

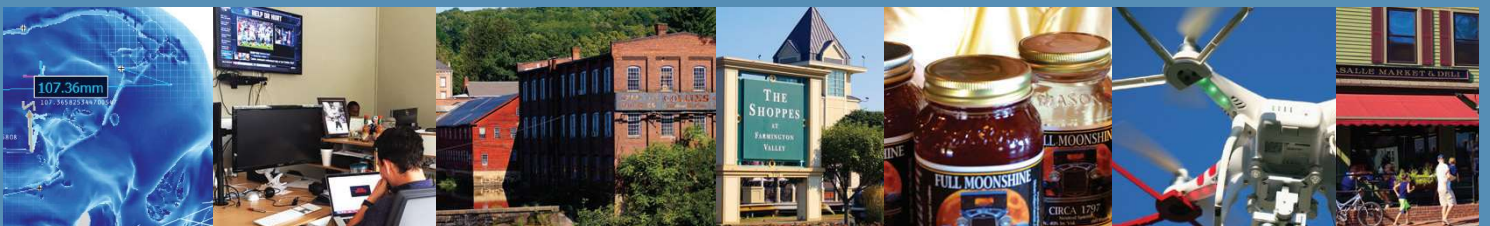
# CANTON



*Small Town, Big Impact*

## Town of Canton Annual Report

**Fiscal Year 2022-2023**



Town of Canton Annual Report  
Fiscal Year 2022-2023

With gratitude and respect, the Town of Canton dedicates the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Annual Report to Linda Smith in recognition of her years of service and contributions to our Canton community.



Linda was a Town employee for twenty-two years. She was the Assistant Town Clerk from 2001 to 2004 and promoted to Town Clerk in 2004 where she worked for the next 19 years until she retired in September of 2023.

During Linda's tenure she was a dedicated, and friendly public servant who was always ready to answer a resident's question or assist with a problem. Not only was Linda the Town Clerk, but she also served as the Town's Communications Director. She was instrumental in getting the Town to utilize social media as a form of communication. During the COVID pandemic, Linda was quick to adapt alternative means of service delivery, including greater use of online services and mailing out items such as dog licenses and transfer station permits instead of in person pick up at Town Hall. She also worked closely with the Registrar of Voters to make sure elections ran smoothly and without complications. Linda's ability to stay organized and focused while facing constant interruptions will always serve as a model and inspiration to the staff at Town Hall.

**Town of Canton Annual Report  
Fiscal Year 2022-2023**

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**Town of Canton Annual Report  
Fiscal Year 2022-2023**



**TOWN MEETING  
MINUTES & ELECTION  
RESULTS**

LEGAL NOTICE  
TOWN OF CANTON, CONNECTICUT  
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
July 27, 2022

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, July 27, 2022 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 question:

Shall the Town of Canton approve funding various municipal projects, in the total amount of \$498,804.30, with grant funds received through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021(ARPA)?

A list of the ARPA projects can be located on line at [www.townofcantonct.org](http://www.townofcantonct.org) and in the office of the Town Clerk and at the Canton Public Library.

Dated at Canton, Connecticut this 15th day of July, 2022.

Board of Selectmen  
Robert Bessel  
First Selectman

**RETURN OF NOTICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on July 15, 2022, a copy of the foregoing warning and notice was left with Linda Smith, Town Clerk.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that on July 20, 2022, a copy of said warning and notice was published in the Hartford Courant, a newspaper having a circulation in said Town.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that on July 15, 2022, a copy of said warning and notice was posted on the Town's website, and all other places designated by Charter.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that all of the above acts were done at least five days before the holding of said meeting on July 27, 2022.

---

Robert Bessel  
First Selectman

**TOWN OF CANTON, CONNECTICUT  
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
Wednesday, July 27, 2022**

A Special Town Meeting of the Town of Canton was held on Wednesday, July 27, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in the Canton Public Library and Community Center, 40 Dyer Avenue, Collinsville, CT. Melissa Zils, Moderator, called the meeting to order at 7:02 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:

Shall the Town of Canton approve funding various municipal projects, in the total amount of \$498,804.30, with grant funds received through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021(ARPA)?

Seconded by Stephen Sedor.

**Discussion:**

First Selectman Robert Bessel explained that this is our second town meeting to approve expenditures of ARPA. The Town of Canton received \$3,034,667.30, half in June 2021 and the other half in July 2022. The funds can be used to address the negative impacts of COVID-19 on families, businesses, nonprofits and government. The funds must be encumbered by the end of 2024 and spent by the end of 2026. We are using the “safe harbor” method of utilizing ARPA funds which is to declare the funding as loss revenue pursuant to a federal formula. Once the funds have been declared as loss revenue, they can be used for normal government expenses except for debt service and pension fund costs. Town officials have determined that most, if not all, of the funds can be recouped as loss revenue.

The Board of Selectmen determined the overall theme should be that funds be utilized to enhance residents’ quality of life. This would include health and well-being, safety, and outdoor recreation. Further enhancing the community’s well-being would be support of non-profits, especially those that support tourism, and support for small business. Finally, there were facility improvements including HVAC improvements for both the Town Hall and High School auditoriums.

Some of the projects would have had to be funded through the budget process if not for the ARPA funding, thereby lowering future costs. The CIP Committee (Capital improvement Plan) picked projects that will not need substantial future additional funding.

The first round of funding was reviewed. After review by both the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance, a second and final round of ARPA projects are before you tonight. The second round of ARPA funding includes:

School Projects

- Window Replacement at Cherry Brook School \$140,000
- Enhanced Security Cameras \$60,000

New Projects

- Memorial Field Improvements \$64,000 (pending an agreement between the Fire Corp and the Canton Youth Soccer)
- Paving Bahr Corner Road \$97,481.30
- Farmington Valley Health District \$41,323
- Speed Enforcement \$30,000

Additional Funding for Round One Projects

- Tall Hall Auditorium HVAC \$46,000 (cost overrun from first round)
- Pool Shell \$20,000 (cost overrun from first round)

Comments:

- Fred Swan – 39 Case Street
- Sarah Faulkner – 25 Dyer Ave
- Jan Tanner – 30 Bunker Hill Road
- Pat Swan – 39 Case Street

There being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously with a voice vote.

Sarah Faulkner made a motion to adjourn.

Ken Humphrey seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 7:21pm

Linda Smith, Town Clerk  
Received for record 7/28/22

**TOWN OF CANTON-DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY**

Notice is hereby given that a Primary of the political party listed below will be held in your town on August 9, 2022 for nomination to each office indicated below.

Notice is also hereby given that the following are the names of the party-endorsed candidates, if any, for nomination to each office indicated, together with the street address of said candidate. The party endorsed candidates, if any, are indicated by an asterisk. Additionally, the following are the names of all other candidates who have filed their certificates of eligibility and consent to primary or have satisfied the primary petitioning requirements in conformity with the General Statutes as candidates for nomination to each office indicated, together with the street addresses of said candidates.

<b>Candidate Name</b>	<b>Party</b>	<b>Address</b>
<b>Secretary of the State</b>		
*Stephanie Thomas	Democratic Party	81 William St., Norwalk, CT. 06851
Maritza Bond	Democratic Party	784 Quinnipiac Ave., New Haven, CT. 06513
<b>Treasurer</b>		
*Erick Russell	Democratic Party	215 Stevenson Rd., New Haven, CT. 06515
Dita Bhargava	Democratic Party	502 Cognewaugh Rd, Greenwich, CT-06807
Karen DuBois-Walton	Democratic Party	58 Pearl St., New Haven, CT. 06513

Dated at Hartford, CT this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of June 2022  
DENISE W. MERRILL  
SECRETARY OF THE STATE

The foregoing is a copy of the notice which I have received from the Office of the Secretary of the State, in accordance with Section 9-433 of the General Statutes. As provided in said notice, a primary of the referenced party for nomination to the state or district offices therein specified will be held on August 9, 2022. The hours of voting at said primary and the location of the polls will be as follows:

HOURS OF VOTING: 6am to 8pm  
LOCATION OF POLLING PLACE: Canton Community Center, 40 Dyer Ave, Canton, CT 06019  
Dated at Canton, CT, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2022.  
Linda Smith, Canton Town Clerk

**TOWN OF CANTON-REPUBLICAN PRIMARY**

Notice is hereby given that a Primary of the political party listed below will be held in your town on August 9, 2022 for nomination to each office indicated below.

Notice is also hereby given that the following are the names of the party-endorsed candidates, if any, for nomination to each office indicated, together with the street address of said candidate. The party endorsed candidates, if any, are indicated by an asterisk. Additionally, the following are the names of all other candidates who have filed their certificates of eligibility and consent to primary or have satisfied the primary petitioning requirements in conformity with the General Statutes as candidates for nomination to each office indicated, together with the street addresses of said candidates.

<b>Candidate Name</b>	<b>Party</b>	<b>Address</b>
<b>United States Senator</b>		
*Themis Klarides	Republican Party	66 Governors Way, Madison, CT. 06443
Leora R. Levy	Republican Party	59 Peckslan Rd., Greenwich, CT. 06831
Peter Lumaj	Republican Party	745 Mill Plain Rd., Fairfield, CT. 06824
<b>Secretary of the State</b>		
*Dominic Rapini	Republican Party	4 Mariners Way, Branford, CT. 06405
Brock Weber	Republican Party	17 Lancewood Ln., Wolcott, CT. 06716
Terrie E. Wood	Republican Party	50 Saint Nicholas Rd., Darien, CT. 06820

Dated at Hartford, CT this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of June 2022  
DENISE W. MERRILL  
SECRETARY OF THE STATE

The foregoing is a copy of the notice which I have received from the Office of the Secretary of the State, in accordance with Section 9-433 of the General Statutes. As provided in said notice, a primary of the referenced party for nomination to the state or district offices therein specified will be held on August 9, 2022. The hours of voting at said primary and the location of the polls will be as follows:

HOURS OF VOTING: 6am to 8pm  
LOCATION OF POLLING PLACE: Canton Community Center, 40 Dyer Ave, Canton, CT 06019

Dated at Canton, CT, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2022.  
Linda Smith, Canton Town Clerk





**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE  
Head Moderator's Return**

Democratic Primary  
August 09, 2022  
Original

Canton

**Candidates on Ballot**

**Note:**

At the Democratic Primary in the town of Canton locally warned and held on August 09, 2022. The following candidates received the number of votes annexed to their name respectively.

**Secretary of the State**

Democratic	Democratic
Stephanie Thomas	Maritza Bond

438

77

**Treasurer**

Democratic	Democratic	Democratic
Erick Russell	Dita Bhargava	Karen Dubois-Walton

275

119

122

List of Votes Certified By

-



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE  
Head Moderator's Return**

Democratic Primary  
August 09, 2022  
Original

Canton

**Report of Absentee Ballots**

Congressional District 5

**Number Received from Town Clerk**

**Number Issued**

Absentee	Military	Overseas	Election Day Registration	Presidential	
26	+	0	+	0	+
0	+	0	+	0	+
0	+	0	+	0	=
					26

**Number Rejected**

Absentee	Military	Overseas	Election Day Registration	Presidential	
0	+	0	+	0	+
0	+	0	+	0	+
0	+	0	+	0	=
					0

(-)

Number Counted

26

**Report of Provisional Ballots**

Total Provisional Ballots Issued Town wide

0

**Official Check List Report**

**Names on Official Check List**

2,509

(Names on the Official check list-Names on Active List and names Restored to the Active List on Election Day; also Overseas Ballot Applicants.)

(+)

**Election Day Registration**

0

(Total Election Day Registration (EDR) Issued)

**Grand Total Names on Active List**

2,509

**Names Checked as Having Voted**

519

(Total of names-by-name count of ALL names checked on the Official Check List as having voted at the polls, by Absentee ballot and by Overseas Ballot -- including names checked at the absentee ballot central counting location, if any.)

Total Votes for Governor/President  
All Candidates

0

(This number should be less than or Equal to names checkes as having voted)



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE  
Head Moderator's Return

Democratic Primary  
August 09, 2022  
Original

Canton

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**List of Votes Certified By**

Signature of Head Moderator -- Presiding Officer

Head Moderator's Home Tel#

860-256-5666

Jack Miner

Print Head Moderator's Name

Head Moderator's Work Tel#



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE  
Head Moderator's Return**

Republican Primary  
August 09, 2022  
Original

Canton

**Candidates on Ballot**

**Note:**

At the Republican Primary in the town of Canton locally warned and held on August 09, 2022. The following candidates received the number of votes annexed to their name respectively.

**United States Senator**

Republican	Republican	Republican
Themis Klarides	Leora R. Levy	Peter Lumaj
172	228	40

**Secretary of the State**

Republican	Republican
Dominic Rapini	Terrie E. Wood
268	157

List of Votes Certified By

-



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE  
Head Moderator's Return**

Republican Primary  
August 09, 2022  
Original

Canton

**Report of Absentee Ballots**

Congressional District 5

**Number Received from Town Clerk**

**Number Issued**

Absentee	+	Military	+	Overseas	+	Election Day Registration	+	Presidential		
20		0		0		0		0	=	20

**Number Rejected**

Absentee	+	Military	+	Overseas	+	Election Day Registration	+	Presidential		
0		0		0		0		0	=	0

(-)

Number Counted

20

**Report of Provisional Ballots**

Total Provisional Ballots Issued Town wide

0

**Official Check List Report**

**Names on Official Check List**

2,106

(Names on the Official check list-Names on Active List and names Restored to the Active List on Election Day; also Overseas Ballot Applicants.)

(+)

**Election Day Registration**

0

(Total Election Day Registration (EDR) Issued)

**Grand Total Names on Active List**

2,106

**Names Checked as Having Voted**

440

(Total of names-by-name count of ALL names checked on the Official Check List as having voted at the polls, by Absentee ballot and by Overseas Ballot -- including names checked at the absentee ballot central counting location, if any.)

**Total Votes for Governor/President**

0

All Candidates

(This number should be less than or Equal to names checked as having voted)



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE  
Head Moderator's Return

Republican Primary  
August 09, 2022  
Original

Canton

---

List of Votes Certified By

Jack Miner  
Signature of Head Moderator -- Presiding Officer

Head Moderator's Home Tel#

860-256-5666

Jack Miner  
Print Head Moderator's Name

Head Moderator's Work Tel#

LEGAL NOTICE  
TOWN OF CANTON, CONNECTICUT  
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
August 10, 2022

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, August 10, 2022, 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:

Shall the Town of Canton approve an intermunicipal agreement which specifies the shared use of equipment, facilities, and personnel between the Towns of Burlington and Canton for the purposes of providing animal control services?

Shall the Town of Canton authorize the Board of Selectmen to approve intermunicipal agreements as specified in Connecticut General Statute 7-339c.

A copy of the intermunicipal agreement for animal control services can be located on line at [www.townofcantonct.org](http://www.townofcantonct.org) and in the office of the Town Clerk and at the Canton Public Library.

Dated at Canton, Connecticut this 29th day of July, 2022.

Board of Selectmen  
Robert Bessel  
First Selectman

**RETURN OF NOTICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on July 29, 2022, a copy of the foregoing warning and notice was left with Linda Smith, Town Clerk.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that on August 3, 2022, a copy of said warning and notice was published in the Hartford Courant, a newspaper having a circulation in said Town.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that on July 29, 2022, a copy of said warning and notice was posted on the Town's website, and all other places designated by Charter.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that all of the above acts were done at least five days before the holding of said meeting on August 10, 2022.

---

Robert Bessel  
First Selectman

**TOWN OF CANTON, CONNECTICUT**  
**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING**  
Wednesday, August 10, 2022

A Special Town Meeting of the Town of Canton was held on Wednesday, August 10, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in the Canton Public Library and Community Center, 40 Dyer Avenue, Collinsville, CT. Melissa Zils, Moderator, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Robert Skinner 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:

Shall the Town of Canton approve an intermunicipal agreement which specifies the shared use of equipment, facilities, and personnel between the Towns of Burlington and Canton for the purposes of providing animal control services?

Seconded by Bill Volovski.

Discussion:

First Selectman Bessel explained that we had a shared agreement with the Town of Avon in the past for the position of Animal Control Officer. The ACO has retired and this agreement with the Town of Burlington would replace that agreement.

Chief Administrative Officer Skinner explained that when the shared ACO we had with the Town of Avon retired, Avon said they wanted to set a separate officer and not share services anymore. Canton put out an employment ad for an ACO and looked into various shelter opportunities. One of the applications came from the part time ACO in Burlington so we reached out to Burlington to see if a shared services agreement could work for both towns. The ACO will be a full-time employee of Burlington, with benefits, and will give Canton 9 hours per week of those services. We will also utilize the Burlington kennel for shelter. In exchange, we will provide the ACO vehicle and \$19,000 to Burlington annually.

Comments:

Melissa Zils – 161 Morgan Road  
Lisa Coggins – 13 Daynard Drive  
Troy Koppel – 490 Cherry Brook Road  
?? – Cherry Brook Road

The motion vote passed unanimously with a voice vote.

2. Robert Bessel moved that the meeting consider and take action on the following question:

Shall the Town of Canton authorize the Board of Selectmen to approve intermunicipal agreements as specified in Connecticut General Statute 7-339c.

Seconded by Bill Volovski



Discussion:

CAO Skinner explained that the General Statutes allows the Town Meeting delegate the authority to ratify inter-municipal agreements to the Board of Selectmen. If this motion is not approved, every inter-municipal agreement will need to be approved by town meeting. If approved, the BOS can make the approvals after getting public comment. The BOS always has the option to bring it to a town meeting. It encourages efficiency in those towns that want to use such agreements.

Comments:

Lisa Coggins – 13 Daynard Drive

Tim LeGeyt – 135 West Road

Bill Volovski – Gildersleeve Ave

The motion vote passed unanimously with a voice vote.

There being no further business before the Special Town Meeting, Warren Humphrey made a motion to adjourn. Tim LeGeyt seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 7:21pm

Linda Smith, Town Clerk

Received for record 8/15/22

LEGAL NOTICE  
TOWN OF CANTON, CONNECTICUT  
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
September 14, 2022

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, September 14, 2022, 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 question:

1. Shall the Town of Canton accept an Urban Grant award in the amount of \$550,000 for the purpose of replacing the Canton Police Department communications console.

A copy of the grant award and supporting documents can be located on line at [www.townofcantonct.org](http://www.townofcantonct.org) and in the office of the Town Clerk and at the Canton Public Library.

Dated at Canton, Connecticut this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2022.

Board of Selectmen

Robert Bessel

First Selectman

## RETURN OF NOTICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on August 26, 2022, a copy of the foregoing warning and notice was left with Linda Smith, Town Clerk.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that on September 8, 2022, a copy of said warning and notice was published in the Hartford Courant, a newspaper having a circulation in said Town.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that on August 26, 2022, a copy of said warning and notice was posted on the Town's website, and all other places designated by Charter.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that all of the above acts were done at least five days before the holding of said meeting on September 14, 2022.

---

Robert Bessel  
First Selectman

### TOWN OF CANTON, CONNECTICUT SPECIAL TOWN MEETING Wednesday, September 14, 2022

A Special Town Meeting of the Town of Canton was held on Wednesday, September 14, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in the Canton Public Library and Community Center, 40 Dyer Avenue, Collinsville, CT. Nicholas Ouellette, Moderator, called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m. The Town Clerk, Linda Smith, read the call of the meeting and the return of notice.

First Selectman Robert Bessel moved that the Town of Canton accept an Urban Grant award in the amount of \$550,000 for the purpose of replacing the Canton Police Department communications console and adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection is authorized to extend financial assistance for Public Safety projects; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the Town of Canton approve a grant from the State for \$550,000 in order to undertake the purchase and installation of the Canton Police Department communications console and to execute an Assistance Agreement.

NOW, therefore, be it resolved by the Town of Canton

1. That the Town is aware of the conditions and prerequisites for State Assistance imposed by the State of Connecticut; and
2. That the filing of an application by the Town of Canton in an amount not to exceed \$550,000 is hereby approved and that the First Selectman is hereby authorized to file such application with the Connecticut Department of

Emergency Services and Public Protection, to provide such additional information to execute other documents as may be required: to execute and Assistance Agreement with the state of Connecticut for State Financial Assistance, to execute any amendments, revisions, and revisions thereto; and to act as the authorized representative of the Town of Canton.

Seconded by Bill Volovski.

Discussion:

Police Chief Christopher Arciero explained that aside from the men and women of any public safety organization, the next most important thing is the communications to keep them and the community safe. A summary handout described:

“The nucleus of the town of Canton’s public safety communication system is its Motorola CentraCom Elite dispatch control console. At its core, the console is an advanced software-system that maintains CPUs, software, radio/telephone communications support for all of Canton’s public safety departments (Fire, EMS, Police, DPW, School Security, CERT, Statewide RAFS and local departments), auxiliary input/output resources (alarms, doors, lights, security cameras, encryption capabilities), and tone/voice pagers. The console is located at the Canton Police Department, with a fiber link to the town hall radio/communications’ equipment room. The console is a critical infrastructure item and needs to be given the highest priority to ensure its operability. The instant concern is that this console was originally placed into service in 2001. Moreover, it was purchased used from the town of Bloomfield. All components of our current infrastructure equipment (not individual portable or vehicle radios) have already reached the end of their serviceable lives and are no longer covered under any warranties. Support for most of the system components ended in 2018 (approximate date). Our system is not only physically very old, but the current analogue configuration is no longer utilized by modern systems. Modern systems that are implemented today are usually digital and VoIP in nature. There is no redundancy/default system in the event of a catastrophic failure. Replacing the current dispatch console and the equipment within the police station and town hall will ensure that the town’s Police, Fire, EMS, DPW, Emergency Management, and surrounding municipalities maintain emergency radio communications into the future. It provides a safe, secure and reliable single-point configuration for the lone dispatcher to handle all critical, emergency and routine communications. Upgrading the console would be an integral part of any future processes to address the remainder of the town’s ‘radio communication’ system (towers, repeaters, associated hardware equipment). Upgrading the dispatch console and system infrastructure now will provide flexibility when future radio system enhancements become necessary. This consideration for the console upgrade does not include any individual portable or vehicle radios, or any repeater / transmitter site locations throughout the town.”

There were no questions or comments from the public.

With a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business before the town meeting, a motion to adjourn was made and seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 7:07pm

Linda Smith, Town Clerk  
Received for record 9/16/22

**Town of Canton  
November 8, 2022  
State Election**

The Electors of the Town of Canton are hereby warned to meet at their respective polling places in said town on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, for the following purposes:

- I. To cast their votes for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, United States Senator, Representative in Congress, State Senator, State Representative, Secretary of the State, Treasurer, Comptroller, Attorney General, and Judge of Probate.
- II. To vote on the following question for the approval or disapproval of a proposed AMENDMENT to the Constitution of Connecticut, a vote of “YES” being a vote for approval, and a vote of “NO” being a vote for disapproval:
  1. Shall the Constitution of the State be amended to permit the General Assembly to provide for early voting?

The full text of such proposed questions with explanatory text, printed in accordance with §2-30a of the General Statutes, is available at the town clerk’s office for public distribution. The vote on the proposed question is taken pursuant to the Constitution of Connecticut.

The location of the polling place is Canton Middle/High School, 76 Simonds Ave, Canton, CT. Voting tabulators will be used. The polls will be open from 6am-8pm. Election Day Registrations (EDR) will be processed in room 208 at the Canton Middle/High School.

Dated at Canton, Connecticut, this 25<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2022.

Linda Smith  
Canton Town Clerk



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE  
Head Moderator's Return**

November 2022 State Election

Canton

November 08, 2022

Amendment 2 - Recanvas - close election

**Candidates on Ballot**

**Note:**

At the November 2022 State Election in the town of Canton locally warned and held on November 08, 2022. The following candidates received the number of votes annexed to their name respectively.

**Governor and Lieutenant Governor**

Democratic	Republican	Griebel Frank for CT	Independent
Ned Lamont and Susan Bysiewicz	Bob Stefanowski and Laura Devlin	Ned Lamont and Susan Bysiewicz	Robert Hotaling and Stewart "Chip" Beckett
2,850	2,257	10	50
Working Families	Write In		
Ned Lamont and Susan Bysiewicz	Michelle Louise Bicking and Cassandra A. Martineau		
60	0		

**United States Senator**

Democratic	Republican	Working Families	Write In
Richard Blumenthal	Leora R. Levy	Richard Blumenthal	John Anderson
2,908	2,224	85	0
Write In			
Shabadjot Bharara			
0			

**Representative in Congress 05**

Congressional District	5		
Democratic	Republican	Independent	Working Families
Jahana Hayes	George Logan	George Logan	Jahana Hayes
2,762	2,331	45	72

**State Senate 8**

Senatorial District	8		
Democratic	Republican	Independent	
Paul Honig	Lisa Seminara	Lisa Seminara	
2,757	2,368	75	



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE  
Head Moderator's Return**

November 2022 State Election

Canton

November 08, 2022

Amendment 2 - Recanvas - close election

**State Representative 17**

Democratic		Republican		Independent		Working Families	
Eleni Kavros DeGraw		Heather Maguire		Eleni Kavros DeGraw		Eleni Kavros DeGraw	
2,793		2,284		71		62	

**Secretary of the State**

Democratic		Republican		Independent		Working Families	
Stephanie Thomas		Dominic Rapini		Cynthia R. Jennings		Stephanie Thomas	
2,778		2,180		121		89	

**Treasurer**

Democratic		Republican		Independent		Working Families	
Erick Russell		Harry Arora		Jennifer Baldwin		Erick Russell	
2,642		2,284		125		78	

Libertarian  
JoAnna Laiscell

37

**Comptroller**

Democratic		Republican		Independent		Working Families	
Sean Scanlon		Mary Fay		Sean Scanlon		Sean Scanlon	
2,695		2,330		60		70	



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE  
Head Moderator's Return**

November 2022 State Election  
November 08, 2022  
Amendment 2 - Recanvas - close election

Canton

**Attorney General**

Democratic	Republican	Independent	Working Families
William Tong	Jessica Kordas	A.P. Pascarella	William Tong
2,903	2,147	45	81

Green  
Ken Krayeske

25

**Judge of Probate 09**

<b>Probational District</b>	<b>9</b>
Democratic	Republican
David Shepard	Cynthia Becker
2,699	2,435

List of Votes Certified By

-



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE  
Head Moderator's Return**

November 2022 State Election  
November 08, 2022  
Amendment 2 - Recanvas - close election

Canton

**Report of Absentee Ballots**

Congressional District 5

**Number Received from Town Clerk**

**Number Issued**

Absentee	Military	Overseas	Election Day Registration	Presidential						
766	+	0	+	10	+	40	+	0	=	816

**Number Rejected**

Absentee	Military	Overseas	Election Day Registration	Presidential						
7	+	0	+	0	+	5	+	0	=	12

Number Counted 804

**Report of Provisional Ballots**

Total Provisional Ballots Issued Town wide 0

**Official Check List Report**

Names on Official Check List 7,881

(Names on the Official check list-Names on Active List and names Restored to the Active List on Election Day; also Overseas Ballot Applicants.) (+)

Election Day Registration 40

(Total Election Day Registration (EDR) Issued)

Grand Total Names on Active List 7,921

Names Checked as Having Voted 5,284

(Total of names-by-name count of ALL names checked on the Official Check List as having voted at the polls, by Absentee ballot and by Overseas Ballot -- including names checked at the absentee ballot central counting location, if any.)

Total Votes for Governor/President  
All Candidates 5,227

(This number should be less than or Equal to names checked as having voted)





**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE  
Head Moderator's Return**

November 2022 State Election  
November 08, 2022  
Amendment 2 - Recanvas - close election

Canton

**Questions on Ballot**

TOWN	Yes Votes	No Votes
Canton		
<i>1. "Shall the Constitution of the State be amended to permit the General Assembly to provide for early voting?"</i>	2959	1950



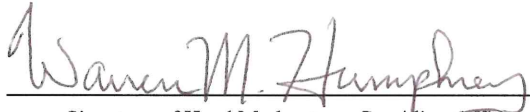
STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE  
Head Moderator's Return

November 2022 State Election  
November 08, 2022  
Amendment 2 - Recanvas - close election

Canton

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List of Votes Certified By

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Head Moderator -- Presiding Officer

Head Moderator's Home Tel#

978-877-7115

Warren Humphrey

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Head Moderator's Name

Head Moderator's Work Tel#

LEGAL NOTICE  
TOWN OF CANTON, CONNECTICUT  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
Wednesday, January 25, 2023

The meeting will be a hybrid format in that people will be able to view and participate virtually or in-person in Room F at the Canton Community Center.

In Order to Attend Virtually

People can hear the meeting and make comments/questions  
by calling the following number: 1-929-436-2866

Webinar ID: 867 9155 9025

Passcode: 798000

Or view the meeting by using the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86791559025?pwd=ZnlGTjJNWFFwQkNPLlFacFUzNjRyZz09>

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 an Annual Town Meeting on Wednesday, January 25, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. to:

Accept the Annual Report pursuant to Charter Section 3.04 and dedicate the Annual Report to David Leff for his commitment to the Canton community including volunteer firefighter, Town Historian, Poet Laureate, Town Moderator and Collinsville Historic District Commission member.

Review and comment on a presentation by the Farmington Valley Health District on the results of the recently completed Community Health Assessment.

Discuss speeding and reckless driving in the Town of Canton and review the Town's response and future plans to address the concerns.

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

Dated at Canton, Connecticut this 13th day of January, 2023

Board of Selectmen  
Robert Bessel, First Selectman

RETURN OF NOTICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on January 17, 2023, a copy of the foregoing warning and notice was left with Linda Smith, Town Clerk.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that on January 19, 2023, a copy of said warning and notice was published in the Hartford Courant, a newspaper having a circulation in said Town.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that on January 17, 2023, a copy of said warning and notice was posted on the Town's website, and all other places designated by Charter.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that all of the above acts were done at least five days before the holding of said meeting on January 25, 2023.

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Robert Bessel  
First Selectman

**TOWN OF CANTON, CONNECTICUT  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

Wednesday, January 25, 2023

The Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Canton was held on Wednesday, January 25, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. Melissa Zils acted as Moderator. Ms. Zils called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The Town Clerk, Linda Smith, read the call of the meeting and the return of notice.

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

1. First Selectman Robert Bessel then dedicated the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Annual Report to the late David Leff. He described David as a man of many passions, pursuits and accomplishments. He had a restless energy and as a young father fell in love with the beauty and history of our town. He promoted the idea of a working village in Collinsville where fresh innovations could take root among the old. His effort helped carry our town to a vibrant future.

Mr Bessel then asked Selectman Bill Volovski to present. Mr Volovski highlighted David's role as our Town Meeting Moderator for many years. David always recognized a person's dignity and made sure, as the leader of the meeting, that we treated each other with respect. He taught us how to be better citizens. Mr Volovski then presented David's wife, Mary Fletcher, with a plaque and a copy of the Annual Report.

2. Mr. Bessel then introduced Jennifer Kertanis, Executive Director of the Farmington Valley Health District. Jennifer explained that it is the FVHD's responsibility to track and monitor the health status of the 10 communities of the district. This is the first comprehensive review of data which allows us to better understand what is happening in our community. She introduced Kirsten Carew, Olivia Morris and Stephanie Johnson to make the presentation which is attached to these minutes. The full report is available at <https://fvhd.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/2022-FVHD-Community-Health-Assessment.pdf>

Comments/Questions:

- a. Warren Humphrey – 96 Barbourtown Road

- b. Mary Crotty – 90 Boulder Ridge
- 3. Mr. Bessel then introduced Police Chief Arciero and State of CT DOT Transportation Planner Patrick Zapatka to discuss speeding and reckless driving in the Town of Canton and review the Town’s response and future plans to address the concerns. The town’s efforts to address speed enforcement is outlined in the attached PowerPoint presentation. The road safety audit done on Maple Ave was discussed, as well as future opportunities for grants and road improvements.

Comments/Questions:

- a. Lisa Coggins - Daynard Drive
- b. Alan & Diane Hanks - Torrington Ave
- c. Barbara Schori - Maple Ave
- d. Jenny Able – Maple Ave
- e. Margaret Lynch - Bart Drive
- f. Larry Minichiello – Maple Ave
  - a. Made a motion to get a non-binding vote regarding the establishment of a temporary committee to study pedestrian safety
  - b. Seconded by Marc Cournoyer.
- g. Dalton Murphy - ?
- h. Sarah Faulkner – Dyer Ave
- i. Kristie Gonsalves - Case Street
- j. Keith Bedard – Case Street
- k. Richard Barlow – Cherry Brook Road
  - a. Called the question
- l. Tim LeGeyt – West Street
  - a. Point of order

The Town Moderator clarified that any results of a vote at this Annual Town Meeting would be advisory only. Per Charter, binding votes are not allowed at an Annual Town Meeting.

On the following statement:

The citizens of Canton attending the Annual Town Meeting held January 25 request the Board of Selectmen to establish a temporary safety committee to support the Board of Selectmen’s actions to study, propose, monitor, and report on pedestrian and vehicle safety measures currently in place, and those that may be established.

A voice vote in the room was unanimous. In addition, 7 of the 14 people online showed electronic hands.

- m. Marc Cournoyer – Secret Lake Road
- n. Ann Hanks - Torrington Ave
- o. Bob Bessel – Spring Street
- p. Neil Pade – Town of Canton Town Planner

There being no further business or discussion, a motion to adjourn was made and seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 9:23pm.

*Linda Smith*

Linda Smith, Town Clerk  
Received for record Jan 26, 2023

LEGAL NOTICE  
TOWN OF CANTON, CONNECTICUT  
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
Wednesday, March 22, 2023

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, March 22, 2023 at 7:00 PM in Room F at the Canton Public Library & Community Center, 40 Dyer Avenue, Canton, Connecticut, to consider and take action on the following question:

1. Shall the Town of Canton appropriate \$272,283 from the Town's undesignated fund balance for the purpose of funding debt service. The additional debt service payments are the result of the Town selling bonds earlier than anticipated to prevent paying higher interest rates.

Dated at Canton, Connecticut this 14th day of March, 2023

Board of Selectmen  
Robert Bessel  
First Selectman

RETURN OF NOTICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on March 9, 2023, a copy of the foregoing warning and notice was left with Linda Smith, Town Clerk.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that on March 16, 2023, a copy of said warning and notice was published in the Hartford Courant, a newspaper having a circulation in said Town.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that on March 14, 2023, a copy of said warning and notice was posted on the Town's website, and all other places designated by Charter.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that all of the above acts were done at least five days before the holding of said meeting on March 22, 2023.

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Robert Bessel  
First Selectman

**TOWN OF CANTON, CONNECTICUT  
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING**

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

A Special Town Meeting of the Town of Canton was held on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Canton Public Library and Community Center, 40 Dyer Avenue, Collinsville, CT. Nicholas Ouellette, 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:

Shall the Town of Canton appropriate \$272,283 from the Town's undesignated fund balance for the purpose of funding debt service. The additional debt service payments are the result of the Town selling bonds earlier than anticipated to prevent paying higher interest rates?

Seconded by William Volovski.

Discussion:

Chief Administrative Officer, Robert Skinner, explained that in 2020 and 2021 the Town authorized the sale of bonds in order to pay for three bridges and the construction of a fire station. The intent was to sell those bonds in August 2022. As we got closer to the spring of 2022 and interest rates were starting to climb pretty quickly, it became apparent that if we waited until August 2022, interest rates would have been even higher. In order to lock in the sale of the bonds at a lower interest rate and save the town money in the long run, the decision was made to sell the bonds in May 2022. This decision saved approximately 75 basis point. The part that we did not anticipate was that the first bond payment would be due in May 2023 and not August 2023. The amount of the payment is not a penalty or any more money, it is just the first payment that is due in an earlier fiscal year.

There were no comments from the public.

The motion vote passed unanimously with a voice vote.

Robert Bessel made a motion to adjourn. Tim LeGeyt seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 7:06 pm

Linda Smith, Town Clerk  
Received for record March 23, 2023

**Legal Notice  
Town of Canton Budget Referendum  
May 9, 2023**

Pursuant to Article X of the Canton Town Charter, a Town Budget Referendum will be held on Tuesday, May 9, 2023 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 9, 2023 to cast their vote on the following question:

"SHALL THE BOARD OF FINANCE'S RECOMMENDED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023/2024 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$46,747,934 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](http://www.townofcantonct.org) .

Ken Humphrey  
Chair, Board of Finance

**RETURN OF NOTICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on April 26, 2023, a copy of the foregoing warning and notice was left with Linda Smith, Town Clerk.



I FURTHER CERTIFY that on April 28, 2023, a copy of said warning and notice was published in the Hartford Courant, a newspaper having a circulation in said Town.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that on April 26, 2023, a copy of said warning and notice was posted on the Town's website, and all other places designated by Charter.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that all of the above acts were done at least five days before the holding of said referendum on May 9, 2023.

---

Robert Bessel  
First Selectman

**Legal Notice**  
**Town of Canton Budget Referendum**  
**May 9, 2023**

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Ken Humphrey  
Chair, Board of Finance

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I FURTHER CERTIFY that on April 26, 2023, a copy of said warning and notice was posted on the Town's website, and all other places designated by Charter.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that all of the above acts were done at least five days before the holding of said referendum on May 9, 2023.

Robert Bessel  
First Selectman

**RESULTS:**

The Canton Budget Referendum PASSED

Only 7% of the electorate voted in the referendum. So even though the final vote count was:  
214= Yes  
332= No,

in accordance with section 10M of the Canton Charter, the budget shall be deemed automatically approved by the Town budget referendum unless both of the following conditions are met:

1. The total number of votes cast at the referendum equals at least 10% of the number of electors of the Town as determined from the official list of the Registrars of Voters as of the date of the referendum; and

2. A majority of those voting in the referendum vote against the recommended budget.

LEGAL NOTICE  
TOWN OF CANTON, CONNECTICUT  
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
Wednesday, May 24, 2023

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, May 24, 2023

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 \$112,000 on behalf of New Horizons, Inc. for the purposes of funding energy efficient windows at the Cherry Brook Health Care Center?
2. Shall the Town of Canton approve submitting a Neighborhood Assistance Act grant application in the amount of \$20,752.50 on behalf of FOCUS Center for Autism, Inc. for the purpose of funding energy efficient heating, ventilating and cooling upgrades?
3. Shall the Town of Canton approve amending the ordinance entitled “Program of Property Tax Relief” by increasing the income eligibility and benefit amounts; modifying future income and benefit amounts based on increases or decreases in the annual Town budget; and setting a maximum cap on total benefits equal to 0.50% of the Town budget.
4. Shall the Town of Canton adopt an ordinance entitled “Prohibition of Cannabis Use on Town Property” which prohibits the use of cannabis, in any form or manner, on property owned or controlled by the Town of Canton.

Copies of the Neighborhood Assistance Act applications, proposed “Prohibition of Cannabis Use on Town Property”, and the modified “Program of Tax Relief” ordinances can be located online at [www.townofcantonct.org](http://www.townofcantonct.org) and in the office of the Town Clerk and at the Canton Public Library.

Dated at Canton, Connecticut this 15th day of May 2023.

Board of Selectmen  
Robert Bessel  
First Selectman

#### RETURN OF NOTICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on May 15, 2023, a copy of the foregoing warning and notice was left with Linda Smith, Town Clerk.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that on May 18, 2023, a copy of said warning and notice was published in the Hartford Courant, a newspaper having a circulation in said Town.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that on May 15, 2023, a copy of said warning and notice was posted on the Town’s website, and all other places designated by Charter.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that all of the above acts were done at least five days before the holding of said meeting on May 24, 2023.

---

Robert Bessel  
First Selectman

**TOWN OF CANTON, CONNECTICUT  
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
Wednesday, May 24, 2023**

A Special Town Meeting of the Town of Canton was held on Wednesday, May 24, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Canton Public Library and Community Center, 40 Dyer Avenue, Collinsville, CT. Melissa Zils, Moderator, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and reviewed the rules for a fair and orderly meeting. The Town Clerk, Linda Smith, read the call of the meeting and the return of notice.

2. Robert Bessel moved that the meeting consider and take action on the following question:

Shall the Town of Canton approve submitting a Neighborhood Assistance Act grant application in the amount of \$112,000 on behalf of New Horizons, Inc. for the purposes of funding energy efficient windows at the Cherry Brook Health Care Center?

Seconded by William Volovski.

Chief Administrative Officer Robert Skinner explained that the NAA is a state funded program. The town of canton's function is purely administrative. Non-profits can submit an application to the Town which, if approved, gets forwarded to the Dept of Revenue Services. Corporations can donate to the non-profits for the project(s) outlined in the application. The companies then get a tax break based on their donation. This application is from New Horizons, who runs Cherry Brook Health Center, who will install energy efficient windows.

Comments from the public: None  
voice vote

The motion vote passed unanimously with a

3. Robert Bessel moved that the meeting consider and take action on the following question:

Shall the Town of Canton approve submitting a Neighborhood Assistance Act grant application in the amount of \$20,752.50 on behalf of FOCUS Center for Autism, Inc. for the purpose of funding energy efficient heating, ventilating and cooling upgrades?

Seconded by William Volovski.

Discussion:

CAO Skinner explained that this is the same grant process. FOCUS Center for Autism plans to make energy efficient heating ventilating and cooling upgrades.

Comments from the public: None  
voice vote

The motion vote passed unanimously with a

4. Robert Bessel moved that the meeting consider and take action on the following question:

Shall the Town of Canton approve amending the ordinance entitled “Program of Property Tax Relief” by increasing the income eligibility and benefit amounts; modifying future income and benefit amounts based on increases or decreases in the annual Town budget; and setting a maximum cap on total benefits equal to 0.50% of the Town budget.

Seconded by Tim LeGeyt.

Discussion:

CAO Skinner explained that this is an ordinance currently on the books. We periodically an appointed committee reviews the ordinance to see if there should be changes and updating. The committee came back to the Town with a report on April 11, 2023, and recommended changes including increasing the amount of benefit to some of the levels of income, setting a cap on total benefits, and reviewing the ordinance every other year.

Comments from the public: None  
voice vote.

The motion vote passed unanimously with a

5. Robert Bessel moved that the meeting consider and take action on the following question:

Shall the Town of Canton adopt an ordinance entitled “Prohibition of Cannabis Use on Town Property” which prohibits the use of cannabis, in any form or manner, on property owned or controlled by the Town of Canton.

Seconded by Tim LeGeyt.

Discussion:

CAO Skinner explained that the ordinance states consumption of cannabis on town property or property controlled by the town, including sidewalks, parking lots, parks, building, etc. This includes smoking, or consumption of any kind. When the State of CT legalized cannabis they allowed towns the opportunity to adopt an ordinance such as this.

Comments from the public:

1. Lisa Coggins – 13 Daynard Drive
2. Carline Thurston – 804 Timber Lane

The motion vote passed unanimously with a voice vote.

There being no further business, Bob Bessel made a motion to adjourn.

William Volovski seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 7:19pm  
Received for record May 25, 2023



## **PRINCIPAL OFFICIALS**

**TOWN OF CANTON**  
**PRINCIPAL TOWN OFFICIALS**

**June 30, 2023**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Robert Bessel, First Selectman

Warren Humphrey  
William Volovski

Timothy LeGeyst  
Stephen Sedor

**BOARD OF FINANCE**

Kenneth S. Humphrey, Chairman

Andrew Lavery  
Thomas Blatchley  
Katie Kenney

William Canny  
Sarah Faulkner

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Lou Daniels, Chairman

Kim Sullivan  
Russell Bush  
Felicia Jordan  
Cindy Moeller

Erika Hayes  
Ryan O'Donnell  
Peggy Steinway  
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  
Jodie Enriquez  
Paige Walton  
Linda Smith  
Glenn Cusano  
Neil Pade  
Robert Martin  
Sarah McCusker  
Taryn Schrage  
Rand Stanley  
Timothy Tharau  
Tonoa Jackson

**EDUCATION**

Superintendent of Schools  
Assistant to the Superintendent for Financial Affairs

Kevin D. Case  
Donna Miscikoski



Town of Canton Annual Report  
Fiscal Year 2022-2023



# AUDITOR'S REPORT

**TOWN OF CANTON, CONNITON, CONNECTICUT**  
 SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING USES-  
 BUDGET AND ACTUAL - BUDGETARY BASIS - GENERAL FUND  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance
	Original	Amended	Budgetary Basis	
<b>PROPERTY TAXES</b>				
Current year tax collections	\$38,275,628	\$38,275,628	\$37,911,036	(364,592)
Prior year tax collections	152,000	152,000	145,163	(6,837)
Tax interest and liens	90,000	90,000	132,422	42,422
Total property taxes	<b>38,517,628</b>	<b>38,517,628</b>	<b>38,188,621</b>	<b>(329,007)</b>
<b>INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUES</b>				
Town aid road	256,405	256,405	254,437	(1,968)
Education cost-sharing	3,634,027	3,634,027	3,580,199	(53,828)
State PILOT - disabled	793	793	691	(102)
State PILOT-veterans	2,198	2,198	1,773	(425)
State PILOT - State property	9,315	9,315	9,325	10
State PILOT - manufacturing	7994	7994	7,994	0
Housing Authority	12,000	12,000	34,603	22,603
Motor Vehicle Property Tax Grant	0	0	79,485	79,485
Municipal Revenue Sharing Grant	0	0	203,032	203,032
Total intergovernmental revenues	<b>3,922,732</b>	<b>3,922,732</b>	<b>4,171,539</b>	<b>248,807</b>
<b>CHARGES FOR SERVICES</b>				
Telecom tax	20,000	20,000	21,573	1,573
BOE tuition fees	315,000	315,000	357,109	42,109
Hunting and fishing licenses	50	50	68	18
Town clerk miscellaneous permits and licenses	10,000	10,000	13,859	3,859
Dog licenses	1,300	1,300	1,400	100
Town clerk conveyance tax	250,000	250,000	245,535	(4,465)
Tax and town clerk printing services	12,000	12,000	10,009	(1,991)
Private Duty - Fire/EMS Services	0	0	900	900
Fire Marshall permits and fire reports	600	600	1517	917
Building licenses and permits	330,000	330,000	385,907	55,907
Land use licenses and permits	2,100	2,100	3,564	1,464
Land Use Printing and Duplicating Services	50	50	148	98
Zoning license & fees	3,800	3,800	2,881	(919)
Zoning applications	5,000	5,000	11,710	6,710
Aquifer Protection applications	400	400	300	(100)
Planning applications	400	400	1125	725
ZBA appeal fee	200	200	465	265
Inland wetlands	1,500	1,500	1,700	200
BOE miscellaneous revenue	10,000	10,000	192	(9,808)
Bad check fees	220	220	345	125

(Continued)

**TOWN OF CANTON, CONNITON, CONNECTICUT**  
 SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING USES-  
 BUDGET AND ACTUAL - BUDGETARY BASIS - GENERAL FUND  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance
	Original	Amended	Budgetary Basis	
<b>CHARGES FOR SERVICES (Continued)</b>				
Police printing and duplicating services	1,200	1,200	398	(802)
Private duty - administration	110,000	110,000	160,874	50,874
Police gun permits	5,500	5,500	6,020	520
Police raffle tickets	100	100	0	(100)
Alarm registration fees	300	300	50	(250)
Vendor permits	500	500	2,160	1,660
Traffic fines	4,500	4,500	7,250	2,750
Police miscellaneous	1,500	1,500	2,460	960
Dog license/shelter fee	11,000	11,000	10,823	(177)
Dog adoption fee	10	10	0	(10)
Insurance rebates	14,000	14,000	26,261	12,261
Rental town property	7,000	7,000	6,090	(910)
AT&T tower	27,500	27,500	25,035	(2,465)
BOS miscellaneous revenue	3,000	3,000	686	(2,314)
Swimming pool fees	48,000	48,000	25,092	(22,908)
Pool daily attendance fee	8,000	8,000	9,505	1,505
Library printing and duplicating services	1,000	1,000	1,899	899
Library income	0	0	145	145
Total charges for services	<b>1,205,730</b>	<b>1,205,730</b>	<b>1,345,055</b>	<b>139,325</b>
<b>INVESTMENT INCOME</b>	<b>34,825</b>	<b>34,825</b>	<b>306,934</b>	<b>272,109</b>
Total revenues	<b>43,680,915</b>	<b>43,680,915</b>	<b>44,012,149</b>	<b>331,234</b>
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</b>				
Transfer In - Capital and Nonrecurring Fund	0	380,193	380,193	0
Appropriations of fund balance	0	788,465	0	(788,465)
Total other financing sources	<b>0</b>	<b>1,168,658</b>	<b>380,193</b>	<b>(788,465)</b>
<b>Total revenues and other Financing Sources</b>	<b>43,680,915</b>	<b>44,849,573</b>	<b>44,392,342</b>	<b>(457,231)</b>

(Continued)

**TOWN OF CANTON, CONNECTICUT**  
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES-  
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - BUDGETARY BASIS - GENERAL FUND  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	<b>Budgeted Amounts</b>		<b>Actual</b>	<b>Variance</b>
	<b>Original</b>	<b>Amended</b>	<b>Budgetary Basis</b>	
<b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>				
Board of Selectmen	\$32,727	\$32,068	\$32,068	\$0
Chief Administrator	258,625	256,604	256,604	\$0
Election	35,715	29,697	29,697	\$0
Probate court	4,145	3,912	3,912	\$0
Town counsel	60,000	44,728	44,728	\$0
Town clerk	151,954	152,356	152,356	\$0
Information technologies	118,912	120,355	120,355	0
Total general government	<b>662,078</b>	<b>639,720</b>	<b>639,720</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>FINANCE</b>				
Board of Finance	68,660	68,660	63,847	-4,813
Finance	492,339	504,561	504,561	0
Assessor	107,113	116,131	116,131	0
Tax collector	81,778	101,023	101,023	0
Total finance	<b>749,890</b>	<b>790,375</b>	<b>785,562</b>	<b>-4,813</b>
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b>				
Police	2,315,340	2,463,768	2,463,768	0
Service incentive	40,384	31,816	31,816	0
Fire services	398,805	476,552	476,552	0
Fire marshal	79,209	79,566	79,566	0
Emergency services	266,880	449,082	449,082	0
Total public safety	<b>3,100,618</b>	<b>3,500,784</b>	<b>3,500,784</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>PUBLIC WORKS</b>				
Town hall	326,258	329,014	329,014	0
Park department	133,585	119,574	119,574	0
General highway	1,211,634	1,255,647	1,255,647	0
Town garage	37,365	43,912	43,912	0
Transfer Station	9,342	0	0	0
Utilities	231,200	246,817	246,817	0
Community center	94,815	132,934	132,934	0
Total public works	<b>2,044,199</b>	<b>2,127,898</b>	<b>2,127,898</b>	<b>0</b>

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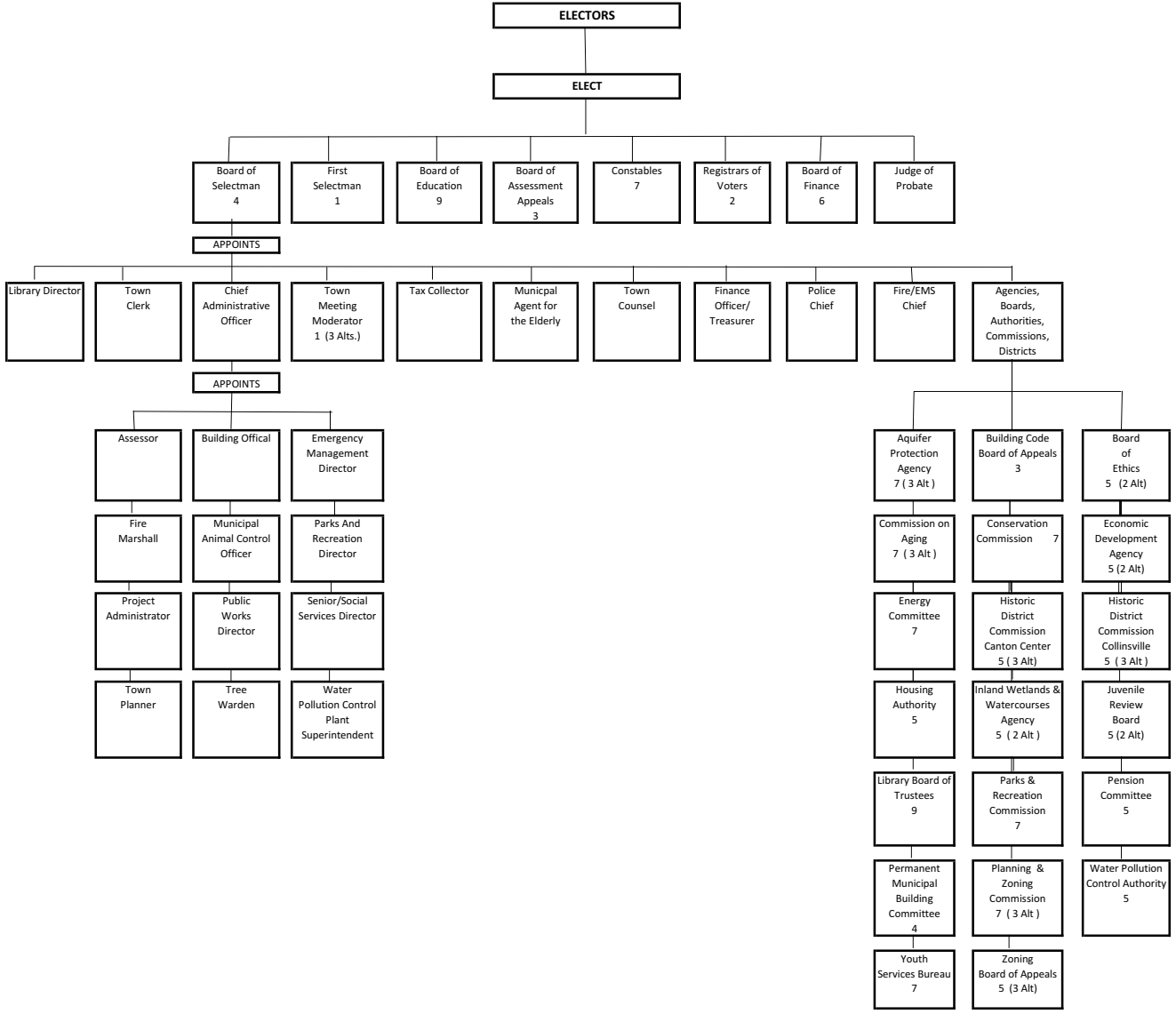
**TOWN OF CANTON, CONNECTICUT**  
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES-  
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - BUDGETARY BASIS - GENERAL FUND  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Budgetary Basis	Variance
	Original	Amended		
<b>HUMAN SERVICES</b>				
Community agencies	\$110,397	\$105,869	\$105,869	\$0
Senior/Social services	230,848	232,237	232,237	\$0
Park and recreation	207,350	213,298	213,298	\$0
Library	673,767	676,957	676,957	0
Total human services	<b>1,222,362</b>	<b>1,228,361</b>	<b>1,228,361</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>INSURANCE</b>	333,866	332,923	332,923	0
<b>PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT</b>				
Building official	83,960	91,432	91,432	0
Town planner	348,628	356,716	356,716	0
Total planning and development	<b>432,588</b>	<b>448,148</b>	<b>448,148</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>FRINGE BENEFITS</b>	2,432,142	2,526,243	2,526,243	0
<b>CONTINGENCY</b>	163,527	0	0	0
<b>EDUCATION</b>				
Education - operations	29,567,292	29,567,292	29,565,967	-1,325
Total education	<b>29,567,292</b>	<b>29,567,292</b>	<b>29,565,967</b>	<b>-1,325</b>
<b>DEBT SERVICE</b>				
Principal	1,330,000	1,665,000	1,665,000	0
Interest	353,001	670,477	670,477	0
Total debt service	<b>1,683,001</b>	<b>2,335,477</b>	<b>2,335,477</b>	<b>0</b>
Total expenditures	<b>42,391,563</b>	<b>43,497,221</b>	<b>43,491,083</b>	<b>-6,138</b>
<b>OTHER FINANCING USES</b>				
Transfers out:				
Capital and Nonrecurring Fund	1,289,352	1,352,352	1,352,352	0
Total other financing uses	<b>1,289,352</b>	<b>1,352,352</b>	<b>1,352,352</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Expenditures and Other Financing Uses</b>	<b>\$43,680,915</b>	<b>\$44,849,573</b>	<b>\$44,843,435</b>	<b>(6138.00)</b>



# **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 2022-2023, the APA held three (3) regular meeting and one (1) special meeting.

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 three (3) alternates.

The APA holds regular quarterly meetings and special meetings on an as-needed basis on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. All meetings are open to the public.

## ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

The primary function of the Assessor's Office is the discovery, listing and valuation of all taxable and tax-exempt property. The Grand List is a complete listing comprised of three property categories; real estate, motor vehicle and business personal property. In compiling the annual grand list office staff regularly reviews and inspects ongoing improvements made to real property, conducts reviews and audits of business personal property equipment and lists and values all vehicles located within the Town of Canton as of the October 1<sup>st</sup> assessment date.

The Assessor's Office is also responsible for the administration of numerous state-mandated and local option tax exemptions and abatements such as the Tax Relief for the Elderly, Veterans, Blind and Disabled programs. In addition to the appraisal, classification and recording of all property the Assessment division must analyze and properly reflect all property transfers and ownership changes in order to maintain an accurate and current CAMA database.

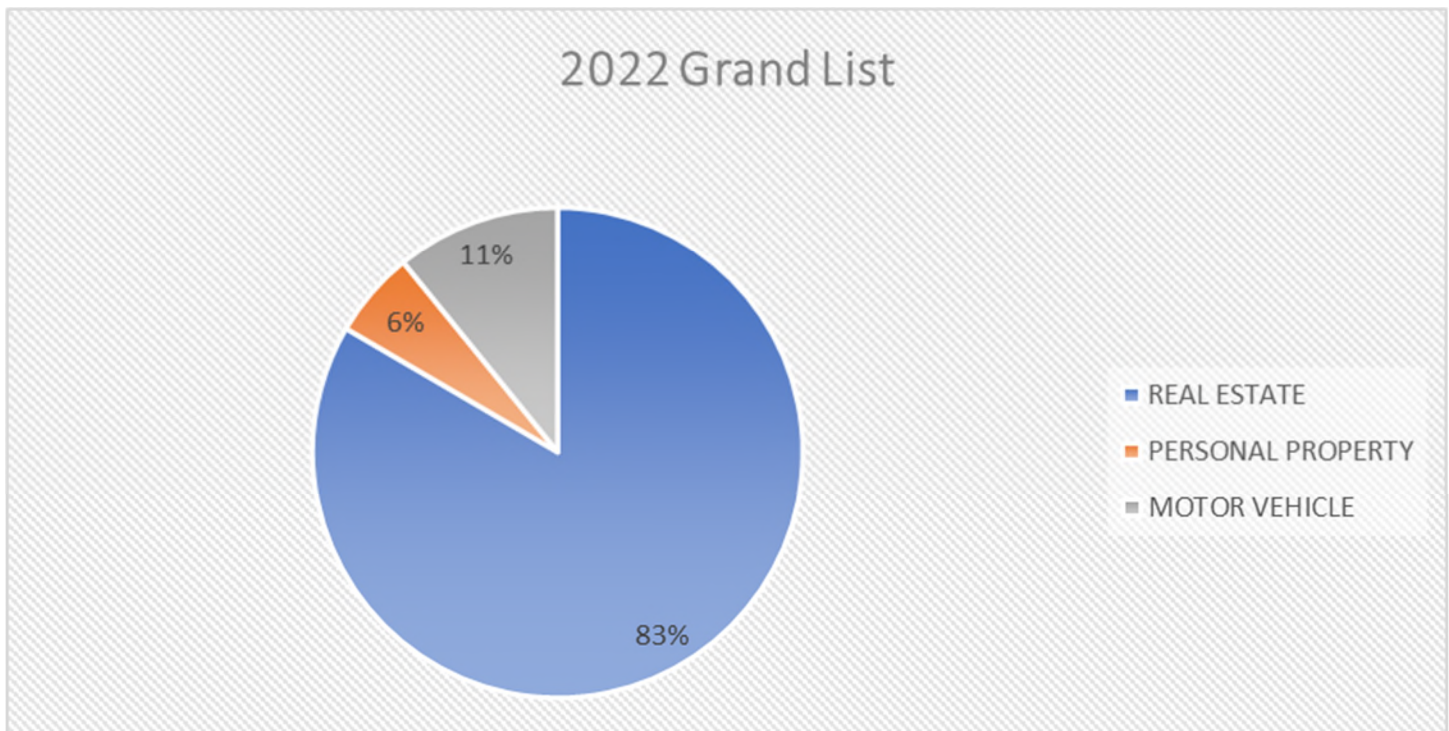
Our goal is to perform responsible assessment, appraisal and administrative work to ensure uniformity and an equitable distribution of tax burden. As well, we strive to ensure that computerized records are regularly and efficiently updated to permit prompt public access to data and to enable statutory and statistical revaluations to proceed proficiently. This includes the maintenance of accurate tax/GIS maps which requires processing and recording changes resulting from subdivisions, assemblage, boundary agreements and surveys.

Before corrections and Board of Assessment Appeals adjustments the 2022 Net Grand List totaled \$1,154,113,710. The Board of Assessment Appeals met in the month of March and reduced the Net Grand List by \$26,715. The final 2022 taxable net Grand List as reported to OPM was:

**\$1,154,086,995**

## 2022 Grand List Summary

2022 GRAND LIST OF TAXABLE AND EXEMPT				
TYPE OF ACCOUNT	# OF ACCOUNTS	GROSS ASSESSMENT	TOTAL EXEMPTIONS	TOTAL NET VALUE
REAL ESTATE REGULAR	4219	\$ 950,761,140	\$ 1,064,875	\$ 949,696,265
REAL ESTATE ELDERLY HOMEOWNER	91	\$ 13,311,750	\$ 247,000	\$ 13,064,750
<b>TOTAL REAL ESTATE TAXABLE</b>	<b>4310</b>	<b>\$ 964,072,890</b>	<b>\$ 1,311,875</b>	<b>\$ 962,761,015</b>
REAL ESTATE EXEMPT	209	\$ 89,727,350	\$ 89,727,350	
<b>REAL ESTATE TOTALS</b>	<b>4519</b>	<b>\$ 1,053,800,240</b>	<b>\$ 91,039,225</b>	<b>\$ 962,761,015</b>
PERSONAL	865	\$ 68,056,080	\$ 1,860,759	\$ 66,195,321
MV	10217	\$ 125,899,967	\$ 742,593	\$ 125,157,374
<b>TOTAL MV &amp; PP</b>	<b>11082</b>	<b>\$ 193,956,047</b>	<b>\$ 2,603,352</b>	<b>\$ 191,352,695</b>
<b>FINAL TOTAL</b>		<b>\$ 1,247,756,287</b>	<b>\$ 93,642,577</b>	<b>\$ 1,154,113,710</b>
<b>FINAL TOTAL TAXABLE M13</b>		<b>BAA CHANGE</b>	<b>\$ (26,715.00)</b>	<b>\$ 1,154,086,995</b>



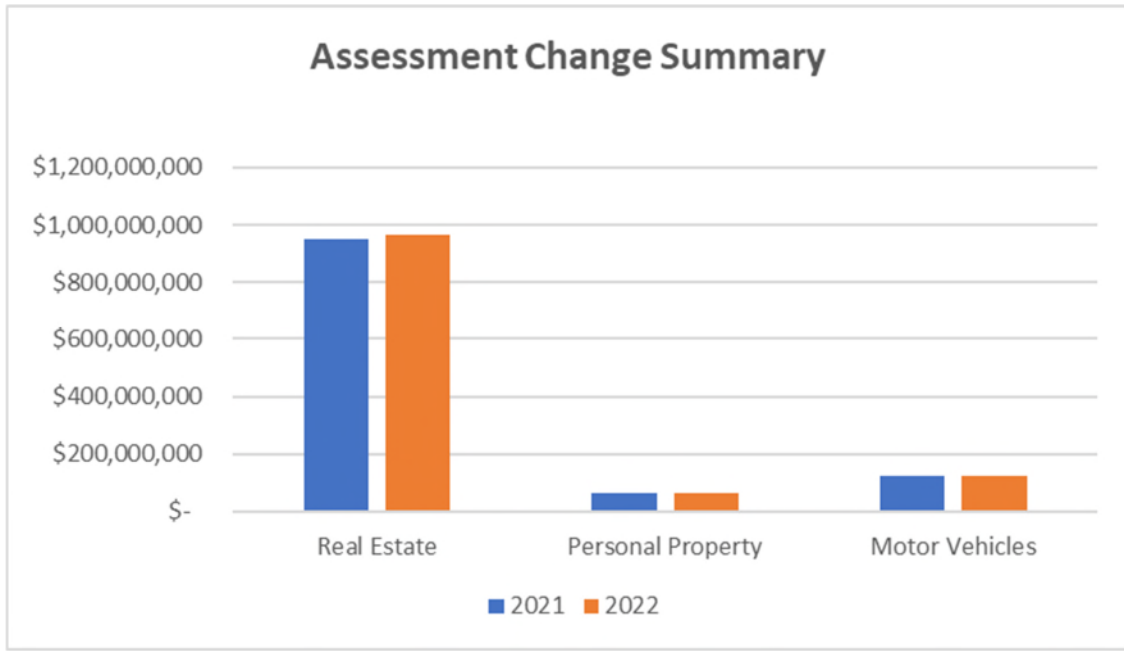
## Summary of Change

The 2022 Assessor’s Grand List realized a net increase of **\$16,459,204** or a net change of 1.45%. The 2022 Grand List Growth is due primarily to an increase in declared business personal property as outlined below, a moderate increase in the number and values of motor vehicles as compared to last year and new construction and property improvements resulting from building permits.

2022 Grand List change by component:

- **Personal Property** – Values increased by 4.98% led primarily by equipment additions by Eversource (\$2.8M). This year online personal property filing was offered to business personal property account holders in addition to the traditional hard copy filing process. Of Canton’s 865 personal property accounts, 199 were filed online, 373 were traditionally filed and 293 accounts remained unfiled with values estimated by the Assessor’s office. \$1,263,790 in non/late filing penalties were assessed.
- **Motor Vehicle** – The 2022 Grand List increased by 2.55% and included 93 more vehicles than last year. The gross assessment for passenger and commercial vehicles increased by \$2.4M & \$1.1M respectively.
- **Real Estate** – Net Real Estate increased by 1.07%. Major construction projects impacting the 2022 Grand List included the partially completed new apartments at 5 Cherry Brook Road, improvements and new construction at the auto dealerships located at 71 & 91 Albany Turnpike and the gas station/convenience store at 210 Albany Turnpike. Penalties totaling \$2.7M were applied to 57 commercial and industrial accounts for failure to file the income and expense report that is due annually by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

<b>Component</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>% Change</b>
<b>Real Estate</b>	\$ 952,528,695	\$ 962,734,680	1.07%
<b>Personal Property</b>	\$ 63,052,309	\$ 66,194,941	4.98%
<b>Motor Vehicles</b>	\$ 122,050,645	\$ 125,157,374	2.55%



### Distribution of Grand List

The Grand List is comprised of 3 Stratum; Real Property, Personal Property and Motor Vehicles. The percentage distribution historically remains consistent. The charts below illustrate our Grand List structure overall and compares each sub-category of real estate and its contribution to the total net grand list.

2022 Grand List		2021 Grand List	
Total Real Estate	83.42%	Total Real Estate	83.73%
Personal Property	5.74%	Personal Property	5.54%
Motor Vehicles	10.84%	Motor Vehicles	10.73%
	100.00%		100.00%

		Net Grand List Comparison 2021 to 2022						
Category	2021 Grand List AFTER BAA & COCs	2022 Grand List PRE BAA	2022 Grand List Post	\$ Variance	% Variance	% GRAND LIST		
<b>Net Real Estate</b>								
Residential	\$ 795,776,800	\$ 797,595,290	\$ 797,595,290	\$ 1,818,490	0.23%	69.11%		
Commercial	\$ 145,071,800	\$ 153,504,240	\$ 153,477,905	\$ 8,406,105	5.79%	13.30%		
Industrial	\$ 12,973,360	\$ 12,973,360	\$ 12,973,360	\$ -	0.00%	1.12%		
Total Gross Real Estate	\$ 953,821,960	\$ 964,072,890	\$ 964,046,555	\$ 10,224,595	1.07%	83.53%		
<b>Exemptions</b>	\$ <b>(1,293,265)</b>	\$ <b>(1,311,875)</b>	\$ <b>(1,311,875)</b>	\$ (18,610)	1.44%			
Total Net Real Estate	\$ 952,528,695	\$ 962,761,015	\$ 962,734,680	\$ 10,205,985	1.07%	83.42%		
Personal Property	\$ 64,604,144	\$ 68,056,080	\$ 68,055,700	\$ 3,451,556	5.34%	5.90%		
<b>Exemptions</b>	\$ <b>(1,555,693)</b>	\$ <b>(1,860,759)</b>	\$ <b>(1,860,759)</b>	\$ <b>(305,066)</b>	19.61%			
Total Net Personal Property	\$ 63,048,451	\$ 66,195,321	\$ 66,194,941	\$ 3,146,490	4.99%	5.74%		
Motor Vehicles	\$ 122,327,905	\$ 125,899,967	\$ 125,899,967	\$ 3,572,062	2.92%	10.91%		
<b>Exemptions</b>	\$ <b>(277,260)</b>	\$ <b>(742,593)</b>	\$ <b>(742,593)</b>	\$ <b>(465,333)</b>	167.83%			
Total Net Motor Vehicles	\$ 122,050,645	\$ 125,157,374	\$ 125,157,374	\$ 3,106,729	2.55%	10.84%		
Total Net Grand List	\$ <b>1,137,627,791</b>	\$ <b>1,154,113,710</b>	\$ <b>1,154,086,995</b>	\$ <b>16,459,204</b>	<b>1.45%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>		

## 2022 Grand List Top Ten Taxpayers

CANTON NET TOP 10 TAXPAYER ACCOUNTS		
NAME		ASSESSMENT
<b>REAL ESTATE</b>		
SFV CANTON OWNER LLC		49,859,600
CPI MF1 UCHSCCT LLC		4,970,350
BOULDER RIDGE ASSOC LIMITED PRTN		4,303,030
CT SVC LLC		4,200,000
CANTON RIDGE LLC		3,630,900
91 ALBANY TURNPIKE LLC		3,308,790
M&S MITCHELL REALTY		3,211,580
CANTON VILLAGE SHOPPING CENTER LLC		3,064,415
CANTON REALTY LLC		2,712,655
MAPLE GLEN ASSOCIATES		2,515,260
		81,776,580
<b>PERSONAL PROPERTY</b>		
EVERSOURCE		31,071,870
CONNECTICUT WATER CO THE		4,939,060
CONNECTICUT NATURAL GAS CORP		1,898,790
SHOPRITE OF CANTON		1,523,870
SQUIRREL ENTERPRISES INC		1,515,670
SUBURBAN SANITATION SERVICE		1,053,190
KOHL'S		795,780
CANTON VILLAGE CONSTR CO INC		740,860
T-MOBILE NORTHEAST LLC		684,860
COMCAST OF CT INC		680,970
		44,904,920
<b>COMBINED TOP 10 TAXPAYER</b>		<b>ASSESSMENT</b>
SFV CANTON OWNER LLC		49,859,600
EVERSOURCE		31,071,870
CPI MF1 UCHSCCT LLC		4,970,350
CONNECTICUT WATER CO THE		4,939,060
BOULDER RIDGE ASSOC LIMITED PRTN		4,303,030
CT SVC LLC		4,200,000
CANTON RIDGE LLC		3,630,900
91 ALBANY TURNPIKE LLC		3,308,790
M&S MITCHELL REALTY		3,211,580
CANTON VILLAGE SHOPPING CENTER LLC		3,065,005
		112,560,185

## BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

The Board of Assessment Appeals convened in March to conduct appeal hearings for the 2022 Grand List. Assessment staff assists the board by performing the following duties: appellant appointment scheduling; legal ad postings; records and files meeting agendas and minutes; updates assessment changes in the CAMA and QDS system and mails action notices to all appellants per state statute. In total, the Board heard 5 appeals and made 2 changes to value.

### Total 2022 GL BAA Reductions by category

	# Appeals	# Changes	# No Changes	Total BAA Reductions
Real Estate	2	1	1	\$ (26,335.00)
Personal Property	2	1	1	\$ (380.00)
Motor Vehicle**	1	0	1	\$ -
*2021 Supplemental				
	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>\$ (26,715.00)</u>
		<b>Total 2022 Reductions</b>		<b>\$ (26,715.00)</b>
Not Heard	1	**Appeal Withdrawn		
Incomplete/Late Filings	0			

The Board also meets each year in September to hear motor vehicle appeals. A total of 9 petitions were received by the BAA for the September session. The Board made reductions to two motor vehicle accounts in the amount of **(\$14,060)**.

### Real Estate:

Sales questionnaires are sent to all new owners of real estate. The returned forms assist staff in determining the validity of sales as a reflection of the current real estate market. Staff continues to review listings of properties for sale and update real estate data as warranted. The sales validation process is recorded both locally, in the town’s CAMA system, and at the state level through the OPM sales ratio database, which is integral to the state’s annual compilation of the Equalized Net Grand List.

Transfers of real estate title for tax billing and ownership records are processed on an ongoing basis in the Assessor’s office. From October 2022 through September 2023 a total of 320 changes to title were processed.



Number of Documents	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD
					Total
Transfers ≤ \$2,000; Title Changes	24	42	34	42	142
Valid Transfers ≥ \$2,000	43	34	49	52	178
Transaction Totals	67	76	83	94	320

The Assessor’s Office is required to maintain accurate GIS tax maps and process updates accordingly. Working with NEGeo, the Assessor’s Office initiated a total of 20 map changes for the 2022 and upcoming 2023 Grand List.

Staff members have processed a total of 1032 building permits this year, verifying and valuing those that reflect property improvements and changes of use.

In conjunction with the town-wide 2023 revaluation project the Assessor’s Office implemented a conversion this year from eQuality to Vision’s CAMA software system. In addition, the Assessor’s Office established an online filing system for business personal property, allowing taxpayers to easily review prior filings and submit annual declarations using a secure access code. In its first year the online filing system was utilized by 22% of filers on the 2022 Grand List. For the 2023 Grand List the percent of online filers has increased to 27%.

Income and Expense forms were mailed on March 15, 2023 to all owners of commercial, income producing real estate. The deadline to file the 2022 I&E forms was June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. Returned forms are utilized by the Assessor to establish economic income tables relevant to the 2023 state-mandated revaluation.

The 2023 town-wide revaluation conducted by Vision Government Solutions commenced in February 2023 with the mailing and collection of data mailers to all residential property owners followed by property site visits in the Spring of 2023.

Preliminary values resulting from the 2023 revaluation will be established and impact notices mailed in late November, 2023 to all property owners. Informal hearings will be conducted in mid-December for all property owners wishing to discuss their newly established valuations. The revaluation is anticipated to be finalized and certified by January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

## **BOARD OF ETHICS**

During FY2022-2023 all scheduled regular meetings of the Board of Ethics were cancelled. The Board received two notices of recusals for possible conflicts of interest from town officials, one from the Pension Committee and one from the Board of Education. There is one alternate position and two regular position remaining be filled to complete the Board of seven members.

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](http://www.townofcantonct.org). The public is welcome to attend.

David R. Kubas, Chairman  
Canton Board of Ethics  
October 17, 2023

## 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 transitioned from a part-time position to performing the duties of the office on a full-time basis. This transpired for the final quarter of FY 22-23. The Building Department will continue in its efforts to provide customer service while promoting building safety and general welfare in the construction environment while seeking compliance to the building codes.

### Permit Statistics

Type	Count	Fees	Cost Of Construction
Building - Commercial - Alterations	37	\$55,247.18	\$4,112,075.59
Building - Commercial - Demolition	1	\$994.00	\$70,000.00
Building - Commercial - Electrical	48	\$20,571.83	\$1,470,978.50
Building - Commercial - Fit-out	3	\$1,008.00	\$71,800.00
Building - Commercial - Mechanical	23	\$13,940.00	\$1,167,340.90
Building - Commercial - New Construction	7	\$169,374.08	\$12,105,074.00
Building - Commercial - Photovoltaic	1	\$3,735.00	\$0.00
Building - Commercial - Plumbing	16	\$3,962.00	\$10,400.00
Building - Commercial - Roofing	1	\$3.90	\$15,000.00
Building - Commercial - Signage	3	\$84.00	\$12,500.00
Building - Commercial - Sprinkler System	5	\$2,310.00	\$412,529.00
Building - Residential - Alterations	101	\$37,032.00	\$2,620,895.86
Building - Residential - Chimney Liner	7	\$518.00	\$32,061.20
Building - Residential - Deck	21	\$3,402.00	\$231,900.00
Building - Residential - Demolition	5	\$245.00	\$6,750.00
Building - Residential - Electrical	187	\$17,990.00	\$1,206,006.82
Building - Residential - Finished Basement	7	\$2,394.00	\$185,500.00
Building - Residential - Gas Log Insert	3	\$210.00	\$13,804.72
Building - Residential - Mechanical	227	\$32,060.00	\$2,227,034.77
Building - Residential - New Construction	8	\$15,638.00	\$1,116,504.02
Building - Residential - New Home	4	\$26,0654.00	\$1,860,015.00
Building - Residential - Photo-voltaic	58	\$25,496.00	\$1,795,427.25
Building - Residential - Plumbing	110	\$6,468.00	\$430,248.09
Building - Residential - Roofing	83	\$18,844.00	\$1,324,109.94
Building - Residential - Shed	3	\$532.00	\$37,000.00
Building - Residential - Siding	11	\$3,192.00	\$223,916.27
Building - Residential - Swimming Pool	12	\$7,462.00	\$531,750.00
Building - Residential - Window Replacement	39	\$8,988.00	\$623,257.95
Building - Residential - Woodstove/Pellet Stove	1	\$3.36	\$14,000.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>1065</b>	<b>\$481,987.35</b>	<b>\$34,156,741.47</b>

<b>Total Inspections</b>	<b>1100</b>
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## COMMISSION ON AGING

### Commission on Aging Members:

*Nancy Becker, Virginia Crawford, Mary Crotty, Lisa Foy, Heather Gillette, Lori Klussendorf, Michie Hesselbrock, Betty Spallone, Beth Wright*

The following were the significant activities of the Canton Commission on Aging for FY 2022-23

- **Informal survey:** The Commission gained a better view of how the Town of Canton Senior Center and Commission on Aging compare with similar surrounding towns. The Commission conducted interviews with Senior Centers and Commissions in towns including Avon, Simsbury, Winchester, Granby, etc. This information informed planning goals and ideas to ensure Canton offers seniors the best offering possible.
- **Awareness Campaign:** The Commission developed an Awareness Campaign plan and received \$3,500 in Town funding to help the Canton Senior Center and its activities become more known and used in the community. This plan follows a survey showing that many in town do not know about Canton's offerings and services for seniors. Execution of the plan began in July 2023 and will continue for the fiscal year 2023-24.
- **Dishwasher grant:** Teaming with town leaders and staff, the Commission submitted a grant application to purchase a much-needed dishwasher for the community kitchen. The Commission did not receive a Greater Together Community Fund Grant and learned the judges thought that this was an item that the Town typically would and should purchase out of its own budget.
- **Historical Society Gallery of Trees:** Commission members purchased a tree and trimmings, and donated the decorated tree, which was raffled off to benefit the Canton Historical Society's Gallery of Trees. This has become an annual activity.

## **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 2021-2022, the Conservation Commission met ten (10) 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 one alternate member 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 ten (10) regular meetings during this fiscal year.

## FARMINGTON RIVER COORDINATING COMMITTEE

The Farmington River Coordinating Committee (FRCC) is the all-volunteer body that implements the Upper Farmington River Comprehensive River Management Plan for the Wild & Scenic Farmington River. As part of that plan, the committee is charged with stewarding the natural and cultural components of the river corridor designated Wild & Scenic by Congress in 1994, from Colebrook through Hartland, Barkhamsted, New Hartford, to Canton. Over the decades, the FRCC has commissioned studies, built kiosks, protected hemlock stands, and launched an exemplary River Steward program, among many other things to protect and enhance the Farmington River on behalf of the towns and organizations in the watershed.

In 2022, the FRCC commissioned 10 new wooden kiosks from a local carpenter that have replaced existing kiosks at the river. The Farmington River Stewards had another successful year supporting safe public access to the river during the summer months. The FRCC provided financial support across the watershed to land trusts to complete acquisition of conservation land, controlled significant areas of invasive plants, released beetles to protect hemlock trees, and funded extensive water quality monitoring. The FRCC also helped member towns by supporting FRWA's survey of stream crossing which will identify faulty infrastructure, supported bank stabilization work on West River Rd, sent river town staff to Green Sno Pro training reducing the cost of de-icing roads, and supported natural resource inventories.

Monthly meetings are open to the public and are hosted either in-person or on video conference the third Monday of every month.

**Member Representatives** – Roger Behrens and Mario Santoro (Barkhamsted), Alison Jassen (Colebrook), Matt Vinick (Canton), Dan Bowler (Hartland), Alison Murdock and Tony Mitchell (New Hartford), Peter Aarrestad, Susan Peterson, and Matt Goclowski (CT DEEP), David Sinish and Laura Hart (Farmington River Watershed Assoc.), James Buchok and Tom Carpenter (Farmington Valley Trout Unlimited), Torrey Collins (Farmington River Anglers Assoc.), Jim Randazzo and Lindsay Strole (MDC), and Andrew Petitdemange (National Park Service).

## 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 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR), 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 to further build continuity.

In August of 2023 we were informed that the Town of Canton received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the fiscal year 2021-22 from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada for the 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 2022-23 financial results.

### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS FOR FISCAL 2022-23

- The Town’s adopted General Fund budget for 2022-23 totaled \$43,680,915.
- The Town’s actual General Fund expenditures were \$44,843,435 and actual revenues totaled \$44,392,342.
- The mil rate was 33.69.
- The Town maintained a credit rating of AAA from Standard & Poor’s.
- The Town’s unallocated fund balance at year-end was approximately \$7.37 million.

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

<b>Use of Proceeds</b>	<b>Maturity</b>	<b>Outstanding Amount (000)</b>
School Construction – Refinance	10/15/24	350
Capital Projects – Aug 2013	08/15/33	3,590
Capital Projects – June 2015	06/01/35	3,315
Highway Dept. Garage – October 2017	10/15/37	2,850
Collinsville Fire House & 3 Bridges	06/01/42	7,480
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$17,585</b>



## **FIRE/EMS**

The Town of Canton Fire and EMS Department is responsible for all 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 Fire Division currently has twelve part time firefighters who supplement response Monday through Friday. 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 staffed by volunteer personnel when available. Total volunteer membership is 51 members, 30 are assigned to the fire division, 9 are assigned to the fire police division, and 12 are assigned to the EMS division. The Department also has 3 administrative positions. In fiscal year 2022/2023 the Department responded to a total of 1666 calls for service, a 0.42% increase compared fiscal year 2021/2022. Out of the 1666 calls for service 1302 of the calls were medical calls, and 364 were fire service emergencies. The Fire Department responded to four structure fires during the fiscal year of 2022/2023. Fire Responded mutual aid thirty-three times, while EMS responded mutual aid two hundred and one times.

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 improved fire-ground operations.

In fiscal year 2022/2023 the Department put into service a 2023 Chevy Ambulance which replaced our 2013 Chevy Ambulance. The Department also has a new rescue truck currently in production, which is expected to arrive in January of 2024. Major improvements were made to increase recruitment and retention for the Department by increasing the paid-on call incentives program this budget year.

The Department responds from three firehouses, two of which are town owned & utilizes 15 pieces of apparatus.

- 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
- 1- ATV
- 1- Duty Officer Car

## **FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE**

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 SELECTMAN AND CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

For the first time since 2019, Canton experienced a full year without fear of COVID 19. Major projects were completed, commercial development accelerated, real estate prices continued to soar, and economic activity finally returned to pre-pandemic levels.

The long-awaited **Streetscape II** project in downtown Collinsville was completed in the fall of 2022, seven years after funding was initially approved. General response was very positive for the granite curbing, level sidewalks, consistent light fixtures and improved pedestrian amenities, such as bump-outs at intersections. Stripes for parking spots actually preserved parking capacity, a prime concern for visitors to the downtown area.

**Aggressive driving** continued to be a major issue. Reports of excessive speed and reckless maneuvers on the roads came from every neighborhood. In response, the Board of Selectmen:

- Allocated overtime hours to the Police Department for traffic enforcement;
- Purchased more radar units to monitor traffic speed and encourage motorists to slow down;
- Approved the installation of permanent speed tables on Case Street;
- Brought in the Connecticut DOT for a Road Safety Audit (RSA) on Maple Avenue; and
- Established a Temporary Pedestrian and Traffic Safety Committee to guide the implementation of the RSA and other recommendations aimed at returning sanity to Town roadways.

Canton drew national attention thanks to the **Sycamore Tree** located at the intersection of West Mountain and Cherry Brook roads. The reason: residents' objections to removing the tree for safety reasons. For several weeks, Town residents debated the value of preserving the historic sycamore vs. sight line issues at the intersection. Fortunately, a solution was developed with DOT to accommodate both concerns. The West Mountain Sycamore lives on!

At the **Annual Town Budget Referendum** 332 town residents voted against approving the budget versus 214 in favor. However, because the total number of votes (546) was less than 10% of the voters in Town, the budget was approved. The 10% rule, enshrined in the Town Charter, left many residents dissatisfied.

One reason for 4.99% increase in the budget was unforeseen rises in **public safety costs**. Mid-year, the Town's contractor for EMT services demanded a 36% increase. Failure to agree would have left the Town without ambulance service. The Town put the EMT contract out to bid and approved a new agreement resulting in a \$138,000 deficit. Other budget pressures included low Medicaid reimbursement rates for ambulance service and increased speed enforcement patrols.

**Commercial development** continued throughout the year with several large projects completed and more projects proposed and underway. A bagel shop, car dealership, apartment building, restaurant and gas station/convenience store were completed on Route 44. Two additional restaurants, an apartment complex, and a single-family housing development broke ground. Several new apartment complexes were proposed near Canton Village and another on Route 44 near the East Gateway. While the proposed housing projects were in response to strong demand for housing and the need for grand list growth, many residents felt ill-at-ease with the pace of development in town.

Fresh activity at the **Collins Company complex** raised hopes that the property will be rehabilitated after 57 years of neglect. The Town cited the owner for several buildings in imminent danger of collapse. The owner responded by proposing that the most dangerous buildings be removed and other buildings be repaired. The Town approved these proposals and work was due to commence this summer. Additional plans were in

development to clear debris, remediate contamination and rework infrastructure in preparation for future development. The Selectmen continued to support the owner's applications for state and federal funding to help make redevelopment possible.

The **Little League Girls' Softball Field** was successfully moved from the site of the new **Fire and EMS House** to vacant land in front of Canton High School. At an opening ceremony in the Spring, the field was named after **Stan Krzanowski** in recognition of his six decades of service, including the launch of girls' softball in Canton 30 years earlier. His persistent advocacy for excellence stands as an example to all.

Cost estimates for Canton's **Fire and EMS House** far exceeded the bonding approved for construction of the facility. A great deal of work was done to wrestle the budget down from \$8.9 million to the original \$5.4 million allocated for the 14,080 square foot building. Construction was expected to begin during the summer of 2023.

The Town approved a **Food Scrap Collection** program at the Canton Transfer Station. When activated in the summer of 2023, transfer permit holders will be able to deposit their food waste at the transfer station. These materials will be transported to Quantum Biopower in Southington, CT for bio-digestion, turning the food into electricity for this net-zero facility. As the program gains popularity, it stands to reduce the Town's contribution to landfill waste by as much as 40%.

The Town continued to use its **American Rescue Plan Act** (ARPA) funds to improve critical infrastructure. Air conditioning and municipal WiFi were installed at the town hall auditorium, decking was replaced on the flower bridge, and fence was replaced on the bike trail. Projects still underway include purchase of the property at 37 Bridge Street, construction of a boat launch at 50 Old River Road, purchase of construction items for the Fire and EMS House, and improvements to the Canton Senior Center.

The Town lost several of its defining personalities: **David Sinish, Jim Keane and Muriel LeGeyt**. David Sinish pressed the US Congress to designate the Farmington River as 'Wild and Scenic' – a distinction that has brought federal funding to the area for years. Jim Keane was a tireless advocate for public participation in Government, having served as Registrar of Voters for decades. Muriel was the face of Canton's First Congregational Church where she taught Sunday School, and at Collinsville Bank where she provided customer service until she was 86 years old! All three will be missed.

The **Chief Administrator** 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 the policies and directives of the Board of Selectmen. These tasks could not have been performed without the help of CAO Executive Assistant Melissa Denton.

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT**

The IT department for the Town of Canton is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the network, machines, and software that the Town utilizes to run their day-to-day operations in all Town departments. The department maintains 178 desktops, 3 physical host servers and 16 virtual servers that run the software to provide services for the town's residents. The departments' mission is to recommend, test, and implement hardware and software to all Town departments to help them better serve the public.

### **IT Highlights and information for 2022-2023**

- Migration of internal town email system to cloud hosted email saving on software and hardware while improving security and accessibility.
- Town wide Wi-Fi upgrade – Began deployment of modern Wi-Fi system that is used both internally and by the public. This is an ongoing project that will continue through 2024 with the Town hall, Parking lot (for Farmers markets and events) and DPW has been completed.
- Rollout and replacement of old/End of life computers hardware throughout town offices/departments.
- Implemented new security hardware and software to protect town data. Worked with Homeland Security and local government FBI offices to set “Best Practices” for network setup and security.
- Created and implemented Security Response plan for Town IT systems for both security and disaster incidents. Plan was adopted and added into the Town wide Local Emergency Operations Plan.

## INLAND WETLANDS AND 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 2022-2023, the IWWA held twelve (12) regular meetings, one (1) site walk, and two (2) special meetings. They processed eighteen (18) applications, no Jurisdictional Determinations, and held two (2) Show Cause Hearings.

### Show Cause Hearing Violations:

1. Property owner conducted a regulated activity within a watercourse and/or wetland soil more than what the agency had approved.
2. Property owner conducted a regulated activity within a watercourse, wetland soil, and/or the Upland Review Area. Photos indicated the cutting of trees, and deposition of material.

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 five (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 (42) applications and/or referrals as follows: Zoning Board of Appeals (6); Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency (18); Aquifer Protection Agency (2); and Planning and Zoning Commission (30).

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:

- 11 Sign Permits
- 3 Temporary Use and Activities Permit
- 2 Mobile Vendor Permits
- 1 Form-Based Code Type 1 Permit
- 12 IWWA Authorized Agent Applications
- 78 Zoning Permits
- 8 Minor Site Plan Modifications
- 11 Certificates of Zoning Compliance
- 0 Notices of Violations
- 0 Observation of Violations
- 2 Cease and Desist Orders
- 0 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 Schragger; 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](http://www.cantonrec.org), and on Facebook, [www.facebook.com/Canton-Parks-and-Recreation](https://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.

Staff of the Canton Parks and Recreation Department oversaw the installation of a new, upgraded playground at Mills Pond Park, along with the installation of an all-in-one piece of outdoor fitness equipment. The splash pad installation project at Mills Pond Park is also underway, and should be installed and ready for Summer 2024. Department staff also worked with Canton Little League on an initiative to get AEDs and secure outdoor storage cabinets for: Mills Pond Park; Van Gemenen Fields; Bowdoin Field; Krzanowski Field; and Bicentennial Field. Those devices and cabinets have been paid for through generous donations and grants from Canton Little League; Canton Youth Services Bureau; and the Canton Community Health Fund. Installation of the cabinets & devices will take place by the late Fall of 2023.

### **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 junior classes, a water safety aide program, babysitting and CPR/First Aid/AED certifications; Dusky Dolphins Swim Team; Beyond the Bell after school program; adult sports 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. The department also runs highly popular pickleball classes for players of all levels, and continues to work with Canton High School athletic coaches to offer sport-specific camps and training programs. The Department also offers programming specifically for children who need additional assistance, including an adaptive basketball program and adaptive swim lessons.

### **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; Holiday Sing-Along with



Canton Public Schools music students; Canton Family Ice Skating Day; Spring Clean-Up; Teen Night at the Pool; Sundae Funday; Pooch Plunge; and the 8 week Summer Concert Series.

### **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 which is in the process of being converted to a splash pad; a newly installed playground; newly installed outdoor fitness equipment; a skate park; 2 full-size basketball courts; pavilion area; 4 tennis courts, all 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**

- Continue work on the building & installation of a splash pad at Mills Pond Park, in replacement of the current wading pool
- Continue to partner with and support the Friends of Canton Dog Park
- Continue to develop and implement more indoor & outdoor winter programs
- Continue to develop and expand our virtual and hybrid programming opportunities
- Explore ways of funding projects and future initiatives outlined in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan
- Continue including the Canton Food Bank in events as a way to support the health of the community
- Continue working with the staff & coaches of the Canton school system, along with Canton youth organizations, to offer new & expanded programming opportunities

## **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 2022-2023, the PZC held twelve (12) regular meetings, two (2) special meetings, zero (0) site walk, processed thirty (30) applications and zero (2) requests for referral.

The PZC is comprised of seven (7) regular members and three (3) alternate members. 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.

# CANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Department Description

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, 6 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.

## July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023 Highlights

1. Chief Arciero presented the Canton Police Department's initiative regarding its speeding and reckless driving concerns and review of the town's future plans to address those concerns as the keynote speaker at the Town's Annual Meeting.
2. 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.
3. CPD administrative staff, Canton Police Union and CAO Skinner successfully negotiated the successor collective bargaining agreement.
4. CPD's three officers assigned to regional investigation/response teams (Accident Reconstruction and S.W.A.T.) continued their training and response to call-outs.
5. CPD administrative staff, Canton Police Dispatcher Union and CAO Skinner successfully negotiated the successor collective bargaining agreement.
6. CPD updated its biannual State mandated Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP) with new standards and sections.
7. Chief Arciero continued as chairman of the CIRMA Statewide Law Enforcement Advisory Council.
8. CPD personnel assisted other town/state departments and agencies, residents, and business owners regarding the development, planning and associated duties with the first ever cannabis retail business in town.
9. CPD personnel responded to a major severe weather events and coordinated emergency responses with CFD, DPW, EMS and other state agencies.
10. CPD personnel continued extensive involvement with the ongoing speeding concerns on local roads. The efforts resulted in several community meetings, data collection, specialized equipment purchases, selective speed enforcement initiatives, road safety assessments and ongoing safety planning for the area and other high speed areas in town.
11. CPD memberships 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, development of a crisis assessment evaluation response (C.A.R.E.) protocol and provision of safety training for new teachers and bus drivers.

12. 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.
13. 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 CIS STEP Training for Emergencies, food drive for the Canton Food Bank and the food/toy drive at Ocean State Job Lot to benefit Canton's Holiday Drive.
14. Chief Arciero completed initial proofing of files for compliance with Tier II State Accreditation standards.
15. The CPD General Orders were continually reviewed; updated and new mandatory policing practices were memorialized, as appropriate, into new policies.

### **FY 2024-25 Departmental Objectives**

1. Train and certify all sworn officers regarding new duty service handguns, rifles and electronic defense weapons (a.k.a. tasers).
2. Continue to monitor and address additional mandates of the police accountability legislation to include, state accreditation compliance, behavioral assessment and drug-testing for all sworn employees.
3. Ensure CPD officers newly assigned to the various North Central Municipal Teams (SWAT team and Accident Reconstruction) receive adequate training and on-boarding assistance during transition.

## Canton Public Library

The library is back! FY23 was our first “normal” post-pandemic year and we are so glad to see our statistics return to pre-pandemic numbers. Our usage statistics were up across the board, particularly in programming:

Total annual visits: 68,073 (estimated)  
Total library cardholders: 3,386 (+0.8%)  
Total number of programs: 547 (+88.2%)  
Total program attendees: 8,330 (+25.9%)  
Self-directed activities: 126 (+106.5%)  
Self-directed activity participants: 3,916 (+19%)  
Circulation of physical items: 119,812 (+3.4%)  
Circulation of downloadable items: 13,945 (+6.3%)  
Total circulation: 133, 757 (+3.6%)  
Interlibrary loans borrowed: 5,119 (+3.4%)  
Interlibrary loans loaned: 6,919 (+16%)

As always, we started the fiscal year with our summer reading program. We celebrated Summer 2022 with the Million Page Reading Challenge – can the community collectively read a million pages over the course of the summer? The answer to that was a resounding YES – we hit the million page mark in mid-August and ended the summer with 525 participants of all ages having read 1,312,491 pages – amazing! We applauded our success with a community-wide outdoor party and concert in mid-September with games, treats, a costume parade, and a concert by the KC Sisters for several hundred attendees. It was a terrific way to celebrate being back together as a community after several years of isolation and quarantine.

With the return of crowds to the library, we turned some of our attention to our space needs within the library, using ARPA funding to create a quiet study area in the back corner of the library and moving the magazines to slatwall shelving, opening up more space for seating.

We also brought seating to the outside of the library, with the development of a butterfly garden in front of the library in memory of beloved library employee and Board member Nancy Donoghue. The garden features bench and picnic table seating surrounded by native plants, and was developed in partnership with the Cherry Brook Garden Club and the Canton Lions Club with funding from the Donoghue family and the Canton Greater Together Community Fund. A second seating area, with benches in memory of Jessica Schroeder and Ruth Hart, was also unveiled. Both seating areas are within reach of the library wifi and contain solar-powered chargers for personal devices, expanding the library into the outdoors.

We also started three different circulating collections: a Memory Care Collection for people with memory loss challenges and their caregivers, funded by the Canton Community Health Fund; a collection of lawn games funded by the Friends of the Library; and a collection of jigsaw puzzles built using community donations. All three collections have been well-received and promote the idea that the library is more than just books.

Finally, over the course of the year we completed a strategic planning process with an outside consultant. This plan gives us a framework for our projects over the next several years, guiding the library and its services into the future. We are committed to continually examining the ways in which we can serve the community.

Sarah McCusker  
Library Director  
December 2023

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

### Highway

The Highway Department is responsible for the repair and maintenance of 72.62 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 15 winter storm events. The Public Works Garage, with all the department's equipment staged inside, continues to allow 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 \$847,810.92 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 Cemetery Road, East Street, Front Street, Homestead Lane, Johnson Place, Main Street, North Street, New Road, Ridge Road, River Street, South Street, Spring Street, Sunset Terrace, and The Green. Crack seal work was also performed on six town roads. 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. To access information on roadwork please go to the Pavement Management Program link located on the town website: <https://www.townofcantonct.org/content/44105/44701/44841/44966/default.aspx>

This past year the Highway Department along with the Parks Department built a new Little League Girls Softball Field on the Canton High School/Canton Middle School property. This field replaces the Dyer Field facility that was removed to make room for the new Fire & EMS Headquarters. The Highway Department also responded to several warm weather wind and rain events performing extensive clean-up on various Town properties and roads. This past year, the Highway Department continued to perform tree work on Town Properties and Right-of-Ways with most of the trees removed being ash trees that were injured or killed by the Emerald Ash Borer. 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 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 environmentally 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, replacement of the filter sand, and winterizing duties helping to save costs. The department continued to support the Collinsville Pollen Trail group consisting 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. The department also 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 past year, the Parks Department, along with the Highway Department built a new Little League Girls Softball Field on the Canton High School/Canton Middle School property. This field replaces the Dyer Field facility that was removed to make room for the new Fire & EMS Headquarters. Another accomplishment this past year was keeping the athletic fields and grounds clean and safe for the residents to enjoy. This spring the department assisted with the Mills Pond Park new playscape installation. The department also was involved with planting several memorial trees 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 worked with a vendor to replace all the trail fencing with new fence materials and to replace the bridge decking on the Flower Bridge with new decking. This growing department continues to add new services to accurately reflect the needs of the community. The Parks Supervisor, Henry Maskaitis, along with department staff goal is to continue improving 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 187 service calls along with their regular duties. This year a new Work Order Software system called FMX was installed to allow for work orders to be handled more efficiently along with preventive maintenance dates to be better organized. The Building Maintenance Department worked with a vendor to install air conditioning in the Town Hall Auditorium. The installation of new HVAC Equipment at the Community Center Multi-Purpose Room was completed with staff working with the contractor. Over the winter, staff painted several meeting rooms in the Community Center. Throughout the past year, the department continued to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic keeping residents and staff safe by performing extra cleaning 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 31%, a small increase from the previous year. Several new recycling opportunities were started including paint and food waste recycling programs. 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 to do an excellent job keeping water out of the containers resulting in significant tipping fee savings. A new Transfer Station Office was built with Special Revenue Fund balance replacing the old office trailer in 2022. This year a second Single Stream compactor was installed to help maximize the load weights being transported helping to save on transportation fees.



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 progress 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 was the third year of the Board of Education custodial/ maintenance staff and facilities being managed by Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds, Thomas Richardson. Tom continued to do 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 on twelve of the Town ARPA Projects along with managing the replacement of three under twenty-foot bridges on Washburn Road, Old Canton Road, and West Road that was completed in the summer. The bridges replacement projects were funded through the State Local Bridge Grants Program whereby 50% is paid for by the State of Connecticut.

The department also provided assistance with several Bids & RFPs for various Town Departments and the Board of Education. One of the larger projects included the completion of the Town of Canton's Streetscape II Project. This project was funded with a State of Connecticut Responsible Growth and Transit-Oriented Development Planning Grant. Administrative staff successfully provided oversight of the new Little League Girls Softball Field Project. The new Fire & EMS Headquarters building project began in the summer and is on schedule to be completed in the spring. Other projects in the development process are a new Splash Pad at Mills Pond Park, EV Charging Stations at several Town Facilities, and the Solar Panel Project at the Canton High School/Canton Middle School. The department successfully helped with the replacement of the emergency lighting system at the Canton High School/Canton Middle School installing a new 200Kw Generator to supply emergency power to all the school emergency lighting and several additional rooms. 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 Methods to Accomplish our Work". 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
Canton Springs Road	Dowd Avenue	Old Railroad Road	822	26	55	\$ 1,800.00	Vendor/DPW	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	In-Progress
Carriage Drive	East Hill Road	Woodland Drive	0	26	55	\$ 380.75	Vendor/DPW	Retainage for 2021 Drainage Work	Summer
Cemetery Road	Huckleberry Hill Road	High Street	1708	19	52	\$ 70,509.22	Vendor/DPW	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	Fall
Christmas Tree Hill	North Mountain Road	Cul-De-Sac	0	26	65	\$ 506.25	Vendor/DPW	Retainage for 2021 Drainage Work	Summer
Dyer Avenue	Simonds Avenue	Maple Avenue	1,575	24	82	\$ 2,624.00	Vendor	Crack Seal	Summer
Dyer Avenue	Albany Turnpike	Simonds Avenue	3330	23	90	\$ 2,662.50	Vendor	Crack Seal	Summer
East Street	High Street	Main Street	785	24	58	\$ 45,526.20	Vendor/DPW	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	Fall
Elizabeth Road	Forest Lane	Secret Lake Road	0	20	60	\$ 140.25	Vendor/DPW	Retainage for 2021 Drainage Work	Summer
Forest Lane	Old Albany Avenue	Town Line	0	20	60	\$ 752.50	Vendor/DPW	Retainage for 2021 Drainage Work	Summer
Freedom Drive	Torrington Avenue	Cul De Sac	3,027	24	95	\$ 3,257.48	Vendor	Crack Seal	Summer
Front Street	Main Street	South Street	358	24	65	\$ 30,969.56	Vendor/DPW	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	Summer
High School Parking Lot			0	0	78	\$ 14,907.16	Vendor	Crack Seal	Summer
Homestead Lane	Case Street	Cul De Sac	934	24	68	\$ 63,899.14	Vendor/DPW	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	Summer
Intermediate School Parking Lot			0	0	72	\$ 5,474.16	Vendor	Crack Seal	Summer
Johnson Place	Center Street	Center Street	702	19	58	\$ 29,907.02	Vendor/DPW	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	Fall
Main Street	Front Street	River Street	419	36	55	\$ 31,357.90	Vendor/DPW	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	Fall
Main Street	Center Street	High Street	571	24	60	\$ 54,997.05	Vendor/DPW	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	Fall
Main Street	River Street	Center Street	244	30	60	\$ 19,686.60	Vendor/DPW	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	Summer
Market Street	North Street	Main Street	284	22	63	\$ 15,463.80	Vendor	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	Summer
North Street	Bridge Street	East Street	943	24	60	\$ 75,617.91	Vendor/DPW	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	Fall
New Road	Sunset Terrace	Town Line	478	21	65	\$ 32,175.89	Vendor/DPW	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	Summer
Noja Trail	Christmas Tree Hill	Cul-De-Sac	0	26	65	\$ 439.50	Vendor/DPW	Retainage for 2021 Drainage Work	Summer
Old Albany Turnpike	Forest Lane	Cul-De-Sac	0	26	60	\$ 75.25	Vendor/DPW	Retainage for 2021 Drainage Work	Summer
Ridge Drive	Trailsend Drive	Trailsend Drive	0	24	65	\$ 672.00	Vendor/DPW	Retainage for 2021 Drainage Work	Summer
Ridge Road	Case Street	Town Line	1851	19	50	\$ 51,302.19	Vendor/DPW	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	Summer
River Street	Bridge Street	North Street	390	26	55	\$ 18,238.05	Vendor/DPW	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	Summer
River Street	Main Street	North Street	282	39	65	\$ 16,249.47	Vendor/DPW	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	Summer
Silver Mine Acres Road	East Hill Road	Carriage Drive	0	26	60	\$ 1,946.10	Vendor/DPW	Retainage for 2021 Drainage Work	Summer
South Street	Front Street	Spring Street	425	26	60	\$ 34,461.31	Vendor/DPW	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	Summer
South Street	Spring Street	Center Street	259	26	60	\$ 42,334.51	Vendor/DPW	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	Summer
South Street	Center Street	255' S Of Main Street	511	17	60	\$ 33,668.31	Vendor/DPW	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	Fall
South Street	255' S Of Main Street	Main Street	255	22	60	\$ 32,634.51	Vendor/DPW	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	Fall
Spring Street	South Street	Sunset Terrace	735	21	62	\$ 35,874.32	Vendor/DPW	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	Summer
Sunset Terrace	Huckleberry Hill Road	Spring Street	519	21	65	\$ 18,087.97	Vendor/DPW	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	Summer
The Green	Main Street	South Street	344	36	60	\$ 27,492.14	Vendor/DPW	Mill/Overlay w Drainage	Summer
Trailsend Drive	Albany Turnpike	Cul De Sac	0	21	65	\$ 2,665.30	Vendor/DPW	Retainage for 2021 Drainage Work	Summer
Torrington Avenue	Bridge Street	Dead End				\$ 14,926.88	Vendor	Guardrail Replacement Work	Spring
Torrington Avenue	Bridge Street	Dead End	5,800	27	90	\$ 5,935.60	Vendor	Crack Seal	Summer
Whitney Lane	Woodland Drive	Cul De Sac	0	26	65	\$ 222.75	Vendor/DPW	Retainage for 2021 Drainage Work	Summer
Woodland Drive	Cul De Sac	Cul De Sac	0	26	55	\$ 2,140.25	Vendor/DPW	Retainage for 2021 Drainage Work	Summer
Various Town Roads/Facilities						\$ 5,829.17	Vendor/DPW	Full Dept. Patching/Msc. Drainage	Fall
Various Town Roads/Facilities							Vendor/DPW	Testing and Engineering Services	NA
<i>Totals</i>			27,551	5.22	Miles	\$ 847,810.92			

## **SENIOR AND SOCIAL SERVICES**

*Tonoa Jackson, Senior & Social Services Director*

*Kara McConville, Senior Center Coordinator*

*Rebecca Briggs, Administrative Assistant to the Director*

### **Vision**

Our vision is for residents to gain maximum independence through active community engagement and outreach. We maintain an open and welcoming in-office atmosphere in order to reach and work with Canton residents in need.

### **Mission**

Our mission is to make a positive impact on the health and well-being of Canton residents of all ages by providing assistance with social, emotional and economic needs.

### **Department Overview**

The Town of Canton Senior and Social Services Department offers services, programs and resources to Canton residents to help them achieve self-sufficiency, maintain economic well-being, and adjust to different circumstances and events in their lives.

The department is responsible for the administration of social services and provides current information on local, regional and statewide resources while coordinating increasingly diverse programs to serve residents with varying backgrounds and needs.

Senior & Social Services also offers programming for the senior community which includes a breadth of offerings aimed at promoting overall well-being and engagement of mind, body, spirit via mental, physical and financial health events and activities.

### **SFY2022/23 Overview**

Senior & Social Services continued their mission of making a positive impact on the health and well-being of Canton residents of all ages by providing assistance with social, emotional and economic needs. The department saw a significant uptick in its social services as it provided, administered and oversaw a wide range of local, state and federally-funded programs and services. In collaboration with state agencies and local resources, the Department helped to provide food and nutrition assistance for the food insecure, financial assistance, energy assistance, protective services for the elderly, child support services, in-home care services, transportation and other essential services. Additionally, activities and programs offered to our senior citizen population grew tremendously over the previous fiscal year and attendance at the events and offerings had significantly increased since the early post-pandemic levels.

## **SOCIAL SERVICES**

### **Inflation Drives Increase in Social Services**

Inflation, the reversal of COVID-19 era SNAP benefits increases, and the rise in rental and mortgage costs which caused an uptick in evictions and foreclosures all heavily impacted the financial security of Canton residents.

In comparison to FY 21-22, our office saw a 61% increase in client contacts, a 21% increase in people served at the Canton Café Senior Meals Program and a 45% increase in overall meals served. There was also a 32% increase in requests for General Assistance (help with basic needs such as food, utilities, rent, clothing and transportation).

Requests for assistance with home heating costs and electricity increased 19% from the previous FY. Clients making the requests generally cited an increase in their utility bills as the main reason for their inability to pay the requested bill amounts. Most residents were eligible for help through the CT Energy Assistance Program (CEAP), and those who were ineligible due to being over income had extenuating circumstances such as recent wage loss or medical bills which prevented them from being able to afford heat or electricity.

Our Back to School Program, which provides backpacks, school supplies and funds for shoes and/or clothing for students ages 5-18 did not see a significant increase in requests, but the need remained steady and essential.

The success of the annual Holiday Giving / Gifts for Canton program was once again a joyful community effort. Over 50 families and seniors in need were gifted with toys, clothing, and/or gift cards to fulfill their children's holiday wish lists.

Lastly, this office has seen a notable increase in requests for in-home care as Canton's population ages; 35% of the town population is between the ages of 50-69.

### **Mental Health and Substance Abuse in Post-Pandemic Era**

The impact of the pandemic remains with us as there has also been a marked increase in the number of reported cases of mental health and substance issues. Many of these cases are not new, but levels of anxiety, depression, domestic violence, and substance abuse have considerably increased in the last FY. Clients who turn to us for assistance are referred to services available primarily through state programs. They are encouraged to follow through with the agency assigned to assist them, but often times therapies and treatments are abandoned for the comfort of the familiar. In some cases, people are told they will have to wait for admittance to a rehab program for those with substance abuse issues. And for those in a mental health crisis, if they are not considered a threat to themselves or others, their assistance does not happen as quickly as it should due to understaffing and funding.

Social Services sought the services of a Licensed Professional Counselor to be available for mental health support for Canton residents. We are appreciative of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds which were designated for this purpose, and those who have utilized the service have expressed their gratitude for the program.

The high cost of housing in Canton, lack of affordable housing, loss of employment and/or underemployment, lack of family and/or friend supports, and uncertainty surrounding the economy have all contributed to many individuals and families being unhoused. When rent or mortgages go unpaid for an extended length of time and the inevitable eviction happens, the tenants are unprepared for seeking temporary or alternative housing. There are state programs in place to assist, but those programs are slow to respond due to staff shortages, lack of funding, and not enough shelter for the number of people in need of it.

This Department has been able to refer clients to potential housing resources via CT state programs. Due to the statewide level of need for these resources, we have also intervened when necessary and assisted with referrals

for temporary housing, permanent housing, food, and other basic needs for Canton residents who have lost their housing.

## **SENIOR SERVICES**

Our part-time Senior Center Coordinator fulfilled a full year of employment since her hiring in March 2022 and successfully created and executed 12 months of programs, activities, seminars, and travel opportunities for our Seniors that capitalized on existing and new community partnerships. The 2022-23 fiscal year of programming was driven by 1) the continued but lessening impact of COVID-19 and the influence it had on our Seniors' desire to be in social settings. Attendance at times was low and slow but it grew steadily as the year moved on and 2) A survey that was distributed to all Canton residents 55+ years of age during the Fall of 2022 resulted in feedback that helped guide the types of programs that were cultivated and offered.

### **Partnerships**

The Senior Center was grateful for continued and beneficent partnerships that include the Avon-Canton Rotary Club which provided a free summer barbecue and The Canton Lions Club that treated everyone to the annual Oktoberfest celebration with entertainment. We established a solid connection with AARP and through them were able to offer two rounds of a Safe Driver course earning our Seniors car insurance discounts, as well as a seminar on combating fraudulent schemes targeting older citizens. Our sustained partnerships with local organizations/companies like Farmington Valley Visiting Nurse Association, Arden Courts and Hearing Care Centers allowed us to offer weekly or monthly health screenings for blood pressure/sugar, memory and hearing.

### **Programming**

Our game clubs seem to be returning to their pre-pandemic attendance levels with number of attendees and the frequency of gatherings. Cards, Wii Bowling and Mahjonn are steady while BINGO has grown in attendance thanks to implementing a technological improvement to better facilitate the delivery of the game and ease of playing. Instead of players using the old-fashioned basket for tossing numbers, we have moved them to an online version of the game that runs the game expeditiously. It has been well received and interest has grown, attracting players from other towns, as well as clients of Canton-based FAVARH. Additionally, we instituted a new game club for Scrabble aficionados that quickly gained a footing and a faithful every Friday following.

Since art and music can play an integral part in managing stress and improving cognitive function, the senior center was pleased to offer our seniors access to a free monthly watercolor class and a low-cost beginner's guitar class. While the guitar class had low enrollment likely due to the time available, the free watercolor class proved to be a very well-attended monthly gathering that allowed our seniors to discover or re-discover their creative talents – all guided by one of our own town seniors who is a very talented artist, lending his time to instruct and encourage attendees with the free art supplies we furnished.

Fitness classes returned and we offered an extended number of types of classes that incorporated movement of different forms and paces. Along with Ballet, Tap and Dance Fitness, Tai Chi made a comeback and a new offering - Chair Pilates – was introduced. Both Tai Chi and Chair Pilates quickly evolved into twice-a-week classes, developing faithful attendees. Costs of classes were offered at a reasonable \$5/class in an effort to remain sensitive to the fixed incomes of our seniors who are also challenged by an inflationary economic environment.

Complementary to the fitness for physical health, the senior center has utilized the services of a licensed professional counselor to offer support groups for seniors who were feeling particularly stressed in the roles they played as caregivers as a spouse, son/daughter or grandparent. Additionally, a special series of sessions

was provided to address life transitions of all different kinds. The pandemic seemed to further underscore the impacts of caregiving and making major life transitions through a time when social outlets and assistance was limited. Furthermore, we ran a program that allowed seniors to speak with and ask questions of a physician who had specific Covid-19 experience – helping to educate and assuage the concerns they had.

Ensuring that our Seniors have access to education on health insurance and financial topics that matter for later-in-life planning, we made certain to provide regular and extensive educational seminars for them throughout the year. We enlisted the services of a local insurance agency to run a five-week series on different Medicare plans and insurers during the Open Enrollment period. A Medicare 101 seminar was also put on the calendar. Additionally, we engaged with a well-regarded legal firm to present a four-week series on estate planning and all of its intricacies. In tandem, a once-a-month financial planning series we called *Money Smarts* rounded out the financial planning education. Finally, connecting with a representative from the Connecticut Department of Banking, Government Relations and Consumer Affairs allowed us to provide helpful information on avoiding financial fraud.

Our Veterans met for coffee hours for a few months of the year until the Hartford HealthCare liaison was re-assigned. We are on the hunt for a new liaison to help our seniors and their spouses get the timely info they need to pursue benefits etc. We were able to engage with a Veterans Benefits specialist from the office of Senator Chris Murphy who held a session to assist vets and spouses with questions.

As a result of the feedback we received via the survey from Fall of 2022, we increased our travel options as the Seniors were desiring more opportunities to hit the road and get back to normal. While still not achieving pre-pandemic levels of ridership, the number of seniors traveling was a positive sign. Trips that proved attractive and well received included Vermont, The Berkshires, Radio City for the Christmas Spectacular, Christmas in Newport, the Newport Flower show and the UCONN vs. Xavier Girls basketball game which occurred during a heavy snow storm that still did not deter the heartiest of fans from going.

Finally, two of the biggest highlights of the year were the annual Winter Wonderland party in December and the Summer Ice Cream Truck. The holiday event was a vibrant gathering that hosted nearly 90 attendees and numerous takeout customers. It included a delicious multi-course meal, lively music with sing-a-longs, and a fun-filled raffle with plentiful awards. A good time was had by all. And thanks to a very generous benefactor, a donation of \$1,000 helped to fund an ice cream truck that arrived every Wednesday for lunch throughout the entire summer.

## **Building Connections**

While the Senior Center is a hub for our seniors to connect with each other, we also know that building connections outside of the center and with the broader community is essential. In that regard, we held a number of events that allowed us to do just that. Together with First Selectman, Bob Bessel, we began a *Breakfast with Bob* Series that encouraged seniors to attend a monthly morning meeting to discuss questions and concerns pertaining to being a Canton Senior. This allowed them a comfortable place to speak directly with the lead town representative. In concert with Parks and Recreation, we participated in an intergenerational event called *Cookies and Cocoa* where our seniors joined with Canton school children and clients of FAVARH to decorate holiday cookies and sip hot cocoa together while sharing in the seasonal spirit. Finally, we were able to host once again the very talented Jazz Ensemble and Chorale group from Canton High School which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone who attended.

## **Future Initiatives**

For the upcoming fiscal year, we look to continue to build upon the foundation of programs we have executed for 2022-23 timeframe with hopes to grow the membership at the center, continue to increase attendance and interest in the programs offered while branching out into new and creative avenues of engagement – all to benefit Canton’s Senior population wholistically through body, mind and spirit.

The Senior Center Survey of Fall 2022 also revealed that the number one request of our seniors is to improve the aesthetics of the space we call home. It is our hope that through specially designated ARPA funding that will be applied for in the next fiscal year that we will be able to satisfy that request.

Senior & Social Services will continue to support the needs of Canton residents, regardless of age, ability, sexual orientation or religion, to the best of our ability always keeping in mind we are here to help those, regardless of reason, who are unable to help themselves.

## TAX COLLECTOR'S OFFICE

The Tax Collector is appointed by the Board of Selectmen. 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 the fiscal year 2022-2023, the rate of tax collection was 99% of the budgeted tax revenue and the sewer usage collection rate was 102% of the budgeted revenue. The details are charted below:

(Tax Figures)	22-23 YTD	22-23% of budgeted (as of 6/30/2023)
Current Year Tax	\$37,449,452.00	99.00
Current Year MVS	\$438,159.00	133.00
Prior Year Tax	\$138,273.00	93.00
Prior Year Suspense	\$2,904.00	146.00
Tax Interest and Liens	\$121,578.00	135.00
Total % of budgeted amount for fiscal year		99.00

(Sewer Figures)	22-23 YTD	22-23% of budgeted (as of 6/30/2023)
Current Year Sewer Use	\$1,016,511.00	102.00
Prior Year Sewer Use	\$12,815.00	64.00
Sewer Use Interest & Lien	\$12,820.00	129.00
Total % of budgeted amount for fiscal year		102.00

Canton taxpayers continue to place a high priority on meeting their tax obligations.



## TOWN CLERK

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 2022-2023 included:

- July: Absentee Ballots for August 9<sup>th</sup> Primary became available & Trained Land Use staff on website usage
- July: Special Town Meeting regarding second round of ARPA funding
- Aug.: Democratic & Republican Primary & Special Town Meeting regarding ACO agreement with Burlington, CT.
- Sept: Town Clerk Conference, submitted materials to General Code to incorporate Land Use regulations
- Oct: Absentee Ballots became available for Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> Election, New online absentee program goes live
- Supervised balloting at Cherry Brook Health Care
- Nov: Election Day, recount for Close Vote in 8<sup>th</sup> Senate District
- Dec.-Jan: COTT System and Software was down from 12/27/22-1/16/23 due to vendor cyber attack
- Feb.: Worked with Fire/EMS to develop new web page for Department.
- April: Town Clerk Conference
- May: Budget Referendum – passed due to a 7% turnout (per Town Charter) & Dog License renewals were mailed
  
- Receipts:
  - Conveyance Tax/Land Records/Maps      \$245,535
  - Hunting/Fishing (Sport) Licenses      \$      68
  - Miscellaneous Permits and Licenses      \$ 13,858
  - Dog Licenses      \$    1,322
  - Copies      \$    9,955
  
- Communications: Managed the Town's Facebook, Twitter & Instagram accounts.
  - Facebook Followers      3,400
  - Twitter Followers      938
  - Instagram Followers      1,683

## CANTON 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 design flow 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.

One noteworthy project from this year was the repair of a broken Rotating Biological Contactor, a major component of our biological treatment process. The repair required several days of contractor site visits using specialized equipment to make quality repairs. Actions by WPCF staff resulted in a safe bypass of the equipment, as well as a safe restart of the heavy rotating mass. The temporary loss of equipment did not result in discharge violations or any release of poor quality effluent to the river.

Aside from this repair, we continue our investigation of excessive clean water, called Inflow & Infiltration, entering the sanitary sewer system in downtown Collinsville. This Pipeline Rehabilitation Project is broken down into a 3 phased plan of remediation. Phase II, which includes grout sealing of leaking joints within the sanitary sewer system, was planned for this fiscal year but setbacks pushed it into FY23-24. Phase III, which focuses on manhole repair, is also planned to be complete in FY23-24. These efforts will further reduce the Inflow & Infiltration in a cost-effective manner.

This past year, the facility treated over 212 million gallons of wastewater, equating to an average flow of approximately 581,000 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, and two operators. 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 according to posted schedule, each month, at the Canton Community Center. The meetings are open to the public and interested residents are encouraged to attend.

## **ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS (ZBA)**

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 five (5) regular meetings and one (1) special meeting. They processed one (1) application for a variance to the Zoning Regulations, four (4) applications for Motor Vehicle Location Approval and one (1) application to appeal the decision of the Zoning Enforcement Officer.

The Zoning Board of Appeals has five (5) regular members, one (1) alternate member, and two (2) vacancies for alternate members. 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 Committee Roster

						as of: June 30, 2023
BOARD	P	LAST	FIRST	M	POSITION	EXPIRES
2023 CROG Regional Planning	D	Vinick	Elizabeth		Alternate	12/31/2023
2023 CROG Regional Planning	D	Thiesse	Jonathan		Representative	12/31/2023
Aquifer Protection Agency	U	Huyghebaert	John		Member	6/30/2027
Aquifer Protection Agency	D	Thiesse	Jonathan		Chair	6/30/2027
Aquifer Protection Agency	R	Evens	David	A	Member	6/30/2024
Aquifer Protection Agency	D	Trionfini	Sandra		Alternate	6/30/2024
Aquifer Protection Agency	D	Vinick	Elizabeth		Member	6/30/2024
Aquifer Protection Agency		VACANT	VACANT		Alternate	7/13/2024
Aquifer Protection Agency	D	Vogel	Michael		Member	7/13/2024
Aquifer Protection Agency		VACANT	VACANT		Alternate	6/30/2025
Aquifer Protection Agency	D	Harper	Rachelle		Member	6/30/2025
Aquifer Protection Agency	U	Perry	Lansford	W	Member	6/30/2025
Board of Assessment Appeals	R	Pelehach	Joe			11/21/2023
Board of Assessment Appeals		VACANT	VACANT			11/21/2023
Board of Assessment Appeals	R	Parliman	Bradley			11/18/2025
Board of Education	D	Daniels	Lou			11/21/2023
Board of Education	R	Hayes	Erika			11/21/2023
Board of Education	D	Scheideler	Joseph			11/21/2023
Board of Education	R	Sullivan	Kim			11/21/2023
Board of Education	R	Bush	Russell			11/18/2025
Board of Education	D	Jordan	Felicia			11/18/2025
Board of Education	D	Moeller	Cindy			11/18/2025
Board of Education	R	O'Donnell	Ryan			11/18/2025
Board of Education	D	Steinway	Peggy			11/18/2025
Board of Ethics		VACANT	VACANT		Alternate	6/30/2023
Board of Ethics	U	Casey	Arthur		Member	6/30/2027
Board of Ethics	R	Lloyd	David		Member	6/30/2027
Board of Ethics		VACANT	VACANT		Member	6/30/2024
Board of Ethics	D	Ciccarillo	Dennis	G	Member	6/30/2025
Board of Ethics	R	Kubas	David	R	Chair	6/30/2025
Board of Ethics	U	Rousseau	Roger		Alternate	6/30/2027
Board of Finance	R	Humphrey	Kenneth	S	Member	11/21/2023
Board of Finance	D	Kenney	Katie		Member	11/21/2023
Board of Finance	R	Lavery	Andrew		Member	11/21/2023
Board of Finance	R	Blatchley	Thomas		Alternate	11/18/2025
Board of Finance	D	Faulkner	Sarah		Member	11/18/2025
Board of Finance	R	Canny	William		Member	11/18/2025
Board of Selectmen	D	Bessel	Robert		First Selectman	11/21/2023
Board of Selectmen	R	Humphrey	Warren		Selectman	11/21/2023
Board of Selectmen	R	LeGeyt	Timothy		Selectman	11/21/2023
Board of Selectmen	R	Sedor	Stephen		Selectman	11/18/2025
Board of Selectmen	D	Volovski	William		Selectman	11/18/2025
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		VACANT	VACANT			N/A
Canton Center Historic District		VACANT	VACANT		Member	1/1/2024

## Town of Canton Committee Roster

Canton Center Historic District	D	Burbank	Marianne		Vice Chair	1/1/2024
Canton Center Historic District	D	Schwartz	Kenneth		Member	1/1/2025
Canton Center Historic District	U	Lingenheld	Elizabeth		Alternate	1/1/2025
Canton Center Historic District		VACANT	VACANT		Alternate	1/1/2026
Canton Center Historic District	U	Lampros	Susan		Member/Secreta	1/1/2026
Canton Center Historic District	R	Magennis	Gina		Chair	1/1/2027
Canton Center Historic District	R	Kessler	Linda		Alternate	1/1/2027
Canton Housing Authority	D	Therrien	Sue		Member	12/31/2023
Canton Housing Authority		VACANT	VACANT		Member	12/31/2023
Canton Housing Authority	D	Peltier	Amy		Vice Chair	12/31/2024
Canton Housing Authority	R	Dunstan	Len		Member	12/31/2025
Canton Housing Authority	D	Kocis	Stephen		Chair	12/31/2026
Canton Public Library Board of Trustees		VACANT	VACANT		Member	7/1/2024
Canton Public Library Board of Trustees	D	Miller	Deborah		Member	7/1/2024
Canton Public Library Board of Trustees	R	McAllister	Karol		Chair	7/1/2025
Canton Public Library Board of Trustees	D	Tyo	Zoe		Member	7/1/2026
Canton Public Library Board of Trustees	D	Hager	Christopher		Member	7/1/2026
Canton Public Library Board of Trustees	R	Manternach	Karen		Member	7/1/2026
Canton Public Library Board of Trustees	D	Porri	Amelia		Member	7/1/2026
Canton Public Library Board of Trustees	D	Vrabel	Beth		Member	7/1/2026
Canton Public Library Board of Trustees	R	Okie	Rowena		Vice Chair	7/1/2025
Chief of Fire/EMS	R	Gotoski	John		Chief	12/31/2026
Collinsville Historic District Commission	U	Grant	James		Chair	6/30/2027
Collinsville Historic District Commission	D	Jackson	Eric		Member	6/30/2024
Collinsville Historic District Commission	D	Cancela	Sylvia		Member	6/30/2024
Collinsville Historic District Commission	D	Waters	Jerry		Alternate	6/30/2025
Collinsville Historic District Commission	U	Veillette	Stephen		Member	6/30/2025
Collinsville Historic District Commission	D	Tarinelli	Donald		Member	6/30/2026
Collinsville Historic District Commission	D	McCoy	Kenton		Alternate	7/1/2026
Collinsville Historic District Commission	D	Lovejoy	Maureen		Alternate	6/30/2025
Commission on Aging		VACANT	VACANT		Alternate	1/1/2023
Commission on Aging	D	Crotty	Mary		Member	1/1/2024
Commission on Aging	U	Hesselbrock	Michie		Vice Chair	1/1/2025
Commission on Aging	U	Kluessendorf	Lori		Member	1/1/2025
Commission on Aging	U	Crawford	Virginia		Member	1/1/2026
Commission on Aging	I	Wright	Beth		Member	12/31/2026
Commission on Aging	D	Becker	Nancy		Member	1/1/2024
Commission on Aging		VACANT	VACANT		Alternate	7/31/2024
Commission on Aging		VACANT	VACANT		Alternate	1/1/2025
Commission on Aging	D	Gillette	Heather		Chair	1/1/2026
Conservation Commission	D	Kaplan	Jay		Member/CO-	7/1/2024
Conservation Commission	U	Spatcher Jr	William		Member	6/30/2025
Conservation Commission	U	Tilton	Garry		Member	7/1/2025
Conservation Commission	U	Erwin	Kevin		Chair	7/1/2026
Conservation Commission	D	Abel	Jennifer		Member	6/30/2024
Conservation Commission	D	Barton	Hedy		Member	6/30/2025
Conservation Commission	D	Boonstra	Flynn		Member	7/1/2025
CRCOG Representative	D	Bessel	Robert			11/17/2023

## Town of Canton Committee Roster

DECD Central Tourism Representative	U	Dingee	Matthew		Member	N/A
Economic Development Agency	D	Columbia	Vince		Vice Chair	7/1/2025
Economic Development Agency	U	Dingee	Matthew		Chair	7/1/2025
Economic Development Agency	D	Sayer	Christina		Member	7/1/2025
Economic Development Agency	U	Danajovits	Joe		Member	7/1/2024
Economic Development Agency	D	Dickstein	Barry		Alternate	7/1/2027
Economic Development Agency		VACANT	VACANT		Alternate	7/1/2026
Economic Development Agency	U	Asklof	Russell		Secretary	7/1/2026
Energy Committee	D	Gentile	Susan		Member	4/25/2024
Energy Committee	R	Langlois	Candace		Member	4/25/2024
Energy Committee	U	Madigan	David		Secretary	4/25/2024
Energy Committee	D	Miller	Nancy		Vice Chair	4/25/2024
Energy Committee	D	Namnoum	Bob		Chair	4/25/2024
Energy Committee	U	Quinlan	Mark		Member	4/25/2024
Energy Committee	I	West	Millege "Guy"		Member	7/13/2024
Farmington River Coordinating	U	Vinick	Matthew		Member	N/A
Farmington River Coordinating	I	Coleman	William		Alternate	N/A
Farmington Valley Health District	R	Humphrey	Warren		Member	3/1/2025
Farmington Valley Health District	I	Murphy	Timothy		Member	4/27/2025
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses	D	Porri	William		Member	12/31/2023
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses		VACANT	VACANT		Alternate	4/27/2024
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses	R	Bahre	Robert	H.	Member	12/31/2025
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses		VACANT	VACANT		Member	12/31/2026
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses	U	Rosenfeld	David		Secretary	12/31/2023
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses	D	Covino	Vincent		Alternate	4/27/2024
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses	D	Henry	Eric		Chair	12/31/2025
Juvenile Review Board	I	Lange	Cheli		Member	6/30/2023
Juvenile Review Board	D	Campbell	Lisa		Alternate	6/30/2025
Juvenile Review Board	U	Conway	Kelly		Member	6/30/2025
Juvenile Review Board	D	Vigil	Julie		Alternate	6/30/2025
Juvenile Review Board	R	Pass	Troy		Member	6/30/2026
Juvenile Review Board	U	Corcoran	Kara		Member	6/30/2027
Juvenile Review Board	D	Spiers	Linda		Member	6/30/2025
Municipal Agent for the Elderly	D	Jackson	Tonoa		Representative	9/20/2025
Parks & Recreation Commission		VACANT	VACANT		Member	6/30/2023
Parks & Recreation Commission	R	Jacobs	Todd	Q	Member	7/1/2027
Parks & Recreation Commission	D	Andrews	Rebecca		Member	9/14/2024
Parks & Recreation Commission	R	Byko	Steven		Member	7/1/2025
Parks & Recreation Commission	D	Lynch	Margaret		Member	7/1/2026
Parks & Recreation Commission	D	Miller	Brian		Chair	7/1/2024
Parks & Recreation Commission	I	Cottingham	Corri		Member	7/1/2024
Pension Committee		VACANT	VACANT		Member	1/1/2023
Pension Committee	U	Benedetti	Sergio		Chair	1/1/2024
Pension Committee	R	Lagonigro	Paul		Member	1/1/2024
Pension Committee	U	Daley	Diane		Member	1/1/2025
Pension Committee	D	Nardello	Michael		Member	1/1/2027
Permanent Municipal Building	D	Dymicki	Ronald	L	Member	7/1/2024
Permanent Municipal Building	U	Madigan	David		Member	7/1/2024

## Town of Canton Committee Roster

Permanent Municipal Building		VACANT	VACANT		Member	7/1/2026
Permanent Municipal Building	D	Reynolds	Peter		Chair	7/1/2026
Plainville Area Cable Television Advisory	D	Boorjian	Diana	D	Vice Chair	6/30/2027
Plainville Area Cable Television Advisory		VACANT	VACANT		Member	6/30/2023
Planning & Zoning Commission	U	Huyghebaert	John		Member	6/30/2027
Planning & Zoning Commission	D	Thiesse	Jonathan		Chair	6/30/2027
Planning & Zoning Commission	R	Evens	David	A	Member	6/30/2024
Planning & Zoning Commission	D	Trionfini	Sandra		Alternate	6/30/2024
Planning & Zoning Commission	D	Vinick	Elizabeth		Member	6/30/2024
Planning & Zoning Commission		VACANT	VACANT		Alternate	7/13/2024
Planning & Zoning Commission	D	Vogel	Michael		Member	7/13/2024
Planning & Zoning Commission		VACANT	VACANT		Alternate	6/30/2025
Planning & Zoning Commission	D	Harper	Rachelle		Member	6/30/2025
Planning & Zoning Commission	U	Perry	Lansford	W	Member	6/30/2025
PMBC - Firehouse Project	R	Holland	Gerry		Temp. Member	until complete
PMBC - Firehouse Project	R	Gotaski	Thomas		Temp. Member	until complete
PMBC - Firehouse Project	U	Robbins	Craig		Temp. Member	until complete
PMBC - Firehouse Project	U	Hutchings	Richard		Temp. Member	until complete
Poet Laureate		Shreve	Virginia			11/12/2026
Registrar of Voters	R	Miner	John (Jack)	R		1/8/2025
Registrar of Voters	D	Miner	Amelia			1/8/2025
Registrar of Voters	D	Zdanzukas	Cynthia		Deputy	
Registrar of Voters	R	Contrastano	Rich		Deputy	
Temporary Committee on Senior Tax	U	Barlow	Richard		Member	11/22/2024
Temporary Committee on Senior Tax	R	First	Brian		Member	11/22/2024
Temporary Committee on Senior Tax	R	Schori	Barbara		Member	11/22/2024
Temporary Committee on Senior Tax	D	Deutsch	Gail		Member	11/22/2024
Temporary Committee on Senior Tax	D	Spiers	Linda		Member	11/22/2024
Temporary River Access Study	D	Bessel	Robert		Member	
Temporary River Access Study	R	Humphrey	Warren		Member	
Temporary Sustainable Waste Mgmt.	D	Mejia	Adrwin		Vice Chair	12/22/2023
Temporary Sustainable Waste Mgmt.	D	Winkler	Michelle		Secretary	12/22/2023
Temporary Sustainable Waste Mgmt.	D	Winsor	Deborah		Chair	12/22/2023
Temporary Sustainable Waste Mgmt.	I	Grabowski	Zbiginew		Member	12/22/2023
Temporary Sustainable Waste Mgmt.	D	DeFusco	David		Member	12/22/2023
Temporary Sustainable Waste Mgmt.	D	Mauger	Arthur		Member	12/22/2023
Temporary Sustainable Waste Mgmt.	U	Asklof	Russell		Member	12/22/2023
Town Historian	D	Taylor	Kathleen			11/12/2026
Town Historian Deputy		Woodard	Carolyn			11/12/2026
Town Historian Deputy		Hager	Christopher			11/12/2026
Town Meeting Moderator		VACANT	VACANT		Alternate	1/1/2026
Town Meeting Moderator	D	Ouellette	Nicholas		Alternate	1/1/2026
Town Meeting Moderator	D	Burbank	Marianne		Alternate	1/1/2026
Town Meeting Moderator	U	Zils	Melissa		Alternate	1/1/2026
Water Pollution Control Authority	R	Bush	Russell		Member	6/30/2025
Water Pollution Control Authority		VACANT	VACANT		Member	7/1/2025
Water Pollution Control Authority	D	Ouellette	Nicholas		Member	7/1/2026
Water Pollution Control Authority	R	Celmer	Robert		Member	6/30/2023



## Town of Canton Committee Roster

Water Pollution Control Authority	D	Van Scoter	Jenn		Member	6/30/2023
Water Pollution Control Authority	D	Mauger	Art		Chair	6/30/2024
Water Pollution Control Authority		VACANT	VACANT		Member	6/30/2025
Wild and Scenic River Study Committee		VACANT	VACANT		Member	N/A
Wild and Scenic River Study Committee	U	Antonucci	Mayan		Member	
Youth Services Bureau	D	Barger	Glenn		Member	7/1/2025
Youth Services Bureau	R	Keefe	Matt		Member	7/1/2025
Youth Services Bureau	I	Tebecio	Patrick		Member	7/1/2025
Youth Services Bureau	D	Harper	Rachelle		Member	7/1/2026
Youth Services Bureau	D	Meheran	Laurie		Chair	7/1/2026
Youth Services Bureau	D	Payne	Alden		Member	7/1/2026
Youth Services Bureau	D	Skinner	Maria		Member	7/1/2026
Veterans' Representative		Jackson	Tonoa			N/A
Zoning Board of Appeals	R	Vincent	Susan		Member	1/3/2024
Zoning Board of Appeals		VACANT	VACANT		Alternate	1/3/2024
Zoning Board of Appeals	D	Waters	Jerry		Alternate	1/3/2024
Zoning Board of Appeals	D	Pendell	Michael		Alternate	1/3/2025
Zoning Board of Appeals	D	Miller	Brian		Member	1/3/2027
Zoning Board of Appeals	R	Rucci	Lucien		Chair	6/30/2024
Zoning Board of Appeals	U	Philbrick	Stephen		Member	6/30/2024
Zoning Board of Appeals	R	Celmer	Robert		Member	1/3/2027