

TOWN OF EASTON



ANNUAL REPORT
2011

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Provided here are reports from our Officials, Commissions and heads of departments of the Town and General Purpose Financial Statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011 and some information by calendar year 2011. The information compiled provides residents of Easton with a comprehensive review of the operation of the Town, its finances, and educational system.

Your Board of Finance, who is charged with preparing this report, wishes to thank all who supplied the information and data included. We are grateful to Grace Stanczyk, who was responsible for the overall coordination and planning and to Diane Zadrozny for her assistance.

Fred Knopf, Chair
Board of Finance

Photo credit: Patti Popp, August 2010. Agricultural fields in front of the Samuel Staples Elementary School.



Town of Easton

ANNUAL REPORT

Town Hall
Easton, Connecticut

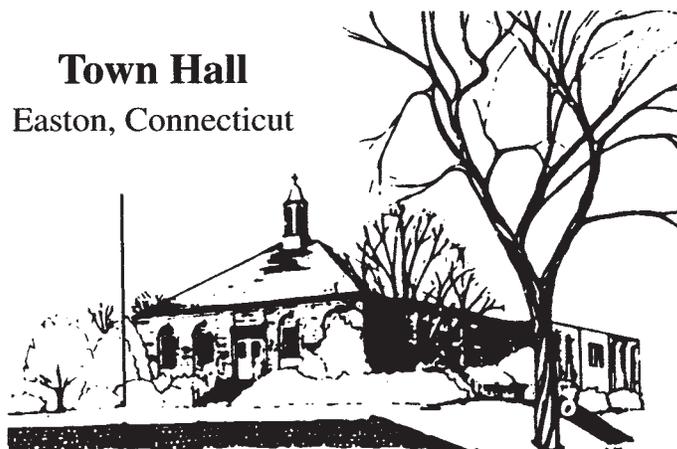


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GENERAL GOVERNMENT

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Easton is governed by the Board of Selectmen (its executive and administrative body), the Board of Finance (its financial body), and the Town Meeting (which is the Town's legislative body). The Easton Board of Education is responsible for Town schools and the Regional Board of Education is responsible for Joel Barlow High School. These two boards of education share a central office staff with the Redding Board of Education.

The Town is administered through a three-member Board of Selectmen with the First Selectman being the chief executive officer of the Town. The Selectmen serve for two- year terms which commence immediately following the election in odd numbered years. No more than two Selectmen can be from the same political party. The Selectmen hold regular meetings on the first and third Thursdays of each month at 7:30 p.m., usually in the Town Hall conference room. Special meetings are held as required. Citizens are encouraged to attend meetings and time for public comment is allowed.

A number of able boards, commissions, committees, volunteers, and employees assist in the Town's operations. Their reports are contained in this annual report and your attention is directed to them. Without the dedication of each of the individuals involved, Easton would suffer. With their dedication, Easton excels as a great place to live and work.

The municipal building at 660 Morehouse Road, the former Samuel Staples Elementary School is now fully occupied. The new Senior Center opened in March 2009 in the northwestern wing. The Central Offices of the Easton/Redding Boards of Education moved into a wing in the central portion of the building in January of 2009. The lease for the southerly wing, occupied by Easton Country Day School was renewed on September 1, 2009 for an additional term of seven years with an option that could run another eight years. Easton Country Day School has amended their lease and added an additional 6,780 square feet in the central portion of the building. In addition, The Speech Academy has signed an agreement to lease the rooms in the northernmost section of the building. The basement is currently occupied but the Parks and Recreation department and is being used for storage.

A new Tax Relief for the Elderly Ordinance was developed and passed at a Town Meeting in March 2012. The new Ordinance offers tax abatements, and a tax deferral program, and has been heralded as one of the most beneficial senior tax relief programs in the State. The 2012 Tax Relief Ordinance will remain in effect for three years at which time the program will be reviewed.

Contracts with each of the unions representing Town employees have been settled through June 30, 2014 for the

police, through June 30, 2012 for the highway department, and through June 30, 2012 for Town Hall employees and supervisors. The contract with the firefighters expires on June 30, 2012. The Human Resources Advisory Committee continues to review individual positions and non-represented positions for recommendations to the Board of Finance.

The Town purchased a 29-acre parcel of land on South Park Avenue from a developer that had proposed a high-density housing development. The property is bordered by the Mill River in a section that is one of only a few spawning areas for the Connecticut Brown Trout. The property is being leased to the New England Prayer Center who also has been sold an option to purchase the property. Such sale will be subject to deed restrictions and conservation easements in order to protect the critical watercourse.

A large parcel of land located on the northwest corner of Route 136 and Sport Hill Road faces the possibility of development. The owner, Saddle Ridge Developers, had been approved for a 21-lot subdivision with plans to provide for the construction of ten bedroom homes. Following the approval, Saddle Ridge began developing a plan to construct 105, two bedroom residences and has submitted a septic plan for preliminary review by the Health Department. The Planning and Zoning Commission denied the high-density development plan due to the potential impact on the watershed. The developers have proposed a new plan calling for the construction of 99, two bedroom residences. The Planning and Zoning Commission also denied that plan due to the potential impact on the watershed. The applicant has appealed the denial with the State of Connecticut Superior Court in New Britain.

The Board of Selectmen thanks the many citizens who have contributed their time and expertise to the Town by serving on its boards, commissions, and committees. We also thank all of you for helping to keep Easton special.

The Board of Selectmen
Thomas A. Herrmann, First Selectman
Robert H. Lessler, Selectman
Scott S. Centrella, Selectman

TOWN CLERK REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS TOWN SEXTON

The Town Clerk and Registrar of Vital Statistics are elected for a two-year term. The Town Sexton for Abandoned Cemeteries is an appointed position. In Easton, the two elected offices and the Town Sexton are combined in one person. A brief summary of these responsibilities is listed below.

- Create, manage, preserve and maintain an archive of land records and other records from the date of incorporation in 1845 until the present.

- Create and maintain an archival Daily, Grantor and Grantee Index of Land Records.
- Record and maintain an archival record of Births, Marriages, Deaths and Burials.
- Create, manage, preserve and maintain an archive of all records including Minutes and Agendas of all Authorities, Boards, Committees and Commissions.
- Create, manage, preserve and maintain an archive of all Town Meeting Minutes and Records
- Manage the issuance, verification, collection and delivery of Absentee Ballot Applications and Ballots.
- Swear in all Officers and Members of all Boards, Committees and Commissions
- Assist residents and non-residents obtain Connecticut State Sports Licenses. This includes resident and non-resident: firearms; fishing; hunting and fishing; and firearms fishing and hunting. Resident: trapping; junior trapping and over age 65. Non-resident: three day fishing. Also included are HIP permits, handicapped; and junior firearms hunting.
- Sell fishing permits for Aquarion, Inc. facilities in town
- Sell Dog Licenses for all dogs 6 months old and older. Connecticut state statutes require that all dogs be licensed in the town in which they reside and have a valid rabies certificate that must be presented at the time of licensing. License fees are \$8 for spayed or neutered dogs, and \$19 for male and female dogs. A certificate of spaying or neutering must be presented at the time of licensing. There is a \$1 late fee for each month or fraction of a month that the license is late. Licenses are on sale in the month of June for the following license year that runs from July 1 through June 30 inclusive each year.
- Sell dog kennel licenses
- Provide Notary services
- Provide certified copies of public records.
- Act as Town Sexton for Easton's four abandoned cemeteries owned by the town

Land Records, Maps, Agendas and Minutes

The State Statutes define that a primary function of the Town Clerk's office is to maintain and preserve an archival record of all of the Maps and Land Records relating to real estate transactions in Easton. They also require records of all liens and releases including mortgages and mortgage releases. This permits residents and the public to trace and verify titles to property. Similarly, an archival record of the Agendas and Minutes of Boards, Committees and Commissions, Town Meetings and Town Ordinances must be maintained so that a traceable record of town governance issues is available to the public.

On assuming office in 2002, it became clear that the system simply could not handle the volume of documents, and other work, despite the best efforts of the office staff. In addition, the Land Records, Maps, Minutes and Agendas were stored on non-archival paper, in non-archival binders, and were not indexed making retrieval very difficult. The statutorily required microfilm copies did not exist. As a result, new

procedures were established.

At that time, we decided on a long-term plan that included the following:

- Focus first on the Land Records and later on the Minutes, Agendas and other issues
- Clear up the backlog
- Establish as an operating procedure that *“an average day's work must be completed each day on average”*. This is necessary to prevent the backlog from again growing into a large volume of unprocessed work.
- Establish systems capable of handling the work volume efficiently.
- Establish the staff levels needed to get the work done.
- Establish methods of dealing with the large increase in recording and other transactions.
- Establish office hours consistent with the work load, staffing level and public service needs
- It was apparent that new technology was required. However, the cost of a commercial solution was prohibitive. Instead, the Town Clerk developed a combination of commercial hardware and proprietary software. Proprietary software was developed at no cost to the town and combined with commercial hardware. This results in a very large, and continuing, annual cost saving to the town.

This strategy has permitted the following changes:

- New Technology was developed to handle point of sale transactions and daily, weekly and annual accounting and reporting. This reduced the work required and improved the accounting accuracy
- The New technology also processed the documents. This resulted in the development of a low cost system for handling the volume of land records and maps. The cost of processing a land record document was reduced by more than 80%.
- The imaging of all of the land records and maps so that these are now available to the public electronically. This enables us to offer easy access to the information and to simplify the making of copies. At the same time, we have been able to restrict access to the delicate old maps and land records and help to preserve them.
- The imaging of all Minutes and Agendas up to the current date
- The initial focus has been on land records. The resources available have now permitted some attention to the Minutes and Agendas problem.
- Software has been developed for numbering Agendas and Minutes when workload permits. This has been implemented for the Board of Selectmen, and Board of Finance agendas and minutes.

Long Term Objectives

Overall, our long-term objectives are as follows:

- Establish a computerized point of sale system for all incoming documents and licenses. The intent is to simplify the accounting so that at the end of the day, week

or fiscal year it is a simple matter to close the books and allocate funds to the appropriate accounts.

- Establish a computerized system for recording and indexing all Land Records and Maps
- Establish a computer database of images of all Land Records and Maps
- Make our own record volumes in order to reduce the cost and make the volumes available, in paper copy on the shelf and electronically immediately
- Make the land records and maps available on line to interested parties.
- Establish the technology for printing copies of the Land Records and Maps.
- Establish a database of images of all Minutes, Agendas and other town records
- Establish a computerized system for recording and indexing all Minutes, Agendas, and other town records
- Preserve archival records by limiting public access to these original records
- Make applications for Absentee Ballots and Licenses available on line.
- Computerize Absentee Ballot processing
- Make available on-line a calendar of events and meetings in Easton.
- Convert Agendas and Minutes of Boards and Commissions to archival quality
- Improve the convenience and comfort of computer viewing of records so that the paper records are rarely used. Long term this will help preserve the paper records and greatly reduce the need for the public to go into the vault. In turn this will make better use of the vault space and greatly extend its life.
- Establish a web based system to permit access seven days a week and twenty four hours a day.

Current Status

The status of our long-term objectives is as follows:

- The Town Clerk's office is now completely automated.
- Since 2002, we have had our own point of sales system operating successfully. This system permits automatic registration and costing of the more than fifty products that we sell. It also records the funds paid and the method of payment and allocates the funds to the appropriate accounts. At the end of the day, week or year it is a simple matter to close the books and account for all of the funds. It drastically reduces the time required for closing. This reduces errors and greatly simplifies the closing process. It also creates a comprehensive database of all transactions that permits us to evaluate transactions to correct any errors, or omissions, that occur.
- The same point of sale system validates all checks received and creates a permanent electronic record of the transaction including the payor and the reason for the payment. This permits a simple recall of the transaction for invalid checks
- The same point of sale system permits us to mark incoming Land Records with a number, time and date of receipt as required by statute. It has now progressed to

permit direct annotation of recording information on the image of the land record documents.

- The point of sale system also permits annotating marginal notes on land records as are required by law, and facilitates the maintenance of a dynamic image record database of Land Records.
- Since 2004 we have been making our own archival books of Land Records and Index books in house eliminating the time delay from shipping offsite
- Since 2004 we have indexed all of the Land Records and Maps in house eliminating the time delay from shipping offsite
- Since 2004 we have numbered all of the Land Records and Maps in house eliminating the time delay from shipping offsite
- The database of images of Land Records, Maps and Liens is complete. Land Records and Liens are updated in real time as new records are received. Maps are scanned in real time, in house, and are now only sent out for microfilming. Overall, this has eliminated the need to refer to the original Maps, and greatly reduced the need to look at paper copies of Records
- Documents are indexed daily and transmitted electronically to our offsite auditor for verification as required by statute. Records are usually indexed and available for electronic search next day compared to thirty days previously.
- A calendar of events is available on the town website
- An email list has been established for direct weekly update of real estate sales.
- Absentee ballots are now handled by proprietary software developed in house for the purpose
- Marriage Licenses and Civil Union licenses are now handled in house using proprietary software developed for the purpose. The program was developed in cooperation with, and approved by, the Connecticut Department of Public Health Vital Statistics Division. This program is now in use in Easton and many towns in Connecticut at no cost to the town
- Dog Licenses are now handled in house using proprietary software developed for the purpose
- Software has been developed for numbering, date, and time stamping Agendas and Minutes. It is in use for the following boards:
 - Board of Selectmen 1983 to date
 - Board of Finance 1981 to date
 - P & Z 1953 to date
 - Easton Board of Education 1958 to date
 - Region 9 Board of Education 1964 to date
 - Town Reports 1986 to date
 - Assignments and Resignations

Other Boards and Commissions will be addressed when workload permits.

- Easton currently has a searchable database for all records by volume and page from 1845, the date of incorporation, to the present day. Records are searchable by name from

- 1/1/1979 to the present day.
- Re-indexing and standardization of the database back to 1955 is in progress.
- Operational improvements permitted the return to normal office hours
- Last year we addressed the space and operational limits on the vault. The vault was redesigned and new shelving installed to house the Land Records, Minutes and Agendas, and Maps and other documents. This extended the life of the vault by about 20 years avoiding an expense of at least \$500,000 and was funded off budget.

The first phase of the long-term plan to automate the major operations of the office is essentially complete.

There is still work to be done on Agendas and Minutes but Land Records are now available within 24 hours compared to more than one month previously. Agendas and minutes are available as soon as received which is generally within 48 hours.

The following objectives await the allocation of more resources to address these problems.

- On line, access to the Maps and Land Records awaits software development, or funding of commercial software acquisition.
- The remaining Minutes and Agendas will be addressed when resources permit. The methods and approaches developed for the Land Records apply directly to the Minutes and Agendas
- The database of images of Minutes and Agendas awaits funding
- Extension of the searchable Land Record database, by name, to 1845

The next phase is to make these records available to the public and others more conveniently. We are in the planning stage to upgrade the systems to permit online access. As usual, the intent is to try to fund these improvements with no impact on the town budget.

OPERATIONS

Fees Collected

The Town Clerk's office collects recording fees, conveyance taxes and other fees. The total amount collected in fiscal year 2010-2011 was \$240,807. This included \$104,573 in town conveyance taxes, \$216,135 in state conveyance taxes, \$109,105 of recording fees, \$13,608 of copy fees and \$12,270 of dog license fees.

Real Estate Sales

In fiscal year 2010-2011 there were 188 properties transferred. Of these, 75 were for \$100,000 or more, a decrease from 83 in the prior year. This total excludes foreclosures whose value is generally not known. The total value of these sales was \$42,265,366 a decline from \$52,923,698 in the previous year. This is a decrease of 20%. The average sales price was \$543,408 compared to \$642,816

in the previous year and \$752,000 in the year before. This is a decline of 15% and 28% respectively.

The median sales price was \$545,000 compared to \$615,000 the prior year. Both are less than the prior year. However, the reduction in the strong disparity between the average and median price means that the distribution of sales values is less distorted by the market, and they are a better measure of market value, or price changes.

The very close agreement between the average and median sales price indicates that the distribution of prices is normal, and that \$543,408 is a good measure of the average price.

Please note that these numbers do not include a large number of transactions between family members, or estates, in which no, or insignificant, funds changed hands. The numbers reported above apply only to homes sold in Easton.

In past years, there appeared to be a tri-modal distribution of home sales. At the lower end of the range, the few sales below \$100,000 probably represented partial ownership, transfers between spouses, undeveloped lots, or special situations. At higher prices, above \$1,000,000, the transactions probably represent the newly built homes that tend to be larger and more expensive, or land sales. In the middle are average home sales.

In 2008-2009, the distribution shifted towards bi-modal with the higher priced homes not in evidence. That has continued this year with only two sales above \$1,000,000.

2010-2011 sales represent a bi-modal distribution of sales prices, with only two distinct groups. One between \$100,000 and \$1,000,000, and one below \$1,000. The vast majority are in the middle. As before the lower price group includes special situations and quit claim deeds between spouses. The upper price group is small and represents the larger houses that were built in the recent past and are still not selling. In the middle is the typical house. For this group the average selling price is \$543,408 and the median price is \$545,000.

Combined these two estimates indicate that the average price went down by about \$99400, or about 15%.

Maps

All maps of Easton properties are now available as images in a comprehensive database. This includes Land Record maps, Assessors maps, Roads, As Built and Fire District maps. These can be reviewed electronically and printed out in a variety of sizes including full size, letter, legal and ledger size. The plan is to make them available on the internet in the future.

This year, without budget impact on the town, we installed new vertical map holders. This was part of the overall effort to increase vault capacity and improve storage conditions for historic documents and maps.

Marriage Licenses

Easton uses proprietary software to completely automate license processing and generate an integrated database. The system uses an electronic version of the Marriage license form developed in conjunction with, and approved by, the State of Connecticut. The use of this system saves the town the significant expense of outside vendors. At the same time, it creates a permanent database and facilitates simple reporting and searching. The software and form is approved for statewide use and has been adopted by many Town Clerks in Connecticut. A similar system has been developed and is used for Civil Unions.

Births

In fiscal year 2010-2011, there were 35 births to Easton parents compared to 47 in the prior year.

Marriages and Civil Unions

Civil unions were not authorized in Connecticut until 2005. They were discontinued in fiscal year 2009-2010. In fiscal year, 2010-2011 there were 33 marriages compared to 33 in the prior year.

Connecticut no longer permits Civil Unions. Instead, the legislature approved same sex marriages and converted all previous Civil Unions to Marriages. At the same time, the legislation was changed to require that marriage licenses be issued without Social Security numbers to prevent identity theft. In order to implement this change, it is now required that Marriage licenses be obtained in the municipality in which the ceremony is performed. The Social Security numbers are added to the certificate, when it is returned to the town clerk for recording.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Marriages</u>
2000-2001	52
2001-2002	33
2002-2003	39
2003-2004	52
2004-2005	44
2005-2006	38
2006-2007	31
2007-2008	35
2008-2009	33
2009-2010	43
2010-2011	33

The number of marriages decreased to the fiscal year 2008-2009 level.

Deaths

In fiscal year 2009, there were 51 deaths of Easton residents compared to 44 in the prior year.

Dog Licenses

Easton uses proprietary software that automates the data entry and processing of dog licenses. This automates the printing of a license form approved by the Department of Agriculture for

statewide use. It creates a comprehensive database for future reference. This system saves the town the significant expense of similar systems from vendors including the cost of specialized forms.

We also provide for license renewal by mail. Details of the renewal by mail can be obtained from the Town Clerk’s office. It can also be found on the town website. [www.eastonct.gov]

We are collecting email addresses as dogs are licensed so that we can build an email address book of dog owners. Each year, as our email list increases, we are able to send out more renewal reminders by email. The intent is to collect as many email addresses as possible to minimize the cost of reminders and maximize the service to dog owners.

The email program combined with a volunteer group of Seniors who place multiple telephone call reminders to all other dog owners has eliminated all mailing and printing expenses.

During the fiscal year, we issued 1,277 licenses of all kinds. The total fee paid was \$13,415.50 including \$429 of late fees.

The table below summarizes the licenses issued:

	DOG LICENSES	
	<u>FY 2009-2010</u>	<u>FY 2010-2011</u>
FEMALE	43	36
MALE	96	80
SPAYED	585	529
NEUTERED	545	582
KENNEL	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>
TOTAL	1277	1233

Elections

The Town Clerk is responsible for processing Absentee Ballot Applications and Absentee Ballots. This requires verification that the voter is registered, retention of a record of who has applied and who has voted, and when, together with a record of which, and when, the ballots were delivered to the Registrar of Voters.

This year, the work has continued with the Assistant Registrar of Voters to develop and improve the proprietary computer based system that automates this entire process and permits real time review of the list of registered voters when an application, or a ballot, is requested. This system has been in place, and used successfully, for several years elections and continues to evolve as we learn how to use it. It provides a valuable service during elections and referenda at no cost to Easton

Town Sexton

Two years ago, after a two-year effort, we finally completed the changes in state statutes that were required for the town to take ownership of the abandoned cemeteries in town. Thanks

are due to our elected state legislators, Senator John McKinney and Representative John Stripp for their help in passing the new legislation

The new legislation was used to take ownership of the four cemeteries. This permitted the town to assume maintenance and restoration of the cemeteries and seek external funding for this work. The defunct organization in charge of this function donated the remaining assets to the town for this purpose.

Website

The Easton Town website address is www.eastonct.gov. It is divided into departmental sectors. The Town Clerk’s section includes the following:

- Calendar of Meetings and Agendas
- Voter Information/Registration
- Absentee Ballot information
- Marriage License Application
- Marriage License Information
- Dog License information
- Recording Information
- Election Results
- Upcoming Events/Announcements
- Sample Petition form

Summary

Our overall objective is to facilitate convenient access to the Town Clerk’s office, and the information stored there, for all the public, including those who work or cannot get in during office hours. This is why implementing the town website and internet access to the records is a major objective.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Assistant Town Clerks Joan Kirk and Deborah Szegedi for their assistance and continued and ardent efforts and cooperation in assuring the smooth running of the office during this extended period of change. Jim Bromer, Assistant Registrar of Voters, has been especially helpful in developing the software needed to manage the Absentee Voting applications and ballots and assisting in providing and maintaining the required database of voters.

Respectfully submitted
 W. Derek Buckley
 Town Clerk
 Registrar of Vital Statistics
 Town Sexton

TOWN TREASURER

Elected for a two-year term, the Treasurer of the Town of Easton is charged with managing the receipt, custody, investment, and authorized disbursement of the Town’s assets. That management involves recording revenues received, establishing accounts that simultaneously safeguard and maximize returns on cash held pending its disbursement, and

accounting for the Town’s financial activities during the fiscal year. In addition, the Treasurer actively oversees a bonding program to finance the Town’s long-term projects.

The Treasurer operates an active investment program designed not only to generate income on cash awaiting disbursement, but also to invest on a longer-term basis in anticipation of the Town’s projected capital and other budget requirements. During fiscal year 2011, the income derived from this program continued to stabilize. The Federal Reserve Bank’s continuing use of lower short-term interest rate targeting and dollar creation in the attempt to encourage lending at attractive rates and support a nascent economic recovery has had the collateral effect of dramatically constricting the interest returns offered by financial institutions and money market investment vehicles. Most of the Town’s revenues collected each six months are disbursed relatively quickly to meet budgetary commitments, and therefore, are only held for short periods of time. Consequently, interest income on these funds is produced by short-term, necessarily highly liquid investments, which have generated tepid returns.

In prior fiscal years, the town’s longer-term investments contributed significantly to the town’s income. As with any investment, they are subject to market fluctuation. During the first half of the fiscal year, the town recorded large unrealized losses that significantly impacted investment returns. During the second half of the fiscal year, the investments started to rebound, however it was not enough to offset earlier losses.

Town of Easton Investment Income			
Year Ended	General	Other	
<u>June 30</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Total</u>
2011	\$187,049	\$ 0	\$187,049
2010	464,405	1,221	465,626
2009	424,605	4,746	429,351
2008	567,386	9,760	577,146
2007	783,156	20,713	803,869
2006	396,294	23,098	419,392
2005	377,295	33,453	410,748
2004	284,974	21,108	306,082
2003	308,677	13,123	321,800
2002	468,777	63,378	532,155

Fiscal year 2011 proved to be a favorable and active year for both borrowing and refinancing. At the start of the fiscal year, the town issued new bonds that provided new money and funds to retire a portion of maturing notes initially issued to finance various general purpose school and water projects. The town also rolled a Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) for another year. At the end of the fiscal year, the borrowing rate became even more favorable and set the stage for refinancing current bonds at a significantly lower rate.

The Town of Easton continued to maintain a Standard & Poor’s “AAA” credit rating, the firm’s highest rating reserved for municipalities it considers to be the most credit-worthy borrowers. Holding this rating allows the Town to be an active

participant in new borrowing and refunding of existing debt at points in time of its own choosing even when news reports disclose turmoil and difficulty encountered by less financially stable municipalities and states. Receipt and retention of this rating is a testament to the Town's long-term commitment to prudent, measured financial management and the contribution of all those who built that record throughout the years.

In addition to its investment and debt management duties, the Treasurer's office is responsible for Easton's accounting and reporting requirements as well as gathering information for, and aiding in, the preparation and monitoring of each year's fiscal budget.

Beyond its expected financial duties, the Treasurer's office is responsible for the Town's full range of Human Resources responsibilities including payroll management, new employee processing and retirement planning.

In 2011 Easton faced the sudden loss of a key official, John Campbell, who had served as Treasurer for 4 years and guided town finances through both good times and a major recession. Christine Calvert was appointed as interim Treasurer and later elected to the post. Grace Stanczyk, the Town Comptroller, remains the Town's steward of good accounting and budget practice and the source of fiscal information for the Town's officials, department heads, employees and its interested citizenry. Carmen Montero continues as payroll and human resources coordinator responsible for overseeing the daily operation of the Town's relatively small, but not uncomplicated, payroll system. Diane Zadrozny carries on in her role as processor of the Town's payables, a highly visible function that provides a "window" to the Town's ability to conduct its daily business activities in an efficient, professional manner.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Calvert, Treasurer

TOWN ATTORNEY

Since November of 1997, there has been no single Town attorney for Easton. On September 2, 2004, the Board of Selectmen changed the method of selecting attorneys. Attorneys are now selected not by the First Selectman, but by the Board of Selectmen. The Board of Selectmen has now adopted a comprehensive policy dealing with the use of Town attorneys.

Legal representation is required not only when the Town is a party to litigation, such as in an appeal from an agency decision, but also in connection with more routine matters. In some instances, the interests of the Town are protected by lawyers supplied by our insurance company in a matter where there is insurance coverage.

During the 2010-2011 fiscal year, and into the start of the 2011-2012 fiscal year, Easton was required to make significant use of attorneys. Attorneys have primarily represented the

Town and its agencies in connection with land use, labor, tax assessment and bonding matters. Some opinions on legal questions have also been needed. One significant use of counsel was in connection with the proposed Saddle Ridge development including an appeal taken when both the Conservation Commission and the Planning and Zoning Commission denied the project. The Town also continues to require representation in connection with the negotiation of certain labor contracts.

The attorneys who have worked for the Town on its various matters express their thanks for the cooperation of the various Town officials.

TAX COLLECTOR

As taxation is a state function, the Tax Collector is governed by state law. Municipalities have no powers of taxation other than those specifically granted by the General Assembly and described in the General Statutes. The Tax Collector performs the duties and exercises the powers prescribed by state law under the supervision of the State Office of Policy and Management. The Tax Collector is elected by the townspeople in odd-numbered years for a two-year term.

The Tax Collector performs administrative functions as follows: plans, organizes, directs and participates in the tax billing and collection activities of the Town with regard to real estate, motor vehicle and personal property taxes in accordance with the established collection cycle; organizes and supervises the preparation and processing of all tax bills; receives, reconciles and deposits tax collections in a timely fashion and turns all monies received over to the Treasurer for deposit in the general fund; oversees the preparation of rate books; prepares tax warrants, rate bills and legal notices; updates, balances and reconciles rate books; prepares reports, records and statistical surveys for the Treasurer, Board of Finance, First Selectman, external auditors, Office of Policy and Management, and U.S. Department of the Census on a regular basis; prepares for the annual external audit.

Also: coordinates with the Assessor and Town Clerk the recording of new and changed property tax information; computes and records certificates of change and lawful corrections in accordance with Sec. 12-167(5); computes and issues prorated motor vehicle tax credits for vehicles that were sold, stolen or totally damaged during the tax year in accordance with PA 82-459; coordinates activities with the Board of Tax Review; prepares paperwork for issuing tax refunds in accordance with Sec. 12-129 and maintains all records of same; coordinates escrow payment systems with financial institutions holding mortgages on properties located in town; prepares revenue loss reports for the state regarding totally disabled, elderly freeze and circuit breaker state tax relief programs; administers the Town tax relief for elderly resident homeowners program according to Town ordinance; performs arithmetic computations with accuracy and maintains records in accordance with generally accepted accounting and bookkeeping practices and principles.

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

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

Tax bills on the October 1, 2009 grand list were issued at the rate of 22.4 mills, which is equivalent to \$22.4 in taxes per \$1,000 of net assessed property value. Real estate and personal property tax bills exceeding \$100 were payable in two installments, due July 1, 2010 and January 1, 2011. Motor vehicle taxes were due in full July 1, 2010. Supplemental motor vehicle taxes for newly acquired motor vehicles registered subsequent to October 1, 2009 were due in full January 1, 2011 in accordance with PA 77-343.

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

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

- a. Tax Collector's Report of Collections, Sec.12-167(1-3). A total of \$36,934,546 in taxes, interest and lien fees was collected during fiscal year 2010-2011.
- b. Report of certificates of change and lawful corrections, Sec. 12-167(5) detailing all additions to and deductions from tax rolls according to list year, name, amount and reason. A total of \$18,437 in additions, and \$243,994 in deductions were made to the grand lists of 2006-2009.
- c. Report of transfers to suspense, Sec. 12-165 and 167, detailing list year, name, amount and reason. A total of \$9,736 was transferred to suspense from the grand list of 2007.
- d. Report of refunds, Sec.12-129, detailing list year, name, amount and reason. A total of 164 refunds were given, totaling \$55,384 on the grand lists of 2006-2009.
- e. Liens: 58 liens for unpaid real estate taxes on the 2009 grand list were filed on June 30, 2011. Copies of these liens and all lien releases are on file in the town land records.

I am grateful to the townspeople for giving me the opportunity to serve as Tax Collector. I would also like to thank my assistant, Margaret Timlin, and Jane Allen, my temporary help, for their professional and loyal support.

Respectfully submitted,
 Patrice Hildenbrand, CCMC, Tax Collector
 Margaret Timlin, Assistant Tax Collector

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT ON COLLECTIONS:

Fiscal Year Ending 6/30/2011
 (Conn. Gen. Stat. Sec. 12-167(1-3))

<u>List Year</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>1990-2008</u>
Total amount of unpaid taxes on each rate bill at start of fiscal year	\$37,090,802	\$703,814
Lawful corrections	-87,175	-138,111
Suspense	- 0 -	-9,736
Total amount collected on each rate bill during the fiscal year (tax, int., lien)	T: 36,556,987	193,901
	I: 90,930	91,480
	<u>L: 312</u>	<u>936</u>
Total amount uncollected on each rate bill at end of fiscal year (excluding interest & liens)	\$446,640	\$362,066

ASSESSOR

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

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

Revaluations are conducted every 5 years and the 10th year a physical inspection is required per State Statute. This is most difficult since the normal duties of the assessor's office and the work involved in performing the revaluation must be conducted concurrently. The revaluation was done for the October 1, 2011 Grand List, and the next revaluation will be for October 1, 2016.

The Assessor works with the Building Official and his office. Once a month the building department provides a list of building permits for the Assessor, she then proceeds to the property in question to measure any new construction a few times during the year. In addition to measuring, she also lists and assesses the property for tax purposes. Total values are equalized by the use of cost schedules and application of appraisal techniques. The valuation process requires skill, specialized training, experience and use of sound judgment. She then inputs all information in the computer by sketching the structure or structures and any additions, porches, pools or sheds that are included in the building permit.

The Assessor and her assistant coordinates with the Tax Collector and Town Clerk on any new changes in property ownership, foreclosure, etc., and records them on the owners field card and puts all the information in the computer. Deeds are proof read and properties are then determined to be a usable or non-usable sale, which must be reported monthly to the State. All files, map book, street books and field cards are constantly updated as to changes of ownership and all are entered into the computer.

During the tax year, the Assessor and her assistant price and pro rate motor vehicles assessments for vehicles sold, stolen or totaled in accordance with section 12-71 and issue lawful certificates of correction when proof of sale, donation or loss of cars & plate receipt is provided to the Assessors office in accordance with section 12-60 of the general statutes.

Services are also offered to all taxpayers who may have questions regarding their assessments. If the need arises, home visits are also made personally by the Assessor when ever necessary, to assist the physically handicapped taxpayer.

On matters relating to assessments and elderly forms, the Assessors office prepares the forms for taxpayers on the circuit breaker. The Assessors office calculates the forms for the elderly to be sent to the state for approval. When a tax payer sells their home or deeds it to a family member the exemption is then pro-rated. The Town tax relief for the elderly is also the responsibility of our office and can be applied for if their income complies with the Towns requirement. Applications are sent out and appointments made. Later the Assessor inputs all the dollar amount in the computer which is reflected on the bill for seniors that qualify for the Town Tax Relief.

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

The Assessors office implements all public Act 490 Farm and Forest reductions. The forms are checked yearly for those eligible for a farm exemption to make sure that Taxpayers are complying by the State Statutes.

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

Services are provided to Town officials, departments, and/or commissions, surveyors, attorneys, title searchers, real estate appraisers, F.B.I., United States Internal Revenue Services, etc.

Streets and addresses are updated for the Office of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications for the Department of Public Safety Division of Fire, Emergency, and Building Services. New streets and house numbers are checked for correction and addition.

The Assessor must interpret and put into effect any Connecticut public acts and statutes that are passed each year by State legislature. The acts and statutes are in constant flux and each year many of them are either modified, eliminated, and/or superseded by new laws.

The Assessor also works with the Board of Assessment Appeals on any questions they may have on Tax Payers who appeal their assessments. When and if any adjustments are made the Assessor then inputs all the information into the computer to reflect any changes on the field cards.

The Office of Policy and Management determines the responsibility of the Assessor's office through general statutes of the State of Connecticut.

SUMMARY OF 2010 AND 2011 GRAND LIST

Number of Assessment Lists	2010	2011	Difference
Real Estate	3344	3341	-3
Personal Property	440	456	+16
Motor Vehicles	7374	7306	-68
Gross value of taxable property			
	2010	2011	Difference
Real Estate	1,587,572,710	1,229,826,810	-357,745,900
Personal Property	13,688,451	13,969,787	+281,336
Motor Vehicles	70,775,070	57,155,660	+4,380,590
TOTAL	1,672,063,231	1,318,952,257	-353,083,974

Teresa Rainieri CCMA II
ASSESSOR

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

The Registrars of Voters, one Democrat and one Republican, are elected state officials whose charge is to guarantee and preserve the voting rights of the citizens of their town in a fair and equitable manner. Upon their election, each registrar appoints a deputy who assists their respective registrar in the performance of his or her duties.

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

Although the advent of the scanning machine and procedure for its use has made the voting process much more efficient, associated technical training and reporting responsibilities have increased the workload of the election staff, especially for the moderator.

The total ballot count for the November 8, 2011 Municipal Election was 1,754 ballots, 56 of which were absentee ballots. As of Election Day, Easton's voter registration was: 1,139 Democrat; 1,692 Republican; 2,212 Unaffiliated; and 53 Other. Election Day ran smoothly again this year thanks to our dedicated poll workers, who continue to turn out for every election, working long hours to help make our system run smoothly. We extend special thanks to the administration, staff, and maintenance crew of Samuel Staples Elementary School, to the Public Works Department for all of their cooperation and assistance leading up to and including Election Day, and to the officers of the Easton Police Department who, as usual, kept a watchful eye on traffic control and ensured the safety of our citizens throughout the day.

Residents may register to vote or change their registration by using the mail-in voter registration form, or in person. We also hold special sessions throughout the year for the registration of new voters, and will once again comply with Section 9-32 of

the Connecticut General Statutes, which requires us to conduct an annual canvass of the town to ascertain the number of eligible voters. This canvass is held between January and May and is important in helping to maintain an accurate voter list.

The Registrars' Office is located in Town Hall and is open two days a week. Krista Kot, Republican Registrar, is available Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and Ron Kowalski, Democratic Registrar, is available Fridays from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Registrars are ably assisted by Assistant Registrar James Bromer. Either Registrar or the Assistant Registrar will gladly assist town residents with any voter registration or voting issue, regardless of party affiliation.

Respectfully submitted,
Krista A. Kot, Republican Registrar
Ron Kowalski, Democratic Registrar

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

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

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

The Building Department is open:
Monday - Friday 8:30 – 12:30 and 1:00 – 4:30. Permits are accepted 8:30 to 12:00.

Subsequent permits are also issued for repair and alterations, pools, plumbing, heating and electrical work. The Building Official performs all field inspections relative to the aforementioned work. Enforcement of the State of Connecticut Building Code is paramount to the duties of the official

The Connecticut General Statutes 29-252-1a, adopts as a reference code the 2005 Connecticut Building Code”, 2003 ICC International Building Code, 2003 ICC Residential Code, and National Electric Codes and N.F.P.A. update.

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

The Building Official prepares an annual operating budget for activities under his control and is responsible for the maintenance of building plans and records. He determines and initiates regulatory or legal action in cases of violation of building code ordinances.

The Building Department offers its expertise and services to the citizens of Easton and welcomes anyone to visit the department with their building problems or questions.

Respectfully submitted,
E. William Martin, Building Official

2010/2011 Building & Zoning Permits	No. of Permits Issued	Estimated Value
New Residences	3	\$1,557,630.00
Additions, Alterations & Repairs to Existing Buildings	80	\$3,271,831.00
New Non-Res. Structures (ie. barns, garages, etc.)	57	\$781,396.00
Swimming Pools	6	\$172,960.00
Affordable Housing	1	
Caretakers	0	
Tennis Courts	0	\$211,050.00
Wood Stoves	1	\$5,000.00
Demolition	9	\$16,000.00
Animal Control	1	
TOTAL	158	\$6,302,867.00
Electrical	120	\$9,855.00
Plumbing	79	\$5,580.00
Heating & Air Conditioning	63	\$8,285.00
Tanks, ie. oil etc.	53	\$4,085.00
TOTAL	354	\$27,805.00

**Cash Receipts for Permits
2010/2011**

Building	Zoning	Total
\$66,327.00	\$7,735.00	\$74,062.00

MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY

The Municipal Agent on Aging, MAA, is a person who is available to, and responds to, the senior population of the community. This is a state-mandated position, originally established in 1972. Each of the 169 towns in Connecticut has a Municipal Agent. The Municipal Agent reports to the Commission on Aging at a monthly meeting, normally scheduled on the first Monday on the month. The duties and responsibilities of the Municipal Agent have increased in proportion to the growth of the elderly population. As the first wave of baby boomers began turning 65 in 2011, it has been vital that the Municipal Agent be available to educate this group on Medicare eligibility. If his/her situation warrants, then she encourages the senior to sign up through the Social Security Administration prior to their 65th birthday month. They can do this by: 1) visiting the web at www.socialsecurity.gov; 2) visiting the local Social Security

Administration office located at - 3885 Main Street; Bridgeport, CT 06608; 3) phoning the S.S.A. at either: a) The Bridgeport office: 1-866-331-6399 or b) the national number: 1-800-772-1213.

The agent is familiar with programs such as adult day care, elder abuse prevention, meals on wheels, housing, home health care agencies, mental health, legal referrals and all town, state and federal programs; elderly state and town tax relief, Medicare enrollment, Medicare insurances, Social Security benefits, veteran's programs. The agent is informed of situations compelling enough to require interaction with police/DSS/Senior Protective Services/Probate Court. As people grow older, cases of self-neglect and inability to cope may become a problem or develop into a crisis. The Municipal Agent is mandated to report these cases. The Senior Support Network List is revised on a per diem basis.

Issues dealing with family adjustment to aging and health problems are also a concern. More children of the elderly are coming in and requesting information and referrals, as their parents are at risk living alone, or perhaps now living with them. Caregiver's stress on the spouse or adult child is becoming more common and requires education and referral prior to a crisis.

The Municipal Agent is a separate department located in the senior center. A monthly newsletter is mailed to 1,875 households. This newsletter, combined with the Senior Center program mailing, continues to be the principal means of disseminating information to seniors regarding resources and benefits. The Municipal Agent also sends the monthly newsletter via email to out-of-town relatives who request that information. This helps to keep families' current on benefits available to their loved ones in Easton.

The Municipal Agent has winter office hours from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm; summer office hours from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, Monday through Friday at the Senior Center. Seniors, family members, or caretakers, should call ahead at 203-268-1137 to make an office appointment.

Outreach Worker, Pamela Healy, is available to visit homebound seniors or any senior who welcomes a friendly visit. She is an extension to the Municipal Agent and provides valuable information. She possesses a warm personality and wonderful listening skills. Our seniors have known Pam for over two decades and cherish her visits. She reports directly to the Municipal Agent. Their collective visits/appointments are logged and reported monthly to SWCAA, the South Western CT Agency on Aging. Only first names and ages are recorded to insure privacy. SWCAA uses the statistics from the region to report to the State of Connecticut. This information confirms validity for programs and services in place, and collects the necessary data to implement new programs as warranted. The agency has a great website: www.swcaa.org 203-333-9288.

First Selectman Tom Herrmann, Commission on Aging member Gail Gay, and I, attended the SWCAA annual meeting

in October, 2011. It included the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) partnership kick off. This recent partnership encompasses the region's 14 cities and towns, including Easton! Together, we are a part of a nationwide effort to help older adults, persons with disabilities, family members and care providers to provide seamless access to services and supports. Core Functions: * Information, Referral and Awareness; * Options Counseling, Support of Your Decisions; * Streamlined Eligibility Determination for Public Programs; * Person-Centered Transition Support; *Quality Assurance and Continuous Improvement.

Keeping loved ones in their own homes safely is a priority of the Municipal Agent and Outreach Worker, Pam Healy. Lists of caregivers and private health care agencies are available as well as a list of repair people whose work has been recommended by Easton residents. Easton seniors/families make the decisions to hire those of their own choosing.

Seniors with limited income feel particularly vulnerable with the current state of the economy and cutbacks. The Municipal Agent has information, which could be helpful in addressing the problem. The website www.benefitscheckup.org offers valuable information.

Fuel Assistance applications are filed on an appointment basis from October through March. Strict financial guidelines are set forth by state mandate. The Municipal Agent handles those households with residents age sixty and above. In 2011, she assisted with thirteen applications for seniors, which were then mailed to the ABCD, Inc., Energy Assistance Program in Bridgeport, CT. Three of those applications were homes in foreclosure/bankruptcy.

The Municipal Agent encouraged eligible low-income seniors to apply for the Medicare Savings Program under the State of Connecticut Department of Social Services. This benefit eliminated the cost of Medicare B, paid the Part D drug premium, and reduced the cost of brand and generic drugs.

A 2011 spring program presented by Dr. Daniel Wollman on: Bioethics/Advanced Directives: What You Should Know; and an autumn program were presented by our town professionals entitled: An Emergency Preparedness Program. Each program was well attended by interested seniors, was highly informative, and opened relevant discussions. Visits to the following facilities were scheduled: Lockwood Lodge at Masonicare at Newtown – Assisted Living and Memory Care Units; Spring Meadows Trumbull – Independent and Assisted Living; and Maplewood at Newtown – Independent, Assisted Living, and Memory Care. Transportation and lunch were included in the tour. Those attending the tours were enlightened as to the amenities provided by these facilities, and the possibility of downsizing from large homes as an alternative style to senior living. Easton seniors enjoyed shared camaraderie.

The Mothers' and Daughters' Charity League prepared holiday baskets in December to deliver to homebound seniors, and the Easton Garden Club generously bought and delivered

poinsettias to seniors who have difficulty getting out. These organizations each provide a unique outreach to this town.

The Martha Carrie Schurman Fund was founded by the late Albert Schurman in memory of his wife. Through Al's and local donor's generosity, this fund has helped seniors pay extraordinary bills, and provide other necessities. The Municipal Agent, Outreach Worker, first assesses the monetary crisis. Then the matter is discussed, prioritized on a need basis, and dispersed confidentially.

As our increasing elderly population continues to require a need for additional assistance/services, the Municipal Agent and Outreach Worker will continue to be available to serve them, and will keep the Commission on Aging informed in the process.

Kathleen M. Tressler, MAA/SSS
Municipal Agent on Aging/Senior Social Services
Town of Easton

EASTON SENIOR CENTER

The Easton Senior Center continues to fund-raise every year in order to provide programs at no cost to the taxpayers. The continued down turn in the economy has meant more time is spent pursuing private and public funding, but in spite of such issues this has been a very successful year, once again, for acquiring funds. Local and regional residents, businesses, corporations and foundations continue to support our facility and programs. These fund-raising sources have become regular, continuing partners in support of so many new endeavors and projects at the center.

In January the Easton Senior Center joined with the Town Clerk's office and the Easton Lions Club in a fund-raising project to establish a New Vision Center at the Easton Senior Center and user friendly computer equipment in both facilities. This not only included a special room set aside at the Senior Center to provide equipment for the visually impaired, but a library of large print books, braille supplies, books on tape and large print equipment such as cards and jigsaw puzzles. Plans were made to provide new high definition adaptable computer monitors for the visually impaired, visiting both the Town Clerk's office and the Easton Senior Center. Fund-raising also included the purchase of new computers for both offices.

The response was incredible. The United Illuminating /CT. Energy Efficiency Fund offered a \$3000 incentive grant if we completed the project by December 2011 and made sure that the new equipment was "low energy" rated. Overall \$42,000 was raised and the project was completed in time. Thanks are due to the Easton Lions Club, the Aquarion Company, Brown's Monuments, the Carstensen Foundation, the Jones Phillips Foundation, the Easton Exchange Club, the Easton Policemen's Benevolent Association, the Easton Republican Town Committee, the Easton / Redding National Charities League, Greenfield Mill LLC. the Institute of Electrical and

Electronics Engineers Life Members Fund, People’s United Bank, the State of CT Historic Document Preservation Fund, the Tencic Foundation, and residents, Alice Meyer in loving memory of her husband Theodore Meyer, Past First Selectman of Easton, Barbara Blake, Dr. & Mrs. Peter Small, Earl & Gabrielle Falvey, Jean & Thomas Devine, Mark & Jane Pompa, Richard & Jane Muir, Ruth Spishakoff, Sam & Marilyn Brownstein, Shirley Gura, Marianne Adolphson, Terri Kelso, Virginia Bayusik and Florence & Walter Eastwood.

As a result of all these generous donations, the project became a reality!

The Easton Senior Center prides itself in having an integral part of its services connected with efforts to ease the burden of both the elderly, physically challenged and the needy. 2011 was no exception. During the year we continued to collect food items for the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons. Our knitting group has worked hard to complete an incredible amount of gloves, scarves and hats for our young friends that are less fortunate than others. We continue to deliver neat and clean secondhand clothes to Woodfield Family Services and the Child First center at Bridgeport Hospital. We also distributed groceries for those in need in town because of the generosity of Samuel Staples students and their parents. The 2011 Turkey Trot organized by the students was once again a wonderful success and over seventy Thanksgiving dinners were distributed to the needy.

A list of “thankyous” would not be complete without drawing attention to the dedication of our amazing volunteers that spend hours of their time working on behalf of the center. Many of them have completed numerous years of service, and several do not even live in Easton! Our success at fund-raising is often a direct result of all their work. I am really grateful for their efforts and for the fact that they continue to make my life so much easier.

I am especially grateful for the continued hard work of my assistant, Kay Oestreicher, van-drivers, Randy Shapiro and Herbie Torres and custodians, Terry Calgren and Chris Luckart. We have a fantastic team at the Easton Senior Center, What would I do without them!

The Easton Community as a whole is a wonderful “family” support system and the Easton Senior Center remains ever grateful and blessed for the privilege of working on behalf of the town.

Val Buckley, Director.

EASTON SENIOR CENTER ADVISORY BOARD

Chair: Attorney Sharon Cregeen, Secretary, Prabha Gupta, Mary Burlinson, Florence Eastwood, Walter Eastwood, Anne Fiyalka, Terri Kelso, Joan Kirk, Marilyn Santella, Dr. Sal Santella, Alice Weissman, Eunice Hanson, Maryellen Diana

EASTON SENIOR CITIZEN’S CENTER INC.

Fund-raising group

Chair: Attorney David McDonald, Treasurer, Walter Eastwood, Vice Chairman, Nancy Graham, Secretary, Jackie Reck, Eleanor Clark, Terri Kelso, Eleanor Baldyga

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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

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

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

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

	2010/2011	
<u>HEALTH PERMITS</u>	<u>Permits</u>	<u>Fee</u>
	<u>Totals</u>	<u>Totals</u>
SEPTIC (NEW)	15	\$3000.00
SEPTIC (REPAIR)	12	\$1400.00
SEPTIC (REVIEW)	75	\$1700.00
WELLS	13	\$1300.00
SOIL TEST	28	\$4350.00
FOOD SERVICE	26	\$3275.00
TEMP. FOOD SERVICE	19	\$905.00
DAY CARE	<u>1</u>	<u>\$75.00</u>
TOTAL	189	\$16,005.00

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

EASTON PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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

The department's duties include: snow and ice removal during the winter season; street sweeping; pot hole repairs; roadside mowing; guide rail repairs; installation and repair of street and traffic signs; tree and brush removal; installation and repair of curbing; and maintaining Town bridges, road paving, drainage installation, and catch basin cleaning.

Though the department is a much varied and capable unit dealing with many facets of road construction and repair, the department is most always in people's minds when snow and icy roads occur. Easton had a total of 72" inches of snowfall, which required the Department to plow on 9 different occasions. Sanding of the Town roads occurred 26 times consuming 3,284 tons of sand and salt mixture in the process.

The Public Works Department's spring and summer months are used to prepare roads that will be involved in the Town's chip sealing program for that year. Included in the preparation of the roads are brush cutting, grading back the road edges, removal of boulders from under the existing pavement, patching of these holes, installation of any needed drainage or repairs to existing drainage, sweeping of the road and the application of a leveling course of asphalt to maintain proper drainage, which leads to the application of liquid asphalt and then covered with a layer of 3/8" Trap Rock. The program comes to its completion about a month later when the excess stone is swept up. During the past year, 4.66 miles of road were involved in this program, with the use of 22,572 gallons of road oil, 2,819 of 3/8" trap rock and 4,223 tons of bituminous concrete.

Due to the Blizzard of January 12, 2011, the Town applied for federal aide and snow removal assistance. The Town was reimbursed \$30,346.82 for labor and equipment costs.

This past year the Department's drainage program entailed:

- 2 New catch basins were installed
- 22 Catch basins were repaired or rebuilt
- 550 Feet of water line was installed at the new Animal Shelter
- 970 Feet of storm pipe drainage was installed on various roads

The Department takes care of all street and traffic control signs on the Town's roads. This past year saw 17 new signs and posts installed and 21 signs repaired or replaced.

The Town's crew continued scheduled work with the bucket

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

Applications for 28 driveway permits and 8 road-opening permits brought in \$900 in fees.

The department joined the Easton Garden Club for its 31st annual Green and Clean Day, which are held to encourage residents to join in and clean up all roadside debris in Town. The Department set up a drop-off area and disposed of the collected debris.

The department continued the maintenance responsibility of the former Samuel Staples School, now known as 660 Morehouse Rd. along with working outside of the Public Works Department which accounted for over 2,641 hours of work throughout the Town in unison with the Park and Recreation Department, Board of Education, Town Hall, Library, Easton Police Department, Animal Control, Easton Fire Department, EMS and the Conservation Commission.

The department also did site work for the new animal shelter which included the driveway, and installing the waterline.

A new EPDM rubber roof was installed on the main garage at the Public Works facility.

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

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

BOARD OF FINANCE

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

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

Meeting. Once the Town approves a budget, the Board sets the tax rate for the ensuing year.

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

The 2010-2011 Town Budget in the amount of \$40,505,363 (gross) that included appropriations of \$15,758,619 (includes Debt Service) in the Selectman's accounts, \$14,681,549 for the Easton Board of Education, and \$10,065,195 for the Region 9 Board of Education. On the basis of a Grand List of \$1,667,450,303 the Board set a tax rate of 22.4 mills for the fiscal year July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011.

Respectively Submitted by
Fred N. Knopf, Chair-Board of Finance

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

The Board of Assessment Appeals met for public sessions in fiscal year 2011-2012 during the month of March. The Board of Assessment Appeals also met in September of 2011 for Motor Vehicles.

The March sessions were for taxpayers with a grievance on either Personal or Real Estate property assessments. Tax payers by State Statute must file a form prescribed by law for Real Estate and Personal Property no later than February 20th of any given year to appeal their assessment. The September sessions were for Motor Vehicles only.

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

Lori Mezes, Chairman	Board Members
	A. Gordon Reynolds
	Dennis Kokenos

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

A major proportion of the Commission's effort during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011 was focused on a series of affordable housing applications encompassing a 124-acre tract in north central Easton bounded by Sport Hill, Westport, Cedar Hill and Silver Hill Roads. Six separate but related applications were submitted to the Commission in July by Saddle Ridge Developers LLC, proposing the creation of an affordable housing community of 105 townhouses to be served by an extended public water supply and 105 individual septic

systems on the site. The developers sought rezoning of their property to a new "Housing Opportunity District", as well as Town zoning and subdivision regulations amended to allow a nine-lot subdivision with groups of townhouses for each lot, and a comprehensive site plan for "Saddle Ridge Village". After seven public hearings from September through December 2010, marked by expert testimony by engineers engaged to assist the Commission, by intervenors' experts, by testimony from the State Departments of Health and Environmental Protection, and by the Aquarion Water Company, the Commission unanimously denied all six applications on February 14, 2011.

Saddle Ridge responded with an amended set of applications which slightly reduced the intensity of their project, from 105 to 99 townhouses, and made other minor changes in the plans. Two public hearings were held on the amended plans in May 2011. Following rejection of the requisite wetland licenses by the Conservation Commission, the six applications as amended were again denied unanimously by the Planning and Zoning Commission. The Commission made a detailed set of findings with emphasis on protecting the public watershed. Protection of the water quality of Easton's watersheds, which provide safe drinking water to half a million lower Fairfield County residents, has been the foundation of the Town's land use policies for over sixty years. Saddle Ridge's appeals before the courts are pending.

The Commission has also been named in several other appeals of its decisions during the past year. Two of these, involving subdivisions off Adirondack Trail and the southern end of Morehouse Road, were successfully resolved by negotiated settlement. A third, involving the Commission's approval of a special permit for a prayer center on South Park Avenue, remains pending before the Superior Court. Three other special permits were approved, with appropriate conditions, during the year: for an accessory residential apartment on Cedar Hill Road, for the use of portable classrooms at Old Staples School by Easton Country Day School, and for improvements to facilities at the Town's Veterans Field park.

Due to the continuing economic recession new subdivision activity has remained at a virtual standstill in 2010-11. Two applications were approved, one for three new lots on Maple Road and one for eight new lots on Sport Hill Road; however, the latter application recognized the owner's intent to donate all or some of the lots to permanent open space. A prior-year subdivision of two new lots on Silver Hill Road expired, so the year's gain in new building lots appeared to be only one. Another small resubdivision, creating one new lot on Brianna Lane, was approved but expired before the filing deadline. Construction activity increased slightly from the previous fiscal year in which 82 zoning permits were issued and one new dwelling was built. During 2010-2011 93 zoning permits were issued and four new dwellings were authorized, of which, however, one dwelling replaced an older dwelling on the same site.

Two referrals from the Board of Selectmen were reviewed and given favorable reports in March. One endorsed the town's lease of two small areas of land adjacent to Staples Elementary School for farmland use, with a fence to be placed within the greenbelt area of the property. The other referral recommended modifications in the parking layout at Old Staples School to alleviate congestion and improve safety.

Several recommendations of the Town Plan of Conservation and Development received particular attention from the Commission during the year. In February 2011, in response to a neighborhood petition, the Commission designated the entire length of Orchard Lane as a Town Scenic Road. In April 2011 the Commission met with representatives of the Board of Education and the Park and Recreation Commission to resolve final details for outdoor classroom and recreation areas which will be part of the Commission's long range plan for the Morehouse tract. Another planning initiative occurred in August 2010 when the Commission approved a plan to remodel the Easton Village Store within its historic "footprint" as the first element in the Town Plan's proposal for enhancement of several small nonconforming localities.

The Commission encourages citizen participation in the planning process and customarily reserves the first one-half hour of each of its regular meetings during the year for scheduled appointments. Regular meetings of the Commission are scheduled for the second and fourth Mondays of each month. For the calendar year 2012 the Commission has scheduled all meetings to begin at 7:00PM. Four of its approximately twenty-four meetings are reserved for discussion of planning issues.

Inquiries on development questions may be directed to the Commission staff any weekday during regular hours at the Town Hall.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Maquat, Chairman

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

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

ordinance effective March 6, 1974, alternates are appointed by the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Easton for a term of six years.

During the fiscal year 2010-2011 the Zoning Board of Appeals met in session on seven occasions and heard four appeals. Variances were granted to three applicants, one of whom was initially denied without prejudice and subsequently approved.

John Harris, Chairman

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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

As the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency, the members work to enforce the provisions of the State of Connecticut's Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Act. In this capacity, they review applications for regulated activities, conduct site visits, and if appropriate, hold public hearings prior to approving or denying a permit request. During the fiscal year from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011, eighteen applications were received, sixteen of which were approved and two denied. There were three extensions granted, and one violation removed. Phillip Doremus, D.A., W.E.O. (Designated Agent, Wetlands Enforcement Officer), approved two applications and issued two violations.

The Commission held two public hearings this past year. The first hearing was for property located at Cedar Hill, Sport Hill, Silver Hill, and Westport Roads. The applicant, Saddle Ridge Developers, applied for a permit for a nine-lot subdivision with ninety-nine homes. After careful consideration, the permit was denied. The applicant subsequently appealed the decision. The other hearing was for property located at 675 Sport Hill Road. Applicant, Joan duPont, Trustee, applied for a permit for an eight-lot subdivision with a common driveway, which was granted.

The Commission regularly works on revising the Inland Wetland Regulations for the department, as well as the department fee schedule. The Conservation Commission is also responsible for maintaining town-owned "Open Space" and for planning for future open space acquisitions. To that effect, the members work closely with developers and conservation groups and recommend to the Planning and Zoning Commission specific areas to be acquired by the Town, or otherwise protected, which are in line with the Town's Open Space Plan adopted in March of 1994.

Currently, the Town owns nearly three hundred acres of Town-managed open space, with the single largest piece being the Paine Open Space property on Maple Road. The Commission, through its Trail and Utilization Committee and its Open Space

Management Committee, has maintained the existing trails and added more trails for the enjoyment of the people who frequent the Paine Open Space. In this vein, the commissioners would like to thank Peter Smith for his time spent walking the trails with member Stephen Corti, and for his continued hard work at the property. The Commission would also like to thank the Public Works Department for its cooperation over the past fiscal year. During this time, the Public Works employees installed a cross culvert on the Paine property to facilitate drainage into Boulder Pond and created seeding swales to provide drainage along the road; they then relocated the better part of a sediment pile, left behind after the pond was dredged, to an area near the property entrance to level off the uneven landscape. With Public Works' assistance, the Commission continues to maintain two farm fields on the Paine Open Space property in order to encourage various species of wildlife.

On a more recent note, the Commission would like to acknowledge member Stephen Corti for the clean-up work he performed in the wake of the August and October 2011 storms. Mr. Corti has worked tirelessly to clear the trails, and overhead, of debris. The Commission would also like to express their appreciation to Aspetuck Land Trust members Michael Wallace and Midge Krisak for their recent signage work on the trails. With Land Trust Director David Brant's guidance, these trail stewards have worked diligently to mark and re-mark trails in an effort to make them more user-friendly and consistent with trail markings on the adjacent Aspetuck Land Trust properties.

The Commission made two purchases of note this past year--the first, a new sign for Paine Open Space, as the previous sign was damaged. The cost of this sign was shared with Aspetuck Land Trust. The second item purchased was fencing that was installed around the foundation at the former sight of the Paine Barn. Wire mesh was also installed on the fence to help discourage climbing. The members have discussed and hope to add some plantings between the fencing and the foundation wall.

The Conservation Office maintains a list of open space parcels, in addition to a list of all recorded Conservation easements. The Commission has a supply of Conservation easement signs available for installation by landowners along Conservation easements located on their properties. A large open space map, developed by the Commission, is on display in the Easton Library; this map locates the majority of the Town-owned open space parcels.

The Commission is looking forward to a productive new year. There are several small projects the members have in mind, one of which is to replace the gate at the Paine Open Space property, which was most likely damaged during a recent storm. Additionally the members discussed installing a plaque at the former location of the Paine Barn commemorating the relocated structure.

With Easton's best interests in mind, the Conservation Commission is dedicated to helping to preserve and protect its wetlands and waterways, as well as encouraging its residents' enjoyment of their surroundings.

The Conservation Office is open daily from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Roy Gosse, Chairman

Officers for the Easton Conservation Commission
Roy Gosse, Chairman
Stephen J. Edwards, Vice-Chairman
Eleanor I. Sylvestro, Secretary

COMMISSION FOR THE AGING

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

The Commission shall:

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

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

Commission meetings are held at 5:00 pm at the Senior Center on the first Monday of each month with the exception of September when the meeting takes place on the Tuesday after

the Labor Day holiday. There are no meetings in July, August and January. The meetings are open to the public.

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

Commission members are Cecelia Campbell, Nancy Gavigan, Gail Gay, Margaret Silvestri, Janet Klein, Phyllis Machledt, and Joel Peskay.

EASTON PARKS AND RECREATION

The Parks and Recreation Commission plans, manages, and conducts municipal activities under its own sponsorship. Additionally, the Department promotes, assists and helps coordinate privately sponsored and managed recreation programs for the benefit of all Easton citizens. The mission is also directed toward the planning, acquisition, development, and maintenance of parks and other recreational areas and facilities for the enjoyment of recreational opportunities and the creation of a better living environment.

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

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

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

The Parks and Recreation Department will strive to continue to offer quality programs and cost-effective municipal

recreational opportunities to all of the residents of Easton.

Members of the Parks and Recreation Commission are: Kathi Smith – Chairman, Tom Cable, Kirsten Ceva, Steve Lichtman, Dave Gombos and John Broadbin.

INSURANCE COMMISSION

TOWN OF EASTON INSURANCE SCHEDULE

7/01/10 -7/01/11

<u>Commercial Property Coverage</u>		
Blanket Building & Contents		
Agreed Amount and Replacement		\$81,877,188
Contractor's Equipment		695,065
Fine Arts - Exhibition Floater		200,000
Deductible		1,000
<u>Commercial General Liability</u>		
Each occurrence	\$ 1,000,000	
Personal Injury/Advertising Injury	Each occurrence	\$ 1,000,000
Medical Expense	Each person	\$ 10,000
<u>Boiler & Machinery</u>		
		\$100,000,000
Deductible		\$ 2,500
<u>Commercial Automobile</u>		
Liability		\$ 1,000,000
Medical Payment		5,000
Uninsured/Underinsured Motorist		1,000,000
Comprehensive	ACV w/\$	500 deductible
Collision	ACV w/\$1,000	deductible
<u>Public Officials Library</u>		
Each claim	\$ 1,000,000	
Deductible	Each claim	10,000
<u>Law Enforcement Liability</u>		
Each claim	\$1,000,000	
Deductible	Each claim	10,000
<u>School Leader's Legal Liability</u>		
Each claim	\$ 1,000,000	
Deductible	Each claim	10,000
<u>Following-Form Excess Liability</u>		
		\$10,000,000
<u>Pollution Liability(Underground Oil Tanks)</u>		
per release	\$ 1,000,000	
Deductible	per release	10,000
<u>Workers' Compensation & Employer Liability</u>		
		Statutory
Exp. Mod. 1.22		
Employer's Liability		
Each Accident		\$1,000,000
Disease - Policy Limit		\$1,000,000
Disease - Each Employee		\$1,000,000
<u>Blanket Public Employee Dishonesty Bond</u>		
		\$ 500,000
Excess Position Limit for:		
Treasurer		\$ 100,000
Comptroller		
Accounts Payable/Receptionist		
Human Resources/Comp. Coordinator		
Retirement Plan Bond		\$ 160,000
Surety Bonds		
Tax Collector		\$ 187,500
Assistant Tax Collector		\$ 187,500

PENSION AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS COMMISSION

The commission is comprised of seven appointed electors who serve four-year overlapping terms. The First Selectman is an Ex Officio member. Currently serving are First Selectman Thomas A. Herrmann., Chairman Alan P. Goldbecker, Vice-chairman A. Reynolds Gordon, Secretary Michael Keden, John Harrington, John Smith, Marvin Gelfand and Sandra Neubert.

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

The assets of the pension plan continue to be invested in domestic and international stocks and fixed income securities. The overall investment performance of the pension fund assets declined dramatically during the recent financial market drop but less than the market indices. The Town's pension obligations at July 1, 2011 were 88.7% funded. Subsequent stock market conditions have modestly depressed the plan's assets.

In recent years the state unilaterally and dramatically enhanced pension benefits for state sponsored pension plans. The same benefits were requested by town employees. Resolution was reached by adopting much of the greatly enhanced benefits with increased contributions from the Town and Town employees. Current and future costs of the enhanced benefits should increase at a moderate rate. Costs of the Town's group health insurance program have escalated rapidly but in line with general experience.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Alan P. Goldbecker, Chairman

LAND PRESERVATION & ACQUISITION AUTHORITY

The Land Preservation and Acquisition Authority was established by the Town of Easton, pursuant to Section 7-131p of the Connecticut General Statutes. The Authority has five regular members and two alternates.

The members are:

Carolyn Colangelo, Secretary
Victor Alfandre
Jeff Borofsky - Alternate
Irv Snow - Alternate

The Authority shall on behalf of the Town evaluate land for possible acquisition or development rights to such land. The Authority shall make recommendations to the Board of Selectmen as appropriate. Land will be evaluated for acquisition based upon its potential use for open space, recreation, or housing.

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 7-131r, the Town established a Fund to be used for the purpose of acquiring and maintaining land and development rights within the Town of Easton. The Fund does not lapse at the close of the municipal fiscal year and is held in a separate, interest bearing account with all interest and income derived from the assets of the fund paid into the fund and added to the assets of the fund.

The Town, individuals, and public and private entities may all make contributions to this Fund. Any person seeking more detailed information or who is interested in donating land or money to the Fund is encouraged to contact the Authority. The Authority will provide additional information pertaining to conservation easements, deed restrictions, charitable contributions, and testamentary donations upon request.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Colangelo, Secretary
Land Preservation & Acquisition Authority

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

The Agricultural Commission is a newly appointed commission for the town of Easton. The commission began its work as a committee appointed by the Board of Selectmen in 2010. During this reporting year, the Agricultural committee was transitioned to commission status. On April 7, 2011, the Board of Selectman adopted the Agricultural Commission ordinance which was approved by town meeting on April 25, 2011.

The purpose of the Agricultural commission is to act in an advisory capacity to the Board of Selectmen and other town boards and commissions on agricultural matters.

The commission consists of five members and two alternates who are electors of the town of Easton. Serving during this reporting period are Commission members Jean Stetz-Puchalski (Chair), Patti Popp (Secretary), Victor Alfandre, Sal Gilbertie, Irv Silverman and Alternates Lori Cochran Dougall and Laurel Fedor.

The Commission is charged with supporting, promoting, and encouraging agriculture and agricultural pursuits in the town of Easton. It serves as a conduit between non-profit agencies, civic organizations, municipal boards and commissions, elected and appointed government officials at the local, state and federal level, local businesses, local farmers, and persons engaged in agricultural pursuits locally. The commission advises the Board of Selectmen on issues relating to agriculture, the land use boards, commissions and officials on land uses and areas deemed especially useful for agricultural purposes and other zoning and planning concerns related to agriculture, and other public bodies and officials on agricultural issues. It serves as a resource and has input into policy regarding laws and regulations dealing with agriculture, agricultural equipment, buildings and operations. The Commission supports opportunities for new farmers and local, regional and state vocational agricultural education programs and enrichment programs within the Easton school system with respect to agriculture. The Commission assists in the resolution of any conflicts between agricultural interests and town bodies or officials. It supports public education about the value and desirability of agricultural pursuits, including but not limited to, developing and updating information and maps regarding agriculture in Easton. It promotes opportunities to preserve and expand farms in Easton and for citizens to value and support local farms. It conducts surveys of farmers and others in agricultural industry concerning farming and farm related activities and actions to maintain and enhance agriculture within Easton. It promotes the use of agricultural products through the town website, displays, fairs, or otherwise. The commission has oversight over farming activities on all town owned land.

Current farming projects on town land include the leasing of two sections of the property located at Morehouse and Banks Road in front of Samuel Staples Elementary School (SES). The plots are being farmed organically by an Easton farmer, Sport Hill Farm. Pumpkins and corn have been the crops of choice. The project provides an education opportunity for the students at the school as well as a historical lesson in Easton's agrarian roots. The commission conducted a feedback survey after the first year of the lease. The results suggested the administration, teachers and students who participated reported being inspired by and satisfied with the project. The farmer has provided an excellent opportunity for teachers to engage students by giving them access to a "working farm" and lessons on how food is grown with application in the areas of science, english, art, and math. Sport Hill Farm has also donated 15 % of proceeds of pumpkin sales back to the PTA and ELF educational organizations.

Additionally, emphasis during this reporting period has been on development. The commission has established working relationships across the town, state and federal commissions and committees for the purpose creating a solid foundation upon which to better serve our Easton agricultural producers and the town of Easton. Special attention had been given to working with agricultural producers, Town Planning, and

Planning and Zoning around planning for agriculture in Easton.

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

Respectfully submitted by,
Jean Stetz-Puchalski, Chair

CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE

The Easton Clean Energy Task Force was established in 2006 with two primary purposes:

- 1) To help the town achieve the goals of the statewide Clean Energy Communities program, and
- 2) To foster community awareness of renewable energy issues and activities.

Over the last several years, the Task Force's work has included:

- Encouraging nearly 200 residents (~7% of households) to sign up for the voluntary CleanEnergyOptions™ program through United Illuminating. Easton has achieved the 12th highest signup rate in CT.
- Facilitating municipal investment in clean energy.
- Earning a \$5,000 Community Innovations Grant for the town.
- Awarding a series of micro-grants for school and town energy-related projects.
- Supporting town events, such as the two highly successful electronics recycling days in 2010 and 2011.
- Applying for—and winning—an American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grant of more than \$44,000 for LED and high-performance lighting for 3 town buildings.

Because of the commitment of both the town and its residents to clean energy, Easton also earned a free 5kw solar PV array (valued at \$20,000), which was installed on Samuel Staples Elementary School in 2010.

In the coming year, the Task Force will continue to award micro-grants and foster clean energy awareness through events and other activities. The Task Force will also review and recommend a town response to the emerging revisions in the state Clean Energy Communities program, which includes a focus on both renewable energy and energy efficiency.

The current Task Force members include: Cathy Alfandre (Chair), Heidi Armster, Katie Callahan, and Fred Lovejoy.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Alfandre (Chair)

COMMITTEES

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

The Cemetery Committee's restoration and maintenance goals were successfully met with the help of dedicated volunteers. During the 2010-11 fiscal year we held ten workdays in Gilbertown and Center Street cemeteries with a team of trained volunteers from last year's pool of workers.

The tasks accomplished during our workdays this fiscal year were; brush and leaf removal, resetting and/or repair of 79 headstones, brush and vine removal from the stonewalls, the brushing and washing of 10 headstones as well as the creation of a inventory database for Gilbertown which provides a detailed summary of each stone restored in addition to a photographic inventory of the before and after work.

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

1. Reset headstones that are leaning or lying on the ground.
2. Install in new fabricated bases, all headstones that have broken below ground level and are too short to be reset,
3. Repair with epoxy, all headstones that have broken above ground level
4. Reset the base and compound and epoxy the remaining parts, for all three tier headstones that have come apart,
5. Enter information (photos, inscriptions, name of interred) on all existing headstones into the cemetery inventory computer software for Center Street Cemetery.
6. Determine headstones that are missing in both cemeteries.

Other Committee accomplishments not aforementioned:

1. The coordination of the removal of one stump that damaged a tombstone in Gilbertown Cemetery.
2. Leaf and debris removal in Lyon Cemetery as well as landscape maintenance in the Fall 2010.
3. Purchased 36 new granite blanks and had mortise joints cut in each base.

The Committee would like to express their heartfelt appreciation to all the volunteers that sacrificed their Saturdays to attend our very productive cemetery workdays.

Prepared by Gary Haines and Lisa Burghardt

HUMAN RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Human Resources Advisory Committee is charged with advising the First Selectman and the Town's boards, commissions, and other agencies regarding human resources practices and related matters including classification of Town positions.

During the 2011 year, the Committee reviewed and proposed adjustments, as appropriate, of selected job grade classifications and compensation rates.

The membership of the committee during 2010-2011 was Thomas A. Herrmann, Chairman, Elise Broach, William J. Kupinse, Jr., Carmen Montero, and Grace Stanczyk .

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas A. Herrmann, Chairman

EASTON RECYCLING COMMITTEE

The Easton Recycling Committee members are: Thomas Collins, Anthony J. Colonnese, Thomas Dollard, Clinton Salko, Philip Snow, and Ed Nagy, (ex-officio), of the Public Works Department. The purpose of the Committee is to operate a recycling program for Easton within the guidelines of the Southwestern Regional Recycling Operating Committee (SWEROC) and the State Mandate. The Town of Easton voted at a Town Meeting held on September 20, 1989 to join SWEROC, and to start a recycling program in the Town of Easton. SWEROC has contracted with Fairfield County Recycling (FCR) to operate an Intermediate Processing Center (IPC) in Stratford, which accepts recyclable materials. Curbside recycling pickup started January 7, 1991. Recycling tonnage collected by the Town this Fiscal Year was 763 tons.

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

The Towns of Trumbull, Easton and Monroe have put our resources together to form TEaM, which is our combined effort to operate a recycling drop-off center for scrap metal, commingled beverage containers, mixed paper, corrugated cardboard, newspaper, and used tires. It is TEaM's goal to expand this center's capabilities to accept additional recyclable products. Easton's share of recycled materials dropped off was 147.04 tons.

The volume of waste motor oil that was brought to the Public Works facility by Town residents for recycling was 1,700 gallons. This oil was sent to a recycler.

The Public Works Department along with E-Reclaim held a very successful electronic recycling day on September 25th collecting 24,768 pounds of electronics, including computers, printers, FAX machines, television sets, etc.

Edward Nagy, P.E. - Director of Public Works

SOLID WASTE REPORT

July 5, 1988, began the commercial operation of the Bridgeport Resource Recovery plant. As of that date, Easton no longer deposited solid waste directly at the Connecticut Resource Recovery Authority (CRRRA) Landfill located in Shelton, Connecticut. The ash produced by the plant is deposited at a Putnam, Connecticut ash landfill. The Resource Recovery plant is designed to burn 657,000 tons of solid waste from the greater Bridgeport region of which the Town of Easton contributed 2,821 tons of solid waste during the 2010-2011 fiscal year. The disposal fee for this solid waste was \$99.00 per ton.

9/11 MEMORIAL

On January 13, 2010 members of the 9/11 Memorial Committee convened at Town meeting to “Consider and act upon the following petition pursuant to C.G.S. Section 7-7: ‘A petition for the primary purpose of discussion and action regarding the Easton 9/11 Memorial as designed by the 9/11 Memorial Committee and shown in this present rendering and specifically for placement and construction on the grassy area in the parking lot in front of the Easton Library.’” By majority vote the Town authorized the 9/11 Memorial construction. Members of the Memorial Design committee include:

Paula Barker
Beverlee Dacey
Maureen George
Heather Linardos
Liz Maiorano
Lea Sylvestro
Sal Santella (Chair)
Mark Halstead (Architect)

All design and site evaluation work was pro bono.

On April 1, 2010 the Town Board of Selectmen charged a new committee with the 9/11 Memorial construction. Over \$38,533.00 have been raised from private donations allowing for construction to begin in the fall of 2011.

Members of the 9/11 Memorial Building Committee include:

Paula Barker
Beverlee Dacey
Andy Kachele
Liz Maiorano
Sal Santella
Mark Halstead (Architect)

ANIMAL CONTROL SHELTER BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Easton Animal Control Shelter (EACS) building committee is comprised of six members; Co Chairs Peggy Macaluso and Clint Hackenson, Clarence Jennings, Marvin Gelfand, Marnie Waiwat, June Logie and Easton PD representatives Chief Jack Solomon and A.C.O. Kelly Fitch.

In the previous fiscal year the town approved \$588,000 dollars for the construction of a new EACS to be located on town-owned property on Morehouse Road. The planned 2,600 square foot shelter is designed to blend with the surrounding area and sits back approximately 500 feet from Morehouse road. The shelter is designed with 12 dog kennels (10 regular and 2 isolation) and support areas. The plan also features a separate cat room, utility room, office area, multi-purpose (adoption and education) room, vehicle garage, and storage areas. The shelter is designed with high energy efficient systems and has received incentives from United Illuminating and Southern Connecticut Gas Company. Carlson Construction was awarded the contract as the low bidder and construction was started. During this year the site was cleared, an access driveway was created and the building foundations, framing and basic structure were completed. The EACS was originally scheduled to be completed during this year however construction delays have pushed the completion date out into the next year.

PUBLIC SAFETY

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

The Board of Police Commissioners was created through a Special Act of the State Legislature, which was approved on June 22, 1937. The number of Police Commissioners was changed from three to five members at a Town Meeting held on October 21, 1992. The five members are appointed for three year terms. Meetings are held monthly or special meetings are scheduled at the request of the Chairman or a majority of the members.

The members are:

Robert Nicola, Chairman
Raymond Martin, Vice-chairman
Marvin Gelfand, Secretary
Richard Colangelo, Commissioner
Laurie Israel, Commissioner

The Board shall have all the powers of Boards of Police Commissioners pursuant to section 7-276 of the Connecticut General Statutes and shall maintain control and manage the police department of the Town. It is responsible for appointing a Chief of Police and police officers. It has control and management of all apparatus, equipment and buildings used by the Town for police purposes and, subject to the approval of the Board of Selectmen.

The Board is the sole and exclusive "traffic authority" under the provisions of section 14-297 of the Connecticut General Statutes for and within the limits of the Town.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Nicola, Chairman

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Easton Police Department, established in 1937 with the creation of the Board of Police Commissioners, appointed Edward Knight as the first Chief of Police. Since then the police department has grown to sixteen officers who include the chief, captain, lieutenant, two sergeants and eleven patrol officers.

The police department provides 24/7 coverage of the town. In addition to general patrol duties, which all ranks perform, officers are also tasked as first responders to medical calls, school resource officer, K9 officer, emergency response team members, Communication and Animal Control Division supervisors and public relations specialists, just to name a few.

All police officers are certified by the Connecticut Police Officer Standards and Training Council. In order to keep their certification officers must attend a minimum of sixty hours of review training every three years. Many Easton officers exceed this minimum.

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

James R. Candee
Chief of Police

EASTON POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICE DEPARTMENT FISCAL YEAR END REPORT FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2010 - JUNE 30, 2011

<u>ENFORCEMENT</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
MV Violations	448	366	489
Parking Tickets	9	23	19
MV Warnings	515	615	718
<u>CRIMINAL VIOLATIONS</u>			
ACO Arrests	7	13	27
Arson	0	0	0
Assault	11	4	6
Breach of Peace	2	3	4
Burglary	3	4	9
Criminal Mischief	2	0	2
Criminal Trespassing	7	1	2
Disorderly Conduct	14	18	20
Drugs	3	2	11
JV Referral	3	0	0
DWI	5	8	6
Larceny	2	3	0
Liquor Law Viol.	3	0	1
Robbery	0	0	0
Sex Crimes/Rape	0	0	0
Stolen MV	0	0	0
Weapons Violation	0	1	1
Warrants	5	17	17
Other	10	7	9
Enforcement/Violations Totals	1049	1085	1339

EASTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2010 - JUNE 30, 2011

<u>COMPS & Investigations</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Accidents	144	146	158
Aided Cases	352	302	328
Alarms	958	1043	970
Animals	682	744	826
Arson	0	0	0
Assault	1	2	1
Assistance	526	502	533
Asst Other Dept	302	283	313
Bomb Threats	0	0	0
Burglary	15	23	9
Child Safety Restraint	77	98	88
Computer Crime	5	8	6
Counterfeit	0	0	0
Crim Mischief/Prop Dmg	35	35	52
C.M. Mailbox	48	39	34
Credit Card/Fraud	12	9	9
Disabled M/V	214	209	194
Domestics	23	24	43
Fingerprints	239	290	311
Fires	141	164	138
Found Prop & Released	42	47	63
Other/General/Littering	16	19	36
Impersonation	3	0	1
Homicide	0	0	0
Juvenile Referrals	2	1	0
Larceny	15	36	35
Lost Property	15	27	1
M/V Found/Lost	0	4	0
M/V Impound	0	1	0
M/V Stolen	1	3	0
Missing Person/Fnd	7	10	4
Narcotics/Drugs	4	1	4
Noise Complaints	98	92	79
Phone Calls	29	49	56
Permits	42	58	41
Record Check	98	92	139
Robbery	0	0	0
Select Enforcement	72	60	158
Sex Crimes	0	0	0
Soliciting	10	3	9
State Property	111	92	89
Subpoena	13	10	33
Suspicious Activity	100	97	70
Suspicious M/V	366	389	321
Suspicious Person	118	102	97
Teletype	150	125	106
Threatening	4	2	4
Town Property	227	249	254
Trespassing	5	2	9
Trucks	7	9	4
Utilities	542	517	462
Validation	0	4	9
Warrants/Arrests/Application	6	14	9
Weapon Law Viol	0	1	1
Youths	18	29	48
M/V Stops/Arrests	847	901	1059
DWI	6	7	6
Liquor Law Viols	1	0	2
Supplement Rpts.	195	230	239
TOTAL	6944	7204	7491

MUNICIPAL ANIMAL CONTROL

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

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

The construction of the new animal shelter continues with no date for completion set at the close of this fiscal year. I would like to thank those serving on the New Shelter Committee. Your hard work and service is greatly appreciated.

James R. Candee
Chief of Police

DOG WARDEN REPORT

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2010 - JUNE 30, 2011

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Comps Investigated	678	745	829
Dogs Destroyed	3	0	1
Cats Destroyed	1	2	2
Dogs Redeemed	37	50	59
Cats Redeemed	1	0	1
Dogs Sold	18	9	7
Cats Sold	15	29	26
Other	0	4	0
Dog Owner Arrests	6	13	27
Dog Bites	6	6	14
Cat Bites	1	2	0
Other	0	0	0
Phone Calls Received	1436	1529	2195
Notices to License	608	444	657

THE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

The Communications Center is under the direction of the Chief of Police who appoints a sergeant to supervise the daily operations.

The Center, staffed 24 hours a day seven days a week by a single certified telecommunications specialist, is the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) for the Town. All E911 calls received at the PSAP are answered by the specialist who is responsible for dispatching the appropriate emergency service. Nine radio systems are also monitored.

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

James R. Candee
Chief of Police

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

The Board of Fire Commissioners was established by a town ordinance in 1965. The Board manages and controls all matters pertaining to fire protection within the Town, in coordination with the Department's career fire fighters, the Easton Volunteer Fire Company #1, and the Fire Marshal's office.

The commission holds public meetings on the third Wednesday of every month, at 7:30 PM in the Firehouse training room. Fire Marshal Peter Neary, Fire Chief Jim Girardi, other officer and firefighters attend.

The Town's eight career Firefighter's provide 24 hour coverage, with two men on duty to answer the alarm. We have immediate response to our emergency calls.

Fire protection and coverage is the Commission's primary concern. Captain Paul Skrtich chairs a committee that reviewed the Fire Department policies, pre-plans and mutual aid response and submitted it to Insurance Standard Organization to ensure our departments compliance and to improve the Towns ISO rating.

The town own four fire engines. The Department has completed plans and are accepting bids for replacing the 1987 rescue truck, Engine 3.

Dry hydrants are an on going project for the Department. Dry hydrants are water supplies coming from either ponds or underground water storage tanks. The Fire Department tests and maintains them on a yearly basis. Water supply officer, James Wright, reviews subdivision plans to ensure proper water supplies for fire protection.

The Commission would like to thank our Firefighters, Fire Marshals and the men and women of the Easton Volunteer Fire Co. #1 for their dedication and countless hours of service to the Town of Easton.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robert Monda Chairman
George A. Beno Anthony Colonese
Ralph ALteri Roberta Cable

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Town of Easton provides fire protection by two agencies, the Easton Fire Department, and the Easton Volunteer Fire Company #1. These agencies operate while responding to calls and training as one cohesive unit. The Chiefs of the Volunteer Fire Company are the Chiefs of both agencies.

The establishment of the Easton Volunteer Fire Company #1 happened in November of 1921 and has continuously provided fire protection to the Town of Easton. Currently there are more than 25 active firefighters serving in the Fire Company. These volunteers come from a wide cross-section of Easton's diverse community. These men and woman spend countless hours training for and responding to the wide variety of calls for help. The elected line officers in 2011 were Chief Jim Girardi, 1st Assistant Chief Steve Waugh, and 2nd Assistant Chief Gianmarco Marchetti. The Fire Company executive officers in 2011 were President James Wright, Vice President Jim Warner, Secretary Lucy Crossman, and Treasurer Joe Pulchaski.

The Easton Fire Department was created in 1947. At first there was only one career firefighter who would work the daytime hours during the week. During the 1950's two more firefighters were added to the rolls of the Fire Department. In 1968 the fourth a position was added to the roster. In 2007 four additional firefighters were added to the career staff resulting in each shift having two career firefighters. A firefighter works 24 straight hours and then has 72 hours off. This provides staffing in the Fire House 24 hours a day 365 days a year. Many times during the workweek, due to Easton being a bedroom community, the "on-duty" firefighters are at times, the only ones responding to calls. The career firefighters perform the crucial task of maintaining the Town's firefighting equipment. The Town's current career fighters are Wayne Crossman, James Wright, Michael Ohradan, David Davies, Al Doty, Martin Ohradan, Michael Sabia, and Mark Mirowski.

The 2011 calendar year turned out to be a little more than an average year. The Department responded to 426 calls during the year. The call types varied greatly. A breakdown of the most frequent types of calls is as follows: 112 alarm activations, 41 lock-outs, 27 vehicle accidents, and 23 fires related incidents. We also responded to 26 Carbon Monoxide related incidents. All told the Department used 54 different personnel and expended 1,159 person hours responding to calls for help.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the citizens of Easton for their continued support of both agencies, and the Volunteer and Career Firefighters for their countless hours of dedicated service to the town.

Respectfully submitted
Jim Girardi
Chief, EFD / EVFC

EASTON VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE

Members of the EMS Commission are Mr. Robert Adriani, Chairman, Mrs. Gloria Bindelglass, Secretary, Dr. James Spak, Dr. Seyed Aleali and Mrs. Adele O’Kane. The Commission meets the second Wednesday of each month at EMS headquarters, anyone interested is invited to attend. The commission’s responsibility is to oversee the Town budget for Easton EMS, the activities of the full and part time EMS staff, the maintenance and management of the EMS headquarters and equipment. The Commission also serves as a liaison between the Easton Volunteer Emergency Medical Service and the Town of Easton in an advisory capacity for any matters presented by Easton EMS, and acts in accordance with the ordinance established to run the emergency medical service for the Town of Easton.

The Easton Volunteer Emergency Medical Services consists of 39 volunteers living in and out of Easton, working a three-man crew from 6PM until midnight during the week. The volunteers also cover nights and weekends when available. Officers and Directors are Mrs. Carolyn Kearney, Chief of Service, Dave Kmetz, President of the Trustees, Mr. Jonathan Arnold, Vice President of the Trustees, and Assistant Chief, Mr. Adam Goldstein, Assistant Chief, Mrs. Victoria Sinnicki, Secretary, Mr. John Smith, Treasurer, Gabe Meszaros Co-Director of Training, Mrs. Sandra Snyder, Co- Director of Training, Mrs. Lorraine Mercede, Director of Personnel, Mrs. Peggy Shukie, Director of Public Relations, and Mr. Victor Malendretos, Director of Communications. Victor also represents Easton EMS and the Town of Easton on the Board of Directors of the Emergency Medical Communications Center (C-MED), thereby insuring the town’s concerns are presented at these meetings. C-Med facilitates communications between our ambulance and area hospital and between area ambulances as needed. Mrs. Kearney and Mr. Meszaros represent the town at the Southwest Council EMS monthly meetings, where different EMS services share information regarding the care of patients. We thank everyone for all their dedications. During both storms we had members at EMS headquarters to provide emergency medical services to the citizens of Easton.

Two EMTs, John Snyder and Andrew Rosenthal, work on a full time basis from 7:00am until 3:00pm supplemented by two additional paid per diem EMT/MRTs working from 3:00pm until 6:00pm. We have an agreement with Nelson Ambulance Service who is our designated paramedic intercept service, and with AMR as their back-up. In the event of multiple calls or occasional non-availability of volunteers, a mutual aid agreement is in place for backup with the surrounding towns.

The Easton Police Department officers continue to be First Responders to all emergency medical calls. They are fully trained and equipped with Automatic External Defibrillators and other primary resuscitative equipment. Our First

Responders and Easton EMS meet recommended Office of Emergency Medical Service Response time requirements established by the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health.

There were 407 calls plus numerous standbys. You may have seen us at the Firemen’s carnival, the 5 K Annual DARE Race, Touch-a-truck, the Memorial Day Parade, the Halloween Bonfire, to name a few. We also support the Fire Department on standby for fires and specific training events where it is prudent to have medical rescue personnel nearby.

We have monthly training sessions such as practice scenarios, extrication drills, review procedures and policies, and blood borne pathogen class yearly. All of our EMTs and MRTs renew their certification every two years.

With the approval from the Board of Finance we will be purchasing new portable radios and pagers so we can continue to communicate according to the new FCC regulations.

The Easton Volunteer Emergency Medical Services honored Lorraine Mercede with the Easton EMT of the Year Award for 2011. This award was established to honor Herb Goldman who served Easton before his untimely death in 2002. Lorraine, a long time resident who just moved to Redding has been with Easton EMS since 2008, and is Director of Personnel. Lorraine is responsible for welcoming all new recruits and making sure the application process runs smoothly.

EVEMS has participated in a variety of community educational projects as well as provide on site support when necessary. We started a monthly column in the paper titled EMS Corner. We are also available to community organizations such as the Cub Scouts, Brownies, Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts where we give talks on first aid and safety. EVEMS supports the DARE program in Easton’s schools as well as the Easton Police Explorer Post.

We continue to bill insurance companies for our services with a return of over 85%, allowing for additional income for the town. We bundle bill with Nelson Ambulance and American Medical Response Ambulance insuring that you will not be billed if a second ambulance comes to your house.

We would like to thank the citizens of Easton for all their continued support, and encourage residents to call our headquarters to inquire about EMT/MRT and CPR courses. To learn more about Easton volunteer EMS please check our web site .Eastonems.com.

Respectfully submitted

Robert Adriani, Chairman
Easton EMS Commission

Carolyn Kearney, Chief
Easton Volunteer EMS Inc.

PUBLIC LIBRARY

EASTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Easton Public Library plays a central role in the information life of the community. It is much more than a lender of books. The Easton Public Library is a place of community interaction, filled with resources for community growth and development. The Library proudly presents programs that both educate and entertain community members of every age.

During 2011, the Library presented 302 programs with an attendance of 3,477, answered 10,803 reference questions, circulated 116,621 items and was visited 68,368 times. These numbers are especially impressive when measured against Easton's population of 7,366.

However gratifying, statistics do not fully reflect the Library's contribution to the quality of life in Easton. The Library plays a vital role in the education of Easton's children. It promotes reading readiness and literacy through its children's programs. During the summer, the Library is an extension of the classroom with many Easton children participating in the Library's reading program. This eight week program fosters an enjoyment of reading for pleasure, resulting in the children becoming better readers, with sharper reading skills, when they return to school in the fall.

The Library is the hub of Easton's cultural life. The Easton Arts Council presents three major art exhibits—The Annual Photography Exhibit, the Members' Art Show and the Youth Art Show—in the Community Room each year. The Arts Council's Annual Youth Talent Show and their Readers' Theater production are also presented in the Library Community Room. In addition, the Easton Historical Society hosts lectures and programs in the Community Room. Easton resident, Dolly Curtis, continues to curate art exhibits in the Library Conference Room and display case. The Library offers Easton residents the opportunity to enjoy multiple art forms close to home.

In addition to weekly pre-school programs, the Library's Children's services inaugurated four new programs for older children in 2011. A weekly Big Kids Story Time and Craft for children in Kindergarten and beyond has met with success. The Career Discovery Workshop for 4th – 8th graders, the Library Talent Show for all ages and Trivia Night for 3rd – 8th graders were well received and have become annual events.

In 1996, the Library's automatic doors slid open for the first time. In April 2011, the Library's Board of Trustees and the Friends of the Library combined efforts to mark the 15th anniversary of the Library's "new" building. "An American Songbook", an elegant dinner show, starring professional song stylist Tony Babino, was enjoyed by many. The event was a celebration of the many innovations introduced and goals

reached during the last fifteen years. The Board of Trustees, the Friends and the staff are grateful to all who supported this event.

New technologies in storing and delivering information were in the spotlight in 2011. Kindles, Nooks, iPads, Smartphones and a myriad of other devices have significantly grown in popularity. The Library is a dynamic environment, aware of shifting user needs and expectations. For many years, the Library has supplied its patrons with audio books. Two years ago, it added downloadable audio books to its collections for MP3 and iPod users. In 2011, the Library launched an electronic book collection. Patrons with valid Easton Public Library cards can download e-books to their personal devices at no cost. While the Easton Public Library will always play an important role in the community, it must be responsive to trends in the marketplace. Amazon is now selling 105 e-books for every 100 sold in hardcover and paperback (Library Journal, July 2011).

The Friends of the Library continue to be the Library's backbone. Their many programs and fund raising events enhance the Library and its resources and add much to the community at large.

While new technologies are developed and upgraded at rapid speed, the Library remains a constant in the community. It is a destination place, offering communal space for meeting and sharing information and experiences with fellow citizens. The Easton Public Library continues to be committed to serving Easton's citizens and providing them with educational and recreational opportunities and information to better understand our neighbors and the world.

Remember—Find It at Your Library!

www.eastonlibrary.org

Respectfully submitted,
Bernadette Baldino
Library Director

FY2010-2011 Statistics

Circulation: 116,621

Registered Borrowers: 3,787

Total Materials: 64,881

EDUCATION

EASTON BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Town of Easton is served by Samuel Staples Elementary School, Helen Keller Middle School, and Joel Barlow High School. The Easton Board of Education is responsible for the elementary and middle schools; the high school is under the purview of the Region #9 Board of Education. The three autonomous boards of education of Easton, Redding, and Region 9 (ER9 School Districts) share a superintendent, an assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction, and a director of finance and operations. Bernard A. Josefsberg, Ed.D. is the superintendent of the three school districts; E. Marie McPadden is the assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction; Margaret Sullivan is the director of finance and operations.

Vital statistics for the 2010-2011 school year include an operating budget of \$14,681,549 to educate 704 students in grades pre K-5 at Samuel Staples Elementary School and 396 students in grades 6-8 in Helen Keller Middle School. The Easton Schools employ 161 staff members: 98 teachers and administrators, 54 support personnel and 9 custodians.

The Easton Public Schools have ranked consistently among several top schools in the state for student performance on the mandated Connecticut Mastery Test. In math, our grade 3 and grade 8 students are ranked fourth in our District Reference Group (DRG). In reading, grade 3 students are ranked second in our DRG and third in the state. Grade 4 students are ranked fourth in our DRG. Grade 8 students are ranked second in our DRG. In writing, our grade 3 students are ranked number one in our DRG and second in the state. Our grade 7 students are ranked number one in our DRG and in the state and our grade 8 students are ranked second in our DRG and third in the state. In science, our grade 8 students are ranked fourth in our DRG and in the state.

These outstanding measures of educational achievement reflect a partnership between home and school that itself is a measure of how much the Easton community values learning and cares about educational quality. Entrusted with the overall welfare of the Easton schools, the six members of the Board of Education exercise their governance responsibilities through a diligent and transparent regard for the needs of both Easton students and Easton taxpayers. A strong central office and building leadership team works with an exceptional cadre of classroom educators to ensure that students are provided challenging learning experiences that form a durable basis for continued success. The Easton schools are especially grateful for the assistance it receives from the Easton Learning Foundation (ELF). In addition to its material support, ELF's advocacy of innovative practices – especially in the uses of technology --- is a particular asset to our schools.

The Easton School District is a member of the Tri-State Consortium, which includes high-performing school districts in Fairfield County, Long Island, and the Greater Westchester Area. Many Easton administrators and teachers have completed training in the Tri-State Evaluation Protocol and have participated in the evaluation of Tri-State Schools.

The district continues to participate in the Open Choice Program to meet the state mandate to reduce racial isolation. Five children from the Bridgeport School District were enrolled at Helen Keller Middle School, and four children were enrolled at Samuel Staples Elementary School during the 2010-2011 school year.

For more information about Easton Public Schools, please visit the ER9 Central Office Web site at www.er9.org, the Samuel Staples Elementary School Web site at www.er9.org/sses, and the Helen Keller Middle School Web site at www.er9.org/hkms.

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #9 JOEL BARLOW HIGH SCHOOL

Joel Barlow High School is within the purview of Connecticut Regional Board of Education No. 9; the school is located at 100 Black Rock Turnpike (Route 58) in Redding. As of October 1, 2010, 974 students were enrolled in grades nine through twelve.

Of the 96 high school faculty members, 3 have doctorates, 44 have sixth-year certificates or equivalent, 39 have master's degrees, and 10 have bachelor's degrees. The school's picturesque campus of 113 acres accommodates 29 varsity, 11 junior varsity, and six freshmen sport teams. The school's unique Student Activity Program sponsors 58 extracurricular and co-curricular activities during and after school hours.

Joel Barlow High School has received many state and national awards for exemplary curriculum and instruction and for overall excellence in education. It has been identified twice by the United States Department of Education as a School of Excellence. Its Advanced Placement Program has been commended by the Connecticut State Department of Education, the Washington Post, and The College Board. Joel Barlow High School was among 388 high schools in the U.S. and Canada honored by the College Board for improving student access to advanced placement courses while maintaining high scores on the national advanced placement tests. The Connecticut School Counselor Association selected the Easton-Redding-Joel Barlow High School Developmental Guidance Curriculum to receive its Outstanding Guidance and Counseling Program Award. The school won several awards in the 2010 CABE Award of Excellence for Educational Communications contest from the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education for its student/parent/guardian handbook, course selection guide, and a video entitled "A Day in the Life of a Freshman" that was shown at the ninth grade transition to

high school orientations. In recognition of its overall academic excellence, Joel Barlow High School was one of a few, select schools whose curricula and data-based improvements were recognized by the State Board of Education. In the spring of 2011, Barlow was one of only five schools in the United States to receive the Blue Apple award for excellence in its Health, Wellness, and Physical Fitness curricula.

The high school has ranked consistently among several top schools in the state for student performance on the mandated Connecticut Academic Performance Test. Student performance on the SAT, SAT II, and Advanced Placement Examinations have been noteworthy. Seniors who took the SAT I achieved a mean score of 563 out of a possible score of 800 in writing, 555 in mathematics, and 547 in reading. Three students were semi-finalists and thirteen students were commended scholars in the 2011 National Merit Scholarship Program. A total of 190 students took 329 Advanced Placement Examinations in 20 Advanced Placement Subjects. Eighty-six percent of the students achieved a grade of 3 or higher in the examinations. Ninety-two students took two or more Advanced Placement examinations. Ninety-five percent of the Class of 2011 planned to attend post-secondary institutions. Although the vast majority of Joel Barlow graduates attend college, the spectrum of courses offered at the school is designed to meet the needs of all students, including those students who pursue vocational training.

In addition, Newsweek listed Joel Barlow as one of only twelve Connecticut high schools on their list of the top 500 U.S. high schools. The schools were rated on graduation rate, number of AP tests taken per graduate, average advanced placement scores, average SAT/ACT scores, number of advanced placement courses offered, and the rate of students going to college. In the fall of 2011, ConnCan, an advocacy group for Connecticut public schools, listed Joel Barlow High School 4th out of 170 public high schools in the state.

Joel Barlow High School is captured in the poetry of William Butler Yeats who wrote, "Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire." The staff is committed to an open and active exchange of ideas and promotes values, knowledge, and skills that foster personal integrity, intellectual curiosity, individual well-being, and civic responsibility. Further, the staff believes that education can only be accomplished with rigorous expectations if staff and students engage in meaningful relationships and if learning is relevant to the emerging interests of students. The staff and students collaborate to sustain an atmosphere of mutual respect and acceptance of individual differences.

The taxpayers of Easton and Redding approved a 2010-2011 budget of \$21,212,212 for Joel Barlow High School/Regional School District No. 9.

For more information about Joel Barlow High School, please visit the ER9 central-office Web site at www.er9.org and the high school's Web site at www.joelbarlowps.org.

DEBT SERVICE AND BENEFITS ACCOUNT

Debt Service and Benefits Account
Selectmen's Budget for the Board of Education
Fiscal year July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011

IN KIND SERVICES:

PENSION

TOWN'S CONTRIBUTION FOR EMPLOYEES	\$156,000
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ACTUARY FEES

1/2 ANNUAL FEE	\$4,810
CHECK WRITING/REFUNDS/MISC.	\$1,764

UNEMPLOYMENT

\$0

EASTON FIRE DISTRICT

Tax	\$0
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INSURANCE

GENERAL LIABILITY	\$69,025
WORKER'S COMPENSATION	\$84,435

DEBT SERVICE

PRINCIPAL	\$1,655,500
INTEREST	\$935,956

PARK & RECREATION DEPARTMENT SERVICES

MAINTENANCE OF GROUNDS-LABOR COST Helen Keller & Samuel Staples Schools	\$6,700
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PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT SERVICES

BOE TRASH	\$0
PLOWING	\$960
SAND & SALT	\$2,720
SWEEPING	\$2,070
OTHER NECESSARY REPAIRS	\$27,908
PERSONNEL WAGES PROVIDED FOR 515 MOREHOUSE ROAD	

TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,947,848
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**PROBATE COURT
DISTRICT OF TRUMBULL**

The Trumbull Probate Court was established by State Statute and commenced operations on January 2, 1959. The Towns of Easton, Monroe and Trumbull are served through this Court. Prior to 1959, the public was served by the Bridgeport Probate Court.

The primary jurisdiction of the Court is to effect the probating of wills and settling of estates and trusts, the appointment of guardians for minors and the mentally retarded, commitments of the mentally ill, conservators for incompetent persons, adoptions and changes of names.

During the period of July 1, 2010, to June 30, 2011, the Trumbull Probate Court processed 1147 new matters. The new matters included the following:

Fee Waivers	21
Estates with Wills	169
Estate without Wills	26
Estate Sales of Real Estate	22
Compromise of Claims	9
Allowance for Spouse and/or Family	3
Allowance of Final Accounts	175
Other Applications or Petitions	26
Small Estate Affidavits	87
Estates for Tax Purposes Only	60
State Aid 4a-16 Estates	28
Other Applications with Hearing	96
Will Contests	3
Informal Status Conferences	19
Under the Category of Children’s Matters:	
Adoptions, Termination of Parental Rights, Emancipations, Temporary Guardianship & Dispositional Hearing	64
Under the Category of Guardians:	
Appointment of Guardians of the Estate	11
Compromise of Claims	6
Allowance of Accounts	6
Other Applications with hearing on Guardians of Estate	19
Guardianship of the Mentally Retarded	69
Under the Category of Conservators:	
Temporary Conservator	7
Conservator of Estate/Person	38
Sales of Real Estate	8
Allowance of Accounts	22
Other Applications	41
Three Year Reviews	5

Under Miscellaneous:	
Trust Applications and Accounts Requiring Hearings	81
Name Changes	26

The Honorable John P. Chiota is Judge of Probate:
Chief Clerk: Elizabeth S. Frassinelli, Clerk: Gail J. Hanna and Assistant Clerk Victoria V. Roberts

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

SUMMARIES OF TOWN MEETINGS

(Reference attachments in minutes are available for review in the Town Clerk’s office.)

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
APRIL 25, 2011, 8:00PM
SAMUEL STAPLES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Present:
Thomas A. Herrmann, First Selectman
Scott S. Centrella, Selectman
Robert H. Lessler, Selectman
W. Derek Buckley, Town Clerk

Other Town Officials:
John Campbell, Treasurer
Claire Gold, alternate member of the Board of Finance
Lee Hanson, Board of Finance member
Andrew Kachele, Board of Finance member
Mark Lewis, Chairman of the Region 9 Board of Education
Mark Pompa, Chair Board of Finance
Grace Stanczyk, Comptroller
Easton Board of Education

Public – about 50 members of the public

The meeting was video recorded

The First Selectman called the meeting to order at 8.11pm.

The First Selectman called for nominations for moderator. John Harris was nominated by Hugh Barry and seconded by Adam Dunsby and others. In the absence of any other nominations, the nomination was approved by unanimous voice vote.

The Moderator called upon the Town Clerk to read the call of the meeting. A copy is attached. The Moderator then moved to the attached agenda.

Item 1: Acceptance of the 2010 Annual Town Report

A copy is available in the Town Clerk’s office

Mark Pompa, Chairman of the Board of Finance noted that the town had completed a successful audit. A motion to accept the annual report was moved, seconded and passed by unanimous voice vote.

Item 2: Discussion of the proposed annual Town budget of \$41,113,936 for the fiscal year 2011-2012 as recommended by the Board of Finance

Mark Pompa, Chairman of the Easton Board of Finance addressed the meeting and reviewed the proposed budget. A copy of his presentation is attached.

Adam Dunsby addressed the meeting and reviewed the proposed Easton Board of Education budget. A copy of his presentation is attached.

Andrew Kachele commented that the \$119,000 reduction in the police budget listed as resulting from a reduction in two clerks include an additional \$70,000 of unspecified salary reductions. The clerks were not being paid \$60,000 each.

Victor Alfandre commented that Monroe achieved a big reduction by closing a school and should not be compared with Easton, which did not have that option.

Grant Monsarrat made several comments.

- He noted that we are in the third year of the worst recession since the great depression. Taxpayers are cutting back, town employees and departments are cutting back and teachers in surrounding towns are giving back to help the budget. The Board of Education and the teachers in Easton are contributing nothing and are increasing their budget request. It is time for them to contribute
- We should not be congratulating ourselves with a small increase it is time for budgets to decrease. Teachers should step up and help

Gowan Dacey commented:

- The town is now a landlord for the old Samuel Staples School and for the South Park Avenue property. The budget does not report a profit and loss statement for these activities. How does revenue compare with expense and lost taxes?

The First Selectman, Tom Herrmann replied that the old Samuel Staples building is now fully leased on the upper level. The lower level is used by Parks and Recreation and for storage. Both properties have generated revenues in excess of expenses. South Park Avenue produces \$3 of revenue for each \$2.25 of expenses.

Gowan asked if the South Park expenses included lost tax revenue. Tom Herrmann replied that the final resolution is still in the future.

Beverly Dacey asked several questions.

- In response to a question about legal fees, Mark Pompa replied that the budgeted amount is the same as last year.
- Mark Lewis responded to a question about benefit payments to retired School Superintendents. He explained that the retired superintendent Fossbender, and his family,

exercised an option to pay for the benefits. There is no cost to the taxpayers.

- In response to a question about South Park Avenue principal payments, John Campbell, Treasurer responded that state statutes required a principal payment on BAN outstanding for more than (2) years. This will be required this year if the option is not exercised. South Park is not in the proposed budget and never has been. Tom Herrmann said that South Park Avenue does not affect taxes. Both John and Tom said it was a question for the future and was being worked on. Bev persisted but apparently did not get a satisfactory answer. Eventually the moderator terminated the discussion

In response to a question about LOCIP money. Tom Herrmann said this is a state grant. Last year it was used for the Animal Shelter construction

Val Buckley, Senior Center Director noted that employee moral was at an all time low. People were probably making decisions that were not in the best interests of the town. She cited the bus garage that had come close to falling down because of lack of maintenance in the past. This has been a bad winter with lots of community support required. Cutting back hours does not reduce this need. She asked for support of the budget.

Item 3: Five year capital project plan

A copy is attached.

Andrew Kachele noted that, even though the plan is not binding and changes annually, it must be approved to qualify for state and other grants.

The question was moved, seconded and passed by unanimous voice vote.

Item 4: Set July 1, 2011 and January 2, 2012 for the 2010 grand list bills

In the absence of any questions or discussion, the question was proposed, seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

Item 5: Discuss and accept a Conservation Easement "Proposed Conservation Easement to Protect Existing Copper Beech Tree" from Kathleen and Frank Minardi

A copy of the proposed easement is attached.

Tom Herrmann explained that this was a condition of an approved subdivision on Ridgeway.

The question was moved, seconded and passed by unanimous voice vote.

Item 6: Discuss and act upon an ordinance providing for the membership of Easton in the Greater Bridgeport Regional Council of Elected Officials.

A copy of the proposed ordinance is attached.

Brian Bidolli, the Executive Director of the Greater Bridgeport Regional Planning Agency Council explained what was proposed. He noted that all towns must join for the council to be formed.

Dori Wollen asked what happens if we do not agree. Tom Herrmann replied that we lose a voice on the council and will be charged extra fees.

Andrew Kachele asked if this changed our obligations and was told no.

W Derek Buckley noted that the town legislative body is the Town Meeting. They adopt ordinances that are easy to adopt and difficult to change. They should only be adopted with great care. This requires an informed electorate. This requires in turn that sufficient time is available in advance for the public to become familiar with what is proposed. This was not the case for the proposed ordinances.

Lee Hanson noted that he was against the establishment of small regional governments. He did not want Easton developed, or governed regionally. He liked it the way it is and could not think of any benefits from joining yet another government organization.

He asked why he had not informed in advance of the proposed ordinances. Tom Herrmann replied that they were available at his office and the Town Clerk's office

The Town Clerk noted that he had spent three weeks trying to get a copy for public review and web publication but had received nothing.

Lee asked if it was necessary to request a copy. Tom replied yes.

Beverly Dacey proposed tabling all of the proposed ordinances and bringing them back after the public had had an opportunity to review them.

Val Buckley proposed a special town meeting for this purpose This was rejected on the technical grounds that all of the agenda questions must be addressed in order. The authority for this opinion was not cited.

The question was then moved, seconded and passed by a majority voice vote.

Lee Hanson asked for a show of hands. The moderator ruled that the motion passed on a majority show of hands without the need for a formal count.

Item 7: Discuss and act upon an ordinance establishing an Agricultural Commission

A copy of the proposed ordinance is attached.

Bob Lessler commented that the idea was to take the existing Agricultural committee and make it a permanent Agricultural Commission.

In the absence of public comment, the question was moved, seconded and passed by unanimous voice vote.

Item 8: Discuss and act upon an ordinance enabling the Town to publish summaries of adopted ordinances.

A copy of the proposed ordinance is attached.

Tom Herrmann explained that long ordinances were expensive to publish in a newspaper. This ordinance would permit publication of a summary as long as the full ordinance is available for review.

In the absence of questions, the question was moved by Andrew Kachele, seconded by Claire Gold and passed by unanimous voice vote

Item 9: Discuss and act upon a revision of to the Town's Purchasing Authority and Competitive Bidding Ordinance

A copy of the proposed ordinance is attached.

Tom Herrmann explained that he had found that the existing ordinance had the following problems:

- It violated state statutes because the \$10,000 limit exceeded the statutory \$7,500 limit
- It had an anomaly that enabled the department Head to waive competitive bidding instead of the First Selectman.

Derek Buckley responded that:

- The original ordinance was enacted in 1984. The state statute [CGS §7-148v] exempts ordinances enacted before 1989. It is silent on amended ordinances. It appears therefore that the approved ordinance is valid as is the \$10,000 amount
- The town ordinance passed in 2005 is not anomalous. In fact, it authorized waiver approval by the Department Heads because they write the purchase orders and know what is required. This made waiver approval consistent with purchase practice in which Department Heads specify the purchase, and vendor and write the purchase order, which is approved by the First Selectman.

The existing ordinance requires written justification of the reasons for the waiver. It empowers the First Selectman to override the waiver.

The proposed change would give both waiver authority and override authority to the First selectman

Gowan Dacey asked if the rules applied to all goods and services and the First Selectman said yes. As a follow up question, Gowan asked if the \$50,000 contract to remove snow from the school roof was bid by the Board of Education. A later response was promised after the matter had been checked by the Board of Education.

Andrew Kachele amended the ordinance so that section 4 on page 3 would now read **with the addition emphasis added:**

The requirements of this section may be waived to the extent permitted by Connecticut statutes with the written approval of the Board of Selectmen in any case in which compliance with this section shall be deemed impractical or not in the best interests of the Town

The amendment was moved, seconded and passed by unanimous voice vote.

The question was then moved, seconded and passed by unanimous voice vote.

Item 10: Discuss and act upon a revision of the fee schedule for ZBA applications

A copy of the proposed ordinance is attached.

It was explained that the increase is necessary so that the fee would cover the cost of the application.

In the absence of questions or discussion, the question was moved, seconded and passed by unanimous voice vote.

**Item 11:
Adjourn the Town Meeting to a machine vote to be held on Tuesday, May 3, 2011 6.00am to 8.00pm at Samuel Staples Elementary School to vote on the annual budget for 2011-2012 or such lower amount as may be approved by the Town meeting.**

In the absence of questions or discussion, the question was proposed, seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was moved, seconded and passed by unanimous voice vote.

ORDINANCES

Summary Publication of Town Ordinances

This permits summary publication of Ordinances in accordance with CGS Section 7-157, as amended. This summary document is prepared under that ordinance.

Greater Bridgeport Regional Council of Elected Officials

The Council will be formed when all of the municipalities of Bridgeport, Easton, Fairfield, Monroe, Stratford and Trumbull approve membership. It will advise members on matters of mutual concern

Purchasing Authority and Competitive Bidding

The ordinance amends an existing ordinance to conform to the statute that requires sealed bids for purchases of more than \$7,500.

It also amends bid waiver authority. It substitutes written approval of the First Selectman for written approval of the Department Head with the approval of the Purchasing Authority.

Easton Agricultural Commission

An Agricultural Commission was established to act in an advisory capacity to the Board of Selectmen and other town boards and commissions on agricultural matters

Fees for Municipal Land Use Applications

The cost of an application to the Zoning Board of Appeals was increased from \$100 to \$200

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

JUNE 27, 2011, 8.00pm

**HELEN KELLER MIDDLE SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER
360 SPORT HILL ROAD**

Present:

Thomas A. Herrmann, First Selectman
Scott S. Centrella, Selectman
Robert H. Lessler, Selectman
W. Derek Buckley, Town Clerk

Other Town Officials:

John F. Campbell, Treasurer
Claire Gold, alternate member of the Board of Finance
Andrew Kachele, Board of Finance member
Elise Broach, Board of Finance member

Public – about 50 members of the public

The meeting was video recorded

The First Selectman called the meeting to order at 8.06pm.

The First Selectman called upon the Town Clerk to read the call of the meeting. A copy of the notice and return of notice is attached.

The First Selectman nominated WJ Kupinse for Moderator and called for other nominations. There were none and the nomination was seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

The Moderator then moved to the attached agenda.

Item 1: Discuss and take action on a special appropriation in the amount of \$191,000 from the undesignated fund balance to the Capital Project fund (CPF) South Park Avenue.

The motion was moved and seconded so that the discussion could begin. At the request of the moderator, Andrew Kachele explained why the appropriation is needed.

The town purchased the South Park Avenue property with bond anticipation notes [BANS]. As part of the purchase, the New England Prayer Center (NEPC) has an option to purchase the property. At that time, it was anticipated that the option would be exercised before the town was required to commence principal payments on the BANS. Statutes require that bond principal payments begin no later than after two years. The

contract provided for NEPC to extend the option. Since a lawsuit was filed, the option has not yet been exercised. Statutes require that Easton now begin to pay principal payments of 5% of the amount borrowed [\$6,150,000] per annum, or \$307,500.

The NEPC is required to make payments of \$37,500 every six [6] months, if a third party lawsuit was filed. Since that is insufficient to pay the principal due, the Board of Finance recommended the appropriation, which was not included in the budget? The Board of Finance also recommended that the appropriation be brought to a town meeting for approval for accounting reasons and in the interests of full disclosure and transparency.

John Campbell, Treasurer explained that the CPF currently has \$116,500 available to partly cover the principal payment. This appropriation of \$191,000 is required to cover the difference. He explained that it had been incorrectly presumed that the fee in lieu of account would cover the difference. However, the Board of Finance explained that there is no authority to transfer these funds between the in lieu of and CPF accounts. Andrew Kachele indicated that the Connecticut Constitution is very specific. Municipalities have only those powers that are specifically granted by statute. The Board of Finance felt this necessitated the requested appropriation.

John Campbell continued as follows:

- The property was purchased in July 2008 and \$300,000 was prepaid into a separate capital project fund. Since then debt service [interest], debt service related expenses and fire taxes have been paid from this fund
- The town has received two further half-year rental payments, one of \$75,000 and the second of \$37,500 to extend the agreement. One was made in July 2010 and the second in January 2011.
- NEPC is about to make a third payment of \$37,500 for an additional extension to January 2012

Last August the Board of Selectmen approved a refinancing of existing debt. This was completed this Spring and saved \$667,000 over the life of the debt. The plan is to allocate more of the savings now than over the next few years because of more pressing current needs.

Elise Broach moved the question and Andrew Kachele seconded. The moderator called for public comment.

Jim Wright thanked the Board for doing this in the open. He asked if NEPC could ever exercise the option since they appeared to have no assets. He said the town needed a plan and proposed a Research facility with underground parking to raise tax revenue.

The moderator asked on this and several occasions to return comments to the question under discussion.

Dori Wollen asked why NEPC paid only 50% in January and July.

Bob Lessler explained that because of the third party lawsuit the contract permitted NEPC to pay rent in two annual payments.

Chris Neuberg asked if the third party was related to NEPC. Tom Herrmann responded that the third party is a neighbor with no known affiliation with NEPC.

Chris asked how long could NEPC keep deferring. Scott Centrella said for a total of four years of which three remain.

Andrew Kachele reminded the audience that even if NEPC drops out we would still have the debt service and need the appropriation to cover it.

June Logie noted that people do not understand what this is all about. She called for more information to the public. Tom Herrmann responded that the contract is and was available for public review.

Gowan Dacey asked if the status of the lawsuit was known. Tom Herrmann responded that the judge has ordered a schedule in order to try and avoid a trial.

Gowan said the contract was unclear and we had no legal counsel opinion.

Bev Dacey noted that this whole issue is fuzzy. It has used taxpayer's money and was not supposed to cost anything. In the meantime people are losing jobs that \$307,000 per annum could cover. NEPC appears to have no money.

Grant Monsarrat asked:

- At the Board of Finance mil rate meeting Tom Herrmann said he had a legal counsel opinion that the contract was for four years
- We need more information and should not have to grovel for it. He is sick of having to grovel.
- Which attorney interpreted the initial four-year contract interpretation? Tom Herrmann replied Ira Bloom.
- Who wrote the contract? Tom Herrmann replied Ira Bloom

Glenn Mairano asked:

- Which attorney gave the interpretation that it is a four-year contract. Tom Herrmann replied Ira Bloom
- Could NEPC accept an offer from another party and sell? Tom Herrmann replied no.

David Smith asked if the third party suit was concluded what would happen. Tom Herrmann replied that NEPC must exercise the option or the deal is off.

Jim Wright asked if we ever had the option to void the contract. Tom Herrmann said yes but it certainly would have been followed by an appeal and extensive lawsuit.

He also asked if the Board of Selectmen looked into the financial status of NEPC before agreeing to the contract. Tom Herrmann said no.

Tom Herrmann noted that they have a major donor pledge that awaits a matching contribution.

Robert Lessler noted that one year ago the town could have divorced itself from NEPC and the contract but decided to proceed even though he was opposed. Nobody knows why it took NEPC 22 months to apply to Planning and Zoning when they only had 24 months to do it.

In response to a question, Scott Centrella said that there is no possibility of another third party appeal because the time window is closed.

Tom Herrmann said there is interest from developers and he is confident that the town will recover the money.

Liz Mairano asked the appraised value now and at the time of purchase. Tom Herrmann said that his predecessor considered possession by eminent domain. However, it was believed that the judge would assign a value of \$8,000,000. The property is currently appraised at \$1,600,000.

Valerie Buckley said that by turning it over to developers a zoning change would be required. That was what the town was trying to avoid when the NEPC contract was signed. It appears that the recovery plan is to do what we were trying to avoid in the first place.

Scott Centrella said it is currently assessed as farmland and the true value is much higher.

Gowan Dacey said if NEPC is googled, there is no money raising section so if they are trying to raise money it is not apparent. They only have \$80,000 in cash.

Bev Dacey noted that the original developer who we were trying to avoid is Bob Scinto who is now in jail. She had asked NEPC how much they had raised but they refused to answer. When she was a member of the Board of Finance, they had discussed acquisition, but put a maximum value of \$3,000,000 on the property. It was bought for more than \$6,000,000.

Jim Wright called the question and was seconded. The moderator closed discussion.

The motion to approve the appropriation was voted on by voice vote. A majority voted yes and the appropriation was approved.

Item 2: Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was moved, seconded and passed by unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:26pm,

W. Derek Buckley
Easton Town Clerk

**BUDGET REFERENDUM RESULTS
EASTON, CONNECTICUT
Tuesday, May 3, 2011**

EASTON TURNOUT		
REGISTERED VOTERS	5099	
VOTED	1169	[22.9%]

Question 1: Easton Town Budget

Shall the Town of Easton appropriate the sum of Forty One Million, One Hundred and Thirteen Thousand, Nine Hundred and Thirty Six Dollars (\$41,113,936) for the annual Town budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012? (This includes Easton's share of the Region 9 budget)

<u>VOTES</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
MACHINE	758	387
<u>ABSENTEE</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>8</u>
TOTAL	774	395
	66.2%	33.8%

TOWN BUDGET APPROVED BY 379 VOTES

Question 2: Region 9 Budget

Shall the Regional School District Number 9, composed of the Towns of Easton and Redding appropriate and authorize the expenditure of Twenty One Million, Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$21,700,000) as the operating budget of the District for the fiscal year July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012? (Easton's share is \$10,448,550 and Redding's share is \$11,251,450.)

<u>VOTES</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
<u>EASTON:</u> MACHINE	725	419
ABSENTEE	14	10
TOTAL	739	429
	63.3%	36.7%

PASSED BY 310 VOTES [6.1%] IN EASTON

<u>REDDING:</u>	708	496
PASSED BY 212 VOTES IN REDDING		

<u>REGION 9:</u>	1447	925
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REGION 9 BUDGET APPROVED BY 522 VOTES

MUNICIPAL ELECTION RESULTS 11/8/2011

	#	%
Number Voting	1754	34.4%
Number not Voting [abstained]	3351	65.6%
Total Registered Voters	5105	100.0%

OFFICE	#	%	TERM	
			From	To
First Selectman			11/8/2011	11/5/2013
Thomas A. Herrmann	1098	62.6%	ELECTED	
Richard Seclow	19	1.1%		
Robert Webbe	337	19.2%		
Unregistered Write in	40	2.3%	Invalid vote	
Abstained	260	14.8%		
Total	1754	100.0%		

OFFICE	#	%	TERM	
			From	To
Selectman			11/8/2011	11/5/2013
Robert H. Lessler	632	36.0%	ELECTED	
Scott S. Centrella	973	55.5%	ELECTED	
Unregistered Write in	7	0.4%	Invalid vote	
Abstained	142	8.1%		
Total	1754	100.0%		

OFFICE	#	%	TERM	
			From	To
Town Clerk			1/2/2012	1/6/2014
Michael S. Kivell	598	34.1%		
W. Derek Buckley	1101	62.8%	ELECTED	
Unregistered Write in	1	0.1%	Invalid vote	
Abstained	54	3.1%		
Total	1754	100.0%		

OFFICE	#	%	TERM	
			From	To
Town Treasurer			11/8/2011	11/5/2013
Christine Calvert	1335	76.1%	ELECTED	
Unregistered Write in	7	0.4%	Invalid vote	
Abstained	412	23.5%		
Total	1754	100.0%		

OFFICE	#	%	TERM	
			From	To
Tax Collector			11/8/2011	11/5/2013
David Smith	655	37.3%		
Patrice Hildenbrand	1025	58.4%	ELECTED	
Unregistered Write in	1	0.1%	Invalid vote	
Abstained	73	4.2%		
Total	1754	100.0%		

OFFICE	#	%	TERM	
			From	To
Board of Finance			11/8/2011	11/7/2017
Paul W. Lindoerfer	625	17.8%		
C. Lee Hanson	1073	30.6%	ELECTED	
Louis Paul Rosamilia	600	17.1%		
Fred N. Knopf	1042	29.7%	ELECTED	
Unregistered Write in	0	0.0%	Invalid vote	
Abstained	168	4.8%		
Total	3508	100.0%		

OFFICE	#	%	TERM	
			From	To
Board of Finance			11/8/2011	11/5/2013
Claire Gold	693	39.5%		
Christian Griffin	960	54.7%	ELECTED	
Unregistered Write in	0	0.0%	Invalid vote	
Abstained	101	5.8%		
Total	1754	100.0%		

OFFICE	#	%	TERM	
			From	To
Board of Education			11/8/2011	11/7/2017
Daniel M. Underberger	612	34.9%	ELECTED	
Jeffrey F. Parker	1028	58.6%	ELECTED	
Unregistered Write in	2	0.1%	Invalid vote	
Abstained	112	6.4%		
Total	1754	100.0%		

OFFICE	#	%	TERM	
			From	To
Board of Education			11/8/2011	11/3/2015
Vida E. Peskay	954	54.4%	ELECTED	
Unregistered Write in	8	0.5%	Invalid vote	
Abstained	792	45.2%		
Total	1754	100.0%		

OFFICE	#	%	TERM	
			From	To
Board of Education			11/8/2011	11/5/2013
Regina B. Bobroske	959	54.7%	ELECTED	
Unregistered Write in	11	0.6%	Invalid vote	
Abstained	784	44.7%		
Total	1754	100.0%		

OFFICE	#	%	TERM	
			From	To
Board of Assessment Appeals			11/8/2011	11/7/2017
Lori B. Mezes	1290	73.5%	ELECTED	
Unregistered Write in	0	0.0%	Invalid vote	
Abstained	464	26.5%		
Total	1754	100.0%		

OFFICE	#	%	TERM	
			From	To
Board of Assessment Appeals			11/8/2011	11/3/2015
A. Reynolds Gordon	926	52.8%	ELECTED	
Unregistered Write in	0	0.0%	Invalid vote	
Abstained	828	47.2%		
Total	1754	100.0%		

OFFICE	#	%	TERM	
			From	To
Board of Assessment Appeals			11/8/2011	11/5/2013
Dennis J Kokenos	1278	72.9%	ELECTED	
Unregistered Write in	5	0.3%	Invalid vote	
Abstained	471	26.9%		
Total	1754	100.0%		

OFFICE	#	%	TERM	
			From	To
Zoning Board of Appeals			11/8/2011	11/7/2017
John W. Harris	1289	73.5%	ELECTED	
Unregistered Write in	7	0.4%	Invalid vote	
Abstained	458	26.1%		
Total	1754	100.0%		

OFFICE	#	%	TERM	
			From	To
Constables			11/8/2011	11/5/2013
Gloria Bindelglass	669	9.5%	ELECTED	
Richard F. Greiser	728	10.4%	ELECTED	
Irving Silverman	832	11.9%	ELECTED	
George A. Beno	946	13.5%	ELECTED	
John L. Johnston	952	13.6%	ELECTED	
Gary Joseph Stevens	759	10.8%	ELECTED	
Joseph L. Silhavy	1065	15.2%	ELECTED	
Unregistered Write in	0	0.0%	Invalid vote	
Abstained	1065	15.2%		
Total	7016	100.0%		

OFFICE	#	%	TERM	
			From	To
Library Director			11/8/2011	11/7/2017
Jonathan Sonneborn	678	38.7%	ELECTED	
Todd R. Pajonas	835	47.6%	ELECTED	
Unregistered Write in	2	0.1%	Invalid vote	
Abstained	239	13.6%		
Total	1754	100.0%		

OFFICE	#	%	TERM	
			From	To
Region 9 Board of Education			11/8/2011	11/3/2015
Paul N. Copping	692	19.7%		
Carolyn M. Colangelo	1045	29.8%	ELECTED	
J. Vance Hancock	1114	31.8%	ELECTED	
Unregistered Write in	5	0.1%	Invalid vote	
Abstained	652	18.6%		
Total	3508	100.0%		

OFFICE	#	%	TERM	
			From	To
Region 9 Board of Education			11/8/2011	11/5/2013
Margot Z. Abrams	710	40.5%		
Todd Andrew Johnston	870	49.6%	ELECTED	
Unregistered Write in	0	0.0%	Invalid vote	
Abstained	174	9.9%		
Total	1754	100.0%		

TOWN OFFICIALS

Board of Selectmen

Thomas A. Herrmann, First Selectman
Robert H. Lessler
Scott S. Centrella

Town Clerk

W. Derek Buckley

Treasurer

John F. Campbell

(Position filled by Christine Calvert in November 2011)

Tax Collector

Patrice Hildenbrand

Registrar of Voters

Ronald Kowalski, Democratic
Krista Kot - Republican

Board of Finance

Elise Broach
Christian D. Griffin
C. Lee Hanson
Andrew Kachele
Fred Knopf
Arthur Laske III

Alternates – Claire Gold
Elise Nappi

Board of Assessment Appeals

Dennis Kokenos
A. Reynolds Gordon
Lori Mezes

Alternates – John Miranda
Vacancy
Vacancy

Library Board

Gail V. Gay
Todd R. Pajonas
Gina Orticelli
Rita Seclow
Jon Sonneborn
Elaine H. Spicer

Easton Board of Education

Regina Bobroske
Adam Dunsby
Glenn Maiorano
Vida Peskey
Jeffrey Parker
Dr. Daniel Underberger

Regional Board of Education (Easton Members)

Catherine Gombos
Todd Andrew Johnston
Carolyn Colangelo
J. Vance Hancock

Constables

George A. Beno
Gloria Bindelglass
Richard Greiser
Jack Johnston
Joseph Silhavy
Irving Silverman
Gary J. Stevens

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Public Works Director/Town Engineer

Edward L. Nagy

Police Chief

John F. Solomon

Comptroller

Grace Stanczyk

Director of Health

Christopher Michos, M.D.
Paula A. Edwards, Health Officer

Emergency Management Director

Lt. Richard Doyle

Building Official

Emil Martin

Fire Chief

James Girardi

Park & Recreation Commission

John Broadbin
Thomas Cable
Kirsten Ceva
Mark D'Augelli
David Gombos
Steve Lichtman
Kathleen Smith

Planning & Zoning Commission

Steve Carlson
Paul Dominianni
Russell Leggett
Robert Maquat, Chair
Wallace Williams

Alternates - Milan Spisek
Darrin Silhavy
Robert DeVellis

Zoning Board of Appeals

Patricia Berlin
Victor George
Mitchell Greenberg
John Harris-Chair
Charles Lynch

Alternates – Gregory Alves
Thomas Dollard
Raymond W. Ganim

Insurance Commission

BOE Designee
Wendy Bowditch
Peter Pisaretz
Eileen Stirling
Thomas A. Herrmann

Tree Warden

Richard B. McLaughlin

Municipal Agent for the Elderly

Kathleen Tressler

Zoning Enforcement Officer/Wetlands

Enforcement Officer

Phillip A. Doremus

Assessor

Teresa Rainieri

Measurer of Wood

Joseph Silhavy
Irving Snow

Fire Marshal

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

Board of Ethics

Kathy Cunningham
Luck Katz
Beverly Nardone
Cleo Sonneborn
Barbara Stowell

Greater Bridgeport Regional Planning Agency

Representatives

Wallace Williams
Peter Neary

Easton Representative to the Southwestern Connecticut

Emergency Medical Services Council

Carolyn Kearney

Emergency Medical Communications Center, Inc Representative

Victor Malindretos

Police Commission

Richard J. Colangelo, Jr.
Marvin Gelfand
Laurie Israel
Raymond Martin
Robert Nicola

Emergency Medical Services Commission

Robert Adriani
Seyed H. Aleali, M.D.
Gloria Bindelglass
Adele O’Kane
James Spak, M.D.

Pension & Employee Benefits Commission

Marvin Gelfand
Alan Goldbecker- Chairman
A. Reynolds Gordon
John Harrington
H. Michael Keden
Sandra Neubert
John Smith
Thomas A. Herrmann

Solid Waste Commission

Thomas Collins
Anthony Colonnese
Philip Snow
Vacancy
Vacancy

Advisory Board for the Easton Senior Center

Mary Burlinson
Sharon Cregeen
Florence Eastwood
Anne Fiyalka
Prabha Gupta
Terri Kelso
Eric Lawton
Claire J. Paolini, Ph.D.
Marilyn Santella

Sal Santella
Alice Weissman

Fire Commission

Ralph Altieri
George Beno
Roberta Cable
Anthony Colonnese
Robert Monda

Conservation Commission

Stephen Corti
Stephen Edwards
Roy Gosse
Marla Manning
John Mehanna
Eleanor Sylvestro
Dori Wollen

Alternates – Catherine Alfandre
Ray Martin
Kenneth Twombly

Commission for the Aging

Cecilia Campbell - Chair
Gail Gay
Margaret Silvestri
Janet Klein
Joel Peskay

Alternates - Nancy Gavigan
Phyllis Machledt

Area Nine Cable Council Representatives

Andy Anderson
Douglas Dempsey
Alternate – David Smith

Connecticut Coastal Fairfield County Convention & Visitor Bureau

Mary Ann Freeman

Human Resource Advisory Committee

Grace Stanczyk
William J. Kupinse, Jr.
Carmen Montaro
Elise Broach
Vacancy
Thomas A. Herrmann

Safety and Health Committee

Bernadette Baldino
Althea J. Falco
Terry Calgreen
Carmen Montaro
Martin Ohradan
Andy Rosenthal
Kay Oestreicher
Vicki Cram
Gary Simone
Bruce Bombero
Jay Festa

Social Services

Josephine Stenqvist, Director

Tax Relief for the Elderly Committee

Cecelia Campbell
Sharon Cregeen
John Gavigan

TOWN DEPARTMENTS AND EMPLOYEES

Marvin Gelfand
A. Reynolds Gordon
John Harrington
Paul Lindoerfer

Cemetery Committee

Robert Bloom
Phillip Doremus
Gary Haines
Joan Kirk
David Silverglade
Lisa Burghardt-Alternate
James Mellen-Alternate
Jonathan Fanton-Adjunct
Mary Lou Weinstein-Adjunct
Kevin Andrew King-Adjunct

Senior Center Building Committee

John Bromer
Foster McKeon
Joseph Schettino
Robert Sullivan

Animal Control Committee

Peg Macaluso
June Logie
Marvin Gelfand
Marnie Waiwat
Clinton Hackson
Clarence Jennings

Clean Energy Task Force

Catherine Alfandre
Heidi Armster
Katie Callahan
Robert DeVellis
Fred Lovejoy
Regina McNamara

9-11 Memorial Building Committee

Paula Barker
Beverlee Dacey
Andrew Kachele
Liz Maiorano
Sal M. Santella, M.D.

Land Preservation and Acquisition Authority

Victor Alfandre
Carolyn Colangelo
Christopher Neubert
Irving Snow – Alternate
Jeffrey Borofsky – Alternate

Easton Agricultural Commission

Jean Stetz-Puchalski
Patti Popp
Sal Gilbertie
Victor Alfandre
Irv Silverman

Alternates

Lori Cochran Dougall
Laurel Fedor

Selectman's Office

Thomas A. Herrmann, 1st Selectman
Scott Centrella, Selectman
Robert Lessler, Selectman
Althea Falco, Administrative Assistant
Diane Zadrozny, Receptionist
Terry Calgreen, Custodian

Town Clerk

W. Derek Buckley, Town Clerk & Registrar of
Vital Statistics
Joan Kirk, Assistant Town Clerk & Assistant
Registrar of Vital Statistics
Deborah Szegedi – Assistant Town Clerk &
Assistant Registrar of Vital Statistics

Treasurer's Office

John Campbell, Treasurer
Grace Stanczyk, Comptroller
Carmen Montero, HRCC
Diane Zadrozny, Accounts Payable Clerk

Planning & Zoning Department

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

Zoning Board of Appeals

Margaret Anania, Secretary

Building Department

Emil Martin, Building Official
Josephine Stenqvist, Secretary

Health Department

Christopher Michos, M.D., Director of Health
Paula Edwards, Health Official
Sheila Pirtzky, Secretary

Conservation Department

Phillip Doremus, Wetlands Enforcement Officer
Krista Kot, Clerk

Assessor's Office

Teresa Rainieri, Assessor
Louise Oakes, Assessor's Assistant replaced by
Rachel Maciulewski, Assessor's Assistant

Tax Collector

Patrice Hildenbrand, Tax Collector
Rachel Maciulewski, Assistant Tax Collector

Municipal Agent for the Elderly

Katie Tressler, Agent
Pamela Healy, Outreach Worker

Senior Center

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

Park & Recreation Department

Gary Simone, Director
Lauren DiMartino, Programmer
Danielle Alves, Afterschool Program Coordinator
And Temporary Replacement Programmer
Lisa Farasciano, Temporary Department Secretary
Chris Lemos, Maintenance Supervisor
Walt Litzie, Maintainer I

Library

Bernadette Baldino, Director
Lynn Zaffino, Children's/Young Adult Librarian
Lisa Forman, Assistant Director

Assistants

Barbara Fitchen
Ann A. Salvia
Penelope Papadoulis
Michael Pettiti
Nancy Harris
Margaret Timlin
Kristina Sorfozo

Aides

Evan March
Amanda Wenger
Brenden Santoro
Justin Santoro
Jamie VanClief

Police Department

John F. Solomon, Police Chief
James R. Candee, Captain
Richard Doyle, Lieutenant
William Spencer, Sergeant
Jonathan Arnold, Sergeant

Police Officers

Thomas Brennan
Thomas Ceccarelli
Gary Csanadi
Tamra French
John Sollazo
Mark Pastor
David Simpson
Kent Lyman
David Ferguson
Donald Kinahan
Jay Festa

Special Officers

John Bech
Craig Tibbals
Diane Barriga, Administrative Assistant
Bonnie Protsko, Records Clerk I
Joanne Benson, Records Clerk II

Communications Department**Dispatchers**

Matthew Caldwell
Loretta Harsche
Tara Candee

Part Time Dispatchers

Richard Applebaum
Cheryl Smolinsky
Ann Slimak
Joanne Benson
Cari-Ann Logie
Chris Lazar
Eric Lorenz
John Ojarovsky
John Sredzinski

Canine Control

Kelly Fitch, Dog Warden
Marjorie Costa, Assistant Dog Warden
Deborah Ice, Assistant Dog Warden
James McDonald, Assistant Dog Warden

Registrars of Voters

Ron Kowalski, Democrat
Krista Kot, Republican

Public Works Department

Edward L. Nagy, Director and Town Engineer
Bruce Bombero, Engineer
Keith Rivoir, Highway Superintendent
Jeanie Schwartz, Secretary
Daniel Treadwell, Garage Mgr/Lead Mechanic
Robert Cocivi, Facilities Technician

Highwaymen

Scott Smith
Don Perkins
Oscar Sampaio
Jamie Correia
Mark Iacobucci
Jason Perkins
Mark Alves
William Bantle, Jr.
Kenneth Schwartz, Jr.
William Bantle, Sr.

Emergency Medical Services

Andrew Rosenthal, EMT
John Snyder, EMT
Carolyn Kearney, EMS Service Chief
Jonathan Arnold, EMS Assistant Service Chief
Adam Goldstein, EMS Assistant Service Chief
Bruce Lewis
Chris Lazar
Margaret Shukie
Gabor Meszaros
Gabor Meszros, Jr
Marjorie Arnold
Diane Nizlek
Sherman Turner

Emergency Management Director

Richard Doyle

Fire Department

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

Firemen

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

ADMINISTRATION AND TEACHING STAFF

SAMUEL STAPLES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Principal: Kimberly Fox Santora

Assistant Principal: Cheryl Mammen

Director of Special Services: Donna Demusis-Dekle

Teachers:

Anderson, Claudia
Bachelder, Maureen
Bajda, Katie
Barrows, Rachael
Bates, Allan
Bizzotto, Melissa
Brakeman, John
Brown, Carmen
Chatfield, Callen
Clark, Russell
Cooper, Donald
DeFilippo, Paige
Duffy, Kimberly D.
Duffy, Lynne
Edwards, Jennifer
Fressola, Kelly
Gentile, Amy
Giglio-Opalinski, Elizabeth L.
Hobbs, Laura
Holroyd, Stephanie
Keklik, Judith
King, Jean
Kloebler, Elizabeth
Kuruc, Jill M.
Lambert, Courtney
Lazar, Diane
MacArthur, Carey
Marchetti, Emily
Menegay, Judith
Menegay, Robert
Muccio, Mary
Olschan, Kathryn
Paciello, Sunny Michelle
Piacente, Courtney
Pilkington, Dawn
Remmell, Diana M.
Russo, Christopher
Schneider, Jeanine
Scholz, Darcy
Samuel Staples Continued
Simmons, Helen
Studenly, Jason
Tierney, James
Traggianese, Amy
Woodford, Karen
Zazula, Kristin

Special Education Teachers

Barnard, Stacey
Breuer, Wanda
Edwards, Tracy

Herman, Kristina
Herrick, Robert
Husted, Shani
Keating, Geraldine
Kessler, Melissa
Landin, Emily
Langlois, Laura
Skoczylas, Julianne
Stern, Karen
Wulf, Linda

HELEN KELLER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Principal: Susan Kaplan

Assist. Principal: Kathy Burke

Director of Special Education: Donna Dekle

Teachers:

Astle, Kyle
Baker, Michelle
Breyer, David A.
Broas, Sarah
Brodeur, Cynthia
Carlucci, Katharine
Cioppa, Roberta
Cockerham, Arthur
Colasanto, Kristen
Culliton, Nancy
Cuttner, Nancy
Dunkerton, Amber
Fearn, Ethan A.
Harrington, Heather Calico
Henry, Paula
Heran, Kimberly
Klein, Nicole
LaValle, Robert
Maggi, Linda
Marcello, Steven
Marusa, Debora
Mohr, Ann
Moore, Ashleigh
Rose, Jennifer
Schweikert-Mangino, Karen
Solis, Nicole
Thomas, Patricia
Tramontano, Jean
Ustie, Elizabeth
Walsh, Brian
Weinshel, Carol

Special Education Teachers

Cuttner, Nancy
Donegan, Tracey
Heran, Kimberly
Klatt, Meredith
Pearson, Eric
Richter, Leslie

JOEL BARLOW HIGH SCHOOL

Principal: Thomas McMorran

Assistant Principal: Anne Kipp

Assistant Principal: Gina Pinn

Director of Special Services: Patricia Roszko

Teachers:

Albano, Donna
Angelis, Michael
Angell, Christopher
Antal, Steven
Atkinson, Mary
Bailey, Beth
Barcham, Dale
Barna, Frederick
Bernardo, Margaret
Breault, Christopher
Brix, Nancy
Brown, Jeffrey
Budd, Jonathan S.
Ciancio, Brian
Correa, Catherine
Crowley, John
D'Amato, Daniela
DelAngelo, Henry
Desmarais, Jennifer
Detelich, Charles
DeVoto, James
Ecsedy, Michael
Egan, Jeanne F.
Eller, George
Erickson, Ashley
Estes, Lori
Fallo, Kristen
Fricker, Jacob E.
Gang, Scott
Garvey, Janice
Gervasoni, Fred
Giordano, Ralph
Givoni, Juliane
Goodpaster, Pamela
Hamlin, Paul B.
Horton, Cheryl
Huminski, Carolyn
Huminski, Timothy
Huot, Charles
Intemann, Michael
Keeney, Kristin
Kilbourn, Maureen
Kilbourn, Thomas
Kipp, Anne
Light, Randall
Luzietti, Brian H.
Magrino, Filomena
Matthews, Jonathan
McElwee, Michael
McNulty, Vincenza Jane
McTague, Julie
Morosky, Katherine

Nocturne, Margaret
Nuzzo, Katherine
Panos, Paula
Pieratti, Maryanne
Pin, Gina
Pinsky, Jordan
Potpinka, Thomas
Poulos, Christopher
Ramirez, Jennifer Short
Rao, Christina
Rappelfeld, Brian
Reimold, Scott
Richter, Thomas
Rivers, Daniel
Roszko, Patricia
Rowland, Andrea Jean
Salko-Peddle, Sheila H.
Santangeli, Michael
Sheehy, Mary Ann
Siddell, Kathleen
Skalkos, Leann
Smith, Barbara
Smith, Randall
Sopko, Joseph S.
Sopko, Michelle S.
Spinner, Daniel
Staley, Jessica
Stragazzi, Matthew
Sugden, Mary Elizabeth
Swift, Ryan
Taubner, Debra
Therien, Beth
VanAusdal, Sandra
Vialotti, Laura
Waterman, Waltraut
Whiting, Jacquelyn
Wright, Alison

Special Education Teachers:

Egan, Margaret
Feranec, Sandra
Hoyt, Rebecca
Hrebin, Mary Pat
Powers, John
Queen, Christine
Schutt, Cheryl
Straggazi, Matt
Sullivan, Karen

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TOWN DIRECTORY

EMERGENCY - POLICE - FIRE - AMULANCE	911
NON-EMERGENCY POLICE - FIRE - AMBULANCE	203-268-4111
TOWN HALL	203-268-6291
FAX	203-268-4928
FIRST SELECTMAN	
ASSESSOR	
TOWN CLERK	
TAX COLLECTOR	
TREASURER	
BUILDING DEPARTMENT	
HEALTH DEPARTMENT	
PLANNING & ZONING	
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	
CONSERVATION	
REGISTRARS	
FAX - TOWN CLERK	203-261-6080
LIBRARY	203-261-0134
SENIOR CENTER	203-268-1145
MUNICIPAL AGENT	203-268-1137
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT	203-268-0714
PARK & RECREATION DEPARTMENT	203-268-7200
DOG WARDEN	203-268-9172
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS - CENTRAL OFFICE	203-261-2513
SAMUEL STAPLES SCHOOL	203-261-3607
HELEN KELLER MIDDLE SCHOOL	203-268-8651
JOEL BARLOW HIGH SCHOOL	203-938-2508
<u>EASTON POST OFFICE</u>	<u>203-261-8386</u>
PROBATE JUDGE - JOHN P. CHIOTA	203-452-5068
FAX	203-452-5092
STATE OFFICIALS - SENATOR JOHN MCKINNEY REPRESENTATIVE JOHN SHABAN	
U.S.OFFICIALS - SENATOR JOSEPH LIEBERMAN SENATOR RICHARD BLUMENTHAL CONGRESSMAN JIM HIMES	

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS - BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Advisory Board Easton Senior Center	2nd Tuesday	5:00 p.m.
Senior Center		
Agricultural Commission	2nd Tuesday	7:00 p.m.
As announced		
Animal Control Committee	2nd and 4th Wednesdays	7:00 p.m.
Police Department		
Annual Town Meeting	Last Monday in April	8:00 p.m.
Samuel Staples School		
Board of Assessment Appeals		
Assessor's Office - Town Hall		
Property Tax Grievances - March		
Motor Vehicle Tax Grievances - September		
Assessor's Office - Town Hall		
Board of Education	Monthly - Check Posting	7:30 p.m.
Helen Keller Middle School		
Board of Ethics	As Required	
Town Hall Conference Room		
Board of Finance	1st Tuesday	7:30 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room		
Board of Selectmen	1st and 3rd Thursdays	7:30 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room		
Board of Zoning Appeals	1st Monday	5:30 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room		
Cemetery Committee	As required	3:00 p.m.
As Announced		
Clean Energy Task Force	4th Thursday	7:30 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room		
Commission for the Aging	1st Monday	5:00 p.m.
Senior Center		
Conservation Commission	2nd and 4th Tuesdays	7:30 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room		
EMS Commission	2nd Wednesday	7:00 p.m.
EMS Headquarters		
Financial Oversight Committee	3rd Tuesday	6:30 p.m.
Joel Barlow High School		
Fire Commission	3rd Wednesday	7:30 p.m.
Firehouse		
Human Resources Advisory Committee	As Required	
Insurance Commission	As Required	
Town Hall Conference Room		
Land Preservation and Acquisition Authority	2nd Tuesday-every other month	7:30 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room		
Library Board of Trustees	1st Monday	7:00 p.m.
Library Conference Room		
9-11 Memorial Building Committee	3rd Wednesday	7:00 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room		
Park & Recreation	1st Monday	7:30 p.m.
Helen Keller Middle School		
Pension Committee	2nd Tues. Jan,May,Aug,and Nov	5:30 p.m.
Joel Barlow High School		

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS - BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Pension & Employee Benefits	2nd Tuesday - Bimonthly	8:30 a.m.
Town Hall Conference Room		
PHNA	4th Monday	
As Announced		
Planning & Zoning Commission	2nd and 4th Mondays	7:00 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room		
Police Commission	2nd Monday	5:30 p.m.
As Announced		
Regional Board of Education	Check Posting	7:30 p.m.
Joel Barlow High School		
Safety and Health Committee	As Required	
Town Hall Conference Room		
Senior Center Building Committee	Every Monday	7:15 p.m.
Senior Center		
Solid Waste Commission	2nd Wednesday	4:00 p.m.
Town Hall Conference Room		
Tax Relief for the Elderly	As Required	
Senior Center		

TOWN CALENDAR

SELECTMAN'S OFFICE	Monday-Friday	8:30-4:30
ASSESSOR	Monday-Friday	8:30-4:30
TOWN CLERK	Monday-Friday	8:00-3:30
TAX COLLECTOR	Monday-Friday	8:30-4:30
TREASURER	Monday-Friday	8:30-4:30
BUILDING DEPARTMENT	Monday-Friday	8:30-12:30&1:00-4:30
HEALTH DEPARTMENT	Monday,Wednesday,Friday	8:30-12:30&1:00-4:30
PLANNING & ZONING	Monday,Wednesday.,Thurs.,Fri.	10:30-3:00
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	Tuesday	10:30-3:00
CONSERVATION	Monday-Friday	8:30-12:30
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS	Thursday Friday	10:00 – 2:00 12:30 – 4:30
LIBRARY	Monday, Friday Tuesday, Wednesday Thursday Saturday Closed Sundays	10:00-5:00 10:00-8:00 10:00-6:00 10:00-3:00
SENIOR CENTER	Monday-Friday	8:00-3:30
MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY	Monday-Friday	8:00-1:00
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT	Monday-Friday	7:00-3:30
PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT	Monday-Friday	8:30-12:30
TAXES DUE	FIRST HALF July 1 st	SECOND HALF January 1 st
DOG LICENSES DUE – TOWK CLERK	June 1 st	
HUNTING & FISHING LICENSES – TOWK CLERK	All Year	
REGISTRATION OF BEES – TOWN CLERK	Before October 1 st	
TRANSFER STATION PERMITS-RECEPTIONIST	Monday-Friday	8:30-4:30
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING	Last Monday in April	8:00 P.M.

29 South Main Street
P.O. Box 272000
West Hartford, CT 06127-2000

Tel 860.561.4000
Fax 860.521.9241
blumshapiro.com

2 Enterprise Drive
P.O. Box 2488
Shelton, CT 06484-1488

Tel 203.944.2100
Fax 203.944.2111
blumshapiro.com

BlumShapiro

Accounting | Tax | Business Consulting

Independent Auditors' Report

Board of Finance
Town of Easton
Easton, Connecticut

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Easton, Connecticut, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2011, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These basic financial statements are the responsibility of the Town's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the basic financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town's internal control over financial reporting. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the basic financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and the significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall basic financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Easton, Connecticut, as of June 30, 2011, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, thereof for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 15, 2011 on our consideration of the Town of Easton, Connecticut's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

Management's discussion and analysis on pages 3 through 9, the budgetary comparison information on pages 45 through 49, are not required parts of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of Easton, Connecticut's basic financial statements. The combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements and schedules are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements and schedules have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Blum, Shapiro & Company, P.C.

December 15, 2011

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011

Management of the Town of Easton offers readers these financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Town for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011.

The purpose of the MD&A is to provide to the reader an interpretation of the financial information and results of the fiscal year.

Financial Highlights

- The assets of the Town exceeded its liabilities at the close of the most recent year by \$59,905,882 (*net assets*). Of this amount, \$4,275,449 (*unrestricted net assets*) may be used to meet the Town's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.
- The Town's total net assets increased by \$54,859. Substantially all of the increase is attributable to capital expenditures in excess of depreciation expense and an increase in investment income.
- As of the close of the current fiscal year, the Town's governmental funds reported a combined deficit ending fund balance of \$(1,094,373). The deficit is attributable to capital projects that have not yet been permanently financed.
- At the end of the current fiscal year, unassigned fund balance for the general fund was \$3,269,780 or 8% of total general fund expenditures and transfers out.
- The Town's total long-term obligations decreased by \$2,440,000 during the current fiscal year.

Overview of the Basic Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis are intended to serve as an introduction to the Town of Easton's basic financial statements. The Town's basic financial statements comprise three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to basic financial statements. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the Town's finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The statement of net assets presents information on all of the Town's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net assets. Over time, increases or decreases in net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Town is improving or deteriorating.

The statement of activities presents information showing how the Town's net assets changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net assets are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (e.g., uncollected taxes and earned but unused vacation leave).

The government-wide financial statements present only government activities whose functions are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues. The governmental activities of the Town include general government, public safety, public works, health and welfare, education, library, and parks and recreation.

Fund Financial Statements. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Town uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the Town can be divided into three categories: governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds.

Governmental funds. Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resource, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a Town's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the Town's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

The Town maintains several individual governmental funds. Information is presented separately in the governmental fund balance sheet and in the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances for the general fund and bonded capital project fund, both of which are considered to be a major fund. Data from the other governmental funds are combined into a single, aggregated presentation. Individual fund data for each of these nonmajor governmental funds is provided in the form of combining statements elsewhere in this report.

The Town adopts an annual appropriated budget for its general fund. A budgetary comparison statement has been provided for the general fund to demonstrate compliance with this budget.

Proprietary funds. The Town maintains one proprietary fund. Internal service funds are an accounting device used to accumulate and allocate costs internally among the Town's various functions. The Town uses an internal service fund to account for the Board of Education medical insurance benefits. This activity has been included within governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements.

Fiduciary funds. Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the Town. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because the resources of those funds are not available to support the Town's own programs. The accounting used for fiduciary funds is much like that used for proprietary funds.

Notes to Basic Financial Statements. The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

Other Information. In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary information concerning the Town's progress in funding its obligation to provide pension benefits to its employees.

The combining statements referred to earlier in connection with nonmajor governmental funds are presented immediately following the required supplementary information on pensions.

Government-Wide Financial Analysis

As noted earlier, net assets may serve over time as a useful indicator of a Town's financial position. In the case of the Town, assets exceeded liabilities by \$59,905,882 at the close of the most recent fiscal year.

A large portion of the Town's net assets (91%) reflects its investment in capital assets (e.g., land, construction in progress, land improvements, buildings, building improvements, machinery and equipment and vehicles), less any related debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding. The Town uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the Town's investment in its capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities.

**TOWN OF EASTON NET ASSETS
JUNE 30, 2011 AND 2010**

	Governmental Activities	
	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
Current and other assets	\$ 11,778,630	\$ 12,305,222
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	<u>92,448,395</u>	<u>93,458,482</u>
Total assets	<u>104,227,025</u>	<u>105,763,704</u>
Long-term debt outstanding	32,523,414	31,303,111
Other liabilities	<u>11,797,729</u>	<u>14,609,570</u>
Total liabilities	<u>44,321,143</u>	<u>45,912,681</u>
Net Assets:		
Invested in capital assets, net of debt	55,630,433	53,742,220
Unrestricted	<u>4,275,449</u>	<u>6,108,803</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>\$ 59,905,882</u>	<u>\$ 59,851,023</u>

None of the Town's net assets represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The remaining balance of unrestricted net assets, \$4,275,449 may be used to meet the Town's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors. At the end of the current fiscal year, the Town is able to report positive balances in both categories of net assets for the Town as a whole.

**TOWN OF EASTON CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2011 AND 2010**

	Governmental Activities	
	2011	2010
Revenues:		
Program revenues:		
Charges for services	\$ 1,834,112	\$ 1,748,630
Operating grants and contributions	2,574,110	2,460,870
General revenues:		
Property taxes	37,141,113	36,028,201
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific purposes	222,757	280,491
Investment income	238,911	563,996
Miscellaneous	44,219	21,940
Total revenues	42,055,222	41,104,128
Program expenses:		
General government	3,607,371	3,393,337
Public safety	4,080,618	3,564,387
Public works	3,300,634	3,061,206
Health and welfare	505,771	504,100
Education	27,090,890	26,294,245
Library	799,462	859,668
Parks and recreation	853,867	791,741
Interest expense	1,761,750	1,344,839
Total expenses	42,000,363	39,813,523
Increase in Net Assets	54,859	1,290,605
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	59,851,023	58,560,418
Net Assets - End of Year	\$ 59,905,882	\$ 59,851,023

Financial Analysis of the Town's Funds

As noted earlier, the Town uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental funds. The focus of the Town's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the Town's financing requirements. In particular, unreserved fund balance may serve as a useful measure of a Town's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

As of the end of the current fiscal year, governmental funds reported a combined deficit ending fund balance of \$(1,094,373), which is mainly attributed to the issuance of bond anticipation notes.

The general fund is the operating fund of the Town. At the end of the current fiscal year, unassigned fund balance was \$3,269,980. As a measure of the general fund's liquidity, it may be useful to compare the unassigned fund balance to total general fund expenditures. Unassigned fund balance represents 8% of total general fund expenditures and other financing uses, while total fund balance represents 10% of that same amount.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

The most significant difference between the original budget and the final amended budget included additional appropriations of \$95,687 and budget transfers of \$151,480 from various departments to the transfers out account to purchase equipment. The Board of Finance made special appropriations to the Senior Center, Fire Department, Town Attorney account, Insurance, MERS and Professional Services and transferred funds from police special service revenue and the emergency medical service special revenue fund to cover the expenditure.

A positive budget variance of \$194,154 in the fringe benefit account is mainly due to the increased percentage deductions from employees, as well as the reduced premiums in insurance costs due to a change in benefit plans and the employees' election to accept "in lieu of" the medical coverage. Also, there is a positive variance in the contingency account as the fire union contracts have not been settled.

Bonded Capital Projects Fund

This fund accounts for financial resources from general obligation bonds to be used for major capital asset construction and/or purchases.

Capital Assets and Debt Administration

Capital assets. The Town's investment in capital assets as of June 30, 2011 is \$92,448,395 (net of accumulated depreciation). This investment in capital assets includes land, construction in progress, land improvements, buildings, building improvements, machinery and equipment and vehicles.

Major capital asset events during the current fiscal year included the following:

- The Wells Hill Bridge Project.
- The (Old SSES) 660 Morehouse Road Facilities and the Easton Country Day has been renovated with a Fire Suppression System.
- The construction of the new Animal Shelter Facility that is being funded by two (2) grants, STEAP and LOCIP and Town bonding.
- The remaining additions and deletions consisted of various equipment and vehicles for Town departments.

TOWN OF EASTON CAPITAL ASSETS
(Net of Depreciation)

	Governmental	
	Activities	
	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
Land	\$ 19,028,656	\$ 19,028,656
Construction in progress	427,896	76,402
Land improvements	454,466	476,261
Buildings	53,668,877	54,568,750
Building improvements	1,304,789	1,290,974
Machinery and equipment	351,721	342,696
Vehicles	1,372,634	1,491,519
Infrastructure	<u>15,839,356</u>	<u>16,183,224</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 92,448,395</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 93,458,482</u></u>

Additional information on the Town's capital assets can be found in Note 5 of this report.

Long-term debt. At the end of the current fiscal year, the Town had total debt outstanding of \$37,455,000. All of this debt comprises debt backed by the full faith and credit of the Town.

TOWN OF EASTON OUTSTANDING DEBT
General Obligation Bonds and Notes

	Governmental	
	Activities	
	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
General obligation bonds - Town improvements	\$ 6,107,000	\$ 5,290,500
General obligation bonds - School improvements	22,522,000	23,554,500
General obligation bonds - Sewer improvements	326,000	
Bond anticipation notes	<u>8,500,000</u>	<u>11,050,000</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 37,455,000</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 39,895,000</u></u>

The Town is also obligated for a portion of the Regional School District No. 9 general obligation debt in the net amount of \$10,073,635.

On July 20, 2010, the Town issued \$8,500,000 of bond anticipation notes. These bond anticipation notes bear interest at 1.0% and mature on July 8, 2011 and are for elementary school construction and land acquisition.

During the fiscal year, the Town made bond principal payments of \$2,300,000 for school and general purpose debt.

The Town maintains an "AAA" credit rating from Standard and Poor's, for its general obligation debt.

State statutes limit the amount of general obligation debt a governmental entity may issue to 7 times its tax collections including interest and lien fees and the tax relief for elderly freeze grant. The current debt limitation for the Town is \$259,312,515 which is significantly in excess of the Town's outstanding general obligation debt.

Additional information on the Town's long-term debt can be found in Note 8 of this report.

Economic Factors and Next Year's Budget and Rates

The following are some factors that were considered in preparing the Town's budget for the 2012 fiscal year:

- The unemployment rate for the Town is currently 5.8%. This compares favorably to the state's average unemployment rate of 9.0% and the national average rate of 9.1 %.
- Inflationary trends in the region compare favorably to national indices.
- Town's elected and appointed officials considered Town-wide trends when setting the fiscal year 2011 budget. The Town decided that it was important to continue to support the school system and adopt a budget designed to promote long-term financial stability, conservative budgeting, and while at the same time, providing excellent services to our residents and taxpayers. In order to meet these objectives, work hours have been reduced in many departments, some services were reduced, and layoffs have occurred.
- At June 30, 2011, unassigned fund balance in the general fund was \$3,269,780.

Requests for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Town's finances for all those with an interest in the government's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the Chairman, Board of Finance or the Office of the Comptroller, Town of Easton, 225 Center Road, Easton, Connecticut 06612.

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS

JUNE 30, 2011

	Governmental Activities
Assets:	
Current assets:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,150,405
Investments	7,953,028
Receivables, net	1,424,502
Bond issuance costs	195,378
Total current assets	<u>11,723,313</u>
Noncurrent assets:	
Capital assets:	
Assets not being depreciated	19,456,552
Assets being depreciated, net	72,991,843
Total capital assets	<u>92,448,395</u>
Net pension asset	55,317
Total noncurrent assets	<u>92,503,712</u>
Total assets	<u>104,227,025</u>
Liabilities:	
Current liabilities:	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	2,418,160
Due to Regional School District No. 9	617,810
Unearned revenue	261,759
Bond anticipation notes	8,500,000
Total current liabilities	<u>11,797,729</u>
Noncurrent liabilities:	
Long-term liabilities due within one year	2,574,647
Long-term liabilities due in more than one year	29,948,767
Total noncurrent liabilities	<u>32,523,414</u>
Total liabilities	<u>44,321,143</u>
Net Assets:	
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	55,630,433
Unrestricted	4,275,449
Total Net Assets	<u>\$ 59,905,882</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues		Net Expenses and Changes in Net Assets
		Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions
Governmental activities:				
General government	\$ 3,607,371	\$ 695,448	\$ 132,680	\$ (2,779,243)
Public safety	4,080,618	240,744	37,396	(3,802,478)
Public works	3,300,634	419,839		(2,880,795)
Health and welfare	505,771	132,585	45,195	(327,991)
Education	27,090,890	22,032	2,322,688	(24,746,170)
Library	799,462	55,092	27,600	(716,770)
Parks and recreation	853,867	268,372	8,551	(576,944)
Interest and fiscal charges	1,761,750			(1,761,750)
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 42,000,363	\$ 1,834,112	\$ 2,574,110	\$ (37,592,141)
General revenues:				
Property taxes				37,141,113
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs				222,757
Investment income				238,911
Miscellaneous				44,219
Total general revenues				37,647,000
Change in Net Assets				54,859
Net Assets - Beginning of Year				59,851,023
Net Assets - End of Year				\$ 59,905,882

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT
BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

JUNE 30, 2011

	<u>General</u>	<u>Bonded Capital Projects</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 46,312	\$ 96,470	\$ 1,919,925	\$ 2,062,707
Investments	7,010,417		942,611	7,953,028
Receivables:				
Property taxes	704,623			704,623
Accounts	64,832		155,787	220,619
Intergovernmental	186,955			186,955
Due from other funds		500,000	600,000	1,100,000
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 8,013,139</u>	<u>\$ 596,470</u>	<u>\$ 3,618,323</u>	<u>\$ 12,227,932</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES				
Liabilities:				
Accounts payable	\$ 903,682	\$ 390,004	\$ 204,665	\$ 1,498,351
Accrued liabilities	616,975			616,975
Due to Regional School District No. 9	617,810			617,810
Due to other funds	1,291,511			1,291,511
Unearned revenue	773,181	24,477		797,658
Bond anticipation notes		8,500,000		8,500,000
Total liabilities	<u>4,203,159</u>	<u>8,914,481</u>	<u>204,665</u>	<u>13,322,305</u>
Fund balances:				
Restricted			157,513	157,513
Committed			3,284,964	3,284,964
Assigned	540,200			540,200
Unassigned	3,269,780	(8,318,011)	(28,819)	(5,077,050)
Total fund balances	<u>3,809,980</u>	<u>(8,318,011)</u>	<u>3,413,658</u>	<u>(1,094,373)</u>
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	<u>\$ 8,013,139</u>	<u>\$ 596,470</u>	<u>\$ 3,618,323</u>	<u>\$ 12,227,932</u>

(Continued on next page)

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT

BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS (CONTINUED)

JUNE 30, 2011

Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet - Governmental Funds
to the Statement of Net Assets:

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net assets (Exhibit I) are different because of the following:

Fund balances - total governmental funds	\$ (1,094,373)
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Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds:

Governmental capital assets	\$ 121,406,995	
Less accumulated depreciation	<u>(28,958,600)</u>	
Net capital assets		92,448,395

Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and, therefore, are not recorded in the funds:

Net pension asset	55,317
Property tax receivables greater than 60 days	515,764
Interest receivable on property taxes	312,305
Bond issue costs	195,378
Receivable from the state for school construction projects	20,135

Internal service funds are used by management to charge the costs of risk management to individual funds. The assets and liabilities of the internal service funds are reported with governmental activities in the statement of net assets.

222,928

Long-term liabilities, including bonds payable, are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds:

Bonds and notes payable	(28,955,000)
Interest payable on bonds and notes	(246,553)
Compensated absences	(1,056,672)
Net OPEB obligation	(793,538)
Deferred charges on refunding	(87,211)
Unamortized bond premium	(567,262)
Heart and hypertension	<u>(1,063,731)</u>

Net Assets of Governmental Activities (Exhibit I)	<u>\$ 59,905,882</u>
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES -
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011

	<u>General</u>	<u>Bonded Capital Projects</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
Revenues:				
Property taxes	\$ 37,094,655	\$	\$	\$ 37,094,655
Intergovernmental	2,233,793		523,519	2,757,312
Charges for services	890,958	113,339	822,108	1,826,405
Investment income	187,049	374	51,488	238,911
Contributions			91,481	91,481
Total revenues	<u>40,406,455</u>	<u>113,713</u>	<u>1,488,596</u>	<u>42,008,764</u>
Expenditures:				
Current:				
General government	1,941,158		179,015	2,120,173
Public safety	2,379,619		110,250	2,489,869
Public works	2,072,579		277,769	2,350,348
Health and welfare	323,644		54,856	378,500
Education	25,665,283		335,334	26,000,617
Library	530,764		27,488	558,252
Parks and recreation	396,250		217,329	613,579
Employee benefits	3,192,945			3,192,945
Insurance	606,698			606,698
Debt service	3,697,398			3,697,398
Capital outlay		58,966	501,426	560,392
Total expenditures	<u>40,806,338</u>	<u>58,966</u>	<u>1,703,467</u>	<u>42,568,771</u>
Deficiency of Revenues over Expenditures	<u>(399,883)</u>	<u>54,747</u>	<u>(214,871)</u>	<u>(560,007)</u>
Other Financing Sources (Uses):				
Proceeds from sale of refunding bonds	8,485,000			8,485,000
Premium on refunded bonds	553,795			553,795
Payment to refunded bond escrow	(8,919,993)			(8,919,993)
Proceeds from sale of bonds		1,621,000	1,054,000	2,675,000
Transfers in	103,366		221,189	324,555
Transfers out	(221,189)		(103,366)	(324,555)
Net other financing sources	<u>979</u>	<u>1,621,000</u>	<u>1,171,823</u>	<u>2,793,802</u>
Net Change in Fund Balances	(398,904)	1,675,747	956,952	2,233,795
Fund Balances - Beginning of Year	<u>4,208,884</u>	<u>(9,993,758)</u>	<u>2,456,706</u>	<u>(3,328,168)</u>
Fund Balances - End of Year	<u>\$ 3,809,980</u>	<u>\$ (8,318,011)</u>	<u>\$ 3,413,658</u>	<u>\$ (1,094,373)</u>

(Continued on next page)

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES -
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011

Reconciliation of changes in fund balances - governmental funds to changes in net assets of governmental activities

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities (Exhibit II) are due to:

Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds (Exhibit IV) \$ 2,233,795

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense.

Capital outlay	586,084
Depreciation expense	(1,587,451)

The net effect of various miscellaneous transactions involving capital assets (i.e., sales, trade-ins and donations) is to increase net assets. In the statement of activities, only the loss on the sale of capital assets is reported.

However, in the governmental funds, the proceeds from the sale increase financial resources. Thus, the change in net assets differs from the change in fund balance by the cost of the capital assets sold. (8,720)

Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds and revenues recognized in the fund financial statements are not recognized in the statement of activities:

School building grant receipts	(151,010)
Increase in property tax receivable - accrual basis change	(19,620)
Increase in property tax interest and lien revenue	66,078
Net pension asset	1,688

The issuance of long-term debt (e.g., bonds, leases) provides current financial resources to governmental funds, while the repayment of the principal of long-term debt consumes the current financial resources of governmental funds. Neither transaction, however, has any effect on net assets. Also, governmental funds report the effect of issuance costs, premiums, discounts and similar items when debt is first issued, whereas these amounts are deferred and amortized in the statement of activities. The details of long-term debt and related items are as follows:

Proceeds from sale of bonds	(2,675,000)
Bond premium	(550,429)
Bond issuance costs	(169,993)
Deferred charges on refunding	(282,779)
Bond principal repayments	2,300,000
Proceeds from sale of refunding bonds	(8,485,000)
Payment to refunded bond escrow	8,919,993

Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds:

Net OPEB expense	(296,641)
Heart and hypertension claims	27,173
Compensated absences	(7,627)
Accrued interest payable	(24,360)
Amortization of bond issue costs	109,414

Internal Service Funds are used by management to charge costs of medical insurance to individual departments:

The net revenue of the activities of the Internal Service Fund is reported with governmental activities	69,264
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Change in Net Assets of Governmental Activities (Exhibit II)	\$ 54,859
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT

GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance With Final Budget</u>
Property Taxes:				
Property taxes, current and prior	\$ 36,853,273	36,853,273	\$ 36,894,305	\$ 41,032
Interest and lien fees	100,000	100,000	181,258	81,258
Telephone access	58,427	58,427	19,092	(39,335)
Total property taxes	<u>37,011,700</u>	<u>37,011,700</u>	<u>37,094,655</u>	<u>82,955</u>
Intergovernmental:				
Educational assistance:				
Special education and education cost share	509,144	509,144	554,834	45,690
School building grant	151,514	151,514	270,231	118,717
Other	8,572	8,572	13,220	4,648
Total educational assistance	<u>669,230</u>	<u>669,230</u>	<u>838,285</u>	<u>169,055</u>
Town assistance:				
Town aid roads	83,332	83,332	113,557	30,225
Bond subsidy payments	250,000	250,000		(250,000)
Infrastructure	615,613	615,613		(615,613)
In lieu of tax loss - boats	4,814	4,814	3,896	(918)
Elderly tax relief	37,294	37,294	37,360	66
Tax relief for the totally disabled	2,991	2,991	67	(2,924)
State owned property	63,617	63,617	59,638	(3,979)
Mashantucket Pequot grant	21,395	21,395	8,063	(13,332)
Civil preparedness	4,118	4,118	4,190	72
Property tax relief (veterans)	10,329	10,329		(10,329)
Miscellaneous	15,000	15,000	31,994	16,994
Total town assistance	<u>1,108,503</u>	<u>1,108,503</u>	<u>258,765</u>	<u>(849,738)</u>
Total intergovernmental	<u>1,777,733</u>	<u>1,777,733</u>	<u>1,097,050</u>	<u>(680,683)</u>
Investment Income	<u>375,000</u>	<u>375,000</u>	<u>187,049</u>	<u>(187,951)</u>
Charges for Services:				
Town clerk	150,000	150,000	164,537	14,537
Building inspection fees and permits	105,000	105,000	95,678	(9,322)
Health department	20,000	20,000	19,305	(695)
Planning and zoning	10,000	10,000	24,110	14,110
Conservation commission	3,000	3,000	26,476	23,476
Police department	125,000	125,000	119,200	(5,800)
First selectman	85,000	85,000	76,008	(8,992)
Municipal building leases	340,450	340,450	313,516	(26,934)

(Continued on next page)

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT
GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance With Final Budget</u>
Fire marshal	\$ 40	\$ 40	\$ 40	\$ -
Parks and recreation	29,252	29,252	28,252	(1,000)
Region 9 tuition	10,082	10,082	10,053	(29)
BOE tuition	14,106	14,106	11,979	(2,127)
Recycling bins			696	696
Highway department	1,500	1,500	1,108	(392)
Other	500	500		(500)
Total charges for services	<u>893,930</u>	<u>893,930</u>	<u>890,958</u>	<u>(2,972)</u>
Total Revenues	<u>40,058,363</u>	<u>40,058,363</u>	<u>39,269,712</u>	<u>(788,651)</u>
Other Financing Sources:				
Transfer in - Park and rec activity			8,366	8,366
Transfer in - EMS	95,000	95,000	95,000	-
Total other financing sources	<u>95,000</u>	<u>95,000</u>	<u>103,366</u>	<u>8,366</u>
Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources	<u>\$ 40,153,363</u>	<u>\$ 40,153,363</u>	39,373,078	<u>\$ (780,285)</u>
Budgetary revenues are different than GAAP revenues because:				
State of Connecticut on-behalf contributions to the Connecticut State Teachers' Retirement System for Town teachers are not budgeted			1,136,743	
Premium on refunding bonds			553,795	
Proceeds from sale of refunding bonds			<u>8,485,000</u>	
Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources as Reported on the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds - Exhibit IV			<u>\$ 49,548,616</u>	

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT
GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Additional Appropriations and Transfers</u>	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance With Final Budget</u>
General Government:					
Town clerk	\$ 153,697	\$	\$ 153,697	\$ 153,674	\$ 23
First selectman	154,029		154,029	150,822	3,207
Probate court	4,625		4,625	4,625	-
Registrar of voters	62,982		62,982	44,006	18,976
Board of finance	6,500		6,500	5,067	1,433
Auditors	36,250		36,250	35,100	1,150
Treasurer	172,813		172,813	169,405	3,408
Assessor	104,972		104,972	104,756	216
Board of assessment appeals	400		400	176	224
Tax collector	91,796		91,796	86,992	4,804
Town attorney	90,000	20,000	110,000	103,789	6,211
Planning and zoning commission	107,943		107,943	104,823	3,120
Zoning board of appeals	7,219		7,219	6,351	868
Building department	93,830		93,830	90,430	3,400
Technology computer	29,854		29,854	24,211	5,643
Town Hall	135,373		135,373	116,035	19,338
Communication dispatchers	224,112		224,112	194,603	29,509
Commission for the elderly	51,692		51,692	51,694	(2)
Senior center	153,944	9,313	163,257	156,136	7,121
SSS building	370,627		370,627	334,998	35,629
Cemetery	2,450		2,450	2,406	44
Public celebrations	450		450	1,059	(609)
Total general government	<u>2,055,558</u>	<u>29,313</u>	<u>2,084,871</u>	<u>1,941,158</u>	<u>143,713</u>
Public Safety:					
Police department	1,517,120	9,511	1,526,631	1,507,048	19,583
Fire department	735,016	42,884	777,900	772,655	5,245
Fire marshall	28,554		28,554	19,544	9,010
Emergency management	8,593		8,593	8,088	505
Firehouse rent	40,000		40,000	40,000	-
Conservation commission	36,171		36,171	32,284	3,887
Total public safety	<u>2,365,454</u>	<u>52,395</u>	<u>2,417,849</u>	<u>2,379,619</u>	<u>38,230</u>
Public Works:					
Recycling	127,200		127,200	123,300	3,900
Highway department	1,925,635	(1,566)	1,924,069	1,888,302	35,767
Street lights	1,432	214	1,646	1,647	(1)
Engineering and professional service:	39,330	20,000	59,330	59,330	-
Total public works	<u>2,093,597</u>	<u>18,648</u>	<u>2,112,245</u>	<u>2,072,579</u>	<u>39,666</u>
Health and Welfare:					
Health director	77,334		77,334	72,335	4,999
EMS commission	260,979		260,979	249,505	11,474
Welfare	4,091		4,091	1,804	2,287
Total health and welfare	<u>342,404</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>342,404</u>	<u>323,644</u>	<u>18,760</u>

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT

GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Additional Appropriations and Transfers</u>	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance With Final Budget</u>
Education:					
Easton Board of Education:					
General instruction	\$ 6,925,467	\$ (59,127)	\$ 6,866,340	\$ 6,852,133	\$ 14,207
Kindergarten	10,940	(322)	10,618	8,616	2,002
Humanities	25,393	(3,817)	21,576	18,228	3,348
Integrated language arts	26,071	1,586	27,657	26,444	1,213
Curriculum	56,720	965	57,685	55,717	1,968
Science/math technology	35,404	(937)	34,467	34,432	35
Physical education/health	4,450	140	4,590	4,533	57
Special services	23,500	5,903	29,403	37,543	(8,140)
Special education	3,294,445	(16,749)	3,277,696	3,056,015	221,681
Guidance	6,802	335	7,137	7,064	73
Health services	172,833	(813)	172,020	166,542	5,478
Psychological services	11,710	2,500	14,210	9,319	4,891
Speech services	16,300		16,300	7,432	8,868
Educational media services	49,430	(1,489)	47,941	48,450	(509)
Technology plan	258,356	36,525	294,881	307,920	(13,039)
Board of education	72,554		72,554	99,496	(26,942)
Central administration	520,888	360	521,248	521,248	-
School administration	941,178	(24,269)	916,909	910,602	6,307
physical plant	1,422,787	58,927	1,481,714	1,529,686	(47,972)
Student transportation	803,021	2,982	806,003	803,227	2,776
Food service	3,300	(2,700)	600	6,148	(5,548)
Total Easton Board of Education	<u>14,681,549</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,681,549</u>	<u>14,510,795</u>	<u>170,754</u>
Regional School District No. 9	<u>10,065,195</u>		<u>10,065,195</u>	<u>10,017,745</u>	<u>47,450</u>
Total education	<u>24,746,744</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>24,746,744</u>	<u>24,528,540</u>	<u>218,204</u>
Library	<u>556,281</u>		<u>556,281</u>	<u>530,764</u>	<u>25,517</u>
Parks and Recreation:					
Parks and recreation commission	361,882	19,325	381,207	357,920	23,287
Tree warden	39,780		39,780	38,330	1,450
Total parks and recreation	<u>401,662</u>	<u>19,325</u>	<u>420,987</u>	<u>396,250</u>	<u>24,737</u>
Employee Benefits:					
Pensions	996,657	16,909	1,013,566	1,006,042	7,524
Fringe benefits	1,975,808		1,975,808	1,781,654	194,154
Social Security and Medicare	420,540		420,540	405,249	15,291
Total employee benefits	<u>3,393,005</u>	<u>16,909</u>	<u>3,409,914</u>	<u>3,192,945</u>	<u>216,969</u>

(Continued on next page)

TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT

GENERAL FUND
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES
BUDGET AND ACTUAL (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Additional Appropriations and Transfers</u>	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance With Final Budget</u>
Insurance	\$ 596,972	\$ 9,750	\$ 606,722	\$ 606,698	\$ 24
Other-Contingency	125,000	(57,772)	67,228	-	67,228
Debt Service:					
Principal retirement	2,386,053	811	2,386,864	2,386,864	-
Interest	1,182,563	(811)	1,181,752	1,147,782	33,970
Fiscal agent fees	46,000		46,000	43,950	2,050
Total debt service	<u>3,614,616</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,614,616</u>	<u>3,578,596</u>	<u>36,020</u>
Total expenditures	<u>40,291,293</u>	<u>88,568</u>	<u>40,379,861</u>	<u>39,550,793</u>	<u>829,068</u>
Other Financing Uses:					
Transfers out:					
Dog fund	62,590		62,590	62,590	-
Senior Center		7,119	7,119	7,119	-
Capital nonrecurring	151,480		151,480	151,480	-
Total other financing uses	<u>214,070</u>	<u>7,119</u>	<u>221,189</u>	<u>221,189</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Expenditures and Other Financing Uses	<u>\$ 40,505,363</u>	<u>\$ 95,687</u>	<u>\$ 40,601,050</u>	39,771,982	<u>\$ 829,068</u>
Budgetary expenditures are different than GAAP expenditures because:					
State of Connecticut on-behalf payments to the Connecticut State Teachers' Retirement System for Town teachers are not budgeted				1,136,743	
Payment to refunded bond escrow				8,919,993	
Issuance costs on bond refunding				<u>118,802</u>	
Total Expenditures and Other Financing Uses as Reported on the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds - Exhibit IV				<u>\$ 49,947,520</u>	

**TOWN OF EASTON, CONNECTICUT
REPORT OF TAX COLLECTOR
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2011**

Grand List Year	Uncollected Taxes July 1, 2010	Current Year Levy	Lawful Corrections		Transfers to Suspense	Adjusted Taxes Collectible	Taxes	Collections Interest and Liens		Uncollected Taxes June 30, 2011
			Additions	Deductions				Total	Total	
2009	\$	\$ 37,171,328	\$ 17,393	\$ 104,567	\$	\$ 37,084,154	\$ 36,632,127	\$ 91,242	\$ 36,723,369	\$ 452,027
2008	376,587		538	54,036		323,089	131,843	30,771	162,614	191,246
2007	154,847		155	43,210	9,736	102,056	44,924	28,645	73,569	57,132
2006	73,875		239	41,797		32,317	1,133	17,934	19,067	31,184
2005	27,258		113	113		27,258	16,000	12,666	28,666	11,258
2004	6,991					6,991				6,991
2003	3,138					3,138				3,138
2002	2,460					2,460				2,460
2001	4,174					4,174				4,174
2000	3,408					3,408				3,408
1999	5,192					5,192				5,192
1998	3,177					3,177				3,177
1997	6,934					6,934				6,934
1996	10,732					10,732				10,732
1995	9,077					9,077				9,077
1994	6,493					6,493				6,493
Total	\$ 694,343	\$ 37,171,328	\$ 18,438	\$ 243,723	\$ 9,736	\$ 37,630,650	\$ 36,826,027	\$ 181,258	\$ 37,007,285	\$ 804,623
				Refunds adjustment			(55,328)			
				Property taxes receivable considered available:						
				June 30, 2010			(65,253)			
				June 30, 2011			188,859			
				Property Tax Revenues			\$ 36,894,305			

TOWN OF EASTON, CT 06612

