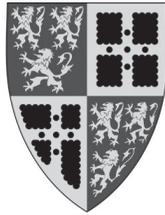


Annual Report Town of Old Saybrook, Connecticut

MIDDLESEX COUNTY
Second Congressional District
Twentieth Senatorial District
Thirty-Third Senatorial District
Twenty-Third Assembly District



The seal of Old Saybrook was adopted from the College Arms of Saybrook College of Yale University. The seal is heraldically described as follows:

“Quarterly I and IV azure,
three lions rampant, or: II and
III sable, engrailed cross
within a border engrailed,
both or, five roundels
sable on the cross.”

The significance of the seal and its relation to the Town of Old Saybrook is as follows:

Quarters I and IV are for Fiennes, the family of the Lord Saye and Sele; II and III are for Greville, the family of Lord Brooke. These ancient coats recall two of the seventeenth-century English Proprietors of land at the mouth of the Connecticut River.

Old Saybrook was the site of the Collegiate School of Connecticut, which was relocated to New Haven in 1716 and became Yale University.

Year Ending June 30th,

2020

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OLD SAYBROOK

“Where the Connecticut River meets Long Island Sound”

Old Saybrook dates back to 1635 when a company of English Puritans headed by Viscount Saye and Sele and Lord Brooke, and led by one John Winthrop, Jr., erected a fort to guard the river entrance...which in turn was guarded by a sandy shoal bar that called for precise piloting to enter. The residents blessed this shoal for it was a natural barrier against over-industrialization and helped to preserve the integrity of the environment with all of its natural beauty. When a deep channel was dredged and breakwaters erected, ships no longer had to off-load at Saybrook Point. Thus, the channel up river was opened for expansion of trade, commercial fishing and shipbuilding, traditional occupations that have carried on over the years.

SECTION I

TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK — PROFILE

LOCATION:

Middlesex County
 West Side of the Mouth of the Connecticut River
 45 miles from Hartford
 101 miles from New York
 105 miles from Boston
 Latitude 41° 17' N. Longitude 72° 25' W.
 Town Area – 15.3 square miles
 Total Town Roads – 72 miles

TOWN INCORPORATION:

July 8, 1854

FORM OF GOVERNMENT:

Town Meeting /Board of Selectmen/Board of Finance
 Net Grand List of October 1, 2019 – 2,301,690,063
 Mill Rate: 20.05
 Assessment Ratio: 70%
 Grand List Date: October 1, 2019
 Grand Levy: \$46,148,885.76
 Two Voting Districts

POPULATION:

U.S. Census Bureau Estimate: 10,061
 School Enrollment: 1,195

PROPERTY:

Residential Dwellings: 5,614
 Commercial/Industrial Dwellings: 470
 Motor Vehicles: 12,616
 Business Personal Property Accounts: 3,029

REPRESENTATIVES:

State Representative

Devin Carney [R], 23rd Assembly District

State Senators

Paul M. Formica [R], 20th Senatorial District Voting District 1
 Norm Needleman [D], 33rd Senatorial District Voting District 2

Congressman

Joseph Courtney [D], 2nd Congressional District

United States Senators

Richard Blumenthal [D]
 Christopher Murphy [D]

TOWN WEBSITE: www.oldsaybrookct.org

IN MEMORIAM

Richard Firman O'Brien (1943-2019)

Richard was a veteran who served in the U.S. Navy. Following his military career, he lived in Old Saybrook for some time where he was a member of the Old Saybrook Police Department for 28 years, attaining the rank of detective sergeant before his retirement.

Charles A. Roberston (1947-2020)

Charles joined the Old Saybrook Fire Department on July 1, 1997 and served on numerous committees including the Nominating Committee and the Hayride Fundraiser. Perhaps his most significant contribution was his service as chair of the Building Renovation Committee where, for close to three years beginning in 1999, he oversaw a million-dollar renovation of the original 1960s-era firehouse. He also spent many years training new firefighters on the driving and operations of fire apparatus, assisting them in obtaining their Q license from the DMV. He was voted to the veteran firefighter list on July 6, 2010.

OLD SAYBROOK EMPLOYEES AND MEMBERS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

(letter) denotes party affiliation and [number] denotes term expiration year

ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT

Accounting Supervisor	Julie Mardjekaj
Bookkeeper	Lucia Parashin
Bookkeeper	Janet Vinciguerra

ACTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Director	Amanda Brouwer
Assistant Director, Children's Librarian	Karen Giugno
Head of Circulation	Lisa Mendes
Administrative Assistant	Justyna Sikora
Cataloger	Donna Tappin
Technical Services	Kara Knobelsdorff
Young Adult Librarian	Brian Story
Reference Librarian	Claudia Volano
Building Maintainer	Wayne Wysocki
Library Assistant II	Fiona Saunders
Library Assistant II	Cynthia Baklik
Library Assistant I	Rogina Bedell-O'Brien
Library Assistant I	Kathy Freese
Library Assistant I	Joan Chasse
Library Assistant	Rachel Bulgini
Library Assistant	Chloe Parrington
Library Assistant	Michele Baldi
Library Assistant	Donna Bookman
Library Assistant	Gerard Smith
Library Assistant	Sheila McCallum
Library Assistant	Delia McCarthy
Library Assistant	Ria Knobelsdorff
Library Assistant	Laurie Saunders
Library Assistant	Casi Gignac
Library Assistant	Barbara Davis
Library Assistant	Patricia Kmiecik
Library Assistant	Susan Noack
Library Page	Devery Morgan
Custodian	Kathy Kelley

ACTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

Chair	Nathan Wise	(D) [23]
	Alan L. Schwarz	(R) [23]
	Janet Hodge-Burke	(R) [23]
	Michael Osnato	(R) [25]
	Kathleen Kohne Smith	(D) [25]
	Susan Mariani	(R) [25]
	Patricia O'Brien	(D) [21]
	W. Michael Cameron	(R) [21]
	Nancy Walsh	(D) [21]
	Recording Clerk	Amanda Merritt

AQUIFER PROTECTION AGENCY

Chair	J. Colin Heffernan	(U) [21]
	Chuck Savage	(R) [21]
	Charles Wehrly III	(R) [21]
Alternate	Elizabeth Steffen	(D) [21]
Alternate	Janis Esty	(R) [21]
Participating Commission Member	Paula Kay	(R) Planning
Participating Commission Member	Madeleine Fish	(R) Zoning
Participating Commission Member	Alyse Oziolor	(U) Conservation
Participating Commission Member	vacant	EDC
Recording Clerk	Lynette Wacker	
Enforcement Officer	Patrick Hegge	

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

Chair	Susan Missel	(R) [20]
	Emily Grochowski	(D) [21]
	Kathleen Caldarella	(R) [21]
	Edward Armstrong	(D) [21]
	Donna P. Leake	(U) [22]
Alternate	Kathryn Toolan	(R) [20]
Alternate	Robert Hansen, Jr.	(U) [22]
Recording Clerk	Meryl Moskowitz	

ASSESSMENT APPEALS BOARD

Chair	Peter T. Gallagher	(R) [21]
	Jeffrey Gibson	(D) [21]
	Matt Diamond	(R) [21]

ASSESSOR

Assessor	Norman B. Wood, CCMA II	
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BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Building Official	Tom Makowicki	
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CONNECTICUT RIVER AREA HEALTH DISTRICT (CRAHD)

Board of Selectmen Representative	Michael Dunne, M.D.	(R) [22]
Board of Selectmen Representative	Alan Schwarz, M.D.	(R) [20]

CONNECTICUT RIVER GATEWAY COMMISSION

Alternate	Bill Webb	(D) [20]
	Tom Gezo	(U) [20]

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Chair	Christine Picklo	(R) [20]
	Alyse Oziolor	(U) [21]
	Tom Gezo	(U) [21]
	Larry Ritzhaupt	(D) [21]
	Donna P. Leake	(U) [20]
	Kelly Hartshorn	(D) [20]
	Vacancy	[21]
Clerk	Lynette Wacker	

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Executive Director	Susan Beckman	
Chair	Matthew Pugliese	(D) [24]
	Sandra Roberts	(R) [24]
	David Cole	(R) [23]
	John DeCristoforo	(D) [23]
	Elizabeth Swenson	(D) [22]
	Judy Ganswindt	(R) [25]
	Carol Conklin	(D) [25]
Alternate	Joseph Arcari	(R) [21]
Alternate	Dave Prendergast	(D) [20]
Recording Clerk	Meryl Moskowitz	

EDUCATION, BOARD OF

	Eileen Baker	(D) [21]
	Jan Furman	(R) [21]
	Karen E. Brodeur	(D) [21]
	Tara Nolin Barros	(R) [21]
	Cynthia Sultini	(R) [21]
	Karina Julius	(R) [23]
	George Chang	(D) [23]
	James Henderson	(R) [23]
	Alan Hyla	(R) [23]

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Director	Michael A. Spera	[21]
Deputy Director	Michael A. Gardner	[21]

ESTUARY TRANSIT DISTRICT

Representative	Charles Norz	(R) [20]
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ETHICS COMMISSION

Chair	Edward Cassella	(D) [22]
	Marion J. Lewandowski	(U) [20]
	Paula Ladd	(D) [22]
	Kerry Knobelsdorff	(R) [23]
	Donald E. Hunt	(R) [21]

FINANCE BOARD

Chair	David F. Lamay	(R) [21]
	Thomas D. Stevenson	(R) [23]
	Donna Nucci	(D) [21]
	Barry O'Neill	(D) [21]
	Paul Carver	(R) [21]
	Rick Swan	(R) [23]
	Carol Rzasa	(R) [23]
Recording Clerk	Gerri Lewis	

FINANCE

Finance Director	Lee Ann Palladino, CFA	
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FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief	Joseph Johnson
Deputy Chief	Steve Lesko
First Assistant Chief	James Dion

FIRE MARSHAL OFFICE

Fire Marshal & Open Burning Official	Peter R. Terenzi III
Deputy Fire Marshals	Richard Leighton Brian Manware Raymond Hart

HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

Chair	Robert Murphy	(R) [23]
	Paul M. Connolly	(D) [23]
	Lou Vinciguerra	(R) [23]
	David Cole	(R) [21]
	Robert Soden	(D) [21]
Clerk	Jennifer Donahue	
Dock Master	Scott Mitchell	

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Chair	William A. Childress	(U) [20]
	Jan Furman	(R) [24]
	Barbara Harms	(U) [23]
	Mary E. Kennedy	(D) [22]
	Diane Aldi DePaola	(D) [21]
Alternate	Richard Peters	(R) [22]
Alternate	Eugene Creighton	(R) [21]
Alternate	Alan Cantor	(D) [20]
Recording Clerk	Amanda Merritt	

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Information Technology Manager	Larry Hayden
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INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION

Chair	J. Colin Heffernan	(D) [21]
	Chuck Savage	(R) [21]
	Charles Wehrly III	(R) [21]
Alternate	Elizabeth Steffen	(D) [21]
Alternate	Janis Esty	(D) [21]
Alternate	Alyse Oziolor	(U) [21]
Representatives:		
Conservation Commission	Alyse Oziolor	
Planning Commission	Paula Kay	
Zoning Commission	Madeleine Fish	
Economic Development	vacant	
Recording Clerk	Lynette Wacker	

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

Jason A. Becker	Joyce L. Cappiello	Carol Conklin
Edward Cassella	Susan M. DeBlasiis	John DeCristoforo
Allan Fogg	Carl P. Fortuna, Jr.	Robert Hansen
Donald Hunt	Mary E. Kennedy	Barbara J. Maynard
William Millspaugh	Janet Murray	Barry S. O’Nell
Joseph Onofrio II	Arthur K. Pope	Emilio J. Scamporino
Michael Spera	Elizabeth D. Steffen	Joan Strickland
John J. Torrenti, Jr.		

LAND USE DEPARTMENT

Town Planner	Christine Nelson
Enforcement Officer	Christina Costa
Environmental Planner	Patrick Hegge
Administrative Secretary	Sarah Lyons
Recording Clerks	Amanda Merritt
	Christine Gilman
	Meryl Moskowitz
	Lynette Wacker
	Erica Cosenza
	Joanne Galli

LONG ISLAND SOUND COUNCILS & ASSEMBLY

Old Saybrook Representative	Grant Westerson
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**LOWER CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY
REGIONAL AGRICULTURE COUNCIL**

Old Saybrook Representative	Kristy Benson
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MUNICIPAL CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Nancy Sullivan	(R) [21]
David A. Tiezzi	(R) [21]
Kelly Renshaw	(U) [21]
Marston “Marty” Ladd	(D) [23]
Dana Cosgrove	(U) [23]
Scott Carson	(R) [25]

MUNICIPAL HISTORIAN

Elaine Staplins

OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Board of Selectmen Representative	Matthew Pugliese	[22]
Police Commission Representative	Carl S. VonDassel	
Police Union	David Perrotti	

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Chair	Susan E. Esty	(D) [23]
	Kevin S. Lane	(R) [23]
	Bror Ashe	(R) [23]
	Star A. Rueckert	(R) [23]
	James Henderson	(R) [21]
	Steven Pernal	(D) [21]
	Nancy Shepard Gatta	(D) [21]

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Director	Ray Allen
Assistant Director	Jonathan Paradis
Facility/Program Manager	Kyle Bohonowicz
Office Manager	Rick Pine
P/T Secretary	Deborah Stevenson
Building Maintainer	Anthony Bielawa

PENSION & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS BOARD

Chair	Darrell Pataska	(U) [21]
	Paul Tracey	(U) [21]
	David Sparrow	(R) [24]
	Lynn M. Dallas	(D) [25]
	Rowena Moffett	(R) [23]
Selectman	Suzanne Taylor	(R) [22]
	Carl P. Fortuna, Jr.	

PLANNING COMMISSION

Chair	Thomas Cox	(R) [23]
	Robert Missel	(R) [23]
	Paula Kay	(R) [21]
	Kathleen Sugland	(D) [21]
	Mark Patterson	(R) [23]
Alternate	Douglas McCracken	(U) [21]
Alternate	vacancy	[21]
Alternate	vacancy	[21]
Recording Clerk	Christeen Gilman	
Representatives:		
Inland Wetlands	Paula Kay	
River COG	Thomas Cox	

POLICE COMMISSION

Chair	Frank D. Keeney	(R) [21]
Vice Chair	Kenneth Reid	(R) [21]
	Joseph Maselli	(R) [23]
	Lorraine Cortese-Costa	(D) [23]
	Renee Shippe	(D) [21]
	Susan Quish	(R) [21]
	Carl Von Dassel	(R) [23]

POLICE SERVICES
EXECUTIVE

Chief of Police	Michael A. Spera
Lieutenant	Jeffrey DePerry
Executive Assistant	Jennifer Damato

PATROL DIVISION

Master Sergeant	Robbert van der Horst
Sergeants	Christopher DeMarco
	Ryan Walsh
	Stephen Hackett
	Philip Ciccone

Patrolmen	Stephanie Milardo Tyler Schulz Heather Stratidis Jared White Joshua Zarbo Justin Hanna Amanda Tourjee James Kiako (per diem) Michael Mulvihill (per diem) Steve Crowley (per diem) Allyson Tanner (per diem)	Solomon Hardy Mark Micowski Albert Tabor Christopher Palmieri John Baldino Charles Kostek Austin Harris
Police K-9		Chase Sonny
Information Technology		Michael Gardner (stipend)
Animal Control		Jennifer Franklin (per diem) Kate Cryder (per diem) Andrea Gosselin (per diem) Patrick Hanley (per diem) Dawn Caffery (per diem) Kaitlyn Muckle (per diem)
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION		
Detective First Class		David Perrotti
Detective		Eric Williams
YOUTH SERVICES DIVISION		
School Resource Officers		Karen Gabianelli (PT) Timothy McDonald (PT) Lawrence Rooney (PT)
Police Explorers	Patrick Sirisoukh Ian Douglas Matt Barnes Maizy Libby Alixandria Giannini	Zach Gilbert Connor Douglas Daniel Fox Nicholas Barros
EMERGENCY SERVICES DIVISION		
EMS Director		Phil Coco (PT)
Marine Patrol		Grant Westerson (per diem) Tom Brown (per diem) Tom Pitasi (per diem)
EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION		
Public Safety Dispatchers	James Shake Jennifer Franklin Andrea Gosselin Caitlin Murray Brianna Sepulveda William McGregor (per diem) Robert Barrett (per diem)	Michael Paradis Dan Adams Charles Moriarty Lea Offner

RECORDS DIVISION

Records Specialist

Mary Lou Sunday (per diem)

Sonal Sharma (per diem)

COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICERS

Community Service Officers

Sgt. Thomas Newton (per diem)

James Schneider (per diem)

Patrick Hanley (per diem)

BUILDING MAINTENANCE

Patrick Hanley (PT)

Patrick Sirisoukh (PT)

PROBATE COURT

Judge of Probate

Honorable Jeannine Lewis

Chief Clerk

Sharon Tiezzi

Clerks

Stella Caione

Marge Calltharp

Jacqueline Craco

Margaret Schroeder

Helene Yates

Rose Nolin

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING BOARD

Chair

Diane Aldi DePaola (D) [21]

Sharon G. Craft (D) [22]

Mary E. Kennedy (D) [21]

Mary Ann Iadarola (D) [21]

Elizabeth Owen (D) [20]

Joseph Termine (U) [20]

Priscilla Funck (R) [22]

Alternate

Mary Briscoe (U) [20]

PRESERVE AD HOC COMMITTEE

Ray Allen

Director, Parks & Recreation

Christine Picklo

Conservation Commission

Elizabeth Swenson

Economic Development

Commission

Susan Esty

Parks & Recreation Commission

Inland Wetland Commission

Old Saybrook Land Trust

Sheridan Bauman

Westbrook Land Trust

Chris Cryder

Kathy Connolly

Carl P. Fortuna, Jr.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT & TRANSFER STATION

Director	Lawrence Bonin
Maintenance Crew	William Claffey Peter Labriola Adam Laverty Michael Pace Jr. Matt Hoadley Pat Regan Todd Way Cameron Evangelisti
Transfer Station	Richard Champlin William Rascoe Trevor Root Jim Therrien Anthony Hunter

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

Joan Broadhurst	(R) [21]
Joan Strickland	(D) [21]

SELECTMEN

First Selectman	Carl P. Fortuna, Jr.	(R) [21]
Selectman	Scott Giegerich	(R) [21]
Selectman	Matthew Pugliese	(D) [21]
Administrative Secretary	Georgiann Neri	
Administrative Assistant	Bridget Riordan	
Administrative Assistant	Jennifer Donahue	
Administrative Assistant	Rebecca Zychowski	
Administrative Assistant	Ellen O'Herlihy	

SHELLFISH COMMISSION

Chair	Lawrence Bonin	(R) [22]
	David Colvin	(U) [22]
	James Mitchell	(R) [21]
	Andrew Pandiani	(R) [21]
	Shannon Duggan	(U) [22]

TAX COLLECTOR

Tax Collector	Barry E. Maynard	[21]
Assistant Tax Collector	Wendy Morison	

TOWN CLERK

Town Clerk	Sarah V. Becker	[22]
Assistant Town Clerk	Christina Antolino	
Assistant Town Clerk	Cindy Kane	

TOWN COUNSEL

Michael Cronin, Jr.

TOWN HALL

Building Maintainer	Paul Baldi
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TREASURER

Robert Fish [21]

TREE WARDEN

Jim Kiely [21]

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

Chair	Jason Becker	(U) [20]
	Robert J. Senger	(D) [21]
	Ian Featherstone	(R) [22]
	John Giannini	(U) [22]
	Jay Kulowiec	(U) [20]
	Peter Stump	(R) [22]
	vacancy	[21]
Alternates	Frederick Strickhart	(U) [20]
	vacancy	[20]

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL STAFF

WWMD Program & Site Manager	James Vanoli
Financial Manager	Gratia Lewis
Financial/Administrative Assistant	Melissa Lewis

YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES COMMISSION

Board of Selectmen Rep	Jennifer Welsh	(U) [20]
Board of Selectmen Rep	Michael Rafferty	(U) [20]
Board of Selectmen Rep	vacancy	[20]
Interim Vice-Chair/OSPD Rep	Michael A. Spera	
Park & Rec Rep	Jonathan Paradis	
Public Health Nursing Rep	Mary Ann Iadarola	
School System Rep	Lisa Castro	
Student Representatives	Kyle Wisialowski	
	Joe Bradley	

YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES STAFF

Director/Agent for Veterans	Heather McNeil, LMFT, LADC
Social Services Coordinator & Municipal Agent for Elderly	Susan Consoli, LPC
Program Coordinators	Wendy Mill
	Brittany Eckert
Counselor	Salvatore Bruzzese, LPC, MS, CAGS
Counselor	Chelsea Graham, LCSW
Counselor/Wilderness Coordinator	Brenda Partyka, LMSW
Counselor	Samantha Steinmacher, MA, LPC
Counselor	Adam Stahr, MS/MFT
Clinical Consultant	Kathleen Laundy, Ph.D., LMFT
Group Facilitator (Asperger's Parent Support)	Joanne Deal, MA, LPC
Office Administrator	Angela Gaidry

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Chair	Robert McIntyre	(R) [21]
	Dorothy Alexander	(R) [21]
	Kevin Danby	(R) [21]
	Jacqueline Prast	(R) [23]
	Alfred Wilcox	(D) [23]
Alternates	John Henry	(R) [21]
	Charles Gadon	(R) [21]
	Brenda Dyson	(R) [21]
Recording Clerk	Erica Cosenza	

ZONING COMMISSION

Chair	Robert Friedmann	(R) [21]
	Madeleine B. Fish	(R) [23]
	Mark Caldarella	(R) [23]
	Ann Marie Thorsen	(D) [23]
	Geraldine Lewis	(R) [21]
Alternates	Ram Odedra	(U) [21]
	Marc Delmonico	(R) [21]
	Justin Terribile	(D) [21]
Recording Clerk	Joanne Galli	

SECTION II

ACTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

The mission of the Acton Public Library is to serve the community as an information resource center, providing educational, cultural and civic programs and materials through diverse media.

Introduction

The Acton Public Library is a department of the Town of Old Saybrook and is advised by a board of directors. As a town department, the employees are town employees and share a common goal to support the Town of Old Saybrook and its residents. The employees are the library's greatest asset. The library is typically open four evenings a week until 8:00 p.m. Acton Library is open Saturdays year-round and is open on Sundays during a majority of the school year. There are currently three full-time employees: the director, the children's librarian/assistant director and the head of circulation.

Board of Directors

The board of directors is a nine-member volunteer-appointed board made up of Old Saybrook residents. Board members serve a six-year term. The Policy Subcommittee of the board of directors worked again this year on updating many outdated policies to bring the library in line with the American Library Association as well as local and state standards. These policies include: Notary Public, Program Policy, Code of Conduct, and Test Proctoring. The board was also very excited about spearheading a new strategic plan. The board opted to use some gift funds to hire a professional library planner. The board held a kickoff meeting on October 17, 2019. The strategic planning committee sent out a survey which was answered by more than 350 individuals. Strategic planning subcommittees were going strong until March of 2020. Once in-person meetings are deemed safe again, strategic planning will resume.

Collection

We spent quite a bit of time thinking about the best places for some of our smaller collections. We did a large "weeding" project (weeding is the process of removing items from the library collection due to misinformation, poor condition, or lack of use) in three areas: adult, young adult and children. We also increased our spending this year for digital offerings, both audiobooks and e-books. We saw an increase in usage after our physical building was closed to the public due to COVID-19. We were able to add more titles so the wait times for these digital materials would not be as long. We also were able to offer Ancestry Library Edition from home which went hand in hand with the Genealogy Interest Group program that we offered virtually.

We added a new database called Hoopla in March of 2020 that offers movies, television series, music, audiobooks and e-books. The Acton Public Library collection currently consists of approximately 72,000 items; of those, there are 68,000 individual titles. The library subscribes to multiple online databases that enhance the reference collection, including two online subscription services:

SCOLA, a Social Science and Language resource, and Freegal, a free streaming and downloadable music and video service. The Acton Library also subscribes to Ancestry Library Edition for those who are interested in research genealogy and family history. Most of the online resources are accessible remotely so patrons can use them from home 24/7 (except Ancestry). The Acton Public Library provides computers for public use. In addition, people can use wireless internet connections throughout the building and into the parking lot.

Services

This year, two staff members become Notary Publics. We know the services of a notary may often be needed in the evening, so the Acton Library is offering the service two evenings a week; however, we do recommend that you call first to confirm the notary is available at the time you plan to come to the library. Another service we began offering in late 2019 was test proctoring. This service is convenient for the student who is taking distance learning courses and needs an exam proctored. This year we also installed a chat reference box on our website enabling website visitors to easily pop their questions into the box and get an answer from a dedicated staff librarian. In late May we began offering curbside pickup and it was a hit from the beginning. We were so happy to see our collection in the hands of our patrons again!

Facilities

As with any building that is aging, we had a few maintenance projects to keep us busy this year. Our roof skylight had some rotting wood, so we cleaned that up. We also replaced two of our 34 heat pumps, continuing the cycle of maintenance on our extensive HVAC system.

Acton Public Library offers space for nonprofit meetings for educational, recreational, civic, cultural, and entertainment programming purposes. Meeting rooms are for use by the Old Saybrook community and are reserved on a first-come-first-served basis. The Grady Thomas Room has a seating capacity of 75 for the full room and 35 for each half if the space is divided, while the Friends Conference Room, a small conference room, has a capacity of 12.

The library features monthly art exhibits. Two display cases feature rotating exhibits and collections of various items and a third display case features historical displays from the Old Saybrook Historical Society. Community members are encouraged to sign up to display their art on a monthly rotation.

Staff

This year we welcomed a new part-time young adult librarian and a part-time reference librarian. We also added a couple of new library assistants right before we shut down because of COVID-19. During the time we were closed to the public, the staff learned how to use multiple online platforms to provide services remotely.

Staff learned how to use platforms like YouTube and Zoom to conduct meetings and put on programs. New staff members also learned how to do programming to deliver content to our patrons. During our shutdown, the director and the assistant director came in daily to check the answering machine and return phone calls and answer reference questions.

Consortium

The Acton Library is a member of the LION (Libraries Online, Inc.) consortium. There are 29 libraries in LION, which also includes a college library. The catalog contains the full collections of the member libraries, which can be searched simultaneously or by individual library. From the catalog, a patron can request an available item such as a bestseller, movie or audiobook that will be retrieved and sent to the patron's library. The combined catalog of LION includes more than 2.1 million unique titles, with more than 2.3 million items in the local collections. Library users can access the catalog through the Internet, renew and reserve items, check the status of their accounts, and maintain their borrowing history. LION also offers audio and e-books through the OverDrive interface, and digital magazines through both the RB Digital and OverDrive interface. Our library users enjoy direct access to many more resources because of the shared collections. LION also provides behind-the-scenes support for our library; our computer maintenance is handled by LION in a very cost-efficient manner.

Summer Reading Programs

This year, the library once again participated in the statewide summer reading collaborative program. Kids could earn beads for the Read to Bead portion of summer reading according to their age. The beads were a fun way to show how great the kids did reading all summer. Teens participate annually in the summer reading program by logging their reading time through ReadSquared, the statewide summer reading database.

This year the adult summer reading program was a bingo card with various types of books to read in the squares. For each "bingo" the patron received a raffle ticket to put into containers to win prizes donated by local businesses.

Young Adult Services and Programs

Young adults are library patrons between the ages of 12 and 18. Acton serves this age group with a dedicated space for young adult resources that includes books, audio books, magazines, and other age-appropriate materials. The library has three computers dedicated to teen use only in the Teen Space. Also, a free online database, SCOLA, a Social Science and Language resource, is available for students in particular. Additionally, free streaming and downloadable music and video is available to teens through the library's Freegal subscription. *Mindful Mondays*, a chance for a time to relax was introduced. The YALL (Youth Action Library League) Group was also formed to enable teens to have a voice in their collection and programming. This also gave some much-needed volunteer hours. The very popular Dungeons and Dragons also was started and had gotten a great following. When March hit, the Dungeons and Dragons group was moved to an online platform.

Children's Services and Programs

Various programs for children are held throughout the year. Story times are scheduled weekly for babies and toddlers as well as preschool-aged children. A "Stay and Play" session is offered for parents and caregivers to mingle while babies enjoy social play with toys provided by the library. Music with Miss Martha, a monthly music program from the Community Music School, and ABC

Amigos, bilingual preschool story times, are also offered monthly during the year. Both programs are made possible through the support of The Friends of the Acton Public Library.

Kindergarten classes from Goodwin School visit the library on a regular basis. The children's librarians also conduct outreach visits to local preschools. In October, the library collaborates with the Old Saybrook Fire Department to bring a fire safety story time and fire truck to the children. The library participated in the statewide Take your Child to the Library Day again this year with special programs for children. Again, these programs were made possible through the support of The Friends of the Acton Public Library.

Nancy Walsh, *Chair, Acton Public Library Board*

Amanda Brouwer, *Library Director*

ACTON PUBLIC LIBRARY, THE FRIENDS OF THE

On May 28, the Friends of the Acton Public Library held their Annual Meeting via Zoom and, though it was a new experience for many, we had 15 people in attendance. This was not a happy event because we had to adjust to the reality of the coronavirus and adjust our plans for the coming year accordingly.

It is hard to imagine an organization whose main purpose is to raise money to support programming for the library having to look ahead to no book sales in the coming months. And yet, that was what we did.

The Friends has had years in which we developed a surplus in our coffers, so we moved ahead with making reduced commitments to the library in the coming year. We will provide half of what we did in the prior year for programming, we will keep the level of funding for museum passes even with prior years, and we will look forward to a renewed possibility of book sales as we move forward through this pandemic to a time when it is safe again to gather in larger groups.

Acton Library is a tremendous resource to the community with a staff that is experienced, creative, resourceful and warmhearted. They are led by Director Amanda Brouwer, who has made a big difference in two years of leadership. Since her arrival, the library has become fully staffed, with an exciting array of programming for patrons of all ages. Even in these months of social distancing, the library has worked hard to reach out to the community of Old Saybrook to make opportunities for borrowing books and materials and to have interesting programs.

The Friends of the Acton Public Library salutes the library and its staff for all they do to add to Old Saybrook's quality of life. We look forward eagerly to the robust lifestyle we will have once the virus is under control. Book sales are not just a way to earn funds; they are a way for patrons and visitors to interact as they search through the abundant supply of gently used books to find a handful or an armload of new reading. Watch for an announcement for the next book sale.

If you are interested in knowing more about the Friends or being a part of what we do, please do not hesitate to contact me at sheilamcp@gmail.com.

Sheila McPharlin, *President*

AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION

This past year the Old Saybrook Ambulance Association responded to more than 1,600 calls for assistance. The calls consisted of medical emergencies, traffic accidents, structure fires, boating incidents as well as mutual aid responses to neighboring towns.

Advanced life support is provided to the town through a program with the Middlesex Health Paramedics. When the 911 system is activated, the first responders from the Old Saybrook Police Department, the Old Saybrook Ambulance Association and the Middlesex Health Paramedics respond and provide the citizens of Old Saybrook with a highly trained team of medical professionals.

The Old Saybrook Ambulance Association is a private, nonprofit ambulance association with a dedicated group of volunteers staffing two Horton Ambulances. The ambulance transports patients for emergencies to the local hospital emergency rooms and trauma centers. The Ambulance Association is always looking for volunteers to join the ranks of the dedicated staff in serving the citizens of Old Saybrook.

We would like to thank the Police Department and Fire Department for their cooperation and assistance during the year. We would also like to thank the members of the community for social distancing and wearing masks, which helped keep down the spread of COVID-19 cases in town.

Frank Beth, *President*

Board of Directors

Frank Beth, *President*

Bill Lasky, *Vice President*

Joe Castro, *Secretary*

Martin Drobiarz, *Treasurer*

William Rochette

Kathi Fowler

Chris Cestaro

Ryan Walsh

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Chris Loader

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Working Members

Chris Cestaro

Chris Denison

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Jack Dunn

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Tommy Heinssen

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Fran Lambert

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Carrie McCarthy

Nate Minegar

Kayla Mercer

Nadine Morse

Chris Ramos

Donna Rochette

Katheryne Rochette

Tom Rochette

William Rochette

Amber Scherber

George Washburn

Janet Wysocki

Sheri Smith

Garrit Rehberg

Vincenzo Moccia

AQUIFER PROTECTION AGENCY

The Connecticut General Statutes empower the Aquifer Protection Agency to regulate land uses within designated aquifer protection areas to protect public drinking water. In Old Saybrook, there are two aquifer protection areas, one surrounds the Saybrook Well and the other is a portion of the aquifer protection area surrounding the Holbrook Well in Westbrook.

The Board of Selectmen appoints three at-large members and three alternate members for a two-year term; participating commissions select representative members for a two-year term each. The membership of the agency is the same as those appointed to serve the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission.

During the 2020 fiscal year, the agency held two meetings and received no applications to permit or renew permits for any non-residential activities.

The agency meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall, first-floor conference room. Patrick Hegge, environmental planner, serves as our enforcement agent. Lynette Wacker of the Land Use Department supports the agency as administrative clerk.

Colin Heffernan, *Chair*

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

The Town Code charges the Architectural Review Board to preserve the heritage and integrity of Old Saybrook's built environment by evaluating applications for development or redevelopment from an aesthetic perspective. The board works with owners, builders and developers to avoid both excessive uniformity and excessive variety in each element of the design. In Old Saybrook, the board promotes harmony between each aspect of an improvement—building, site and neighborhood.

The Board of Selectmen appoints five members and two alternates for a term of three years each.

During the 2020 fiscal year, the board held 11 meetings at which it reviewed four proposals for new or redevelopment and 16 proposals for new signs at existing developments. The board works closely with other land use groups for ongoing coordination of land use policies.

The Architectural Review Board meets on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall, second-floor conference room. Meryl Moskowitz of the Land Use Department supports us as our administrative clerk. Chris Costa, zoning enforcement officer, is available Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to noon in the Land Use Department of the Town Hall to assist with applications and to answer questions concerning land use in Old Saybrook.

Emily Grochowski, *Chair*

ASSESSMENT APPEALS BOARD

The Board of Assessment Appeals (BAA) serves as an appeal board for taxpayers who want to challenge the Town's assessment of their real estate, motor vehicles or personal property.

For the Grand List of October 2019, the board met to hear taxpayers' questions and concerns about their real estate and personal property assessments. Approximately 49 property owners requested hearings with the BAA. These hearings were held from March through April, 2020. Due to COVID-19, appeals were held by phone.

Appeals of motor vehicle assessments require the taxpayer to appear before the BAA in the month of September. The date is published in advance in the Harbor News. Once again, all hearings will be by phone.

The board carefully reviews each appeal and notifies the property owner or motor vehicle owner of its decision.

The board gratefully acknowledges the cooperation of the assessor, Norman Wood, and his staff.

Peter Gallagher, Chair

ASSESSOR

October 1, 2020 is the effective date of our next Grand List. The Grand List is a listing of all taxable property located within the Town as of the prior October. The assessor certifies the Grand List annually by February 1. The primary duty of the assessor is to locate and value taxable property and to certify what was on the Grand List as of the prior October 1.

Some of the additions to the 2020 Grand List:

- #1 Village Center Condos.—assessment to date \$3,918,200
- #2 Post and Main Apts.—assessment to date \$23,324,800
- #3 Agway & Dunkin—assessment to date \$2,272,500

Based on 113 property sales:

- Shoreline East average sales data—up 8%
- Shoreline West average sales data—up 8%
- Overall town average sales data—up 16%

Personal Property

The Assessor's Office is required to ask businesses to report annually on their personal property. On July 3, 2019 a press release went out notifying business owners that on July 22, Luke Parker, a personal property appraiser representing the Town of Old Saybrook, would begin visiting all businesses in Old Saybrook for the purpose of listing, depreciating and appraising all business personal property. This is part of the Town's regular, required ten-year review of all business personal property.

The personal property review began in outlying areas such as Spencer Plain Road and continued toward the center of town. We thank the businesses that were prepared with an asset list of all equipment showing purchase date, make and model as well as acquisition cost. This review happens in addition to the annual personal property declaration filing required of all businesses.

In mid-September business personal property declarations are mailed to all businesses in Old Saybrook. This form must be filled out, signed and returned to the Assessor's Office by November 1 in order to avoid the statutory 25%

assessment penalty for non-filing. Each of these declarations must be reviewed and compared to the prior year's declaration to be sure that all information is consistent and accurate.

Valuations

By the end of December, we have looked at and valued all changes in real estate accounts including new construction, demolitions, home improvements, etc. and made those changes to the values of the properties. This information comes to us primarily by way of building permits. For example, if a property assessment is \$100,000 on the 2019 Grand List and a \$50,000 addition is completed, the assessment or "value" on the 2020 Grand List will become \$135,000.

By the end of November, we will receive the supplemental motor vehicle list from the DMV. This is a list of motor vehicles including trucks, trailers and motorcycles that have been registered since October 1 of the previous year. Approximately half of the vehicles on this list of 2,000 need to be researched in NADA schedules and priced manually.

All motor vehicles are valued, based on NADA "clean retail" value, according to year, make and model. This value is then prorated based on the month the registration was initiated or transferred. The 2019 supplemental motor vehicle list is completed by early December and the related tax bills, due on January 1, have been mailed.

In early December, we will receive from DMV the regular list of motor vehicles registered as of October 1. This list will contain more than 12,000 vehicles. Approximately 25% of these will have to be priced manually from the NADA price schedule using the "clean retail" value of the vehicle.

By January 15 all of real estate (7,030+/-) personal property (1,050 +/-) and motor vehicle (14,900 +/-) accounts have been checked, valued and entered into our administrative system to produce a Grand List bill for June.

Appeals

By January 31 the assessor will sign the October 1 Grand List from the previous year. Property owners whose assessment has increased on the new Grand List over the previous Grand List will receive an increase notice upon the signing of the Grand List. If they disagree with the assessment of their property, they have the opportunity to file an application to appeal the assessment before the Board of Assessment Appeals (BAA), which meets in early March.

BAA applications are available on the website and at the Assessor's Office and must be returned to the Assessor's office by February 20. After February 20, the BAA chair will schedule hearings notifying each applicant by mail of the date and time to appear. Each applicant must appear with a recent appraisal in order for the BAA to make a decision concerning the property value.

Exemptions

Applications for the Elderly or Disabled program "Circuit Breaker" are accepted from February 1 through May 15. Applicants must be 65 years of age as of October 1 of the previous year and provide a copy of their tax return showing gross income as well as a copy of the SSA 1099.

The state's Renter's Rebate program application period begins April 1 and runs through October 1, 2021 while the additional Veteran's Benefit program application period begins February 1 and runs through October 1.

The state mails the Renters Rebate checks by the end of October each year.

The assessor and assessor's staff wish to thank all of the Old Saybrook taxpayers for their patience and support.

Norman B. Wood, CCMA II, Assessor

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Building activity in Old Saybrook has continued to be strong, even with the current conditions from the COVID-19 outbreak. We have actually seen activity increase since March when everything shut down. We continue to try to make the process of getting a building permit as simple as possible; it's easier to get a permit before the work is done rather than after it's completed. It should be noted that, with the huge increase in the number of houses being sold in Old Saybrook, the amount of unpermitted work has been an issue for sellers. If you are thinking of selling your home, it is in your best interest to make sure all of your permits are closed and match the work you have had done.

Permitting for fiscal year 2019-2020 was similar to last year's fiscal numbers. There were 1,370 permits taken out with a construction cost of \$22,208,817. Revenue from permit fees was \$240,225. The Building Department performed 1,452 inspections. Six structures were demolished and ten single-family homes and six multi-family units were permitted. In addition to the new homes, there were 113 permits for renovation/alterations and 24 solar projects. Commercial construction was also very active, with multiple projects in the works, which is amazing given the current pandemic situation. We are looking forward to another strong year in a healthy shoreline community.

Our software system, Muncicity, has continued to work well. It has reduced the amount of paperwork and streamlined the workflow. The reports it can produce have been very helpful in the permit process. The Zoning Department is now inputting their information into the system, which has helped speed up the permitting process. The Assessor's Office has also been using the system for various tasks and has been accessing the inspection photos of many projects. In addition, we are currently working to make applying for a permit through the system available online with payment by credit card.

I can't say enough about the Building Department's administrative clerks. When we had to shut down, they had to change how we accepted permits and dealt with the public. Despite these challenges, they kept everything running, even with an increase in activity. Becky Zychowski and Ellen O'Herlihy both were up to the task and I can't thank them enough for their efforts during this event. Their positive attitudes have continued to create an atmosphere of cooperation in the department and with other departments.

As always, if you have any questions about an upcoming project and whether it requires a permit, or if you need guidance on how to proceed with a project, please call the office at (860) 395-3130 to get information or to make an appoint-

ment. You can also visit the town website at www.oldsaybrookct.gov and select the Building Department's webpage.

Tom Makowicki, *Building Official*

CONNECTICUT RIVER AREA HEALTH DISTRICT

The Connecticut River Area Health District (CRAHD) is a five-town local health district. CRAHD continues to provide core public health services to the towns of Clinton, Old Saybrook, Deep River, Haddam, and Chester. The district is responsible for implementing programs and supporting policies that improve the health of its residents. The district provides a strong environmental health and code compliance program, targeted public health nursing services, health education and promotion activities, disease tracking and prevention, and public health preparedness planning. The district is dedicated to carrying out its mission to maximize the highest quality local public health services possible given its current resource level.

COVID-19

This global pandemic has been a relentless force since it arrived in the US, CT and our communities. Fortunately, at this writing, CT and our member towns are in a much better position to combat this deadly virus than we were in the spring of 2020. I am hopeful that the worst is behind us; however, only time will tell. CRAHD will maintain its resiliency and strive to do everything possible to keep our communities safe. In the spring of 2020, our communities suffered great loss. My thoughts and prayers remain with all the families that lost a loved one to COVID-19 as well as all the people and businesses impacted by this deadly virus. I remain hopeful that when next years' annual report rolls around, our country will be in a better place.

Please stay smart and resilient. We need to beat this pandemic together as a community, state and nation.

Environmental Health

This fiscal year proved to be another busy one for the environmental health section. Our licensed sanitarians performed a variety of environmental health functions and conducted a wide variety of inspections. In addition, sanitarians offered advice to residents and the business community as well as educating the public and targeted audiences on a variety of environmental health issues, code enforcement and code guidance. Inspection programs include state-mandated inspections for compliance with the Connecticut Public Health Code and local ordinances.

Inspections, permitting/licensing activities and targeted education are conducted in the following areas:

- On-site sewage disposal: soil site evaluations; installer and engineered plan reviews; permitting for new, upgraded, altered and repaired systems; installation inspections; as-built drawing review; issuance of permits to discharge.

- Food service establishments: restaurants, caterers, food stores, school cafeterias, nursing homes, churches, vendors, temporary events and farmer's markets.
- Body care establishments: cosmetology shops, nail and beauty salons, barber shops, and tanning salons.
- Child day care centers and group day care homes.
- Overnight-stay facilities such as hotels, motels, inns, bed & breakfasts.
- Public swimming pools, including spas and condominium pools.
- Public bathing areas including freshwater bathing and marine water beaches.
- General nuisance/other complaints: CRAHD sanitarians respond to a variety of citizens' complaints such as housing, rodent infestation, garbage and odors, septic overflows, general nuisance, well and water supply issues, poor sanitary conditions, etc.
- Private water supplies: permitting, location approvals, testing, lab report reviews, advice on treatment and maintenance.
- Campgrounds: inspections to ensure minimum sanitary standards are met.
- Childhood lead poisoning prevention: lead paint hazard reduction; abatement orders; education to homeowners, tenants and landlords; RRP awareness and case follow-up of childhood elevated blood lead levels.
- Housing: landlord-tenant issues related to minimum housing standards.

Community Health

The public health nurse (PHN) works closely with all of our school districts conducting surveillance for flu-like illness, to assist in control of illness in the schools, and to support health education and promotion activities. Since March, frequent education and guidance regarding COVID-19 and the reopening of schools has been and continues to be provided for school nurses, day cares, dentists, VNA, hospice, and town leadership.

During 2019-2020, the PHN was the lead staff person in the planning and execution of public health preparedness and served the district in the capacity of public health preparedness coordinator. The PHN procured, inventoried, and distributed PPE (personal protective equipment) to those in need. This included hospice units, visiting nurses, offices performing emergency dental work, pediatricians as well as those at home ill from COVID-19.

The PHN is responsible for tuberculosis case management, surveillance for reportable diseases, and follow-up of all reportable communicable diseases within the district towns. The PHN followed a positive TB case with direct observation of medication administration this year from July to December 31, 2019.

The PHN manages the district's efforts to control childhood lead poisoning, both in prevention and response to elevated blood lead levels.

Articles on public health topics are distributed to local newspapers and the local Events publications. Many of the articles recognize observances of days/months with public health importance.

Through its Preventative Health Block Grant, CRAHD continues to offer educational programs focused on the prevention of skin cancer. Presentations on the dangers of sun exposure (including tanning beds) were conducted to municipal and park and recreation staff and the elderly as well as middle school students.

This year's block grant focus is on hypertension and self-management of that condition. The PHN completed three major blood pressure screening events and set up a self-management group to meet weekly. Unfortunately, these events had to cease due to COVID-19. A women's heart health lunch and learning session was completed at the Haddam Senior Center. This event was well attended and rolled into the weekly hypertension self-management classes. We have a registered dietician and a pharmacist on board to provide in-person education to our groups. CRAHD also participated in the Senior Information Expo at the Haddam Killingworth High School. We screened a total of 21 seniors (ages 65+). Of those 21, seven agreed to complete the Diabetic Screening tool. One additional resident was already diagnosed with diabetes.

CRAHD conducted blood pressure screening at the Clinton Food Bank. We screened ten Clinton residents, eight women and two men. One had a normal blood pressure, five showed stage-1 hypertension and four showed stage-2. Two people were not aware of having hypertension. It was recommended that both follow up with their primary care physicians. All were provided education materials.

The PHN has been in daily contact with COVID-19 positive cases. Contact tracing as well as monitoring and providing guidance to our most vulnerable population in the nursing homes is done as needed. CRAHD has brought in licensing and inspection services to provide additional investigations and plans for correction to some of the skilled nursing facilities in our district. Support and personal protective equipment (PPE) have also been provided to them. New data systems have been initiated by the Department of Public Health (DPH) and CRAHD is in complete compliance with ContaCT and Ring Central. The PHN, along with the director of health (DOH), has been an active member of all town safety committees and COVID-19 tasks teams. All teams and Zoom meetings presented by DPH, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS), and each town have been attended by the PHN and the DOH.

The PHN and the DOH have been available 24/7 for questions, concerns and needs during the COVID-19 pandemic.

CRAHD is the lead health department in Mass Dispensing Area #39, which includes the five health district towns as well as Westbrook, Essex, and Killingworth. CRAHD continues to meet with its Emergency Support Function (ESF) 8; medical and public health partners in DEMHS Region 2 and statewide to enhance regional capacity and to develop regional health care coalitions. CRAHD conducts local communications exercises on a quarterly basis and participates in regional and statewide drills and exercises.

CRAHD continues its efforts in volunteer management and closed points of dispensing (PODs) efforts.

CRAHD continues to improve its Health Alert Network (HAN) capacity and usefulness.

designated the lower Connecticut River as one of its “Last Great Places;” the river’s tidelands were recognized as an “internationally significant” habitat for waterfowl under the terms of the international Ramsar Convention; the secretary of the U.S. Department of Interior has recognized the Lower Connecticut River Valley as “one of the most important ecological landscapes” in the United States; and in 1999, the river was designated as one of 14 American Heritage Rivers by the president of the United States.

The Gateway Commission concentrates much of its attention on the protection of the valley’s scenic qualities. Since its inception, the commission has worked with others to acquire over 1,000 acres of land through purchase or donation of scenic easements, development rights and fee simple titles. During the last year, the commission has also concentrated on more ecological aspects of the health of the river, including support of projects to identify and eradicate upland and in-water invasive plant species.

The commission is also empowered to adopt common zoning standards for height, setback and lot coverage, which member towns adopt and enforce within the Gateway Conservation Zone. The commission reviews and acts on zone changes, regulations changes and variance applications affecting land within the Conservation Zone referred to it by local boards and commissions. No zone changes or change in regulations affecting land within the Conservation Zone can become effective without the commission’s approval.

For more information, contact RiverCOG Deputy Director and Gateway staff J. H. Torrance Downes at (860) 581-8554 or at tdownes@rivercog.org. Contact information can also be found on the web at www.ctrivergateway.org.

J.H. Torrance Downes, *Staff Member*

Members as of June 30, 2020

Margaret Wilson and Jenny Kitsen of Chester
 Conal Sampson and Jerry Roberts of Deep River
 Cray Brownell and Joel R. Ide of East Haddam
 Claire Matthews and Misha Semenov of Essex
 Susan R. Bement and Mike Farina of Haddam
 J. Melvin Woody and Wendy Hill of Lyme
 Suzanne Thompson and Greg Futoma of Old Lyme
 Bill Webb and Tom Gezo of Old Saybrook
 Raul de Brigard of RiverCOG
 David Blatt of the Connecticut DEEP (Commissioner’s Representative)
 Fenwick Borough has been designated an ad hoc member and is periodically represented by Borough Warden Newton C. Brainerd.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Connecticut General Statutes establish the purpose of any conservation commission as “...the development, conservation, supervision and regulation of natural resources....”

The Board of Selectmen appoints seven members for a term of two years each.

During the 2020 fiscal year, the commission held 10 meetings at which it planned and reported on ongoing outreach and education initiatives. The commission kicked off its major initiative by promoting *Plastics Free July* in Old Saybrook. The commission has focused much of its outreach in the last year about the problems associated with plastic waste and plastic film recycling through articles in its *Conservation Circular*, *Saybrook Events* magazine and in regular posts to its Facebook subscribers. The commission supported a regional project for citizens to take a Watershed Pledge to protect both drinking water and the habitats associated with our waterways. Lastly, the commission promoted, solicited volunteers for and participated in the annual International Ocean Coastal Cleanup event along with several other community groups in Old Saybrook. An event celebrating the 50th anniversary of Earth Day was scheduled in April but had to be canceled due to COVID-19.

The commission maintains an up-to-date webpage on the Town's website and a separate Facebook profile for its own audiences. The commission publishes the quarterly *Conservation Circular* newsletter and submits content to the *Saybrook Events* magazine. The commission has continued contributing to the Acton Public Library to update its reference collection and lending library of books and films about the natural environment. This year numerous books were purchased for children and young adults.

The commission worked with Youth and Family Services to provide materials, instructions and education to teenage children about the benefits of creating bird houses and the environmental return they have on the natural ecosystem within Old Saybrook. Twenty-five birdhouses were put together during a summer environmental stewardship camp.

The commission works closely with other land use groups. Presently, Alyse Yeager represents the commission on the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission and the Aquifer Protection Agency, each of which regulate development of land that may have a negative effect on the quality of water for humans or for habitat, respectively, in identified locations. Donna Leake serves on the Architectural Review Board. Tom Gezo is a member of the Gateway Conservation Commission. The chair represents the commission on the Board of Selectmen's ad hoc Preserve Committee. The commission thanks all for their dedication to these additional organizations and ongoing coordination of land use policies.

The commission conducts periodic inspection of other town-owned conservation land and easements over private land to monitor its functions and improvements (such as fish passages). The commission is represented on an ad hoc advisory committee to the Town and State DEEP under its Cooperative Management Agreement for The Preserve open space in the northwest corner of Old Saybrook. The commission continues to look for further opportunities to conserve natural resources of the land between already protected open spaces in Old Saybrook.

The Conservation Commission meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall, second-floor conference room. Patrick Hegge, environmental planner, is available mornings Tuesday through Thursday in the Land Use Department to answer questions concerning conservation of land and natural resources in Old Saybrook.

Christine Picklo, Chair

CYPRESS CEMETERY ASSOCIATION, INC.

Cypress Cemetery at Saybrook Point is one of the oldest, continuously operating cemeteries in Connecticut and the nation. The “old burial ground” with burials dating to the early to middle 1600s was established by engineer Lion Gardiner when he laid out the town at Saybrook Point for the “men of quality” who were to arrive from England during the “Great Migration.” The oldest marked burial site dates from 1685, although other burials no doubt occurred prior to that. It is thought that some of the very earliest graves might actually lie beneath the paved portion of College Street along the front of the cemetery property, including that of original Saybrook Point landowner, Mathew Griswold, after whom Griswold Point in Old Lyme is named. Early graves were likely identified with wooden markers which have since disintegrated or disappeared. It is thought that graves may not have been marked at all.

Historically, the cemetery contains the remains of at least two Native Americans, located in unmarked graves, black slaves owned by early residents, and one of America’s first almanac makers. Most of Old Saybrook’s Congregational Church’s early ministers rest in Cypress, four of whose pastorates cover a period of 170 years. In addition to 13 Revolutionary War veterans buried in the cemetery, the final resting place of Lady Alice Fenwick, wife of Saybrook Colony’s first governor, is also located in Cypress. Lady Fenwick’s grave was moved to Cypress Cemetery from her original burial site on “Tomb Hill,” which was located near to the Connecticut Valley Railroad roundhouse and turntable site closer to the Connecticut River. Her grave was moved around 1870 by townspeople who didn’t want her resting place destroyed when the railroad built its riverfront facility on Saybrook Point.

In 2018, Cypress Cemetery was named to the National Register of Historic Places with the nomination based upon the “funereal art” present in the cemetery—tombstone carving. Cypress has a notable representation of numerous tombstones carved by prominent colonial tombstone makers, a significant enough number to warrant special recognition through the National Register of Historic Places. Exhibit signs have been placed along College Street describing the history of the “old burial ground” and the history of Yale University that began as the Saybrook Collegiate School at the site.

The annual meeting of the Cypress Cemetery Association was held on Saturday, October 19, 2019 with an additional meeting held on Saturday, June 20, 2020. During both the October 2019 annual meeting and the June 2020 regular meeting, the board discussed ongoing upkeep of the cemetery, the status of association funds and investments, and other issues concerning plot sales and plot management. Association financial matters, including summary of investments and status of perpetual care funds, were discussed by Treasurer Nancy Gilbert. Director Connolly advised the members regarding anticipated investment strategies for the upcoming fiscal year. The discussion again included recommendations regarding the most strategic balance of cash to equities/mutual funds. During the annual meeting, votes regarding board term expirations and the annual appointment of officers were made.

Inquiries can be sent to the Cypress Cemetery Association at P.O. Box 40, Old Saybrook, CT 06475 or to James Cahill at (860) 304-4683. The Cypress Cemetery website can be found at www.cypresscemeteryosct.org.

James W. Cahill, *President*

Board of Directors

James W. Cahill, *President*

Nancy Gilbert, *Treasurer*

Paul Connolly, *Assistant Treasurer*

Elaine Staplins, *Secretary*

James Mitchell

J.H. Torrance Downes

Susan Sangster

Adriann Lloyd Downes

Tina Antolino

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

This past year started like any other with goals to promote and support existing businesses and commercial development to diversify the tax base and complement Old Saybrook's community character. Then the coronavirus pandemic abruptly shut down all nonessential operations in March 2020. Essential and nonessential businesses faced unanticipated challenges and demonstrated incredible resilience. The Economic Development Commission (EDC) focused on keeping local businesses updated about local, state and federal guidelines for operations and financial assistance programs. The EDC's goal is to ensure the viability of local businesses over the long-term. The commission will continue to work closely with the Long-term Recovery Taskforce, the Old Saybrook Chamber of Commerce and other community partners to support businesses to the greatest extent possible for the duration of the pandemic. The commission will also assess post-pandemic impacts on the local business community in order to assist businesses as they develop long-term recovery strategies.

2019-2020 Year in Review

A Strategic Plan for Old Saybrook's Thriving Local Economy

The Planning Commission (PC) adopted the *Strategic Plan for Old Saybrook's Thriving Local Economy* in June 2020. The new comprehensive 10-year plan was developed over the last two years by an advisory group of EDC and PC members including Matthew Pugliese (EDC), Thomas Cox (PC), Kathleen Sugland (PC), Town Planner Christine Nelson and Economic Development Director Susie Beckman. The plan will be used by the EDC to guide economic development efforts over the next decade.

Marketing

The EDC continued its relationship with Scierka Lang Marketing Solutions to further marketing efforts for a third year. This year's marketing strategy focused on three geofencing campaigns, which send advertisements to mobile

devices using targeted demographics and locations. The three campaigns ran as follows:

Visitor Attraction—September through early November. This campaign ran six weeks, used two different photo advertisements, generated 926 visits to the EDC website Visitor page, and resulted in 430 visits to Old Saybrook.

Holiday Events & Shopping—late November through December 24. This campaign ran five weeks, used two holiday-themed photo advertisements, generated 335 visits to the EDC website Visitor page, which had been updated for the holidays, and resulted in 237 visits to Old Saybrook.

Resident Attraction—scheduled to run mid-March and April. This campaign, originally designed to target potential residents working at Electric Boat, Pratt & Whitney and other growing industries, was suspended due to the coronavirus pandemic. It was restarted in May, pivoting to target potential residents wanting to move from dense urban areas including Stamford and New York City to more suburban communities as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. The campaign ran for five weeks resulting in thousands of impressions on the mobile devices of our target market. This campaign had the added component of a landing page that allowed visitors to opt-in to additional information by sharing their email address. We received 18 email addresses and responded with a personal note and additional information about living in Old Saybrook.

Other marketing channels include Facebook, Instagram and the monthly digital newsletter. The audience continues to grow through all channels. Facebook added 41 followers to end 2020 with a total of 699. Posts are made throughout the year and some are boosted using marketing funds to further their reach. The monthly digital newsletter currently reaches an audience of 570, more than half of which are businesses.

New Businesses

Between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020, 47 new businesses registered to operate in Old Saybrook.

Town Hall Public Art Hallway

With support from the Old Saybrook Rotary Club and Eversource, the Old Saybrook Public Art Hallway was opened in February, 2020 with its first art exhibit of work by local artists. The Old Saybrook Rotary Club contributed \$3,500 to purchase and install track lighting and Eversource contributed \$2,000 through its community grant program to purchase and install the art hanging system. Exhibits will rotate every four months providing local artists with an opportunity to share their work in a public space.

Mariner's Way Redevelopment

Efforts continue to identify potential developers, stay in contact with property owners to understand their plans, and make incremental progress toward redeveloping the corridor.

Signs & Wayfinding

The EDC worked with Parks & Recreation to replace town park signs to create a unified look to all signs throughout the Town. This effort will continue into 2020-2021.

Coronavirus Response and Recovery

In immediate response to the abrupt business shutdown in mid-March, the EDC and the Economic Development Office focused efforts on providing information to the business community. Information about resources and support services for businesses and workers was sent via digital newsletter almost daily in March and was posted on the EDC website. As the flurry of information slowly diminished, updates were sent weekly through May and into June. Working with the Old Saybrook Chamber of Commerce (OSCC) and other community partners, the EDC promoted the weekly business roundtable discussions that the OSCC set up with the Emergency Operations Center to provide an opportunity for businesses to ask questions about the governor's executive orders and reopening guidelines.

The Town also wanted to provide an inviting public space where community members could feel connected yet still follow safety protocols. The EDC was approached with the idea of purchasing Adirondack chairs for the Town Green to create seating areas. The EDC purchased 20 Adirondack chairs and created four seating areas. The response was very positive; people felt welcome to meet in small groups on the Town Green and felt more connected to the larger community.

Working with the OSCC to encourage local support for businesses inspired three programs the EDC supported with funding and promotional assistance:

The Great Takeout Giveaway—The OSCC developed the Great Takeout Giveaway to support restaurants immediately following the business shutdown that reduced restaurant operations to take-out service only. The Great Takeout Giveaway encouraged individuals to buy takeout meals from any restaurant in Old Saybrook (the program was not limited to chamber member restaurants) and to submit their receipt via text or email to the OSCC. Each day, one receipt was drawn to receive a \$100 gift certificate to an OSCC member–restaurant. The program became so popular that other local organizations and individuals extended the program with subsequent donations.

Mother's Day Virtual & Curbside Shopping—A joint effort between the OSCC and the EDC, the EDC funded the advertising for a local Mother's Day buy local campaign to encourage purchasing gifts and gift certificates from local businesses.

Community Online Auction—The OSCC created an online auction to raise money for local businesses and nonprofits severely impacted by the business shutdown. More than \$14,000 was raised and distributed evenly among businesses and nonprofits that applied for a grant.

Toward the end of June, Old Saybrook's Coronavirus Long-term Recovery Taskforce created a working group to assess the needs of local businesses and provide assistance when possible to support the local economy. This Small

Business & Employment Working Group includes representatives from the EDC, community partners and business leaders. The group will continue its work for the duration of the pandemic.

The Commissioners 2019-2020

The Board of Selectmen appoints seven volunteer members to the EDC for five-year terms and two alternate volunteer members for two-year terms. The EDC works with a part-time staff member.

Thank you to James Keating who retired from the commission for his many years of service to the community. The EDC welcomed new member, David Prendergast, as an alternate. Thank you also to Matthew Pugliese, Carol Conklin and John DeCristoforo for their continued service on the executive committee.

The EDC wants to know what our business community needs to succeed. To discuss your business needs, concerns and ideas, contact Susie Beckman, economic development director, at (860) 395-3139 or susan.beckman@oldsaybrookct.gov.

Check out Old Saybrook's Economic Development Facebook Page! Use "@saybrookbiz" to find us.

Matthew Pugliese, *Chair*

Susie Beckman, *Economic Development Director*

EDUCATION, BOARD OF

(In compliance with C.G.S. § 10-224)

	Term Expires	Years of Service	Served Since
Tara Barros (R), <i>Chair</i>	2021	2	November 2017
Alan Hyla (R), <i>Vice Chair</i>	2023	4	May 2016
Karen Brodeur (D), <i>Secretary</i>	2021	26	October 1993
Eileen D. Baker (D)	2021	30	November 1989
Dr. George Chang (D)	2023	12	November 2007
James Henderson (R)	2023	4	November 2015
Jan Furman (R)	2021	2	November 2017
Karina Julius (R)	2023	2	September 2018
Cindy Sultini (R)	2023	2	September 2018

OLD SAYBROOK PUBLIC SCHOOLS STRATEGIC PLAN 2016-2021

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Old Saybrook Public Schools is to educate and prepare students to achieve their highest aspirations, care for others and the environment, and contribute to a global society by working in partnership with families and the community, and by engaging each learner in a personalized, meaningful, and rigorous educational program.

2016-2021 STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

Consistent implementation of a well-developed, state-of-the-art and fully articulated series of standards and outcomes for learning.

Innovative and highly focused instructional design and practices that maximize student engagement while streamlining student work to that which is meaningful and essential.

Proactive and flexible plans that respond to changing demographics including:

- Declining enrollment
- Increasing numbers of students who speak English as a second language
- Increasing social and emotional needs of students
- Increasing expense of education in a setting where the number of households with school-age children is declining

ACCOMPLISHMENTS DURING THE 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR

- The release of this year's Next Generation Accountability Index scores marked a significant jump in rankings for Old Saybrook Public Schools with the district placing ninth in the state overall this year.
- Governor Ned Lamont announced that Old Saybrook High School was among 41 high schools in Connecticut to have won the 2019 College Success Award by Great Schools, a national nonprofit organization that provides information on educational opportunities to parents.
- The Old Saybrook Board of Education voted to pilot the first year of a possible three-year Early Childhood Program expansion.
- The district launched a completely new website at www.oldsaybrookschools.org.
- The district launched its official Facebook Page, www.facebook.com/oldsaybrookschools.
- Two members of the Old Saybrook High School Class of 2020 were accepted into two of our nation's military academies.
- Two Old Saybrook Public Schools teachers were awarded a grant from the Rockfall Foundation, a Connecticut nonprofit organization with the mission of promoting and supporting environmental education and conservation in the Lower Connecticut River Valley.

Old Saybrook High School

- Advanced Placement Statistics from 2020: 84% scored a 3 or higher in a total of 118 exams taken; 52% scored 4 and above
- 10 Advanced Placement Courses in English, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science and World Languages are open to students in grades 10, 11 and 12. Five University of Connecticut Early College Experience Courses are also offered
- National Merit Scholarship Finalist Awardee from the Class of 2020
- Internships –71 juniors and seniors placed in internships through local businesses in 2019-20

- Boys Soccer – 2nd Consecutive Class S State Title
- Girls Indoor Track – Shoreline Conference Champions, second place at the state level
- Rapidly growing and successful Crew team (over 40 students) and Unified Sports Programs
- Multiple All-State Athletes and Dramatic Arts Awards
- Halo High School Theatre Award Nominations for 2019-20: 10 Categories
- Halo High School Theater Award Winners:
 - Best Stage Management
 - Best Male Standout Performance in an Ensemble Production
 - Above and Beyond Award
- Graduating seniors from the class of 2020 received more than \$200,000 in scholarships from the Old Saybrook community

Old Saybrook Middle School

- Connecticut Association of Schools Positive School Climate Status
- New England League of Middle Schools School Spotlight School recognition
- Departments continue to focus their priority standards and integrated 21st-century skills into their instruction
- Teachers promoted a growth mindset through instruction and teaching/assessment practices
- 88% of grades 6–8 students participated in extracurricular activities beyond the school day
- Professional development focused on standards-based instructional practices and constructivist teaching models
- CT school of distinction (high growth for all students in the areas of ELA, high growth for high needs students in the area of ELA)
- Continued progress in designing instructional environments to support 21st-century skills and student ownership for learning
- All students participated in distance learning for the last trimester of the school year in response to COVID-19
- Second annual STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math) day organized by the PTO for all students grades 5–8

Kathleen E. Goodwin School

- Goodwin School is aligned to all district planning, practices, and procedures in preparation for receiving students during the COVID-19 pandemic. Students are scheduled into cohort groups to minimize contact within other cohort groups. Building maps are in place for moving throughout the building, lunch and recess. Staff professional development activities are aligned to support teaching during the pandemic. A plethora of information has been shared with families in a variety of formats.
- Goodwin School offered a K–4 World Language Program and five special subject areas (Music, Art, Physical Education, Technology, Library)

- Science Day, Wellness Day, Fine Arts Day, Celebration of Reading, and Art and Ice Cream Night provide unique academic and social opportunities
- Active PTA-supported cultural arts and special programs
- Integration block is woven into specific content areas, which offered enhancements and increased rigor to the curriculum
- Bridges Math Program is fully integrated in all grade levels
- An additional Early Childhood Program classroom was added in 2020-2021
- Two English Language Learner Coordinators are on staff to assist with Old Saybrook's changing demographics
- After- and before-school programs provided by Parks and Recreation and YMCA Westbrook are hosted at Goodwin School

Jan Perruccio, Superintendent of Schools

ENROLLMENT FIGURES

Official Reporting Date

October 1, 2019

KATHLEEN E. GOODWIN SCHOOL

Early Childhood Program.....	55
Kindergarten.....	58
Grade 1.....	77
Grade 2.....	63
Grade 3.....	74
Grade 4.....	69
TOTAL.....	396

OLD SAYBROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL

Grade 5.....	105
Grade 6.....	74
Grade 7.....	90
Grade 8.....	101
TOTAL.....	370

OLD SAYBROOK HIGH SCHOOL

Grade 9.....	95
Grade 10.....	99
Grade 11.....	106
Grade 12.....	129
TOTAL.....	429

TOTAL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT..... 1,195

2019-2020 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Month	Number of Student Days	Days When School Is Not in Session and/or Early Dismissal Days
AUGUST	3	Convocation: August 26 Professional Development Days: August 26, 27, 28 First Day of School for Students: August 28
SEPTEMBER	20	Labor Day: September 2
OCTOBER	22	Early Dismissal/PD Half Day: October 4 Columbus Day: October 14
NOVEMBER	16	Professional Development: November 4, 5 Thanksgiving Break: November 27–29
DECEMBER	15	Early Dismissal/PD Half Day: December 6 Holiday Break: December 23–January 1
JANUARY	21	New Year’s Day: January 1 Early Dismissal/PD Half Day: January 10 Martin Luther King Day: January 20
FEBRUARY	17	Early Dismissal/PD Half Day: February 7 Winter Recess: February 17–19
MARCH	14	Professional Development: March 12, 13 Schools Closed Due to COVID-19–March 16–21 Distance Learning Began: March 23
APRIL	21	PD Half Day: April 3 Good Friday: April 10
MAY	19	PD Half Day: May 1 Memorial Day: May 25
JUNE	12	Last Day of School: June 16

TOTAL STUDENT SCHOOL DAYS: 180

Graduation for Old Saybrook High School and the last day for all students was on the 180th school day–June 16, 2020. (There was one inclement-weather day during the 2019-2020 school year. Three snow days were built into the school calendar and one of those days was used during the academic calendar year.)

**Old Saybrook High School
Graduating Class–June 2020**

Adams, Jack	Clemson University
Almada, Michael	University of Connecticut
Amara, Penelope	Clark University
Appiah, Bailey	Quinnipiac University
Archer, Haley	Eastern Connecticut State University
Babbidge, Jamie	Eastern Connecticut State University
Babij, Vincent	Employment
Baldi, Rachel	Employment
Balinskas, Anthony	Military/Eastern Connecticut State University
Barnes, Jonathan	Eastern Connecticut State University
Barros, Nicholas	Eastern Connecticut State University
Bergeron, William	University of Connecticut
Bjorkman, Brett	Hofstra University
Boucher, Dylan	Mitchell College
Bowden, Wendy	University of Saint Joseph
Breitenbach, Gretchen	Ithaca College
Brescia, Olivia	Sacred Heart University
Brodeur, Luke	Iona College
Brown, Davis	The University of Tampa
Bui, Peter	Employment
Carlo, Isabella	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cart, Mackenzie	Catholic University
Castro, Aliana	Quinnipiac University
Cecunjanin, Amina	Wesleyan University
Cody, Allison	Loyola University Maryland
Colella, Jack	St. Michaels
Conklin, Kathryn	Bryant University
Coppes, Cate	College of Charleston
Cote, Taylor	University of Connecticut
Czazasty, Margaret	University of Delaware
D'Ambrosi, Noah	Bryant University
DeAngelo, Cody	Stonehill College
DeCapua, Olivia	SUNY Morrisville
DeProto-Strobel, Binti	University of Montana
DeProto-Strobel, Halle	University of Massachusetts Boston
DiBella, Leo	University of Dallas
Dizenzo, Lindsey	Eastern Connecticut State University
Dohnert, Lazarus E.	Certified Nursing Assistant Training
Dorjee, Jampel G.	Princeton University

Eckhardt, Isabella	Employment
Fattorini, Alessandro	University of Connecticut
Fernandes, Edward	Mitchell College
Finnegan, Henry “Hank”	Armed Services within year
Gallitto, Gino	Purdue University-Main Campus
Gesick, Alexa	Wentworth Institute of Technology
Giannini, Alixandria	University of Hartford
Gibson, McKenna	University of Saint Joseph
Giugno, Audra	University of Connecticut
Gometz, Tucker	Employment
Gumpel-Jones, Willow	Mount Holyoke College
Hagelston, Patrick J.	University of Connecticut
Hall, Scott	Employment
Hallowell, Cassidy	Northeastern University
Hampton, Abby	Southern Connecticut State University
Hanratty, Grace	Clemson University
Hanratty, Luke	Boston University
Henderson, Katherine Hill	Georgetown University
Hilger, Garrett	Iona College
Hilger, Logan	Sacred Heart University
Hirst, Eva	Endicott College
Huckins, Cassidy Nicole	University of Connecticut
Kelley, Mara	Smith College
King, Matthew	Norwich Tech-Plumbing
Lacey-Giugno, Jack	Central Connecticut State University
Ladd, Connor	University of New Haven
Lampo, Paige	Bryant University
Lapierre, Danielle	Belmont University
Linder, Jake	University of Hartford
Luciani, Cooper	University of Cincinnati-Main Campus
Marineau, Tobias	St. Thomas More
Mariol, Elizabeth	Middlesex Community College
Maselli, Margaret	Hamilton College
Mason, Ian	United States Naval Academy
McDowell, Jack	Full Sail University
McGarrahan, Darby	Quinnipiac University
McLaughlin, Grace	Endicott College
Murphy, Justin	Three Rivers Community College
Murphy, Matthew	The University of Tampa
Nichols, Tyler	Gordon College
Noack, Griffin	University of Connecticut
Nobile, Selah	Jacksonville University
Norton, Abigail	Laguna College of Art & Design
Novakowski, Alexandra	Mitchell College
Novakowski, Tristan Elizabeth	Bryant University
O’Dell, Benjamin	University of Connecticut
Palko, Jenna	Eastern Connecticut State University

Palomeque, Steicy	Gateway Community College
Parrish, Tajanae	Southern Connecticut State University
Patel, Khushi	University of Connecticut
Pavlovich, Cooper	United States Coast Guard Academy
Pernal, Amanda	Sacred Heart University
Powers, Ryan	Roger Williams University
Rankin, Jayson	The University of Tampa
Rodriguez-Deras, Abner	Employment
Romano, Allison	Mitchell College
Root, Alexie	Eastern Connecticut State University
Root, Norman	New England Institute of Technology
Ryan, Shon	Stonehill College
Salemi, Nicholas	Middlesex Community College
Saunders, Austin	Employment
Schilke, Carissa	Bard College
Schulmeister, Colin	Wilkes University
Sheahan, Madeline	University of Florida
Sigersmith, Isabelle	Roger Williams University
Smirnow, Sydney	Eastern Connecticut State University
Smith, Lauren	Transition Program
Snyder, Casey	Florida Southwestern State College
Spadaccini, Evan	Porter and Chester
Stanley, Madelyn	Middlesex Community College
Stringer, Michael R.	Employment
Sultini, Julia	Clemson University
Sundara, David	University of Connecticut
Szucs, Autumn	Eastern Connecticut State University
Thomas, Timothy	Cairn University-Langhorne
Tiden, Alem	Housatonic Community College
Toney, Jacob	Military
Torres, Melanie	University of Connecticut
Uphold, Hannah	Employment
Walsh, Jack	Catholic University of America
White, Samantha	Military/Eastern Connecticut State University
Wilcox, Shawn	Middlesex Community College
Wysocki, Leah	Drexel University

OLD SAYBOOK BOARD OF EDUCATION OFFICE
50 Sheffield Street, Old Saybrook, CT 06475

2019-2020 STAFF

	2019-2020 Base Salary		Number of Years Employed in Old Saybrook Public Schools as of June 2020
Anderson, S.	\$74,945	Math Coach and Coordinator	20 years
Bai, K.	\$158,649	Director of Pupil and Professional Services	23 years
Berner, M.	\$48,796	Administrative Assistant	0 year
Buxton, T.	\$70,414	Computer Information Systems Manager	5 years
Chong, J.	\$62,000	Educational Data & Innovations Manager	1 year
Cunningham, M.	\$72,327	Athletic Director	4 years
Ferrance, S.	\$20,405	COTA	1 year
Gardner, M.	\$68,204	Chief Technology Officer (part-time)	5 years
Gerbers, T.	\$70,575	Superintendent's Executive Assistant	6 years
Goss, A.	\$158,549	Director Curric. Instruc. Assess.	5 years
LaPlant, J.	\$58,204	Social Worker	0 year
Listorti, P.	\$84,348	Business Assistant	24 years
Malinovsky, A.	\$51,121	IT Client Support Manager	10 years
Meyers, L.	\$62,723	Social Worker	1 year
Pendleton, J.	\$146,764	Director of Operations, Facilities, Finance	16 years
Perruccio, J.	\$188,006	Superintendent of Schools	7 years
So, E.	\$58,143	Payroll/Human Resource Assistant	3 years
Sternhardt, M.	\$55,733	Accounts Payable Bookkeeper	21 years
Using, C.	\$59,360	School to Career Coordinator	14 years
Walenciewicz, N.	\$11,308	Student Support Services Admin. Assistant	8 years
Williams, V.	\$39,983	Student Support Services Admin. Assistant	0 year
Zajac, C.	\$72,413	Special Education Professional Services Coord.	17 years

KATHLEEN E. GOODWIN SCHOOL
80 Old Boston Post Road

2019-2020 STAFF

	2019-2020 Base Salary		Number of Years Employed in Old Saybrook Public Schools as of June 2020
Bergeron, K.	\$7,276	Library Assistant (5 hrs/day, 180 days)	8 years
Day, Stacey	\$47,633	Secretary	5 years
Stack, L.	\$49,130	Secretary	5 years
Sutman, H.	\$154,947	Principal	16 years
Thomson, S.	\$9,887	Library Assistant (5 hrs/day, 180 days)	0 years

CERTIFIED TEACHING STAFF

Annino, M.	\$72,413	Grade 3	17 years
Ayer, J.	\$67,668	Special Education	14 years
Ayers, J.	\$89,266	Remedial Reading /Consumer and Family Science	24 years
Barnes, A.	\$69,415	Kindergarten	11 years
Bernhardson, S.	\$56,421	Visual Arts	2 years
Brodeur, J.	\$67,668	Grade 3	10 years
Canavan, E.	\$69,932	Grade 2	16 years
Collier, M.	\$94,621	Preschool Special Education	32 years
Coogan, J.	\$74,358	Speech and Language Pathologist	13 years
DeAngelo, K.	\$67,668	Grade 4	10 years

Doak, C.	\$69,932	Library Media Specialist	16 years
Dodds, J.	\$74,945	Grade 1	20 years
Eley, J.	\$87,638	Preschool Special Education	22 years
Fudge, S.	\$67,668	Grade 4 Special Education	10 years
Gage, H.	\$72,413	Grade 1	17 years
Geer, L.	\$88,113	Music	28 years
Goldstein, M.	\$79,089	Kindergarten	21 years
Goodhue, C.	\$93,288	Kindergarten	21 years
Hanratty, K.	\$77,052	Grade 4	13 years
Holecz, J.	\$72,413	Grade 3	19 years
Honer, C.	\$74,358	Grade 1	16 years
Iannini, L.	\$72,413	Remedial Reading Teacher	7 years
Johnson, J.	\$79,089	Grade 2	21 years
Kelley, C.	\$93,171	Physical Education	22 years
Kiessling, L.	\$60,620	Grade 4	12 years
King, D.	\$83,021	Speech and Language Pathologist	7 years
Lamarche, L.	\$60,637	Math Interventionist	4 years
Lemieux, K.	\$74,945	Grade 3	17 years
Marble-King, C.	\$92,289	Kindergarten/Grade 1 Spec Ed	20 years
McElhone, S.	\$94,521	Grade 2	20 years
Meade, J.	\$88,133	Preschool Special Education	30 years
Meder, D.	\$74,358	Remedial Reading Teacher	7 years
Muratori, L.	\$74,945	Grade 3	12 years
Oulahan, C.	\$37,691	World Language	0 year
Pajor, B.	\$83,321	Grade 2	21 years
Polito, L.	\$94,621	Grade 1	35 years
Ranaudo, D.	\$69,932	Kindergarten	13 years
Roberts, J.	\$86,683	Grade 2 Special Education	18 years
Rosenthal, M.	\$88,133	Preschool	35 years
Sawaryn, K.	\$57,972	Preschool Special Education	14 years
Snitkin, M.	\$17,743	World Languages	0 year
Sumby, E.	\$93,521	Grade 4	22 years
Tedesco, D.	\$74,310	Guidance Counselor	9 years
Trudeau, K.	\$40,601	Grade 2/Title I Math (part-time 60%)	13 years
Vazquez-McCoy	\$86,383	Bilingual	2 years
Webb, R.	\$67,668	Elementary Information Technology	8 years

OLD SAYBROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL
60 Sheffield Street
2019-2020 STAFF

	2019-2020 Base Salary		Number of Years Employed in Old Saybrook Public Schools as of June 2020
Bauchman, K.	\$153,757	Principal	2 years
Cromeenes, B.	\$48,187	Secretary	4 years
Davis, B.	\$26,561	Clerical/Library Media (7.75 hrs/day, 180 days)	11 years
Healey, C.	\$35,644	Secretary	0 year
Smith, M.	\$9,568	Secretary	12 years
Walton, M.	\$140,776	Associate Principal	18 years

CERTIFIED TEACHING STAFF

Carroll, M.	\$87,033	Grade 8 Language Arts	27 years
Caruthers, L.	\$60,914	Music	5 years
Castro, L.	\$73,342	Guidance Counselor	9 years
Chapman, S.	\$45,920	Visual Arts	0 year
Colquhoun, P.	\$83,321	World Languages	20 years
Conti, H.	\$72,413	Grade 5	11 years
Conti, T.	\$83,321	Music	17 years
Cross, K.	\$42,291	World Languages	0 year
Deeble, J.	\$70,000	Mathematics	0 year
Di Filippo, N.	\$71,888	Computer Literacy	5 years
Diaz, S.	\$93,871	Psychologist	10 years
Driscoll, D.	\$46,567	Grade 8 Science	9 years
Evans, K.	\$93,171	Grade 5	25 years
Fillion, M.	\$88,033	Grade 5	26 years
Gallerani, C.	\$74,945	Grade 6 Mathematics	19 years
Giegerich, J.	\$89,266	SRBI-Literacy	20 years
Goodale, C.	\$67,668	Grade 6 Language Arts	8 years
Hakim, J.	\$83,326	World Languages	21 years
Hanover, J.	\$72,467	Special Education	16 years
Hespeler, J.	\$60,914	Physical Education	6 years
Hunnewell, L.	\$79,089	Grade 5	17 years
Hurdis, H.	\$72,413	Special Education	11 years
Hutvagner, E.	\$37,218	Physical Education	0 year
Jenkins, K.	\$86,966	World Languages	17 years
Jutkiewicz, P.	\$87,033	Music	20 years
Kane, C.	\$93,521	Special Education	25 years
Kiefer, P.	\$87,383	Special Education	10 years
Labriola, R.	\$87,033	Grade 8 Social Studies	26 years
Livingston, K.	\$17,477	Physical Education	6 years
Looney, M.	\$89,266	Grade 7 Science	22 years
MacDonald, K.	\$74,945	SRBI-Numeracy	14 years
Marena, M.	\$66,932	Special Education	7 years
Marshall, P.	\$71,629	Grade 6 Language Arts	16 years
Maynard, A.	\$83,021	Special Education	2 years
Newton, H.	\$49,794	Visual Arts	4 years
O'Connor, J.	\$88,133	Speech and Language Pathologist	19 years
Ortiz, R.	\$25,041	Science	0 year
Pegnataro, D.	\$94,621	Library Media Specialist	32 years
Pesce, J.	\$66,932	Grade 7 Language Arts	11 years
Riley, M.	\$93,171	Grade 6 Science	22 years
Sagnella, N.	\$36,968	Technology	0 year
Saunders, B.	\$74,810	Health and Physical Education	17 years
Smith, P.	\$60,914	Grade 7 Language Arts	9 years
Snyder, J.	\$83,321	Grade 8 Language Arts	24 years
St. Germain, D.	\$79,089	Grade 5	18 years
Stanley, K.	\$71,129	Grade 7 Mathematics	13 years
Sullivan, E.	\$60,914	Grade 6 Social Studies	9 years
Taylor, J.	\$78,522	Guidance	17 years
Tooker, H.	\$86,383	Consumer and Family Science	2 years
Wood, T.	\$83,321	Grade 7 Social Studies	25 years
Yacovou, N.	\$69,414	Special Education	2 years
Yale, E.	\$89,266	Grade 5	19 years

OLD SAYBROOK HIGH SCHOOL
1111 Boston Post Road
2019-2020 STAFF

	2019-2020 Base Salary		Number of Years Employed in Old Saybrook Public Schools as of June 2020
Anastasio, J.	\$143,460	Associate Principal	5 years
Bonin, K.	\$30,889	Secretary	20 years
Brinkley, S.	\$50,136	Secretary	18 years
Christensen, E.	\$15,315	Library Media (5 hrs/day, 180 days)	1 year
Riffle, S.	\$166,647	Principal	7 years
Vanderveen, K.	\$57,349	Administrative Assistant	4 years

CERTIFIED TEACHING STAFF

Arsenault, T.	\$94,436	Social Studies	24 years
Bairos, C.	\$84,521	Library Media Specialist	21 years
Barnes, M.	\$75,256	Mathematics	0 year
Bell, K.	\$85,971	Computer Literacy & Business Education	21 years
Capezzone, P.	\$94,602	Special Education	28 years
Carlone, G.	\$83,021	Technology Education	7 years
Carlone, K.	\$79,364	Science	13 years
Claffey, A.	\$64,425	World Languages	12 years
Colella, K.	\$83,321	Special Education Transition	14 years
Dimberg, B.	\$95,560	Mathematics	16 years
Donahue, B.	\$74,358	Physical Education	12 years
Donnelly, K.	\$62,027	Language Arts	4 years
Durie, K.	\$64,450	Special Education	10 years
Emery, J.	\$53,997	Mathematics	5 years
Fawcett, S.	\$64,703	Cooperative Work Education & English	13 years
Flaherty, K.	\$48,027	Special Education	7 years
Flegar, M.	\$73,990	Language Arts	1 year
Glover, J.	\$77,052	Social Studies	18 years
Gowdy III, J.	\$58,667	Language Arts	4 years
Healy, M.	\$93,826	Guidance	23 years
Holthausen, G.	\$71,110	Psychologist	13 years
Howe, M.	\$89,353	Science	33 years
Hunter, K.	\$70,505	Literacy Interventionist	7 years
Johnston, C.	\$86,383	Special Education	2 years
Linn, T.	\$74,945	Business Education	23 years
McCarthy, M.	\$64,450	Psychologist	7 years
Menga, S.	\$69,609	Visual Arts	18 years
Milton, J.	\$69,414	Music	8 years
Munoz, S.	\$67,369	World Language	2 years
Payne, M.	\$65,407	Social Studies	12 years
Plotkin, D.	\$80,945	Science	9 years
Roarick, M.	\$88,346	Social Studies	24 years
Rowe, C.	\$66,066	Guidance	13 years
Santopietro, K.	\$46,794	Special Education	4 years
Santoro, L.	\$45,322	Consumer and Family Science	2 years
Scherber, A.	\$86,355	Science	16 years
Shearin, J.	\$61,684	Science	6 years
Sierra, C.	\$48,060	Health and Physical Education	4 years
Sousa, K.	\$89,563	Mathematics	24 years

Taylor, J.	\$72,413	Music	18 years
Torre, K.	\$60,914	Social Studies	2 years
Valletta, G.	\$71,382	Mathematics	16 years
Vautrain, E.	\$88,723	Language Arts	11 years
Westner, L.	\$72,413	Physical Education	19 years
Woods, S.	\$88,133	Special Education	23 years
Zimberlin, M.	\$65,381	Science	4 years
Zukowski, E.	\$63,160	Technology Education	7 years
Zumbaum, M.	\$76,121	World Language	11 years

Please note: for the purpose of this report, where applicable, the years of service have been rounded off. The base salaries of the certified teaching staff vary according to educational degrees as well as years of service, as stated in the Professional Agreement between the Old Saybrook Board of Education and the Old Saybrook Education Association for the period of September 1, 2018 through August 31, 2020. Unless noted otherwise, non-certified administrative and school support staff members are employed for twelve months a year at 40 hours per week.

OLD SAYBROOK PUBLIC SCHOOLS MEDICAL SERVICES

Dr. Nicholas Condulis, School Medical Advisor

2019–2020 Base Salary (35 hrs. wk/10 months)		Number of Years Employed in Old Saybrook Public Schools as of June 2020	
Nursing Staff			
Prast, J.	\$8,756	Middle School	0 year
MacLeod, N.	\$44,161	St. John School/Children's Tree School (85%)	19 years
Milone, C.	\$49,622	OS High School	1 year
Swaoger, J.	\$42,376	Kathleen Goodwin School	1 year
VanDerHorst, K.	\$55,513	OS Middle School & Nurse Coordinator	15 years

OLD SAYBROOK PUBLIC SCHOOLS MAINTENANCE AND CUSTODIAL STAFF

2019–2020 Base Salary (40 hrs. wk/12 months)		Number of Years Employed in Old Saybrook Public Schools as of June 2020	
Kathleen Goodwin School			
Choegyual, T.	\$3,443	Custodian (part-time 50%)	1 year
Farrel, K.	\$56,361	Custodian	8 years
Stone, C.	\$62,167	Head Custodian	27 years
Stopa, T.	\$56,613	Custodian	12 years
Tsering, D.	\$8,157	Custodian (part-time 50%)	16 years
Old Saybrook Middle School			
Faulkingham, M.	\$63,341	Head Custodian & District Custodial Coordinator	26 years
Girardi, A.	\$56,739	Custodian	16 years
Opporto, A.	\$14,638	Custodian (part-time 50%)	0 year
Longley, W.	\$3,413	Custodian (part-time 50%)	12 years
Tasillio, T.	\$56,854	Custodian	7 years

Old Saybrook High School

Brigante, D.	\$57,053	Custodian	11 years
Brinkley, P.	\$23,234	Custodian (part-time 50%)	1 year
Diaz, J.	\$56,906	Custodian	23 years
Franklin, M.	\$56,739	Custodian	15 years
Mitchell, D.	\$63,341	Head Custodian	24 years
Redmond, L.	\$29,397	Custodian (part-time 50%)	1 year
Tasillio, J.	\$53,951	Custodian	4 years

Grounds Maintenance—All Schools

Peterson, B.	\$59,673	Grounds and Maintenance Custodian	23 years
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District Maintenance—All Schools

Faulkingham, A.	\$74,722	Maintenance	16 years
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**OLD SAYBROOK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FOOD SERVICES STAFF**

School Food Service is a self-funded activity.

	2019–2020 Base Salary		Number of Years Employed in Old Saybrook Public Schools as of June 2020
Nuzzo, M.	\$90,292	Food Service Director (12 months)	10 years
Nuzzo, M.	\$36,315	Catering Director	

St. Johns School

Delgiudice, R.	\$15,508	Chef/Manager	2 years
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Kathleen Goodwin School

Bossie, D.	\$5,034	Chef/Manager (6 months)	1 year
Brodeur, R.	\$19,086	Chef/Manager (4 months)	0 year
Sullivan, M.	\$8,957	Food Service Helper	1 year

Old Saybrook Middle School

Donohue, D.	\$13,045	Chef/Manager	4 years
Kanizaj, B.	\$10,704	Food Service Helper	17 years
Daponte, E.	\$7,204	Food Service Helper	1 year

Old Saybrook High School

Acquarulo, D.	\$17,027	Chef/Manager	0 year
Brown, A.	\$13,393	Food Service Helper	11 years
Courtney, G.	\$6,204	Food Service Helper	3 years
Britt, M.	\$515	Food Service Helper (part-time 50%)	3 years

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The Old Saybrook Office of Emergency Management continues to be home to one of the most proactive municipal emergency management programs in the State of Connecticut. Our emergency planning team is comprised of public safety professionals who possess a diverse knowledge base of emergency planning and crisis-management experience. This office is responsible for homeland security and emergency/crisis planning for the Town of Old Saybrook. Its staff continues to seek out opportunities to make Old Saybrook a disaster-resistant

community. These efforts benefit the residents, visitors, and business owners of our special community.

The office maintains, within budgetary and storage space constraints, emergency response equipment that can be deployed at a moment's notice to assist our community in times of crisis. These supplies include bottled water, sheltering supplies, showering supplies, traffic direction equipment, public health emergency response equipment, and signage to assist with communications during an emergency.

Personnel from the Office of Emergency Management have responded to many emergencies this past year, assisting members of the Department of Police Services, the Old Saybrook Fire Department and the Old Saybrook Ambulance Association. At each emergency scene, Old Saybrook emergency management personnel serve as members of the unified command team tasked with mitigating an emergency/crisis. Additionally, emergency management personnel are responsible for coordinating regional, state, federal and private resources that are vital to the mitigation and recovery effort of any emergency.

This past year proved to be one of the most challenging yet, as the office became responsible for coordinating the Town's response and recovery to the COVID-19 public health pandemic. Unprecedented times called for an unprecedented response. At the onset of the public health emergency, First Selectman Carl P. Fortuna, Jr. declared a local state of emergency and appointed Chief Michael A. Spera to serve as the incident commander for the Town's response and recovery efforts in relation to the pandemic. The Emergency Operations Center was activated and staffed by public safety dispatchers. Virtual command/control operations were initiated and daily meetings of the Town's Public Safety Leadership Team were held and chaired by the incident commander. The Public Safety Leadership Team is comprised of the first selectman, the director of emergency management, and leaders from the Police Department, the Fire Department, the Ambulance Association, Youth and Family Services, Old Saybrook Public Schools, the Finance Department, and the Connecticut River Area Health District.

The Emergency Operations Center began a COVID-19 newsletter that has been published for the past 73 days (as of June 30, 2020). The newsletter has become an important source of information for the Old Saybrook community concerning all matters related to the public health emergency. This crisis communication service is very unique to Old Saybrook yet very important for our "One Voice/One Message" philosophy during a crisis or emergency.

Emergency management, in an effort to prevent the community spread of COVID-19, procured personal protective equipment (PPE) for the community and held two "Mask for All" events, one for residents and one for businesses. Both events were extremely successful and resulted in the distribution of more than 16,000 FDA-approved, three-ply surgical masks. Thanks to incredible donations, the Emergency Operations Center was also responsible for many activities to keep spirits up for our community while promoting emergency public health messaging designed to keep our citizens healthy. This included organizing and coordinating well-being checks for many of our elderly residents, including the delivery of PPE baskets. During these deliveries, we identified a

significant number of elderly residents who could not leave their homes and were very lonely. This list was provided to Youth and Family Services who kept in touch with these fine individuals throughout the quarantine, providing much needed human connection. We also delivered “May Flowers” to one resident on each street in Old Saybrook. This provided an opportunity for us to check in, street by street, finding folks that needed assistance who were reluctant to ask for help. Thanks to the “Neighbor Helping Neighbor” outreach campaign, all who needed resources were provided with assistance. We were also able to send “get well” baskets to those who were sadly diagnosed with COVID-19 and to others who were anonymously identified as persons that needed some “sunshine” delivered to them. Other activities categorized as “EOC Fun” included contests that awarded winners pizza and ice cream cake for showing their “True Love,” decorating their front doors, submitting pictures to spread public health messaging, showing off their smiles and, of course, dressing up their pets as essential workers. We also collected inspirational messages and pictures for the residents of Old Saybrook’s convalescent hospitals and rehabilitation facilities.

The office is also responsible for the collection and dissemination of PPE to our community’s public safety professionals. Due to sound planning, Old Saybrook never experienced a shortage of PPE for our public safety responders. While COVID-19 is still presenting a challenge for our community we are proud to be maintaining a low transmission rate of the deadly virus. We credit our residents and business owners for being proactive and adhering to emergency alerts, recommendations, and “rules” that we are communicating. The office continues aggressive and proactive measures to limit the community spread of COVID-19 in Old Saybrook. In time, we will transition from responding to this crisis to recovering from the public health disaster. This will include applying for FEMA reimbursement for all eligible costs, assisting with reopening activities for the public and private sectors, and leading the Town’s Long-term Recovery Taskforce.

The director continues as the longest-serving president of the Connecticut Emergency Management Association (CEMA). CEMA is the sole professional association for emergency management, emergency preparedness, and homeland security professionals in the State of Connecticut. The association, which represents all Connecticut municipalities and tribal nations, is responsible for advocating for the emergency management/homeland security profession both legislatively and operationally. The deputy director of emergency operations continues to oversee the Town’s Emergency Operations Center, which serves as the command and control center for the Office of the First Selectman and the Town’s Public Safety Leadership Team during a disaster. There have been many new challenges to managing a virtual Emergency Operations Center, each of which was mitigated with ease by the deputy director. The Emergency Operations Center is essential during a major emergency response and continues to be in an “activated status,” in operational period #214 as of June 30, 2020. (There are two, twelve-hour operational periods each day.)

The Old Saybrook Office of Emergency Management receives tremendous support from and enjoys positive working relationships with the Board of Selectman, Old Saybrook Department of Police Services, Old Saybrook Fire

Department, Old Saybrook Ambulance Association, Old Saybrook Board of Education, the Department of Public Works and the Connecticut River Area Health District. We thank the members of these associations and departments for their dedication and willingness to serve the citizens and visitors of the Town of Old Saybrook.

Michael A. Spera, *Director*

ESTUARY COUNCIL OF SENIORS

The Estuary Council of Seniors, Inc. (ECSI) is a nonprofit regional senior center located at 220 Main Street in Old Saybrook with congregate café sites in Killingworth, Lyme/Old Lyme, Old Saybrook and Clinton. Since 1974, the ECSI's mission has been to promote quality of life, community involvement, and independent living for people aged 50 and over. Last year the ECSI provided over 81,000 nutritious meals including over 54,000 home-delivered Meals on Wheels, over 21,000 congregate meals, and 542 rides to medical outpatient appointments outside the nine-town Estuary Region. Also, 1,800 individuals received free preventative health screenings and participated in social and exercise programs.

In addition to our essential senior services, ECSI is a fun place for mature residents to exercise, dance, play cards, go on trips together, get a massage or facial, hear an interesting lecture, attend an art exhibit, get a haircut, take a painting class, join a book club or writers' group, volunteer, shop at the Thrift Shop, use our fitness center, or just sit and enjoy our beautiful view. ECSI has a lovely, large facility that welcomes senior residents of the Estuary Region. All in all, we had more than 112,000 visits to our center in the reported timeframe for meals, activities, support and fun.

During the reporting period for the Town of Old Saybrook, the Estuary served 77 residents a total of 9,900 home-delivered meals and an additional 222 residents joined us for 5,000 congregate meals. Our Emergency Medical Outpatient Transportation provided 49 individuals with 274 rides to medical appointments. We had more than 35,000 visits by a total of 3,220 people overall to the center from residents of the Town of Old Saybrook.

ECSI is funded in part by contributions from the generosity of the nine towns in the Estuary Region, Senior Resources Agency on Aging with Title III funds made available under the Older Americans Act, grants, donations, and fundraising efforts. I would like to thank the Town of Old Saybrook for its continued support of our programs.

For information and schedules of our services and programs, please call (800) 388-1611 weekdays from 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. and Saturday 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. or visit our website at www.ecsenior.org. If you do not already receive our monthly newsletter, please call us and we'll be happy to add you to our mailing list or send it electronically. The newsletter is also downloadable from our website. We are pleased to continue to serve the residents of the Town of Old Saybrook and to be an integral part of services for seniors in the Estuary Region.

COVID-19 Update

Thank you for your continued support of the Estuary Council of Seniors, Inc. (ECSI) and the seniors of Old Saybrook. ECSI provides valuable services to many seniors along the shoreline and, although we have had to interrupt our programming because of COVID-19, we have continued our vital Meals on Wheels program and have instituted a “Grab & Go” meal service for those who would normally participate in a congregate lunch at one of our café sites. Just in the months of May and June 2020, ECSI prepared and served 15,000 meals to the community.

Our meal numbers rise each week as requests from folks who are not yet comfortable going out to a grocery store, or anywhere for that matter, have come pouring in.

Rest assured that the Estuary Council of Seniors, Inc. will continue serving meals so that no senior will suffer from food insecurity during this uncertain time.

Stan Mingione, *Executive Director*

ESTUARY TRANSIT DISTRICT

The Estuary Transit District (ETD) was formed in 1981 by the nine towns of the Connecticut River Estuary Region. The nine towns include Clinton, Chester, Deep River, Essex, Killingworth, Lyme, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, and Westbrook. ETD’s mission is to provide local, coordinated public transportation for all residents of the area. To meet this goal, ETD operates public transit under the name 9 Town Transit (9TT) and XtraMile.

The Estuary Transit District is governed by a board of directors. Each member town appoints one representative who serves in a voluntary capacity to adopt policy, set budgets and conduct long-term planning for the district. Regular board meetings are held on the third Friday of every other month at 9:30 a.m. at the ETD. All meetings are open to the public.

ETD’s five routes serve the main corridors of the region and provide connections to public transit providers serving the surrounding regions. Door-to-door service is provided throughout all nine towns of the Estuary Region as well as the towns of Durham, East Haddam, and Haddam through its Dial-A-Ride service. In addition, ETD provides a taxi voucher program to provide half-price taxi trips to seniors and people with disabilities and is also the operator of the Clinton Trolley.

ETD’s services are subsidized by federal, state and local funding. This allows for inexpensive fares of \$1.75 for deviated fixed routes, \$.85 for people with disabilities, and \$3.50 for Dial-A-Ride. Students of participating state colleges and universities may ride any route for free with a UPass. ETD also receives a Title III grant through the area agency on aging which allows area senior citizens to ride any ETD service on a donation basis in lieu of the fare. Nearly 100,000 passenger trips were provided during the fiscal year.

This fiscal year, ETD began a new and innovative pilot service in Old Saybrook, Westbrook and Essex under the XtraMile brand. XtraMile provides on-demand service within the service area to passengers who schedule the bus through a smartphone app or by phone, with no advance scheduling required. The service area was designed to connect the Westbrook and Old Saybrook train stations to residential areas and employers in the region and has been an incredible success.

ETD worked with the Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments on a study of the countywide transit needs to determine the best model for providing public transit in the 17-town region going forward. The study provided many service and governance improvement suggestions that will be implemented over the next two to three years.

ETD was also severely impacted by COVID-19 during the year. Ridership on all of ETD's services declined significantly throughout the spring and early summer, though all services remained in operation. While the EDT did incur substantial expenses and revenue loss, the federal CARES Act provided federal funds that will fill this gap for the foreseeable future.

Joseph Comerford, *Executive Director*

Board of Directors

Noel Bishop	Westbrook
Joan Gay, <i>Vice-Chair</i>	Killingworth
Susan Tyler, <i>Secretary</i>	Lyme
Vacant, <i>Treasurer</i>	Old Lyme
Charlie Norz	Old Saybrook
Peter Bierrie	Essex
Angus McDonald	Deep River
Leslie Strauss, <i>Chair</i>	Chester
Virginia Zawoy	Clinton

Administrative Staff

Joseph Comerford, *Executive Director*
 Margaret Gomez, *Operations Manager*
 Halyna Famiglietti, *Finance Manager*

FINANCE DIRECTOR

The outbreak of the coronavirus during Fiscal Year (FY) 20 had a significant effect on the manner in which the Town conducted its business during the outbreak. From a financial perspective the virus affected virtually every element of the way the Town received revenues, paid for expenses and transacted business. Despite the negative impacts of this pandemic, the financial condition of the Town remains strong. Expenses were carefully managed and the overall General Fund budget for FY20 ended well within its limits generating a surplus of \$.7 million.

While the pandemic was quick to hit the economy and everyday life, the Town was prepared. Over the course of the last several years, the Town has been steadily moving toward a more automated manner of doing business. Payroll was brought in house and 100% of our employees receive their pay through direct deposit—no paper checks to touch. Electronic purchase orders were implemented, which revamped the process from a 100% paper-based process to an electronic approval through the Town’s upgraded accounting system, which was implemented in 2017. Paper-based timesheets were replaced with a timekeeping system last year. Employees can “punch in” through their computer, phone or a timeclock and electronically submit their time.

Continuing with the theme of automation, during FY20, the Finance Department issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Banking Services. The Town had not performed a search for banking services for more than 20 years. Given the advances in technology and reduced effectiveness of traditional fraud prevention techniques, the banking industry had developed new tools to assist municipalities to better manage their banking needs. The Town chose to partner with Webster Bank for banking services. As part of this search, the Town identified five areas of service that would either be a new service or require a high level of automation and change. The areas included 1) credit card processing for all town transactions; 2) lock box services for tax payments; 3) remote deposit capture, *i.e.* a process to electronically deposit checks; 4) automated payment systems, *e.g.* the ability to take payments over the website or pay accounts payable; 5) risk management and best practices. As the Town implements these services during FY21, residents will notice enhanced options for payment and a lessening of the need to use cash.

The Town’s budget calendars for FY21, as well as its operations, were modified by the events associated with the coronavirus. Specifically, as it relates to the budget process and the mandate to avoid congregations, Governor Lamont’s Executive Order 7c was implemented and, as outlined in that executive order, the FY21 budget was approved by the Town’s legislative body, the Board of Finance. The mill rate associated with this budget was increased from 19.75 to 20.05. The slight increase in the mill rate was due to a combination of prudently managed expenses and an increase in the value of the Grand List. The total budget for FY21 represented an increase of 1.08% over the FY20 budget. The approved budget was designed to: keep expenses in check while providing the Town with crucial services; support key financial strategies aimed at minimizing long-term liabilities; and to continue the dedication to funding capital programs.

Over the past several years, and in accordance with the Board of Finance’s Fund Balance Policy to target a budget reserve fund balance of 15%, the Town has worked toward building its rainy day fund from a rate of 6.5% in 2012 to its current projected level of approximately 15.5% of the FY20 budget, thereby exceeding the policy objective. The attainment of the budget reserve goal, prudent budget practices, and the building of capital and reserves all contributed to a strong financial foundation that will provide the Town with the financial tools it may need to navigate through difficult or uncertain economic periods.

Lee Ann Palladino, Finance Director

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Old Saybrook Fire Department (OSFD) is composed of a completely volunteer force of 87 members. We responded to 439 incidents for the fiscal year of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. The majority of the members are fire-fighters and the remaining are support members and juniors. Many man hours go into maintaining proficiency and state certifications. The majority of training is performed at the Fireman's Field training facility located on Elm Street. This training facility is supported totally by private donations.

Each day our members assist citizens and visitors to Old Saybrook and many of the incidents are uneventful. The OSFD also responds to neighboring towns to assist with rescues and structure fires. Due to our 12 miles of coastline, the Old Saybrook fire boat also responds to numerous marine calls and rescues in the Connecticut River and the Long Island Sound.

Members of the Old Saybrook Fire Department are listed below.

Line Officers

Joseph Johnson, *Chief of Department*
 Steve Lesko, *Deputy Chief*
 James Dion, *Assistant Chief of Apparatus*
 William Heiney, *Assistant Chief of Training*
 Ben Bagnati, *Captain of Apparatus*
 Todd Steward, *Captain of Training*
 Liam Duncan, *Training Lieutenant*
 Nate Minegar, *Training Lieutenant*
 Greg Pereira, *Engine Lieutenant*
 Bill DeCapua, *Rescue Lieutenant*
 Michael O'Neil, *Ladder Lieutenant*
 Thomas H. Heinssen, Jr., *Marine Lieutenant*

Past Chiefs Still Serving

Wayne Wysocki, *Past Chief 1983-1985*
 Jeff True, *Past Chief 2003-2007*
 Clark Maxson, *Past Chief 2007-2010*
 John T. Dunn, *Past Chief 2010-2015*
 Jay C. Rankin, *Past Chief 2015-2018*

Administrative Officers

John T. Dunn, *President*
 Jackie Garity, *Vice President*
 Anthony Cronin, *Secretary*
 Edmund Yeager, *Treasurer*

Firefighters

Davis Boyd	Mike Franklin	Don Lucas
John Romano	Coleman Bushnell	John Guarnaccia
David MacNeill	Anthony Ruitto	Christopher Cestaro
Pat Hanley	Kelsey Maynard	Ron Selines
Scott Colonghi	Jocelyn Hanley	James Milspaugh
Geoff Sinibaldo	Matt Colwell	Erik Heiney

Nate Minegar	Mike Spera	Eric Duncan
Thomas H. Heinszen	Richard M. Mulvihill	Peter Sullivan
Conor Duncan	Jonathan Kehew	Geoff Nosal
Brian Toolan	Jack Dunn	David LaMay
Todd Pompea	Dennis Truesdale	Mark Finnegan
Tom Lemire	William Rochette	Bruce Watford
Liam Finnegan	Tom Listorti	Katie Rochette
Ed Yeager	Paul Listorti	Chris Loader
Tom Rochette	Lou Rolon	

Probationary Firefighters

Tyler Bates	Nolan Heiden	Charles Vigorita
Anthony DiPasquale	Matthew J. King	
Fernando Guimaraes	Madeline Sheahan	

Junior Firefighters

Anthony Baldino	Hank Finnegan	James Colwell
Jayson Rankin	Joseph Sinibaldo	
Hennessy Cook, <i>Captain</i>		
Emiley Wilson, <i>Lieutenant</i>		

Support Members

David Faulkner	Eric Messner	Richard Scierka, Jr.
Steve Goodstine	Max Sabrin	Bill True
Andy Greene	Bill Schneider	

A breakdown of responses for the fiscal year are shown below.

Misc. Fires	2
Building Fires	3
Cooking Fires	14
Chimney or Flue Fires	2
Vehicle Fires	3
Boat Fire	1
Brush or Grass Fires	9
Outside Rubbish Fires / Special	12
Overpressure / Explosion	1
Medical Assists	10
Motor Vehicle Accidents with Injuries	43
Motor Vehicle Accident with Extrication	3
Motor Vehicle Accident with No Injuries	25
Other Rescue / Special Incident	6
Search for Missing Person on Land	1
Search for Missing Person in Water	1
Watercraft Rescues	4
Hazardous Condition	1
Electrocution or Potential Electrocution	1
Gas or Liquid Spill	14

Carbon Monoxide Incident	8
Electrical or Wiring Problem	6
Powerline Down / Arcing	14
Building / Structure Collapsed	3
Person in Distress	1
Water Problem	3
Smoke in a Residence or Building	9
Unauthorized Burning	2
Controlled Burning	5
Mutual Aid to Cover Other Towns	27
Good Intent Call & False Alarm	45
Smoke Detector Sounding	143
CO Detector Sounding	14
Special Type Incidents	2
Bomb Scare	1
Total Responses	439
Estimated Damage from Fire	\$2,500,000

**Mutual Aid Received
from Other Towns**

Chester	1
Clinton	3
Deep River	1
East Lyme	1
Essex	5
Westbrook	7
Old Lyme	6

**Mutual Aid Provided
to Other Towns**

Clinton	3
Deep River	1
East Haddam	1
East Lyme	6
Essex	6
Haddam	1
Lyme	2
Westbrook	10
Old Lyme	3

Statistics of incidents unfortunately don't paint the true picture of the property and people assisted throughout the year by the Town's firefighters. Each day our members assist citizens and visitors to Old Saybrook and many of the incidents are uneventful. Some make their way into the paper.

On December 6, 2019, the OSFD was dispatched to a reported garage fire in the Chalker Beach area of town. Upon arrival of the OSFD, strong winds coming off the water caused a wind-driven fire to eventually destroy two houses completely and damage two adjoining houses. Mutual aid was provided by several area fire departments. OSFD's fire boat provided water from Long Island Sound during this event to help the units on land extinguish the fire.

During the summer months, the OSFD responds to many CO detector activation calls. During some of these responses, the OSFD notices that the alarms in houses are being activated by golf carts. Old Saybrook is a community where golf carts are a common sight on the roads. The OSFD warns residents with golf carts that charging batteries that are low on water or overcharging batteries can cause a dangerous buildup of hydrogen gas. Hydrogen gas is ODORLESS and COLORLESS. You won't know it's there. When it builds up in your home

or garage it can result in asphyxiation, fire, and explosion. People can experience the same sickness symptoms as carbon monoxide poisoning such as nausea, headache, and vertigo. It is very important to follow the manufacturer's recommendations for maintaining your batteries. The OSFD recommends ventilating the garage or room when you are charging your golf cart. Leave the garage window open to the outside or leave your garage door partially open. Expose the batteries by lifting up the seat of the golf cart when charging. Failing to ventilate can allow the hydrogen gas to build up and migrate through small openings, cracks, and crevices into your home. If the concentration of gas finds an ignition source it could cause a fire or explosion. In most cases the detector that is activated is located in the living space of the residences. Install a carbon monoxide detector in the garage or room where you charge your electric golf cart immediately.

Joseph W. Johnson, *Chief of Department*

FIRE MARSHAL

The Office of the Fire Marshal continues to be busy reviewing new construction and renovation projects as well as performing annual commercial inspections as required by the State Fire Code. These inspections include hotels, motels, mercantile, liquor establishments, restaurants and all apartments. The number of inspections totals approximately 1,100 to 1,300 businesses, some of which require yearly inspections and others that rotate on a four-year cycle.

In addition, the Fire Marshal's Office undertook a large-scale reorganization of its files to preserve required records and dispose of outdated information. Thanks go to Rebecca Zychowski for her tireless efforts on this project.

The Fire Marshal's Office also is a sponsor of the Town's Fire Safety Week activities. Last year more than 460 students in preschool through third grade received visits from the Fire Department and educational materials provided by this office to show kids how to behave in a fire emergency and to familiarize them with firefighters and their equipment.

We continually look for ways to educate business groups, civic organizations and any other persons in need of fire safety education. Families and home safety are our number-one priority. We strive to ensure that whether you live in or just visit the Town of Old Saybrook your time here will be amongst the safest for you and your family.

Please keep in mind the following tips to minimize the risk of fire damage to your home or business:

- Make sure all smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors have fresh batteries before winter. Remember to change your batteries when you change your clocks! It will save your life by getting you up and out of a dangerous and toxic environment.
- Have your fuel systems serviced and checked by a licensed professional either prior to or during the heating season. It is imperative to have heating sources checked over prior to using them for the heating season.

- Please follow the guidelines for the House Numbering Ordinance:
 - 1) numbers should be at least 3” in height;
 - 2) numbers should be a contrasting color to the house or building;
 - 3) numbers should be numeric figures;
 - 4) if a home or business is far off the street, a supplemental number on a post, mailbox, or fence should be used to make it more visible to emergency responders.
- Candles are very pretty and aromatic. However, be sure to blow them out when you leave the room or go to bed and avoid the use of them in the bedroom or other areas where people may fall asleep. Please keep them at least 12 inches away from anything that can burn.
- Don’t forget a safety escape plan for you and your family in the event of a fire or home incident. Know at least two ways out of a room if possible and make sure all doors and windows open easily for your access or for the Fire Department. Have an outside meeting location so all family members know where to go no matter what the emergency incident is. Remember to close the doors on the way out of the house and review this safety plan regularly with children and the elderly. Remember, if the smoke alarm sounds GET OUT AND STAY OUT AND CALL 911.

For more information regarding this office, please visit www.oldsaybrookct.org and select Fire Marshal.

Peter Terenzi, *Fire Marshal*

HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

The Town of Old Saybrook has the longest coastline of any community in Connecticut, and its Harbor Management Commission (HMC) works to address issues affecting management of all Old Saybrook harbors and waterfronts. The HMC’s responsibilities include the Town’s harbor management jurisdictions on the Connecticut River, North Cove, South Cove, near-shore Long Island Sound, and other navigable waters seaward of the mean high-water line identified in the Harbor Management Plan approved by the state and adopted by the Town in 2003.

HMC duties and responsibilities include all matters relating to the development, improvement, expansion, and management of public and private waterfront areas in Old Saybrook. The HMC works closely with the state’s harbor master in the course of carrying out its responsibilities. This includes activities for overseeing the allocation and use of mooring locations, the use and condition of certain town waterfront facilities, including the town dock, ramp and landing at North Cove; the Clothesline Marina on North Cove Road; the Ferry Dock facility; and the management of the Town’s Harbor Management Fund established under the Harbor Management Plan. The HMC does not have a full-time office in the Town Hall but provides assistance via telephone or email contact with either Commission Clerk Jennifer Donahue or Dock Master Scott Mitchell.

In the winter of 2017–2018, North Cove was dredged by the Army Corp of Engineers. After the dredging was completed, the depth of the channel entering North Cove and the eastern portion of the cove was 11 feet and the depths in the balance of the cove were 6 feet. The dredging was critical to maintaining the viability of this important waterside resource, which is the only designated Harbor of Refuge on Long Island Sound between New London and New Haven. There were 146 moorings placed in the dredged portion of North Cove this season. Three of the 146 moorings are town moorings which are available free of charge to transient boaters on a first-come-first-served basis.

The HMC completed modifications to the Sheffield Street facility during the winter of 2019–2020. The modifications included raising the elevation of the existing grade of the facility, fabrication and installation of a new floating dinghy dock, fabrication and installation of a new gangway, and construction of new dinghy racks. A kayak rack was also added as part of a pilot program to provide easy access to the water for town residents to enjoy this popular boating option. The cost of the project was \$127,502. The project was funded by fees collected by the commission for moorings and town-owned slips.

Commissioners reviewed a number of applications during the year including three certificates of permission and five proposed zoning changes as well as a LWRD license request for Amtrak. In addition, commissioners worked with the town attorney to clarify the Town Code as it relates to the powers, duties and responsibilities of the HMC, resulting in an addition to Article XI Section 8-56 of the Town Code. Upcoming plans include offering online registration and fee payment for HMC facilities as well as a review of the Harbor Management Plan and an assessment of future capital improvements to waterfront facilities.

The commission currently consists of members Robert Murphy, chair; Paul Connolly, secretary; Robert Soden; David Cole and Lou Vinciguerra. Scott Mitchell serves as both dock master for the town and state harbor master appointed by the governor. As harbor master, Scott sits as a nonvoting ex-officio member of the commission. Jennifer Donahue serves as commission clerk and provides clerical support for the commission. The HMC generally meets in the second-floor conference room of Town Hall or by Zoom meeting on the third Monday of each month, with specific meeting dates and times posted on the town website.

The Old Saybrook Harbor Management Commission is dedicated to its charge to achieve a safe and balanced use of the harbor area and protection of environmental quality in its areas of jurisdiction.

Robert Murphy, *Chair*

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

The U.S. Department of Interior's National Park Service and the Connecticut General Assembly empower the Historic District Commission to promote the educational, cultural, economic and general welfare of the Town through the preservation and protection of buildings, places and districts of historic interest.

The Old Saybrook Town Code authorizes the commission to review designs for the erection or alteration of the exteriors of buildings and structures within any local historic district for regulatory compliance—the Town adopted the North Cove Historic District in 1985.

The Board of Selectmen appoints five members and three alternates to the commission for a term of five years each.

During the 2020 fiscal year, the commission held eight meetings at which it approved eight applications for Certificate of Appropriateness for the erection, alteration, demolition or removal of the exterior architectural features of principal or accessory buildings, structures, or other work on properties visible from a public place in the North Cove Historic District or adjacent waters.

The commission continues to conduct non-regulatory historic preservation activities. This year, the commission undertook assessment of how to preserve a historic commercial wall sign for Crowley Real Estate, a reminder of a time when Old Saybrook was developing quickly as a destination for summer vacation homes.

The commission meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall, second-floor conference room. Thomas Makowicki, building official, assists with applications and enforces our regulations.

William A. Childress, *Chair*

OLD SAYBROOK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Dedicated to Preserving, Protecting and Promoting the History of Old Saybrook

It was a year for the history books and by March 2020 it became obvious that this would be an unusual and unprecedented year as we all “masked up” and kept our social distances.

Many planned and proposed activities were cancelled including the Antiques and Treasures Auction, the Tour of Houses, U.S. Coast Guard Concert, cemetery tours, and the Chapman Lectures. The Gen. Wm. Hart House and exhibit gallery was closed. The Archives was closed and later opened on a limited basis.

On the positive side, the Heritage Gardens were more popular than ever, we were able to make major improvements to the Hart House, we’ve strengthened offerings on our website, and we have become more involved in other electronic means of communicating. However, we look forward to a future where we can see full faces and socialize up close and personal.

Special Programs, Special People

- Margaret “Bucky” Buckridge, esteemed volunteer, was honored by the Old Saybrook and Westbrook Historical Societies at a large gathering of friends and family to celebrate her 100th birthday. Bucky is a remarkable person and a valued volunteer.
- Keith and Jane Bolles of Saybrook Home were the 2019 recipients of the society’s Achievement in Historic Preservation Award for their preservation and protection of the Ambrose Whittlesey House. Their adaptive reuse

of the structure serves to anchor and influence development and the intersection of Main Street and the Boston Post Road. The thoughtful expansion of Saybrook Home over the years has reflected and maintained the architectural integrity of this early home. A plaque has been placed on the building and Keith and Jane have been added to the plaque at Town Hall.

- Elaine Yang, a student volunteer, working with Bonnie Penders, Hart House garden volunteer and landscape design consultant, learned about herb gardens and shared her newfound knowledge by preparing an attractive publication, “Historic Herbs at the Hart House.”
- Six student volunteers have spent several years with the Historical Society and have “graduated.” Aliana Castro, Maddy Sheahan, Sydney Smirnow, Maggie Maselli, Carissa Schilke, and Jampel Dorjee. They have participated in numerous activities and we have watched them assume increasingly important responsibilities. We are sure we will be hearing good things about them in the future and wish them success in their new endeavors.
- An old-fashioned Antiques and Treasures country auction offered an assortment of items that brought lively bidding from participants. Special thanks go to organizers Karen Emack Dolson and Peter Dolson, auctioneer Greg Jankowski and bookkeeper Lori Jankowski. Thanks, too, to our supportive neighbors who helped make the event a success, the First Church of Christ and Grace Episcopal Church as well as to our sponsors, Saybrook Recycled Furniture, Lorensen Auto Group and Matt Rubin.
- The U.S. Coast Guard Dixieland Jazz Band once again provided a lively and entertaining concert to a capacity crowd. This concert has become a summer favorite and regularly reaps loads of praise from happy concert goers. Semper Fi!
- A highly successful Taste of the Town in September 2019, celebrated the best of Old Saybrook’s restaurants and specialty food stores. Thanks go to Donna DiBella and a hardworking crew of volunteers. Sponsors included Guilford Savings Bank, Hadass and Matthew Rubin, Donna and Bill DiBella, Paradise Wine & Spirits, *Harbor News* and many others.

Grants and Awards

- The “Siege and Battles of Saybrook Fort and the Pequot War,” with funding from the National Park Service, American Battlefield Protection Program, successfully concluded its two-year program. A number of products were produced including a packet of “traveling” display boards, an elementary and secondary curriculum, a walking/biking tour brochure of battle sites, six interpretive historic markers, and the publication of a new book, *On the Edge of Uncertainty: The Siege and Battles of Saybrook Fort during the Pequot War, 1636-1637*. Thanks to consultants Jim Powers, and Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center archaeologist Kevin McBride and Historian David Naumec. Historical Society member Tedd Levy was project director.

- In May, the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH), based in Nashville, TN announced that the Old Saybrook Historical Society was a recipient of its 2020 Award of Excellence for the project on “The Siege and Battles of Saybrook Fort and the Pequot War.”
- According to AASLH, the Leadership in History Awards are the most prestigious recognition for achievement in the preservation and interpretation of state and local history. Its purpose is to encourage standards of excellence in the collection, preservation, and interpretation of state and local history throughout the United States.
- The Historical Society received a major grant from the Scoville Family Charitable Fund to renovate the Hart House kitchen. Essential for public functions, the new kitchen is a major improvement and will support hospitality and the many public functions held in the Hart House. We greatly appreciate their thoughtfulness and generosity.

Gifts and Additions to the Collection

Many members, volunteers and friends of the Historical Society have donated items or made bequests to support our collection including documents, furniture, paintings, photos, diaries, vintage clothing and other items related to the history of Old Saybrook. If you have an item you would like to contribute, please contact the Historical Society to see if it is appropriate for the society’s collection.

A contribution of \$2,000 was received from a direct descendant of Robert Chapman who wishes to remain anonymous. The generous gift was used for the purchase of portraits of the Sheffields that now hang in the Hart House dining room. Thanks to Chapman family descendants for their continuing support of the Historical Society.

Gifts, Contributions, Additions to the Collection

- A large collection of Saybrook documents found its way from a Georgia home to the Historical Society. In the process of renovating a house in Woodstock, Georgia, Carmen and Elliot Kruger discovered an old trunk with old letters, deeds, a will, and other materials and saw that they had one thing in common: they all came from Saybrook. They contacted Historical Society president Marie McFarlin and after several telephone conversations brought the accumulation of some 200 documents to the Archives. The collection was purchased through the generosity of a member who wishes to remain anonymous. They have been accessioned and add new information to our understanding of Saybrook history.

Hart House Gardens

The Hart House gardens are maintained by a dedicated and knowledgeable group of friendly volunteers. The gardens are open to the public and are a favorite stop for walking residents, school visits, wedding parties and many Historical Society events. During the past year volunteer gardeners developed a teaching garden, contributed herbs to local food pantries, hosted a tour and the annual meeting of the Garden Club and a lunch for the Connecticut Herb Society.

The gardens were the beautiful site for the U.S. Coast Guard Dixieland Jazz Band concert, the Taste of the Town and, in the spring, with the COVID-19 restrictions arriving along with warmer days, many residents who never pulled a weed or planted a seed stopped by to talk with our knowledgeable garden volunteers to learn about plants that grow best in our climate as they took a more serious interest in their own homegrown gardens.

Additional volunteers are always welcomed. As garden chairperson Linda Kinsella says, “spread beauty, be a gardener.”

In Memory

We mourn, in particular, the loss of Jon Lorensen, generous supporter and longtime patron and Walter Osborne, past president of the Historical Society as well as other friends and supporters of the society.

To join the Historical Society, volunteer or get further information call (860) 395-1635 or email: contact@saybrookhistory.org.

Marie McFarlin, *President*

Officers

Marie McFarlin, *President*

Wayne Harms, *Vice President*

Stephan Brodeur, *Treasurer*

Theodora Kopcha, *Recording Secretary*

Trustees

Edward Armstrong

Alan Cantor

David Carswell

Mark Delmonico

Donna DiBella

Arlene Sakatos

Katie Toolan

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Town Hall Information Technology (IT) Department supports administrative departments located primarily within the Town Hall complex, including Parks and Recreation, Youth and Family Services, Public Works (Town Garage) and the Acton Public Library. Not within the scope of the IT Department are the Police and Fire Departments or the Board of Education and school system.

The end of FY 2019-2020 closed out the seventh year the IT Department has been supporting Town Hall services. During the fiscal year, 541 user requests for support were logged and resolved.

The outbreak of the coronavirus this fiscal year as well as the closure of government buildings and various sheltering and social distancing mandates presented a number of challenges and opportunities to leverage new technology to support town operations.

- **Virtual Meetings:** The IT Department implemented virtual meeting (Zoom) support for all boards and commissions. Additionally, gubernatorial mandates for virtual access and electronic archiving for all public meetings significantly expanded the scope of previous meeting recording activities.
- **Remote Office:** Secure capabilities for town personnel to perform duties and conduct business remotely while at home were expanded, enabling the workforce to continue to support operations.
- **Virtual Telephony:** Capabilities within the phone system to enable incoming calls to be seamlessly redirected to remote workers were expanded. Remote workers are able to place outgoing calls from the Town Hall phone exchange.

In addition to responding to the coronavirus and user support requests, progress was made on a number of initiatives:

- **Datacenter Server Replacement:** Datacenter host servers were consolidated and replaced this fiscal year. The previous host servers were installed in 2010 and had previously received minor hardware and software upgrades in 2016. Over the past few years, migration of many key applications to cloud-hosted services, including financial, electronic mail, building permits, land records and the assessor database have enabled extending the service life of the previous host systems to ten years. Similarly, the datacenter network file server, originally placed in service in 2011, was replaced this fiscal year.
- **Service Implementation for Youth and Family Services (YFS):** A remote datacenter server was implemented in the YFS building this fiscal year. Previously, the YFS building relied on wide area network connections for access to departmental files, printing and authentication services residing in Town Hall. With the implementation of the remote datacenter server, access to files, printing and authentication was brought locally within the YFS building, significantly speeding up and increasing reliability of access.
- **Banking RFP:** The department participated as a technical consultant in the Finance Department's RFP for banking services.
- **Operational Availability:** Key administrative applications such as the Town's finance/accounting system and the tax assessment and collection database applications experienced no outages, resulting in 100% availability during Town Hall business hours as software maintenance activities were performed outside normal business hours. Town Hall connectivity to the Internet experienced no outages during the year (100% availability). Town Hall VOIP telephone services experienced a single one-hour service outage resulting in service availability of 99.9519% availability during Town Hall business hours. During the outage, calls were routed to voice-mail or secondary mobile devices.

Antivirus and Security

Multi-tier antivirus capabilities kept Town Hall computers largely virus and malware free, resulting in no instances of computer viruses having to be

manually cleaned from end user systems over the entire year. No virus events requiring file or system recovery occurred during the year.

As the year closed, potential projects for 2020-2021 supported by the IT Department included: support for implementation of next generation financial services (Banking Services RFP), implementation of Muncity Public Works support modules, implementation of Muncity for Zoning Department and online public requests and applications.

Larry Hayden, *IT Manager*

INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES COMMISSION

The Connecticut General Statutes empower the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission to regulate activities occurring within inland wetlands or watercourses and to review any activity occurring in the adjacent upland that could negatively affect these natural resources. The commission does not regulate activities within or adjacent to tidal wetlands, the Connecticut River, or Long Island Sound.

The Board of Selectmen appoints three at-large members and three alternate members for a two-year term; participating commissions select representative members for a two-year term each to provide coordination of land use policies. The membership of the commission is the same as those appointed to serve the Aquifer Protection Agency.

During the 2020 fiscal year, the commission held 13 meetings at which it acted upon 17 applications for new development with regulated activity of which 12 were residential in nature, 2 were commercial, and 3 were municipal.

The commission meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall, first-floor conference room. Patrick Hegge, environmental planner, serves as our enforcement agent. Lynette Wacker of the Land Use Department supports the commission as administrative clerk.

Colin Heffernan, *Chair*

KATHARINE HEPBURN CULTURAL ARTS CENTER—“The Kate”

The spirit of Katharine Hepburn lives on through her artistic works, those who adore her, and this one-of-a-kind community cultural arts center that serves as an artistic home to all who walk through its doors. The Kate appreciates the people of Old Saybrook and the broader community who embrace this organization as a critical resource and take action to ensure its future.

One of the Kate’s most important roles is to connect people with and through the arts. Each time you take your seat and the house lights dim—with the first note, the first line, the first image on screen—you are embarking on a shared experience with family, friends, and your fellow patrons. Thanks to our enthusiastic audience members, the Kate continues to be an exciting, vibrant hub in the community and a place for mutual understanding through art.

The Kate is a true cultural gift, joining together imaginative partners and collaborators to provide enriching programming and opportunities for our community. We have seen our programming mature through existing relationships with the Community Music School, Florence Griswold Museum, Saybrook Stage Company, Old Saybrook School System, Eastern Connecticut Ballet, Salt Marsh Opera, Chestnut Hill Concert Series, Connecticut Public Broadcast Network, and more. We have also been fortunate to grow our offerings and events through new relationships with the Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts and Vista Life Innovations.

This past year the Kate saw over 35,000 tickets purchased and more than 40,500 adults and children come through its doors. There were more than 185 shows and events last year and there have been almost 2,500 in the lifetime of the Kate. These statistics do take into account the Kate's temporary forced public closure due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The Kate's most recent live performance took place on March 12, 2020. We look forward to a return to live music, theater, comedy, opera and dance soon.

The Kate currently has four full-time and five part-time employees as well as many freelancers. There are approximately 200 volunteers who are a large part of the reason why we are able to do what we do every day.

The Kate is a key community hub allowing creativity and inspiration to grow, from children's camps and performances, to art films, to MET Opera and Bolshoi Ballet simulcasts. To provide the programming and impact that we do as a cultural nonprofit, we need the support and engagement of our community. Find out more about the Kate through our video at www.thekate.org/donate.

If you have not yet been to the Kate, or you are interested to learn more about what we do, we encourage you to contact us or to stop by once it is again safe to do so! When we fully reopen, the box office is open Tuesday through Friday, 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., and one hour before all shows.

See you at the Kate!

Brett Elliott, *Executive Director*

The Kate, 300 Main Street, Old Saybrook, CT 06475

Admin: (860) 510-0473, Tickets: (860) 510-0453

www.thekate.org

Staff

Brett Elliott, *Executive Director*

Robin Andreoli, *Director of Development and Community Relations*

Michael Gatta, *Box Office Manager*

Jacob Kaufman, *Production Manager*

Nancy Noyes, *Business Manager*

Ruth Yakaitis, *Development Associate*

Shirley Colquhoun, *Volunteer Coordinator*

Matthew Male, *Production Associate*

LAND USE DEPARTMENT

The Land Use Department administers the business of the following agencies: Aquifer Protection Agency, Architectural Review Board, Conservation Commission, Planning Commission, Historic District Commission and Inland Wetland & Watercourses Commission. Proactive to municipal needs, the department conducts municipal initiatives—studies, programs, physical improvements—as recommended in the Town’s long-range plans including the Plan of Conservation & Development.

During the 2020 fiscal year, the department supported the following initiatives:

- **Economic Development**—Produced a strategy for the Economic Development section of the Town Plan that addresses sustainability and resilience of systems that support the economy overall and specific business areas of town.
- **Historic Preservation**—Enhanced the Town’s online mapping with information about the 200+ most historic resources on properties throughout Old Saybrook. Assisted the Old Saybrook Historical Society in annually recognizing Achievements in Preservation by honoring Saybrook Home with this year’s award as well as chipping in on the installation of signs and publication of a brochure about the “Siege and Battles of Saybrook Fort and the Pequot War.” Undertook an assessment to preserve a historic commercial wall sign in the town center.
- **Marine Planning for Long Island Sound**—Issued the Long Island Sound “Blue Plan” as a product of the Connecticut DEEP Resource and Use Inventory. Old Saybrook is one of two Connecticut coastal communities represented on the Blue Plan Advisory Committee.
- **Open Space Conservation**—Obtained a grant of \$106 thousand to construct a second entrance and parking for a trailhead for The Preserve open space from Ingham Hill Road.
- **Natural Hazard Mitigation**—Adopted the 2019 Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan as supported by the 2015 Report of Findings of the Sea Level Rise Climate Adaptation Committee and by the 2018 Community Coastal Resilience Study and Infrastructure Evaluation.
- **Residential Development**—Applied to CT-DOH for a \$20 thousand grant to conduct a housing assessment.
- **Stormwater Management**—Contributed to creating the Post-Construction Stormwater Management Facility Operation & Maintenance Plan Manual.
- **Sustainable CT**—Extended the Town’s three-year Sustainable CT Bronze Certification.
- **Town Center Improvement**—Obtained \$1.4 million in construction funding of streetscape enhancements around the train station (Stage Road) and town center (Route 1) via the CT-DOT Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program (LOTICIP) for 2022.

- **Youth Mentoring**—Participated in opportunities to inspire young people about land use planning. The department guided hands-on activities that put new skills into action through volunteerism—a student member of the Conservation Commission through Youth & Family Services’ Youth Action Council (YAC); staff counseling at Youth & Family Services’ Environmental Stewardship Camp (grades 8–12); and a high school student following up with a local stormwater infiltration design project inspired by participating in the UCONN Conservation Ambassador Program.

The Land Use Department is open to assist the public from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Patrick Hegge is the environmental planner. Lynette Wacker is our project assistant and a clerk along with Amanda Merritt and Meryl Moskowitz for our public meetings. Sarah Lyons, administrative assistant, manages the business functions of the department.

Christine Nelson, AICP, *Town Planner*

LOWER CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (RiverCOG)

RiverCOG, one of Connecticut’s nine Councils of Governments, is governed by the chief elected/executive officials of its 17 member towns: Chester, Clinton, Cromwell, Deep River, Durham, East Haddam, East Hampton, Essex, Haddam, Killingworth, Lyme, Middlefield, Middletown, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Portland, and Westbrook. The RiverCOG is responsible for planning of regional land use, transportation, emergency preparedness, environmental conservation, economic development, and homeland security. RiverCOG also provides regional services such as household hazardous waste collection.

Fiscal year 2020 was an eventful year for RiverCOG staff. In January, our internal network and server were compromised in an international hacking incident resulting in an investigation and shoring up of technology and back-up processes. Just as RiverCOG was recovering from this, the nation was hit with COVID-19. Throughout, the RiverCOG team has grown to be stronger, more adaptable, enterprising and resilient than ever before. Although our GIS coordinator, Dan Bourret, left us for a position elsewhere and our planner, Jon Curtis, moved out of state this year, we gained a new senior planner, Megan Jouflas. We were also happy to host two interns and two Sustainable CT fellows during the summer of 2019.

In addition to their regular duties, Deputy Director Torrance Downes and former GIS Coordinator Dan Bourret provided interim land use and zoning services to Deep River, Old Lyme, Westbrook and Clinton. Environmental Planner Margot Burns spearheaded an update of the Regional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan for 15 of our towns. Executive Director Sam Gold was appointed to the state’s COVID-19 recovery team and continued to sit on multiple boards (Sustainable CT) and steering committees (Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations).

RiverCOG continued a legacy of legislative engagement with the state and federal governments on behalf of our member municipalities. In January 2020 we

held our annual legislative COG/MPO meeting at River Highlands in Cromwell with the region's legislators and approved the year's legislative agenda.

Under state statute, RiverCOG, through its Regional Planning Committee (RPC) or its delegated staff, reviews proposed zoning text and map changes that affect property within 500 feet of municipal boundaries and subdivisions that touch or cross town lines as well as municipal plans of conservation and development. This fiscal year inter-municipal zoning regulation referrals from member municipalities addressed topics including regulation changes for outdoor dining due to COVID-19, agri-tourism, farm wineries and breweries, tidal water protection, and others.

RiverCOG continued to host the nonprofit Gateway Commission which, for 45+ years, has served the towns of Chester, Deep River, East Haddam, Essex, Haddam, Lyme, Old Lyme and Old Saybrook as the guardian of the ecological and visual values of the lower Connecticut River region. Working with the eight-town planning & zoning commissions, zoning boards of appeal, and town staff, Gateway oversees a scenic protection program comprised of acquisition of scenic and conservation easements and land and the administration of a program of development management within the Gateway Conservation Zone, located from the banks of the river up to the first ridge of river hillsides. In addition to partnering with Gateway, RiverCOG staff supported the health of the Connecticut River by educating communities about invasive species and monitoring and removing Hydrilla and other harmful plants.

RiverCOG continued to act as the fiduciary agent for Region 2 of the state's emergency planning efforts through grants provided by the federal government through the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS). DEMHS is charged with developing, administering, and coordinating a comprehensive and integrated statewide program that encompasses all human-made and natural hazards and includes prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery components to ensure the safety and well-being of the citizens of Connecticut. Fiduciary duties include substantial financial record organization, certification of vendors and service providers, review of vendor quotes, payment of vendor invoices, attendance at monthly REPT meetings, administration and collection of Memorandums of Agreement from the 30 member towns for each of numerous overlapping grants, and preparing specific deliverables that are required by DEMHS in order to receive RiverCOG's funding allocation for the fiduciary responsibilities. When requested, staff of the agency will also provide ancillary mapping services.

RiverCOG continued to host the Lower Connecticut River Land Trust (LCRLT). This nonprofit entity includes the land trusts of Chester, Clinton, Deep River, East Haddam, Essex, Haddam, Lyme, Lynde Point, Middlesex, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Salem, and Westbrook. The LCRLT continues to establish itself and move forward creating documentation to help all the land trusts under its regional umbrella.

RiverCOG had a successful year with our continued household hazardous waste collections. Due to Connecticut's participation in the PaintCare program, towns saw significant savings as they are no longer charged for paint waste. Over 65,000 pounds of latex and oil-based paint were collected. Prior to imple-

mentation of the PaintCare program, the charge for disposal of the oil-based paint collected would have been more than \$30,000. RiverCOG also continued holding paper shredding events and partnering with the state on recycling efforts on plastic film, mattresses, mercury switches, and textiles.

Other regional planning projects from fiscal year 2019 include:

- Began work on the first RiverCOG Regional Plan of Conservation & Development
- Continued a regional transit study looking at ways of better integrating operations of 9 Town Transit and MAT
- Completed the corridor study along Route 81
- Route 66 corridor study
- Aided Haddam and East Haddam with a Federal BUILD grant application for a walkway on the Swing Bridge
- Created a new website, *rivercog.org*
- Updated Title VI policies and program
- Hosted Repair Café, compost bin/rain barrel sales and composting workshops
- Continued hosting of the state's only Regional Agricultural Committee
- Worked on the plan for a connector trail between the Airline and Farmington Canal Trails
- Continued working with CT DOT on LOTCIP and other types of projects throughout the region, such as:
 - Higganum Road, Durham, construction, \$2.6 million
 - Coles Road, Cromwell, construction, 2.4 million
 - Main Street, Chester, construction, 2.4 million
 - Candlewood Hill Road Haddam, design, 2.9 million
 - RT 1, Clinton, design, 0.4 million
 - Saybrook Road, Middletown, review, 2.4 million
 - Smith Street, East Hampton, review, 3.0 million
 - ETD and MTD capital and operating assistance
 - Arrigoni Bridge approach span construction
 - Route 9 closed circuit television, construction
 - Upgrade/replace traffic control signals on state roads

Sam Gold, *Executive Director*

Board of Directors, Officers

Anthony Salvatore, <i>Chair</i>	Cromwell
Lauren Gister, <i>Vice-Chair</i>	Chester
Ed Bailey, <i>Secretary</i>	Middlefield
Noel Bishop, <i>Treasurer</i>	Westbrook
Cathy Iino	Killingworth
Timothy Griswold	Old Lyme

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The Parks and Recreation Department and the Recreation Center are busy providing activities and times for residents to enjoy the many facilities that are available. The center's walking/jogging track, gym, and games room are open six days a week—seven days in the winter—while parks and most outside areas are available all year long. Park areas are open dawn to dusk.

The Parks and Recreation Department is governed by an elected board of seven commissioners and administered by a full-time director and staff. The commission is responsible for overseeing the operation, development, scheduling and maintenance of town-owned parks, beaches and recreation facilities. Also, the department provides a wide variety of year-round activities for residents from preschool-age to senior citizens. Included are seasonal sports (individual and team leagues), sports camps, arts and crafts classes, adult bridge, summer day camps, playground camps, bus trips, concerts, parent/child activities, dances, multiple adult and youth gym activities, after-school activities, teen center, skating, coach's clinics, exercise programs and multiple holiday/special events.

To better inform the community about activities and programs, the department's website is oldsaybrookrec.com. Everyone is encouraged to enjoy the diverse recreational opportunities at the following facilities:

- **Recreation Center.** Located behind the Town Hall, the full-size gym, walk/jog track, games room, preschool area, teen center, lighted outdoor basketball courts and department offices are located here. Printed schedules are available seasonally at the office.
- **Teen Center.** This program occurs Monday through Thursday after school until 5:30 p.m. for 6th–8th graders and Friday after school until 4:00 p.m. for 4th and 5th graders. Friday nights from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. are special for the 6th–8th grade crowd. They enjoy events such as DJ nights, dodgeball tournaments, Halloween party, video game contests, Football League, Talent Show, movie nights, Black & White Party, and so much more. The 9th–12th graders enjoy our facility Monday through Thursday from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The high school crowd enjoys floor hockey, flag football, basketball, pool tables, big-screen TV, badminton, etc. Membership forms and information are available at the Parks and Recreation office.
- **Kavanagh Park.** Located on Trask Road, this park has four tennis courts, basketball court, playscape, picnic tables, restroom, a youth baseball/softball field, and Splashpad. The Splashpad consists of six water elements on a concrete pad. This fun, safe facility is designed for preschool through 3rd graders. Donations from the Helen Eukers Fund and the Old Saybrook Rotary Club funded this area, which is open during the summer months for residents and their guests.
- **Clark Community Park.** Located on Schoolhouse Road, there is a lot to offer in its approximately 180 acres. Trails are maintained within the park and connect with the trail system at Great Cedars Conservation Area. This park area has two ball fields, basketball court, horseshoe pits, picnic area, restroom and shelter next to Crystal Lake. Trail maps are available at the park and at the Parks and Recreation office for the miles of marked trails

which take the hiker deeper into the beautiful woods. An annual Fishing Derby is held here each spring along with the Easter Rock Hunt.

- **Exchange Club Park.** Located on the corner of Bokum Rd and Route 154, this area has received upgrades and provides a pleasant area to relax and picnic. Winter skating with lights is available weather permitting.
- **Great Cedars Conservation Area.** Stewardship of this 300 plus-acre property is provided in partnership with the Conservation Commission. Trail maps are available and show the connection with Clark Community Park trails.
- **Great Cedars East.** Located on Millrock Road and Merritt Lane, this area provides trails on 115 acres. Trail maps are available and show the connection with Clark Community Park trails.
- **The Preserve.** Protected in spring 2015, this is jointly owned by the Town of Old Saybrook and the State of Connecticut after many years of conservation efforts. The Preserve is a 963-acre forest located in the towns of Old Saybrook, Essex and Westbrook. It was recognized as the largest remaining unprotected coastal forest between Boston and New York before its acquisition for conservation. Situated between Long Island Sound and the mouth of the Connecticut River, it is part of a relatively intact forest block of more than 6,000 acres and protects the drinking water supply for two towns. A management plan, including recreational opportunities, is currently being developed on access, hiking trails, and parking.
- **Memorial Park.** Located on the Town Green on Main Street, the gazebo is located here and hosts the department's summer Wednesday Night Free Concert Series along with many other community events such as the Memorial Day ceremony, craft fair and torchlight sing.
- **McMurray Field.** Located behind the Firehouse, this popular youth ball field (LL and PR) is used throughout the year and is named for Police Office Raymond McMurray. The field also hosts the annual Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by Parks and Recreation and the Old Saybrook Lion's Club for preschool through 3rd grade children.
- **Fort Saybrook Monument Park.** Located at Saybrook Point, a wealth of historical information on storyboards is offered here. There are boardwalks and views of the Connecticut River for public enjoyment. Restrooms are available.
- **Gardiner's Landing.** Located at Saybrook Point, this area offers Connecticut River viewing, fishing and passive recreation. Along with Monument Park, this area has received longtime support from the Fort Saybrook Monument Park Association.
- **Saybrook Point Park/Pavilion.** Located at the end of College Street, this venue provides great views of the mouth of the Connecticut River for all to enjoy. Picnic tables, benches, restrooms and a fishing area continue to make this park a popular riverfront destination. The Pavilion continues to provide a wonderful meeting space while also being available for rent by Old Saybrook residents

- **Saybrook Point Mini Golf.** Voted best mini golf course in CT in 2014 and 2015 by Connecticut Magazine, this property has been town-owned for over 25 years and continues to provide affordable fun for the entire family. This valuable financial resource for the town brings in revenue seasonally and is open Memorial Day through Labor Day daily and weekends only September through Columbus Day. Refreshment items are also available, making this a premier summer destination for all to enjoy.
- **Town Beach.** Located on Plum Bank Road, this area provides swimming and beach activities on Long Island Sound. Restrooms, concession, and lifeguards are provided Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day, weather permitting. Resident recreation passes are required for parking and are available at the Parks and Recreation office beginning the first week in May.
- **Harvey's Beach.** This area welcomes the public and provides access to Old Saybrook's waterfront. Located on Great Hammock Road and Long Island Sound, it provides an outdoor shower, changing rooms, restrooms, part-time refreshments and lifeguards. Resident parking passes are accepted or a daily admission fee is required. This beach is open Memorial Day through Labor Day, weather permitting.
- **Founder's Memorial Park.** Opened in the fall of 2008 and located at the end of Coulter Street, portions of the park are on land donated to the town by Robert and Elisha Clarke, members of the tenth-generation descendants of John Clarke, an original Saybrook Colony settler. This park provides wonderful viewing of North Cove and the Connecticut River. Many thanks to all the volunteers who continue to assist in keeping this area beautiful. Benches and information boards help visitors enjoy this gem.
- **Maple Avenue Playfield.** Located off of Maple Avenue, this one plus-acre field is used for drop-in play, tee ball, and junior soccer activity.
- **Ferry Crossing Ballfield.** Located off of Ferry Road, this park features an engineered playing surface for soccer games. The field, primarily used for U12 soccer players, is the largest of all the Parks and Recreation soccer fields.
- **Main Street Connection Park.** Located on Main Street, this park features three pickleball courts and a parking lot. The second phase of this park will be completed in the near future.

Most parks are available for public use outside of normal operational hours. Groups wishing to use an area need to fill out and get a facility request approved at the Parks and Recreation office. Reminder: dogs must be on leashes and walked on the perimeter of park areas. Please pick up after your pet—fines do apply.

The Parks and Recreation Department is an agency that relies on the cooperation, generosity and skill of many volunteers, civic organizations, other town agencies and school facilities. Anyone interested in becoming involved in a program or activity (coach, supervisor, or instructor) is encouraged to contact the office at (860) 395-3152.

Old Saybrook Parks and Recreation continues to thank the selectmen, other town agencies, and the numerous private sponsors of recreational activities that make the many special events, concerts, youth parties and activities possible.

Susan Esty, Chair

PENSION AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS BOARD

The Town has two defined-benefit (DB) pension plans (one for town employees and the other for volunteer firefighters), a defined-contribution (DC) plan, and a 457 plan to assist town employees with their retirement planning. The town DB pension plan ended Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 with \$23,274,015 in assets. During the FY, market gains and interest and dividend income of \$1,055,124 accrued to increase the value of the plan. In addition, employer contributions of \$560,073 and employee contributions of \$320,628 were added to the plan, while \$1,600,911 was paid out in retirement benefits. With markets heavily affected by the outbreak of COVID-19, the town pension plan had a remarkable year as the pension plan held steady to its long-term plan and was able to withstand the volatile market swings. When all was done, the town's pension plan increased 4%. Likewise, the Fire Department DB pension plan, which provides a benefit for volunteer firefighters based on years of service and time contributed to the Town, ended FY2020 with \$1,404,638 in assets. The Town contributed \$183,897 and \$114,702 was paid out in retirement benefits with the plan returning 3.3% for the FY. At the end of June 2020 there were 86 town employees and 28 firefighters receiving a pension from their plans.

FY18 was the first year the Town offered defined-contribution benefits to its new employees. As of the end of FY20, 32 employees are now part of this plan. The Town matches employee contributions up to 8% of salaries and wages. Five percent is required and 3% is optional. Twenty-two of the 32 participants are taking advantage of the extra 3% match. The DC plan now has \$374,343 in assets under management as of June 30, 2020. Employees choose their personal asset allocation according to their own risk tolerances. The Town offers a variety of managers to assist employees in executing their retirement allocation plans.

The Town also offers employees a 457 plan (similar to a 401k plan) where employees can put aside funds for retirement on a pre-tax basis. As of June 30, 2020, the 457 plan has \$2,347,142 of employee funds in assets under management.

During FY20, the PBB focused on employee benefits provided by the Town to its employees. As part of its review, the PBB heard a presentation from Brown and Brown, the Town's benefit broker, on the existing benefits provided to employees, which include health, dental and life benefits. The board also reviewed some of the optional benefits that employees could participate in through the Town's various programs. The board focused on the offering of disability insurance to supplement the DC retirement savings program. New disability insurance offerings are now available to employees. A review of each employee's benefits was to take place with the Town's benefit broker; however, due to COVID-19 in-person meetings were postponed indefinitely. Employees can communicate with the benefit broker if needed at their convenience.

I want to give many thanks to the volunteers of the Pension and Employee Benefit Board (PBB). In particular, I'd like to recognize the contributions of Dr. Suzanne Taylor who joined the pension board in 1987—32 years' of service—and she continues to serve on this board. This year Suzanne relinquished the position of chair of the board but continues to provide guidance to me and others. Suzanne has brought exceptional expertise to the pension board over the many years that she has served as a member and as its chair. We are fortunate to have Suzanne, her collective wisdom and her expertise as a volunteer to guide the Town on its pension and benefit matters. PBB member Ray Muratori stepped down as a board member after offering many years of excellent service to the board. He was replaced by David Sparrow, the Town's newest PBB member. We look forward to his contributions over the coming years.

We are also grateful for the assistance of our investment advisors, Tom Forma, Kevin Nichols, and Joe Matthews from Morgan Stanley's Centre Harbour Group. This year, after several decades of working as the Town's investment advisor, Tom Forma retired, but not before ensuring that the Town was left in good hands with his partners Kevin and Joe — we thank Tom for his many years of dedicated service to the Town. To our town staff members, plan administrator, Lee Ann Palladino, and benefits consultant, Janet Vinciguerra, and Jennifer Donahue our new board secretary, we extend our greatest thanks and respect as they continue to assist the board in overseeing both retirement and other benefits on a daily basis. The volunteers, consultants and staff have assisted the PBB in creating a well-thought-out retirement and benefit program that continues to serve the employees of the Town with efficiency and effectiveness.

Darrell Pataska, *Chair*

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Connecticut General Statutes empower the Planning Commission to adopt and, as appropriate, amend the Town's Plan of Conservation & Development (POCD), which is a statement of the Town's goals and policies for land use. Using the POCD as a guide, the commission approves private subdivisions and advises the Zoning Commission as to the consistency of proposed amendments to the Town's zoning regulations as well as proposed improvements to land throughout town.

The electorate of Old Saybrook elects five members to serve for a term of four years each and the Board of Selectmen may appoint up to three alternate members for a term of two years each.

During the 2020 fiscal year, the commission held 10 meetings at which it

- finalized the update to the five-year Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan;
- adopted an update to the Economic Development section of the Town's POCD; and
- responded to requests for a report of consistency with the POCD about seven zoning regulation/map changes.

The commission works closely with other land use groups. This year, the commission and the Economic Development Commission co-hosted two public

workshops about proposed economic goals and business areas to update the POCD. Presently, Paula Kay represents the commission on the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission. The chair is the commission's representative to the Regional Planning Committee of the Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments. Doug McCracken was our point person on the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan update. The commission thanks all for their dedication to these additional organizations and the continuing coordination of land use policies.

The commission meets on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall, first-floor conference room. Christine Nelson, town planner, is available in the Land Use Department of the Town Hall to assist with applications and to answer questions concerning land use in Old Saybrook.

Thomas R. Cox, *Chair*

POLICE SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

The Old Saybrook Department of Police Services provides diverse traditional and nontraditional law enforcement services to our ever-changing community, twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. For the better part of each day, our department is the *only* municipal government agency open to serve the citizens and visitors of our community.

Old Saybrook citizens and those who visit our community expect, demand, and deserve prompt, professional law enforcement services. Business owners and residents alike depend on the police department to create a safe and sound atmosphere. This atmosphere, preserved by the Department of Police Services, enhances the local economy by making our community attractive to new businesses, patrons, and tourists. Parents demand that their children live in a safe community where they are befriended by the police. This includes the delivery of proactive services to students and faculty within our public and parochial schools. Our senior population requires nontraditional programs that provide them with crime prevention tips, identity protection, and prompt response to a medical crisis with superior equipment and well-trained personnel. As a police agency we are proud to meet the challenges presented by the Old Saybrook community each day.

The quality of life we enjoy in Old Saybrook begins with the safety and security of our community.

The Old Saybrook Department of Police Services is responsible for the operation and administration of the Town's Emergency Communications Center. The center is staffed with trained, certified personnel that meet state mandates maintaining various state and national emergency communication certifications. The Emergency Communications Center is responsible for all emergency and non-emergency telephone, radio, and facsimile communications for Old Saybrook's law enforcement, fire services, emergency medical services, and emergency management agencies. In addition to these duties, the center is the only after-hours point of contact for municipal departments including those that assist our agency in emergencies such as the Building Department and Connecticut River Area Health District (CRAHD), the Office of the Fire Marshal, the Office of the

First Selectman, and the Department of Public Works. Emergency dispatchers serve as the vital link between those who need help and those who can provide help. The services that are provided by the Emergency Communication Division are unparalleled in the area and are essential to the success of Old Saybrook's first responder community. In the past fiscal year, the center received 33,412 calls and placed 12,325 phone calls. Out of the calls received in this period of time, 4,312 were 911 calls. Finally, in an effort to streamline operations, add efficiencies, and reduce costs, the department merged the Records Division into the Emergency Communications Division. Now public safety dispatchers not only receive the initial call for help, but also process the paperwork and provide records to the public when requested. We appreciate the dispatcher's union accommodating and partnering with department executives on the merger.

The men and women of the Department of Police Services are proud of our role as the community's primary medical first responder. When a medical emergency occurs in town, our Old Saybrook police officers are first to arrive with lifesaving knowledge, skills, and equipment. Police officers who are emergency medical technicians are able to provide advanced care or administer lifesaving medication (including Epinephrine and Narcan), all within minutes from a call for help. In the past year, we responded to 1,338 medical emergencies. We are proud to offer this level of service, which is unparalleled in our area.

In the department's traditional law enforcement role, we continue to provide superior service. This past year, the department logged 21,682 incidents. An "incident" is any type of call for service and/or self-initiated activity by a police officer, excluding motor vehicle law enforcement. As an example, an "incident" can be the direction of school traffic, responding to a burglar alarm, an actual burglary, providing emergency medical services, an accident investigation, a domestic violence matter, checking on the well-being of a prisoner, caring for a suicidal person, conducting a narcotics investigation, administrative matters, a parking complaint, performing a security check, and/or the investigation of a serious assault. There were 448 custodial arrests last year. (An individual involved in a custodial arrest is transported to the Police Department, processed in our detention facility and then either released on bond or transported to the Middletown Superior Court on the next available court date.) Out of the 448 custodial arrests last year, only 13 were of persons under the age of 18. White males over the age of 25 who live out of town represent the vast majority of the custodial arrests made.

Law enforcement services are a very personal and private issue for those individuals involved. We remain discreet in the public reporting of matters to maintain as much privacy as possible for crime victims that reside in our small community.

In addition to calls for services last year, Old Saybrook police officers conducted 2,824 motor vehicle stops. Of these stops, 1,099 drivers were given verbal warnings, 1,334 received written warnings, 133 were issued an infraction and 86 were given a summons to appear in court for their motor vehicle violation. The remaining motor vehicle stops resulted in arrests for DUI (80), possession of illegal drugs, and/or the apprehension of a person on an outstanding warrant. We also spent much time placing notices on parked vehicles that had expired

registrations. Instead of waiting and issuing tickets, we chose to be proactive and encouraged the generation of voluntary compliance of the law. More than 50% of those who received the notices on their vehicles immediately registered them, negating the need for any enforcement action. Statistics continue to demonstrate that an overwhelming majority of motor vehicle stops that resulted in enforcement were perpetrated by white males who live out of town and are over the age of 25.

The dedicated members of the Animal Control Division continue to work tirelessly to ensure that domesticated animals' rights are protected, lost animals are reunited with their rightful owners, and great homes are found for those looking for a new family. All Animal Control Division members are per diem employees who are compensated only when they are called to work. This fiscally efficient program requires the dedication of special employees, each of whom is committed to the welfare of domesticated animals and works in conjunction with our sworn law enforcement staff to complete sensitive investigations concerning cruelty to animals and/or animal bites.

The Marine Patrol had a very successful season. We continue to appreciate the support of the marine community and their positive voices encouraging the continuation of proactive patrols during the boating season. In addition to countless safety inspections, impromptu boating education "seminars," and emergency responses to vessels and/or persons in distress, a total of 76 vessels were stopped for various violations.

Giving Back

Department members spent much time this past year volunteering to assist those in need. Our annual "Give the Cops the Bird" campaign yielded much success. Department members collected more than 800 turkeys and over 4,000 lbs. of food that provided Old Saybrook families in need with all the fixings for both a Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner. Remaining turkeys were donated to similar charities around the state. The department thanks Youth and Family Services, Stop and Shop, and the Connecticut Food Bank for their support with this important community service project. The holiday season brought department employees to our community's stores, day care centers, and in front of our own station to collect new, unwrapped toys for our annual "Make a Child's Wish Come True" campaign. We were able to once again completely "stuff" Go Mini's storage containers with toys that the professionals at Youth and Family Services distributed to families in need. Additionally, Santa was the main attraction during the department's annual Holiday Open House. This year hundreds of families attended the open house and many children visited Santa, told the Chief Elf their Christmas wishes and took photos with him. February brought the third annual Diaper Drive. After learning how many families in Old Saybrook were in need of diapers and wipes for their newborns, police officers teamed up with area businesses to get those in need the hygiene products required to keep their newborns healthy. The department's "It's Time to Do Your Duty" campaign collected thousands of diapers and wipes. It was our pleasure to work with the nonprofit, Bare Necessities, during this event. The department then held a food drive for the Shoreline Food Pantry at the "Mask for All" event as the pantry was bare. This food drive became the largest and most successful in the history of the Shoreline Food Pantry! Thank you Old Saybrook! Finally, the department,

for the second year in a row, sponsored the Shorts4Sean Campaign. Six-year-old Sean's battle with cancer continued with Sean winning! Last year the department adopted him and his brother, Owen, when we heard about his battle. Police officers donated \$5 per day to wear our summer uniform, consisting of a polo shirt and shorts. The police union then matched each officer's donation—dollar for dollar. Additionally, the community supported the Shorts4Sean cause by making donations. In total, over the past two years, the department raised more than \$45,000 for Sean's family to help defray the costs associated with his treatments. We are appreciative of the generosity of all citizens who make these community give-back campaigns an enormous success! The department is very thankful for those employees who gave their own time to participate in these valuable and necessary community events. Everyone's efforts have made a true positive impact on the lives of our citizens in need.

A Celebration of Service

In October 2019, the Department of Police Services celebrated **60 years of service** to the Town of Old Saybrook. We celebrated this significant milestone throughout the month of October.

We began our month-long celebration with a breakfast honoring past employees sponsored by the Old Saybrook Rotary Club. Current employees met, interacted with, and shared a casual breakfast with those who served before them. More than 30 OSPD veterans reunited at our police facility. Honored OSPD veteran members toured the new facility and got a taste of today's OSPD while enjoying breakfast served by our current employees. Veteran members also made video messages for the Old Saybrook community that they once proudly served. This event focused on teaching our new staff that it is important to honor and understand our past prior to planning for the future.

In a similar themed event, the current Police Commission invited all who previously volunteered on the Police Commission since the creation of the commission to a celebratory dinner. The event honored those who served on the Police Commission and allowed past and current police commissioners to speak about the commission's transformation over 60 years of dedicated service. It also allowed current commissioners to participate in a roundtable discussion where they gained a historical perspective of the decisions that impacted policing in Old Saybrook.

During this month of celebration, the department featured a special social media campaign that honored our past, looking at the history of OSPD, past employees, and significant events. These posts included the video messages taped by our OSPD veteran employees! Additional posts focused on current programs, staff, and achievements.

The department then chose to continue its 60th anniversary celebration by bringing back a classic event that was held annually in Old Saybrook (back in the day) with a twist—a traditional Policeman's Ball! Old Saybrook police officers attended a special lunch at the Estuary Council of Seniors while wearing their Class A dress uniforms. All enjoyed lunch together and then hit the dance floor, celebrating to the sounds of the 40s and 50s! "Old Saybrook's Finest" were introduced to some new dance moves by their dance partners! Thank you to the Estuary Council for sponsoring this fun and historic event.

In a separate event sponsored by the Old Saybrook Police Union, Old Saybrook officers brought together area law enforcement professionals for a night of food and comradery to share in our 60th celebration. This opportunity allowed those who work in neighboring departments to meet for the first time, fostering future inter-agency cooperation and thus enhancing services provided to our residents.

Department members and their families came together for a very special afternoon honoring department employees for their service and significant contributions. Families, friends, and elected officials were invited to witness as department members were bestowed with various honors such as awards for bravery, lifesaving, and meritorious service. Career achievements were also recognized, including 35 years' of service for Master Sergeant van der Horst, 10 years' of service as chief of department for Chief Michael A. Spera as well as the appointment of a new detective first class, a new detective, and the announcement of Police Officer and Support Services Members of the Year. The event concluded with a celebration of 50 years' of service to the department by Thomas Newton. "Newt" was given a standing ovation as he received an honorary promotion to the rank of sergeant.

The culmination of the month-long celebration of 60 years' of service was spent with those who mean the most to us—the community members we are so proud and privileged to serve every day. The department hosted a neighborhood block party on Lynde Street. The event began with a law enforcement parade complete with the high school marching band, vintage police vehicles, and the members of the Department of Police Services marching to a very supportive crowd. The block party included a Vintage Public Safety Vehicle Show, a barbeque for all, youth activities, a police K-9 demonstration, and tours of our facility. This very successful event concluded with a shoreline siren run of current and vintage police and fire vehicles which was enjoyed by many who watched from their front yards as the "very loud" parade went by!

At the end of October, the department held its "all hands" annual meeting and operational strategic planning session. This is an annual opportunity that provides each member with an equal voice as we review, adjust, and improve our Operational Strategic Plan. Review of current operations and future plans continue to be framed by the Six Pillars of Law Enforcement, as established in the National 21st Century Policing Philosophy. The six pillars that frame the department's Operational Strategic Plan are: Building Trust & Legitimacy, Policy & Oversight, Technology & Social Media, Community Policing & Crime Reduction, Officer Training & Education, and Officer Safety & Wellness.

Compliance with State Standards and Practices

In February, the State of Connecticut Police Officer Standards and Training Council certified the department's compliance to Connecticut's Law Enforcement Standards and Practices Program. This program inspects the department's operational policies with respect to racial profiling, civilian complaints, pursuits, missing persons, family violence, witness identification, death notifications, sexual assault investigations, use of force, juveniles, body-worn cameras, and mobile video recording. These operational policies are present for review on the department's webpage.

COVID-19

The department began its response to the COVID-19 public health pandemic in early March. At the onset, First Selectman Carl P. Fortuna, Jr. assigned Chief Spera as Old Saybrook's incident commander for the Town's response and recovery activities related to the public health pandemic. As key members of the Town's Public Safety Leadership Team, department executives immediately took decisive measures to safeguard the Town's only full-time public safety force from the deadly virus while ensuring that vital public health, emergency medical, and law enforcement services continued to be delivered to the residents and visitors of our community without interruption. This included adjusting response configurations, creating/issuing special orders related to the unprecedented event, implementing new dispatch protocols, issuing personal protective equipment (PPE), and enhancing the use of technology to establish virtual interviews with victims of crime. Partnering with the Old Saybrook Office of Emergency Management, programs to reach and protect the most vulnerable populations were staffed. Department employees delivered PPE baskets to our elderly residents, shared "May Flowers" with one resident on each street in Old Saybrook as a means to "check in," and staffed two Mask for All Events—one that provided masks for all residents and one that provided masks for businesses in town in a robust effort to limit the community spread of COVID-19. Police officers delivered cones and signage to businesses to assist in safely managing crowds when the public visited essential establishments. Public safety dispatchers staffed the Emergency Operations Center and performed many duties including communicating with the public during the pandemic. School resource officers took over the Estuary's Meals on Wheels delivery program from volunteers who were unable to serve due to health concerns and restrictions. This allowed the essential Meals on Wheels program to continue in Old Saybrook. A police detective worked with regional public health authorities to conduct "contact tracing" investigations for all Old Saybrook residential COVID-19 cases. The day prior to the state's phase one reopening, the department led a parade around town honoring all essential workers who truly put themselves in harm's way to allow Old Saybrook residents to continue to obtain essential items and services during the height of the pandemic. Finally, the department was honored to partner with the public school district to strategize and execute plans to provide the Class of 2020 with the best possible graduation experience in the strangest of times. We were proud to organize and lead a graduation parade for the Class of 2020 so they could be celebrated. Old Saybrook's community members lined the streets (six feet apart) with signs, banners, and noisemakers cheering our graduates on! Another example of how truly awesome the Old Saybrook community is and how much we all support our RAMS!

The department is proud of our police officers, public safety dispatchers, and support employees for their professionalism, dedication, and superior service to the citizens and visitors of the Town of Old Saybrook. We will continue to work hard every day, not only to provide traditional and nontraditional law enforcement services, but to maintain, enhance, and earn our positive relationship with those we serve based on a foundation of trust, service, transparency, and compassion.

As always, the Department of Police Services wishes to thank our fellow public safety agencies, municipal government departments, the public school district, and regional and state partners. Without their assistance and collaborative efforts, it would be difficult to deliver superior services.

Michael A. Spera, *Chief of Police*

PROBATE COURT

The Saybrook District Probate Court serves the nine towns of Chester, Clinton, Deep River, Essex, Haddam, Killingworth, Lyme, Old Saybrook, and Westbrook, which have a combined population of approximately 62,000. Judge Jeannine Lewis presides over hearings and is supported by seven staff including Sharon Tiezzi, chief clerk, Marge Calltharp, Stella Caione (fka Beaudoin), Margaret “Peggy” Schroeder, Helene Yates, Jackie Craco, and Rose Nolin.

The court is located on the second floor of the Old Saybrook Town Hall, 302 Main Street, Old Saybrook, and is open from 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The court remained open for its normal business hours throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, with limited in-person access by the public when the Old Saybrook Town Hall participated in the brief statewide lockdown by closing its doors to public access unless an appointment was made. We encourage the filing of documents electronically when possible using our new TurboCourt system (you can register at www.turbo-court.com), or by regular mail. We are also available for assistance via telephone at (860) 510-5028. Paperwork for children’s matters can be filed with us at the Old Saybrook location; however, all hearings for children’s matters, with the exception of adoptions and name changes, are conducted by Judge Lewis in conjunction with the Connecticut Children’s Regional Probate Court located in Meriden, CT. Utilizing the children’s court for these matters enables families to benefit from the services of two full-time social workers, called family specialists, who assist in developing custody and visitation arrangements that provide healthier outcomes for children and their families. Due to COVID-19, the court now utilizes the Webex application to conduct most of its confidential hearings via video and/or telephone.

During the reporting year, the Saybrook District Probate Court administered matters with respect to the following areas of the law: 1523 decedent’s estates; 386 conservatorships; 141 trusts; 148 guardianships of the intellectually disabled; 72 children’s matters, including termination of parental rights, temporary custody appointments, special immigrant juvenile status hearings, and guardianships; 32 name changes; 57 compromise of claims/appointments of a guardian of the estate of a minor; 7 adoptions; and 10 custody of the remains applications. The court also performs many administrative functions, and processed 118 fee waivers for indigent individuals to allow full access to its services regardless of ability to pay.

During the past year, in addition to the daily work of the court, Judge Lewis has also spoken at community forums such as the Haddam Senior Expo (on the topic of general probate); the Essex Rotary (on how to avoid conservatorship using financial planning techniques); and to the Probate Assembly and

Connecticut attorneys statewide about the Connecticut Standards of Practice for Conservators. She has also authored two articles for local publication on the topics of lien releases for real property held in decedents' estates; and appeals of isolation and quarantine orders.

Honorable Jeannine Lewis, Judge of Probate

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING BOARD

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2019-20 the PHNB approved the renewal of the Visiting Nurses Association of Southeastern Connecticut (VNASC) contract providing nursing services to the residents of the Town of Old Saybrook, for FY 2020-21. Mary Lenzini, BSN, MA, CHCE is the agency's president and Tina Belmont, BSN, is town nurse. VNASC continues its affiliation with Yale New Haven Health.

The PHNB budget for FY 2020-21 approved by the Board of Selectmen saw a slight increase over last year at \$44,021 of which \$27,185 is earmarked for the VNASC nursing contract, \$14,836 is for primary and secondary public health services by other providers, \$1,000 is for administrative expenses and \$1,000 is for clerical support.

The VNASC continues to be successful in providing nursing care to our residents at minimal cost to the Town. Alternate funding sources were utilized whenever feasible, with town funds allocated only as a last resort. During FY 2019-20 the total cost to the Town of VNASC nursing services was \$25,780 which was \$837 under the contractual agreement budget of \$26,617. The VNASC provided another \$75,725 of nursing services, covered by alternate funding sources. Of the \$14,836 budgeted for nursing services not covered by the VNASC contract, \$13,505 was spent, which was \$1,331 under budget.

PHNB Funding Activity	Actual Spending 2019/2020	Below / (Over) the Budget
VNASC Contractual Nursing Services	\$ 256,780	\$837
Administrative Expenses	\$ 2,254	\$(1,054)
Un-contracted PH/ Nursing Services	\$13,505	\$215
Total Spending FY 18/19	\$ 41,539	\$(2)
VNASC Services Paid by Other Sources	\$75,725	NA

The VNASC provided a variety of health/nursing and outreach services paid by town funds for the residents of Old Saybrook during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020. Services provided were: cholesterol and diabetes screening, diabetes education, blood pressure clinics and counseling, flu shots, foot care clinics, stroke screening, fall prevention, medication supervision, and health counseling and referrals. The total number of people served by these programs was 229; total visits by these clients were 971. There were 41 outreach home visits for the purpose of evaluation, education, and advocacy. Although the final quarter of the year was heavily affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, Ms. Belmont,

the town nurse, continued to support residents by phone, helping isolated families get needed resources. The Home Healthcare Team continued making visits throughout Old Saybrook for those who were acutely and chronically ill, including those discharged from the hospital after contracting COVID-19.

In FY 2019-20 the PHNB continued to fund nutrition education in town. Nutritionist Kathy Cobb, MS, RD, offered a program called “Grub Club” to middle school students. This year the program was impacted by the pandemic. Kathy presented 11 cooking sessions from October to February 2020. Students were taught about healthy foods and learned how to prepare healthy meals and snacks for their families. The program is one of the most popular after-school programs with 30 students participating this year. The cost of Grub Club was \$1,043. Please read more about this innovative program on the PHNB website. The second nutrition program the PHNB helped fund (\$250), was the Kidz Lunch Bunch, a free summer feeding program. This year “Kidz Helpers” became volunteers under the Old Saybrook Emergency Management Team. As such the volunteers distributed “Grab and Go” sandwich meals and milk to families in cars at the Old Saybrook High School. Eight Old Saybrook restaurants contribute the meals with milk to more 300 families at this writing. Please read more about the Kidz Lunch Bunch on the PHNB town website. Kathy Cobb also participated in Community Day on the Town Green; 500 people attended. Kathy offered mystery smoothies, a healthy food alternative. The cost to the PHNB was \$73.

Old Saybrook Social Services requested grant funding from the PHNB for FY 2020-21. The Emergency Medical Fund program provides emergency prescription refills; transportation to doctors, chemotherapy, and radiation appointments; dressings and medical supplies; home health aide services; and flu shots. The Hygiene Fund grant offers Old Saybrook residents assistance purchasing health/hygiene supplies such as hand sanitizer, toothpaste, soap, diapers (adult/infant), wipes, feminine hygiene products, all cleaning supplies, etc. Most of these items cannot be purchased with Food Stamps or WIC coupons. The PHNB provided two grants for next fiscal year, \$1,000 for emergency medical care and \$2,000 for health/hygiene supplies.

Since 2011, the PHNB has worked in collaboration with other local health professionals to alleviate a gap in dental services/care to residents of Old Saybrook. Individuals using this town fund are un/under-insured and most would not otherwise have dental care. In FY 2019-20, the PHNB allocated \$2,500 to the dental fund; the grant was renewed for \$5,000 for FY 2020-21.

In FY 2019-20 the PHNB received a request for a grant from Old Saybrook Youth & Family Services. The Youth Action Council requested a \$3,000 grant to help fund the “Assets in Action Program.” The PHNB provided this grant.

Our second mission is to enable the development and expansion of nursing resources by providing financial assistance for continuing education and scholarship programs at no additional cost to the Town. Our objective is to provide private funding for these programs without impacting the overall financial integrity of our existing endowment. We currently manage three private endowments: the Flanagan Fund, the Nightingale Fund, and the Morris Fund. The following table summarizes the current financial condition of these funds:

Endowment	Funds Available
Flanagan Fund	\$75,512
Nightingale Fund	\$13,572
Morris Fund	\$13,220
Total Endowment	\$102,304

To supplement the Nightingale Scholarship Fund, the PHNB sponsored its annual appeal beginning in January 2020. Appeal letters were mailed to the residents and businesses of the Old Saybrook area; this year's appeal raised \$7,780. These funds combined with the interest generated from our endowment allowed the nursing board to offer three \$2,000 scholarships this year, totaling \$6,000. The scholarships were awarded to Mackenzie Cart, Cassidy Hallowell, and Julia Sultini. All recipients plan to attend an accredited nursing program this fall. The PHNB also paid \$16,000 in scholarship funds to the 2019 Nightingale Scholarship recipients. These recipients completed their first academic year in their respective nursing programs.

PHNB meetings are regularly scheduled at 7:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month excluding the months of July and August. Meetings are held in the Old Saybrook Town Hall. Please visit the Public Health Nursing Board on the Town of Old Saybrook website for more detailed information.

Diane Aldi DePaola, RN, Chair

PUBLIC WORKS

The Public Works Department is responsible for the maintenance of 72 miles of roadways. Maintenance includes snowplowing, sidewalk repair, pruning and taking down trees, road sweeping, guardrail repair, cleaning of over 750 catch basins located throughout the Town, and cutting of grass at town-owned buildings, town islands, and along roadsides. The maintenance of town parks and beaches is under the direction of the Public Works Department through the Parks and Recreation Department.

The Public Works Department is staffed with the Director of Public Works, a crew of six full-time employees, two full-time park maintainers and two 12-week part-time employees for summertime.

The following projects were completed:

- Installed new sidewalk panels at 163–201 Main Street.
- Installed new parking stalls at 162–178 Main Street.
- Drainage installed on Atlantic Drive, Knollwood Drive, Oakwood Road, intersection of Beach Road and Maple Avenue and the south side of Walker Ave. Ext. to Barnes Road South.
- Installed new 12" concrete pipe on Schoolhouse Road.
- Catch basins replaced and drainage installed on North Cove Road and Church Street. Both roads pulverized, regraded and paved.
- Drainage repair on Clearwater Road.

- Excavated shoulder to shoulder for culvert replacement and headwall pipe on Old Post Road. Repaved from Route 1, 1,000 ft.
- Due to flooding and higher tides, Bliss Street was raised between 18”–2’ with large stone and gravel. Once settled, the road will be paved.
- Replaced catch basin on Cromwell Place and Allendale Road.
- Catch basin repair on Seabreeze Road and two repairs on Nehantic Trail.
- Old Post Road guardrail installation both sides of road.
- Road repair, chip seal and fog seal on Wood Pond Road, Holly Drive, Rock Ridge Road, Hillcrest Court, Hillcrest Drive, Denmore Road, Orchard Lane, Beaver Dam Trail and Kitteridge Hill Road.
- Town Park, Founders Park and Harvey’s Beach parking areas were pulverized and, using those millings, mixed with ground asphalt shingles, regraded and rolled to produce a harder finish to help eliminate pothole development.

Again, Public Works offered residential leaf pickup. Residents were asked to bag their leaves into biodegradable paper bags and place them at curbside. Residents can take loose leaves or bagged (biodegradable paper bags) leaves to the old landfill site located at the end of Coulter Street. Compost is available year-round at the Transfer Station.

Larry Bonin, *Public Works Director*

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

During the time period of July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, the Registrar’s Office registered 632 new voters, as compared to the previous year when 775 new voters were registered. The municipal election on November 5, 2019 had a 35% turnout in both districts. District 1 had a total of 3,458 registered voters, 1,215 of whom voted. District 2 had a total of 4,863 registered voters, 1,713 of whom cast their ballots. Our voter turnout remains highest for presidential elections. In 2016, the year of the last presidential election, we had 78% voter participation.

This year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Old Saybrook budget referendum was cancelled. The Town Hall was closed to the public in March and reopened in June. The presidential primary, which was originally scheduled for April 28, was postponed until June 2, cancelled again, and rescheduled for August 11, 2020. Absentee ballots and a new secure ballot box located at the front of the Old Saybrook Town Hall are part of our “new normal” for elections.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on how elections and our office are run. The Registrar’s Office is too small to accommodate six feet of social distance; as a result, the “two Joans” decided to change our office hours and work on separate days. Joan Broadhurst, the Republican registrar, works on Mondays and Tuesdays from 11-2 and Joan Strickland, the Democratic registrar, now works on Wednesdays and Thursdays. With our thanks to the Maintenance Department, we now have a “Dutch door” with a shelf for filling out voter registration cards and answering questions. It has been a very welcome addition to our office.

This year we attended cyber-security classes, upgraded our computer systems, and participated in Zoom meetings with the Secretary of the State's Office on best practices for conducting safe elections and the need for absentee ballots. It has been an interesting year of learning many new skills and adapting so that elections continue to run smoothly.

Joan Strickland, *Democratic Registrar*

Joan Broadhurst, *Republican Registrar*

RIVERSIDE CEMETERY

The Old Saybrook Riverside Cemetery located at 59 Sheffield Street and incorporated on October 26, 1926, was established to provide burial space for the residents of Old Saybrook. A board of directors consisting of seven members along with the president, superintendent and secretary/treasurer oversees the operation and establishes the regulations of the cemetery.

The annual meeting was not held due to COVID-19 restrictions and has not been rescheduled.

Work continues taking care of the necessary upkeep and needs of the cemetery grounds. All reports are on file.

The cemetery has approximately 300-plus plots. Plots vary in size to accommodate full burials and cremation burials as well as double-depth burials. A plot contains 12, 15, 18 or 24 gravesites.

A map of each plot has been established by plot number and contains the number of gravesites, the names of interred individuals, who purchased the gravesite(s) and if any gravesites are available.

Continued improvement is ongoing. Trees have been trimmed. Development of the southeast area is in progress and will continue indefinitely. Improvement and repair to the roads is in future plans. Consideration is being given to developing an area for a columbarium containing niches for cremation urn burials.

Recognizing a cemetery is in reality a memorial to loved ones, Old Saybrook Riverside Cemetery Association continues the important work of maintaining gravesites in pristine condition, thus limiting areas available for spring and winter decorations.

The officers and the board of directors make every attempt to accommodate the needs of the public when a burial space is purchased in Riverside Cemetery. Each individual purchasing a gravesite(s) is provided information with copies of the rules and regulations, the by-laws, and a certificate of burial reservation to the gravesite. The rules and regulations of the cemetery, established by the board of directors, assure the maintenance and appearance of the cemetery is always in excellent condition and remains attractive.

The association's board of directors conduct services as required. Requests are received for genealogy purposes, location of gravesites and lists of relatives interred.

John J. Torrenti, Jr., *President*

Officers

John J. Torrenti, Jr., *President*
 Patrick E. Burke, *Superintendent*
 Gloria C. Fogg, *Secretary-Treasurer*
 Barbara Maynard, *Recording Secretary*

Directors

Philip Appell	Norma Dyson	Barbara Maynard
William Peace	Thomas Stevenson	Fern Tryon
Margaret Viggiano		

SELECTMEN, BOARD OF

The Board of Selectmen considers it an honor to serve the residents of Old Saybrook. Allow this to be the board's report on the year that has passed.

As the chair of the Board of Selectmen, I consider the stewardship of the Town's finances to be perhaps the most important function of the board. The first selectman starts working on a budget in October by meeting with department heads to discuss wants and needs. All departments are requested to propose budgets that reflect personnel costs but no other increases. Capital requests are treated separately. Departments deliver their final budgets to the first selectman by January 15. For the past several years, the Board of Selectmen has held joint budget meetings with the Board of Finance commencing in January. This is an effort by the first selectman to engage the Board of Finance early in the process, allowing more time for our board volunteers to familiarize themselves with the budget. The Board of Finance reviews the budget from March through April and submits the budget to the voters by referendum, usually in early May. I consider budget proposals as planning documents and the Town of Old Saybrook has planned well. Sound financial planning over the last nine years has led to funding stabilization in nearly all parts of the budget. The Town continues to see a drop in our bonded indebtedness with our large capital project list nearly complete.

During this fiscal year, the Town refunded some of its debt, which we do whenever opportunity presents. With historical lows in interest rates, the Town refunded and will save several hundred thousand dollars in interest over the remaining term of the bonds. Bonds are not like mortgages; they cannot be refunded just because interest rates are low. There are dates which indicate the earliest moment they can be refunded. The next opportunity for this, assuming interest rates stay low, may be in 2022; however, that may be dependent on congressional legislation that is currently proposed.

In the fall, the Town addressed an exterior issue at the Katharine Hepburn Cultural Arts Center. The weight-bearing pillars out in front are original wood pillars dating back over a century. While their overall condition was good, the bases of the pillars were rotting in certain areas. This had to be addressed, as did the cement pedestal and steps leading up to the pillars. The Kate is a town-owned building and making certain that it retains its structural integrity and good looks is important to Main Street. This job was bid out and successfully completed on time.

On the subject of maintaining buildings, we have now nearly completed the renovation of the Youth and Family Services building. Several years ago, the interior of the building was renovated upon the discovery of a mold issue. Soon thereafter, we re-sided the building with a composite material that is long-lasting and low maintenance. The uneven stone parking lot was repaved a few months after the siding was completed and, during the last fiscal year, central air was finally installed. This building was previously cooled with nine window-unit air conditioners. With central air installed, the window units went to families in town that did not have the resources to cool their homes and who now can live through the summer months with a bit more comfort.

We received a grant for \$250,000 to complete the “missing link” on our Route 1 sidewalks from Pond Street to Lynde Street. This section of the sidewalk could not be completed in the original project due to a wetlands issue. As a result, a solution had to be engineered and grant monies secured. I am happy to say that this section of sidewalk should be complete in the fall of 2020.

Speaking of sidewalks, the Town continues its march to improve and renovate nearly all of its existing sidewalks. This past spring, the Town replaced an old stretch of crumbling asphalt sidewalks on Route 1 from Dairy Queen to Old Post Road, further connecting these sidewalks to our new and improved sidewalks on Old Boston Post Road and all the way down to Saybrook Point. We are a town that is known for its walkability and enhancing that ability is key to our sense of community. Especially with the pandemic, our sidewalks have been more popular than ever as our residents and visitors look for safe and enjoyable activities. The Town is proud of its commitment to this program.

This year we also spent a lot of time fine-tuning our human resource capabilities. Smaller towns all across the country struggle with human resources due to the expense and thus do not prioritize this area of government. Starting many years ago, that changed under my administration. The Town began by introducing its first employee handbook in 2013 and modifying it a few times in the years that followed. This past fiscal year, as so many laws have changed both at the state and federal level, we conducted a thorough review with an attorney and rewrote the entire handbook. Along with the new handbook, we created a supervisor’s manual that allows the directors in our various departments to have, essentially, a quick-reference guide when a subordinate approaches them with an issue. This allows for a more streamlined approach to addressing issues before they become a larger problem. As we all know, a good human resources structure can avoid small and not-so-small personnel issues. In the long run, investing in this area will save the Town headaches and protect it from potential liability.

In an effort to always seek the best service for the town and our residents, the Town conducted a banking request for proposals (RFP). We have previously done this with both the Town’s benefit broker (health and life insurance) and actuary (town and fire department pension). The process is always an eye-opener as the Town is able to learn about new services and offers. It is truly amazing what good competition does for the bottom line and for our internal government operations. As a result of the banking RFP, the Town ended a long-term banking relationship and started a new relationship. We look forward to passing on some

direct benefits from this banking switch to our residents as we make some technological improvements in the way we do business. Stay tuned.

Most importantly, the Town finished up another very successful budget year. Highlights include stable finances, appropriate capital investment and healthy reserves. At the end of fiscal year 2020, our rainy day fund is at its highest level in 15 years (at 16%, up from 5% ten years ago), and our capital reserves are strong. The 2019-2020 fiscal year tallied another budget surplus due to tightly controlled spending and local revenues that were mostly in line with expectations. We have capital reserves for emergencies (perhaps a boiler breakdown) and for designated items (like fire trucks, fixing roofs and public works vehicles). The board has also been careful to put monies aside for projects that arise that will make our community a better one in which to live. We are investing funds in our library, our parks and recreation facilities, and sidewalks. These projects could not have been done without professional financial planning from our team here in Town Hall. I am proud to report that the Town of Old Saybrook's financial position is strong (despite the difficulty that was created by the pandemic), a position confirmed by Moody's Investor Service and our municipal auditors, who continue to give our municipal finances excellent reviews.

Good finances are one thing but the other side of the coin is quality of life. We live in a beautiful community and having the ability to enjoy it year-round is so important. The Town continues to invest in projects that take advantage of our outdoor environment. Improvements in The Preserve, continued sidewalk repairs, and upgrades to the Kavanagh Park tennis courts were completed. These upgrades were critical, especially in light of the pandemic and the desire for people to get outside and do safe activities. Old Saybrook is meant to be a walkable community and fixing our broken sidewalks and making our trails more accessible has made walking in our community a safe and enjoyable experience.

We have reduced our paper records by upgrading our accounting system and our time and attendance systems. Building project records are mostly kept online and are easily accessible, which is better for our internal records management but even better for the public. All in all, we have streamlined how we do business in Town Hall which has led to better service at a reduced cost.

Our town benefits immensely from all those citizens who volunteer their time, from beautifying Main Street to helping out those less fortunate. We always need volunteers on our boards and commissions, so when you see an opportunity to make a difference, please consider putting your name forward. Government provides many services but needs a large and vibrant group of volunteers to run effectively. Thank you to all who make our Old Saybrook one of the greatest places to live, work and play.

Carl P. Fortuna, Jr., *First Selectman*

Scott Giegerich, *Selectman*

Matthew Pugliese, *Selectman*

SHORELINE SOUP KITCHENS & PANTRIES

Founded 31 years ago, the mission of Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries (SSKP) is to provide food and fellowship to those in need and to educate our community about hunger and poverty. During the COVID-19 pandemic that mission has never been more important. Any residents of Old Saybrook may come to a contactless, curbside, free grocery distribution once a week at any one of our five food pantries—and all are welcome to free prepared meals at our meal sites (at this writing three of our nine meal sites are open for “grab & go” meals). Serving 11 shoreline towns, including Old Saybrook, all of SSKP’s sites are hosted by local faith communities. We employ only a small staff, operating with the assistance of more than 900 committed and hard-working community volunteers.

Last year 7,699 shoreline neighbors registered at one of our food pantries, receiving food for 949,261 meals. During the first half of 2020 we have already provided food equivalent to 650,000 meals. Since March 2020 and the start of the pandemic, we have experienced huge increases in those coming for food as so many low-income people had experienced financial losses due to COVID-19 impacts. Twice as many families attended our food distributions at the height of the shutdown. Currently we are seeing a more than 50% increase in families who need food in the summer months of 2020. All those who come continue to be welcomed to receive food during this time of crisis. Our pantries offer fresh meat, bread, fresh fruits and vegetables, eggs, dairy and canned and packaged foods. Those who come are not required to prove they are in need; all those in our 11-town service area can simply come and safely receive food.

Many residents in Old Saybrook continue to need help. Last year we registered 832 Old Saybrook residents at one of our pantries. Our Old Saybrook pantry, hosted by First Church of Christ in Saybrook (Congregational), distributed 266,625 pounds of food and registered 1,774 unduplicated individuals. The Old Saybrook Pantry distributed enough food last year for 202,221 meals. Our Wednesday Meal Site in Old Saybrook, hosted by Grace Episcopal Church, served 2,951 nutritious hot lunches.

Those in need include ALICE (Asset Limited Income Constrained Employed), the homeless, the elderly, the unemployed or underemployed, and individuals who suffer from a mental or physical illness that prevents them from being able to meet their basic needs. Most of those we serve have jobs and work hard but still struggle to make ends meet. During the pandemic, many experienced a significant loss of income due to layoffs or shutdowns at their places of work. Of those we serve, 14% are seniors, many living on a small, fixed income; many others are disabled or suffering from physical or mental illness. Last year, 56% of the pantry registrants were families of four or more; 35% were infants, children or teens; and 20% were living alone.

Your support makes a real difference in the lives of your neighbors in need in Old Saybrook. Your annual funding of \$7,500 provides enough food for many hundreds of Old Saybrook families who are struggling. All funds received from the Town of Old Saybrook are used exclusively to purchase food.

Learn more about SSKP and how you can give help or get help. Visit our website at shorelinesoupkitchens.org, find us on Facebook or please call us at (860) 388-1988.

Amy Hollis, *Executive Director*

TAX COLLECTOR

Grand List Year: October 1, 2018
 Collection: July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020
 Mill Rate: 19.75 (\$19.75 per \$1,000.00 in assessed value)

Taxable Property	# Bills	Tax Collectable Beg. Bal. 7/1/19	Uncollected Balance As of June 30, 2020
Real Estate	6,696	\$40,912,808.33	\$336,579.21
Personal Property	1,042	\$1,451,009.81	\$37,039.44
Motor Vehicle	12,818	\$2,170,455.75	\$34,759.09
Motor Vehicle Supplemental	2,170	\$314,783.67	\$15,467.22
Totals	22,726	\$44,849,057.56	\$423,844.96

Budgeted Collection Rate: 99%
 Collected 94.5% of beginning collectible

Additional Budget Categories

Back Tax Collection \$100,000.00 (budgeted)
 Collected after adjustments \$154,839.79

Interest & Lien Fees \$100,000.00 (budgeted)
 Collected after adjustments \$132,828.00

(Figures stated above subject to adjustment and change upon review by auditors.)

In compliance with and to meet the requirements of Connecticut State Statute: Chapter 204; Sec. 12-167 Reports of Tax Collectors – the Final Posted Rate Book for Grand List October 1, 2018 (fiscal year 7/1/2019 through 6/30/2020) will be on file in the Town Clerk's Office, 302 Main Street, Old Saybrook, CT when printed.

Our commitment to professional development continues and, when possible, we take advantage of educational seminars and opportunities offered by the Middlesex County Tax Collectors Association and the Connecticut Tax Collectors Association. We are constantly networking and seeking solutions for improved office operations and daily functions within the Tax Office—ultimately getting monies collected to the treasurer for investment as soon as possible.

Thank you to Wendy H. Morison, assistant tax collector, for her dedication and focus and for keeping us on task and the office running smoothly. It is teamwork which gets the job done.

Barry E. Maynard, *Tax Collector, Elected
 Certified Connecticut Municipal Collector
 Member & Past President Middlesex County Tax Collectors Association
 Member, Connecticut Tax Collectors Association*

TOWN CLERK AND REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS

Land Records recorded	2,728
Survey & Subdivision Maps recorded	38
Marriage Certificates recorded	27
Birth Certificates recorded	43
Death Certificates recorded	187
Dogs/Kennels registered	933/6
Town Clerk Fees deposited to General Fund	\$117,685
Conveyance Taxes deposited to General Fund	\$282,563
Monies disbursed by Town Clerk:	
Marriage Surcharge	\$2,934
Preservation Fees to State of Connecticut	\$112,088

The major changes in the operation of the office this year are the result of COVID-19, which has altered the way we all do business. This office remained open continuously, allowing admittance to all public records at first by your call for an appointment and, most recently, by just entering the building with a mask and social distancing. We have continually served your needs in spite of the pandemic. We appreciate that you have embraced the ability to get information by mail, email, fax etc. and allowed us to change various methods of filing and acquiring documents, which has been beneficial to both you and this office. I would like to commend my assistants, Tina Antolino and Cindy Kane, for their ability to carry on their exemplary service during trying times.

We look forward to the opportunity to serve you. The Town Clerk's office is open daily from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or by phone at (860) 395-3135. On off hours, please visit our website at www.oldsaybrookct.org to find information and forms. Click on Departments and then on Town Clerk to access our page. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need help of any kind.

Sarah V. Becker, CCMC, Town Clerk and Registrar of Vital Statistics

TOWN TREASURER

Our financial goals are to meet the service and infrastructure needs of the citizens of the Town of Old Saybrook while increasing town equity, limiting long-term debt, avoiding mill rate spikes associated with project bonding, and keeping tax rates as low as possible.

The Town of Old Saybrook remains in excellent financial condition. For the 2019-2020 fiscal year, General Fund revenues exceeded expenditures by approximately \$.7 million (see details in the final section of this Town Report). This surplus will maintain our unappropriated fund balance at a minimum of 15% of the new budget, which is the goal of our Fund Balance Policy. The Town established a new mill rate for the 2020-2021 fiscal year of 20.05, still one of the lowest in the State of Connecticut.

The Town's total bonded debt on June 30, 2020, stood at \$28 million compared to an allowable debt by state standards of approximately \$250 million

for a town of our size. The amount of outstanding debt will be going down for the foreseeable future.

The Town maintains a municipal rating of Aa2 by Moody's Investors Services, with our "conservative financial management practices" and "structurally balanced operations" supporting that rating. That is only two steps away from the highest Aaa rating. In today's marketplace, that rating is important for maintaining a low cost of debt. Going forward, it will be important to continue our conservative policies, maintain our assets, and build our fund balances in order to maintain or improve that rating.

Robert W. Fish, *Town Treasurer*

TRANSFER STATION

The Transfer Station, located at 499 Middlesex Turnpike, is staffed with one full-time operator and four-part time attendants. The hours of operation are 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Monday; CLOSED Tuesday; CLOSED Wednesday; 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Thursday; 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Friday; and 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Saturday. The Transfer Station is CLOSED on Sunday. Hours may be adjusted due to holidays.

The Board of Selectmen issues Transfer Station passes to residents and property owners for use of the Town Transfer Station. Below are regulations relative to the issuance of these passes.

- A Transfer Station pass may be obtained through www.oldsaybrookct.org [hover over QUICK LINKS and under REQUEST or APPLY FOR select Transfer Station Residential Pass] or in person at the Town Hall, 302 Main Street, in the Selectman's Office. Please provide a current driver's license and vehicle registration displaying an Old Saybrook address. If your driver's license or registration does not include an Old Saybrook address, a suitable proof of residency such as a tax bill or utility bill must be presented.
- Transfer Station passes are given to those who qualify at no charge.
- **Passes must be affixed to the driver's side of the windshield. Entrance to the Transfer Station will be denied if the pass is not affixed with the self-adhering tape.**
- Each household vehicle may obtain a pass. There is currently no expiration date for these passes.
- Permanent, seasonal and part-time renters may apply for Transfer Station passes but must have proper proof of residency or tenancy. This includes utility bills, copies of a lease, tax bills or other satisfactory proof.
- A seasonal visitor (friend house sitting, family visitor, *etc.*) is not eligible for a Transfer Station pass.

Business owners who will be using the Transfer Station need to obtain a Transfer Station Permit.

Residents who hire building contractors or landscape-type contractors that will be using the Transfer Station to drop off building demolition materials or

brush and yard waste will need to obtain a Transfer Station Permit. The permit must be filled out prior to using the Transfer Station. The permit requests homeowner and contractor information including, type of work, description of waste, start/finish date, and signature. The homeowner will be contacted for contractor verification. Information provided on the permit must be accurate and any falsification will impose an immediate penalty as notification of first offense served.

The Transfer Station Permit is free and available on our website, www.oldsaybrookct.org [hover over QUICK LINKS and under REQUEST or APPLY FOR select Transfer Station Commercial Permit].

Pursuant to Chapter 118-13 of the Old Saybrook Town Code, a fine of \$100 will be imposed on any resident or nonresident caught illegally dumping at the Old Saybrook Transfer Station.

The Town does not provide municipal trash pick-up. Residents interested in trash pick-up need to hire a private trash hauler.

Old Saybrook residential-generated trash is accepted at the Transfer Station and must be separated for disposal. Recycling bins are provided for newspaper, cardboard, junk mail, books, office paper, pizza boxes, cereal boxes, magazines, telephone books, metal and glass food containers, plastic containers, and bottles. We continue to ask residents for help in our recycling efforts to reduce our tonnage. The savings for the taxpayer will be measurable and the benefit to the environment will be priceless. Recycling is one of the easiest and most cost-effective methods to save energy and reduce landfill waste while improving our environment.

The State of Connecticut passed a law requiring the mattress industry to create a recycling program for old mattresses discarded in the state. The mattress industry created the Mattress Recycling Council (MRC) to implement the program statewide. The primary goal of the MRC is to assist all Connecticut municipalities in recycling mattresses from our residents. Due to this program, mattresses can be discarded for free at the Old Saybrook Transfer Station and 877 mattresses were collected this year.

Electronics are also accepted at the Transfer Station. Residents may, free of charge, bring their unwanted electronics. Accepted materials include: computers, laptops, printers, fax machines, monitors, TV's, cell phones, tablets, video games, game consoles, VCR/DVD machines, remotes, keyboards, computer mice, modems, small appliances and stereo equipment. All electronic equipment is safely packaged and transported to a CT DEEP-approved facility for responsible and secure recycling in conjunction with Connecticut's Electronics Recycling Law, RCSA 22a-638-1. This year 37.88 tons of electronics were discarded.

Dumpsters are in place as well as separating bins for concrete, brick, asphalt, and dirt. By separating these items, delivery is now made to a local recycler and eliminates a disposal fee.

Fees for brush/bulky waste material will be imposed as authorized under the provisions of Section 22a-220 of the General Statutes of Connecticut—Old Saybrook Transfer Stations Fees. A copy of the fee schedule is available in the Selectmen's Office, at the Transfer Station, and on our website www.oldsaybrookct.org.

In FY 2020, the Transfer Station carted approximately:

1,566	Tons of Household Garbage (MIRA Transfer Station, Essex)
499	Tons of Single Stream: newspaper, bottles and cans, junk mail, cereal/pizza boxes, magazines, office paper, phone books (MIRA Transfer Station, Essex)
1,224	Tons of Bulky Waste (Calamari Recycling, Essex)
202	Tons of Scrap Metal (Calamari Recycling, Essex)

The Transfer Station can be especially active with vehicle and pedestrian traffic and we ask that you follow the speed limit, stay alert and exercise patience.

Larry Bonin, *Public Works Director*

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

Fiscal year 2019-2020 brought the completion of the Cornfield Point septic upgrades as well as the completion of Phase II of the Wastewater Management District (WWMD) Program. The WPCA, during fiscal year 2019-2020 and through fiscal year 2020-2021, will continue to move forward with the planning for Phase III. Phase III includes the five remaining beach areas: Plum Bank, Great Hammock Beach, Saybrook Manor, Indiantown and Chalker Beach.

This phase represents a group effort with DEEP, Fuss & O'Neill Consulting Engineers, the WPCA Board and the Board of Selectman. Any further onsite remediation will be determined in conjunction with the final approved plan for Phase III.

The Town is determined to satisfy the State DEEP and the court-stipulated judgement at the lowest possible cost to the WWMD residents.

The completion of Phase II brings the levying of construction management costs. Levied in January 2020, these assessments will be billed in October 2020 to coincide with the new billing cycle for fiscal year 2020-2021.

The WPCA continues to administer the Septic System Pump-out Program, which requires residents to pump out their septic tanks every five years in accordance with Town Ordinance #75. Reminder postcards will be mailed on a quarterly basis. Residents are encouraged to remind their service providers to record the pump-out data in the "Carmody" database.

The WPCA staff has seen many changes this year including, the retirements of Stephen Mongillo, WWMD program manager, and Robbie Marshall, WPCA Coordinator; the departures of Steve and Matthew Pytlik who moved on to employment outside of the Town of Old Saybrook; and the return of Cameron Evangelisti to the Public Works Department. In addition, Jim Vanoli, who had been serving as the WPCA site manager, has taken the helm as program manager, bringing 50 years' of engineering experience to the challenges of Phase III. His considerable knowledge and attention to detail are valuable assets in the planning and execution of this phase.

Finally, Chuck Wehrly, after 32 years' of service to the Town of Old Saybrook, first on the WPCA Advisory Committee and then as one of the original members of the WPCA, retired in May 2020. His commitment to the WPCA

all these years and his wise counsel to us all will be sorely missed. While not nearly enough...Thank You Chuck.

Jason Becker, *Chair*

YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

Old Saybrook Youth and Family Services (OSYFS) has been a steadfast presence in service to the community for more than 45 years. The school system and town government as well as parents and other individuals, continue to see the value in consistent prevention education, positive youth development, and clinical counseling support for residents and family members. There are programs and services available to provide education and support for every developmental phase. Here are some examples:

- Old Saybrook Early Childhood Council (OSECC) provides preschool readiness programming and teacher support
- Socialization groups for pre-K–4th grade
- After-school clubs provide creative and physical outlets in supervised settings for grades 5–8
- High school transitional program at Camp Hazen in partnership with OS Public Schools
- Culturally diverse parenting resources and support at all stages of development
- Youth Action Council for grades 8–12
- Community, parent education, and discussion workshops
- Prevention programming

Mandated by Connecticut General Statute § 10-19m, a Youth Service Bureau (YSB) *is an agency operated directly by one or more municipalities that is designed for planning, evaluation, coordination, and implementation of a network of resources and opportunities for children, youth, and their families. In addition, YSBs are responsible for the provision of services and programs for all youth to develop positively and to function as responsible members of their communities.*

YSBs have a broader scope of service than most other youth-serving agencies. In addition to providing direct services like other agencies, YSBs have a responsibility to assess the needs of youth, identify gaps in service and coordinate services for youth to fill the gaps and avoid duplication of services. A town may operate its YSB directly or combine with one or more towns to jointly operate a YSB, or a town may designate a private agency to act as its agent for the purpose of providing these services. The first community-based YSBs were established in the late 1960s in response to a growing concern regarding issues such as juvenile delinquency, family crisis, drug and alcohol abuse and school truancy. Currently there are 102 YSBs serving 145 towns across the state.

OSYFS is unique in its model of having the potential to provide “wrap-around care,” offering support to the whole family through clinical mental health

services, youth activities and leadership development as well as supporting access to Basic Needs Services when needed.

In collaboration with Old Saybrook Public Schools (OSPS), OSYFS clinicians and interns are available within schools to offer individual and group services for a wide range of student needs. There is regular communication with school guidance and support staff about the development of age-appropriate services for students. OSYFS-provided services are seen as an additional support, not a replacement for what the school so proactively provides. A benefit of OSYFS clinical services is that the family may receive treatment at the agency outside of school operating hours as well as support throughout the calendar year.

OSYFS has been very adaptable and receptive to changing needs within the community. The need for mental health and social services support has risen over the last ten years and, with sustained financial stressors and the COVID-19 pandemic, the increase has been substantial. How and where OSYFS offers services is inherently flexible to accommodate the competing demands experienced by our student body and adult population. Responding to feedback from several “community needs” surveys, groups/services have been developed and offered for support around parenting, relationship building, anger management/conflict resolution, and substance abuse prevention and education. In response to the increased need for supportive services, YFS has diligently developed counseling practices for a broad range of therapeutic services as well as continuing to work to increase access to services and connect families with other therapeutic resources.

The OSECC, partially funded through Middlesex United Way, works collaboratively with the OSPS to enable early identification and intervention for behavioral health issues with students, and to increase school readiness skills. OSYFS is able to offer support to the entire family system, whether through parenting resources, family therapy, or by offering scholarship opportunities for students/youth to become involved in our “Positive Youth Development” programming.

An area of continuing development is the Intern Training Program. OSYFS has Master’s degree–level interns across disciplines of clinical mental health counseling, social work, and marriage and family therapy. The interns offer additional support for our Positive Youth Development coordinators, thereby allowing us to offer extended programs that are able to accommodate more students. OSYFS has agreed to provide training and supervision for students this coming year from CCSU, Rutgers, University of Central Florida, and UCONN. Their involvement allows OSYFS to provide more comprehensive coverage for in-school collaboration, and allows the agency to offer more varied services to individuals and families. The intern program adds a benefit to OSYFS at no cost to the taxpayer, and our connection to these schools offers our staff some additional training experiences at no cost.

In response to the increased need for supportive services, OSYFS has diligently developed counseling practices for a broad range of therapeutic services, and continues to work to increase access to all services. Working collaboratively with other town departments, organizations, and schools, OSYFS has strengthened many of the community partnerships that have long been the foundation for programs and initiatives designed to promote relationship building and

positive role modeling for youth. An annual Shoreline Clinical Networking event invites primary care and behavioral health providers to come together to increase patients' access to care. A program developed for the Goodwin School, ZENtime, offered students a chance to develop and practice emotion regulation and self-soothing skills. Social-emotional lunch groups within the middle school are well attended and provide support to students throughout the school year. Offered during consecutive sessions, every third grader in the first half of the 2019-20 academic year had the chance to practice their ZEN skills and come together for an evening with their parents so these skills could support more positive behavioral functioning at home. At the high school level, YFS clinicians offer special topic psychoeducation within health classes as well as offering student support at the Drop-In Center twice a week.

We would like to thank all who have contributed to our efforts over the past years. The Rotary Club, Old Saybrook/Westbrook Exchange Club, LIONS, Public Health Nursing Board, Masonic Lodge and Estuary Council of Seniors are some of our consistent civic organization partners. Many of our collaborative projects are successful due to a partnership with the Old Saybrook Police Department and Parks and Recreation.

The focus of our youth programming has been the intentional building of "assets"—qualities and characteristics that have been determined through research to support positive growth and development of youth. Some of these "assets" are: community values youth, positive peer influences, social competence, and adult role models. The language and philosophy of these initiatives, centered on the 40-Asset Developmental Model, is woven through everything YFS is involved in. We continue to seek opportunities within the community to develop meaningful roles for our youth, such as interning in businesses or serving on town boards and commissions. To learn more about the 40-Asset Model, visit www.search-institute.org.

We have implemented the Youth Action Council (YAC) with students to provide opportunities for skill development in areas of leadership, community service, and mentoring relationships. This past year, more than 80 high school students were consistently involved in YAC activities and community programs at monthly meetings. Approximately 15 eighth graders were involved in Junior YAC. YAC is entering its seventh year, and continues to draw positive attention to the efforts the Old Saybrook community puts forth to provide opportunities for youth to flourish. Our YAC mentors also accompany the ninth-grade class on their annual overnight to Camp Hazen and enhance relationships that encourage a positive transition to high school. Additionally, YACers helped support CommUNITY Day, the Chili Fest, holiday visits at Gladeview and a pasta dinner fundraiser at the Masonic Lodge.

A subgroup of YAC is E3, through the Governor's Prevention Partnership and the Department of Transportation. E3 stands for "Encourage, Empower and Educate," and these students were invited into the school to present their peer substance abuse education message during the health classes. They were also invited to present to a state organization, Connecticut Association of Prevention Professionals (CAPP), at its annual meeting. These students were also active with the legislative body organizing around the opposition to legalization of recre-

ational marijuana. Our E3 Vaping Campaign won recognition from CAPP last year. Students in grades 9–12 are invited to become a part of E3 by calling OSYFS.

The staff of OSYFS have demonstrated their commitment to providing quality, compassionate care for the residents of Old Saybrook by the level of their involvement, by receiving additional training, by developing and facilitating many programs targeted to meet specific needs in the community, and more.

While the public health crisis of COVID-19 caused a brief interruption in our service delivery, we were able to transition to telehealth in February. Using a HIPAA-compliant online platform to protect confidentiality and meet the rigorous requirements for providing mental health services virtually, all clinical staff received training in the ethics and technology of virtual mental health. We will continue to provide treatment using this platform for the foreseeable future. It increases access to mental health services and reduces barriers to treatment, such as transportation and scheduling impediments.

COVID-19 also impacted our ability to provide in-person Positive Youth Development Programming and, in response, we transitioned some of the YAC and E3 programming to a virtual platform. What became evident based on the reports from involved students, is that there is a strong need to stay engaged and connected—and having a goal and objectives to work on provides motivation to become involved in a community-based project.

Family Programming

Opportunities were developed to provide topical information and affordable social events for families.

- “Can We Talk?” education/informational series provided speakers and panel discussions on topical issues of interest to parents, teachers, youth, and other community members.
- Family events included CommUNITY Day, Waterfire, and Holiday Giving.

Support Groups and Therapeutic Groups

- Summertime groups for teens: Spectrum/LGBTQ, discussion and support
- *NEW* young adult (18-25yr. old) discussion and support group
- Stress Reduction/Mindfulness for Teens
- Asperger’s parents/grandparents support group, meets monthly
- Information group for foster and adoptive support

Community Collaboration

OSYFS works closely with the schools, police, agencies, businesses, and organizations to assess community needs, develop strategies, and implement effective programs.

- After-school creative clubs at middle school
- Early Childhood Council
- Local Drug and Alcohol Prevention Council
- Freshman Retreat
- CommUNITY Day
- Juvenile Review Board
- Student wellness programs at the middle school and high school
- Collaboration with OSPD for turkey distribution and Holiday Giving
- Participant in Emergency Management Team

Social Services

Social Services assists Old Saybrook residents in need with emergency food; prescriptions; medical care; dental care; help with transportation to needed services; energy assistance; budget counseling; help applying for federal, state, and local programs; employment workshops; and children's clothing, footwear, and back-to-school needs.

To meet the continued increase in need we have been running Social Service Help Day once a month with CT Food Bank to help provide for emergency food requests, which have risen this past year, especially since March 2020. More residents than ever are using the local food pantry and need additional help for food as well as other programs from Social Services. These programs have been offered on a virtual platform since late March.

At our SS Help Days we encouraged backyard gardening and raising chickens for eggs as well as providing nutritionists to help educate and promote healthy eating on food stamp budgets. We also held free dental clinics and provided health screenings. In addition, we provided HUSKY and SNAP outreach and helped with more than 250 SNAP applications for food assistance. We regularly see up to 130 families at these events monthly, which is in addition to the numbers that follow.

We also hosted a job fair, job training, and workshops on interviewing skills and resumé writing by bringing in Workforce Alliance/American Job Center and local employers to help more than 200 unemployed individuals find or train for employment.

We have partnered with Access Health—certified assisters to help our residents sign up for health care. The majority of these applications were for state HUSKY insurance. More than 25%, or one in every four children that you see heading off for school in your neighborhood, are currently on HUSKY state insurance and are from the families in need within our community.

This year, to meet basic needs and emergency requests, we:

- Provided help with more than 1,000 emergency and basic need assistance requests.
- Processed Energy Assistance applications for 140+ households.
- Provided emergency shut off/out of heat deliveries to approximately 40 households.
- Coordinated Holiday Giving program for 267 children.
- Coordinated Warm the Children assistance for 132 children.

Municipal Agent for the Elderly

Our Municipal Agent for the Elderly is an officially appointed town representative responsible for providing the elderly and their families with information and assistance on programs, services, and benefits. Senior citizens continue to face numerous challenges, especially as changes occur in their health and costs continue to rise while their fixed incomes do not. Requests from elderly residents who are struggling because they rely solely on Social Security for their incomes have increased this year. Food needs have also risen, with more requests for SNAP food assistance applications and more seniors using our food pantry and mobile truck pantry. Seniors also are in need of emergency fuel assistance—

over 55% of our applications were from seniors in need. Issues of particular concern continue to be:

- Unavailability of enough affordable senior housing.
- Health costs and issues.
- Heat and utility expenses.
- Food needs.

Heather McNeil, LMFT, LADC, *Director*

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Connecticut General Statutes empower the Zoning Board of Appeals as the local judicial board that acts upon requests for variances from the Zoning Regulations or the Flood Plain Management chapters of the Town Code, as well as appeals of decisions of the zoning enforcement officer in upholding these standards. The board also acts on Certificates of Location for automotive uses.

The electorate of Old Saybrook chooses five members to serve for a term of four years each and three alternate members for a term of two years each.

During the 2020 fiscal year, the board held 12 meetings at which it considered 28 petitions for variance of the Zoning Regulations.

In making its decisions regarding variances, the board considers whether the circumstances of the property are unique such that they result in an exceptional difficulty or unusual hardship in meeting the standards that are otherwise uniform for all other properties in the same zoning district. The board welcomes the comments of neighbors during the public hearing portion of any application and considers all information in judging the appropriateness of any variance.

The Zoning Board of Appeals meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall, first-floor conference room. Erica Cosenza supports us as our administrative clerk. Chris Costa, zoning enforcement officer, is available Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to noon in the Land Use Department of the Town Hall to assist with applications and to answer questions concerning land use in Old Saybrook.

Robert J. McIntyre, *Chair*

ZONING COMMISSION

The Connecticut General Statutes empower the Zoning Commission to regulate land uses and enforce its regulations for the protection of the public health, safety and welfare. The commission works exclusively with the Architectural Review Board for recommendations as to the aesthetics of any application for development according to the regulations and townwide design standards. The commission regards the testimony of residents and business owners who participate in its public hearings as an important element for consideration in its decision-making process—*please continue to attend and share your relevant local knowledge and experience.*

Old Saybrook elects five members to serve for a term of four years each and three alternate members for a term of two years each.

The commission frequently discusses its interpretations of the Zoning Regulations with business and property owners prior to considering proposals for development; these informal discussions reinforce consistency in policy and make for more efficient permitting of eventual development. During the 2020 fiscal year, the Zoning Commission met 19 times.

- The commission reviewed five petitions to amend the Zoning Regulations.
- The commission considered 11 applications for development by Special Exception and one for site plan review as well as some minor modifications to modernize previously approved structures or business operations.
- The commission approved 54 applications for annual outdoor seating renewals and three gravel pit renewals.
- The zoning enforcement officer processed 160 applications for administrative approval of Certificates of Zoning Compliance, 20 applications for signs and 54 applications for accessory apartment renewals.

The commission is an active participant in conversations about land use policy in Old Saybrook and it works regularly with other boards and commissions. Madge Fish represents the commission on the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission.

This was an unusual year for zoning as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic in that Governor Lamont's Executive Order 7MM impacted a number of zoning regulations to allow for the administrative approval of expanded outdoor seating. The zoning enforcement officer created an application process and worked with the fire marshal, building official, CT River Area Health District and chief of police to expedite permits during the pandemic. Temporary expanded seating permits were processed, not including additional modifications for further expansion.

The commission would like to recognize the extraordinary efforts of Sarah Lyons and Rebecca Zychowski who were at the Town Hall every day responding to requests for records and permits while the building was closed to the public. Sarah and Becky were critical in keeping day-to-day operations running as normally as possible during the State of Emergency. We would also like to thank Larry Hayden for organizing virtual meetings and helping staff with technological challenges to keep the zoning process moving.

The Zoning Commission meets on the first and third Mondays of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall, first-floor conference room. All meetings are open to the public. Joanne Galli supports us as our administrative clerk. Chris Costa, zoning enforcement officer, who conducts our enforcement activities, is available Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to noon in the Land Use Department of the Town Hall to assist with applications and to answer questions concerning land use in Old Saybrook.

Robert C. Friedmann, *Chair*

SECTION III

EMPLOYEE WAGES AND REPRESENTATION

General Government employees are represented by two separate units of the American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees Union (AFSCME):

Local 818, Council #4, Supervisory Unit, with a three-year contract through June 30, 2020.

Local 1303-278, Council #4, Non-Supervisory Unit, with a four-year contract through June 30, 2021.

General Government positions not represented by a union or bargaining unit include the finance director, library director, town planner, IT manager, employee benefits coordinator, certain positions within the WPCA, and those employees who work less than 20 hours per month on a regular basis. The wages for these employees and elected officials are established through the budget process.

There are two exclusive bargaining units for full-time employees of the Department of Police Services. Twenty-three certified police officers are represented by the Connecticut Organization for Public Safety (C.O.P.S.). This contract expires June 30, 2020. Nine certified public safety dispatchers are represented by the United Public Service Employees Union. This contract expires June 30, 2021. The salary and benefit structure for the remaining per diem/part-time civilian employees of the department and the position of police lieutenant is established by the chief of police and approved by the police commission through budget approval. The chief of police maintains a non-expiring contract with the Town of Old Saybrook Board of Police Commissioners which details salary and benefit information.

The Board of Education is represented by five separate unions or bargaining units:

- 1) Old Saybrook Administrator's Organization, with a contract through June 30, 2022.
- 2) Old Saybrook Education Association, with a contract through August 31, 2020.
- 3) Old Saybrook Educational Secretaries' Union, AFSCME Local 1303-224, Council #4 with a contract through June 30, 2022.
- 4) Old Saybrook Custodial Union, AFSCME Local 1303-020, Council #4, with a contract through June 30, 2021.
- 5) Old Saybrook Paraprofessional Municipal Employees, Independent CILU Local #53 with a contract through June 30, 2021.

The salaries of the superintendent and director of operations, facilities and finance are determined by the Board of Education.

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

The Board of Education and General Government provide health, dental and life insurance benefits to eligible full-time employees.

The Town's Defined Benefit Retirement Plan provides for pension benefits to eligible employees upon their retirement. In fiscal year 2019–2020 the Town contributed 8.5% of an employee's base wages to the Pension Fund. Board of Education employees (excluding teachers) and General Government employees contributed 5% of their base wages to the Pension Fund.

All General Government employees hired on or after July 1, 2017 (except for the Department of Police Services) participate in the Town's Defined Contribution Retirement Plan. The Town matches the mandatory employee contribution of 5%. In addition, employees have the option to contribute up to an additional 3% which the Town matches as well.

SALARIES FOR GENERAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Base Pay represents salary for full-time employees and total pay for part-time employees. Additional Compensation represents overtime, work for other departments, payments from grants not included in the Town's salary budget, or payments in lieu of health insurance.

** Indicates part-time employees*

	Base Pay	Additional Compensation	Total
ACCOUNTING			
Mardjekaj, Julie	56,215	0	56,215
Parashin, Lucia	60,687	0	60,687
Vinciguerra, Janet	55,513	2,000	57,513
ACTON PUBLIC LIBRARY			
Brouwer-Juarbe, Amanda	84,946	2,000	86,946
Giugno, Karen	76,648	0	76,648
Mendes, Lisa	47,698	0	47,698
Wysocki, Wayne	67,820	0	67,820
*Baklik, Cynthia	20,693	0	20,693
*Baldi, Michele	5,514	0	5,514
*Bedell O'Brien, Rogina	23,371	0	23,371
*Bookman, Donna	4,527	0	4,527
*Bulgini, Rachel	13,538	0	13,538
*Caswell, Erik	3,514	0	3,514
*Chasse, Joan	22,945	0	22,945
*Freese, Kathleen	13,490	0	13,490
*Fuoco, Ashlee	1,533	0	1,533
*Gignac, Casi	1,568	0	1,568
*Kelley, Kathleen	13,874	0	13,874
*Kellogg, Timothy	5,138	0	5,138
*Knobelsdorff, Kara Joan	21,953	0	21,953
*Knobelsdorff, Ria	3,808	0	3,808
*McCallum, Sheila	1,393	0	1,393
*McCarthy, Delia	1,898	0	1,898
*Morgan, Devery	1,629	0	1,629

	Base Pay	Additional Compensation	Total
*Noack, Susan	1,516	0	1,516
*Parrington, Chloe	1,737	0	1,737
*Saunders, Fiona	22,724	0	22,724
*Saunders, Laurie	1,354	0	1,354
*Sikora, Justyna	26,478	0	26,478
*Smith, Gerard	1,867	0	1,867
*Story, Brian	29,323	0	29,323
*Tappin, Donna	28,893	0	28,893
*Volano, Claudia	2,398	0	2,398
BOARD CLERKS			
*Merritt, Amanda	1,050	0	1,050
BOARD OF FINANCE			
*Lewis, Geraldine	4,420	0	4,420
BUILDING DEPT			
Makowicki, Thomas	88,711	0	88,711
*Lucas, Donald	3,875	0	3,875
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT			
*Beckman, Susan	35,277	0	35,277
FIRE DEPT			
*Devlin, Maura	4,750	0	4,750
*Duncan, Liam	3,348	0	3,348
FIRE MARSHAL			
Terenzi, Peter	79,607	2,000	81,607
HARBOR MANAGEMENT			
*Mitchell, Scott	9,379	0	9,379
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY			
Hayden , Lawrence	64,480	3,848	68,329
LAND USE			
Costa, Christina	77,738	3,970	81,708
Lyons, Sarah	56,034	0	56,034
Nelson, Christine	105,526	0	105,526
*Cosenza, Erica	1,175	0	1,175
*Galli, Joanne	1,460	0	1,460
*Hegge, Patrick	29,211	0	29,211
*Wacker, Lynette	21,845	0	21,845
PARKS & RECREATION			
Allen Jr, Raymond	85,219	0	85,219
Paradis, Jonathan	65,964	1,807	67,771
Pine, Rick	50,390	0	50,390
*Albert, Grace	1,623	0	1,623
*Anderson, Sarah	2,125	0	2,125
*Babbidge, Wifredo	3,159	0	3,159
*Babij, Vincent	3,950	0	3,950
*Barros, Nicholas	3,479	0	3,479

	Base Pay	Additional Compensation	Total
*Bergeron, William	2,912	0	2,912
*Bielawa, Anthony	29,926	0	29,926
*Bielawa, Victoria	1,093	0	1,093
*Bjorkman, Brett	1,949	0	1,949
*Bohonowicz, Kyle	31,942	0	31,942
*Brown, Davis	2,244	0	2,244
*Bruehwiler, Allison	2,778	0	2,778
*Cain, Terese	10,897	0	10,897
*Chapps, Samantha	2,435	0	2,435
*Cody, Allison	3,318	0	3,318
*Condulis, Nicholas	2,391	0	2,391
*Conner, Margarethe	3,777	0	3,777
*Cote, Daniel	2,723	0	2,723
*Deangelo, Cody	2,135	0	2,135
*Dedominicis, Christian	7,588	0	7,588
*Eldridge, Sherry	1,560	0	1,560
*Fuerst, Tyler	8,894	0	8,894
*Giannini, Nancy	1,740	0	1,740
*Giugno, Audra	2,890	0	2,890
*Gosselin, Camron	3,206	0	3,206
*Gosselin, Donna	8,208	0	8,208
*Hanratty, Grace	2,482	0	2,482
*Hanratty, Luke	1,535	0	1,535
*Hasenbalg, Meghan	2,698	0	2,698
*Henderson, Connel	4,013	0	4,013
*Henderson, Katherine	3,352	0	3,352
*Henderson, Molly	2,832	0	2,832
*Henderson, Shane	2,222	0	2,222
*Hilger, Logan	2,145	0	2,145
*Husted, Alex	1,906	0	1,906
*Husted, Nicholas	7,490	0	7,490
*Karg, Anthony	2,413	0	2,413
*Kuntz, Andi	1,318	0	1,318
*Lafreniere, Abigail	2,377	0	2,377
*Laudano, Patricia	6,880	0	6,880
*O'Rourke, Avery	3,324	0	3,324
*Paetzold, Haley	3,003	0	3,003
*Paetzold, William	1,790	0	1,790
*Pascoe, Victor	1,637	0	1,637
*Petrucci, Lily	1,358	0	1,358
*Potter, Caroline	3,515	0	3,515
*Potter, Catherine	2,074	0	2,074
*Romano, Allison	2,252	0	2,252
*Root, Alexie	2,010	0	2,010
*Rothman, Jason	1,480	0	1,480
*Russell, Bradley	2,987	0	2,987
*Ryan, Shon	1,416	0	1,416
*Scamporino, Emil	7,327	0	7,327

	Base Pay	Additional Compensation	Total
*Stangel, Aubrey	4,644	0	4,644
*Stevenson, Deborah	11,503	0	11,503
*Sumby, Hannah	2,938	0	2,938
*Sumby, Lucas	2,726	0	2,726
*Twomey, Landis	2,806	0	2,806
*White, Cassidy	2,087	0	2,087
*White, Teagan	1,553	0	1,553
*Whiteman, Olivia	1,018	0	1,018
*Wisialowski, Kyle	2,977	0	2,977
PUBLIC WORKS			
Bonin, Larry	95,764	1,296	97,060
Claffey, William	69,983	0	69,983
Evangelisti, Cameron	70,097	2,458	72,556
Hoadley, Matthew	56,668	0	56,668
Labriola, Peter	72,842	0	72,842
Lavery, Adam	57,309	0	57,309
Pace Jr, Michael	57,418	1,616	59,034
Porter, John	0	3,370	3,370
Regan, Patrick	57,650	0	57,650
Way, Todd	69,592	1,475	71,068
*Montesi Jr, Edward	4,864	0	4,864
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS			
*Broadhurst, Joan	11,503	0	11,503
*Strickland, Joan	11,503	0	11,503
SELECTMEN			
Fortuna, Carl	90,804	0	90,804
Neri, Georgiann	59,869	0	59,869
Palladino, Lee Ann	97,809	2,000	99,809
*Conklin, Carol	3,297	0	3,297
*Giegerich, Scott	7,915	0	7,915
*Pugliese, Matthew	4,617	0	4,617
SOCIAL SERVICES			
Consoli, Susan	61,728	3,261	64,990
*Christensen, Kelsey	8,602	0	8,602
TAX ASSESSOR			
Wood, Norman	82,171	0	82,171
TAX COLLECTOR			
Maynard, Barry	71,545	0	71,545
Morison, Wendy	54,247	0	54,247
TOWN CLERK			
Antolino, Christina	56,001	0	56,001
Becker, Sarah	75,175	0	75,175
*Kane, Cynthia	40,478	0	40,478

	Base Pay	Additional Compensation	Total
TOWN HALL			
Baldi, Paul	55,250	0	55,250
*Donahue, Jennifer	34,699	0	34,699
*Moran, Daniel	24,447	0	24,447
*O'Herlihy, Ellen	43,003	0	43,003
*Riordan, Bridget	45,812	0	45,812
*Zychowski, Rebecca	47,304	0	47,304
TRANSFER STATION			
Champlin, Richard	68,936	0	68,936
*Hunter, Anthony	27,103	0	27,103
*Rascoe, William	38,762	0	38,762
*Root, Trevor	45,640	0	45,640
*Therrien, James	36,984	0	36,984
TREASURER			
*Fish, Robert	33,153	0	33,153
TREE WARDEN			
*Kiely, James	7,500	0	7,500
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL			
Lewis, Melissa	41,959	0	41,959
*Lewis, Gratia	45,638	0	45,638
*Marshall, Robbie	10,684	7,933	18,618
*Mongillo, Stephen	15,000	0	15,000
*Vanoli, James	48,149	0	48,149
YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES			
Graham, Chelsea	66,074	1,612	67,687
McNeil, Heather	92,922	0	92,922
Mill, Wendy	49,354	1,678	51,032
*Bruzzese, Salvatore	8,401	0	8,401
*Deal, Joanne	2,266	0	2,266
*Eckert, Brittany	27,868	6,550	34,418
*Gaidry, Angela	47,308	0	47,308
*Kelly, Jodi	11,308	0	11,308
*McCall, Linda	1,589	0	1,589
*Stahr, Adam	1,879	0	1,879
*Steinmacher, Samantha	48,550	0	48,550

On the next page is a list of Police Department personnel and the compensation they received for services provided during the fiscal year. All full-time, certified police officers and dispatchers earn an annual salary. This is listed as "base salary." Also listed in the "base salary" category are the educational, longevity, professional development, K-9 feeding/grooming and vacation cash out payments earned by an employee.

In addition to their regular schedules, officers are required to work above and beyond their 40-hour work week and therefore earn additional compensation. This additional compensation includes the backfilling of vacation and sick

days; maintaining minimum manpower on all shifts; staffing community events; responding to critical incidents that require more personnel resources than the on-duty patrol shift offers; attending mandatory professional development; and working on investigations that take longer than the normal eight-hour work day. This category also includes monies earned when working Marine Patrol. This year, compensation earned during the COVID-19 response also appears in this category, much of which will be reimbursed by FEMA. Salary and the majority of “additional compensation” come from the department’s operating budget (tax dollars). Some monies included in “additional compensation” are funded by state and federal grants to support activities such as DUI checkpoints and Click It or Ticket initiatives.

The final category is compensation received from private duty jobs. Examples of “private duty” include when a contractor hires a police officer to police a private social or business event for security reasons or a construction company hires a police officer to direct traffic at a construction site. When officers work these events, they do so on their time off and thus earn additional compensation. The compensation earned comes directly from the individual or company that chose to hire the police officer (non-tax dollars). In addition to invoicing the private person/company for the police officer’s compensation and FICA, the Town also assesses a fee for the police vehicle that is used as well as for administrative processing. These funds are managed through an off-budget account overseen by the Town treasurer.

OLD SAYBROOK DEPARTMENT OF POLICE SERVICES TOTAL PAY FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020

Base Pay represents salary for full-time employees and total pay for part-time employees. Additional Compensation represents overtime, work for other departments, payments from grants not included in the Town’s salary budget, or payments in lieu of health insurance.

** Indicates part-time employees*

	Base	Addtl. Compensation	Private Duty	F.Y. 19-20 Total
DISPATCHER				
Adams, Daniel	57,740	20,880	0	78,621
Franklin, Jennifer	57,740	9,938	0	67,678
Gosselin, Andrea	54,475	17,386	0	71,861
Maerkel, Craig	11,188	2,902	0	14,091
Moriarty, Charles	27,093	4,573	0	31,666
Murray, Caitlin	35,431	16,877	0	52,309
Offner, Lea	42,012	11,487	0	53,499
Paradis, Michael	54,853	4,958	0	59,812
Sepulveda, Brianna	20,566	1,771	0	22,338
Shake Jr, James	57,740	12,672	0	70,413
*Barrett, Robert	0	4,053	0	4,053
*Coco, Phillip	29,999	0	0	29,999
*McGregor, William	0	22,187	0	22,187
*Wisner, Douglas	0	3,569	0	3,569

	Base	Addtl. Compensation	Private Duty	F.Y. 19-20 Total
PD SUPPORT				
Berner, Michelle	9,847	0	0	9,847
D'Amato, Jennifer	59,051	3,135	0	62,186
*DeCapua, William	0	1,249	0	1,249
*Gardner, Michael	51,125	6,732	0	57,857
*Hanley, Patrick	42,665	0	0	42,665
*Kmietek, Frederick	1,286	0	0	1,286
*Newton, Thomas	3,849	0	0	3,849
*Schneider, James	6,562	0	0	6,562
*Sharma, Sonal	1,581	0	0	1,581
*Sirisoukh, Patrick	4,984	2,211	0	7,195
*Sunday, Mary	8,787	0	0	8,787
POLICE SERVICES				
Baldino, John	63,046	17,938	3,691	84,676
Bergantino, William	45,730	20,789	0	66,519
Ciccione, Philip	87,461	9,534	1,643	98,639
DeMarco, Christopher	89,461	63,379	17,741	170,583
DePerry, Jeffrey	99,020	33,201	6,125	138,347
Hackett, Stephen	87,461	19,527	1,726	108,716
Hanna, Justin	63,046	22,662	7,841	93,549
Hardy, Solomon	75,692	15,774	9,541	101,007
Harris, Austin	33,959	2,553	0	36,513
Kostek, Charles	59,838	17,439	5,924	83,203
Micowski, Mark	70,187	10,883	3,834	84,904
Milardo, Stephanie	61,136	3,784	0	64,920
Palmieri, Christopher	67,827	15,899	8,721	92,448
Perrotti, David	80,158	4,609	935	85,703
Schulz, Tyler	75,692	25,547	7,315	108,554
Spera, Michael	160,413	62,399	0	222,813
Stratidis, Heather	70,187	16,105	4,859	91,151
Tabor III, Albert	69,872	10,756	4,140	84,768
Tourjee, Amanda	59,373	12,655	3,850	75,880
van der Horst, Robbert	93,227	32,983	9,691	135,902
Walsh, Ryan	89,061	23,333	6,265	118,661
Warren, Shannon	41,799	4,544	0	46,344
White, Jared	67,985	19,961	3,358	91,305
Williams, Eric	77,351	20,775	9,532	107,659
Zarbo, Josh	66,426	14,564	3,439	84,429
*Brown, William	0	1,681	0	1,681
*Caffery, Dawn	0	9,784	0	9,784
*Crowley, Steven	2,037	14,627	13,371	30,036
*Gabianelli, Karen	54,294	4,611	1,628	60,534
*Kiako, James	0	3,129	545	3,675
*McDonald, Timothy	33,233	22,280	6,741	62,255
*Muckle, Kaitlyn	0	2,657	0	2,657
*Mulvihill Jr, Michael	0	7,761	0	7,761
*Rooney, Lawrence	32,532	21,141	6,603	60,277
*Tanner, Allyson	0	1,801	0	1,801
*Westerson, Grant	0	2,162	0	2,162

SECTION IV

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019–2020

General Fund Statements of Revenues and Expenditures, Actual versus Budget, for the Town of Old Saybrook for the year ended June 30, 2020, are presented here for informational purposes only. They are not intended to represent full financial disclosure.

The complete general purpose financial statements and related notes, as required by governmental auditing standards, are being prepared by MahoneySabol as a part of their annual financial audit of the Town. The complete audit report will be available for public review in the office of the Old Saybrook Town Clerk and on the Town's website at www.oldsaybrookct.org.

GENERAL FUND REVENUES — BUDGET AND ACTUAL

For the Year Ended June 30, 2020

	Budget	Actual	Variance
PROPERTY TAXES			
Property Taxes, Current Year	44,630,789	44,350,916	(279,873)
Property Taxes, Previous Years	100,000	155,669	55,669
Interest and Lien Fees	100,000	133,373	33,373
Telecommunication Taxes	60,000	33,726	(26,274)
Total Property Taxes	44,890,789	44,673,684	(217,105)
INTERGOVERNMENTAL			
State Board of Education ECS	100,000	129,550	29,550
Town Aid Road	246,000	246,620	620
Grant in Lieu of Taxes	29,000	34,274	5,274
Elderly Tax Relief	0	0	0
Municipal Revenue Sharing	0	46,717	46,717
Mashantucket Pequot Fund	0	0	—
Local Capital Improvement Program	0	66,896	66,896
Miscellaneous State Grants	0	10,551	10,551
Special Education Excess			184,868
Total Intergovernmental	375,000	719,476	344,476
LOCAL INCOME			
Assessor	200	275	75
Board of Selectmen	2,000	970	(1,030)
Building Department Inspection Fees	200,000	244,311	44,311
Investment Income	120,000	148,273	28,273
Planning Commission	1,000		(1,000)
Inland Wetlands Commission	1,000	1,500	500
Town Clerk	400,000	424,371	24,371
Land Use/Zoning Department	18,000	18,452	452
Police Department	7,000	5,812	(1,188)

	Budget	Actual	Variance
Transfer Station	100,000	54,499	(45,501)
Acton Public Library	5,000	1,383	(3,617)
Parks and Recreation	300,000	248,105	(51,895)
Miscellaneous Income	100,200	40,674	(59,526)
Total Local Income	1,254,400	1,188,625	(65,775)
Fund Balance Appropriation	5,000		
Total General Fund Revenue	46,525,189	46,581,785	56,596

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES — BUDGET AND ACTUAL

For the Year Ended June 30, 2020

	Budget	Actual	Variance
Accounting	299,631	296,015	(3,616)
Animal Control	25,000	25,000	—
Architectural Review Board	3,596	372	(3,224)
Assessment Appeals	11,553	11,432	(121)
Assessor	166,185	173,341	7,156
Board of Finance	61,839	50,884	(10,955)
Building	136,081	139,042	2,961
Capital Outlay	739,591	739,553	(38)
Conservation Commission	3,723	1,273	(2,450)
Economic Development	61,201	59,316	(1,885)
Emergency Management	203,503	162,827	(40,676)
Engineering	80,000	80,704	704
Environmental Health	162,000	152,451	(9,549)
Ethics	950	266	(684)
Fire Department	598,896	584,296	(14,600)
Fire Marshal	137,031	131,120	(5,911)
Harbor Management Commission	20,591	17,157	(3,434)
Historic District	5,356	4,812	(544)
Information Technology	192,068	194,491	2,423
Inland/Wetlands	8,628	10,086	1,458
Insurance	388,000	361,990	(26,010)
Land Use	443,683	435,837	(7,846)
Legal Services	105,000	109,359	4,359
Library-Acton	1,006,836	967,098	(39,738)
Marine Patrol	59,108	38,587	(20,521)
Nursing	42,653	40,401	(2,252)
Parks-Other	59,280	67,189	7,909
Parks-Vicky Duffy Pavilion	11,000	14,585	3,585
PD-Field Service	3,488,406	3,111,336	(377,070)
PD-Support Service	1,019,921	980,263	(39,658)
PD General Expenditures	537,878	677,915	140,037
Planning Commission	15,257	5,145	(10,112)

	Budget	Actual	Variance
Political Subdivisions	181,103	173,470	(7,633)
Public Works Administration	1,058,134	1,055,412	(2,722)
Public Works Highway & Street	561,300	586,233	24,933
Public Works Snow & Ice	71,000	13,974	(57,026)
Public Works Vehicle/Equipment	81,000	68,478	(12,522)
Recreation	577,202	575,997	(1,205)
Recreation Mini Golf	65,514	66,127	613
Registrar of Voters	69,932	45,016	(24,916)
Retiree Health Insurance	277,000	258,589	(18,411)
Selectmen	393,632	390,383	(3,249)
Social Services	115,832	110,981	(4,851)
Street Lighting	154,000	150,842	(3,158)
Tax Collector	213,885	209,497	(4,388)
The Kate	64,500	72,296	7,796
Town Clerk	256,289	247,251	(9,038)
Town Hall	468,019	465,671	(2,348)
Transfer Station Operations	320,010	341,155	21,145
Treasurer	8,634	8,892	258
Tree Warden	41,959	39,802	(2,157)
Transfer Station Waste Transp./Disp.	335,900	271,755	(64,145)
Vital Statistics	1,350	295	(1,055)
Waste Collection	24,990	28,713	3,723
Water Hydrant	599,000	585,912	(13,088)
WPCA Administration	276,779	236,060	(40,719)
Youth & Family Services	406,728	406,728	—
Zoning Board of Appeals	13,434	16,236	2,802
Zoning Commission	34,768	16,901	(17,867)
General Government Total	16,766,338	16,086,809	(679,529)
Debt Service GG	3,238,104	3,238,104	—
Total GG	20,004,442	19,324,913	(679,529)
			0.0%
Board of Education	26,520,727	25,509,486	(1,011,241)
			0.0%
TOWNWIDE BUDGET	46,525,169	44,834,399	(1,690,770)

