
6. CPD personnel involved in ongoing CPCA discussions, legislative meetings and community outreach on the ongoing juvenile crime concerns affecting communities statewide.
7. CPD personnel responded to a major severe weather events and coordinated emergency responses with CFD, DPW, EMS and other state agencies.
8. CPD personnel were involved in an extensive community engagement to address an impactful speeding concern on a local road. The efforts resulted in several community meetings, data collection, specialized equipment purchases, selective speed enforcement initiatives and ongoing safety planning for the area and other high speed areas in town.
9. CPD members continued with school safety initiatives including participation with CIRMA school safety assessments, response and monitoring of CODE RED Drills, revision updates to the mandatory statewide School Security Plan, and provision of safety training for new teachers and bus drivers.
10. CPD personnel continued to participate in many charitable/social assistance events: Ride to School, Bagging for Hunger, Toy Drive, Food Drive, Special Olympics Torch Run, Child ID and Car Seat Safety events, Youth Services Bureau meetings, CPD Building tours, and submission of safety articles/reminders on various social media platforms.
11. The Canton CERT Unit continued to support Canton Police, Fire and EMS regarding shelter operations and support at local events and during severe weather operations. Also, CERT assisted other area town CERT teams at those town's events. CERT continued its participation in the annual food drive for the Canton Food Bank and the food/toy drive at Ocean State Job Lot to benefit Canton's Holiday Drive.
12. The CPD General Orders were revised, with respect to the following high-liability areas such as Use of Force, Officer Involved Shootings, Response to Family Violence, Pursuit Policy and Sexual Assault Investigations.
13. CPD personnel participated in the COVID Vaccination program.

FY 2022-23 Departmental Objectives

1. Fully implement the roll out, training and usage of the new body and in-car camera system in accordance with the police accountability legislation.
2. Increase level of participation with Canton's Bicycle Friendly Community Initiative and the Canton Bicycle Advisory Committee.
3. Meet the additional mandates of the police accountability legislation to include, behavioral assessment and drug-testing for all sworn employees.
4. Participate in upcoming contractual negotiations regarding the CPD Police and Dispatcher bargaining agreements.
5. Increase the use of the CPD kiosk for supplemental training, policy updates and roll call notifications.

PUBLIC LIBRARY

After our Covid-19 shutdown that began in March 2020, staff returned to work in late May and then we reopened our doors to the public, with limited hours, starting on July 6, just after the start of FY21. Well into September, we were the only library in our immediate area with public hours. As a result, we served many grateful patrons from neighboring communities whose own libraries were still closed. We expanded hours in October and then finally went back to 6 day/week service in April 2021.

Despite the limited hours the library was open to the public, we still circulated a large number of items – in fact, overall circulation for the year was 21% higher than in FY2020 and 4.2% higher than in FY19 – an entirely “normal” year. Usage of downloadable materials (primarily books and audiobooks) increased 6.5% over FY19. Staff prepared more than 3,200 curbside pickups over the course of the year – most of which consisted of multiple items – for patrons who could not come in during our limited open hours or who were simply not comfortable doing so. Clearly, the pandemic did not lead to a drop in demand for library services – if anything, the opposite was true!

We certainly felt very busy – and in April, when the Connecticut State Library released the annual BorrowItCT statistics, we learned that it was for good reason. BorrowItCT is the program that allows library card holders reciprocal access to all 191 participating libraries across the state. We learned that we were the seventh-highest net lender in the state for the reporting year that ran from March 2020 to February 2021 – the previous year we were 45th. This was, in large part, because we were open at a time when many other libraries were not. These circulation numbers represent a tremendous amount of work on the part of all the library staff.

For the entire fiscal year, all of our library programming was held virtually, mostly on Zoom but with some children’s programming on Facebook Live as well. We offered 203 synchronous programs for more than 2,700 attendees, and program recordings were viewed an additional 9,937 times. While we really missed doing in-person programming and can’t wait to get back to it, offering virtual programs does vastly open up the number of presenters available to us – as well as our potential audience! We had programs presented by people across the country, and while most attendees were from Canton, we had people tuning into our programs from places as far-flung as Ottawa, Seattle, and Denmark.

In the absence of our usual in-person programming, take-and-make kits became a very popular offering. Over the course of the year we distributed 32 different kits for children, teens, and adults to 1,581 patrons. This would not have been possible without the generous support of the Friends of the Canton Public Library, who underwrote the expense of supplies for these kits.

We did our best to maintain our services to the community despite our Covid response and limited hours. In August, during the power outage in the aftermath of Tropical Storm Isaias, the library provided 24/7 charging stations outside the library, and staff assisted in monitoring the charging station/cooling center in the multipurpose room of the Community Center. We opened up computer appointment times outside of regular library hours for patrons who needed to use our internet access. Library staff assisted people with job searches and unemployment applications and answered thousands of reference questions about matters big and small in person, over the phone, and via email and social media.

We also turned our focus to issues of equity, diversity, and inclusion. We prepared booklists and displays highlighting diverse authors and difficult topics. Several staff members attended intensive training on performing equity and diversity audits of the library collection to make sure that it adequately reflects the diversity of our community. Many staff also attended panels on topics related to antiracism, censorship, intellectual freedom, and other topics that were front and center in the national political discourse over the course of the year.

Over the next year, we are (cautiously!) looking forward to returning to something approaching normal, but it’s clear that the changes made in response to the pandemic may be with us for some time to come. One thing is for sure, though – there’s an old adage we all learn in library school, that libraries become especially important and valuable during difficult times. FY21 has certainly shown that to be true.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Highway

The Highway Department is responsible for the repair and maintenance of 71.2 miles of improved and unimproved roads within the Town of Canton. This winter season once again challenged the department to keep the roads clear and safe. The department responded to 16 winter storm events. The new Public Works Garage with all of the department's equipment staged inside allows the department to respond much faster to provide efficient and safer winter storm operations for the community. Following the Town Pavement Management Program, the Highway Department, along with several contractors, performed \$294,355.82 of roadway improvements this past year (see list below). The roadway improvements consisted of several repair strategies that included milling and paving with drainage improvements of Ann Lane, Deer Run Road, Mountain Laurel Court, Robin Drive, and Timbercrest Drive. Crack seal work was also performed on six town roads. To access information on roadwork please go to the Pavement Management Program link located on the town website: <http://www.townofcantonct.org/content/19178/19240/19707/default.aspx> . The Town utilizes a Pavement Management Program called Road Manager Software that allows the department to track work performed and to determine future repairs to the Town's roadway infrastructure. The Highway Department also performed extensive tree work on various Town properties and right-of ways throughout the year. The majority of trees removed were ash trees that were injured or killed by the Emerald Ash Borer. Tropical Storm Isaias challenged the department to successfully respond to over 50 downed trees on Town right-of-ways. The department also responded to numerous requests from residents to perform drainage and road improvements this year. Highway Foreman Daniel Manyak along with the dedicated department staff continue improving drainage features on several roads that eliminated ice buildup during the winter to keep Town roads open and safe.

Parks

The Parks Department is responsible for 110+ acres of maintenance and improvements to all Town walking trails, greens, parks, pool, athletic fields, building and grounds including all school campuses. Parks Supervisor Henry Maskaitis and the committed Parks Department staff continue the use of excellent cultural practices, utilizing Integrated Pest Management (IPM), an effective and environmentally sensitive approach to pest management that relies on a combination of common-sense practices and last resort pesticide use. This environmental friendly management practice has shown excellent results in both field quality and lowering maintenance costs. The Town

Pool continues to be maintained at a high level by the department including performing the spring opening of the pool, painting/repairing the pool, maintenance during the summer open times, and winterizing duties helping to save costs. The department supported the Collinsville Pollen Trail group of citizens helping to bring back pollinators, birds and other wildlife to yards, towns and communities by creating a beautiful spot that runs adjacent to Rattlesnake Brook and the Farmington River Trail along Allen Place. This area is enjoyed by numerous daily visitors to this popular destination. Another accomplishment this past year was keeping the grounds and recreation areas clean and safe during Covid-19 for the residents to enjoy. The department also was involved with planting several new trees at the Community Center/Library and along the Farmington River open space. The Farmington River Trail continues to be an area that the Parks Department has been working to improve public safety. This year, the department installed new fencing and replaced bridge decking along

several sections of the walking trail. The department continues to work with the Cherry Brook Garden Club to maintain the landscaping at the Flower Bridge, Town buildings, parks, and recreational facilities to provide a pleasing appearance. This growing department continues to add new services to accurately reflect the needs of the community. The Parks Department goals are to improve the quality of each facility and identify new ways of reducing maintenance costs.

Building Maintenance

The Building Maintenance Department is responsible for the maintenance and up-keep of 103,085 square feet of building space at the Town Hall, Library/Community Center, North Canton Fire Station, Collinsville Fire Station, Public Works, and Police Station. During this past year, the department responded to 275 service calls along with their regular duties. The Building Maintenance Department worked with a vendor to replace two of the Library/Community Center roof-top heat exchangers. The installation of a new ceiling and new LED lighting was also completed in the Town Hall second floor hallways. Over the winter, staff painted the Community Center Multi-Purpose Room and lower level hallways and entry spaces. Throughout the past year, the department responded to the COVID-19 pandemic keeping residents and staff safe by performing extra cleaning, adding social distancing signage and constructing and installing sneeze guards for various departments in Town buildings. Building Maintenance Supervisor Leonard Dupee and the hard working Building Maintenance staff's commitment to perform at a high level this past year was very evident in keeping the buildings clean and well maintained.

Transfer Station

The Transfer Station staff had another excellent year assisting the Town residents who bring their trash and recyclables to the facility. The Transfer Station sells over eleven hundred permits per year. The facility serves as the primary trash and recycling option for more than 1/4 of Canton's households. The recycling rate for the year turned out to be 30%, consistent with the previous year. The Transfer Station Special Revenue Fund was created and implemented in 2013 to finance the operating budget for the facility. The revenue generated through the selling of permits, tokens and recycling rebates stays in the fund to pay out the operational expenditures and future upgrades to the facility. The enclosure over the bulky waste containers continues doing an excellent job keeping water out of the containers resulting in significant tipping fee savings. This year the Town held three Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection days with the Towns of Simsbury, Avon, Farmington, Suffield, and Granby. By sharing this service, the Town has been able to provide additional local collection dates and still maintain a lower cost than what was charged previously by the MDC. The credit card swipe option and acceptance of personal checks that allows residents to purchase tokens and pay for loads on-site continues to be a popular service that residents have taken advantage of. Transfer Station Supervisor Brian Dean and the committed staff do a tremendous job keeping the facility clean and orderly for the residents. This busy department's goal is to continue making strides to improve trash and recycling services for our community.

Administrative

The Administration Department provides organizational support and oversight to the entire department to effectively manage the diverse infrastructure and related Capital Improvement Programs consistent with Town policy, industry standards and regulatory agency requirements. This year saw the continuation of the Board of

Education custodial/ maintenance staff and facilities being managed by the department. Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds Thomas Richardson did an excellent job managing both the Town and BOE building maintenance staff during the Covid-19 pandemic keeping the buildings clean and safe. Public Works Director Robert Martin, along with Project Administrator Glenn Cusano, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds Thomas Richardson and Administrative Assistant Heather Fritch, continued to work on many large scale projects that included oversight of the Town Bridge Road Bridge Project. The historic bridge was removed for renovations on May 30' 2019 and is scheduled for a December/2021 completion date. Administrative staff also coordinated the West Road Bridge Replacement Project and the ensuing successful State Local Bridge Grant. The department also provided assistance with several Bids & RFP's for various Town Departments and the Board of Education. One of the larger projects included oversight of the Town of Canton's Streetscape II Project. This project is funded with a State of Connecticut Responsible Growth and Transit-Oriented Development Planning Grant. New sidewalks were also installed on Commerce Drive and Dowd Avenue utilizing a State of Connecticut Community Connectivity Grant. Superintendent of Building and Grounds Thomas Richardson successfully replaced sidewalks at Cherry Book Primary School and new flooring was installed at Canton Intermediate School. Also ADA improvements were made in the girl's locker room at Canton High School. Project Administrator Glenn Cusano also continued an excellent job assisting the Land Use Office in providing development engineering reviews as projects were submitted.

The Canton Public Works Department's motto is "Serving the Community with Pride". The department's goal is to search for improved ways to perform their jobs.

On behalf of the entire Department of Public Works, we are very thankful for the support shown to us by Town Staff, Boards, Commissions, Agencies, and especially to our wonderful Town residents and businesses.

Name	From	To	Length (linear feet)	Width	PCI	Actual Cost	Assigned Resources	Repair Strategy	Date Completed
Ann Lane	Robin Drive	Wright Road	802	26	95	\$ 25,548.00	Vendor/DPW	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	Summer
Bristol Drive	Albany Turnpike	Bristol Drive	3,125	26	95	\$ 9,918.43	Vendor/DPW	Curbing/Back-Fill w Top Soil	Spring
Case Street	Cherry Brook Road	Town Line	1180	24	95	\$ 5,602.10	Vendor/DPW	Crack Seal	Fall
Daynard Drive	Albany Turnpike	Albany Turnpike	1,829	18	60	\$ 11,212.12	Vendor/DPW	Curbing/Back-Fill w Top Soil	Spring
Deer Run Road	Timbercrest Drive	Cul-De-Sac	2276	26	62	\$ 70,684.98	Vendor/DPW	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	Summer
Dog Park Parking Lot					100	\$ 4,209.35	Vendor/DPW	Pave Handicap Parking and Apron	Fall
Freedom Drive	Torrington Avenue	Cul-De-Sac	3,027	24	95	\$ 1,513.50	Vendor/DPW	Crack Seal	Fall
Mountain Laurel Court	Wright Road	Cul De Sac	668	26	95	\$ 29,801.36	Vendor/DPW	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	Summer
Robin Drive	Ann Lane	530' N Of Ann Lane	1,446	26	95	\$ 51,148.65	Vendor/DPW	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	Summer
Robin Drive	72' N Of Foxcroft Lane	Cul De Sac	1,317	26	95	\$ 45,853.82	Vendor/DPW	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	Summer
Thayer Avenue	Maple Avenue	Atwater Road	1,636	18	90	\$ 818.00	Vendor/DPW	Crack Seal	Fall
Timbercrest Drive	Wright Road	Deer Run Road	743	26	95	\$ 24,402.01	Vendor/DPW	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	Summer
Torrington Avenue	Bridge Street	Dead End	5,800	27	85	\$ 4,397.00	Vendor/DPW	Crack Seal	Fall
Trailsend Drive	Albany Turnpike	Cul De Sac	3809	21	60	\$ 6,784.00	Vendor/DPW	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	Ongoing
Westview Drive	Shingle Mill Drive	Cul-De-Sac	661	26	88	\$ 661.00	Vendor/DPW	Crack Seal	Fall
Woodchuck Hill Road	Orchard Hill Road	Town Line	3,603	24	95	\$ 1,801.50	Vendor/DPW	Crack Seal	Fall
Full Dept. Patching/Misc. Drainage						\$ -			
Testing and Engineering Services						\$ -			
<i>Totals</i>			31,922	6.05	Miles	\$ 294,355.82			

SENIOR & SOCIAL SERVICES/COMMISSION ON AGING

The Canton Senior & Social Services Department provides social services and human services resources and referrals for the residents of Canton. We not only provide services to senior citizens, but to adults, families, and the disabled as well. We do not work alone; we work collaboratively with local, state and federal resources to provide services for those in need.

SENIOR & SOCIAL SERVICES STATISTICS	
<i>SOCIAL SERVICES</i>	
Service Provided	FY20-21
Canton Dial-A-Ride	1,729 rides
Canton Food Bank	113 members
Weekly Senior Meals	1,092 meals prepared and served
Meals On Wheels	6,265 meals for 201 residents
Holiday Giving Program	90 families
Renters Rebate for Elderly / Disabled Renters Tax Relief	115 applications
AARP Income Tax Preparation	175
Canton Emergency Fuel Bank	\$20,108 given for 109 requests
CT Energy Assistance Program	225 applications
Food Assistance	\$1,890 given for 34 requests
General Assistance	\$12,045 given for 16 requests

The Canton Senior Center continued to maintain a relationship with our seniors and offer programming to engage and interest them. Though attendance has curbed significantly for in person events and activities due to the pandemic, those who do attend look forward to what we have to offer for classes in the arts, wellness, fitness and personal development. And those who love to gather haven't lost the desire to do so, so we make sure to provide opportunities which encourage them to do just that – but safely.

SENIOR & SOCIAL SERVICES STATISTICS	
<i>SENIOR SERVICES</i>	
Programs Provided	FY20-21
Dance Class – Ballet & Tap	63
Virtual Aerobics	13
Blood Pressure Screening	34
Wii Bowling	78
Poetry Reading / Random Acts of Poetry	6
Senior Citizens Day Drive In Luncheon	47
Bingo	88
Rotary of Avon-Canton Luncheon	67
Octoberfest	45
AARP Online Driver Safety Course	3
Thanksgiving Activity Sheets	50
Hearing Aids Mask Giveaway	22
United Healthcare Grab & Go Lunch	30

Winter Take & Make Craft Kit	11
New Year Take & Make Craft Kit	18
Lasagna Holiday Meal Raffle	33
Kindness Rocks Craft Kit	19
Eating for Heart Health	4
Valentine's Day Cookie Kit	27
Healthy Freezer Friendly Meals	7
St. Patrick's Day Cookie Kit	21
Irish Soda Bread Zoom Cooking demo	4
Spring Nutrition Detox w/Shana	3
Canton Lions Club Plant Giveaway	24
National Picnic Day Luncheon	59
Advance Directives Power Point Presentation	11
Mother's Day Grab & Go Lunch	49
United Healthcare Chick-Fil-A Grab & Go Lunch	55
Welcome Back Summer Kick Off	29
Dance & Movement Class	6

TAX COLLECTOR

The Tax Collector is appointed by the Board of Selectmen. During this fiscal year, a staffing change was made and the Collector now assumes all duties of the office. The Collector is responsible for the billing, collecting and accounting of real estate, business/personal property and motor vehicle taxes, sewer usage fees, sewer connections/assessments and parking tickets. Office procedures are governed by the Connecticut State Statutes, Town Charter, various local ordinances and office policies.

For fiscal year 2020-2021, the rate of tax collection was 100.31% of the budgeted tax revenue and the sewer usage collection rate was 103.5% of the budgeted revenue. The details are charted below:

(Tax Figures)	20-2021 YTD	20-2021 % of budgeted <small>(as of 6/30/2021)</small>
Current Year Tax	\$35,113,400	100.17%
Current Year MVS	\$320,627	98.66%
Prior Year Tax	\$146,762	97.85%
Prior Year Suspense	\$5,225	104.50%
Interest/Liens/Fees	\$147,127	163.48%
Total % of budgeted amount for fiscal year		100.31%

(Sewer Figures)	20-2021 YTD	20-2021 % of budgeted <small>(as of 6/30/2021)</small>
Current Year Sewer Use	\$1,015,491	101.55%
Prior Year Sewer Use	\$47,851	159.51%
Interest/Liens/Fees	\$18,188	121.26%
Total % of budgeted amount for fiscal year		103.50%

The lingering effects of COVID-19 continued to manifest financial challenges during this fiscal year. In spite of that, Canton taxpayers continued to place a high priority on meeting their tax obligations.

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

The Town Clerk's Office is responsible for the organization and safekeeping Town records that include land records, maps and surveys, vital records (birth, death, and marriage), election and referendum results, justice of the peace appointments, dog licenses, sport licenses, military discharges, town ordinances, meeting minutes & agendas, trade name certificates, notary public appointments, transfer station permits and liquor licenses. The public has access to a majority of these records during regular business hours.

Department activities during Fiscal Year 2020-2021 included:

- COVID19 protocols followed. During a portion of the fiscal year we were opened to the public with limited weekly hours.
- Numerous communications with SOTS and CTCA regarding August 11th Presidential Primary/absentee balloting under COVID restrictions.
- July: Registered Republicans and Democrats who requested primary absentee ballots began receiving them from State approved mail house in response to COVID pandemic. All were encouraged to vote via mail in accordance with Gov. Lamont's Executive Order #7QQ.
- August 11: Republican and Democratic Primary conducted with COVID protocols.
- Completed Preventing Sexual Harassment CIRMA class
- Sept: Absentee ballot applications were received by every registered voter from SOTS for the Nov 2020 election. Over 3100+ were processed by the Town Clerk office.
- Oct 31: conducted an early opening of outer absentee ballot envelope per SOTS guidance.
- Nov 3: Presidential Election conducted with COVID protocols.
- Transfer Station sales were processed via mail due to COVID.
- April: CT Town Clerk virtual spring conference
- May: Budget Referendum per Charter; passed 313 to 111 (5.5% turnout)
- Accepted \$5500 Grant from the Connecticut State Library for the purpose of Historical Document Preservation
- Trained staff and new employees on website use
- Receipts:
 - Conveyance Tax/Land Records/Maps \$329,497
 - Hunting/Fishing (Sport) Licenses \$ 48
 - Miscellaneous Permits and Licenses \$ 13,503
 - Dog Licenses \$ 1,352
 - Copies \$ 14,344
- Communications: Managed the Town's Facebook, Twitter & Instagram accounts.
 - Website - # of Visits 141,358
 - Facebook Total Reach 199,608
 - Facebook Likes 257
 - Facebook Followers 2,762
 - Twitter Impressions 107,317
 - Twitter Followers 941
 - Instagram Impressions 166,073
 - Instagram Reach 32,421
 - Instagram Followers 1,362

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITY

The Canton Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF) operates under a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit issued by the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), our current rating is for 950,000 gallons per day. The WPCF staff operates and maintains the facility, along with 3 sewage-pumping stations and approximately 26 miles of sanitary sewers.

The mission statement of the WPCF is *“To protect our natural resource, the Farmington River and give the community a place to enjoy nature at its best. We shall provide this service to the people of Canton while operating an efficient and economical facility within budget.”*

The WPCF was originally constructed in 1965 and received an upgrade in the 1990’s. Some of the original components are still in use today. Since the last upgrade, the Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) has developed and implemented a capital improvement plan to prepare for the future and was able to upgrade processes over time instead of an extensive major upgrade to the facility.

A couple of projects worked on this year included upgrades to the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) at the Water Pollution Control Facility. This included the installation of new fiber optic cables and programmable logic computer upgrades to the RBC, Sand Filter and Solids Handling buildings. The investigation of excessive clean water, called Inflow & Infiltration, entering the sanitary sewer system in downtown Collinsville has concluded. The report is currently being reviewed by the WPCA and its consultant engineer to evaluate the deficiencies of the sewer system so we can reduce the Inflow & Infiltration in a cost effective manner over the next several years.

This past year the facility treated over 197 million gallons of wastewater, equating to an average flow of approximately 540,000 gallons per day. The WPCF consistently achieved advanced treatment as required by the NPDES permit, averaging pollutant removals of 98% for Biochemical Oxygen Demand and 99% for Total Suspended Solids. We continue to receive positive inspection reports from the Connecticut DEEP.

The WPCF is staffed with four well trained and experienced personnel including a Superintendent, a Chief Operator, an Operator III and Operator II. Plant personnel are certified and licensed in both treatment plant and collection system operation and maintenance. All four of the personnel are also certified in laboratory analysis. The operators participate in continuing education to stay abreast of the ever-changing rules, regulations and technology.

The Water Pollution Control Authority meets on the first Tuesday of each month at the Library Community Center at 5:30 p.m. The meetings are open to the public and interested residents are encouraged to attend.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The purpose of the Zoning Board of Appeals is: to hear and decide appeals where it is alleged that there is an error in any order, requirement or decision made by the official charged with the enforcement of the Zoning Regulations as adopted under the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes; to hear and decided all matters including special exceptions as may be duly authorized by the Zoning Regulations; and to determine and vary the application of the zoning regulations in harmony with their general purpose and intent and with due consideration for conserving the public health, safety, convenience, welfare and property values solely with respect to a parcel of land where a literal enforcement of the regulations would result in exceptional difficulty or unusual hardship so that substantial justice will be done and the public safety and welfare is secured.

The Zoning Board of Appeals carries out its usual delegated authority through regular monthly meetings with the aid of the Community Development Coordinator and the Assistant Planner/Zoning Enforcement Officer.

The Zoning Board of Appeals held six (6) regular meetings and no special meetings. They processed one (1) application for a variance to the Zoning Regulations, four (4) applications for Motor Vehicle Location Approval and zero (0) applications to appeal the decision of the Zoning Enforcement Officer.

The Zoning Board of Appeals has three (3) regular members, two (2) alternate members, and three (3) vacancies. The concurring vote of four (4) members is necessary to grant a variance and to overturn an action of the Zoning Enforcement Officer. The Zoning Board of Appeals meets the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. All meetings are open to the public.

Town of Canton Boards/Committee Roster

BOARD	P	LAST	FIRST	M	POSITION	EXPIRES	APPOINT
2020 CROG Regional Planning Commission	U	Thiesse	Jonathan		Representative	12/31/2020	1/15/2020
2020 CROG Regional Planning Commission	R	Evens	David		Alternate	12/31/2020	1/15/2020
Board of Assessment Appeals	R	Pelehach	Joe			11/21/2023	11/17/2015
Board of Assessment Appeals	D	Sinish	David	P		11/21/2023	11/3/2009
Board of Assessment Appeals	R	Parlman	Bradley			11/16/2021	8/23/2017
Board of Education	R	Ausere	Julie		Chair	11/16/2021	11/19/2013
Board of Education	R	Bradley	Maria			11/16/2021	12/9/2015
Board of Education	D	Cavanaugh	Ana			11/16/2021	11/19/2013
Board of Education	R	O'Donnell	Ryan			11/16/2021	
Board of Education	D	Powell	Jack			11/16/2021	11/16/2013
Board of Education	R	Sullivan	Kim			11/21/2023	11/19/2019
Board of Education	D	Hayes	Erika			11/21/2023	3/1/2019
Board of Education	D	Scheideler	Joseph			11/21/2023	11/17/2015
Board of Education	R	Bush	Russell			11/21/2023	11/19/2019
Board of Ethics	D	Ciccarillo	Dennis	G	Member	6/30/2025	2/16/2011
Board of Ethics	R	Kubas	David	R	Chair	6/30/2025	7/15/2009
Board of Ethics	U	Casey	Arthur		Member	6/30/2023	8/5/2009
Board of Ethics	R	Lloyd	David		Member	6/30/2023	7/22/2020
Board of Ethics	U	Barrow	Paul		Alternate	6/30/2023	1/27/2021
Board of Ethics	D	Therrien	Paul		Member	6/30/2024	2/24/2016
Board of Ethics	U	Rousseau	Roger		Alternate	6/30/2023	1/27/2021
Board of Finance	R	Rottkamp	Jennifer		Chair	11/16/2021	12/21/2015
Board of Finance	R	Webb	Jonathan		Member	11/16/2021	11/5/2019
Board of Finance	D	Faulkner	Sarah		Member	11/16/2021	11/22/2005
Board of Finance	D	Kenney	Katie		Member	11/21/2023	11/19/2019
Board of Finance	R	Humphrey	Kenneth	S	Member	11/21/2023	11/3/2009
Board of Finance	R	Lavery	Andrew		Member	11/21/2023	11/19/2018
Board of Selectmen	D	Deutsch	Gail		Selectman	11/16/2021	11/5/2019
Board of Selectmen	D	Volovski	William		Selectman	11/16/2021	
Board of Selectmen	D	Bessel	Robert		First Selectman	11/21/2023	11/19/2019
Board of Selectmen	R	LeGeyt	Timothy		Selectman	11/21/2023	11/19/2019
Board of Selectmen	R	Humphrey	Warren		Selectman	11/21/2023	11/19/2019
Building Code Board of Appeals	U	Richardson	Russell, Jr.			N/A	
Building Code Board of Appeals		VACANT	VACANT			N/A	
Building Code Board of Appeals	R	Whitney	Charles			N/A	
Canton Center Historic District Commission	U	Lampros	Susan		Member/Secretary	1/1/2022	9/28/2016
Canton Center Historic District Commission		VACANT	VACANT		Alternate	1/1/2022	
Canton Center Historic District Commission	R	Magennis	Gina		Member	1/1/2023	9/28/2016
Canton Center Historic District Commission		VACANT	VACANT		Alternate	1/1/2023	
Canton Center Historic District Commission	U	Bonelli	Christopher		Member	1/1/2024	9/28/2016
Canton Center Historic District Commission	D	Burbank	Marianne		Chair	1/1/2024	9/28/2016
Canton Center Historic District Commission		Schwartz	Kenneth		Member	1/1/2025	9/28/2016
Canton Center Historic District Commission		VACANT	VACANT		Alternate	1/1/2025	
Canton Housing Authority	U	Gerald	Ricard		Member	12/31/2022	5/22/2019
Canton Housing Authority	R	Lowell	Bette	R	Chair	12/31/2023	
Canton Housing Authority	R	Erickson	Linea		Member	12/31/2023	10/25/2017
Canton Housing Authority	R	Lowell	Arthur		Member	12/31/2024	10/25/2017
Canton Housing Authority	D	Stang	Steven		Member	12/31/2025	1/27/2021
Canton Public Library Board of Trustees	R	McAllister	Karol		Member	7/1/2025	9/12/2018
Canton Public Library Board of Trustees	D	VACANT	VACANT		Member	7/1/2021	

Canton Public Library Board of Trustees	R	Manternach	Karen		Member	7/1/2022	10/26/2018
Canton Public Library Board of Trustees	D	Porri	Amelia		Member	7/1/2022	11/8/2017
Canton Public Library Board of Trustees		VACANT	VACANT		Member	7/1/2022	
Canton Public Library Board of Trustees	D	Bradley	Elizabeth		Member	7/1/2022	2/27/2019
Canton Public Library Board of Trustees	D	Braxton	Margaret		Member	7/1/2024	10/23/2019
Canton Public Library Board of Trustees	D	Miller	Deborah		Member	7/1/2024	8/26/2020
Canton Public Library Board of Trustees	R	Okie	Rowena		Vice Chair	7/1/2025	10/9/2013
Central Regional Tourism District		VACANT	VACANT			N/A	
Chief of Fire/EMS		Gotoski	John		Chief	12/31/2022	12/12/2018
Collinsville Historic District Commission	D	Asaro	Jennifer Barlow		Alternate	6/30/2025	3/22/2017
Collinsville Historic District Commission	U	Veillette	Stephen		Chair	6/30/2025	8/3/2006
Collinsville Historic District Commission	D	Cancela	Sylvia		Alternate	6/30/2022	6/30/1999
Collinsville Historic District Commission	D	Leff	David	K	Member	6/30/2022	
Collinsville Historic District Commission	R	Grant	James		Member	6/30/2023	10/28/2015
Collinsville Historic District Commission	D	Jackson	Eric		Member	6/30/2024	6/30/1994
Collinsville Historic District Commission	D	Kendra	Walter		Member	6/30/2024	6/30/1996
Collinsville Historic District Commission	U	VACANT	VACANT		Alternate	6/30/2025	11/10/2015
Commission on Aging	R	Murray	Dorothea	E	Secretary	1/1/2023	2/19/1998
Commission on Aging	R	Len	Dunstan		Alternate	1/1/2023	6/23/2021
Commission on Aging	D	Wallison	Maureen		Chair	1/1/2024	4/18/2000
Commission on Aging	U	Crawford	Virginia		Alternate	1/1/2025	6/27/2018
Commission on Aging	U	Kluessendorf	Lori		Vice Chair	1/1/2025	5/9/2012
Commission on Aging	U	Hesselbrock	Michie		Member	1/1/2025	5/20/2009
Commission on Aging	U	Carney	Donna		Member	1/1/2022	3/25/2015
Commission on Aging	U	Erardi	Marylou		Member	1/1/2022	7/23/2014
Commission on Aging	D	Becker	Nancy		Member	1/1/2024	8/23/2017
Commission on Aging	D	Gillette	Heather		Alternate	7/31/2024	2/26/2020
Conservation Commission	U	Spatcher Jr	William		Member	6/30/2025	7/8/2015
Conservation Commission	U	Tilton	Garry		Member	7/1/2025	12/23/2019
Conservation Commission	U	Erwin	Kevin		Chair	7/1/2022	3/27/2019
Conservation Commission	D	Kaplan	Jay		Member/CO-Chair	7/1/2024	9/25/2013
Conservation Commission	D	Barton	Hedy		Member	6/30/2025	2/12/2014
Conservation Commission	D	Zdanzukas	Cynthia		Member	7/1/2025	
Conservation Commission	D	Abel	Jennifer		Member	6/30/2024	12/23/2019
CRCOG Representative		VACANT	VACANT			11/17/2020	
DECD Central Tourism Representative		VACANT	VACANT			N/A	
Economic Development Agency	D	Columbia	Vince		Member	7/1/2025	2/26/2020
Economic Development Agency	U	Dingee	Matthew		Member	7/1/2025	9/25/2019
Economic Development Agency	R	Melniczek	Steve		Member	7/1/2025	9/13/2017
Economic Development Agency	D	Hunter	Anne		Alternate	7/1/2022	10/9/2013
Economic Development Agency	D	Asklof	Russell		Member	7/1/2022	8/23/2017
Economic Development Agency	R	Hawkins	Frankie		Alternate	7/1/2023	11/13/2019
Economic Development Agency	D	Lukas	Katie		Chair	7/1/2024	5/22/2019
Energy Committee	R	Langlois	Candace		Member	4/25/2024	4/25/2012
Energy Committee	D	Miller	Nancy		Vice Chair	4/25/2024	4/25/2012
Energy Committee	D	Namnoum	Bob		Chair	4/25/2024	7/11/2012
Energy Committee	U	Madigan	David		Secretary	4/25/2024	4/25/2012
Energy Committee	U	Quinlan	Mark		Member	4/25/2024	11/14/2012
Energy Committee	D	Gentile	Susan		Member	4/25/2024	8/26/2020
Energy Committee	I	West	Millege "Guy"		Member	7/13/2024	7/13/2016
Farmington River Coordinating Committee	R	Perry	Lansford		Member	N/A	11/9/2016
Farmington River Coordinating Committee		Matthew	Vinick		Alternate	N/A	4/14/2021
Farmington Valley Health District	R	Humphrey	Warren		Member	1/22/2024	2/13/2019
Farmington Valley Health District		VACANT	VACANT		Member	1/22/2024	
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency	R	Bahre	Robert	H.	Member	12/31/2021	12/26/2013
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency	D	Sinish	David	P	Member	12/31/2022	5/5/2010

Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency	D	Shepard	David		Chair	12/31/2023	10/7/2004
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency	D	Porri	William		Alternate	4/27/2024	4/11/2018
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency	D	Henry	Eric		Member	12/31/2021	9/27/2017
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency	U	Rosenfeld	David		Member	12/31/2023	4/27/2016
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency	D	Covino	Vincent		Alternate	4/27/2024	10/14/2020
Juvenile Review Board	D	Puglielli	Mark		Alternate	6/30/2021	10/10/2018
Juvenile Review Board	U	Conway	Kelly		Member	6/30/2025	4/10/2013
Juvenile Review Board	D	Campbell	Lisa		Alternate	6/30/2025	11/25/2019
Juvenile Review Board	R	Pass	Troy		Member	6/30/2022	6/27/2018
Juvenile Review Board	U	Olson	Patrice		Chair	6/30/2023	1/23/2019
Juvenile Review Board	D	Spiers	Linda		Member	6/30/2025	
Juvenile Review Board	D	Corcoran	Kara		Member	6/30/2023	3/11/2015
Municipal Agent for the Elderly		Jackson	Tonoa		Representative		9/16/2019
Parks & Recreation Commission		VACANT	VACANT		Member	7/1/2021	
Parks & Recreation Commission	D	Lynch	Margaret		Member	7/1/2022	2/26/2020
Parks & Recreation Commission		Marc	Cournoyer		Member	6/30/2023	5/14/2021
Parks & Recreation Commission	R	Jacobs	Todd	Q	Member	7/1/2023	10/1/2008
Parks & Recreation Commission	D	Andrews	Rebecca		Member	9/14/2024	7/18/2007
Parks & Recreation Commission	D	Steven	Byko		Member	7/1/2021	4/14/2021
Parks & Recreation Commission	D	Miller	Brian		Chair	7/1/2024	7/8/2015
Pension Committee	R	Cowenhoven	Peter		Member	1/1/2023	12/22/2020
Pension Committee	D	Nardello	Michael		Member	1/1/2023	6/23/2021
Pension Committee	U	Benedetti	Sergio		Chair	1/1/2024	1/8/2014
Pension Committee	D	Britt	John		Member	1/1/2024	2/11/2015
Pension Committee	U	Daley	Diane		Member	1/1/2025	2/8/2017
Permanent Municipal Building Committee	R	Berry	Karen	L	Member	7/1/2022	2/2/2006
Permanent Municipal Building Committee	D	Reynolds	Peter		Chair	7/1/2022	9/19/2002
Permanent Municipal Building Committee	U	Madigan	David		Member	7/1/2024	4/18/2002
Permanent Municipal Building Committee	D	Dymicki	Ronald	L	Member	7/1/2024	7/6/2000
Plainville Area Cable Television Advisory Council	D	Boorjian	Diana	D	Vice Chair	6/30/2023	11/26/2013
Plainville Area Cable Television Advisory Council		VACANT	VACANT		Member	6/30/2023	
Planning & Zoning Commission	D	Hoben	Aimee		Alternate	6/30/2025	12/22/2020
Planning & Zoning Commission	R	Pane	Philip		Member	6/30/2025	10/9/2013
Planning & Zoning Commission	R	Perry	Lansford	W	Member	6/30/2025	10/9/2013
Planning & Zoning Commission	U	Thiesse	Jonathan		Chair	6/30/2023	10/9/2013
Planning & Zoning Commission	U	Huyghebaert	John		Member	6/30/2023	10/9/2013
Planning & Zoning Commission	R	Evens	David	A	Member	6/30/2024	10/9/2013
Planning & Zoning Commission	D	Harper	Rachelle		Alternate	6/30/2024	6/23/2021
Planning & Zoning Commission	D	Vinick	Elizabeth		Member	6/30/2024	2/24/2021
Planning & Zoning Commission	R	Blatchley	Thomas		Alternate	7/13/2024	1/22/2020
Planning & Zoning Commission	D	Vogel	Michael		Member	7/13/2024	7/24/2019
PMBC - PW Garage Project	D	Biega	Gregory "David"		Member	project complete	1/25/2017
PMBC - PW Garage Project	U	Bradley	Robert		Member	project complete	1/25/2017
PMBC - PW Garage Project	R	Celmer	Robert		Member	project complete	
PMBC - PW Garage Project	D	Tarinelli	Donald		Member	project complete	
Poet Laureate	D	Leff	David			11/12/2022	3/13/2019
Registrar of Voters	R	Miner	John (Jack)	R		1/8/2025	1/7/2009
Registrar of Voters	D	Miner	Amelia			1/8/2025	
Registrar of Voters	R	Contrastano	Rich		Deputy	elected	1/7/2009
Town Historian	D	Taylor	Kathleen			11/12/2022	3/13/2019
Town Historian Deputy	D	Leff	David			11/12/2022	3/13/2019
Town Meeting Moderator		VACANT	VACANT		Alternate	1/1/2022	
Town Meeting Moderator	D	Leff	David	K.		1/1/2022	12/14/2011
Town Meeting Moderator	U	Zils	Melissa		Alternate	1/1/2022	12/23/2019

Town Meeting Moderator		VACANT	VACANT		Alternate	1/1/2022	
Water Pollution Control Authority	R	Bush	Russell		Member	6/30/2025	7/24/2019
Water Pollution Control Authority	R	Melniczek	Stephen		Member	7/1/2025	7/10/2019
Water Pollution Control Authority	D	Ouellette	Nicholas		Member	7/1/2022	11/13/2019
Water Pollution Control Authority		VACANT	VACANT		Member	6/30/2025	
Water Pollution Control Authority		VACANT	VACANT		Member	6/30/2025	
Water Pollution Control Authority		VACANT	VACANT		Member	6/30/2025	
Water Pollution Control Authority	R	Celmer	Robert		Member	6/30/2023	8/28/2019
Water Pollution Control Authority	D	Van Scoter	Jenn		Member	6/30/2023	9/25/2019
Water Pollution Control Authority	D	Mauger	Art		Chair	6/30/2024	9/13/2017
Wild and Scenic River Study Committee		VACANT	VACANT		Member	N/A	
Wild and Scenic River Study Committee	R	Antonucci	Mayan		Member		
Youth Services Bureau	D	Barger	Glenn		Member	7/1/2025	4/29/2009
Youth Services Bureau	R	Keefe	Matt		Member	7/1/2025	2/28/2018
Youth Services Bureau	D	Campbell	Lisa		Member	7/1/2021	8/28/2019
Youth Services Bureau	D	Meheran	Laurie		Member	7/1/2022	11/9/2009
Youth Services Bureau	D	Harper	Rachelle		Member	7/1/2022	6/27/2018
Youth Services Bureau	D	Saidel	Susan	E	Chair	7/1/2022	4/29/2009
Youth Services Bureau	D	Skinner	Maria		Member	7/1/2022	9/9/2015
Zoning Board of Appeals	D	Miller	Brian		Alternate	1/3/2023	2/27/2019
Zoning Board of Appeals	U	Olson	Patrice		Member	1/3/2023	
Zoning Board of Appeals		VACANT	VACANT		Alternate	1/3/2024	
Zoning Board of Appeals	R	Kerr	Christopher	W	Member	1/3/2024	2/27/2013
Zoning Board of Appeals	R	Vincent	Susan		Alternate	1/3/2025	1/27/2021
Zoning Board of Appeals	R	Celmer	Robert		Member	1/3/2023	3/9/2016
Zoning Board of Appeals	D	Kinosh	Stephen		Member	6/30/2024	10/13/2016
Zoning Board of Appeals	R	Rucci	Lucien		Chair	6/30/2024	10/13/2016