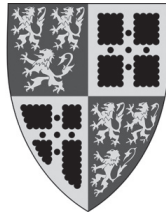


Annual Report Town of Old Saybrook, Connecticut

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,

2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION I

TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK – PROFILE	5
IN MEMORIAM	6
OLD SAYBROOK EMPLOYEES AND MEMBERS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.....	7

SECTION II

ACTON PUBLIC LIBRARY	19
ACTON PUBLIC LIBRARY, THE FRIENDS OF THE.....	22
AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION.....	23
AQUIFER PROTECTION AGENCY	24
ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD	25
ASSESSMENT APPEALS BOARD	25
ASSESSOR.....	26
BUILDING DEPARTMENT	27
CONNECTICUT RIVER AREA HEALTH DISTRICT.....	28
CONNECTICUT RIVER GATEWAY COMMISSION	31
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	33
CYPRESS CEMETERY ASSOCIATION, INC.....	34
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION	35
EDUCATION, BOARD OF	40
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	52
ESTUARY COUNCIL OF SENIORS	53
ESTUARY TRANSIT DISTRICT.....	54
FINANCE DIRECTOR.....	56
FIRE DEPARTMENT	57
FIRE MARSHAL.....	60
HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION	62
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION	63
HISTORICAL SOCIETY, OLD SAYBROOK.....	64
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.....	66
INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES COMMISSION	67
KATHARINE HEPBURN CULTURAL ARTS CENTER	67
LAND USE DEPARTMENT.....	69
LOWER CT RIVER VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS.....	70
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT	74

PENSION AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS BOARD78

PLANNING COMMISSION.....79

POLICE SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF80

PROBATE COURT.....84

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING BOARD85

PUBLIC WORKS.....88

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS.....89

RIVERSIDE CEMETERY ASSOCIATION, INC.....90

SELECTMEN, BOARD OF.....91

SHORELINE SOUP KITCHENS & PANTRIES93

TAX COLLECTOR94

TOWN CLERK AND REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS.....95

TOWN TREASURER.....96

TRANSFER STATION.....96

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY 100

YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES 100

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS..... 106

ZONING COMMISSION 106

SECTION III

EMPLOYEE WAGES AND REPRESENTATION.....109

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS..... 110

SALARIES FOR GENERAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES..... 110

DEPARTMENT OF POLICE SERVICES TOTAL PAY 116

SECTION IV

FINANCIAL REPORT 119

OPERATING BUDGET REPORT..... 119

GENERAL FUND EXPENSES..... 120

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, 2022 - \$2,384,890,748
 Mill Rate: 20.46
 Assessment Ratio: 70%
 Grand List Date: October 1, 2022
 Grand Levy: \$48,794,864.70
 Two Voting Districts

POPULATION:

U.S. Census Bureau Estimate: 10,535
 School Enrollment: 1,072

PROPERTY:

Residential Dwellings: 5,622
 Commercial/Industrial Dwellings: 642
 Motor Vehicles: 13,040
 Business Personal Property Accounts: 1,046

REPRESENTATIVES:

State Representative

Devin Carney [R], 23rd Assembly District

State Senators

Martha Marx [D], 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

Donald M. Warren, Jr. (1947-2022)

Donald graduated in the top 30% of his class from the police academy and began his career as a patrol officer in Old Saybrook. He was promoted to detective, worked undercover with federal agents, received multiple citations for his excellent police work, and continued his development as an officer with additional education, including attendance at the FBI academy. He retired having reached the position of sergeant. One friend remembered him as, “a cop’s cop [who] always was there when you needed him.”

MEMBERS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

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

ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT

Assistant Finance Director	Vacant
Accountant	Lucia Parashin
Employee Benefits Coordinator	Janet Vinciguerra
Revenue Accountant	Melissa Lewis

ACTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Director	Amanda Brouwer
Assistant Director, Children's Librarian	Emily Sheehan
Head of Circulation	Lisa Mendes
Administrative Assistant	Ria Knobelsdorff
Cataloger	Donna Tappin
Technical Services	Kara Knobelsdorff
Reference/Young Adult Librarian	Brian Story
Reference Librarian	Claudia Volano
Reference Librarian	Karen Giugno
Reference Librarian	Jennifer Hoff
Reference Librarian	Emily Boucher
Community Engagement Coordinator	Fiona Saunders
Programming & Communications Coordinator	Cynthia Baklik
Library Assistant I	Kathy Freese
Library Assistant I	Rebecca Everett
Library Assistant I	Samuel Levitz
Library Assistant	Donna Bookman
Library Assistant	Gerard Smith
Library Assistant	Laurie Saunders
Library Assistant	Barbara Davis
Library Assistant	Patricia Kmiecik
Library Assistant	Diana Alejo
Library Assistant	Cathleen Clifford
Library Assistant	Hana Tanabe
Library Page	Devery Morgan

ACTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

Chair	Nancy Walsh	(D) [27]
	Ann Derouaux Welch	(D) [27]
	W. Michael Cameron	(R) [27]
	Susan Hitchcock Missel	(R) [25]
	MaryAnn Iadarola	(D) [25]
	Susan Mariani	(R) [25]
	Alan L. Schwarz	(R) [23]
	Nathan Wise	(D) [23]
	Mary Delmonico	(R) [23]
Recording Clerk	Joanne Galli	

AQUIFER PROTECTION AGENCY

Chair	J. Colin Heffernan	(D) [23]
	Chuck Savage	(R) [23]
	Laura Parker Gray	(D) [23]
Alternate	Elizabeth Steffen	(D) [23]
Alternate	Janis Esty	(R) [23]
Participating Commission Member	Paula Kay	(R) Planning
Participating Commission Member	Mark Caldarella	(R) Zoning
Participating Commission Member	Peter DeLisa	(D) Conservation
Participating Commission Member	Sandra Roberts	(R) EDC

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

Chair	Emily Grochowski	(D) [24]
	Donna P. Leake	(U) [25]
	Andre Laferriere	(U) [24]
	Edward Armstrong	(R) [24]
	Kathryn Toolan	(R) [23]
Alternate	Tina Rupp	(D) [25]
Alternate	Kathleen Caldarella	(R) [23]

ASSESSMENT APPEALS BOARD

Chair	Peter T. Gallagher	(R) [23]
	Joan Strickland	(D) [23]
	Matt Diamond	(R) [23]

ASSESSOR

Assessor	Norman B. Wood, CCMA II
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BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Building Official	Tom Makowicki
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CENTRAL CONNECTICUT REGION VISITORS COUNCIL

Old Saybrook Representative	Dave Prendergast	(D) [24]
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CONNECTICUT RIVER AREA HEALTH DISTRICT (CRAHD)

Board of Selectmen Representative	Michael Dunne, M.D.	(R) [25]
Board of Selectmen Representative	Alan Schwarz, M.D.	(R) [23]

CONNECTICUT RIVER GATEWAY COMMISSION

Alternate	Bill Webb	(D) [24]
	Diane Stober	(R) [24]

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Chair	Christine Picklo	(R) [24]
	Laurie Pavlos	(D) [24]
	Karen Giugno	(U) [24]
	Larry Ritzhaupt	(D) [23]
	Peter DeLisa	(D) [23]
	Deborah Mapes	(D) [23]
	Vacancy	(_) [23]

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Director	Jennifer Donahue	
Chair	Dave Prendergast	(D) [24]
	Norman Prevost, Jr.	(R) [28]
	Kacie Costello Hand	(D) [28]
	Elizabeth Swenson	(D) [27]
	Judy Ganswindt	(R) [25]
	Susan Quish	(R) [25]
	Sandra Roberts	(R) [24]
Alternate	Michael Bender	(D) [24]
Alternate	Erica Cosenza	(R) [23]

EDUCATION, BOARD OF

Chair	Trevor Nichols	(R) [25]
	Eileen Baker	(D) [25]
	Steven Beeler	(R) [25]
	Karen E. Brodeur	(D) [25]
	Kelly Kennedy*	(R) [25]
	Karina Julius	(R) [23]
	James Henderson	(R) [23]
	Alan Hyla	(R) [23]
	Jane Wisialowski	(D) [23]

*Appointment until the next municipal election, November 2023,
at which time it is placed on the ballot for a term until 11/18/2025.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Director	Michael A. Spera	[23]
Deputy Director	Michael A. Gardner	[23]

ESTUARY TRANSIT DISTRICT

Representative	Charles Norz	(R) [24]
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ETHICS COMMISSION

Chair	Edward Cassella	(D) [26]
	Paula Ladd	(D) [26]
	Donald E. Hunt	(R) [25]
	Marion J. Lewandowski	(U) [24]
	Kerry Knobelsdorff	(R) [23]

FACILITIES MANAGER

Daniel Moran (part-time)

FINANCE BOARD

Chair	Paul Carver	(R) [25]
	Bruce Carlson	(D) [25]
	John O'Brien	(D) [25]
	Brad Thorpe	(R) [25]
	Thomas D. Stevenson	(R) [23]
	Rick Swan	(R) [23]
	Eric Dussault	(R) [23]

FINANCE DIRECTOR		Lee Ann Palladino, CFA
FIRE DEPARTMENT		
Chief	Joseph Johnson	
Deputy Chief	Steve Lesko	
FIRE MARSHAL OFFICE		
Fire Marshal & Open Burning Official	Peter R. Terenzi III	[23]
Deputy Fire Marshals	Richard Leighton	[23]
	Brian Manware	[23]
	Jeff Heser	[23]
	John Planas	[23]
Fire Inspector	William Heiney	[23]
HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION		
Chair	Robert Murphy	(R) [23]
	David Cole	(R) [25]
	Robert Soden	(U) [25]
	Paul M. Connolly	(D) [23]
	Lou Vinciguerra	(R) [23]
Clerk	Jennifer Donahue	
Dock Master	Scott Mitchell	
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION		
Chair	William A. Childress	(U) [25]
	Laura Gray	(D) [27]
	Diane Aldi DePaola	(U) [26]
	Alan Cantor	(D) [24]
	Barbara Harms	(U) [23]
Alternate	Richard Peters	(R) [27]
Alternate	Paul Knierim	(U) [26]
Alternate Vacant		(_) [25]
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY		Larry Hayden
INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION		
Chair	J. Colin Heffernan	(D) [23]
	Chuck Savage	(R) [23]
	Laura Parker Gray	(D) [23]
Alternate	Elizabeth Steffen	(D) [23]
Alternate	Janis Esty	(D) [23]
Alternate	Jay Kulowiec	(U) [23]
Representatives		
Conservation Commission	Peter DeLisa	
Planning Commission	Paula Kay	
Zoning Commission	Mark Caldarella	
Economic Development Commission	Sandra Roberts	

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

Jason A. Becker	Carol Conklin	Allan Fogg
Carl P. Fortuna, Jr.	Joanne Galli	Robert Hansen
Donald Hunt	Mary E. Kennedy	Barbara J. Maynard
Janet Murray	Barry S. O'Neill	Joseph Onofrio II
Steven Pernal	Matthew Pugliese	Christopher Rixon
Michael Spera	Elizabeth D. Steffen	Daniel Welch
John DeCristoforo		

LAND USE DEPARTMENT

Town Planner & Zoning Enforcement Officer	Christina Costa
Assistant Town Planner/ Inland Wetland Enforcement Officer	Lynette Wacker
Administrative Assistant	Sarah Lyons
Project Clerk	Sarah Makowicki
Recording Clerks	Carolina Maharbiz
	Joanne Galli
	Bryanna Paradis
	Krista May

LONG ISLAND SOUND COUNCILS & ASSEMBLY

Old Saybrook Representative	Grant Westerson
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LOWER CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Regional Planning Committee	Douglas McCracken	(R) [23]
Regional Planning Committee	Michael Bender	(D) [23]

LOWER CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL AGRICULTURE COUNCIL

Old Saybrook Representative	Kristy Benson
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MUNICIPAL CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Nancy Sullivan	(R) [27]
David A. Tiezzi	(R) [27]
Kelly Renshaw	(U) [27]
Scott Carson	(R) [25]
Marston "Marty" Ladd	(D) [23]
Dana Cosgrove	(U) [23]

OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Board of Selectmen Representative	Matthew Pugliese	[25]
Police Commission Representative	Alfred Wilcox	
Police Union		
Substitute Fiduciary Law Enforcement Fund	Lee Ann Palladino	

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Chair	Susan E. Esty	(D) [23]
	James Henderson	(R) [25]
	Jane Wisialowski	(D) [25]
	Nancy Shepard Gatta	(D) [25]
	Kevin S. Lane	(R) [23]
	Bror Ashe	(R) [23]
	Star A. Rueckert	(R) [23]

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Director	Ray Allen
Assistant Director	Jonathan Paradis
Facility/Program Manager	Nicholas Morrell
Office Manager	Rick Pine
Building Maintainer	Anthony Bielawa

PENSION & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS BOARD

Chair	Darrell Pataska	(U) [26]
	Rowena Moffett	(R) [28]
	Susan Quish	(R) [27]
	Paul Tracey	(U) [26]
	Loraine Cortese-Costa	(D) [25]
	David Sparrow	(R) [24]
Selectman	Carl P. Fortuna, Jr.	
Director Emeritus	Suzanne S. Taylor	

PLANNING COMMISSION

Chair	Norman Prevost, Jr.	(R) [23]
	Paula Kay	(R) [25]
	Kathleen Sugland	(D) [25]
	Douglas McCracken	(U) [23]
	Jonathan Miles	(R) [23]
Alternate	Megan Jouflas	(D) [23]
Alternate	Dennis Tulimieri, Jr.	(U) [23]
Alternate	Michael Bender	(D) [23]

POLICE COMMISSION

Chair	Alfred Wilcox	(D) [25]
	Renee Shipee	(D) [25]
	Jessica Calle	(D) [25]
	Jill Notar-Francesco	(D) [25]
	Carl S. VonDassel	(R) [23]
	Joseph Maselli	(R) [23]
	Carol Manning	(D) [23]

POLICE SERVICES, EXECUTIVE

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

PATROL DIVISION

Master Sergeant
Sergeants

Christopher DeMarco
Ryan Walsh
Philip Ciccone

Patrolmen

Solomon Hardy
Mark Micowski
Christopher Palmieri
Stephanie Milardo
Amanda Tourjee
August DeFrance
Jaime Cruz
Brayan Mora
Christopher Dwyer
James Simpson
Rachel O'Connell
Connor Egan
Sara Silano
Eric Lawrence
James Kiako (per diem)
Michael Mulvihill (per diem)
Allyson Tanner (per diem)
Skye

Police K-9

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Michael Gardner (stipend)

ANIMAL CONTROL

Andrea Gosselin (per diem)
Dawn Caffery (per diem)

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

Detective First Class
Detective

Eric Williams
Albert Tabor

YOUTH SERVICES DIVISION

School Resource Officers

Karen Gabianelli (part-time)
Scott Aresco (part-time)
Lawrence Rooney (part-time)

EMERGENCY SERVICES DIVISION

EMS Director
Marine Patrol

Phil Coco (part-time)
Grant Westerson (per diem)
David Lamay (per diem)
Eric Swallow (per diem)
Matthew Walton (per diem)
Caleb Rose (per diem)
John Guarnaccia (per diem)
Heston Sutman (per diem)
Jeffrey Worman (per diem)

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

Public Safety Dispatchers	James Shake Jennifer Franklin Daniel Adams Andrea Gosselin Charles Moriarty Caitlin Murray Lea Offner Daniel Fox Robert Barrett (per diem)
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RECORDS DIVISION

Records Specialist	Marylou Sunday (per diem)
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COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICERS

Sgt. Thomas Newton (per diem)
Patrick Hanley (per diem)
Patrick Sirisoukh (per diem)
Dawn Caffery (per diem)

BUILDING MAINTENANCE

Patrick Hanley (part-time)
Patrick Sirisoukh (part-time)

PROBATE COURT

Judge of Probate	Jeannine Lewis
Chief Clerk	Sharon Tiezzi
Clerks	Stella Caione Marge Calltharp Jacqueline Craco Rose Nolin Helene Yates

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING BOARD

Chair	Diane Aldi DePaola	(U) [24]
	Sharon G. Craft	(D) [25]
	Priscilla Funck	(R) [25]
	Mary E. Kennedy	(D) [24]
	Mary Ann Iadarola	(D) [24]
	Elizabeth Owen	(D) [23]
	Joseph Termine	(U) [23]
Alternate	Mary Briscoe	(U) [23]

PRESERVE AD HOC - CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Ray Allen	Director, Parks & Recreation
Carl P. Fortuna, Jr.	Ex-Officio, First Selectman, Board of Selectmen
Will Hochholzer	CT DEEP
Alexander Sokolow	CT DEEP
Honor Lawler	Trust for Public Land
Alex Novaro	The Nature Conservancy
Christine Picklo	Conservation Commission
Elizabeth Swenson	Economic Development Commission

Susan Esty	Parks & Recreation Commission
Sheridan Bauman	Westbrook Land Trust
Chris Cryder	Member-at-large
Keith Coughlin	Member-at-large
Kathy Connolly	Member-at-large

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT & TRANSFER STATION

Director	Lawrence Bonin
Crew Leader	William Claffey
Maintenance Crew	Michael Pace, Jr.
	Matt Hoadley
	Pat Regan
	Todd Way
	Trevor Root
	Matt Nickerson
Transfer Station	Richard Champlin
	Sean Murphy (part-time)
	William Rascoe (part-time)
	Jim Therrien (part-time)
	Anthony Hunter (part-time)

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

Joan Broadhurst	(R) [25]
Joan Strickland	(D) [25]

SELECTMEN

First Selectman	Carl P. Fortuna, Jr.	(R) [23]
Selectman	Scott Giegerich	(R) [23]
Selectman	Matthew Pugliese	(D) [23]
Administrative Secretary	Georgiann Neri	
Blight Hearing Officer	Robert Rimmer	

SHELLFISH COMMISSION

Chair	Lawrence Bonin	(R) [24]
	Shannon Duggan	(U) [24]
	David Colvin	(U) [24]
	James Mitchell	(R) [23]
	Andrew Pandiani	(R) [23]

TAX COLLECTOR

Tax Collector	Carol Rzasa	[25]
Acting Tax Collector	Marc Delmonico	
Assistant Tax Collector	Andrea Brundrett	

TOWN CLERK

Town Clerk	Sarah V. Becker	[26]
Assistant Town Clerk	Meryl Moskowitz	
Assistant Town Clerk	Mary Sue Hermann	

TOWN COUNSEL

Michael Cronin, Jr.	[23]
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TOWN ENGINEER	Geoffrey Jacobson	[23]
<hr/>		
TOWN HALL		
Administrative Assistants	Bridget Riordan Sofia Beaudoin Noreen Czepiel	
Building Maintainer	Edward Arthurs (part-time)	
<hr/>		
TREASURER	Barbara Labriola	[23]
<hr/>		
TREE WARDEN	Jim Kiely	[23]
<hr/>		
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY		
Chair	Jason Becker	(R) [23]
	Ian Featherstone	(R) [25]
	Frederick Strickhart	(U) [25]
	Peter Stump	(R) [25]
	Kathleen Ciliano	(U) [24]
	Robert J. Senger	(D) [24]
	Jay Kulowiec	(U) [23]
Alternates	Michael Galler	(D) [24]
	Vacant	[24]
<hr/>		
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL STAFF		
WWMD Program & Site Manager	James Vanoli	
Financial Manager	Gratia Lewis	
<hr/>		
YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES COMMISSION		
Chair	Michael Rafferty	(U) [24]
	David Plotkin	(U) [24]
	Jeffrey Harder	(D) [24]
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 Representative	Carli Castro	
<hr/>		
YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES STAFF		
Director/Agent for Veterans	Heather McNeil, LMFT, LADC	
Social Services Coordinator & Municipal Agent for Elderly	Susan Consoli, LPC	
Social Services Assistant Program Coordinators	Kelsey Christensen Brittany Eckert Justin Alessio, LMFT-A	
Counselors	Adam Stahr, LMFT Trisha Strecker, LMFT Justin Alessio, LMFT-A Samantha Steinmacher, MA, EdS, LPC	
Counselor/Wilderness Coordinator	Brenda Partyka, LMSW	
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	Charles Gadon	(R) [25]
	Erin Colwell*	(R) [25]
	Kevin Danby	(R) [25]
	Jacqueline Prast	(R) [23]
	Alfred Wilcox	(D) [23]
Alternates	Matthew Diamond	(R) [23]
	Brenda Dyson	(R) [23]
	Vacant	[23]

*Appointment until the next municipal election, November 2023,
at which time it is placed on the ballot for a term until 11/18/2025.

ZONING COMMISSION

Chair	Robert Friedmann	(U) [25]
	Geraldine Lewis	(R) [25]
	Marc Delmonico	(R) [23]
	Mark Caldarella	(R) [23]
	Ann Marie Thorsen	(D) [23]
Alternates	John Henry	(R) [23]
	Justin Terrible	(D) [23]
	Brenda Dyson	(R) [23]

SECTION II

ACTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Acton Public Library seeks to build a welcoming community with free and open access to information and experiences that engage the imagination, inspire learning, and foster the exchange of ideas.

Introduction

The Acton Public Library is a department of the Town of Old Saybrook and is advised by a board of trustees. 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 open four evenings a week until 8:00 p.m. and is open Saturdays year-round. We offer Sunday afternoon hours from October to May. There are currently three full-time employees: The Library Director, the Children's Librarian/Assistant Director, and the Head of Circulation. Two job descriptions were realigned to better match the work being done and the work that needs to be done in the future. The two new job titles are Community Engagement Coordinator and Programming and Communications Coordinator.

Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees is a nine-member volunteer-appointed board made up of Old Saybrook residents. Board members serve a six-year term and serve on various subcommittees. The board voted to approve the Acton Public Library Strategic Plan 2021-2024 in November of 2021. The strategic plan can be found on the library's website under the "About" tab. As you may have noticed, we also revamped our mission statement to more closely reflect the work we feel is important in the present and future. The board also underwent a new logo and branding campaign to help update the look and usability of the logo. Our new tagline is "Beacon to Ideas."

Collection

While our largest collection additions every year are hardcover books, one of our favorite newer additions to the collection is our Library of Things. We offer things that you might not necessarily want to buy but that you might just want to try out. We have yard games, a telescope, puzzles, a metal detector, a CD Player and a label maker.

Last year we had a total of 111,648 physical and digital items circulate to our library patrons. We increased our offerings in OverDrive (now named Libby), to make sure there were more copies of new items. The app also began offering digital magazines at no additional charge to the library. Our Hoopla digital offering saw quite a large increase. The Acton Public Library provides computers for public use; we also have hotspots and laptops to borrow, which were purchased to keep people connected even if they weren't physically in the library. In addition, people can use our wireless internet connections throughout the building and into the parking lot. We boosted our signal so the Wi-Fi would reach even further outside, allowing people to enjoy the Wi-Fi on our patio as well.

Services

Self-check machines have become a regular feature at most libraries in Connecticut, and Acton is no exception. A variety of patrons regularly use the self-check station, just as they use our outdoor pickup locker system. Occasionally, curbside pickup is requested, a service introduced during COVID. We continued to offer notary services this year and have added a third member of the staff as a notary public. In addition, we began offering weekly one-on-one tech tutoring sessions and monthly tech classes, both of which have been extremely popular. This was the second year we offered a seed library. Thanks to generous donations from seed companies, the library was able to provide hundreds of seed packets to local growers. As always, we maintain copies of tax forms and booklets available from the state and the federal government and, if they aren't on hand, we can print them from the federal and state sites for you.

Facilities

This year there were relatively few facilities issues, only some minor superficial and cosmetic issues. Per our normal maintenance schedule, we have replaced two heat pumps this year.

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, has a capacity of 12.

The library features monthly art exhibits in the rear entrance gallery. Two display cases feature rotating exhibits and collections of various items while a third display case features a children's collection. Community members are encouraged to sign up to display their art on a monthly rotation.

Staff

Examining the staffing structure to make sure it supported the optimal functioning of the library was one of our objectives for the year. Two staff were already doing more than the job descriptions they were operating under required and had hopes of incorporating new tasks that benefited the community. These Library Assistant II positions became the Community Engagement Coordinator and the Programming and Communications Coordinator. During the year we welcomed Sam Levitz, Hana Tanabe, Emily Boucher and Cathleen Clifford. We mourn the loss of an amazing library assistant, Jerry Smith. Jerry was a wonderful co-worker and the patrons sung his praises; he will be missed immensely.

Consortium

The Acton Library is a member of the LION (Libraries Online, Inc.) consortium. There are 30 libraries in LION, which also includes Mitchell College Library. Last year we welcomed two new local libraries, the North Stonington Library and the Preston Library, but said goodbye to the Middletown 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, and digital magazines through the Libby app 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

In June of 2023 we kicked off the Summer Reading Program for all age groups—children, young adult and adult—with an ice cream and games party, our second annual. This year it also fell on Make Music Day, so we were happy to host live local musicians all day long. Summer Reading emphasizes reading for enjoyment throughout the summer. We incentivize the reading by offering small tokens or gift certificates when participants meet benchmarks. Each age category could read for a certain time period and reach a goal on our reading game boards. When Summer Reading ends in August of 2023 the grand prize winner of the children's and teen's game will win a virtual reality headset.

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. We are very appreciative of all the local businesses and the Friends of Acton Library for supporting summer reading and lifelong learning!

Young Adult Services and Programs

Young adults are library patrons between the ages of 12 and 18. Acton serves this age group with a small 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. In addition, a free online database, SCOLA, a social science and language resource, is available for students. *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. Some of these volunteers helped during the Friends book sales in the spring and summer. Dungeons and Dragons continued all year long! Various crafts and make-and-take projects are also offered to the teens.

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. This year, with the help of Friends funding, we also were able to offer a baby sign language program.

Kindergarten classes from Goodwin School visit the library at various times during the year. The children's librarians also conduct outreach visits to local preschools. Our children's programs were held outside and inside this year. We have also had the opportunity to partner with Old Saybrook Early Childhood Council. This collaboration has offered the community additional services and events geared towards children ages 0-5 and their caregivers. This includes the Annual One Book One Town StoryWalk®, Baby Bundle bags for our littlest residents, wrapped holiday book bundles and donations to the Little Libraries around town.

Nancy Walsh, *Chair, Acton Public Library Board of Trustees*

Amanda Brouwer, *Library Director*

ACTON LIBRARY, FRIENDS OF THE

The 2022 –2023 fiscal year has been a busy year for the Acton Friends. To begin with, the membership drive, which began just before the start of the fiscal year, was as successful as we had hoped. In July 2022, we held the first Big Summer Book Sale since the start of the pandemic. The sale was extremely well received by the community, and many shoppers commented on how much they had missed the sale after 2019. Because of the warm reception that our books received, each week some of the best ones were included by the library staff among their offerings at the library's table at the Wednesday farmers' market on Main Street.

In the fall, we held a mini book sale and bake sale the weekend before Thanksgiving. For the first time, puzzles were added to the merchandise for sale, and were extremely well received. Both the bake sale and the book sale were as successful as we could have wanted. Also at holiday time, we partnered with the Old Saybrook Garden Club and the library in the first Acton winter-themed StoryWalk ®. The Friends supplied the solar powered LED lights that were used to decorate the trees obtained by the Garden Club to line the StoryWalk ®.

After a slight breather, the Friends held a very successful March 2023, mini book sale. At the time of the sale, each child who participated in programs at Acton during the two days of the sale was given a ticket allowing the choice of a free book. There were many happy faces in the crowd.

May was a busy month for the Friends. On Mother's Day weekend, the Friends had a table at the Old Saybrook Garden Club's Gardeners' Market where gardening books were displayed for sale—another first for the Friends thanks to the good graces of the Garden Club. On May 24, the Friends held their annual meeting, to which the community at large was invited. The meeting was followed by a program presented by retired state historian Walt Woodward on New England history and culture by way of song and story. At the end of May, for the second year in a row, members of the Friends Board walked behind the Library Board float in the Old Saybrook Memorial Day parade.

The annual membership drive that would carry us into the 2023-2024 fiscal year started at the beginning of June 2023. Shortly thereafter, the Friends began to prepare for the second post-Covid Big Summer Book Sale, scheduled for July 13, 14 and 15.

As a result of the successful 2022-2023 membership campaign and sales in July and November 2022, and in March 2023, as well as a generous grant from the Essex Savings Bank Community Investment Program, the Friends' treasury, at the close of the 2022-2023 fiscal year, was in a more robust state than it had been in years. Accordingly, the Friends board voted to try to maximize what we had received from our generous donors and patrons by investing a portion of our funds in a high-yield money market account in order to capitalize on higher-than-usual interest rates.

An important fact for all interested Friends and members of the community at large to remember is that the Friends depend on donations of books, audio books, CDs, DVDs and puzzles from the community for our sales to take place. Those donations are critical because they become our merchandise. Sales of donated materials yield increased programming funds for Acton Library and pay for the Museum Pass Program. Books placed into the book donation bins that have recently appeared in Old Saybrook and surrounding towns do not go to the Acton Friends. So, everyone is encouraged to bring their gently used books, printed as well as audio, CDs, DVDs and puzzles to the circulation desk at Acton. By bringing your donations to the Acton circulation desk for the Friends, you can be part of the team that makes Acton such a valued resource to the community.

Nancy Prescott and Emily Miller, *Co-presidents*

AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION

This past year the Old Saybrook Ambulance Association responded to over 1,700 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 its dedicated staff in serving the citizens of Old Saybrook.

In March of this year, the Ambulance Association partnered with the Old Saybrook Police and Fire Departments to host a Hands Only CPR class in the gym of the Old Saybrook High School. The event was well received with over 125 people attending the training. Having people trained to start Hands Only CPR before professional help arrives enhances the chance of survival of a cardiac event in the community.

Joe Castro, *President*

Board of Directors

Joe Castro, *President*
Barry O’Nell, *Vice President*
Bill Lasky, *Secretary*
Martin Drobiarz, *Treasurer*

William Rochette	Kathi Fowler	Chris Cestaro	Ryan Walsh
Pam Wertheim	Pat Hanley	Andy Greene	Bianca Heinssen

Working Members

Chris Cestaro	Chris Denison	Virginia Denvir
Melanie Lee	Garrit Rehberg	Charles Dunn
Donna Dunn	Jack Dunn	Peter Lindner
Megan Hockert	Mathew Gauley	Frank Glowski
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Tom Rochette	William Rochette	Sheri Smith
George Washburn	Janet Wysocki	Tanina McMorran
Dean McMorran	Nicholas Novorio	Daniel Sapozhnikov

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 2023 fiscal year, the agency held two meetings, updated the Aquifer Protection Regulations and received no applications to permit activities or registration renewal applications. The agency received one application to determine regulatory status for 355 Middlesex Turnpike due to a change in use and ownership. It was determine that no regulated activities were taking place on the property and the property was de-registered.

The agency meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall, first-floor conference room. Lynette Wacker, assistant town planner, serves as our enforcement agent. Carolina Maharbiz 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 2023 fiscal year, the board held 17 meetings at which it reviewed 8 proposals for new or redevelopment and 17 proposals for new signs at existing developments. The board works closely with other land use groups for ongoing coordination of land use policies.

The board held several workshops focusing on reviewing and revisiting sign regulations and ultimately successfully petitioned the Zoning Commission to amend Section 64 of the Zoning Regulations to improve and strengthen sign regulations.

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. Carolina Maharbiz of the Land Use Department supports us as our administrative clerk. Chris Costa, town planner/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 2022, the board met to hear taxpayers' questions and concerns about their real estate and personal property assessments. Approximately 15 property owners requested hearings with the BAA. These hearings were held in March 2023. Appeals were held in person unless a phone conference was specifically requested.

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*.

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 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 certify what was on the Grand List as of the prior October 1.

Personal Property

The Assessor's Office is required to ask businesses to report annually on their personal property. 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 2022 Grand List and a \$50,000 addition is completed, the assessment or "value" on the 2023 Grand List will become \$135,000. The follow-up on some 1,300 building permits began in April and will continue through the end of October. All improvements reflected on the permits (or those found to have been done without a permit) will be added to the Grand List.

By the end of November, we 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 one-third of the vehicles on this list of 2,000 need to be researched in J.D. POWER schedules and priced manually.

All motor vehicles are valued, based on J.D. POWER "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 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 receive from DMV the regular list of motor vehicles registered as of October 1. This list usually contains more than 12,000 vehicles. Approximately one-third of those have to be priced manually from the J.D. POWER price schedule using the "clean retail" value of the vehicle.

By January 15 all real estate (7,000+/-) personal property (1,040+/-) and motor vehicle (14,900+/-) accounts have been checked, valued and entered into the Town's 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 assessments have 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. 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, 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.

Norman B. Wood, CCMA II, Assessor

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Building activity in Old Saybrook has continued to be strong. Even with the dramatic increase in materials costs, interest rates, and supply problems with multiple products, we have seen building activity increase this year. 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. 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 2023 has shown an increase from last year's fiscal numbers. There were 1,391 permits taken out with a construction cost of \$40,319,436. Revenue from permit fees was \$401,952—a 33% increase over last year's numbers. The Building Department performed 1,859 inspections, 14 structures were demolished and 10 single-family homes were permitted. In addition to the new homes, there were 161 permits for renovation/alterations and 91 solar projects, which is triple the amount compared to last year. Commercial construction was also very active, with multiple projects in the works, many of which have filled the shopping centers. We are looking forward to another strong year in a healthy shoreline community.

Our software system, Muncity, has continued to work well. I take photos of all my inspections with a tablet that records all the work being done. These photos have come in handy on several projects where they helped in finding buried wires. The Land Use Department has continued inputting their information into the system, which has helped speed up the permitting process; I am able to see if projects are approved through zoning from my desktop computer. 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.

The office administrators, have been instrumental in facilitating communication between other departments and the Building Department. Their positive attitudes have continued to create an atmosphere of cooperation within multiple 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 appointment. 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 six-town local health district. CRAHD provides core public health services to the towns of Clinton, Old Saybrook, Deep River, Haddam, Chester and Killingworth. 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 conducting its mission to maximize the highest quality local public health services possible given its current resource level.

COVID-19

The emergency declaration for COVID-19 that began March 10, 2020, officially ended May 11, 2023. This declaration enabled us as a health district to provide health services to our residents during the COVID-19 pandemic. The ending of the declaration does not signify the eradication of the COVID-19 virus. We will continue to provide support and direction for our residents as the need arises.

CRAHD will maintain its resiliency and strive to do everything possible to keep our communities safe. In collaboration with the Old Saybrook Police Department and the Old Saybrook Office of Emergency Management, CRAHD has provided close to 35,000 COVID-19 vaccinations. CRAHD will continue to provide COVID-19 vaccines as needed in the fall of 2023.

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, and poor sanitary conditions.
- 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 property owners; 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) has continued to work closely with all of our school districts to conduct surveillance for flu-like illness and COVID-19, to assist in control of illness in the schools, and to support health education and promotion activities while school is in session. The PHN continues to offer support and guidance to all school nurses and day care providers as COVID-19 continues to affect the children and adults of our district.

The PHN has maintained the CRAHD PPE supplies and provided distribution to doctors' offices and community service organizations as needed. The scarceness of this resource is not where it was two years ago.

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

The PHN continues to communicate with SNF and IL elderly housing frequently regarding cases, contacts and testing and preventing the spread of infection throughout that high-risk population.

The PHN continues to monitor ContaCT for COVID-19 positive cases that occur in clusters with individual outreach for those less than 18 years of age.

The PHN has reviewed and investigated the small clusters at summer camps to monitor contact tracing, watching for in-camp transmissions with review of policies and procedures at camp as needed as well as monitoring and providing guidance as needed. The PHN has kept in close communication with schools and received weekly COVID-19 counts, monitoring for increases in clusters and concerns.

CRAHD has administered close to 35,000 COVID vaccines since beginning on December 28, 2020 and continuing through May 16, 2023 to date three days a week. CRAHD is vaccinating all eligible age groups. Clinics are mostly based at CRAHD's central office, with car-side service since June 12, 2021 as needed for those who are unable to get out of their cars. The PHN continued to make infrequent home visits for those who were homebound and required boosters until May 13, 2023.

The PHN continues to stay up to date on the emerging infection of monkeypox and monitors CTEDDS daily for cases and contacts. The PHN is ready to assist with screening and vaccination referrals as they arise.

CRAHD is the lead health department, previously referred to as Mass Dispensing Area #39, which includes the six health district towns as well as Westbrook and Essex. CRAHD continues to meet with its Emergency Support Function (ESF) eight, medical and public health partners in DEMHS Region 2 and statewide to enhance regional capacity and to develop regional health care coalitions. CRAHD has reviewed and changed the structure of its PHERP. All preparedness plans have been reviewed and will continue on an ongoing basis.

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.

Our PHN, under the guidance of the DOH, conducts active surveillance of all laboratory- and physician-reported diseases identified by the CT DPH. The PHN also conducts follow-up investigations of selected illnesses reported to control the spread of these diseases in the community.

The PHN has maintained certification for community health and "living with chronic disease or pain" with refresher courses completed on October 12th and 19th.

Outreach and education are provided for diseases of importance such as hepatitis A, B, and C; elevated childhood lead levels; COVID-19; and Lyme disease as well as West Nile virus, Zika, and other vector-borne diseases. The district monitors for mosquito-borne diseases and also manages the mosquito control activities in the towns that participate.

Scott Martinson, MPH, MS, RS, *Director of Health*

CRAHD Staff List and Board of Directors 2022-2023

Staff

Scott Martinson, MPH, MS, RS, *Director of Health*
Ryan Grenon, MPA, RS, *Registered Sanitarian*
Greg Mattus, RS, *Registered Sanitarian*
Rebecca Drew, RS, *Registered Sanitarian*
Alyssa Panone, *Sanitarian*
Melissa Howley, *Sanitarian*
Sherry Carlson, RN, BSN, *Public Health Nurse*

Board of Directors

Michael Dunne, MD, <i>Chair</i>	Old Saybrook
Angus McDonald, <i>Vice-Chair</i>	Deep River
Alan Schwarz, MD, <i>Director</i>	Old Saybrook
Rita Foster, RN, MSN, <i>Director</i>	Clinton
Karl Kilduff, <i>Director</i>	Clinton
Robert McGarry, <i>Director</i>	Haddam
Charlene Janecek, <i>Director</i>	Chester
Nancy Gorski, <i>Director</i>	Killingworth

CONNECTICUT RIVER GATEWAY COMMISSION

The Connecticut River Gateway Commission works to preserve the lower river’s unique scenic, ecological, scientific and historic value, and to prevent deterioration of the natural and traditional riverway scene.

Its membership is comprised of representatives from eight towns, including Old Saybrook, along with Chester, East Haddam, Essex, Deep River, Haddam, Lyme and Old Lyme; the Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments; and the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

At its annual meeting in October 2022, Suzanne Thompson, Old Lyme, was elected chair, Melvin Woody, vice chair, Claire Matthews, Essex, treasurer and William Webb, Old Saybrook, secretary. Upon Ms. Matthews’ departure from the commission, Diane Stober, Old Saybrook, became treasurer in spring, 2023.

The Gateway Commission was established by the General Assembly in the spring of 1973 and 2023 represents its 50th anniversary.

In reflection of its accomplishments over the decades, the commission received an “Excellence in Conservation Organization Award” from the Connecticut Land Conservation Council (CLCC).

A June 2023 awards ceremony was held at Gillette Castle, overlooking the river, where Amy Patterson, executive director of CLCC, cited the commission’s role in helping conserve over 1,000 acres of land across all eight member towns.

State Representatives Devin Carney (23rd District) and Irene Haines (34th District) presented the commission with an Official Citation from the General Assembly, signed by the senate president pro tempore, the speaker of the house and the secretary of the state.

The congratulatory citation was co-introduced to the legislature by Sen. Martha Marx (20th District), Sen. Norm Needleman (33rd District) and Rep. Christine Palm (36th District), in conjunction with Representatives Carney and Haines.

During the fiscal year, the Gateway Commission provided \$60,000 in matching funds to assist the Old Saybrook Land Trust in acquiring 11 acres of land on Ayers Point containing the headwaters of Hyde Creek, surrounded by open field and brackish tidal marsh that is part of tidal wetlands bordering the main stem of the Connecticut River.

The commission also provided \$5,000 to the Haddam Land Trust to assist in its purchase of the 8.1-acre Kaye parcel.

A new brochure available for download outlines various ways the commission might partner with land trusts or town agencies.

The commission works cooperatively with land use commissions, planners and zoning enforcement officials to strike an even-handed balance between preservation and development. During the year, the Gateway Commission reviewed numerous regulation changes and variance applications referred to it by member towns.

One regulatory change promulgated by the commission concerned light pollution. Excessive night lighting has been shown to affect our health and dramatically harm nature, and have a devastating effect on wildlife, especially on birds.

The Gateway Commission held a public hearing on the lighting standard on May 25, 2023. In asking its eight member towns to update their zoning regulations to the newest Gateway Commission standards, language on light pollution was included for their adoption. The commission presented a workshop at the CLCC conference and offered educational presentations in local towns to highlight the issue of excessive night lighting.

The commission is committed to working with stewardship organizations as partners. It supported the 10th annual Tour de Lyme, organized by the Lyme Land Trust, the Connecticut River Conservancy “Source to Sea Cleanup,” and the CLCC’s annual conference.

The Gateway Commission launched an expansive new website in 2023. It provides information on the Connecticut River, its tributaries and tidelands, the river’s history, easy-to-read explanations of the commission’s conservation and regulatory functions, news, educational resources and a searchable map of the Gateway Conservation Zone. Visit ctrivergateway.org.

Greg Futoma, Chair, Communications Committee

Members as of June 30, 2023

Tom Brelsford and Jenny Kitsen of Chester

Jerry Roberts of Deep River

Crary Brownell and Deborah Langdon of East Haddam

Misha Semenov-Leiva of Essex

Mike Farina of Haddam

J. Melvin Woody and Susan Fox-Ehrlich of Lyme

Suzanne Thompson and Greg Futoma of Old Lyme

Bill Webb and Diane Stober of Old Saybrook
 Raul Debrigard, Judy Preston and Alan Ponanski of RiverCOG
 Katherine Perzanowski 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 2023 fiscal year, the commission held 10 regular meetings at which it planned and reported on ongoing outreach and education initiatives. The commission welcomed three new members and a new student representative from Old Saybrook High School.

The commission continued the Town's participation in the Pollinator Pathway Project, a volunteer-led effort by conservation organizations working together to establish pollinator-friendly habitat and food sources for bees, butterflies, hummingbirds and other pollinating insects and wildlife along a series of continuous corridors throughout the northeast and beyond. The commission provides public education on pollinator habitats and maintains the pollinator garden it established on town property at Saybrook Point. The commission added permanent signage to the Saybrook Point garden and to the pollinator garden at Founders Memorial Park.

The commission continues to promote its waste reduction initiative, including its Plastics Free July promotion, through its newsletter, magazine articles, and regular postings on social media. The commission promoted the annual International Coastal Cleanup event and local Green Up Day cleanup.

The commission continued to promote water quality protection by encouraging the public to take the Watershed Health Pledge. The commission also installed educational signs at three rain gardens to help raise awareness of low-impact development strategies that improve water quality.

The commission worked with staff and landscape designer Kathy Connolly on a new webpage providing public education and resources related to invasive plants. The commission also began exploring ways to preserve trees in Old Saybrook through public education and possible regulation.

The commission maintains an up-to-date webpage on the Town's website and a separate Facebook profile for its own audiences. The commission periodically publishes the *Conservation Circular* newsletter and submits content to the *Saybrook Events* magazine.

The commission works closely with other land use groups. Presently, Peter DeLisa 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. 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 worked with Parks and Recreation to update the Great Cedars Stewardship MOU. The commission conducts periodic inspection of other Town-owned conservation land as well as easements over private land to monitor their 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 5:00 p.m. in the Town Hall, second-floor conference room. Lynette Wacker, assistant town planner, is available mornings Monday through Friday in the Land Use Department to answer questions concerning conservation of land and natural resources in Old Saybrook. Krista May supports the commission as administrative clerk.

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 Matthew Griswold after whom Griswold Point in Old Lyme is named. Many early graves were likely identified with wooden markers which have since disintegrated or disappeared.

The cemetery, which was listed in 2018 on the National Register of Historic Places, contains the remains of at least two Native Americans, located in unmarked graves, African 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.

The annual meeting of the Cypress Cemetery Association was held on Saturday, October 22, 2022. During the annual meeting, the board discussed ongoing upkeep of the cemetery, the status of association funds and investments, and other various issues concerning plot sales, plot management

and gravestone management. Association financial matters, including a summary of investments, were discussed by Treasurer Nancy Gilbert. Director and Assistant Treasurer Connolly advised the members regarding anticipated investment strategies for the upcoming fiscal year and reported on the ramifications of the recent market downturn on association investments. The discussion again included recommendations regarding the most strategic balance of cash to equities/mutual funds. Votes regarding board term expirations and the annual appointment of officers were made. A discussion of a proposal for gravestone cleaning occurred after which the board voted to spend up to \$5,000 for gravestone cleaning. The board will assign funds to this task each year going forward. The board also discussed potential efforts to protect owls, which roost in cemetery trees, from too many well-meaning visitors. Discussion of ongoing sales in Sections 8 and 9 occurred.

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 or J.H. Torrance Downes at (860) 227-4025. 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*

Tina Antolino, *Secretary*

James Mitchell

J.H. Torrance Downes

Susan Sangster

Elaine Staplins

Adriann Lloyd Downes

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

The Economic Development Commission (EDC) was established in 1971 to promote, improve and develop the economic conditions and resources of the Town of Old Saybrook. The EDC consists of nine commissioners, seven regular members and two alternates, appointed by the first selectman.

2022-2023 Year in Review

Marketing

The EDC continued its relationship with Scierka Lang Marketing Solutions through the first half of the fiscal year. During that time a fall promotional campaign utilizing a digital ad campaign with a “Something for Everyone” fall video was used to promote fall happenings around town and to advertise a Saybucks giveaway.

At the end of January, the EDC prepared an RFP for marketing services and received 19 responses. After an extensive proposal review and interview

process, Miranda Creative (MC) was selected to be the new marketing consultant for the EDC. MC spearheaded digital advertising for the Celebrate Saybrook Street Party and provided photo and video coverage for the event. By the end of the fiscal year, video footage was also obtained for a summer promotional video to attract people to shop, dine, and enjoy outdoor recreation in Old Saybrook. Many other projects are in the works for the coming year.

Social Media, Electronic Newsletter & Television

Other marketing channels include Facebook and Instagram. The audience continues to grow through all channels. Facebook followers increased to 902 during the year and Instagram followers increased to 797. Posts are made throughout the year to promote events and to provide or support other content related to the economic well-being of the town.

Several issues of the Economic Development Department's electronic newsletter were used to reach multiple audiences to promote event happenings and to educate the business community about resources and funding that are available to assist businesses and foster their success.

The economic development director appeared on the Pete Mezzetti show with the first selectman to talk about issues relevant to the town's economic development. The director also made appearances on Channel 3's Great Day @9A morning program to promote the Starlight Festival in December and Celebrate Saybrook in June.

Events

Saybrook Starlight Festival

This event had a successful second year despite the terrible weather that caused cancellation of some of the planned activities and alteration of others. While the weather prevented outdoor activities on the town green, the library hosted crafts and story time in the morning followed by a visit from Santa, face painting and a Youth & Family Services fundraiser in the afternoon at the Rec Center. A trolley also ferried visitors around town, shops had extended hours and restaurants offered specials—some including live music. The weather cleared in time for the lighting up of the green and the Hero Tree at the Kate. Originally planned as a way to create community again after the isolation of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are now looking forward to year three of this event.

Business Networking Reception

In partnership with the Kate, the Economic Development Department co-hosted a business networking reception with a screening of the Road Trip Masters television segment featuring Old Saybrook. The screening featured a presentation by the show's producer and star and was followed by light refreshments in the Kate Museum. The show does a great job of showcasing unique attributes of the area and provided a venue to announce some of the exciting things that the Economic Development Department has planned to help improve communication with local businesses and increase promotion of the town and its assets to businesses and visitors.

Celebrate Saybrook Street Party

On June 25th the town hosted its first-ever Celebrate Saybrook Street Party.

A collaboration between the town, the Old Saybrook Department of Police Services, Old Saybrook Chamber of Commerce and the Kate, the event featured three live bands; food, craft beer, retail and arts and crafts vendors; and entertainment such as a juggler, stilt walker and remote car racing. A large portion of Main Street was shut down to make a pedestrian-friendly zone and beautiful summer weather topped off the day. The Economic Development Department was instrumental in the planning and execution for the day, spearheading the marketing in advance of the event. There was overwhelmingly positive feedback! Save the date for June 23, 2024 when we try to top it!

New Businesses

Between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023, 51 businesses registered Trade Name Certificates to operate in Old Saybrook. This is a decrease when compared to last year, indicating that the post-Covid new business boom may be slowing down somewhat. We continue to see a strong occupancy rate around town, including our Main Street, as well as continued interest in development.

Mariner's Way Redevelopment

The director co-wrote an RFP with the town planner for an updated study of the Mariner's Way corridor, which was publicized in February. Five companies responded with proposals and in May Camoin Associates was selected to conduct the study, including a market analysis and economic opportunity study as well as facilitating stakeholder education, input, consensus building and buy-in. This study will build on work that has already been done to study and prepare this area for strategic redevelopment. It will take into account market changes since the pandemic and the potential for transit-oriented development (TOD) in the area.

Grants

ARPA – The Economic Development Commission successfully applied for \$100,000 in American Rescue Plan Act funding from the town's allocation with a proposal to provide four years of marketing and other economic resilience activities with a focus on downtown to help the local business community as it continues to recover from the effects of the pandemic.

STEAP – The town successfully applied for a Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) Grant to put in sidewalks from the Westbrook town line on Route 1 through to Dairy Queen. Not only will this complete sidewalks in that area but it will provide, in conjunction with parallel STEAP grant funding in Westbrook for the connecting sidewalks, safe passage for developmentally disabled adults from Settler's Landing in Westbrook to walk to work and entertainment in Old Saybrook. Partnering with our neighboring community deepens the community connection and the impact of the grant award.

CCG – With the cooperation of the Dock & Dine property owner, the town applied unsuccessfully for the second round of Connecticut's Community Challenge Grant funding, requesting \$3.7 million of a \$7.6 million project to reestablish a restaurant at the site of the former Dock & Dine, repair the seawall and deck, refurbish and connect the scenic walkway along the water and make some park improvements at Gardiner's Landing. This was an exciting public-

private partnership arrangement with great economic development potential that unfortunately did not fit into the CCG review committee's vision for expenditures under this grant. However, as a result of this process, the new director of the state's Department of Economic & Community Development Office visited the town (her first time here!) and this site in particular, allowing her to hear firsthand about the town's vision for eventual revitalization.

CT Trails Grant – The town applied unsuccessfully for a DEEP CT Trails Grant to repair the seawall and decking at Saybrook Point, complete and revitalize the waterfront walkway, extend an ADA-accessible pathway through Gardiner's Landing to connect with Fort Saybrook Monument Park, and to add additional historical and environmental educational signage at Gardiner's Landing along with some park improvements and a scenic overlook. This would have provided a nice foundation for new economic development in the area while also improving safety, infrastructure and aesthetics for visitors and townspeople in a currently underused area.

The Economic Development Department will continue to investigate and pursue grant and funding opportunities as they become available in support of the town.

Commission Projects

The EDC hosted an Excellence in Business Awards ceremony in October recognizing the following businesses: Art Emporium, Cordial Shoppe, Pasta Vita, Penny Lane Pub and Saybrook Home. All businesses were recognized for their longevity in the local business community and their resilience, accomplishments and community commitment. The Excellence in Business Awards are given every three years.

As part of the expenditure of its ARPA grant award, the EDC joined CT Main Street Center (CMSC) to improve the town's Main Street management in order to foster economic growth and development. CMSC joined commission members for a walking tour of Main Street where positive and negative aspects of the area were discussed. CMSC also used its Main Street Assessment Tool, an extensive list of targeted questions focused on the most important aspects of Main Street management, to assess strengths and weaknesses in our current approach. This resulted in a number of actionable suggestions, including conducting a business inventory.

As a result of CMSC feedback, the EDC started several inventories: one related to parking in the vicinity of Main Street, one focusing on Main Street businesses and the other focusing on Route 1 businesses. These inventories will provide actionable data for use in economic development projects and marketing as well as improve communication between local businesses and the Economic Development Department.

The EDC continued to support the Community Art Hallway with an exhibition of flower and landscape paintings by Cindy Stevens displayed from January through April followed by an exhibit entitled "On the Water" by Andria Alex featuring 24 original seascapes displayed from May through August. All artists are welcome to apply to exhibit in the hallway, which provides a warm welcome and visual stimulation to all who enter the town hall.

Partnerships

The Economic Development Department could not accomplish what it does without the help and support of many other people and organizations. This year some significant projects including other groups included:

- *Historic Walking Tour Brochure Update & Expansion* – In partnership with the Historical Society and the Old Saybrook Chamber of Commerce, the Economic Development Department participated in planning meetings to support the ARPA-funded update and expansion of the extremely popular walking tour brochure produced by the Historical Society and Chamber. When it is complete, this will be an exciting new addition to the activities available to visitors to the greater Main Street area.
- *CEDS* – The director served as a member of the CEDS (Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy) Strategy Committee facilitated through the RiverCOG. The result of this process was the completion of a regional planning document that will open the doors in the area to more federal funding opportunities to support local and regional economic goals. This is a great tool for our area and brings us in line with other councils of government who already have this documentation in place.
- *MCRC* – The director serves on the Middlesex County Revitalization Commission as a representative for the first selectman. This year the group was able to offer small business operating grants to a number of businesses in Middlesex County. This will continue for the next four years.
- *Chamber of Commerce* – The director continues to work closely on many projects and collaborations with the Old Saybrook Chamber of Commerce, regularly attending First Thursday Business Connection meetings, ribbon cuttings for new businesses and networking events as well as working closely together on town events and to keep a pulse on the business community. They are truly a great partner to have in town!

The Commissioners 2022-2023

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 Carol Conklin who left the commission this year after more than 10 years' of service!

And, a warm welcome to our new commissioner, Michael Bender.

Keep in Touch

The EDC wants to know what our business community needs to succeed. To discuss your business needs, concerns, and ideas, contact Jennifer Donahue, Director of Economic Development & Communications, at (860) 395-3139 or jennifer.donahue@oldsaybrookct.gov.

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

David Prendergast, Chair

Jennifer Donahue, Director of Economic Development & Communications

EDUCATION, BOARD OF

(In compliance with Section 10-224 Connecticut Statutes)

	Term Expires	Years of Service	Served Since
Trevor Nichols (R), <i>Chair</i>	2025	1	November 2021
Alan Hyla (R), <i>Vice Chair</i>	2023	7	May 2016
Karen Brodeur (D), <i>Secretary</i>	2025	29	October 1993
Eileen D. Baker (D)	2025	33	November 1989
Dr. George Chang (D)	2023	14	November 2007
James Henderson (R)	2023	7	November 2015
Karina Julius (R)	2023	4	September 2018
Steve Beeler (R)	2025	1	November 2021
Kelley Kennedy (R)	2025	0	March 2023
Jane Wisialowski (D)	2023	0	June 2023

OLD SAYBROOK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
STRATEGIC PLAN 2021-2026

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 rigorous, personalized, and meaningful educational program.

2021-2026 STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

Equity: All students will be challenged and respected, and represented throughout the district so that they will be prepared to achieve their highest aspirations in a global society.

High Quality Instruction: All students will collaborate with educators, their families, and the community to develop learning and life goals, create personalized pathways, and definite opportunities for application of skills and knowledge aligned to the Vision of a Learner.

Safe and Supportive Environment: All students will engage in challenging and culturally rich school experiences that support their socio-emotional development and sense of belonging.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS DURING THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

- Jan Perruccio was named the Connecticut Superintendent of the Year.
- The Board of Education was named a Board of Distinction by the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education for the 13th year in a row.
- The Board of Education received two Bonnie B. Carney Excellence for Educational Communications Awards.
- The district successfully implemented a universal Early Childhood Program for all four-year-olds in Old Saybrook.
- The district completed the second year of the strategic plan and updated a public-facing website made to communicate to the community on progress

being made towards the plan's goals. The district added several evidence-bearing documents to the website that outline specific initiatives being undertaken at each school related to the Strategic Plan goals.

- The district held the first and second bi-annual Rams Unique Achievement Expo for students and staff.
- The district launched a new website and mobile application.

Old Saybrook High School

- Old Saybrook High School offered nine Advanced Placement Courses across English, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, and World Languages. The classes are open to students in grades 10, 11 and 12, and 78 students (30% of those eligible) participated in at least one of the advanced placement offerings.
- Advanced Placement scores for 2023 are as follows:
 - 79% scoring 3 or higher
 - 53% scoring 4 or higher
 - 28% scoring a 5
- Old Saybrook High School offered eight University of Connecticut Early College Experience (ECE) Courses.
- 100% of students taking ECE courses in 2022-23 qualified for University of Connecticut college credit.
- 20 Old Saybrook High School students earned the Connecticut Seal of Biliteracy.
- Old Saybrook High School Boys' Soccer - State Champions
- Old Saybrook High School Girls' Outdoor Track - Shoreline Champions
- Old Saybrook High School Girls' Lacrosse - Shoreline Champions
- Old Saybrook High School Girls' 4x100 Relay Team placed third overall at the New Balance Outdoor Nationals and set a school record with a time of 48.16 seconds.
- Old Saybrook High School had multiple Scholar, All-State, and Shoreline Conference Athletes.
- Graduating seniors from the class of 2023 received more than \$200,000 in scholarships from the Old Saybrook community.

Old Saybrook Middle School

- Old Saybrook Middle School was recognized as a New England League of Middle Schools Spotlight School.
- Classrooms in Old Saybrook Middle School feature standards-based instruction and integrated 21st-century skills.
- Teachers at Old Saybrook Middle School promote social-emotional learning.
- Professional development at Old Saybrook Middle School focused on standards-based instructional practices, student ownership, and well-being.
- The CT Association of Schools visited to observe innovative learning practices at Old Saybrook Middle School.
- Old Saybrook Middle School students partnered with the Witness Stones Project to honor the life and legacy of Rose Jackson. A "Witness Stone" is located on the northwest corner on the grounds of the Old Saybrook Historical Society.

- Advisory continues to focus on inclusivity.
- Courses are offered that focus on student choice and purpose.
- There is a focus on school community connections and the use of local resources for learning.
- Old Saybrook Middle School continues progress in designing instructional environments to support 21st-century skills, problem-based learning, and student ownership of learning.
- Old Saybrook Middle School focused on reinforcing positive behavior and use of restorative practices to build empathy and interpersonal skills.

Kathleen E. Goodwin School

- Goodwin School aligns all building and teacher goals to the District Strategic Plan, which focuses on Equity, High Level Instruction, and a Supportive Environment.
- Goodwin classes range from Early Childhood (ages 3,4)–Grade 4.
- Students in K–4 participate in daily world language study.
- Students attend daily specials classes (Physical Education, Music, Art, Library Media, Computers).
- A very active PTA partners on unique academic and social activities for students, staff, and families (Welcome Back Social, Celebration of Reading, Ice Cream Social, STEM Day, Cultural Arts Presentations, Wellness Day, Music and Art Night, Grade 4 Celebration).
- An integration block is woven into specific content areas, which offers enhancements and increased rigor to the curriculum.
- Bridges Math is the numeracy program.
- Reading and numeracy interventionists support student growth.
- Two English Language Learner Coordinators are on staff to assist with Old Saybrook’s changing demographics.
- Goodwin School runs the following student clubs: Technology Club, Cricut Club (posters, signs, arts and crafts), Art Club, and Music Club.
- After- and before-school programs provided by Parks and Recreation and YMCA Westbrook are hosted at Goodwin School.
- Goodwin families are supported by a school counselor, school psychologist, and school social worker.
- Students who qualify receive support from speech and language services, occupational therapy, and physical therapy.
- In 23-24 Goodwin will be offering a before- and after-school program for Early Childhood students (ages 3 and 4) for the first time via the YMCA.
- Building-wide air conditioning was added to the Goodwin School Building in 23-24.
- All playground hard surfaces were resealed in 23-24.
- A Goodwin School welcome video was created for the 2023-24 academic year and will be featured on the district website before the start of the year.
- Goodwin is a Responsive Classroom School. Students learn a set of social and emotional competencies: cooperation, assertiveness, responsibility, empathy, and self-control.

Jan Perruccio, Superintendent of Schools

ENROLLMENT FIGURES
Official Reporting Date
October 1, 2022

KATHLEEN E. GOODWIN SCHOOL

Early Childhood Program.....	88
Kindergarten.....	68
Grade 1.....	55
Grade 2.....	48
Grade 3.....	62
Grade 4.....	80
TOTAL	401

OLD SAYBROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL

Grade 5.....	63
Grade 6	82
Grade 7	71
Grade 8	102
TOTAL	318

OLD SAYBROOK HIGH SCHOOL

Grade 9	78
Grade 10	87
Grade 11	85
Grade 12	103
TOTAL	353

TOTAL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT.....1,072

2022-2023 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Month	Number of Student Days	Days When School Is Not in Session and/or Early Dismissal Days
AUGUST	2	Professional Development Days: August 25, 26, 29 First Day of School for Students: August 30
SEPTEMBER	21	Labor Day: September 5
OCTOBER	20	Early Dismissal/PD Half Day: October 7 Columbus Day: October 10
NOVEMBER	17	Professional Development Days: November 7-8 Thanksgiving Break: November 23-25
DECEMBER	17	Early Dismissal/PD Half Day: December 2 Holiday Break: December 23-January 2
JANUARY	20	Early Dismissal/PD Half Day: January 6 Martin Luther King Day: January 16
FEBRUARY	17	Early Dismissal/PD Half Day: February 3 Winter Recess: February 20-22
MARCH	21	Professional Development Day: March 10
APRIL	14	Good Friday: April 7 Spring Break: April 10-14
MAY	21	Half PD Day: May 5 Memorial Day: May 29
JUNE	10	Last Day of School: June 14

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 14, 2023.

**Old Saybrook High School
Graduating Class – June 2023**

Albon, Owen S.	Three Rivers Community College
Amara, Annabella C.	Carnegie Mellon University
Arciniegas, Juan David	Eckerd College
Arpaia, Sage E.	American University
Ashe, Magdalena	Suffolk University
Aspajo Berdiales, Brianna	Northwestern University
Barros, Alexander J.	Quinnipiac University
Beaudoin, Madelyn Ann	University of Connecticut
Bernal Ramirez, Anderson	Employment
Boucher, Claire Emily	University of Massachusetts–Amherst

Brady, Katelin P.	Georgia Institute of Technology– Main Campus
Butkovsky, Mia	Employment
Caffrey, Jacob	National Guard
Carmichael, Emily Margaret	Boston University
Carrica, Victoria	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cecunjanin, Ajdin	Eastern Connecticut State University
Cecunjanin, Almira	University of Connecticut
Chacha, Nick Dylan	Gateway Community College
Champlin, Amar	18-21 Program
Chilleri, Riley	Employment
Clemens, Lily	Connecticut College
Clifford, Abigail	GAP Year
Colella, Abigail R.	University of Rhode Island
Condulis, Juliette M.	Tulane University of Louisiana
Day, Laura Fuller	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
De Moura, Felipe Machado	Nichols College
DeAngelo, Cameron F.	Suffolk University
Donohue, Joseph M.	University of Vermont
Dorothy, Shelby A.	Middlesex Community College
Dower, Adam J.	University of Connecticut
Downes, John Henry T.	Ithaca College
Echeverria, Genesis	Central Connecticut State University
Fernandes, Leigha Regina	Eastern Connecticut State University
Forrestt, Jack M.	Clemson University
Franco, Lindsey J.	Quinnipiac University
Gilson, Aidan Michael	University of North Carolina Wilmington
Grace, Christina J.	University of Miami
Grillo, Aidan M.L.	Bryant University
Guillen, Michael Emmett	Quinnipiac University
Harvey, Donyel	Employment
Isaguirre, Yosian	Employment
Jacques, Morgan	Employment
Julius, Andrew J.	University of Hartford
Kapij, Michael R.	The University of Alabama
Kapp, Joshua	University of Connecticut
Kelly, Joanna	Endicott College
Kidd, Jessica A.	Coastal Carolina University
Kolb, Adelina	University of Connecticut
Kravitz, Rebecca E.	Bryant University
Kulmann, Bradley B.	Miami University–Oxford
LaMotte, Alexandra P.	College of Charleston
Lane, Shelby	Employment
Laskowski, Kaylin J.	Tufts University
Laurie, Regan H.	College of Charleston
Lech, Joshua Mark	Sacred Heart University
Lee, Lauren Alexandra	The University of Tampa

LeGeyt, Mitchell	Eckerd College
Ling, Brent L.J.	University of Alabama at Birmingham
Lydick, Grace C.	Three Rivers Community College
Marcello, Jonathan T.	Three Rivers Community College
McKeown, Hannah Grace	University of Massachusetts–Amherst
Milardo-Denler, Tyler	Colby-Sawyer College
Minegar, Catherine Mary	Salve Regina University
Molesky, Kathryn A.	Merrimack College
Mulivhill, Kallie	River Valley Esthetics Institute
Murphy, Nicholas	University of Connecticut
Nguyen, Nick	Three Rivers Community College
Ocampo Atunez, Kelin	Three Rivers Community College
Pavlovich, Jake G.	Massachusetts Maritime Academy
Percival, Carson M.	Massachusetts Maritime Academy
Pino Vera, Danilo	Employment
Reynolds, Aedan	Employment
Richards, Weston B.	Fairfield University
Rodriguez Deras, Yecxel	Gateway Community College
Rose, Benjamin Hale	Drexel University
Rueckert, Avery S.	University of North Carolina Wilmington
Ryan, Elizabeth M.	The University of Texas at Austin
Santarsiero, Willow M.	University of Connecticut
Skiles, Liam David	Gateway Community College
Skiles, Noah Quinn	Middlesex Community College
Spaargaren, Andrew Maxwell	Central Connecticut State University
Spedding, Lilah A.	Fordham University
Stavola, Marlin M.	Three Rivers Community College
Sundara, Emily	University of Connecticut
Thomas, Gideon Matthew	Champlain College
Tobar Cruz, Luz	Gateway Community College
Tolve, Aaron W.	Lehigh University
Varela, Giana	Johnson & Wales University–Providence
Vo, Minh Hoang Nhat	Franklin and Marshall College
Wisialowski, Peter B.	Marist College
Witczak, John D.	University of Rhode Island
Worman, Logan Z.	Florida State University

OLD SAYBOOK BOARD OF EDUCATION OFFICE
50 Sheffield Street, Old Saybrook, CT 06475
2022-2023 STAFF

	2022-2023 Base Salary		Number of Years Employed in Old Saybrook Public Schools as of June 2023
Anderson, S.	\$92,100	Math Coach and Coordinator	23 years
Bai, K.	\$168,620	Director of Student Services	26 years
Berner, M.	\$61,387	Administrative Assistant	3 years
Brinkley, S.	\$63,287	Administrative Assistant	21 years
Buxton, T.	\$75,162	Computer Information Systems Manager	8 years
Chong, J.	\$75,162	Educational Data & Innovations Manager	4 years
Eldredge, M.	\$60,844	Payroll/Human Resource Assistant	1 years
Cole, K.	\$82,526	OT	4 years
Ferrance, S.	\$24,258	COTA	4 years
Fletcher, K.	\$71,584	Director Curric. Instruc. Assess. (5 months)	0 years
Gardner, M.	\$71,125	Chief Technology Officer (part-time)	8 years
Gerbers, T.	\$75,853	Superintendent's Executive Assistant	9 years
Gerbers, T.	\$9,234	Public Relations Director	4 years
Goss, A.	\$101,980	Director Curric. Instruc. Assess. (7 months)	8 years
LaPlant, J.	\$79,669	Social Worker	3 years
Listorti, P.	\$91,444	Business Assistant	27 years
Malinovsky, A.	\$54,055	IT Client Support Manager	13 years
Meyers, L.	\$71,992	Social Worker	4 years
O'Connor, L.	\$95,760	SEL Coordinator	1 years
Pendleton, J.	\$156,694	Director of Operations, Facilities, Finance	19 years
Perruccio, J.	\$215,198	Superintendent of Schools	10 years
Philips, K.	\$97,618	BCBA	0 years
Saunders, B.	\$87,325	Athletic Director	7 years
Sternhardt, M.	\$59,258	Accounts Payable Bookkeeper	23 years
Using, C.	\$64,808	School to Career Coordinator	17 years
Zajac, C.	\$81,760	Special Education Professional Services Coord.	20 years

KATHLEEN E. GOODWIN SCHOOL
80 Old Boston Post Road
2022-2023 STAFF

	2022-2023 Base Salary		Number of Years Employed in Old Saybrook Public Schools as of June 2023
Day, Stacey	\$52,450	Secretary	8 years
Stack, L.	\$53,557	Secretary	8 years
Sutman, H.	\$164,685	Principal	19 years
Thomson, S.	\$18,915	Library Assistant (5 hrs/day, 180 days)	3 years
Walton, M.	\$74,812	Associate Principal (½ KGS, ½ OSMS)	21 years

CERTIFIED TEACHING STAFF:

Annino, M.	\$81,760	Grade 3	20 years
Ayer, J.	\$75,000	Special Education	17 years
Ayers, J.	\$97,618	Remedial Reading /Consumer and Family Science	27 years
Barnes, A.	\$76,933	Kindergarten	14 years
Bernhardson, S.	\$63,446	Visual Arts	5 years
Brodeur, J.	\$75,000	Grade 3	13 years
Canavan, E.	\$77,532	Grade 2	19 years

Collier, M.	\$97,618	Preschool Special Education	34 years
Coogan, J.	\$82,405	Speech and Language Pathologist	16 years
Curtiss, M.	\$77,532	Grade 1	1 years
D'Amico, C.	\$49,138	World Language	2 years
DeAngelo, K.	\$75,000	Grade 4	13 years
Delany, S.	\$90,947	Early Childhood Program	2 years
Deltenre, P.	\$77,532	Bilingual	2 years
Doak, C.	\$77,532	Library Media Specialist	19 years
Dodds, J.	\$86,064	Grade 1	23 years
Farnsworth, E.	\$90,947	Kindergarten	0 years
Franklin, V.	\$54,461	Special Education	1 years
Fudge, S.	\$79,669	Grade 4 Special Education	13 years
Gage, H.	\$81,760	Grade 1	20 years
Goodhue, C.	\$97,618	Kindergarten	23 years
Hanratty, K.	\$87,325	Grade 4	16 years
Healey, M.	\$54,461	Early Childhood Special Education	1 years
Holecz, J.	\$81,760	Grade 3	22 years
Honer, C.	\$82,405	Grade 1	19 years
Iannini, L.	\$81,760	Remedial Reading Teacher	10 years
Johnson, J.	\$90,947	Grade 2	24 years
Jutkiewicz, P.	\$97,618	Music	22 years
Kekacs, D.	\$81,760	Early Childhood Special Education	1 years
Kelley, C.	\$97,618	Physical Education	25 years
Kiessling, L.	\$72,468	Grade 4	15 years
King, D.	\$97,618	Speech and Language Pathologist	10 years
Lemieux, K.	\$86,064	Grade 3	20 years
Marble-King, C.	\$97,618	Kindergarten/Grade 1 Spec Ed	23 years
McCarthy, M.	\$71,992	Psychologist	10 years
McElhone, S.	\$97,618	Grade 2	23 years
McLaughlin, K.	\$49,138	Early Childhood Program	2 years
Muratori, L.	\$86,064	Grade 3	15 years
Pajor, B.	\$90,947	Grade 2	24 years
Roberts, J.	\$90,947	Grade 2 Special Education	21 years
Sumby, E.	\$97,618	Math Interventionist	25 years
Taylor, J.	\$77,532	Grade 4	1 years
Tedesco, D.	\$81,760	Guidance Counselor	12 years
Trudeau, K.	\$75,000	Grade 2	16 years
Vazquez-McCoy	\$90,947	Bilingual	5 years
Webb, R.	\$75,000	Elementary Information Technology	11 years
Zimmermann, J.	\$72,468	Early Childhood Program	2 years

OLD SAYBROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL

60 Sheffield Street

2022-2023 STAFF

	2022-2023 Base Salary		Number of Years Employed in Old Saybrook Public Schools as of June 2023
Bauchman, K.	\$170,620	Principal	5 years
Cromeenes, B.	\$53,390	Secretary	7 years
Davis, B.	\$29,632	Clerical/Library Media (7.75 hrs/day, 180 days)	14 years
Healey, C.	\$51,949	Secretary	3 years
Walton, M.	\$74,812	Associate Principal (½ OSMS, ½ KGS)	21 years

CERTIFIED TEACHING STAFF:

Carroll, M.	\$90,947	Grade 8 Language Arts	30 years
Caruthers, L.	\$67,939	Music	8 years
Castro, L.	\$79,669	Guidance Counselor	12 years
Chapman, S.	\$63,446	Visual Arts	3 years
Conti, H.	\$87,325	Grade 5	14 years
Conti, T.	\$97,618	Music	20 years
Crawley, J.	\$40,763	Grade 5 (5 months)	0 years
Davis, E.	\$62,063	Physical Education	3 years
Deeble, J.	\$90,947	Mathematic	3 years
Di Filippo, N.	\$79,669	Computer Literacy	8 years
Diaz, S.	\$97,618	Psychologist	13 years
Evans, K.	\$97,618	Grade 5	28 years
Gallerani, C.	\$86,064	Grade 6 Mathematic	22 years
Gehret, E.	\$90,947	Grade 5	0 years
Giegerich, J.	\$97,618	SRBI- Literacy	23 years
Goodale, C.	\$75,000	Grade 6 Language Arts	11 years
Hanover, J.	\$87,325	Special Education	19 years
Hespeler, J.	\$71,992	Physical Education	9 years
Hurdis, H.	\$81,760	Special Education	14 years
Jenkins, K.	\$90,947	World Languages	21 years
Kane, C.	\$97,618	Special Education	28 years
Kiefer, P.	\$90,647	Special Education	13 years
Labriola, R.	\$90,947	Grade 8 Social Studies	29 years
Larson, L.	\$82,405	Social Worker	1 years
MacDonald, K.	\$86,064	SRBI-Numeracy	17 years
Malvezzi, B.	\$90,947	Music	1 years
Marennna, M.	\$74,463	Special Education	10 years
Martino, L.	\$97,618	World Languages	0 years
Marshall, P.	\$81,760	Grade 5/6 Language Arts	19 years
Maynard, A.	\$90,947	Special Education	5 years
Newton, H.	\$61,199	Visual Arts	7 years
O'Connor, J.	\$90,947	Speech and Language Pathologist	22 years
Pegnataro, P.	\$43,928	Library Media Specialist	0 years
Pesce, J.	\$74,463	Grade 7 Language Arts	14 years
Pianka, S.	\$63,446	Grade 7 Science	1 years
Riley, M.	\$97,618	Grade 6 Science	25 years
Sagnella, N.	\$58,953	Technology	3 years
Shea, M.	\$87,325	Health PE	2 years
Smith, P.	\$67,939	Grade 7 Language Arts	12 years
Snyder, J.	\$90,947	Grade 8 Language Arts	27 years
Spedding, K.	\$58,953	Grade 6	1 years
St. Germain, D.	\$90,947	Grade 5	21 years
Stanley, K.	\$79,669	Grade 7 Mathematics	16 years
Sullivan, E.	\$65,692	Grade 5 (5 months)	0 years
Taylor, J.	\$87,325	Guidance	20 years
Tooker, H.	\$90,947	Consumer and Family Science	5 years
Vazquez, Z.	\$90,947	World Languages	1 years
Wood, T.	\$90,947	Grade 7 Social Studies	28 years
Yacovou, N.	\$76,933	Special Education	5 years
Yale, E.	\$97,618	Grade 5	22 years

OLD SAYBROOK HIGH SCHOOL
1111 Boston Post Road
2022-2023 STAFF

	2022-2023 Base Salary		Number of Years Employed in Old Saybrook Public Schools as of June 2023
Accetta, T.	\$20,014	Secretary (7 months)	0 years
Anastasio, J.	\$177,120	Principal	7 years
Bonin, K.	\$53,537	Secretary	23 years
Cassineri, S.	\$19,749	Library Media	1 years
Hartmann	\$7,017	Secretary (2 months)	0 years
Plotkin, D.	\$114,377	Associate Principal	12 years
Vanderveen, K.	\$63,067	Administrative Assistant	7 years

CERTIFIED TEACHING STAFF:

Arsenault, T.	\$90,947	Social Studies	27 years
Bairos, C.	\$97,618	Library Media Specialist	24 years
Barnes, M.	\$97,618	Mathematics	3 years
Bell, K.	\$97,618	Computer Literacy & Business Education	24 years
Carlone, G.	\$97,618	Technology Education	10 years
Claffey, A.	\$72,468	World Languages	15 years
Colella, K.	\$90,947	Special Education Transition	17 years
Collier, M.	\$97,618	Special Education	35 years
Dailey, C.	\$81,760	Business Education	0 years
Dionne, K.	\$90,947	Science	16 years
Donahue, B.	\$82,405	Physical Education	15 years
Donnelly, K.	\$69,509	Language Arts	7 years
Durie, K.	\$71,992	Special Education	13 years
Evans, M.	\$51,669	English	2 years
Fawcett, S.	\$76,933	Cooperative Work Education & English	16 years
Flaherty, K.	\$54,201	Special Education	10 years
Flegar, M.	\$81,760	Language Arts	4 years
Glover, J.	\$87,325	Social Studies	21 years
Gonzalez, M.	\$54,461	World Language	0 years
Gostkiewicz, M.	\$90,947	Mathematics	1 years
Healy, M.	\$90,947	Guidance	26 years
Holthausen, G.	\$79,669	Psychologist	16 years
Hunter, K.	\$79,669	Literacy Interventionist	10 years
Johnston, C.	\$90,947	Special Education	5 years
Kaushal, M.	\$57,099	Guidance Counselor	0 years
Kelly, L.	\$70,203	Science	0 years
Lopez, E.	\$86,064	Mathematics	1 years
Martin, M.	\$49,138	Health PE	2 years
Menga, S.	\$87,325	Visual Arts	21 years
Milton, J.	\$76,933	Music	11 years
Nassar, D.	\$97,618	History Social Studies	0 years
Pantages, K.	\$72,408	Special Education	0 years
Payne, M.	\$72,468	Social Studies	15 years
Roarick, M.	\$90,947	Social Studies	27 years
Rosenhein, A.	\$58,953	Physics	0 years
Rowe, C.	\$79,669	Guidance	16 years
Santopietro, K.	\$51,669	Special Education	7 years
Santoro, L.	\$50,403	Consumer and Family Science	5 years

Scherber, A.	\$90,947	Science	19 years
Shearin, J.	\$67,027	Science	9 years
Sousa, K.	\$90,947	Mathematics	27 years
Taylor, J.	\$87,325	Music	21 years
Torre, K.	\$67,939	Social Studies	5 years
Vautrain, E.	\$97,618	Language Art	14 years
Westner, L.	\$81,760	Physical Education	22 years
Woods, S.	\$90,947	Special Education	26 years
Zukowski, E.	\$70,203	Technology Education	10 years
Zumbaum, M.	\$74,463	World Language	14 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, 2020 through August 31, 2023. 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

2022–2023
Base Salary
(35 hrs. wk/10 months)

Number of Years Employed in
Old Saybrook Public Schools
as of June 2023

Nursing Staff

Jacobsen, S.	\$20,006	Kathleen Goodwin School/OS High School	3 years
Potts, K.	\$39,692	St. John School	11 years
Milone, C.	\$53,496	OS High School	4 years
VanDerHorst, K.	\$64,969	OS Middle School & Nurse Coordinator	18 years
Ziegler, T.	\$53,930	Kathleen Goodwin School	3 years

OLD SAYBROOK PUBLIC SCHOOLS MAINTENANCE AND CUSTODIAL STAFF

2022–2023
Base Salary
(40hrs. wk/12 months)

Number of Years Employed in
Old Saybrook Public Schools
as of June 2023

Kathleen Goodwin School

Farrell, K.	\$60,343	Custodian	11 years
Stone, C.	\$66,607	Head Custodian	30 years
Stopa, T.	\$60,656	Custodian	15 years
Tsering, D.	\$14,517	Custodian (part-time 50%)	19 years

Old Saybrook Middle School

Brigante, D.	\$61,596	Custodian	14 years
Faulkingham, M.	\$76,657	Head Custodian & District Custodial Coordinator	29 years
Faucher, J.	\$57,177	Custodian	2 years
Girardi, A.	\$60,781	Custodian	19 years
Oporto, A.	\$21,524	Custodian (part-time 50%)	3 years
Tasillio, T.	\$60,343	Custodian	10 years

Old Saybrook High School

Diaz, J.	\$60,948	Custodian	26 years
Franklin, M.	\$61,721	Custodian	18 years
Mitchell, D.	\$67,860	Head Custodian	27 years
Redmond, L.	\$57,774	Custodian	4 years
Tasillio, J.	\$58,944	Custodian	7 years

Grounds Maintenance–All Schools

Peterson, B.	\$64,101	Grounds and Maintenance Custodian	26 years
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District Maintenance–All Schools

Faulkingham, A.	\$80,074	Maintenance	19 years
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**OLD SAYBROOK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FOOD SERVICES STAFF**

School Food Service is a self-funded activity.

	2022–20232 Base Salary		Number of Years Employed in Old Saybrook Public Schools as of June 2023
Nuzzo, M.	\$95,819	Food Service Director (12 months)	13 years

Kathleen Goodwin School

Brodeur, R.	\$31,857	Chef/Manager	3 years
Courtney, G.	\$10,215	Food Service Helper	6 years
Sullivan, M.	\$19,632	Food Service Helper	4 years

Old Saybrook Middle School

Fitzpatrick, D.	\$40,466	Chef/Manager	0 years
Brown, A.	\$18,600	Food Service Helper	14 years
DaPonte, E.	\$11,212	Food Service Helper	4 years

Old Saybrook High School

Murtishi, G.	\$27,324	Chef/Manager	1 years
Kanizaj, B.	\$17,557	Food Service Helper	20 years

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, OFFICE OF

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.

In June we were allowed to demonstrate the agency's value while not under a Local State of Emergency declaration. We were pleased to put our assets and command/control philosophies to work to support "Celebrate Saybrook," our community's first Main Street street party! The event was extremely successful and great for Old Saybrook! We appreciate being asked to participate on such a talent-filled planning committee. We cannot wait for next year's celebration!

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.

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 **91k** nutritious meals including over **65k** home-delivered Meals on Wheels and over **15k** congregate meals as well as **352** 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 shoreline region. All in all we had over **100,000** visits to our center in the reported time-frame for meals, activities, support and fun.

During the reporting period for the Town of Old Saybrook, the Estuary served **108** residents a total of **15,000** home-delivered meals and an additional **252** residents joined us for **8k** congregate meals. Our Emergency Medical Outpatient Transportation provided **67** individuals with **298** rides to medical appointments. We had over **500** visits by a total of **1078** people overall to the center from residents 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 for our services and programs, please call (800) 388-1611 weekdays from 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. or visit our website at www.yourestuary.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.

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 with a mission of providing local, coordinated public transportation for all residents of the area. The nine towns have now grown to twelve and include Clinton, Chester, Deep River, Durham, Essex, Killingworth, Lyme, Middlefield, Middletown, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, and Westbrook. Service is operated under the name River Valley Transit.

The Estuary Transit District is governed by a board of directors. Each member town appoints representatives who serve in a voluntary capacity to adopt policy, set budgets and conduct long-term planning for the district. Regular board meetings are held on the first Friday of every month at 9:00 a.m. at the Estuary Transit District. All meetings are open to the public.

ETD offers multiple transportation services in the region, operating for 66,000 hours of service over 1.3 million miles annually. Twelve routes serve the main corridors of the region and provide connections to public transit providers serving the surrounding regions. ADA paratransit service is provided along fixed routes for people with disabilities. Seasonal ParkConneCT service is provided to Hammonasset Beach.

Door-to-door service is provided throughout all member towns as well as Durham, East Haddam, and Haddam through Dial-A-Ride. XtraMile on-demand service serves areas in Old Saybrook and Middletown. ETD also provides a taxi voucher program to provide half price taxi trips to seniors and people with disabilities.

ETD’s services are subsidized by federal, state and local funding. This allows for inexpensive fares of \$1.75 for routes, \$.85 for people with disabilities, and \$3.50 for Dial-A-Ride and ADA paratransit. 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 Dial-A-Ride on a donation basis in lieu of the fare.

After several years of planning, Middletown Area Transit became part of ETD on July 1, 2022, nearly doubling the size of the district. All service was rebranded as River Valley Transit in April. Service redesign and expansion is planned for FY 2024 to enhance transportation options in the region.

During the year, ETD began several projects that will enhance the customer experience. This includes expanding real-time bus information to the entire fleet, new fare discounts and a new fare collection system as well as a new website with enhanced customer tools and improved software for XtraMile to improve the service’s performance.

Joseph Comerford, *Executive Director*

Board of Directors

Leslie Strauss, <i>Chair</i>	Chester
Karl Kilduff	Clinton
Angus McDonald	Deep River
Laura Francis	Durham
D.G. Fitton	Essex
Joan Gay, <i>Vice-Chair</i>	Killingworth
David Lahm	Lyme
Jim Irish	Middlefield
Beverly Lawrence	Middletown
Bobbye Knoll Peterson	Middletown
Tim Griswold, <i>Secretary</i>	Old Lyme
Charlie Norz, <i>Treasurer</i>	Old Saybrook
John Hall	Westbrook

Administrative Staff

Joseph Comerford, *Executive Director*
Halyna Famiglietti, *Finance Director*
Jared Whitcomb, *Director of Operations*
Patrick Hevrin, *Maintenance Director*
Lisa Gibson, *Human Resources Manager*
Christina Denison, *ADA Assessor/Executive Assistant*

FINANCE DIRECTOR

For the fiscal year period ending June 30, 2023 (FY22), the preliminary financial results lead to an estimated surplus of approximately \$3.6 million. This surplus is attributable to a revenue surplus of \$2.8 million and an expense surplus of \$792 thousand. Prior to the close of the fiscal year, transfers of surplus to various capital programs will take place after full authorization.

The budget surplus can be broken down between the Board of Education (BoE) and the General Government (GG) as follows: BoE surplus \$341 thousand and GG surplus of \$3.270 million. The large revenue surplus is attributable to strong tax collections and local revenue receipts that exceeded expectations. The higher-than-expected level of local revenues were associated with mortgage recordings and building permits which reflected local activities in the real estate market.

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 level of 17% of FY23's budget. The Town's unassigned fund balance stands at \$8,215,542 as of June 30, 2022 to which the FY23 surplus will be added after finalization of the FY transfers and closing the year-end finances.

The budget for FY24 was approved at the May 9, 2023 referendum. The mill rate associated with the FY24 budget increased to 20.46 from 20.08. The total budget for FY24 represented an increase of 3.90% over the FY23 budget. Assessed values in the Grand List of October 2022 assisted in keeping the mill rate level. The approved budget was designed to keep expenses in check while providing the Town with crucial services; supporting key financial strategies aimed at minimizing long-term liabilities; and to continue the dedication to funding capital programs.

The Town's outstanding debt will decrease from 20,315,000 as of July 1, 2023 to \$17,640,000 by June 30, 2024. 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.

The Town's pension plan funding policy fully funds the actuarially determined contribution in both its Town and Fire Department pension plans. A key long-term strategy toward managing the Town's long-term liabilities and strengthening our financial position.

The budget also provides \$788 thousand in capital and reserves as well as \$665 thousand in capital expenditures slated for FY24, for a total of \$1.45 million in capital invested into the Town of Old Saybrook.

The attainment of the budget reserve goal, prudent budget practices, and the building of capital and reserves all contribute 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, CFA, Finance Director

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Old Saybrook Fire Department is composed of a completely volunteer force of 85 members. We responded to 569 incidents for the fiscal year of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. The majority of the members are firefighters 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. When properties are purchased in town and buildings or houses will be demolished, the Fire Department will perform specific trainings in the buildings that we cannot perform at the training facility.

Each day our members assist citizens and visitors to Old Saybrook and many of the incidents are uneventful. The Old Saybrook Fire Department 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*

Bill DeCapua, *Assistant Chief of Apparatus*

William Heiney, *Assistant Chief of Training*

Ben Bagnati, *Captain of Apparatus*

Todd Steward, *Captain of Training*

Jeffrey Worman, *Training Lieutenant*

Nate Minegar, *Rescue Lieutenant*

Paul Listorti, *Engine Lieutenant*

John Guarnaccia, *Ladder Lieutenant*

Thomas H. Heinssen, Jr., *Marine Lieutenant*

Past Chiefs Still Serving

Wayne Wysocki, *Past Chief 1983-1985*

Coleman Bushnell, *Past Chief 1985-1999*

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 Gearity, *Vice President*

Anthony Cronin, *Secretary*

David MacNeill, *Treasurer*

Firefighters

Richard Bauer	Fernando Guimaraes	Kelsey Maynard
Anthony Ruitto	Davis Boyd	Anthony Graziano
James Millspaugh	Richard Scierka	Christopher Cestaro
Pat Hanley	Craig Morrow	Ron Selines
John Christensen	Jocelyn Hanley	Richard M. Mulvihill
Geoff Sinibaldo	Scott Colognhi	Nolan Heiden
Greg Pereira	Mike Spera	Matt Colwell
Thomas C. Heinssen	Todd Pompea	Peter Sullivan
Anthony DiPasquale	Matthew King	William Rochette
Brian Toolan	Eric Duncan	David LaMay
Katie Rochette	Dennis Truesdale	Conor Duncan
Tom Listorti	Lou Rolon	Charles Vigorita
Jack Dunn	Don Lucas	John Romano
Bruce Watford	Mike Franklin	

Probationary Firefighters

Dennys Andarde	Andrew Julius	William Potter
Cameron DeAngelo	Ian Marchaj	

Junior Firefighters

Mwanga Choegyal	Riley Haworth	Dempsey Watford
Jack Forrestt	Cali Morelli	

Support Members

David Elkins	Andy Greene	Bill True
David Faulkner	Eric Messner	Steve Goodstine
Max Sabrin		

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

This list is shown in the NFIRS (National Fire Incident Reporting System) Codes

100 – Fire	59
200 – Overpressure Rupture, Explosion	0
300 – EMS Related Indents	150
400 – HAZMAT	39
500 – Service Calls	92
600 – Good Intent Incidents	61
700 – Fire Alarms & False Calls	165
800 – Severe Weather	3
Total Responses	569
Estimated damage from fire	\$4,500,000.00

Mutual Aid Received from Other Towns

Clinton	4
Essex	3
Guilford	3
Haddam	1
Old Lyme	9
Westbrook	11
Total	31

Mutual Aid Provided to Other Towns

Chester	3
Clinton	16
Deep River	1
East Lyme	4
Essex	10
Groton	1
Groton/Mystic	1
Haddam	1
Killingworth	1
Lyme	2
Old Lyme	19
Westbrook	24
Total	83

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.

In 2024 the Fire Department will celebrate its 100th year of volunteer service to the Town of Old Saybrook. Below are some incidents that happened in 1930.

EW ERA NEWSPAPER— April 25, 1930

The local Fire Co responded to a still alarm Thursday evening when the grass in the rear of the home of John Patterson burst into a lively blaze and for a time threatened several nursery buildings in the rear of his residence. The flames were extinguished before any property damage was inflicted.

Hartford Courant—June 17, 1930

Fire this morning destroyed six summer cottages at Hawks Nest, a beach colony near Sound View, with a total estimated loss of \$20,000, exclusive of furnishings. Four of the cottages were owned by Hartford residents. All were occupied but the occupants got out before the flames, fanned by a brisk westerly blaze, consumed the frame structures in less than two hours. A seventh cottage, owned by C. Hadlock of Hartford was slightly damaged. Three of the houses were owned by H.P. Garvin of Hartford who states today that they were partially covered by insurance and that his loss is about \$5,000. They were occupied by Mr. and Mrs. E.F. Streeter of Windsor and Dr. A.B. Landry and Charles Behan, both of Hartford. The others were owned by and occupied by Frederick C. Burnham

of Hartford and Edward Ladd and S.H. Crane of Springfield. These were fully covered by insurance. The fire started in the Streeter cottage soon after 7 o'clock this morning. Mr. Streeter was leaving for Windsor and his wife had gone up the street to bid him goodbye. Within a few minutes after they left, the house was a mass of flames. Within 15 minutes the fire had swept into the other two Garvin cottages. Fire departments of Saybrook, East Lyme, Niantic, Waterford and New London raced to the beach. The Saybrook and Niantic departments made quick time but so rapidly did the fire spread that before they arrived a fifth house was burning. The firemen were hampered by the lack of a nearby water supply. They divided into two crews one concentrating on getting a line of hose to the nearest water and the other in wrecking the sixth cottage as a means of checking the devastating path of the flames. Through this combined attack the fire was checked at the seventh cottage which was only slightly damaged and was extinguished by chemicals. The firemen laid 4000 feet of hose to the marsh nearly a mile distant, thus saving adjoining cottages.

NEW ERA NEWSPAPER, December 19, 1930

The talking picture "Love in the Rough" will be presented at the town hall Saturday night for the benefit of the Old Saybrook Volunteer Firemen's Christmas Charity fund.

The large pleasure yacht "the Margaret" was burned to the water's edge at her dock in the Ferry district early Thursday morning. The fire was of unknown origin as no one had occupied quarters on the craft for the past two months. The damage is estimated at \$10,000 and it is reported no insurance was carried on the boat.

NEW ERA NEWSPAPER, December 26, 1930

Baskets of food were distributed to thirty needy families for Christmas through the generosity of the Harry G. Faulk Post of the American Legion, the Old Saybrook Volunteer Fire Department, and the Old Saybrook Lions Club.

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.

Each year, along with the Old Saybrook Fire Department, the Fire Marshal's Office sponsors the Town's Fire Safety Week activities. Through this program, more than 400 students in preschool through third grade annually interact with Fire Department personnel to familiarize them with firefighters and their equipment. In addition the students receive educational materials to show them how to behave in a fire emergency, which they can take home to share with their families.

We continually 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.

The Fire Marshal's Office would also like to remind all residents that any and all tents that are 400 square feet or larger and used for gatherings or displays are required to be inspected by both the fire marshal and the building inspector. This process includes a drawing of the area, flammability ratings for the tent, and inspection. Tents need to be 20 feet from: property lot lines, buildings, other tents, parked vehicles, and internal combustion engines. Open flames, grills, heaters, gas, combustible gases, or any other non-approved devices are not permitted within the tent. This information is readily available at the Building Department or the Office of the Fire Marshal in the Town Hall.

This office receives many requests for permits for outside burning of brush. These are more often than not refused because of the proximity of other residences or high hazard heat days. The environment is constantly drier these days and the chances of fire extension are far too great for this beautiful community.

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 in 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.

North Cove 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. Four 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 utilizes an online registration and fee payment tool for slip and mooring holders and wait list management. All three HMC-managed facilities have substantial wait lists.

The HMC has completed improvements to the Clothesline Marina in North Cove and the addition of two slips at the Ferry Road facility. The HMC has received the required permits and plans to complete improvements to the North Cove launch ramp in fiscal year 2024. The projects are funded by fees collected by the commission for moorings and town-owned slips. The commission plans to update the Harbor Management Plan in fiscal year 2024.

Commissioners reviewed a number of applications during the year including three certificates of permission and eleven proposed zoning changes as well as six LWRD license requests.

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. 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 2023 fiscal year, the commission held nine meetings at which it approved eleven 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 also assisted the Old Saybrook Historical Society in recognizing the annual award for Achievement in Historic Preservation.

The restoration of the second phase of the Historic Ghost Sign on the Corner of Main Street and Sheffield Street was completed. The “ghost sign” is a fading historic commercial wall sign for Stokes Bros. Grocery and the Crowley Real Estate Agency and is a reminder of a time when Old Saybrook was developing quickly as a destination for summer vacation homes. The funds for the restoration were raised from the generous donations of many community residents as well as a grant from the Community Foundation of Middlesex County. John Canning & Co. restored the Historic Ghost Sign.

The HDC hosted a presentation by Mary Dunne of the State Historic Preservation Office regarding the Certified Local Government (CLG) program and the benefits that are available to the Town due to their status as a CLG. The HDC also hosted a discussion with members of the Old Saybrook Historical Society to identify ways to educate the public about the Town's historic resources and ways to protect those resources.

The commission would like to thank Krista May of the Land Use Department who supports us as our administrative clerk.

The commission meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Hall, second-floor conference room. Thomas Makowicki, building official, and Lynette Wacker, assistant town planner, assist with applications and enforcement of our regulations.

William A. Childress, *Chair*

HISTORICAL SOCIETY, OLD SAYBROOK

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

The Historical Society activities attracted not only numerous local and state visitors but also many out-of-state guests to Old Saybrook.

Events Attracting Local, Statewide and Out-of-State Visitors

Guided tours of the Hart House Museum. Visitations to the public Heritage Gardens as well as researchers to the Archives Building increased statewide traffic to Old Saybrook during the year.

Current Exhibit: "Family Matters: Insights and Inspiration from Miss James and Ann Petry" was continued and will be shown until October of 2023. A collection and reflection of the lives of two extraordinary women, this exhibit has been seen by hundreds of people who were appreciative of this tribute to them. For 2023 the exhibit also featured a special memory book highlighting the life of Liz Petry, who unexpectedly passed away. Liz graduated from Old Saybrook High School.

Free jazz concert by the U.S. Coast Guard's Traditional Jazz Band welcomed over 300 music lovers to the Heritage Gardens afternoon concert.

The barbecue fundraiser at Bushnell Farm highlighted this extraordinary property and all participants welcomed the opportunity to be there.

The first public forum at the Kate commemorating the writings of Ann Petry filled the theater with statewide visitors and historians.

The Upper Cemetery lecture tour led by Scott Carson and the Cypress Cemetery lecture tour led by member J.H. Torrance Downes both generated large audiences interested in the historical significance of these two properties.

The Lafayette Trail Marker installed on the Trivet Green ensures that Old Saybrook is part of the initiative to remember Lafayette's historic visit in 1824. The placement organized by the society involved close collaboration with the Pomery Foundation, the Lafayette Trail, Inc., the First Church of Christ Saybrook and the State of Connecticut.

"Outer Lighthouse" annual Preservation Award to Frank Sciame highlights the importance of this statewide symbol.

As a result of the society's work with Brett Martin, whose senior year thesis was devoted to the Old Saybrook Zanni family who resided on Bokum Road during World War II, and with a donation from Steve Tagliatella, Saybrook Point Resort and Marina, the society published the book, *For Home and Country, An American Family and the Second World War*, which features Old Saybrook.

The society's work with young people continued with: the visitation of all third grades from Goodwin School; the collaboration with the eighth grade classes on the Witness Stone project, which culminated this school year in honoring Rose Jackson, the enslaved woman who lived at the Hart House; the visit from the New Haven Cold Spring School students; the summer program initiated by the third grade teachers and our high school student volunteer program.

The popular Historic House and Garden Tour brought hundreds of visitors to Old Saybrook.

New Trustees

Two new trustees were added to the board at the 2022 Annual Meeting: Facilities Chair Ed Armstrong and Ways and Means Chair Donna DiBella.

Grants and Awards

The society was awarded a 2023 matching grant of \$10,000 (for the partial replacement of the wood gambrel roof on the General William Hart House) from the collaborative historic preservation technical assistance program of Preservation Connecticut and the 1772 Foundation.

The society also received a FY23 CT Cultural Fund Operating Grant for \$7,300. Support is provided to the Society from CT Humanities (CTH) with funding by the CT State Department of Economic and Community Development/CT Office of the Arts (COA) from the state legislature. Funds are being used to develop a digitization plan that will advise and guide our efforts for digitizing parts of our collections by instituting new policies, training staff, obtaining equipment and improving operations to support the preservation of our assets and increase access to our unique historical collection. A plan will be developed through the hiring of two expert consultants in this field.

A grant of \$8,288 was awarded through the American Rescue Plan Act. The society will partner with the Old Saybrook Chamber of Commerce to update the historic walking tour brochure that will include historic homes, buildings and monuments from Main Street beginning at the railroad station and ending at Saybrook Point and North Cove. This grant covers the creative concept, photographs, descriptions and printing.

Marie McFarlin, *President*

Officers

Marie McFarlin, *President*

Wayne Harms, *Vice President*

Stephan Brodeur, *Treasurer*

Theodora Kopcha, *Recording Secretary*

Trustees

Ed Armstrong

Alan Cantor

David Carswell

Mark Delmonico

Donna DiBella

Lamar LeMonte

Leslie Mastrianna

Arlene Sakatos

Stephen Sheehan

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The 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 2022-2023 closed out the tenth year the IT Department has been supporting Town Hall services. During the last fiscal year, 882 support activities were logged, a 22% increase over the previous support year and 16% above the previous high of 758 calls logged during the COVID-19 support year.

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

- **Application to Cloud Migration.** The Town Clerk's vital records application (BAS CT Clerk) moved from the local Town Hall datacenter to the cloud-hosted service shared with the Tax Collector database.

These changes provide a number of availability and disaster recovery and business continuity (DR/BC) improvements. In the event that the Town Hall datacenter were to go offline due to fire, cyberattack or some other catastrophic event, vital records will continue to be operational since the service is maintained in the cloud.

- **Office365 Migration.** The migration of all office desktop applications from various legacy office software versions to Microsoft Office365 was completed this year. Cloud-hosted backup and archiving of the Office365 email system was initiated.
- **Digital Sign Upgrades.** Controllers on the Route 1 East and Town Green digital signs were upgraded to provide increased functionality and improved connectivity.
- **Public Wi-Fi at Parks and Recreation Locations.** In spring 2023 public Wi-Fi services were initiated at the Duffy Pavilion, Saybrook Point Mini Golf, Town Beach, Harvey's Beach, Kavanaugh Park and the Town Green.
- **Hybrid Meeting Locations.** To support three concurrent hybrid meetings, the Town Hall cafeteria was outfitted as a hybrid conference room.
- **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 partial 40-minute service outage resulting in service availability of 99.999841% during Town Hall business hours. During the outage, calls were routed to voicemail or secondary mobile devices.
- **Antivirus and Security.** During this year, ongoing training was initiated to increase staff awareness of cyber and email security issues and best practices. Multitier antivirus capabilities kept Town Hall computers largely virus and malware free, resulting in no need for computer viruses

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 2023-2024 supported by the IT Department include: Migration of file services from local storage to hybrid storage with Microsoft Office Cloud, replacement of the fuel management system at the town garage and improving the efficiency of backup operations and increasing the integration between key business systems (Assessor, Tax Collector and Building Departments).

Larry Hayden, *IT Director*

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 commission welcomed Jay Kulowiec as a new member this year.

During the 2023 fiscal year, the commission held 10 meetings at which it acted upon nine applications for new development with regulated activity of which four were residential in nature, three were commercial and two were municipal. The wetlands enforcement officer issued five administrative permits for regulated activities determined to have minimal impacts. The commission also responded to a number of violations of the regulations and pursued compliance. In addition, the commission continued to review its regulations to ensure they are current with statutory changes. The commission held two training sessions to help members fulfill their duties.

The commission meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall, first-floor conference room. Lynette Wacker, assistant town planner, serves as our enforcement agent. Carolina Maharbiz 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 this town 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 Florence Griswold Museum, Saybrook Stage Company, Vista Life Innovations, Old Saybrook School System, Eastern Connecticut Ballet, Salt Marsh Opera, Chestnut Hill Concerts, and more.

This past year we saw nearly 56,000 patrons purchase tickets and more than 65,000 adults and children come through our doors. There were more than 315 shows and events and there have been almost 3,000 in the lifetime of the Kate. We have five full-time and six regular part-time employees as well as many support staff for shows and events. 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 newly renovated Katharine Hepburn Museum also continues to thrive. Located on the first floor of the Kate, the museum presents an authentic view of the cultural and historical impact of Miss Hepburn and her family. In addition to many photographs from Katharine Hepburn's life and career, the exhibit features her 1975 Primetime Emmy Award, examples of letters written to her family during the early years of her career, costume and personal wardrobe pieces, and two of her paintings, including a self-portrait.

If you have not yet been to the Kate, or you are interested in learning more about what we do, we encourage you to stop by! The box office and museum are 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 & Operations Manager*

Nancy Noyes, *Business Manager*

Elise Maragliano, *Museum Coordinator*

Ruth Yakaitis, *Membership and Development Coordinator*

Marisa Calvi-Rogers, *Volunteer Coordinator*

Beth Poole, *Marketing Associate*

Robin Menzies, *Camp Coordinator & Administrative Assistant*

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. The department takes a proactive approach to municipal needs by implementing studies, programs, and physical improvement as recommended in the Town's long-range plans including the Plan of Conservation & Development. The department facilitates public participation, reviews designs and permitting and investigates and obtains funding when appropriate. Regulation of site-specific initiatives—permitting, enforcement, and inspection—require one-on-one consultation with land developers, property owners and business tenants; town agency review; and public record keeping for regulatory agencies.

During the 2023 fiscal year the department held 90 meetings in addition to information sessions and community workshops. The department also hosted four land use education seminars and multiple commission-targeted training sessions tailored to educating members about their volunteer duties on regulatory commissions.

The department issued 196 administrative permit approvals and 17 flood permit approvals (Chapter 128, Town Code) as well as processing 23 technical reviews of permits for development for commission review and 11 petitions to amend the regulations initiated by commissions and developers.

The department also supported the following initiatives:

- **Flood Hazard Reduction**—Implementation of recent updates to Chapter 128 of the Town Code, Flood Plain Management, to include mandatory updates and increase freeboard requirements to two feet.
- **Historic Preservation**—Phase 2 of the historic “ghost sign” restoration on the corner of Main Street and Sheffield Street was completed.
- **Open Space Conservation**—The Town's updated Open Space Inventory was used to update the Town's Open Space Map. The updated map will be available on the town website later in 2023. The department also coordinated an effort to address the problem of invasive plants through education and action, including two invasive plant management projects at Fort Saybrook Monument Park and Founders Memorial Park to begin later in 2023.
- **Resiliency** – The Land Use Department collaborated with the Towns of Westbrook and Clinton as well as the Borough of Fenwick to prepare a grant application for the 2022 National Fish & Wildlife Association, Long Island Futures Fund Program in the amount of \$150,000. The grant was awarded and will be used to prepare a multi-jurisdictional coastal resiliency plan that will identify the next steps for the communities to pursue to improve resiliency in the next fiscal year.

The Land Use Department applied for and was awarded a 2023 grant from CT Sea Grant for grant writing assistance. These funds were used to prepare a grant for the Town of Old Saybrook and its project partner, the Town of Westbrook, to make application for the 2023 National Fish & Wildlife Association, Long Island Futures Fund Program in the amount

of \$300,000 to contract with a qualified engineering and environmental consulting firm for a highly technical review of marshes and flooding from Chapman Beach to Indiantown. If awarded, the grant will help the Town to identify shovel-ready projects for marsh restoration and plans for neighborhood-scale flood mitigation strategies.

- **Residential Development**—Assisted in writing zoning regulations for accessory dwelling units and expanded regulations for mixed-use apartments over Main Street businesses. Worked with the Planning Commission to draft updates to the Residential Development Section of the Plan of Conservation and Development consistent with the Town of Old Saybrook Affordable Housing Plan (2021-2026).
- **Sustainable CT**—The Town of Old Saybrook is among 26 Connecticut municipalities to be recognized for achieving Sustainable CT silver-level certification. The department continues to work on initiatives and projects to maintain certification. Lynette Wacker, assistant town planner, and Sarah Makowicki, project clerk, spent countless hours preparing the 2023 Sustainable CT application for recertification for the Town during this fiscal year. Thank you, Lynette and Sarah, for your hard work and efforts preparing this application in time for the August 2023 deadline.
- **Technology Updates**— GIS parcel layers for zoning, sidewalks, storm water systems, open space, parcel line amendments, conservation easements and trails were updated and will be available on the town website for use by the public. The scanning process continued for pending and archiving applications, including uploading pending applications to commission webpages for improved information access to the public.
- **Improvements**—Work with economic development director and other departments to successfully apply for grants for construction funding for sidewalks and planning for shovel-ready projects.

The Land Use Department is open to assist the public from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Lynette Wacker is the assistant town planner. Sarah Makowicki, Joanne Galli, Carolina Majarbiz, Krista May and Bryanna Paradis serve as recording clerks for our public meetings. Sarah Lyons, administrative assistant, manages the business functions of the department.

Christina Costa, CZEO, CFM, *Town Planner/Zoning Enforcement Officer*

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 municipalities: 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 services such as household hazardous waste collection and now serves

as the county-equivalent government for federal purposes. This fiscal year was a busy one for the staff at RiverCOG. We worked on many projects this year, receiving multiple new grants including a federal Safe Streets and Roads for All grant for a regional transportation safety plan, a federal Thriving Communities grant for transit-oriented development plans, and a state aquatic invasive grant to fund an expanded *trapa natans* (invasive water chestnut) removal project in the Connecticut River. RiverCOG welcomed two new regional planners, Brendan Geraghty and Susan Beckman, to our team, and celebrated the retirement of RiverCOG's Deputy Director Torrance Downes after many wonderful years with RiverCOG and Connecticut River Estuary RPA.

RiverCOG adopted its first Regional Housing Plan in 2023. The RHP won a statewide planning award from the CT chapter of the American Planning Association and is the only plan in the state to look at housing through a regional lens. As a recommendation of the plan, a Regional Housing Committee was formed. The committee has been working to become an information resource for the towns and the public on housing issues in the region. Initial work has been focused on creating a housing toolkit that will analyze current zoning regulations and provide research and template language to make zoning regulations more housing friendly. The tools in the toolkit will focus first on changes needed to implement the municipal 8-30g affordable housing plans. Future work will include developing a methodology to conduct a region-wide housing needs assessment, as well as the creation of an online data dashboard for monitoring housing, demographic, and economic changes as they occur.

In the spring of 2022, work began on the RiverCOG's first Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), a federally recognized economic development plan. The CEDS, which was approved by EDA on August 8, 2023, updated the information in the 2016 GrowSMART study and built upon the Regional Housing Plan and Regional Plan of Conservation and Development. The CEDS is a strategy-driven plan to grow important business sectors, support key workers, and curate a talent pipeline in the region. A business resiliency study will accompany the CEDS and will help essential businesses prepare and recover following a natural disaster.

In FY23 the region continued to work with the Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA) and their Resilient Connecticut 2.0 project to review with all 17 of our municipalities their Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan strategies to create Potential Climate Adaptation and Resilience Opportunity Areas primarily focused on flooding and heat as they relate to underserved populations.

Executive Director Sam Gold continued to chair the Connecticut Association of COGs as well as to sit on multiple boards (Sustainable CT) and the state 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 December 2022 we held our annual legislative COG/MPO meeting with the region's legislators and approved the year's legislative agenda. Staff members were able to provide testimony on many bills.

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 which touch or cross town lines, as well as municipal plans of conservation and development. This fiscal year we reviewed 61 inter-municipal zoning regulation referrals from our member municipalities and adjacent towns that addressed topics such as regulation changes for establishment of cannabis sales/production (prohibitions, moratoria and permitting), brew pubs, environmental overlay districts, and accessory dwelling units in response to Public Act 21-29. Referrals included review of Portland Village District applications as the town's Tier 1 reviewing agency.

RiverCOG continued to host and staff the Connecticut River Gateway Commission which, for 50 years, has served the towns of Chester, Deep River, East Haddam, Essex, Haddam, Lyme, Old Lyme and Old Saybrook as the guardian of the scenic and ecological values of the Lower Connecticut River. Working with the eight town Planning & Zoning Commissions, Zoning Boards of Appeal, and town staff, the Gateway Commission 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. The commission and RiverCOG staff supporting commissioners reviewed and decided upon six Special Exception applications for dwellings over 4,000 square feet in total area, 17 applications for amendment of zoning regulation and zoning maps, and 18 applications for variances of zoning regulations—a total of 47 applications.

In addition to staffing the Gateway Commission, RiverCOG supported the health of the Connecticut River by educating communities about aquatic invasive plant species and monitoring and removing *Trapa natans* (European Water Chestnut) and *Hydrilla verticillata*. We obtained a Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Aquatic Invasive Species Grant for the purchase of a work boat and to pay seasonal staff to help with this program. Invasive hydrilla continues to be a great threat to the ecology of the Connecticut River and to other water bodies of New England and New York as it is easily transported through recreational boating activities. Through Senator Blumenthal's office we worked again this year to bring federal funding to continue the Connecticut River program to address the issue through the Army Corp of Engineers, the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, and the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

RiverCOG continued to host and staff the Lower Connecticut River Land Trust (LCRLT). This nonprofit entity's members include the communities and land trusts of the region. The LCRLT continues to establish itself and move forward to help all the land trusts under its regional umbrella. We launched and continued the 19-Town Trail Challenge to promote the region's open spaces and trails and to raise funds for the stewardship needs of its member communities and land trusts. The LCRLT was able to provide grant funding for two stewardship projects this fiscal year, one for the East Haddam Land Trust and one for the Town of Essex.

RiverCOG continued to act as the fiduciary agent for the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) Region 2 of the state's emergency planning efforts through grants provided by the federal government. 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 municipalities for each of numerous overlapping grants and preparing specific deliverables that are required in order to receive RiverCOG's funding allocation for the fiduciary responsibilities. At any one time, RiverCOG staff oversees execution of purchases of regional equipment and training using funds from four Federal Homeland Security grants totaling approximately \$1 million.

RiverCOG continued to offer Household Hazardous Waste and paper shredding collections from April to October as a free service to residents of the region. We collected 48,500 pounds of waste from 2,425 households, making the 2022 season better than ever. The four paper shredding events totaled 34,750 pounds of paper collected. That is 83,250 pounds of waste that was kept out of the municipal solid waste stream for the 2022 season.

The RiverCOG hosts Connecticut's only Regional Agriculture Council (RAC). The RAC continued its efforts to work with local farmers to increase access to local farmland using a regenerative no-till method by sharing a new no-till drill, a transplanter, and a roller crimper amongst farmers in our region.

RiverCOG serves as the area's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and is involved in many transportation-related projects through state and federal funding. In FY23 we completed the Unified Planning Work Program and Metropolitan Transportation Plan updates and coordinated with CTDOT on the I-95 Eastern CT PEL study and public transit user experience study. The MPO also was approved to study a link between the Airline Trail and Farmington Canal Trail and initiated federal Safe Streets and Roads for All and Thriving Communities Program grants.

Other regional planning projects from fiscal year 2023 include:

- Hosted compost bin/rain barrel sales
- Continued work with State GIS Office and GIO on standards for GIS coding and annual reporting
- Development of web-based regional data dashboards utilizing ArcGIS Online framework
- Received Thriving Communities grant from the federal government and started work on transit-oriented development planning
- Continued working with CTDOT on LOTCIP, TAP, TRIP, Community Connectivity and other types of projects throughout the region, such as:
 - Transit merger implementation to form River Valley Transit
 - Corridor, Bike/ped, and Safety Plan implementation
 - East Haddam swing bridge walkway and Haddam roundabouts
 - Middletown Route 9 Improvements
 - Municipal traffic counts
 - ADA and Title VI compliance measures

Sam Gold, *Executive Director*

Board of Directors, Officers & Executive Committee Members

Anthony Salvatore, <i>Chair</i>	Cromwell
Timothy Griswold, <i>Vice-Chair</i>	Old Lyme
Robert McGarry, <i>Secretary</i>	Haddam
Carl Fortuna, <i>Treasurer</i>	Old Saybrook
David Cox	East Hampton
Irene Haines	East Haddam

PARKS AND RECREATION

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.

This year, the Parks and Recreation Department made a number of exciting improvements to its facilities:

- At Kavanagh Park on Trask Road, the splashpad was resurfaced, improving the safety and appearance of this popular summer spot. The basketball court here was also resurfaced and pickleball lines were painted on the tennis courts.
- At Clark Community Park on Schoolhouse Road, a new 18-hole disc golf course was installed. This course has already been rated highly by those who have played on it. Look for more activities to be organized around this new recreational option.
- Many town parks received Wi-Fi capability, improving connectivity around town. Park areas that now offer complementary Wi-Fi include: Town Green, Mini Golf, Vicki G. Duffy Pavilion, Harvey’s Beach, Town Beach and Kavanagh Park.
- A new parking area was installed at the Preserve that can accommodate many more cars, increasing the access to this large coastal forest for hiking enthusiasts.
- At the Town Green, a central town meeting area and home to our summer concert series, a new gazebo with a concrete patio was installed. Fully equipped with lighting and sound equipment, this beautiful new centerpiece to our green will be well used.

- Upgrades were made to the bathrooms at Harvey's Beach and Town Beach and both beaches had handicap matting added to improve access for people of all abilities.
- New fencing was installed at the mini golf course, as was new decorative roping.
- A new flagpole was erected at Fort Saybrook Monument Park.

The Parks and Recreation Department was also very active in supporting townwide activities this past fiscal year including the Starlight Festival in December, where we were able to salvage some holiday spirit by moving Santa and other family activities indoors to the Rec Center when rain threatened to ruin the day. We also worked with Economic Development to involve restaurants in the celebration and provide live entertainment to visitors to town. At Celebrate Saybrook in June, we put together a roster of great family friendly entertainment with a kid zone including a juggler, balloon artist, remote car racing and giant games like Jenga and Connect 4.

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 a new 18-hole disc golf course, 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 valu-

able 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 Pension and Employee Benefits Board (PBB) was established by the Town Code. Members are appointed by the Board of Selectmen (BoS).

The BoS is the fiduciary (with primary responsibility) of the retirement plans and employee benefits provided to town employees. The PBB's role is to oversee the finances and operations of the retirement plans and benefit programs and make recommendations to the BoS. The PBB assists the BoS in carrying out the duties as described in the Town of Old Saybrook Retirement Plan and the Old Saybrook Fire Company No. 1 Retirement Plan. The PBB also gives advice to the BoS on matters related to the deferred compensation plans and other employee benefit plans.

The PBB utilizes a number of independent professionals to assist in its work. Morgan Stanley provides discretionary management of the two defined benefit pension plans and is the advisor to employees participating in the deferred compensation plans. Milliman provides actuarial services related to the defined benefit pension plans. Brown & Brown is the consultant to the town for all other employee benefits.

Over the past five years the PBB has taken action to ensure long-term viability of the town benefit plans. These actions have included creating a new defined contribution 401a retirement program; conducting a long-term asset allocation study to ensure asset management meets plan objectives; creating a formalized Investment Policy Statement for the defined benefit plans; and formalizing an Investment Policy Statement for the deferred compensation plans; among other things. Additionally, during this past year, the PBB recommended, and the Boards of Finance and Selectmen adopted, a Pension Reserve Fund. This fund can be used in the future to assume the Town's contribution to the benefit plans.

The Town's Defined Benefit Plan ended the fiscal June 30 year with \$25,784,008 in assets. During the fiscal year the plan gained 9.89%, net of fees. For the past three, five and ten years the plan returned an annualized rate, net of fees of 6.24%, 5.64% and 4.65%, respectively. During fiscal year 2023, the plan generated income of \$670,248, which, along with the town's contribution of \$838,725 and employee contributions of \$268,648, covered the annual benefit payments to pensioners (\$1,775,460). As of July 1, 2022, the last actuarial determination date, the plan was 85% funded.

Likewise, the Fire Department Defined Benefit Pension Plan, which provides a benefit for volunteer firefighters based on years of service and time contributed to the town, ended fiscal year 2023 with assets of \$1,708,031. During the year the plan gained 9.63%, net of fees. For the past three and five years the plan returned an annualized rate, net of fees of 6.28% and 5.49%, respectively. The Town contributed \$180,000 during fiscal year 2023 and \$163,021 was paid out in retirement benefits. As of July 1, 2022, the last actuarial determination date, the plan was 52.7% funded.

At the end of fiscal year 2023 there were 95 town employees and 36 firefighters receiving a pension from their plans.

The Town also offers a Deferred Compensation 401a plan for all employees beginning employment after July 1, 2017; and a Deferred Compensation 457b

plan into which all town employees can participate and make additional tax-deferred contributions. The Town matches employee contributions in the 401a plan up to 8% (5% required and 3% optional). The Town offers various investment options from which participants in the deferred compensation plans can choose. As of June 30, 2023, the 401a Plan had 60 participants and assets of \$1,309,293, and the 457b plan had 80 participants and assets of \$4,034,437.

I want to give many thanks to the PBB volunteers, Paul Tracey, Rowena Moffett, Susan Quish, Lorraine Cortese-Costa, David Sparrow, and Carl Fortuna, First Selectman. These board members tirelessly gave of their time and expertise throughout the year. I also want to acknowledge the deaths of former PBB members Dr. Suzanne Taylor and Lynn Dallas this past year. We are also grateful for the assistance and advice of our investment advisors at Morgan Stanley, our actuaries at Milliman and our benefits consultants at Brown & Brown. I also want to personally thank Janet Vinciguerra, employee benefits coordinator; Lee Ann Palladino, finance director and pension plan administrator; and Andrea Brundrett, board secretary, for all their work in assisting the board with its charge.

The volunteers of the PBB, consultants, and staff have created a well-thought-out retirement and benefit program that continues to serve the employees of Old Saybrook 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 on 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 2023 fiscal year, the commission held 16 meetings where it responded to requests for a report of consistency with the POCD for 11 zoning regulation/map changes, two special exception permit referrals, and two municipal improvements. The commission drafted and adopted one amendment to the Regulations for Public Improvements relating to driveway apron width.

There were no applications for subdivision, re-subdivision, or lot line changes, allowing the commission to dedicate more time to drafting, updating, reformatting and adopting a comprehensive update to the Plan of Conservation and Development. As a part of this process, the commission held monthly workshops and made efforts to reach out to the public during the drafting process. A survey was prepared in electronic and hard copy formats in both English and Spanish. Hard copies were distributed throughout the town to include comments

from as many people as possible, particularly those who are not computer savvy. Prior to finalizing the draft, the commission held a well-attended public hearing for the public to comment. The plan was adopted in June and will go into effect on September 1st.

The commission would like to thank John Guskowski, principal at Tyche Planning & Policy Group, for all his work helping it to prepare the plan as well as Sarah Makowicki, recording clerk, who attended many of the meetings and assisted with public outreach efforts.

Presently, Paula Kay represents the commission on the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission. Doug McCracken and Michael Bender serve as the commission's representatives to the Regional Planning Committee of the Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments. Doug also serves as an executive board member of the multi-jurisdictional coastal resiliency planning committee with the Towns of Westbrook and Clinton as well as the Borough of Fenwick.

The commission conducts hybrid meetings via Zoom and in person on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall, first-floor conference room.

The commission would like to thank Bryanna Paradis of the Land Use Department who supports us as our administrative clerk. Chris Costa, 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.

Nick Prevost, *Chair*

POLICE SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

The Old Saybrook Department of Police Services provides diverse traditional and nontraditional law enforcement services to our 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 environment. This environment, 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 programs 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 and partner with 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, Connecticut River Area Health District (CRAHD), the Office of the Fire Marshal, the Office of the First Selectman, and the Department of Public Works. Public Safety Dispatchers serve as the vital link between those who need help and those that 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 Emergency Communications Center received 29,499 telephone calls. In addition to receiving phone calls, dispatchers placed 10,143 phone calls. Out of the calls received, 4,907 were 911 calls. Additionally, our Public Safety Dispatchers serve as our vital records clerks, processing and transmitting paperwork to court, satisfying records requests, and ensuring vital, confidential records are properly safeguarded. Our dispatchers are also responsible for monitoring prisoners in the detention facility.

Traditional Law Enforcement Services

In the Department's traditional law enforcement role, we continue to provide superior service. This past year, the Department logged 22,361 incidents. An "incident" is any type of call for service and/or self-initiated activity by a police officer, excluding motor vehicle enforcement. As an example, an "incident" can be directing 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 228 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.) Only nine people under the age of 18 were arrested last year.

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.

Motor Vehicle Enforcement

In addition to calls for services last year, Old Saybrook Police Officers conducted 2,113 motor vehicle stops. Of these stops, 479 drivers were given verbal warnings, 1,326 received written warnings, 232 were issued an infraction and 75 were given a summons to appear in court for their motor vehicle violation. Fifty-two motor vehicle stops resulted in arrests for Driving Under the Influence of Drugs and/or Alcohol.

Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

The men and women of the Department of Police Services are proud to be the community's primary emergency medical first responders. 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 can provide advanced care, administer life-saving medication (including Epinephrine and Narcan), all within minutes from a call for help. In the past year, we responded to 1,805 medical emergencies. We are proud to offer this level of service, which is unmatched in our area, and enjoy working with the members of the Old Saybrook Ambulance Association and the Middlesex Health Paramedics.

Policing Ourselves

It is important for law enforcement agencies to ensure that their personnel are held accountable for their actions, just as we hold members of the public accountable for their choices. This past year, we chose to investigate and arrest by warrant one of our sworn officers for (allegedly) committing Computer Crime in the Third Degree, a violation of Connecticut General Statutes § 53a-254, which is a Class D Felony. The now former officer is accused of illegally accessing the Connecticut On-Line Law Enforcement Teleprocessing (COLLECT) System to obtain vehicle registration information which was then used for personal gain.

While we are not proud of this moment in time, we hope it demonstrates to the community that we take our responsibility to ensure that department employees are adhering to workplace expectations and the law very seriously. Old Saybrook Citizens must be assured that they can trust their police department to provide superior services every day. They must also trust their police department to maintain high standards, swiftly address internal matters, and possess the ability to properly police our own. The police officer involved was terminated by the Police Commission at the request of the Police Chief. As of June 30, 2023, the former employee is appealing his termination.

Animal Control

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 dedicated 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.

Marine Patrol

The Marine Patrol had a very busy and 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. During the season, we performed countless safety inspections, impromptu boating education “seminars,” and emergency responses to vessels and/or persons in distress.

Giving Back

Department members spent much time this past year volunteering to assist those in need.

In February, our “It’s Time to Do Your Duty” campaign was back again seeking donations of wipes and diapers to help Old Saybrook families with newborns. Working with Social Services, the Shoreline Diaper Bank, and Bare Necessities, we collected thousands of wipes and over 200 cases of diapers! These donations assist with preserving the health of our newest residents! We are happy to do our duty!

Over the summer months, the Department held three community picnics. The first picnic honored the business community, the second welcomed residents and visitors to the Department as part of a community appreciation event, and the third was for Old Saybrook’s youth at the Parks and Recreation camp. Each picnic was very well attended. With Captain DePerry on the grill, K-9 Skye greeting the crowd, and our police officers and dispatchers interacting with all in attendance, these community outreach events were very successful.

In November, our annual “Give the Cops the Bird” campaign yielded much success once again. Department members collected more than 800 turkeys and over 3,000 lbs. of food that provided Old Saybrook families in need with all the fixings for both a Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner. Those in need picked up their turkey and all the trimmings at the Police Department. Remaining turkeys were donated to similar charities around the state. The Department thanks Youth and Family Services, Stop & Shop, and the Connecticut Food Bank for their support with this important community service project.

In December, the “Make a Child’s Wish Come True” campaign yielded success once again! The Police Department was used to collect, sort, store, and then deliver new unwrapped toys. Once again partnering with Youth and Family Services, the collected toys, games, books, and stuffed animals were distributed at the Police Department to those in need.

We are appreciative of the generosity of all citizens who made 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 truly positive impact on the lives of our citizens in need and demonstrate the Department’s bond with the community.

Data-Driven Transparency

Last year we celebrated the implementation of our new records management system after migrating from the previous system that was more than two decades old. The new records management system, in addition to maintaining all vital records, permits agency administrators to capture data never recorded before,

and then use the data to administrate the Department and seek operational efficiencies. The process of capturing the data posed a difficult transition for personnel, but thanks to their dedication, the process is now part of our culture. As an example, the Department now tracks employee “time on task.” We now know how long each employee assigned to patrol works on a specific task, investigation, etc. and what type of task they are performing. This information can be used to change procedures and to make a police officer’s day more efficient. It also allows us to share this information with the public when asked.

The data captured through our new records management system also allows for the automatic publication of data to the community through our department website. The first enhancement came to the press release section of the website. Now community members can search online press releases that are queried from a live database that is reflective of court dispositions. This means that when a person who has been arrested has had their case nollied and/or erased it will automatically no longer appear in the press release, or “virtual press room,” section of our website. The second enhancement now allows the public to view an “interactive activity dashboard” that includes current statistics regarding calls for service. Website visitors can change parameters to research call types, frequency, create heat maps based on call types, and review daily call logs. We are very pleased to provide this level of transparency to the community we proudly serve.

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 providing 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. Most of all we wish to thank the citizens of Old Saybrook for their continued support and well wishes. We are proud to be YOUR police department.

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 six staff including: Sharon Tiezzi, chief clerk, Marge Calltharp, Stella Caione, 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 8:30-4:30 p.m. Monday through

Friday. Paperwork for children's matters can be filed in the Old Saybrook location; however, all hearings for children's matters, with the exception of name changes, are heard by Judge Lewis at the Connecticut Children's Regional Probate Court located at 1501 East Main Street, Meriden. Utilizing this court location enables families to benefit from the services of social workers, called family specialists, who assist in developing custody and visitation arrangements that provide healthier outcomes for children and their families. Additionally, the judge travels to the homes or residences of persons who are unable to appear in court due to infirmity or disability.

During the reporting year, the Saybrook District Probate Court administered matters with respect to the following areas of the law: 1,843 decedent's estates; 399 conservatorships; 183 trusts; 170 guardianships of the intellectually disabled; 25 children's matters including termination of parental rights, temporary custody appointments, Special Immigrant Juvenile Findings, parentage claims, and guardianships; 55 name changes; 39 compromise of claims/appointments of a guardian of the estate of a minor; and 9 adoptions. The court also performs many administrative functions and processed 135 fee waivers for indigent individuals to allow full access to its services regardless of ability to pay.

Court hearings take place in person, fully remotely utilizing the Webex video conferencing platform, or using a hybrid of the two. In addition to the daily work of the court, during the reporting period Judge Lewis published two short articles for *Events Magazine* entitled "Probate Fees 101" and "Do I Need Probate if All of the Estate Assets are Jointly Held?," spoke at Valley Regional High School to parents and social workers on the topic of how the Probate Court serves persons with intellectual disability; participated in the Haddam/Killingworth Senior Information Expo; spoke on the topic of non-financial elder abuse at the University of Connecticut School of Law; presented on the topic of "Do Not Resuscitate" orders, advanced health care directives, and the roles of power of attorneys and conservators to the Haddam Ambulance Association; provided training to the 14 probate judges who were newly elected in 2022 on the topic of conservatorships; and spoke on the topic of non-financial elder abuse at the Connecticut Association of Probate Clerks May 2023 meeting.

Honorable Jeannine Lewis, *Judge of Probate*

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING BOARD

During FY 2023 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 2024. Karen DeSantis MSN, RN, is the VNASC's Director of Home Health Care and Wellness and Tina Belmont, BSN, is the Old Saybrook town nurse. VNASC continues its affiliation with Yale New Haven Health.

The total PHNB budget for FY 2023 was \$55,123 of which \$36,287 was earmarked for the VNASC nursing contract. The uncontracted budget, which provided nursing/public health services through other providers, was \$14,636, the same as last year. Both clerical support and administrative expenses remain

the same at \$1,200, and \$1,000, respectively. The total PHNB Budget for FY 2024, approved by the Board of Selectmen, is \$53,123 of which \$36,287 is earmarked for the VNASC Nursing Contract. The uncontracted budget, clerical and administrative expenses remain the same as last year.

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 2023, the total cost to the Town for VNASC nursing services was \$33,345, which was \$2,832 under the contractual agreement budget of \$36,287. In FY 2023, \$14,636 was budgeted for nursing services not covered by the VNASC contract, \$17,206 was spent, which was \$2,570 over budget. The PHNB had more requests for grant funding in FY 2023 from the Uncontracted Budget. In the past three years due to COVID-19, people, young and old, had less access to health care, behavioral health care, dental care, and vision care as well as medications. As a result of this gap, in health care and preventative care we have seen an increased number of Old Saybrook residents with more serious health issues needing to be addressed.

PHNB Funding Activity	Actual Spending FY 2023	Below / (Over) the Budget
VNASC Contractual Nursing Services	\$33,455	\$2,832
Administrative Expenses	\$982	\$18
Uncontracted PH/ Nursing Services	\$17,206	(\$2,570)
ClericalSupport	\$1,373	(\$173)
Total Spending FY 2023	\$53,106	\$107

During the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the VNASC provided a variety of health/nursing and outreach services, paid for by town funds for the residents of Old Saybrook. Services provided included: cholesterol and diabetes screening, diabetes education, blood pressure clinics and counseling, foot care clinics, stroke screening, fall prevention, medication supervision, and health counseling and referrals. The total number of people served by these programs was 740. There were 105 outreach home visits for the purpose of evaluation, education, and advocacy. Although this year we are continuing to be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, Tina Belmont, the town nurse, saw an increase in visits this year. She continued to support residents by phone, helping isolated families get needed resources.

In FY 2023 the PHNB provided an \$800 grant for the after-school nutrition education program, *Grub Club*, offered annually by nutritionist Kathy Cobb, MS, RD. *Grub Club* was held at the Acton Public Library, a new location. The program offered nine, one-hour sessions with eight to ten students regularly attending. The participants learned about healthy foods, basic measurements, and cooking skills while they were exposed to a variety of new foods. They also learned about cooperation and working as a team.

The PHNB provided a nutrition grant of \$1,600 to Kathy Cobb to offer a summer feeding program called *Kidz Lunch Bunch* a grab-and-go program. This year's food distribution site was Clark Memorial Field House. The program ran

for eight days in July and August on Tuesdays and served 210 sandwiches.

The PHNB responded to a grant request from Susan Consoli from Old Saybrook Social Services for a summer family feeding program that served 30 families; the PHNB provided a \$2,000 grant. This program ran for nine weeks June - August, providing one food bag weekly per family. Some of the foods contained in the bag were Cheerios, boxed milk, chocolate milk, apple juice, raisins, mac and cheese, assorted crackers, peanut butter, sun butter, Nutella and more.

The PHNB supported and funded both feeding programs because hunger and food insecurity continue to be a problem in Old Saybrook.

Old Saybrook Social Services requested grant funding from the PHNB for FY 2023 for the *Emergency Medical Fund*. This fund provides emergency prescription refills, transportation to doctors, chemotherapy, and radiation appointments, dressings and medical supplies, homemaker/home health aide services, flu shots, *etc.* The board renewed the Emergency Medical Grant of \$2,300 for FY 2024. In FY 2023, a \$1000 grant provided help to 518 Old Saybrook residents.

The *Hygiene Fund* grant offers Old Saybrook residents assistance with 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 SNAP or WIC coupons. The PHNB approved a \$3,000 hygiene grant for FY 2024. In FY 2023 the PHNB provided a \$3,000 Hygiene Grant which helped 1,596 town residents.

Since 2011, the PHNB has worked in collaboration with other local health professionals to establish a Dental Fund to help 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. A PHNB \$6,000 grant for FY 2023 helped 216 clients with care that included x-rays, oral surgery, extractions, dental fillings, root canals and dentures. The PHNB approved another \$3,000 grant for FY 2024.

The PHNB has been providing grant money for a *Better Hearing Program Fund* since 2021. The program offers financial help for hearing tests and hearing aids to elderly and low-income Old Saybrook residents who are un/under-insured. Old Saybrook Social Services administers this grant, and they do some fundraising to replenish the fund and serve more Old Saybrook residents. This fund is more important than ever, since current research shows that there is an increased risk of dementia for those individuals with untreated hearing loss. For FY 2024 the PHNB approved a grant for \$1,800.

In FY 2023, Youth and Family Services requested a grant from the PHNB for \$1,200 to establish a program called *Daddy Boot Camp*. The funds were used to train a parent educator in the basics of infant care, parenting skills, child growth and development, *etc.* The parent educator is holding workshops and classes for new fathers passing on what he learned. The parent educator is training other educators, so these parenting programs are being offered not only in Old Saybrook but in adjoining towns.

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 as of 6-30-23:

Endowment	Funds Available
Flanagan Fund CD	\$38,343
Flanagan Activity	\$36,332
Nightingale Fund	\$49,119
Morris Fund	\$13,221
Endowment Total	\$130,015

To supplement the Nightingale Scholarship Fund, the PHNB sponsored its annual appeal beginning in January 2023. Appeal letters were mailed to residents and businesses in the Old Saybrook area and the response to this year’s appeal was impressive, raising \$9,905. With these funds, the nursing board offered three generous \$6,000 Nightingale Fund Scholarships to Catherine Mingar, Katharine Roberts, and Avery Ruekert, all will attend an accredited nursing program. The PHNB also paid \$6,000 in scholarship funds to the 2022 Nightingale Scholarship recipient, who successfully completed her first academic year in her nursing program.

PHNB meetings are regularly scheduled at 6:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday 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 75 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 one 12-week part-time employee for summertime. The Department of Public Works consists of a well-trained, professional, and hard-working group of individuals motivated to help in the success of Old Saybrook. We are proud to work closely with all town organizations and emergency services again to enhance the quality of life for all Old Saybrook residents and visitors.

The following projects were completed:

- Built a new foundation for the Town Green gazebo and patio; installed updated electrical box and conduit.
- Installed a handhold and underground power for Town Beach facility.
- Paved Saye Street, Aladdin Avenue, Nehantic Trail, Shetucket Trail, Beach Road, West View Road, Seagull Road, Osprey Road, Oakwood Road.
- Assisted at the Goodwin School and installed underground electrical conduit and chiller pad for future air-conditioning.
- Assisted and installed tees and trails for the new Frisbee Golf Complex at Town Park.
- Prepped and built the new Commodities Exchange at the Transfer Station (formerly known as the Take It Leave It Table).
- Installed two new catch basins and rerouted drainage at Anchorage Lane.
- Installed new center island at the intersection of Route 1 and Old Boston Post Road at Henny Penny.
- Prepped and cleaned a foundation for the Katharine Hepburn Cultural Arts Center utility shed.

The Public Works Department uses a beach-grooming machine that it rebuilt weekly (early morning on Fridays), allowing beachgoers to enjoy a cleaner, fresh-raked beach.

Public Works offered residential leaf pickup. Residents were asked to bag their leaves into biodegradable paper bags and place them at curbside. Residents can also 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*

William Claffey, *Acting Public Works Director*

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

During the time period from July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023, the Registrars of Voters Office had a total of 617 new voters. There were 1,025 changes to voter registrations, including name, party and address changes. There were 694 voters removed from our current voter rolls.

On August 9th the Republican and Democratic primaries were held at the high school and middle school. The Republican primary was for the positions of Secretary of the State and U.S. Senator. Of 2,506 registered Republicans, 502 voted. The Democratic primary for Secretary of the State and Treasurer had 2,702 registered Democrats of which 472 voted.

The 2022 election on November 8th had 3,617 registered voters in District 1; of those, 2,694 voted, for a turnout of 74%. District 2 had 4,863 registered voters with 3,488 voting, for a turnout of 71%. Total voter turnout for the 2022 election was 72%.

We also had a budget referendum on May 9, 2023, which passed the town budget of \$21,447,238. Question 1, regarding the town budget, passed with

239 “yes” votes and 37 “no” votes. Question 2, regarding the school budget of \$28,829,506, passed with 239 “yes” votes and 34 “no” votes.

The Borough of Fenwick held its biannual election of burgesses, warden and treasurer in May. This election is also overseen by the Registrar’s Office.

The November 2022 election included a question: “Shall the Constitution of the State be amended to permit the General Assembly to provide for early voting?” The question passed, and early voting will begin in 2024 with the presidential primaries. The next possible question will be whether to provide no excuse absentee ballots. Other changes will involve new tabulators.

Thank you to our poll workers for your many years of service to our town and democracy!

Joan Strickland, *Democratic Registrar*
Joan Broadhurst, *Republican Registrar*

RIVERSIDE CEMETERY ASSOCIATION, INC.

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. An elected board of directors consisting of seven directors along with the board president, treasurer, secretary and superintendent oversees the operation and establishes the regulations of the cemetery.

The annual meeting was held May 24, 2023 at Town Hall. The annual meeting date is now scheduled to take place between May 1st and 15th following the close of business on the previous December 31st.

The board has continued to be quite active this year as improvements and enhancements begun last year are near completion. Construction of the southeast corner’s “Riverside Reflections” which began this summer will include beautiful granite columbariums as well as sidewalks, granite benches and landscaping. A nearby archives/office building is planned for the future.

The board of directors make every attempt to accommodate the needs of the public when a burial space is purchased. Copies of the rules and regulations, bylaws and a certificate of burial reservation to the gravesites is provided to each individual purchasing a gravesite(s).

Edward Marcolini, *Board President*

Officers

Edward Marcolini, *Board President*
Debbie Millspaugh, *Treasurer*
Ali Fogg, *Secretary*
Patrick Burke, *Superintendent*

Directors

Philip Appell	Ali Fogg
Donna MacNeill	Edward Marcolini
Debbie Millspaugh	William Peace
Thomas Stevenson	Fern Tryon

SELECTMEN, BOARD OF

The Board of Selectmen considers it a great honor to serve the residents of Old Saybrook. Allow this to be the board's report on fiscal year 2023 (July 1, 2022–June 30, 2023).

As the chair of the Board of Selectmen, I consider the town's finances to be the most important oversight function of the board. The first selectman starts working on a budget in November 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 and the first selectman then holds budget workshops with the Board of Selectmen, leading to a final recommendation to the Board of Finance by March 1. For several years now, the Board of Selectmen has been holding joint budget meetings with the Board of Finance commencing in January. This was 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 in early May. The FY23 budget passed at referendum by a healthy margin and resulted in a nominal increase in the mill rate for Old Saybrook real property taxpayers. It was an unusual year as used vehicles soared in value. That increase in value did partially offset the increase in the mill rate. Obviously, this is a one-off occurrence due to the supply chain disruptions caused by the pandemic. Legislation has been passed at the state level that will prevent this from happening again.

I consider budget proposals as planning documents and the Town of Old Saybrook has planned well. Sound financial planning over the last 11 years has led to funding stabilization in many parts of the budget. The Town continues to see a drop in bonded indebtedness with its large capital project list nearly complete. The FY23 budget ended with a significant surplus, mostly on the revenue side, outperforming our projections. Budget highlights include stable finances, appropriate capital investment and healthy reserves. At the end of FY23, our rainy-day fund is again exceptional, (at 17%, up from 5% in 2011), and our capital reserves are in excellent shape. Fiscal year 2023 tallied another budget surplus due to tightly controlled spending and local revenues that surpassed expectations. We have capital reserves both for emergencies and for designated items. 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, a position confirmed by Moody's Investor Service and our municipal auditors, who continue to give our municipal finances excellent reviews. Old Saybrook's government is cost effective and responsive, and we will continue to explore ways to make it better.

We continued to upgrade our downtown sidewalks by starting our second Route 1 connectivity project that will build sidewalks from Ocean State Job Lot to Elm Street. This project is grant funded and commenced in FY23 and will

conclude in FY24. We also received grants totaling \$1,270,000 for a sidewalk construction project that will connect from the Westbrook town line all the way to the Old Saybrook Dairy Queen. The walking network in Old Saybrook, already excellent, will truly be exceptional when this is complete. Sidewalks are quality of life improvements, and we will continue to improve our network.

Over the many years I have lived in Old Saybrook, there has been a need for public restrooms. Due to excellent work by our Public Works Department and a Small-Town Economic Assistance Grant, the town now has facilities at Saybrook Point and on Main Street. With the volume of pedestrian traffic that takes place at our Parks and Recreation facilities, this is truly a necessity, and we are happy that this was able to be accomplished.

After a multiyear effort through many boards and commissions, and a phenomenal fundraising campaign led by Selectman Scott Giegerich, the high school now has recreational field lights. This truly has been a 40-year effort that we were able to get across the finish line in FY23. Thanks go to all who were involved—and there were many.

As mentioned earlier, we invested (and will continue to invest) in Parks & Rec infrastructure. This year, we set aside an additional \$140,000 in funds to upgrade Kavanagh Park with a new, safer splashpad and a better playground. We also invested in both bathhouses at our beaches and created a disc golf course at the Town Park. Parks & Rec facilities are critical to the well-being of our citizenry, as well as visitors, and help drive our local economy. These are smart investments for the town's future.

As part of the town's effort to make certain the financial future of our town is secure, we are now fully funding the town's pension and we have even created a pension reserve should funds be needed to make extra contributions in down markets. For years, the Town underfunded its pension but, no longer. This, in conjunction with the town's switch to a defined contribution plan for new employees starting back in 2017, will help stabilize town finances for the next generation.

During FY23, the Town distributed nearly \$2 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) dollars. Funds went to a variety of uses, from local nonprofits to town infrastructure. The remainder of the funds, approximately \$1 million, must be allocated by the end of calendar year 2024 and spent by the end of calendar year 2026. The ARPA group appointed by the Board of Selectmen will continue its work with an eye toward assisting some larger community projects.

The Town added electric vehicle charging stations downtown, is making a concerted effort to rid town parks of invasive plants, is allocating funding to the education department to assist with air conditioning in all our schools and continuing with many other initiatives. One of those initiatives was to celebrate our town and, on June 25, 2023, Old Saybrook held its first Celebrate Saybrook event on Main Street. It was a smashing success and we plan on doing it again next year!

Our town benefits immensely from all those citizens who volunteer their time, from beautifying Main Street to helping 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 M. Giegerich, *Selectman*

Matthew Pugliese, *Selectman*

SHORELINE SOUP KITCHENS & PANTRIES

Founded 34 years ago, the mission of Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries is to provide food and fellowship to those in need and to educate our community about hunger and poverty. We operate in partnership with faith communities in 11 shoreline towns: Old Saybrook, Essex, Chester, Clinton, Madison, East Lyme, Lyme, Old Lyme, Killingworth, Westbrook, and Deep River. We employ only a small staff, operating with the assistance of over 900 dedicated volunteers.

Many local families continue to struggle with food insecurity. The total number of people registered at one of our pantries last year was 8,881. As of July 2023, we had already registered 8,721 of our neighbors. This year we are experiencing higher attendance at our food pantries than at the height of the pandemic, as the economic support programs that began during COVID-19 are ending just as utility bills and the cost of basic needs are increasing.

Our pantries and meal sites remain open to help those in need. Any resident of Old Saybrook can come to a free grocery distribution once a week at any one of our five food pantries, and all were welcome to free prepared meals at our eight meal sites. Many residents in Old Saybrook continue to need our help. During 2022 we registered 1,193 residents of Old Saybrook at one of our food pantries.

In 2022 we shared 1.7 million pounds of food through our five pantries. All those who attended received fresh meat, bread, fresh fruits and vegetables, eggs, dairy, and canned and packaged foods. During 2022 our SSKP Old Saybrook Pantry, located at First Church of Christ, 366 Main Street, held food distributions on Tuesdays from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. In 2022 they registered 1,419 guests and distributed 300,014 pounds of food which was enough for 158,355 meals.

Our meal site in the Town of Old Saybrook at Grace Episcopal Church, located at 336 Main Street, prepared and distributed a lunch every Wednesday from noon to 1:00 p.m. Our volunteers served a total of 2,890 meals in 2022, including special Thanksgiving and holiday meals.

The Old Saybrook residents we serve represent the working poor, the elderly, those struggling with illness and/or disabilities, and families with young children. In 2022, 45% of our guests belonged to a family of four or more, 31% of our guests were infants, children or teens, 15% were seniors, and 19% were living alone.

Your support makes a real difference in the lives of your neighbors in Old Saybrook. Your generous annual funding of \$7,500 provides funds to purchase food for many hundreds of Old Saybrook residents. Last year the Town of Old Saybrook also granted SSKP \$10,000 through the American Rescue Plan Act to

help purchase a new refrigerated food truck with a hydraulic lift gate. This new truck will arrive soon, enabling us to safely deliver more food for needy families.

To learn more, visit shorelinesoupkitchens.org, find us on Facebook or call us at (860) 388-1988.

Amy Hollis, *Executive Director*

Board of Directors

- Reverend Martha Epstein, *Chair*
- Reverend Charlie Hamill, *Vice Chair*
- Sarah May, *Treasurer*
- Rona Malakoff, *Secretary*
- Maria Corrao Marchant
- James Schreck
- Reverend Ryan Young
- Nicolas Wyszowski

TAX COLLECTOR

Grand List Year: October 1, 2021			
Collection: July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023			
Mill Rate: 20.08 (\$20.08 per \$1,000.00 in assessed value)			
Taxable Property	# Bills	Tax Collectable Beg. Bal. 7/1/22	Uncollected Balance As of June 30, 2023
Real Estate	7,014	\$42,366,381.54	\$182,039.88
Personal Property	1,041	\$1,658,840.00	\$33,187.98
Motor Vehicle	13,002	\$3,174.968.38	\$70,471.64
Motor Vehicle Supplemental	2,163	\$411,701.92	\$26,488.87
Totals	23,220	\$47,611,891.76	
Budgeted Collection Rate: 99%			
Collected 99.34% of beginning collectible			

Additional Budget Catagories

- Back Tax Collection \$100,000.00 (budgeted)
- Collected after adjustments \$829,053.38
- Interest & Lien Fees \$100,000.00 (budgeted)
- Collected after adjustments \$242,358.74
- (Figures stated above subject to adjustment & 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, 2021 (fiscal year 7/1/2022 through 6/30/2023) will be on file in the Town Clerk’s Office, 302 Main Street, Old Saybrook, CT when printed (after auditors review of records).

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 function within the Tax Office—ultimately getting monies collected and to the Treasurer for investment as soon as possible.

A great big thank you to Andrea Brundrett, assistant to the tax collector, for her dedication, knowledge and work ethic. Also, a special shout out to Melissa Lewis, our dedicated backup who is always willing to help. It was these two individuals who kept this office efficiently running when we were shorthanded this winter.

Marc Delmonico, *Interim Tax Collector*
Member Middlesex County Tax Collectors Association
Member, Connecticut Tax Collectors Association

TOWN CLERK AND REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS

Land Records Recorded	2,606
Survey/Subdivision Maps Recorded	17
Marriage Certificates Recorded	108
Birth Certificates Recorded	52
Death Certificates Recorded	165
Dogs/Kennels Registered	859/4
Monies Deposited to the General Fund:	\$567,198
Monies Disbursed by Town Clerk:	
Marriage Surcharge	2,938
Preservation Fees to State of Connecticut	100,728

Activity in the Town Clerk’s office remains constant and we are here to assist you in your research endeavors or if you are recording documents, obtaining a marriage license, certifying birth and death records, purchasing dog licenses, accessing any other information this office files, or just helping you navigate the general government system so that you can obtain documents/answers.

We would like to advise you that the Town Clerk’s Office now accepts payment by credit card and to alert you that there is a 3% fee added to the charge when you use this payment option. We also still accept cash or check for your convenience.

Serving you is why we are here and we encourage you to contact us (Meryl, Mary Sue or myself) by phone at (860) 395-3135 or through our email addresses, which can be found on the Town of Old Saybrook website at www.oldsaybrookct.gov.

Sarah V. Becker, *CCMC, Town Clerk*

TOWN TREASURER

During the past fiscal year, the town treasurer ensured that all money belonging to the Town was received, any funds that were paid out on behalf of the Town were properly authorized and that appropriate records were kept. The town treasurer also serves as, ex-officio, treasurer for the town trust funds, including the pension plans.

During the past fiscal year, the town treasurer, along with the investment committee, invested the Town's rainy-day funds in short-term ladder US Treasury bonds with defined maturity dates, fixed-interest payments and par values. Permissible town investments include local banks, Connecticut Short-Term Investment Fund and US government securities. Investments were managed to take advantage of rising interest rates.

In terms of the Town's budget surplus for FY23 associated with revenues, revenues collected were significantly above budget. When comparing our performance of revenue collection from FY22, we ran ahead by 2.9%. We ended FY23 with a budget revenue surplus of \$2,819,013 as of June 30, 2023, or 105.8% higher than our budgeted amount for FY23.

Barbara Labriola, *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 following projects were completed:

- Prepped and built the new Commodities Exchange at the Transfer Station (formerly known as the Take It Leave It Table).
- Extensive reorganization and maintenance of grounds, including but not limited to, scrapping of trailers and dumpsters.

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.gov [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 Transfer Station has also implemented a number of other recycling options listed below:

Commodities Exchange

Replacing the former “Take It Leave It Table,” the brand-new Commodities Exchange, sponsored by the Old Saybrook Rotary Club, is an area to further promote recycling and repurposing for the betterment of our town. Please peruse this communal area and be mindful of the items exchanged. This is an exciting area of the Transfer Station that we hope all residents will make use of. We want to remind you that the Transfer Station is a busy place, please always proceed with caution due to the high volume of vehicle traffic. Thank you.

Food Scrap Recycling

Do your part to help Old Saybrook reduce waste disposal costs and create rich compost by collecting your food scraps and disposing of them in our special

bins at the Transfer Station. It’s free and easy to do:

- 1) **Separate**–Sort food scraps and food-soiled paper from trash and recyclables.
- 2) **Collect**–Use a kitchen food pail or other reusable containers or collect with paper bags or newspaper.
- 3) **Dispose**–Empty kitchen pail or other reusable containers into the compost bin. Paper bags and newspaper can be thrown directly into the compost bin.

Accepted items include: fruit, vegetables, meat, fish, bones, dairy, coffee grinds, tea bags (no staples), bread, pasta, rice and grains, eggshells, chips and snacks, nuts and seeds, leftover spoiled food, expired food and cut flowers.

No plastic bags, packaging, stickers, rubber bands or twist ties are allowed. No pet waste.

Bear with us as we start up this program. We have a lot to learn so we are happy to hear your suggestions: please contact larry.bonin@oldsaybrookct.gov.

Paint Recycling

Connecticut’s paint stewardship law requires the paint manufacturing industry to develop a financially sustainable and environmentally responsible program to manage leftover architectural paint. To accomplish this, paint manufacturers established PaintCare, a nonprofit funded by a fee paid by paint manufacturers for each can of paint sold. Manufacturers pass the fee to retailers, who then apply it to the price of paint. The fee is based on the size of the container:

\$0.00	Half pint or smaller
\$0.35	Larger than half pint up to smaller than 1 gallon
\$0.75	1 gallon
\$1.60	Larger than 1 gallon up to 5 gallons

PaintCare has a drop-off site at the Transfer Station. Households may drop off latex or oil-based paint, up to five gallons of paint per visit. Make sure the paint containers have lids and original labels and load them securely in your vehicle. PaintCare makes sure that your leftover paint is remixed into recycled paint, used as a fuel, made into other products, or is properly disposed if no other beneficial use for it can be found. For more information, please visit www.paintcare.org.

Textile Recycling

Tons of usable textiles—including clothing, footwear, towels, bedding and other fabric-based products are thrown away annually. Instead of becoming garbage, textiles can create a new source of revenue simply by recycling. Recycle Your Textiles is a drop-off site at the Transfer Station. Accepted items: clothing, accessories, footwear, linens, throw rugs, stuffed animals.

Mattress Recycling

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.

Electronics Recycling

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.

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.gov.

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.

In FY 2023, the Transfer Station carted approximately:

1,335	Tons of Household Garbage
455	Tons of Single Stream: newspaper, bottles/cans, junk mail, cereal/ pizza boxes, magazines, office paper, phone books
951	Tons of Bulky Waste (construction & demolition waste)
204	Tons of Scrap Metals
24	Tons of Electronics (computers, monitors, printers, CED TV’s)
3.8	Tons Textiles (fabric-based items)
33	Tons Mattresses (1,283 units)
3.5	Tons Batteries
418	Units of Freon-Containing Devices (refrigerators/dehumidifiers, etc.)
490	Units TV’s
868	Tires (841-car, 25-truck, 2-Tractor)

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*
William Claffey, *Acting Public Works Director*

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

With the completion of Phase I and Phase II of the Wastewater Management District program, we have upgraded 59% of the total lots in the program. Fiscal year 2023 moves forward with Phase III, which includes the five remaining beach areas: Plum Bank, Great Hammock Beach, Saybrook Manor, Indiantown, Chalker Beach, the eight remaining houses in Cornfield Point, and all the remaining “W” lots in the first ten focus areas.

Phase III is currently in the investigation and planning process. This phase is rather complex and will determine the method of addressing the remaining 41% of the lots in the district. It involves a group effort with DEEP, Fuss & O’Neill Consulting Engineers, the WPCA Board and the Board of Selectmen. The Town is committed to satisfying the DEEP and the court-stipulated judgement at the lowest possible cost to the Wastewater Management District residents. Any further onsite remediation will be determined in conjunction with the final approved plan for Phase III.

We submitted the results of our groundwater monitoring tests and subsequent MOD-FLO computer mounding analysis to the DEEP on April 1, 2022. Their response to the report will determine the magnitude of the next step.

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 are mailed on a semi-annual basis. Residents are encouraged to remind their service providers to record the pump-out data in the “Carmody” database. Please keep a receipt of the pump-out with the date in the event the pumper does not record it with Carmody.

Hard Construction and Construction Management Benefit Assessments for Phase I and Phase II will be billed in October 2023 with payments due in November 2023 and May 2024. Benefit assessment payments are now being received and processed by the Tax Collector.

Jim Vanoli, program manager, continues to focus on the Phase III planning process. His considerable engineering experience has provided invaluable understanding of and contribution to the investigation and planning of Phase III.

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 47 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 of programs we were able to facilitate this past year:

- Old Saybrook Early Childhood Council (OSECC) provides preschool readiness programming, parent and teacher support
- Socialization groups for pre-K–4th grade

- After-school clubs provide creative and physical outlets in supervised settings for grades 4–8
- 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 grade 8
- Community, parent education, and discussion workshops: in-person and virtual
- Prevention programming in partnership with the Governor’s Prevention Partnership for grades 9–12

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. OS Social Services is housed within the agency and serves as a critical hub for the most vulnerable members of our community.

This year we continued to provide in-person support within the Old Saybrook Public Schools (OSPS) where OSYFS clinicians and interns offered 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. Post-pandemic, the referral and support process has been very active, and we continue to remove barriers to treatment by offering the option of telehealth. 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 as it increases access to mental health services and reduces barriers to treatment such as transportation and scheduling impediments.

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 post-pandemic workforce constraints, 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 our commission and other boards, 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, OSYFS 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.

We contracted with a virtual translation service to increase access to an underserved, non-English-speaking portion of our community; we hope we can also utilize this service to increase the assimilation of this group of people into all areas of the community. The agency is actively looking for a bilingual clinician or caseworker to be supported through the approval of ARPA funds.

The OS Early Childhood Council works collaboratively with the OSPS to enable early identification and intervention for behavioral health issues with students, and to increase school readiness skills. OSECC sponsors the “One Book, One Town” initiative each fall in partnership with Acton Public Library to encourage early literacy skill building.

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 can accommodate more students. Their involvement allows OSYFS to provide more comprehensive coverage for in-school collaboration as well as allowing 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. This year, a multiyear, multiagency, “diversity, equity and inclusion” (DEI) project concluded, which trained staff and students from Clinton, Westbrook and Old Saybrook in how to have challenging conversations in their communities around topics related to DEI issues. This effort was financially supported through Middlesex United Way.

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. We were involved with Economic Development to host the Starlight Festival in December, and our Santa and Starlight Fundraiser benefitted the Shoreline Soup Kitchens and Pantries.

We were able to send a group of students to a national prevention conference in Washington, DC in February 2023, and the same group presented at a state-wide conference in Hartford in October 2022. The peer prevention students also attended state legislative meetings and local town meetings to voice their opposition to the legalization of recreational marijuana and the approval of a cannabis dispensary in town. In addition, we received a prevention grant, which we used to support the design and placement of signage on town properties reminding residents that alcohol, tobacco and/or marijuana smoking is not permitted. This was an environmental strategy to promote increased awareness by residents of areas that should be kept substance free, by town ordinance. Many of these locations are highly trafficked by youth, so positive role-modeling behavior by adults is a prevention strategy we encourage.

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. What is evident from our interactions with youth 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.

- Picnic and Play for Goodwin students and parents/caregivers
- Family events, including Starlight Festival and One Book, One Town

Support Groups and Therapeutic Groups

- Summertime groups for students transitioning to high school
- Stress Reduction/Mindfulness at the beach
- Asperger's parents/grandparents support group, meets monthly

Student Activities and Trips

- Six Flags
- Biking on Block Island
- Horseback riding and hiking
- Goodwin Picnic and Play
- Community Service Weeks for grades 7–12

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 for middle school youth
- Early Childhood Council
- Local Drug and Alcohol Prevention Council (LPC)
- Camp Hazen transition to high school program
- Student wellness programs at the middle school and high school
- Wellness Days at OSMS
- 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.

This past year there continued to be challenges as a result of an increased need due to COVID-19-related income loss as well as obstacles to our service-delivery systems. To meet the continued increase in need, we continued Social Service Help Day once a month on the fourth Thursday with CT Food Bank in a drive-through food pick up format to help provide for emergency food requests. We also added a summer kid's food bag program to address the food needs of families with kids when the summer meals program ended this year and food prices were rising due to inflation.

At our Help Days we also provided needed toiletries, diapers, dental supplies, and thermometers in addition to continuing our backyard gardening program by distributing seeds and plants through the drive-through format. HUSKY, CT Dental Health Partnership, and other program resources distributed at our drive-through events and our local Lion's Club volunteers helped with distribution. Our events served as many as 250 families each month.

OS Social Services organized and hosted a very successful in-person job fair with Workforce Alliance. We worked with over 200 unemployed people to help navigate the changing unemployment benefit and application process online and helped with critical basic needs during the process to obtain benefits.

We helped many folks by assisting with online applications for Access Health so residents could sign up for needed lower-cost health care when they lost medical benefits due to job loss or a reduction of hours below full-time employment. Access Health expanded the open enrollment periods as well as expanding the tax credits for many, allowing them to have commercial policies. The majority of these applicants were able to also qualify for HUSKY insurance for families with children as well as some adults. We also helped families apply when Access Health offered Covered CT plans at little to no cost to families that were above the HUSKY guidelines but still in need of more assistance.

Energy assistance applications were adapted to be done in a hybrid model online, by phone and by mail and we later hosted a large in-person gathering where, at times, we have been able to sign up 100 families in a single day. This support was increasingly needed as the fuel prices soared at the end of the season and are expected to remain high in the upcoming season.

Thanksgiving, holiday giving and school supplies distributions of needed food, gifts and supplies were provided for our children in need with partnerships and help from the Old Saybrook Police Department, with Youth and Family Services and our many local residents that stepped up to help neighbors in need in our community. There were 445 children from infants to age 17 in Old Saybrook receiving benefits from a state or local program according to state statistics this past year.

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.

According to the State of CT DSS statistics for the Town of Old Saybrook, in 2021 we had 590 residents ages 65 and older on state assistance programs, receiving Medicaid and SNAP food benefits and using our food pantry and mobile truck food distributions. Seniors in need of emergency fuel assistance also comprise 58% of our applications.

We are the point of contact for the Department of Health to register seniors that are shut in for vaccinations and work with OS Emergency Management and CRAHD, the regional health district, to connect these seniors. We also called and checked in on our seniors to make sure they were able to connect to any needed resources.

We helped seniors with applications for the Senior Farmer's Market Food Program as well as providing booklets of needed additional SNAP help to our seniors. We also helped to provide needed toiletries that are not covered by any other state program.

Every year we see an increase in seniors applying for and being approved for state program assistance in Old Saybrook. Some of the recent increase was due to COVID-19-related loss of part-time employment income that supplemented Social Security income; however, overall we are seeing an increase in this age demographic in town and a proportionate increase in seniors who are eligible for state program help. Senior housing needs remain the most requested need followed by health care, heating and food requests.

Heather McNeil, LMFT, LADC, *Director*
Susan Consoli, LPC, *Social Services Coordinator*
Kelsey Christensen, *Social Services Assistant*

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Connecticut General Statutes empower the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) 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 2023 fiscal year, the board held 11 meetings at which it considered 26 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 board would like to express its appreciation to longtime members Robert McIntyre, who has served since 2012 and as chair since 2019, and Dorothy Alexander, who has served in many capacities over the past 19 years. The board thanks them for their dedication and support over their tenures.

The board welcomed Frank Keeney and would like to thank Brenda Dyson for her dedication and service for the past three years.

The Zoning Board of Appeals meets the second Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Hall, first-floor conference room. Thank you to Sarah Makowicki and Joanne Galli who supported us as our administrative clerks this fiscal year. Chris Costa, town planner and 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.

Charles Gadon, 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 2032 fiscal year, the Zoning Commission met 24 times.

The commission reviewed 11 petitions to amend the Zoning Regulations. Seven petitions were approved and four were denied.

The commission considered ten applications for development by Special Exception and three for site plan review in addition to three major modifications to Special Exception permits and one application for minor modifications to modernize previously approved structures or business operations. Many of these applications included applications for Coastal Site Plan Review.

The commission approved 54 applications for annual outdoor seating renewals and three gravel pit renewals.

The zoning enforcement officer processed 196 applications for administrative approval of Certificates of Zoning Compliance, 17 applications for signs and 17 flood permit applications.

The commission employed a moratorium on drive-through restaurants, pharmacies and financial institutions to revisit the regulations.

The commission approved a petition submitted by the Architectural Review Board to strengthen and fix problematic sign regulations. They also approved a petition amending gas station separation distances.

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

The commission welcomed new member Brenda Dyson and said goodbye to Sandra Dizenzo.

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 of the Land Use Department supports us as our administrative clerk. Chris Costa, town planner and 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, 2026.

Local 1303-278, Council #4, Non-Supervisory Unit, with a four-year contract through June 30, 2024.

General Government positions not represented by a union or bargaining unit include the finance director, library director, 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 the Department of Police Services. Twenty-three full-time and seven part-time/per diem certified police officer positions are represented by the Connecticut Organization for Public Safety (C.O.P.S.). This contract expires June 30, 2024. Nine full-time certified public safety dispatcher positions are represented by the United Public Service Employees Union. This contract expires June 30, 2025. The salary and benefit structure for the remaining civilian employees of the department and the position of police captain 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, 2025.
- 2) Old Saybrook Education Association, with a contract through August 31, 2026.
- 3) Old Saybrook Educational Secretaries' Union, AFSCME Local 1303-224, Council #4 with a contract through June 30, 2025.
- 4) Old Saybrook Custodial Union, AFSCME Local 1303-020, Council #4, with a contract through June 30, 2024.
- 5) Old Saybrook Paraprofessional Municipal Employees, Independent CILU Local #53 with a contract through June 30, 2024.

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 2023, the Town and the Board of Education contributed \$838,725 to the Pension Fund. The employer contribution is based on the Town's actuary consultant's Actuarial Determined Contribution. 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	FY 22-23 Total
ACCOUNTING			
Lewis, Melissa	\$57,942.88	\$162.76	\$58,105.64
Malave, Ngoc	\$69,368.66	\$5,382.61	\$74,751.27
Parashin, Lucia	\$71,463.08	\$4.12	\$71,467.20
Vinciguerra, Janet	\$64,988.47	\$2,255.74	\$67,244.21
ACTON PUBLIC LIBRARY			
Brouwer, Amanda	\$87,165.06	\$0.00	\$87,165.06
Mendes, Lisa	\$56,956.11	\$0.00	\$56,956.11
Sheehan, Emily	\$71,536.91	\$246.40	\$71,783.31
*Alejo, Diana	\$3,598.71	\$0.00	\$3,598.71
*Baklik, Cynthia	\$36,126.86	\$0.00	\$36,126.86
*Baldi, Michele	\$2,515.88	\$0.00	\$2,515.88
*Bookman, Donna	\$5,975.40	\$0.00	\$5,975.40
*Boucher, Emily	\$14,408.81	\$0.00	\$14,408.81
*Chasse, Joan	\$7,474.74	\$5,133.00	\$12,607.74
*Clifford, Cathleen	\$1,387.52	\$0.00	\$1,387.52
*Davis, Barbara	\$1,750.49	\$0.00	\$1,750.49
*Everett, Rebecca	\$26,070.33	\$0.00	\$26,070.33
*Freese, Kathleen	\$19,979.10	\$0.00	\$19,979.10
*Giugno, Karen	\$14,148.37	\$0.00	\$14,148.37
*Hoff, Jennifer	\$8,114.57	\$0.00	\$8,114.57
*Kmiecik, Patricia	\$699.60	\$0.00	\$699.60
*Knobelsdorff, Kara Joan	\$25,674.75	\$0.00	\$25,674.75
*Knobelsdorff, Ria	\$34,333.89	\$0.00	\$34,333.89
*Levitz, Samuel	\$17,403.78	\$0.00	\$17,403.78

	Base Pay	Additional Compensation	FY 22-23 Total
*Morgan, Devery	\$2,857.25	\$0.00	\$2,857.25
*Parrington, Chloe	\$6,558.04	\$88.50	\$6,646.54
*Saunders, Fiona	\$29,536.00	\$0.00	\$29,536.00
*Saunders, Laurie	\$4,048.13	\$0.00	\$4,048.13
*Smith, Gerard	\$3,866.88	\$0.00	\$3,866.88
*Story, Brian	\$53,445.47	\$0.00	\$53,445.47
*Tanabe, Hana	\$757.50	\$0.00	\$757.50
*Tappin, Donna	\$35,462.45	\$0.00	\$35,462.45
*Volano, Claudia	\$2,849.93	\$0.00	\$2,849.93
BOARD CLERKS			
*Merritt, Amanda	\$355.00	\$0.00	\$355.00
BOARD OF FINANCE			
*Lewis, Geraldine	\$3,810.00	\$0.00	\$3,810.00
BUILDING DEPT			
Makowicki, Thomas	\$95,761.61	\$748.24	\$96,509.85
*Lucas, Donald	\$2,127.50	\$0.00	\$2,127.50
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT			
*Donahue, Jennifer	\$55,381.17	\$136.21	\$55,517.38
FIRE MARSHAL			
Terenzi III, Peter	\$86,337.37	\$2,684.79	\$89,022.16
HARBOR MANAGEMENT			
*Mitchell, Scott	\$9,999.96	\$0.00	\$9,999.96
*Donahue, Jennifer	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY			
Hayden, Lawrence	\$69,493.11	\$2,000.00	\$71,493.11
LAND USE			
Costa, Christina	\$105,769.52	\$2,641.09	\$108,410.61
Lyons, Sarah	\$61,475.69	\$0.00	\$61,475.69
*Beaudoin, Mary Kelly	\$473.00	\$0.00	\$473.00
*Condren, Brenda	\$495.00	\$0.00	\$495.00
*Galli, Joanne	\$9,028.00	\$0.00	\$9,028.00
*Maharbiz, Carolina	\$4,187.50	\$0.00	\$4,187.50
*Makowicki, Sarah	\$14,590.00	\$0.00	\$14,590.00
*May, Krista	\$1,092.50	\$0.00	\$1,092.50
*Paradis, Bryanna	\$655.50	\$0.00	\$655.50
*Wacker, Lynette	\$44,563.22	\$0.00	\$44,563.22
PARKS & RECREATION			
Allen Jr., Raymond	\$87,903.50	\$1,444.25	\$89,347.75
Paradis, Jonathan	\$73,838.13	\$2,764.19	\$76,602.32
Pine, Rick	\$54,764.91	\$11.02	\$54,775.93
*Abbott, Celia	\$4,030.27	\$339.50	\$4,369.77
*Alsante, Kristina	\$3,575.15	\$236.00	\$3,811.15
*Antilla, Parker	\$71.25	\$0.00	\$71.25
*Barros, Alexander	\$3,266.63	\$0.00	\$3,266.63
*Barros, Nicholas	\$7,083.27	\$618.75	\$7,702.02

	Base Pay	Additional Compensation	FY 22-23 Total
*Bielawa, Anthony	\$35,913.85	\$236.17	\$36,150.02
*Bielawa, Victoria	\$869.39	\$0.00	\$869.39
*Bjorkman, Brett	\$3,722.57	\$401.38	\$4,123.95
*Brady, Garrett	\$1,145.29	\$0.00	\$1,145.29
*Brady, Katelin	\$809.75	\$162.75	\$972.50
*Brown, Davis	\$3,523.70	\$0.00	\$3,523.70
*Brown, Maxwell	\$4,622.44	\$0.00	\$4,622.44
*Buck, Daniel	\$470.52	\$0.00	\$470.52
*Cain, Terese	\$7,304.15	\$0.00	\$7,304.15
*Casale, Elaine	\$5,683.50	\$0.00	\$5,683.50
*Cassella, Brendan	\$236.25	\$0.00	\$236.25
*Choedhar, Tenzin	\$386.25	\$0.00	\$386.25
*Cody, Allison	\$1,046.01	\$244.00	\$1,290.01
*Cody, Lily	\$2,927.59	\$243.38	\$3,170.97
*Connolly, Janet	\$3,710.25	\$170.00	\$3,880.25
*Costa, Katelyn	\$6,255.75	\$0.00	\$6,255.75
*Daley, Caitlin	\$1,432.26	\$362.38	\$1,794.64
*Deangelo, Cameron	\$1,284.93	\$171.00	\$1,455.93
*Decapua, Kevin	\$285.00	\$0.00	\$285.00
*Dedominicis, Christian	\$337.06	\$146.00	\$483.06
*Devaney Jr., Edward	\$311.25	\$0.00	\$311.25
*Dobratz, Lauren	\$2,052.51	\$0.00	\$2,052.51
*Dower, Adam	\$3,675.01	\$0.00	\$3,675.01
*Dutrra, Felipe	\$382.50	\$0.00	\$382.50
*Egbert, Izak	\$1,890.75	\$0.00	\$1,890.75
*Freeburg, Lilah	\$195.00	\$0.00	\$195.00
*Fuda, Victor	\$4,238.74	\$0.00	\$4,238.74
*Gatta, Jack	\$3,719.03	\$417.13	\$4,136.16
*Gilson, Aidan	\$1,563.70	\$0.00	\$1,563.70
*Giugno, Audra	\$1,036.56	\$244.00	\$1,280.56
*Gosselin, Camron	\$527.63	\$205.88	\$733.51
*Gosselin, Donna	\$3,972.59	\$0.00	\$3,972.59
*Grillo, Aidan	\$4,608.25	\$140.00	\$4,748.25
*Gurnell, Emma	\$1,347.38	\$264.00	\$1,611.38
*Hanratty, Grace	\$3,130.53	\$284.63	\$3,415.16
*Hanratty, Luke	\$1,963.00	\$0.00	\$1,963.00
*Harshman, Lindsay	\$2,264.25	\$0.00	\$2,264.25
*Heinke, Chelsea	\$1,969.40	\$0.00	\$1,969.40
*Henderson, Connel	\$333.75	\$0.00	\$333.75
*Henderson, Katherine	\$4,358.43	\$462.38	\$4,820.81
*Henderson, Molly	\$1,320.06	\$0.00	\$1,320.06
*Interlandi, Dennis	\$21,886.50	\$1,827.50	\$23,714.00
*Interlandi, Mary Ellen	\$2,533.50	\$0.00	\$2,533.50
*Johnson, Robert	\$1,894.25	\$0.00	\$1,894.25
*Kapij, Michael	\$278.00	\$0.00	\$278.00
*King, Dyllon	\$3,505.64	\$431.26	\$3,936.90
*King, Kameryn	\$1,107.00	\$0.00	\$1,107.00

	Base Pay	Additional Compensation	FY 22-23 Total
*Kulmann, Bradley	\$3,960.64	\$0.00	\$3,960.64
*Lane, Ethan	\$288.75	\$0.00	\$288.75
*Laudano, Patricia	\$3,697.65	\$0.00	\$3,697.65
*Lavoie, Tyler	\$2,113.75	\$0.00	\$2,113.75
*Lech, Joshua	\$3,571.00	\$0.00	\$3,571.00
*Marinelli, Mary	\$1,660.00	\$0.00	\$1,660.00
*Maselli, Joseph	\$3,694.25	\$57.75	\$3,752.00
*Miele, Morgan	\$82.50	\$0.00	\$82.50
*Morrell, Nicholas	\$35,299.16	\$0.00	\$35,299.16
*Murallo, Jillian	\$3,404.25	\$0.00	\$3,404.25
*Nosal, Alice	\$322.50	\$0.00	\$322.50
*O'Brien, Jason	\$967.50	\$0.00	\$967.50
*O'Neil, Courtney	\$4,015.00	\$0.00	\$4,015.00
*Pauloski, Scarlett	\$4,202.25	\$0.00	\$4,202.25
*Pavlovich, Jake	\$1,803.25	\$0.00	\$1,803.25
*Percival, Carson	\$4,636.45	\$0.00	\$4,636.45
*Percival, Wes	\$236.25	\$0.00	\$236.25
*Potter, Caroline	\$4,073.39	\$227.50	\$4,300.89
*Potter, Catherine	\$4,763.47	\$267.75	\$5,031.22
*Potter, John	\$487.50	\$285.00	\$772.50
*Potter, Lauren	\$1,444.50	\$225.00	\$1,669.50
*Potter, William	\$5,390.33	\$767.25	\$6,157.58
*Reynolds, Aedan	\$980.00	\$0.00	\$980.00
*Rice, Nathaniel	\$3,924.96	\$19.88	\$3,944.84
*Romano, Allison	\$5,793.63	\$316.45	\$6,110.08
*Rueckert, Avery	\$1,268.76	\$132.75	\$1,401.51
*Ryan, Elizabeth	\$903.07	\$132.75	\$1,035.82
*Seaburg, Richard	\$1,199.88	\$0.00	\$1,199.88
*Skiles, Emmy	\$5,282.50	\$140.25	\$5,422.75
*Skiles, Noah	\$713.25	\$0.00	\$713.25
*Sloane, Alexandra	\$3,517.50	\$0.00	\$3,517.50
*Solecki, Joelle	\$3,014.48	\$0.00	\$3,014.48
*Somosky, Abigail	\$2,004.68	\$0.00	\$2,004.68
*Stangel, Aubrey	\$2,910.00	\$0.00	\$2,910.00
*Suits, Michael	\$1,201.25	\$0.00	\$1,201.25
*Sumby, Hannah	\$4,882.19	\$311.13	\$5,193.32
*Toolan, Brian	\$8,531.75	\$1,210.13	\$9,741.88
*Van Der Horst, Robbert	\$5,075.44	\$592.00	\$5,667.44
*Wacker, Emelia	\$236.25	\$0.00	\$236.25
*White, Cassidy	\$1,839.02	\$0.00	\$1,839.02
*White, Teagan	\$1,934.59	\$0.00	\$1,934.59
*Winstead, Christyna	\$1,957.50	\$0.00	\$1,957.50
*Wisialowski, Kyle	\$3,906.34	\$499.75	\$4,406.09
*Wisialowski, Peter	\$4,660.00	\$0.00	\$4,660.00
*Witczak, John	\$2,547.21	\$0.00	\$2,547.21
*Wollack, Madison	\$4,787.18	\$0.00	\$4,787.18

	Base Pay	Additional Compensation	FY 22-23 Total
POLL WORKERS			
*Faucher, John	\$498.00	\$0.00	\$498.00
*Faulkingham, Mark	\$292.50	\$0.00	\$292.50
PUBLIC WORKS			
Bonin, Larry	\$98,669.82	\$609.26	\$99,279.08
Claffey, William	\$92,122.61	\$3,520.08	\$95,642.69
D'Agata, Zachary	\$9,554.41	\$149.29	\$9,703.70
Evangelisti, Cameron	\$9,474.86	\$2,396.42	\$11,871.28
Hoadley, Matthew	\$62,512.50	\$438.92	\$62,951.42
Nickerson, Matthew	\$57,311.74	\$1,080.77	\$58,392.51
Pace Jr., Michael	\$62,512.17	\$1,635.52	\$64,147.69
Regan, Patrick	\$62,512.50	\$1,340.96	\$63,853.46
Root, Trevor	\$60,891.68	\$1,675.07	\$62,566.75
Way, Todd	\$74,549.13	\$1,101.33	\$75,650.46
*Malave, Emily	\$640.00	\$0.00	\$640.00
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS			
*Broadhurst, Joan	\$12,556.20	\$0.00	\$12,556.20
*Strickland, Joan	\$13,996.20	\$0.00	\$13,996.20
SELECTMEN			
Fortuna, Carl	\$93,176.73	\$0.00	\$93,176.73
Neri, Georgiann	\$65,107.34	\$196.85	\$65,304.19
Palladino, Lee Ann	\$112,542.85	\$2,000.00	\$114,542.85
*Giegerich, Scott	\$8,399.64	\$0.00	\$8,399.64
*Pugliese, Matthew	\$8,399.64	\$0.00	\$8,399.64
SOCIAL SERVICES			
Consoli, Susan	\$70,909.92	\$2,228.61	\$73,138.53
*Christensen, Kelsey	\$11,025.12	\$0.00	\$11,025.12
*Dean-Frazier, Laura	\$7,627.50	\$0.00	\$7,627.50
TAX ASSESSOR			
Wood, Norman	\$86,003.61	\$516.72	\$86,520.33
*Diamond, Matthew	\$880.00	\$0.00	\$880.00
*Gallagher, Peter	\$880.00	\$0.00	\$880.00
TAX COLLECTOR			
Brundrett, Andrea	\$53,598.21	\$0.00	\$53,598.21
Delmonico, Marc	\$24,021.94	\$500.00	\$24,521.94
Rzasa, Carol	\$51,371.52	\$500.00	\$51,871.52
TOWN CLERK			
Becker, Sarah	\$77,139.31	\$0.00	\$77,139.31
Moskowitz, Meryl	\$55,036.05	\$242.97	\$55,279.02
*Hermann, Mary Sue	\$38,586.17	\$0.00	\$38,586.17
TOWN HALL			
*Arthurs, Edward	\$21,530.18	\$0.00	\$21,530.18
*Beaudoin, Sofia	\$40,276.01	\$159.24	\$40,435.25
*Czepiel, Noreen	\$26,149.98	\$0.00	\$26,149.98
*DeFrance, Ava	\$1,515.60	\$0.00	\$1,515.60
*Moran, Daniel	\$25,096.34	\$0.00	\$25,096.34

	Base Pay	Additional Compensation	FY 22-23 Total
*O'Herlihy, Ellen	\$8,511.66	\$0.00	\$8,511.66
*Riordan, Bridget	\$54,087.80	\$3.98	\$54,091.78
*Wood, Carol	\$4,786.25	\$0.00	\$4,786.25
*Zychowski, Rebecca	\$21,182.53	\$0.00	\$21,182.53
TRANSFER STATION			
Champlin, Richard	\$74,471.46	\$16.87	\$74,488.33
Murphy, Sean	\$35,656.57	\$1,537.44	\$37,194.01
*Hunter, Anthony	\$30,894.91	\$4.30	\$30,899.21
*Rascoe, William	\$41,891.99	\$226.38	\$42,118.37
*Therrien, James	\$42,151.78	\$2.83	\$42,154.61
TREASURER			
*Labriola, Barbara	\$8,000.04	\$0.00	\$8,000.04
TREE WARDEN			
*Kiely, James	\$9,000.00	\$0.00	\$9,000.00
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL			
*Lewis, Gratia	\$48,899.43	\$0.00	\$48,899.43
*Vanoli, James	\$61,644.51	\$0.00	\$61,644.51
YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES			
Eckert, Brittany	\$53,386.46	\$690.08	\$54,076.54
Hayden, Heather	\$95,782.56	\$697.22	\$96,479.78
Stahr, Adam	\$65,828.14	\$721.14	\$66,549.28
*Alessio, Justin	\$3,356.85	\$0.00	\$3,356.85
*Bruzzese, Salvatore	\$2,824.30	\$0.00	\$2,824.30
*Deal, Joanne	\$2,788.58	\$0.00	\$2,788.58
*Gaidry, Angela	\$55,042.34	\$0.00	\$55,042.34
*Howley, Melissa	\$5,969.54	\$338.72	\$6,308.26
*O'Herlihy, Kiernan	\$7,276.25	\$0.00	\$7,276.25
*Steinmacher, Samantha	\$6,085.08	\$2,591.54	\$8,676.62
*Strecker, Trisha	\$38,212.77	\$0.00	\$38,212.77

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. Salary and the majority of "additional compensation" come from the department's operating budget (tax dollars). Some monies included in "additional compensa-

tion” 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 2022-2023**

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	Addtl. Compensation	Private Duty	F.Y. 22-23 Total
DISPATCHER				
Adams, Daniel	\$64,128.80	\$22,119.94	\$0.00	\$86,248.74
Fox, Daniel	\$50,899.20	\$15,157.00	\$0.00	\$66,056.20
Franklin, Jennifer	\$63,878.80	\$13,306.88	\$0.00	\$77,185.68
Gosselin, Andrea	\$64,128.80	\$19,104.80	\$0.00	\$83,233.60
Moriarty, Charles	\$63,968.80	\$17,618.93	\$0.00	\$81,587.73
Murray, Caitlin	\$55,968.00	\$12,325.57	\$0.00	\$68,293.57
Offner, Lea	\$63,718.80	\$18,185.04	\$0.00	\$81,903.84
Shake Jr, James	\$63,628.80	\$7,718.85	\$0.00	\$71,347.65
Sobask, Catherine	\$4,080.00	\$479.88	\$0.00	\$4,559.88
Stankiewicz, Joshua	\$33,048.00	\$7,818.30	\$0.00	\$40,866.30
*Barrett, Robert	\$0.00	\$18,137.64	\$0.00	\$18,137.64
*Coco, Phillip	\$31,978.61	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$31,978.61
PD SUPPORT				
D’Amato, Jennifer	\$65,452.30	\$4,652.19	\$0.00	\$70,104.49
*Gardner, Michael	\$54,504.12	\$4,413.54	\$0.00	\$58,917.66
*Hanley, Patrick	\$22,047.19	\$24.42	\$0.00	\$22,071.61
*Newton, Thomas	\$4,565.15	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,565.15
*Sirisoukh, Patrick	\$18,881.34	\$52.54	\$0.00	\$18,933.88
*Sunday, Mary	\$915.87	\$0.00	\$1,735.36	\$2,651.23
*Swallow, Eric	\$4,660.34	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,660.34

	Base Pay	Addtl. Compensation	Private Duty	F.Y. 22-23 Total
POLICE SERVICES				
Ciccone, Philip	\$98,384.31	\$16,967.58	\$24,908.10	\$140,259.99
Cruz, Jaime	\$70,408.76	\$22,138.65	\$43,020.99	\$135,568.40
DeFrance, August	\$81,184.92	\$24,106.45	\$2,813.14	\$108,104.51
DeMarco, Christopher	\$101,745.82	\$38,201.52	\$28,516.66	\$168,464.00
DePerry, Jeffrey	\$112,582.05	\$14,791.96	\$17,992.20	\$145,366.21
Dwyer, Christopher	\$80,684.92	\$23,182.83	\$9,826.81	\$113,694.56
Egan, Connor	\$43,004.98	\$4,978.75	\$0.00	\$47,983.73
Hackett, Stephen	\$26,148.61	\$427.28	\$292.20	\$26,868.09
Hardy, Solomon	\$96,192.07	\$29,584.62	\$20,387.58	\$146,164.27
Inzitari, Anthony	\$27,941.22	\$1,601.05	\$3,725.55	\$33,267.82
Kostek, Amanda	\$81,184.92	\$17,670.55	\$27,736.36	\$126,591.83
Lawrence, Eric	\$28,292.75	\$353.10	\$0.00	\$28,645.85
Micowski, Mark	\$94,130.58	\$24,345.90	\$7,553.24	\$126,029.72
Milardo, Stephanie	\$85,691.71	\$17,660.83	\$15,099.05	\$118,451.59
Mora, Braylan	\$70,408.76	\$21,354.43	\$42,077.58	\$133,840.77
Moreau, Tyler	\$68,266.60	\$9,104.58	\$7,843.82	\$85,215.00
Novak, Wyatt	\$15,522.90	\$1,115.83	\$0.00	\$16,638.73
Nyenhuis, Sabine	\$4,622.71	\$1,593.00	\$0.00	\$6,215.71
O'Connell, Rachel	\$57,011.45	\$17,572.10	\$12,612.70	\$87,196.25
Palmieri, Christopher	\$93,530.58	\$21,170.33	\$10,190.51	\$124,891.42
Schulz, Tyler	\$6,516.66	\$2,788.03	\$0.00	\$9,304.69
Silano, Sara	\$28,292.75	\$1,048.60	\$0.00	\$29,341.35
Simpson, James	\$65,280.82	\$24,009.58	\$32,477.81	\$121,768.21
Spera, Michael	\$171,894.22	\$33,131.44	\$0.00	\$205,025.66
Tabor III, Albert	\$88,584.89	\$19,731.20	\$18,639.92	\$126,956.01
Walsh, Ryan	\$97,759.89	\$26,237.29	\$18,985.00	\$142,982.18
White, Benjamin	\$40,825.38	\$5,743.65	\$2,145.08	\$48,714.11
Williams, Eric	\$90,991.63	\$45,701.45	\$30,779.99	\$167,473.07
Wright, Heather	\$1,595.06	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,595.06
Zarbo, Joshua	\$55,082.10	\$10,636.25	\$8,221.06	\$73,939.41
*Aresco, Scott	\$54,035.10	\$4,138.19	\$0.00	\$58,173.29
*Caffery, Dawn	\$4,479.35	\$3,680.65	\$0.00	\$8,160.00
*Gabanelli, Karen	\$56,458.90	\$5,497.85	\$18,872.68	\$80,829.43
*Kiako, James	\$0.00	\$2,668.23	\$584.40	\$3,252.63
*Lamay, David	\$990.90	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$990.90
*Maturro, Paul	\$950.85	\$2,134.55	\$0.00	\$3,085.40
*Mulvihill Jr, Michael	\$794.24	\$8,902.97	\$4,068.06	\$13,765.27
*Rooney, Lawrence	\$49,230.60	\$970.25	\$5,593.90	\$55,794.75
*Tanner, Allyson	\$0.00	\$3,372.19	\$17,177.80	\$20,549.99
*Van Der Horst, Robbert	\$0.00	\$906.25	\$40,142.39	\$41,048.64
*Westerson, Grant	\$0.00	\$2,482.20	\$0.00	\$2,482.20

SECTION IV

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022–2023

General Fund Statements of Revenues and Expenditures, Actual Versus Budget, for the Town of Old Saybrook for the year ended June 30, 2023, 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 Mahoney Sabol 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.

OPERATING BUDGET REPORT: REVENUE

PROPERTY TAXES

Revenue Account	FY23 Budget	FY23 Actual	Variance
Interest on Prior Years’	100,000	363,308	263,308
PP Tax Revenue	100,000	585,946	485,946
Tax Revenue - Current Year	46,604,698	47,136,304	531,606
Taxes Telecomm	35,000	39,196	4,196
Property Taxes - Total	46,839,698	48,124,755	1,285,057

STATE REVENUE

Revenue Account	FY24 Budget	FY23 YTD	Receipts
ECS St/CT	130,000	131,639	1,639
In Lieu of Taxes St/CT	—	42,642	42,642
LOCIP St/CT	53,000	67,070	14,070
Special Ed St/CT	—	112,869	112,869
State Shared Revenues	34,000	164,338	130,338
Tax Relief OPM Vet/Disab.	—	9,919	9,919
Town Aid Road St/CT	246,000	248,896	2,896
State Revenue - Total	463,000	777,374	314,374

LOCAL REVENUE

Revenue Account	FY24 Budget	FY23 YTD	Receipts
Lodging Lics, Selectmen	—	25	25
Vendor Lics, Selectmen	2,000	3,675	1,675
Interest	75,000	726,530	651,530
Interest & Dividend	—	45,861	45,861
Misc Revenues	45,000	74,355	29,355
Realized Gains/St Gains	—	89,849	89,849
Recording Fees	400,000	460,000	60,000
Land Use Permit Fees	20,000	27,704	7,704
Public Safety Fines	5,000	6,039	1,039

Building Permits	180,000	387,856	207,856
Protective Inspection Fee	3,000	7,204	4,204
GF Soc Svc Checking Inc	—	1,134	1,134
Transfer Between Nb—	(4,986)	(4,986)	
Library Use	4,000	3,288	(712)
Beach Passes	45,000	52,596	7,596
Fees for Services	—	10	10
Harvey’s Beach	55,000	101,261	46,261
Golf Fees	180,000	210,589	30,589
Fees for Services	6,000	21,416	15,416
Refuse Collection Charges	55,000	80,177	25,177
Local Revenue - Total	1,075,000	2,294,583	1,219,583
Overall - Total	48,377,698	51,196,711	2,819,013

GENERAL FUND EXPENSES—BUDGET AND ACTUAL

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

Department	Budget	Actual	Variance
Selectmen	364,033	356,207	7,826
Main Street Maintenance	10,000	365	2,635
Board of Finance	64,825	59,399	5,427
Accounting	412,386	399,238	13,148
Ethics	950	—	950
Assessor	166,574	170,790	(4,216)
Assessment Appeals	6,697	3,453	3,244
Tax Collector	210,455	230,960	(20,505)
Treasurer	8,634	8,631	2
Legal Services	105,000	88,390	16,610
DB Employer Cont (ADC)	664,000	664,000	—
Retiree Health Ins	280,851	279,773	1,078
Information Technology	196,566	198,783	(2,218)
Town Clerk	252,387	246,314	6,073
Vital Statistics	1,350	755	595
Registrar of Voters	62,679	66,701	(4,022)
Land Use	360,071	348,132	11,939
Arch Review Bd	3,711	2,379	1,331
Planning Commission	15,388	14,389	999
Zoning Commission	34,717	34,483	234
ZBA	13,408	14,920	(1,512)
Insurance	391,000	398,458	(7,458)
Historic District	5,489	5,198	292
Inland/Wetlands	8,716	7,836	880
Harbor Mgmt Commission	22,345	21,971	374
Conservation Commission	4,504	2,305	2,200

Economic Development	66,778	83,519	(16,741)
Political Sub Divisions	148,743	145,747	2,996
Town Hall	497,819	501,119	(3,300)
PD - Field Service	3,599,457	3,253,763	345,693
PD - Support Service	1,113,174	1,051,144	62,030
PD General Expenditures	522,623	697,124	(174,501)
Fire Dept.	585,750	586,111	(360)
Tree Warden	55,689	55,356	333
Building	147,480	133,550	13,930
Animal Control	20,000	20,000	—
Marine Patrol	61,676	35,922	25,755
Fire Marshal	148,875	137,776	11,099
Emergency Mangement	204,300	199,700	4,600
PW Admin	1,009,704	948,860	60,844
PW Highway and Street	641,878	534,528	107,350
Engineering	80,000	101,973	(21,973)
PW Snow and Ice	74,351	34,023	40,328
Street Lighting	80,000	52,939	27,061
PW Vehicle/Equip Maint	86,000	87,150	(1,150)
Waste Collection	34,000	35,708	(1,708)
Water Hydrant	675,000	668,276	6,724
Environmental Health	162,000	146,340	15,660
Nursing	53,123	53,182	(59)
YFS	434,089	434,089	—
Social Srvs	107,645	112,940	(5,295)
Library-Acton	1,032,998	1,012,930	20,068
Recreation	628,835	640,609	(11,774)
Recreation Mini Golf	82,571	94,629	(12,059)
Parks Vicky Duffy Pav	15,440	18,638	(3,198)
Parks - Other	68,900	80,732	(11,832)
The Kate	71,500	70,648	852
Capital Outlay	735,000	735,000	—
WPCA Admin	249,486	224,993	24,493
Transfer Station Operations	359,997	339,819	20,178
TS Waste Transport/ Dispo.	340,900	339,255	1,645
	17,862,513	17,298,919	563,594

Department	Budget	YTD	Expenses
Debt Service GG	3,071,844	3,071,845	(1)
	3,071,844	3,071,845	—
Department	Budget	YTD	Expenses
Board of Education	27,473,341	27,245,422	227,919
	27,473,341	27,245,422	—
Overall - Total	48,407,698	47,616,186	791,513

