

TOWN OF AVON



2013–2014 ANNUAL REPORT
2015 CALENDAR

TOWN OF AVON, CONNECTICUT
ANNUAL REPORT for 2013/2014 and CALENDAR YEAR 2015

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DEPARTMENT AND DIVISION HEADS

Town Manager.....	Brandon Robertson.....	(860) 409-4300
Assessor	Harry DerAsadourian	(860) 409-4335
Avon Volunteer Fire Department	Rob Shillington	(860) 677-2644
Building Official	James Sansone.....	(860) 409-4316
Chief of Police	Mark Rinaldo.....	(860) 409-4214
Collector of Revenue	Deborah Fioretti	(860) 409-4306
Deputy Director of Public Works	Alexander M. Trujillo	(860) 673-6151
Director of Finance	Margaret M. Colligan.....	(860) 409-4344
Director of Health (Farmington Valley Health District).....	Jennifer C. Kertanis.....	(860) 352-2333
Director of Human Resources.....	William F. Vernile.....	(860) 409-4303
Director of Planning & Community Development.....	Steven M. Kushner.....	(860) 409-4329
Director of Public Works	Bruce C. Williams	(860) 673-6151
Director of Recreation and Parks	Ruth Checko	(860) 409-4333
Director of Social Services	Alan E. Rosenberg.....	(860) 409-4346
Emergency Management Director	James W. DiPace	(860) 409-4390
Fire Chief.....	Michael Trick	(860) 677-2644
Fire Marshal.....	James W. DiPace.....	(860) 409-4319
Library Director	Glenn Grube	(860) 673-9712
Public Works Foreman (Buildings & Grounds) <i>Acting</i>	Paul Hoekman	(860) 673-6151
Public Works Foreman (Roadways)	Paul Welsh.....	(860) 673-6151
Town Accountant.....	Laurie Dorn	(860) 409-4339
Town Clerk	Ann L. Dearstyne	(860) 409-4310
Town Engineer.....	Lawrence E. Baril.....	(860) 409-4378

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Superintendent of Schools	Gary S. Mala	(860) 404-4700
Assistant Superintendent for Teaching & Learning.....	Donna Nestler-Rusack.....	(860) 404-4720
Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations.....	John H. Spang, Jr.....	(860) 404-4707
Director of Athletics	Greg Ferry	(860) 404-4747
Director of Facilities	Peter Gaski	(860) 404-4733
Director of Nutritional Services.....	Maggie Dreher.....	(860) 404-4734
Director of Pupil Services.....	Kelly Grant	(860) 404-4710
Director of Technology.....	Robert Vojtek	(860) 404-4716
Principal, Avon High School	Christopher Tranberg	(860) 404-4740
Assistant Principal, Avon High School	Eileen O'Neil.....	(860) 404-4740
Assistant Principal, Avon High School	Kathryn Lawson.....	(860) 404-4740
Principal, Avon Middle School.....	Marco Famiglietti.....	(860) 404-4770
Assistant Principal, Avon Middle School	James Pappa	(860) 404-4771
Interim Principal, Roaring Brook School	Thomas Russo	(860) 404-4810
Assistant Principal, Roaring Brook School	Lawrence Sparks	(860) 404-4811
Principal, Pine Grove School	Jess Michael Giannini	(860) 404-4790
Assistant Principal, Pine Grove School	Ryan Roberts-Walstrom	(860) 404-4790
Principal, Thompson Brook School.....	Michael Renkawitz.....	(860) 404-4870
Assistant Principal, Thompson Brook School	Rita Peretto	(860) 404-4870

About the Front Cover: Town Hall Campus – Window Boxes and Plantings
Maintained by the Avon Garden Club

About the Back Cover: Tillotson Road towards Old Farms Road
Photos Courtesy of Alexander Trujillo, Deputy Director - Public Works

AVON - FACTS AND INFORMATION IN BRIEF

SETTLED - Avon, formerly Northington or North Parish of Farmington, was settled about 1645. In 1830, after the construction and opening of the Towpath Canal, Avon was incorporated as a separate Town and took its name from the Avon River in England. The official Town Seal utilizes the Towpath Canal as its main theme. Physical evidence of the Canal can still be seen near the former site of the Towpath School and along the easterly side of Old Farms Road. In 1830, the population numbered 1,025 residents, increasing to 1,057 in 1880 and 3,171 in 1950. In 1960, the population numbered 5,273; in 1970, 8,352; 1980, 11,201; 1990, 13,937; 2000, 15,832; 2005, 17,082; and in 2010, 18,100.

GOVERNMENT - Avon's local government organization is established by Home Rule Charter, adopted in 1959, and amended in 1962, 1969, 1975, 1980 and 1998. Effective November 5, 1998, the revised Charter provided for a Town Manager, Town Council, Board of Finance and Town Meeting. Local elections are held every two years in odd numbered years on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November. The Town has three voting districts with three polling places.

SCHOOLS - In September 2014, school population numbered 3,317 students: 1,053 attended Avon High School; 547 attended Avon Middle School; 551 attended Thompson Brook School; 545 attended Roaring Brook School; and 575 attended Pine Grove School. The Avon Old Farms School, a private school for boys, unaffiliated with Avon Public Schools, is located in Town and has an enrollment of 402 students.

LIBRARY - The Avon Free Public Library is located at 281 Country Club Road. Its collection includes 104,660 items in print, 13,302 non-print, and 246 magazines subscriptions, including over 50 digital magazines available for download. Annual circulation for 2013/2014 was 295,590. There are more than 50 computer workstations for the public plus wireless internet access throughout the building. Programs for children, teens and adults include story times, lecture programs, films, computer classes and book discussions. 49% of Town residents have a library card. The staff consists of eight full-time and 29 part-time employees. The Library is open throughout the week; and Sunday hours are during January-March only.

PLANNING AND ZONING - Avon has a full-time professional Planning Director and an active Planning and Zoning Commission composed of seven members appointed by the Town Council to four-year, overlapping terms. A Plan of Conservation and Development, adopted in 2006, is utilized to assure orderly growth and development.

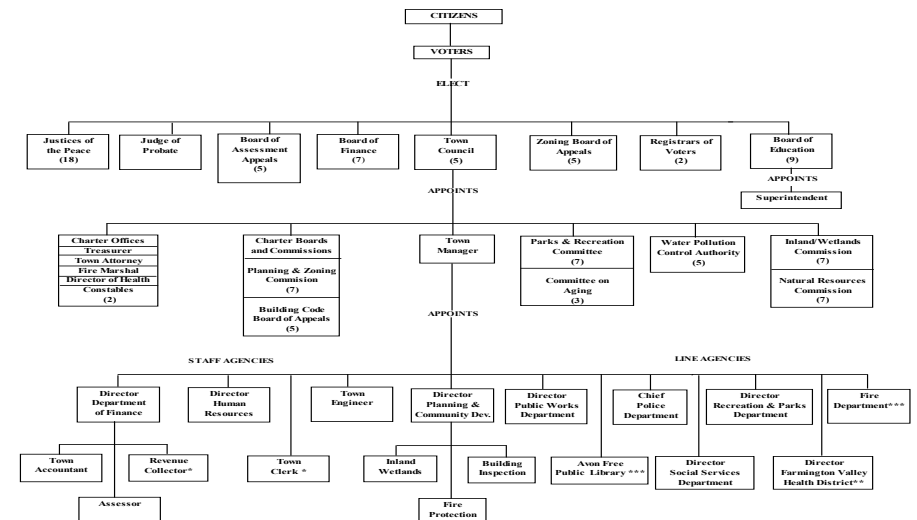
FIRE DEPARTMENT - The Avon Volunteer Fire Department is a State of Connecticut non-profit corporation chartered by the State to provide fire protection to the Town of Avon. Its roster lists 77 firefighters, 14 fire police, 19 administrative members, 18 Explorers, 17 active veterans, and 10 senior veterans, 32 lifetime members, and 14 honorary members. Membership is open to anyone who is 18 years or older and is a Town resident or works in Town. Fire equipment is housed in four strategically located firehouses. AVFD is committed to remain a Volunteer Fire Department.

POLICE DEPARTMENT - The Police Department promotes community-oriented policing and advocates positive community relations. Officers are First Responders for all medical incidents in Avon. The Department's marked vehicles are equipped with Automatic External Defibrillators and Mobile Data Terminals, allowing Officers immediate access to CT DMV and Corrections, Capitol Region towns, and the National Crime Information Center. The Department is structured as a para-military organization with an authorized full-time force of 35 sworn officers, with 32 funded, comprised of a Chief, a Captain, one Lieutenant, eight Sergeants, three Detectives, 18 sworn Patrol Officers, and a School Resources Officer. The Chief of Police and Captain are FBI National Academy graduates. Staff includes six full-time and two part-time Civilian Dispatchers, one Administrative Secretary and two full-time Records Aides. Since 1993, the Department has been accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), one of only 500 U.S. agencies attaining this prestigious designation and is also a CALEA Flagship Agency, one of three state Police Departments so designated, by maintaining 483 international standards of professional excellence.

INFORMATION DIRECTORY

POLICE AND FIRE EMERGENCY	911
Police (Routine Calls).....	(860) 409-4200
Avon Chamber of Commerce.....	(860) 675-4832
Avon Historical Society	(860) 678-7621
Avon Post Office	(860) 678-0525
Avon Senior Center	(860) 675-4355
Canine Control Officer	(860) 409-4200/409-4205
CT Transit (Route 44 to Hartford).....	(860) 525-9181
Department of Motor Vehicles	(860) 263-5700
Dial-A-Ride (Martel Transportation LLC).....	(860) 693-8941
Elderly Nutrition Program	(860) 675-4355
Energy Assistance	(860) 409-4346
Farmington Valley Health District	(860) 352-2333
Farmington Valley Visiting Nurse Association.....	(860) 651-3539
First Company Governor's Horse Guard	(860) 673-3525
INFO-LINE.....	211
Landfill	(860) 673-3677
Meals-on-Wheels (McLean Home).....	(860) 658-3700
Registrars of Voters	(860) 409-4350
Social Security Department ~ Hartford Office.....	(860) 493-1857
Specialty Transportation (Schools)	(860) 471-5981
State of Connecticut Department of Social Services.....	(860) 723-1000

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART FOR THE TOWN OF AVON



* Recommended by Manager, approved by Council.

** The Town participates in a Regional Health District.

*** The Town funds the Avon Volunteer Fire Department and Avon Free Public Library, Inc.

REPORT OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

MARK ZACCHIO, *Chairman*

The Annual Report for the 2013/2014 fiscal year is a summary of the activities of the Town of Avon's departments, boards and commissions.

In September 2013, the Town Council asked the Town Manager and staff to explore the possibility of installing solar systems on one or more municipal or school buildings through a competitive bidding process and participation in the State's spring ZREC (Zero-Emission Renewable Energy Credit) auction overseen by CL&P. Working with Murtha Cullina (Murtha), the Town issued an RFP and received proposals from nine qualified solar developers in late January. Based on detailed analysis by Murtha and staff and several rounds of interviews, a submittal from SolarCity, a national solar developer, to install solar arrays at the High School, Middle School, and DPW Garage, was recommended for further consideration. Several presentations before the Town Council and Board of Education were held and significant diligence was undertaken by both staff and Murtha and, shortly after the close of the fiscal year, the Town learned that all three projects were successful at the ZREC auction. There is no out of pocket cost to either the Town or BOE to participate in this venture. The Town and BOE, with assistance from Murtha, successfully negotiated Power Purchase Agreements (PPA) with SolarCity to buy the electricity generated on site. In addition to modest utility cost savings, the total power generated each year at the three sites will offset more than the power consumed by 58 homes in a year. And, the energy savings will bring Avon more than halfway toward its adopted goal to reduce its carbon footprint by 20% by 2020.

In October and November of 2013, leases were executed with two farmers to farm and care for the former Fisher Farm properties on Old Farms and Tillotson Roads. In late 2012, the Town of Farmington elected not to renew its lease with the farmer who had occupied the farm buildings (located in Farmington) and farmed the various properties for many years. A joint RFP was issued with Farmington to select the Phillips family to occupy the farm buildings (located in Farmington) and farm a 47 acre portion of the farm located in Avon. Operating as Sub-Edge Farm (the property's original name), the Phillips are committed to organic practices and have already rolled out a very successful Community Supported Agriculture program whereby residents can pre-pay to receive "shares" of produce throughout the growing season. The balance of property in Avon is being leased to Mr. Daniel Logue, who operates his family farm out of Woodbury and has deep farming roots in the state. Mr. Logue is growing feed corn to support his dairy business. All proceeds from the leased land is being deposited into Avon's Forest, Park, and Open Space Fund, which is reserved for the purchase, and/or maintenance of Town owned properties.

In December, the Town Council supported a small, \$5,000 grant request through the Regional Performance Incentive Grant program administered by the State Office of Policy and Management (OPM) to connect Avon to the newly created Nutmeg Network (a low cost internet access network made available to municipalities). The grant was awarded and staff and the Town's IT consultant are working to design and install the equipment and cabling necessary for the Town to join the Network. Joining the Network will result in faster connectivity for the Town at a significantly lower pricing structure. First year savings are estimated to be close to \$5,000.

In March of 2014, the Town learned that a Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) application in the amount of \$450,000 had been awarded by OPM so that Avon could continue to implement its Village Center lighting and sidewalk plan. Work to date has resulted in the installation of ADA sidewalks, decorative lighting, and granite curbing along the north side of Route 44 from the Town Green to Old Avon Village as well as north along the east side of Simsbury Road from Route 44 to Fisher Drive. The most recent award will allow the work to continue north along the east side of Simsbury Road toward the Simsbury town line. Including this round of funding, Avon has received

more than \$1.0 million in STEAP funding since 2008. These important streetscape projects make the commercial center more accessible to cyclists and pedestrians on the trail as well as patrons of Sperry Park.

In April 2014, the Town celebrated the completion of yet another successful public-private partnership project to replace the kindergarten and elementary playscapes. The RBS PTO partnered with staff from the Town Manager's Office and the Department of Public Works to issue an RFP and facilitate the purchase and installation of the new equipment through a combination of fundraising, grants, and in-kind services. Over the past few years, the Town has supported a number of similar projects, including the Pine Grove School playscape and the Avon Middle School tennis courts. Projects like these are a great example of the public and private sector coming together to improve the community in ways that do not overburden the tax levy.

On May 14, 2014, Avon voters approved the fiscal year 2014/2015 budget at referendum with a 2.60% spending increase and a 2.41% tax increase by a margin of 2 to 1. This marked the sixth year in a row that the budget passed on the first referendum. This budget represented a true balance of the town's needs with the community's desire for balanced spending. The three boards were very grateful for the overwhelming support.

In closing, one of our priorities as your elected officials is to continue to respond to your comments and ideas relative to the needs of our community. Your attendance and input at our meetings assist us to recognize your expectations and we encourage your continued participation.



Photo (l to r) William Stokesbury, Heather Maguire, Mark Zacchio (Chairman), Douglas Evans, David Pena

DECEMBER 2014

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January 2015

FEBRUARY 2015

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
CHRISTMAS TREE PICK-UP 1/2/2015—1/30/2015 YEAR 2015 SPORTING LICENSES AVAILABLE JANUARY 2, 2015		IMPORTANT NOTICE TO RESIDENTS FROM YOUR PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT The Town of Avon is not responsible for any damaged sprinkler, landscaping, fences, or other such intrusions into the Town's Right of Way.		<i>1</i> NEW YEAR'S DAY Taxes Due <div>TOWN HALL, LIBRARY & SCHOOLS CLOSED</div>	<i>2</i> <div>SCHOOLS CLOSED</div>	<i>3</i> Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
<i>4</i> Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i> Inland Wetlands Commission	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i> Town Council AWPCA	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i> Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
<i>11</i> Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i> Planning & Zoning Commission	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i> <div>SCHOOLS CLOSED TEACHER IN-SERVICE DAY</div>	<i>17</i> Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
<i>18</i> Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	<i>19</i> MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY <div>TOWN HALL, LIBRARY & SCHOOLS CLOSED</div>	<i>20</i> Library Board Meeting Board of Education AHS Community Room	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i> Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
<i>25</i> Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	<i>26</i> Board of Finance	<i>27</i> Planning & Zoning Commission	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i> Zoning Board of Appeals	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i> Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER

BRANDON ROBERTSON, *Town Manager*

Per the Town Charter, the Annual Report is a summary of the activities of the Town's Departments, Boards, Commissions, and Agencies for the prior fiscal year. I am pleased to convey herewith those reports for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014.

Fiscal year 2013/2014 was another busy year in Avon in terms of construction activity, infrastructure improvements, and capital acquisitions. In the schools, a number of important capital projects were included in the fiscal year 2014/2015 Capital Budget and started prior to the close of fiscal year 2013/2014, totaling \$555,637. The largest of the projects included the replacement of classroom flooring and ceiling tiles throughout much of Roaring Brook School. Related, the RBS fire alarm system was near the end of its useful life and was replaced this past summer with a modern system that includes the ability to function to communicate messages throughout the school. The Middle School received new media center flooring and funds were budgeted to make drainage improvements on the AMS site. The High School track was resurfaced and a number of energy efficiency related projects across school sites were budgeted, including window and door sealing and new gym lighting at AHS and Thompson Brook School. Town and BOE staff did a tremendous job of coordinating this long list of work within the school's summer recess window. On the Town side, funding was again included toward the purchase of new fire apparatus; over the past four fiscal years, \$1.05 million has been designated for the purchase of fire apparatus and it is anticipated that two new fire engines will roll into Town in fiscal year 2015/2016 (there is a 12-18 month lead time).

Road maintenance continues to be a high priority for the Town Council, and fiscal year 2013/2014 was no exception, with funding in the amount of \$600,797. The Town Council was able to increase this figure for fiscal year 2014/2015 budget to \$830,000. The most significant road project completed this past summer was the completion of roadway and drainage improvements along the section of Country Club Road between West Avon and Lovely Street. Other work completed to date includes Saint Andrews, Longview, Pheasant Run, Mountain Ledge, Goodwill Trail, Henderson, and Pigot.

Another exciting project from fiscal year 2013/2014 was the completion of an additional segment of sidewalks and granite curbing in the Village Center area. Utilizing Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) funds totaling \$215,911, staff provided in-kind services and oversaw a contractor to extend sidewalks from Route 44 north along Simsbury Road (past the Board of Education Annex) to the Greenway Trail connection at Fisher Drive near Sperry Park. The project included improvements to the Board of Education driveway and parking lot as well as grading and landscaping along the former Towpath School frontage. This segment connected the commercial center to the playing fields and recreational trails for cyclists and pedestrians. In March of 2014, the Town learned that an additional \$450,000 STEAP grant had been awarded to the Town for continued streetscape improvement.

Although covered in greater depth in the Town Council's Annual Report submission, I would be remiss if I did not mention the successful planning and procurement processes for solar system installations at the Public Works garage, the High School, and the Middle School. In spring of 2015, it is anticipated that construction/installation of the Public Works garage solar system will begin; on the Town side, this 99,000 kWh/year project will reflect approximately a 10% reduction of the Town's total electricity consumption. The project is fully funded by the solar developer, SolarCity, and renewable energy credits being purchased by CL&P. The projects will both save money and reduce the Town's carbon footprint, which is one of the explicit goals that was adopted in the 2012 Comprehensive Energy Plan.

With the state and national economies continuing to struggle, the Town of Avon continues to actively seek out areas for cost savings to position the Town for what is shaping up to be the new fiscal reality. To the extent possible, the Town has continued to contract out for services, such as grounds and building maintenance, janitorial services, and snow removal. The Town continues to participate in regional purchasing and cooperative bidding through the State of Connecticut, Capitol Region Council of Governments, Connecticut Conference of Municipalities, and other consortiums. In addition, the Town and Board of Education continue to explore ways to streamline operations as outlined in the Matrix Study. The Town also continues to explore opportunities for inter-local cooperation, such as the shared Assessor position with the Town of Canton and the shared trail maintenance equipment among Farmington Valley Towns.

In closing, I want to thank all those who help make the successes and accomplishments described throughout this report possible. I look forward to supporting the Town Council in fiscal year 2014/2015 and to ensuring that services are provided to residents as efficiently and effectively as possible.

REPORT OF THE TOWN ATTORNEY

ALFRED E. SMITH, JR., *Town Attorney*

The Town Attorney and other members of the law firm of Murtha Cullina LLP are the principal legal advisors to the Town and its boards, commissions, and departments.

Claims brought or threatened against the Town demanded a substantial part of the Town Attorney's work over the past year. Although some claims were handled by the Town's insurance defense counsel, the Town Attorney monitored those claims and handled others claims directly, including employment-related claims and appeals from administrative actions by the Town. Consistent with past years, the Town was successful during the past year with respect to most administrative appeals, including those involving employment or labor disputes. During the year, we also spent substantial time assisting the Town's Board of Education in responding to a complaint issued by the federal office of Civil Rights alleging disparate treatment of female athletes at Avon public schools. The firm also is currently representing the Town in a number of tax appeals.

The Town Attorney also assists the Town with respect to governmental and transactional matters. During the past year, we advised the Town's Planning & Zoning Commission in rendering its decision on the Doppler weather tower and are defending the applicant's appeal of the Planning & Zoning decision. In addition, we worked with the Town in preparing and reviewing forms of documents used with respect to the completion of subdivisions, including a review of bonding requirements.

As in past years, we assisted the Town with respect to the procurement by the Town of goods and services. The work included work in connection with requests for proposals, invitations to bid, and related contracts. For example, we recently assisted the Town in the preparation of a new multi-year lease for the use of farmland to the south of Fisher Meadows. The firm is currently assisting the Town in the development of solar energy installations at certain Town properties. Finally, we are providing legal advice in the planning of a possible turf athletic field in the Thompson Road area. This work has continued into the 2014/2015 fiscal year.

JANUARY 2015

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February 2015

MARCH 2015

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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	2 Tax Payment Deadline	3 Inland Wetlands Commission	4	5 Town Council	6	7 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
8 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	9	10	11	12 AWPCA	13	14 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm VALENTINE'S DAY
15 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	16 PRESIDENTS' DAY TOWH HALL, LIBRARY & SCHOOLS CLOSED	17 Library Board Meeting Planning & Zoning Commission Board of Education AHS Community Room	18 Avon Clean Energy Commission (ACEC) ASH WEDNESDAY	19	20	21 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
22 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	23 Board of Finance	24	25	26 Zoning Board of Appeals	27	28 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF FINANCE

THOMAS F. HARRISON, *Chairperson*

The Board of Finance oversees budget and tax matters for the Town, serving as a bridge between the Town Council and Board of Education, and between those governmental bodies and residents and taxpayers. Under Chapter 9 of the Town Charter, the principal role of the Board of Finance is to recommend the annual operating budget for town government functions, the operation of the schools, debt service, and capital improvement projects for approval at a referendum and, then, upon a favorable vote, to set the property tax mill rate for the next fiscal year. Neither the Town Council nor the Board of Education has the legal authority to establish the tax rate. The Board of Finance also reviews and, if appropriate, approves budget adjustments during the fiscal year to reflect increases in revenues from grants or other sources and increases in expenditures due to unanticipated conditions or events.

Another function of the Board, per Chapter 5 of the Town Charter, is to designate an independent public auditor to review the Town's and the Board of Education's financial records and accounts. In addition, the Board of Finance is heavily involved in the tax impact and debt management aspects of proposed bonding for construction and other capital projects for the Town or its schools. In carrying out these functions, the seven elected members of the Board of Finance are sensitive to balancing the needs of a vibrant community that enjoys an outstanding quality of life and an excellent school system with the ability and willingness of residents and local businesses to provide tax dollars to support and maintain those assets.

The downturn in the national and regional economy that began in 2008 has affected both the Town and its residents. The October 2013 Revaluation (Avon's first since the Great Recession) resulted in a 4.83% decline in the Grand List. Coupled with reductions in state aid, the leveling-off in non-property tax revenues, and the continued need to maintain and improve the things that make Avon the great place to live that it is – all of these have combined to make the annual budget process more challenging than it may have been in the recent past. In light of all this, the Board of Finance, after careful consideration of comments expressed at the Public Hearing and in other communications from residents, unanimously recommended a budget for the 2014/2015 fiscal year that increased combined spending levels by 2.60% and raised the mill rate by 2.41%. We were extremely pleased that our recommended budget was approved by a 67% to 33% margin with 4.15% of registered voters turning out.

While our recommended budget called for some sacrifices and some difficult choices from the entire Avon community, the Board believes that it was appropriate in light of the existing economic climate. Looking ahead to the next fiscal year's budget, we will continue to be conscious of the condition of the economy and the impact of delaying capital expenditures that will need to be addressed in the future. Even in the face of increasing operating costs for both the Board of Education and the Town government, Avon has been able to maintain an appropriate surplus in its General Fund. In fact, the town achieved its stated goal of a 10% unassigned fund balance for the year ending June 30, 2014. Avon is very fortunate to have a solid and mixed tax base and fiscally conscious management, all of which contribute to its relatively stable tax rate and excellent credit rating.

In 2008, as a result of previous budget votes, the Town undertook a detailed inquiry into all its operations to determine if they could be consolidated or otherwise performed more effectively or efficiently. The Board approved a supplemental appropriation to fund the study, and one of our members served on the Administrative Services Study Committee formed by the Town Council. This Committee retained a consultant to study the Finance, Human Resources and Facilities Management portions of the Town and Board of Education Budgets. That study is complete, but the Town Manager and Superintendent continue to explore and consider the recommendations. Our Board will continue to work with them, the community, and the other boards to determine how some or all of the findings of the study can be implemented.

During the year, the Board continued to work very closely with the Town Manager, the Director of Finance, the Assessor and an independent financial consultant to oversee the management of existing debt and to review the Town's ability to take on new borrowing. In 2012, the Town's coveted AAA credit rating was reaffirmed with a positive outlook by Moody's and Standard and Poor's. The firm of Blum, Shapiro & Company, P.C. is preparing the annual independent auditor's report of the Town of Avon for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, and this should be available for inspection in the Town Clerk's office by December 31, 2013.

Our Board will continue to follow what it believes to be a positive approach to budgeting: the formal public hearings and informal public workshops that are held every spring should involve a "conversation" among local residents and businesses about Avon's overall budget philosophy and priorities on a broad basis, and not simply be a debate about whether and how much to increase spending and tax levels over the current year's budget. The Board believes that this approach will make the budget process much more open and responsive to the needs and desires of everyone in Avon.

The Board of Finance welcomes comments and suggestions from Town residents, whom we invite to attend our meetings, hearings and workshops. Regular meetings are held on the fourth Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber at Town Hall. We actively seek your input on how best to match spending expectations with fiscal realities.



Photo Courtesy of Jessie Sawyer, avon.patch.com

Photo (l to r) Dean C. Hamilton, Margaret H. Bratton, Catherine M. Durdan, Thomas F. Harrison (Chairman), Thomas A. Gugliotti, James E. Speich, Brian M. Stoll

FEBRUARY 2015

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March 2015

APRIL 2015

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	2	3 Inland Wetlands Commission	4	5 Town Council	6	7 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
8 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS	9	10 Planning & Zoning Commission	11	12 AWPCA	13	14 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
15 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	16	17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY Library Board Meeting	18	19	20	21 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
22 Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	23 Board of Finance	24 Board of Education AHS Community Room	25	26 Zoning Board of Appeals	27	28 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
29 Last Library Special Sunday Hours 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm PALM SUNDAY	30	31 Planning & Zoning Commission				

REPORT OF THE AVON PUBLIC SCHOOLS AVON BOARD OF EDUCATION

GARY S. MALA, *Superintendent of Schools*



Mission

Our mission is to inspire in each student a joy and passion for learning and a commitment to excellence, personal integrity and social responsibility.

In the wake of three of the largest reform efforts ever mandated for implementation in our state and ultimately in the Avon Public School district, last year we began the work of aligning of the pre-kindergarten through grade 12 curriculum with the Common Core State Standards, transitioned to a new form of state-wide standardized assessment with students, and put into place a new evaluation system for all certified staff.

This year, we embark on the second chapter of a journey to recalibrate our systems to those that have been adopted by both our federal and state governments. While we cannot control that which is mandated, we can control what happens in our schools and district. More importantly, it is the mindset with which we approach what is new that will allow us to move forward in the areas in which we can improve and celebrate those in which we excel.

Among the most significant accomplishments achieved for the 2014-2015 school year include:

- Designed and implemented systems and processes that have earned the respect of the community we serve
- Organized our work in a K-12 configuration
- Engaged in curriculum revision work that has gained national attention and provides equal access to a rigorous, relevant, innovative comprehensive curriculum to all students
- The system to evaluate staff will be perfected in more detail
- Expanded the district's pre-kindergarten program and has established a shared services model with neighboring districts in a satellite facility
- Maintaining a cooperative arrangement with two other districts to manage the food services program
- Expanded world language opportunities for elementary, middle and high school students
- Continue to add additional courses to the Program of Studies at Avon High School

- Additional technology equipment has been added to all schools and reorganized the system to maintain the equipment and its integration
- Classroom carpeting at Roaring Brook School and Avon Middle School have been replaced with tiling
- A new fire alarm system and new ceiling tiles were also installed at Roaring Brook School
- All schools benefited from fresh coats of paint in the classrooms and other areas in our buildings
- Over thirty (30) new staff members were welcomed to the district for the new school year including an interim principal, a new assistant principal, a director of athletics, and a cadre of certified and non-certified staff that bring years of experience to our district

Superintendent's Vision for the Avon Public Schools in the Immediate Future

As we measure ourselves against the world's best, Avon Public Schools are a place where students grow to be highly knowledgeable and skilled, self-directed, lifelong learners and ethical, responsible citizens.

- Our schools are places that demand high expectations and participation in academics, the arts, sports, competitions, community service projects and more; where obstacles are removed, enabling all students to excel to their fullest potential; where strengths and responsible risk taking are valued and used to improve student learning.
- The Avon Public Schools will maintain a rigorous curriculum in all areas.
- Our schools are places where information on student achievement and social emotional growth is routinely collected, analyzed and used to improve instructional programs and services.
- Our schools are places where teaching and learning occur anywhere at any time and involve everyone. Teaching and learning experiences occur well beyond the school walls and school day. Individual talents are nurtured, developed and celebrated.
- Our schools are places where technology is integrated into all areas of teaching and learning and aids in developing efficiencies in all district operations and communications.
- Our schools are places where buildings and grounds are always safe, clean, well-cared for and regularly used by the school and the community.
- The Avon Public Schools is a place where stakeholders - students, parents, community and staff - collaborate to make contributions that strengthen the community; where students benefit from the commitment of parents and the resources of our broader community.
- The Avon Public Schools is a place that operates with the highest degree of ethics, values and morals and is committed to maintaining the trust of the communities that we serve.
- The Avon Public Schools is a place that invites rigorous review and accepts high levels of accountability so that growth and the drive for excellence may continue and where the district is not only measured against the world's best but becomes a standard against which others can measure themselves.
- Our schools are places where serving and caring for all children are at the heart of the organization; where compassion and respect for everyone is embedded in our culture. Social greetings, smiles and exchanges of courtesy and good will are commonplace. The mutual respect, acceptance and tolerance of differences among all students, staff and visitors is celebrated.
- The Avon Public Schools believes that failure to achieve our vision is not acceptable.

Thank you all for your continued support and thank you for the privilege of serving you and your children.

MARCH 2015

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April 2015

MAY 2015

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
STREET SWEEPING BEGINS EARLY APRIL (WEATHER DEPENDENT)			1	2 Town Council	3 GOOD FRIDAY PASSOVER BEGINS <div>TOWN HALL, LANDFILL, LIBRARY & SCHOOLS CLOSED</div>	4 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
5 EASTER	6	7 Inland Wetlands Commission	8	9 AWPCA	10	11 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm PASSOVER ENDS
12	13 Annual Budget Hearing Senior Center 7:00 pm	14 Planning & Zoning Commission	15 ACEC	16	17	18 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm Annual Fishing Derby
19	20	21 Library Board Meeting Board of Education AHS Community Room	22	23 Zoning Board of Appeals	24	25 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
26	27 Board of Finance (if necessary)	28	29	30		

REPORT OF THE AVON POLICE DEPARTMENT

MARK RINALDO, *Chief of Police*

The Avon Police Department continues to serve the citizens of Avon with dignity, equality, compassion, and remarkable professionalism. The Office of the Chief of Police is responsible for the overall operations of the Police Department and is under the command of Chief Mark Rinaldo. The Avon Police Department holds accreditation from both the State of Connecticut and the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA). We are proud of the fact that we have earned National Accreditation since 1993.

The Avon Police Department's authorized work force is 35 sworn officers with 32 budgeted. Department personnel constitute a diverse work force. There are two major divisions: Administrative and Patrol.

The Administrative Division is commanded by Captain Jeffrey Blatter. It encompasses Internal Affairs, Records, Animal Control, and the Communications Unit. The Communications Unit operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and provides continuous, routine and emergency telephone answering and call dispatching to both the Police and Fire Departments. Telecommunicators handle approximately 80,000 to 100,000 calls during the fiscal year.

The Patrol Division is commanded by Lieutenant Kelly Walsh. The Patrol Division includes the Detective Unit. Avon Police officers are the first responders for medical calls and all officers are Emergency Medical Responders. Each patrol car is equipped with proper medical supplies, including automatic external defibrillators. In the previous fiscal year, police officers responded to 1,567 medical calls throughout Town. On average, police officers arrive at medical calls within three minutes, and an ambulance arrives in less than eight minutes. Our ambulance provider, American Medical Response, now provides a paramedic ambulance in the Town of Avon 24/7. They are supplemented by the UCONN Fire Department Paramedics.

Patrol officers are very active in our schools, routinely meeting students in grades K-4 at Roaring Brook and Pine Grove Schools and nursery schools concerning personal safety. Patrol Officers also teach the DARE program to sixth grade students. In partnership with the Avon/Canton Rotary Club, the Police Department participates in the Amber Alert Program, a nationwide alert system to locate missing children. Selected patrol officers are assigned as community liaisons in our larger associations of Pond Place, Secret Lake, Farmington Woods, and Whispering Pines. The Honor Guard Officers march in the Memorial Day Parade and participate in ceremonies, national sporting events, and funeral details. Regional initiatives and programs are a priority of the Town and the Department. Avon partners with Bloomfield, Canton, Farmington, Granby, Simsbury, Suffield, Windsor, and Windsor Locks in forming the North Central Municipal Emergency Services Team (aka SWAT), the Accident Reconstruction Team, the Hostage Negotiation Team, Narcotics Team, Traffic Enforcement Team, and in utilizing the Regional Gator Rescue all-terrain vehicle.

Traffic and truck enforcement remain a priority on Avon Mountain and in other areas of town. Officer Susan Kassey is certified by the State of Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles as a Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) Inspector. From July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014, officers stopped a total of 791 vehicles, with 22 vehicle stops on Avon Mountain for various violations. There were 446 non-injury accidents, 72 accidents with injuries, and no fatalities during this time period. There is a significant decline in accidents on the mountain due to the redesign of the roadway and enforcement efforts; during the reporting period, there were 16 non-injury accidents and 4 accidents with injuries on Avon Mountain Road.

The Detective Unit is headed by Sergeant Jeffrey Gilbert. The main function is to support the Patrol Division by providing special expertise in criminal investigations. The following chart represents some of the activities the Department performs:

DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES				
	FY 10/11	FY 11/12	FY 12/13	FY 13/14
Arrest	254	280	312	180
Assault	6	10	10	10
Assist Other Agency	250	278	286	206
Background Investigation	52	58	10	57
Burglary	21	28	18	10
Community Relations	164	220	332	168
Computer Forensics	1	1	4	3
Court Detail	160	160	79	28
Disorderly Conduct	150	124	161	160
Fingerprints	168	233	199	282
Larceny	192	227	231	199
Pistol Permits	38	40	126	38
Robbery	1	1	5	0
Sex Offenses	4	5	16	8



Memorial Day Parade 2014

APRIL 2015

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May 2015

JUNE 2015

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
FY 2015/2016 Landfill Permits Go On Sale May 16, 2015					1	2 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
3	4 Annual Budget Meeting Senior Center 7:00 pm	5 Inland Wetlands Commission	6	7 Town Council	8	9 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
10 MOTHER'S DAY	11	12 Planning & Zoning Commission	13 1st Budget Referendum Senior Center	14 AWPCA	15	16 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
17	18 Board of Finance (if necessary)	19 Library Board Meeting Board of Education AHS Community Room	20	21	22	23 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
24	25 MEMORIAL DAY TOWN HALL, LIBRARY & SCHOOLS CLOSED	26	27	28 Zoning Board of Appeals	29	30 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
31						

REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

BRUCE C. WILLIAMS, *Director of Public Works*

ALEXANDER M. TRUJILLO, *Deputy Director of Public Works*

PAUL HOEKMAN, *Acting Public Works Foreman (Buildings & Grounds)*

PAUL WELSH, *Public Works Foreman (Highway)*

MICHAEL MORAN, *Public Works Foreman (Machinery & Equipment)*

The goal and mission of the Public Works Department is to keep our roads clean, with trees trimmed and smooth rideability; to keep the Town's vehicles safe and well maintained; to keep our parks, grounds and ball fields mowed, landscaped and playable; and to keep our Landfill/Transfer Station open and providing high quality service to the public. Our motto is quality service and our goal is improved performance.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS: The Division has many responsibilities, including routine maintenance and technical repairs of all Town-owned buildings. In addition, the Division performs renovation and new construction projects throughout the town. Buildings and Grounds support all departments and in fiscal year 2013/2014 responded to 913 service calls. The Division provides all of the technical expertise, and routine maintenance of the lawns, public spaces, and athletic fields. This includes turf management, moving and trimming, shrubbery, and gardening of certain areas in town. The athletic fields are routinely prepared, lined, and renovated to accommodate the needs and activities of the Town.

The Division strives to improve the quality and appearance of all Town-owned facilities. Every member of the Division contributes to this goal. Ideas and plans for possible projects are prioritized and completed as funding and time allow.

AVON LANDFILL: The Town of Avon is one of the highest recycling towns in our region. We continually strive to recycle more of our waste stream.

Permit Sale History	FY 09/10	FY 10/11	FY 11/12	FY 12/13	FY 13/14
Resident (includes one day & replacement permits)	922	735	720	702	680
Senior	722	644	668	667	649
Recycling	300	338	363	334	295
TOTAL	1,944	1,717	1,751	1,703	1,624

The station processes an average of 850 tons of household waste and 550 tons of recyclables annually. This waste is then shipped to the Connecticut Resource Recovery Facility in Hartford. We also have a Salvation Army Clothing bin and a very popular exchange shed for disposal and pick-up of usable items. A user fee is collected to cover the cost of transportation and processing of most of the other materials other than household waste and recyclables.

With the enactment of the Connecticut Paint Stewardship Law, as of July 1, 2013, the Town of Avon Landfill has become a PaintCare Collection Site where residents can drop off their unused paint to be recycled. For more information and a complete list of what products are accepted, please log onto www.paintcare.org.

HIGHWAY DIVISION: Avon Public Works Highway Division is responsible for the maintenance and repair of approximately 108 lane miles of road. In fiscal year 2013/2014, Bayberry Hill

Road, Talcott Notch Rd., Stonefield Rd and Deer Run were reconstructed and re-paved. Snow plowing, storm drain maintenance, street sweeping and heavy construction are primary functions of the Division. In addition, they are responsible for care and control of trees on town owned property.

Snow Storm History		
	# of Storms	Average Cost Per Storm
FY 09/10	17	\$ 13,123
FY 10/11	17	\$ 16,506
FY 11/12	9	\$ 12,153
FY 12/13	9	\$ 21,114
FY 13/14	27	\$ 11,540

MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT DIVISION: The Division of Machinery & Equipment responsibilities include procurement, maintenance, and liquidation of the Town's vehicles and equipment. Primary functions include the maintenance and repair of emergency service vehicles for Police and Fire, emergency generators, and snow removal equipment. In addition, the Division is responsible for Buildings and Grounds, Parks, Landfill, Board of Education, and Engineering Department's vehicles and equipment.

The objective of the Division of Machinery & Equipment is to have a well maintained and prepared fleet of equipment and vehicles to service the Town's needs at all times. The Division works cooperatively with all of the Town's Departments to meet these needs.

Goals of the Division are to be progressive in the introduction of equipment and machinery to improve cost efficiencies, safety, and longevity of the Town's machinery, equipment, and workforce.

Special Dates to Note	
Christmas Tree Pick-Up	January 2 – January 30, 2015
Street Sweeping	Begins Early April, 2015 (weather dependent)
Catch Basin Cleaning	Begins July 1, 2015
FY 2015/2016 Landfill Permits Go on Sale	May 16, 2015



Secret Lake Road Paving Project

MAY 2015

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June 2015

JULY 2015

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Inland Wetlands Commission	3 2nd Budget Referendum (if necessary)	4 Town Council	5	6 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
7	8	9 Planning & Zoning Commission	10 Tentative—Last Day of School & Graduation	11 AWPCA	12	13 Sycamore Hills Pool Opens Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
14 FLAG DAY	15	16 Library Board Meeting Board of Education AHS Community Room	17 ACEC	18	19	20 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
21 FATHER'S DAY	22 Board of Finance	23 Planning & Zoning Commission	24 3rd Budget Referendum (if necessary)	25 Zoning Board of Appeals	26	27 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
28	29 TOWN HALL SUMMER HOURS BEGIN	30	REMINDER TO ALL DOG OWNERS: June is the month to renew your dog licenses Animal Control Officer: Beverly LaPlume		TOWN HALL SUMMER HOURS June 29th - August 28th Monday - Thursday: 8:00 am - 4:45 pm Friday: 8:00 am - 12:30 pm	

REPORT OF THE AVON FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

GLENN GRUBE, *Library Director*

The Avon Free Public Library had a very active year, with changes on the staff and the board of directors, exciting new programs, innovative additions to the collection and a next generation computer system that simplified and streamlined our online catalog and self-checkout experience.

Our Board of Directors welcomed three new members this year with the addition of Betsy Bougere, Anne Fitzgerald and Paula Schwartz. All three made an immediate impact by playing an important role in developing the library's new strategic plan. This plan will be our guide for the next three years, and focuses on initiatives to improve the library's collections, technology, partnerships, community space, and support of lifelong learning. By capitalizing on existing strengths, we expect to offer convenient access to excellent programs, quality services, and relevant collections for all in the Avon community.

In addition to looking to the future, the Board had opportunity to reflect on the tenure of its President, Mary Suter, when she was honored by the Association of Connecticut Library Boards. Mary received one of the ACLB's annual awards for excellence, recognizing her efforts to raise money and support for the library expansion that concluded in 2012.

Several key staff positions changed this year, with the addition of Jessica Palmer as our new Technology & Technical Services manager and the hiring of Leona Mae Page as Library Secretary. The children's department also brought on the multi-talented Tim Guay as a Children's Services Specialist and we created a new position of Library Technician which was filled by Becky Bridges. All four of these new staff members have been an asset as the library continues to evolve and grow into our new space.

In the era of Google, Kindle, and Netflix, the Library has committed to making our programming a central part of our mission, and this year was a great start. The number of programs offered more than doubled and over 20,000 people attended those storytimes, lectures, films, book discussions and classes. The traditional children's and teen summer reading program was revamped to include weekly raffles, special programs and an online reading log to track progress towards each child's reading goal. During the summer of 2013, 1,125 children and teens registered for the program and read an impressive 14,178 books!

A few months later, the library went from quantity to quality with the Avon Reads: One Book project, where we encouraged everyone in town to read *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, an award winning non-fiction book about a woman who died over 60 years ago, but whose cells have lived on and been responsible for a surprising number of medical and scientific advances. A series of programs covering the scientific, medical, ethical, historical and racial aspects of Henrietta's story was held at the library and this series culminated in visit from her daughter-in-law and great-granddaughter, both of whom addressed a crowd of over 250 about her life and legacy.

Another special series of programs this year was our commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the start of the Vietnam War. The Library partnered with VFW Post #3272 in this endeavor and we found an audience eager to hear the stories of local veterans. This project led to a continuing partnership with the VFW that is proving fruitful. The Library has provided this group with a venue to display their Post's awards and commendations and they have provided the library with detailed service histories of Avon residents who served their country, to be preserved in our local history collection.

Aside from programs, the library added a number of unique new items to our collection this year. Thanks to a grant from the Fisher Foundation, the children's department created Roaming Reader packs this year. These colorful backpacks are filled with a preselected mini-collection of high quality picture books on a single theme, such as colors, dinosaurs, animals or school. Roaming Readers are developmentally appropriate and perfect for daycare centers, pre-schools, and parents who want to promote school readiness.

For lifelong learners, the library introduced LyndaKiosk this year. LyndaKiosk offers online, self-paced courses on software, creative, and business skills taught by respected authorities in the fields. Popular topics include Microsoft Office, WordPress, and Photoshop. LyndaKiosk is available on a dedicated workstation in the library.

A collection of ten iPads for in-library use was also added. The iPads can be used to try out our e-book, e-audio, and digital magazine collections, and have been integrated into some children's pro-

grams as well. The iPads are stored in a locked charging station that also erases all personal data and restores the device to its default settings after each use.

For those who love the Friends of the Library's annual book sale, there's no need to wait for fall anymore. The Friends introduced a Booktique this year, which is a year-round ongoing sale. There is a great collection of fiction, non-fiction, children's and teen titles on shelves near the circulation desk. Most books sell for \$2 or less and all money goes to benefit the Friends of the Library and the library programs and services they fund.

On June 2, Avon, along with 29 other libraries in the greater Hartford area, migrated their online catalog to a new platform. The new catalog, called Encore, offers a Google-like single search box, enriched content including reading recommendations and book reviews, plus the ability to pay your library fines online via credit or debit card and an option to retain your reading history or other book lists in your online account.

LIBRARY STATISTICS			
Library Use	FY 11/12	FY 12/13	FY 13/14
Resident Card Holders	8,395	8,738	9,111
% of Population	47%	49%	50%
Library Visits (door count)*	N/A	N/A	155,952
Visits per capita	N/A	N/A	8.5
Circulation			
Adult Collection	112,222	152,892	144,978
Children's Collection	81,626	117,462	125,955
Young Adult Collection	9,950	13,416	15,523
Total**	211,888	290,058	297,784
Circulation per capita	11.98	16.40	16.29
Library Programs	18	564	1,233
Attendance	1,189	13,000	20,902
Reference Questions	24,983	20,737	30,222
Internet Usage	7,042	15,931	27,400
Database Searches***	190,430	353,142	103,283
Website Visits	N/A	121,300	123,160
Library Collection			
Print Collection	85,727	98,636	104,660
Non-print Collection	10,713	11,667	13,302
Added to the Collection			
Print Collection	6,955	6,375	7,610
Non-print Collection	1,201	1,220	1,415
Magazine Subscriptions	248	261	246

On-going construction activity, occasional closing of the parking lot, as well as the library being closed to patrons (9 weeks) has affected the activity indicators for fiscal year 2012/13.

**Door count unavailable for much of 2011 & 2012 due to ongoing construction.*

***Total includes downloads of e-books, e-audio, and digital magazines.*

****Database searches are being calculated in a new way beginning fiscal year 2013/14.*

JUNE 2015

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July 2015

AUGUST 2015

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
CATCH BASIN CLEANING BEGINS JULY 1, 2015			1 Tax & Sewer Use Payment Due Inland Wetlands Commission	2	3 INDEPENDENCE DAY (OBSERVED) <div>TOWN HALL & LIBRARY CLOSED</div>	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY <div>LANDFILL & LIBRARY CLOSED</div>
5	6	7 Inland Wetlands Commission	8	9 Town Council AWPCA	10	11 Library Saturday Summer Hours Begin 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
12	13	14 Planning & Zoning Commission	15	16	17	18 Library Saturday Summer Hours 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
19	20	21 Library Board Meeting	22	23 Zoning Board of Appeals	24	25 Library Saturday Summer Hours 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
26	27 Board of Finance	28	29	30	31 Tax Office Open 8:00 am - 3:00 pm	

REPORT OF THE RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT

GLENN M. MARSTON, *Director*

The Recreation and Parks Department, in close cooperation with the Avon Public School system, other Town agencies, and various civic and social organizations, has the responsibility of providing active and passive recreational opportunities for Avon residents. Through long and short-term planning, which includes program, facility, and budget considerations, the Department seeks to arrange quality activities of common interest in park, school, and private facilities. In addition to serving as the Town's liaison to the Avon Day Committee, the Department is linked to national, regional, and state-wide Recreation and Park Associations, each of which provides updated information and techniques to facilitate improved offerings and facilities to the community. The Recreation and Parks Department staff presently consists of a full-time Director and Administrative Coordinator, a part-time Secretary, Senior Center Coordinator, and a part-time Administrative Secretary for the Senior Center. The Department also contracts, on a part-time basis, with a Program Consultant. The Department supervises approximately 220 independent contractors and seasonal employees who provide direct recreation services.

In close cooperation with the Public Works Department, the Town's park and open space areas are inspected and reviewed on a regular basis to provide information for short and long term improvements to each of the areas. A map and listing of all areas and the activities available can be obtained upon request from the Recreation Office and is available on the Town's website, www.avonct.gov. Program information is available at the Department's on-line registration site: www.avonrec.com. The Department can also be contacted via email at avonrec@avonct.gov. Residents can receive all Recreation and Parks information (flyers, announcements, cancellations, etc.) via email on a regular basis by subscription to the service in the appropriate area on the Town's web page and by creating an account on the registration website.

The Department's philosophy is to provide quality recreation and park activities to as many residents, at all age levels and variety of interests, as possible. Members of the community are encouraged to contact the Recreation Office with ideas, suggestions for improvement, new programs, and constructive critique. The staff has been and will continue to be receptive to resident communication and welcomes constructive input. Participation and cooperation between the Department and the people it serves are our highest priorities

Significant Dates for 2015

April 18	Annual Fishing Derby
June 13	Sycamore Hills Pool Opens
July 6	Swim Lessons and Summer Camps begin (<i>Tentative – dependent upon last day of school</i>)
TBD	Sycamore Hills Pool Closes
September 26	Avon Day (<i>Tentative</i>)
December 5	Special Holiday Event

RECREATION STATISTICS

Summer Camp	Summer 2012	Summer 2013	Summer 2014
Grades 1 through 7	472	433	456
Extended Care (included in above)	175	138	196
Pre-School (am)	67	86	75
Pool Activities			
Household Memberships	357	322	357
Individual Memberships	18	14	13
Senior Memberships	68	46	36
Daily Attendance	14,898	9,748	12,277
Swim Lessons	273	291	255
Swim Team	120	107	105
Recreation Activities	FY 11/12	FY 12/13	FY 13/14
Youth Basketball (Grades 2-8)	471	459	437
Little Folks Basketball (Grades K&1)	112	117	68
Winter Swim Team	34	52	46
Ski Sundown	171	166	160
Fishing Derby	68	67	75
Administrative			
Charge Card Revenues	\$277,523	\$339,053	\$189,187
On-Line Registration %	48%*	65%	92%
* Average: ActiveNet (old vendor) 28% for 6 months; MyRec (new Vendor) 64% for 6 months.			



Countryside Park

JULY 2015

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August 2015

SEPTEMBER 2015

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
SANITARY LANDFILL • 281 Huckleberry Hill Road • (860) 673-3677 The Landfill/Transfer Station is <u>CLOSED</u> on all legal holidays as well as Good Friday and the Friday following Thanksgiving. Regular Hours of Operations: Tuesday and Friday.....7:30 am - 2:30 pm Saturday.....7:30 am - 1:00 pm						<i>1</i> Library Saturday Summer Hours 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
<i>2</i>	<i>3</i> Tax & Sewer Use Payment Deadline	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i> Town Council	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i> Library Saturday Summer Hours 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i> AWPCA	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i> Library Saturday Summer Hours 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i> ACEC	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i> Library Saturday Summer Hours 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
<i>23</i>	<i>24</i> Board of Finance	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i> TOWN HALL SUMMER HOURS END	<i>29</i> Library Saturday Summer Hours 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
<i>30</i>	<i>31</i>					

REPORT OF THE AVON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

ROB SHILLINGTON, *President*

MICHAEL TRICK, *Chief*

Incorporated in 1943, the Avon Volunteer Fire Department (AVFD) proudly protects more than 18,400 people living in the 22.6 square miles that make up the Town of Avon. The Department's mission is to provide fire suppression and prevention, life safety, and rescue support, as well as other emergency community support, to the citizens of the Town of Avon. In addition, the Department provides mutual aid support to those surrounding communities that, in time of need, may request such assistance.

Staffed entirely by volunteers, the AVFD prides itself on the selflessness and dedication of its more than 200 members: 77 Firefighters, 14 Fire Police, 19 Administrative Members, 18 Explorers, 17 Active Veterans, 10 Retired Veterans, 32 Lifetime Members, and 14 Honorary Members-all of whom play a vital role in the safety of Avon. The Department operates six companies and 15 pieces of apparatus, including a brush truck, ladder truck, tanker, rescue vehicle, boat, and pumper. Four stations are located throughout Town: Company 1 on Darling Drive, Company 2 on Secret Lake Road, Company 3 on West Avon Road, and Company 4 on Huckleberry Hill Road.

In 2013, the AVFD responded to more than 680 calls for service, including: fire alarms, fires, CO alarms, motor vehicle accidents, basement pump outs, and structure fires. No member is paid to protect residents' homes and businesses; this helps keep taxes down. Firefighters and fire police respond at all hours of the day and night, leaving their homes and families to help those in need.

Budget - The AVFD is funded primarily through the Town of Avon's operating budget. However, individual donations to the AVFD help keep the Department 100 percent volunteer and are critical to helping maintain the highest level of emergency response and readiness for the citizens of Avon. Up until 2011, the AVFD conducted a raffle to raise money to purchase items not included in the Town budget. However, the cost of running the raffle and offering the prizes, in addition to strict requirements mandated by the State of Connecticut absorbed a sizable portion of what was raised. The AVFD now makes an annual appeal for donations with a letter sent to residents via U.S. Mail. Those wishing to contribute now have the option of doing so online at www.avonvfd.org.

Training - Since there's no such thing as enough training, the AVFD has partnered with the Town of Farmington Fire Department to build a live fire training facility that will allow members to practice and improve their skills in a realistic setting with a more reasonable time commitment, learning how to better protect themselves so they can better protect the residents of Avon and their property.

Beyond responding to calls, receiving training, and attending meetings, AVFD volunteers are out in the community giving back in other ways. Members of the Department are actively involved with various education, fire prevention, and charitable programs throughout the community.



Fire Safety Education - Fire Safety programs are part of the curriculum at Pine Grove and Roaring Brook elementary schools and are also presented at fairs, sporting contests, daycare centers, and nursery schools throughout Town. As part of Avon Day festivities each year, it provides fire safety information for all ages.

In conjunction with the AVFD, the Avon Fire Marshal's office sponsors each October/November an annual fire prevention-themed poster contest. Fourth grade students at Pine Grove and Roaring Brook schools are eligible to enter poster designs from which one winner is selected and submitted to the Connecticut Fire Prevention Poster Committee to be judged along with winning posters from throughout the state. Winning artists from each county are featured in a calendar.

Food Drive - Since 2008, the AVFD has held regular food drives for the Avon Food Pantry. To date, the Department has collected over 11,000 pounds of food and more than \$6,000 in cash and gift card contributions.

Blood Drive - Recognizing that every minute of every day, someone needs blood and that blood can only come from volunteer donors, the AVFD holds an annual blood drive.

Citizen's Fire Academy - For those who've ever wondered what an Avon Volunteer Firefighter does, the AVFD holds an annual Citizens Fire Academy. Students learn how to put on firefighter's gear, use a fire hose, and rescue a victim during a mock automobile accident.

Giving Back - AVFD members make valuable contributions to many different charitable organizations throughout the year, from the American Lung Association to the St. Baldrick's Foundation. Pictured are AVFD members collecting money from passing motorists for the Muscular Dystrophy Association's annual "Fill the Boot" campaign.



Over the past 70 years, more than 700 Avon residents have donated their time with the AVFD, and the Department is constantly looking for dedicated volunteers to help with fire fighting, rescue, and administration. To learn more, please call (860) 677-2644 or stop by the Company 1 firehouse located at 25 Darling Drive any Monday evening after 7:00 p.m. The AVFD is online at www.avonvfd.org and www.facebook.com/AvonVFD.

AUGUST 2015

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OCTOBER 2015

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September 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Inland Wetlands Commission	2	3 Town Council	4	5 <div>LIBRARY CLOSED</div>
6	7 LABOR DAY <div>TOWN HALL, LIBRARY & SCHOOLS CLOSED</div>	8 Planning & Zoning Commission	9	10 AWPCA	11 AVFD Annual 9/11 Memorial Service	12 Library Regular Saturday Hours Resume 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
13 ROSH HASHANA BEGINS	14	15 Library Board Meeting ROSH HASHANA ENDS	16	17 Zoning Board of Appeals	18	19 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
20	21	22	23 YOM KIPPUR	24	25	26 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
27	28 Board of Finance	29 Planning & Zoning Commission	30	AVON PUBLIC SCHOOLS PHONE NUMBERS <div><div>High School Middle School Thompson Brook Roaring Brook Pine Grove</div><div>Christopher Tranberg Marco Famiglietti Michael Renkawitz Thomas Russo Jess Michael Giannini</div><div>(860) 404-4740 (860) 404-4770 (860) 404-4870 (860) 404-4810 (860) 404-4790</div></div>		

REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

STEVEN KUSHNER, AICP, *DIRECTOR*

The Department of Planning and Community Development is comprised of the divisions of Zoning Enforcement and Environmental Compliance, Building Inspection, and Fire Prevention. These three divisions, combined with Planning, are responsible for the review of all new commercial and residential construction projects, which includes providing professional and technical assistance to the Town's three land use agencies (Planning and Zoning Commission, Inland Wetlands Commission, and Zoning Board of Appeals); permitting and inspection of all approved projects in accordance with applicable zoning, building, and fire codes; as well as a comprehensive program of inspection aimed at fire prevention.

Cross training of staff has permitted an efficient, coordinated operation. The Fire Marshal is certified as a Building Official and the Building Official is certified as both a Fire Inspector and a Zoning Enforcement Officer. The Director of Planning, Planning Specialist, Planning Aid, and Building Official are all certified Zoning Enforcement Officers. The Department's organization allows the review/permit process, which often begins with an application to one of the Town's land use regulatory agencies, to be coordinated with permitting and inspection.

The Department also provides professional and technical assistance to the Planning and Zoning Commission, as well as applicants, the general public, and design consultants (engineering, architectural, law, landscape architecture, and surveying). During the past year, this was done in association with 48 applications. For a more detailed description, please see the "Report of the Planning and Zoning Commission."

New businesses that have opened recently include:

Business	Location
Goodwill	260 West Main Street (former TJ Maxx Plaza)
Advance Auto Parts	260 West Main Street
Bottle Stop Wine and Spirits	260 West Main Street
Stonepost Bakery	300 West Main Street (rear building)
New England Pasta Company	300 West Main Street (front building)
Power 10 Indoor Rowing Center	395 West Avon Road
Adelina Das, DMD	296 Country Club Road
Global Jet Services (office)	30 Tower Lane (Avon Park South)
Doggy Do's K9 Spa	296 Country Club Road
Family Nails & Spa	220 West Main Street
Pick & Mix (restaurant)	39 East Main Street (Old Avon Village)
MotoPhoto	1 East Main Street (Old Avon Village)
DKW Architecture	34 Dale Road
CT Kitchen and Bath Studio	1 East Main Street (Old Avon Village)
Wild Birds Unlimited	320 West Main Street (Westridge Shops)
Litchfield Insurance	21 Ensign Drive
Sally Beauty Supply	315 West Main Street (Nod Brook Mall)

REPORT OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

LINDA KEITH, *Chair*

CAROL GRIFFIN, *Vice Chair*

STEVEN KUSHNER, AICP, *Director of Planning and Community Development*

The Planning and Zoning Commission, acting under authority granted by the Connecticut General Statutes, regulates the development of land in Avon. The Planning and Zoning Commission consists of seven members and three alternates appointed by the Town Council. The Commission's actions are guided by the Plan of Conservation and Development, Zoning Regulations, and Subdivision Regulations. The Director of Planning provides professional and technical assistance to the Commission and serves as the Zoning Enforcement Officer.

A 74-unit assisted living facility, located at 117 Simsbury Road (across from Riverdale Farms) began construction in the summer of 2014. Renovations to the existing building at 260 West Main Street (former TJ Maxx location) have been completed for 3 new tenants, Goodwill, Advance Auto, and Bottle Stop Spirits. The "Stratford Crossing" subdivision, located off of Haynes Road, created 39 new residential building lots. The Commission conducted a public hearing on a proposal to construct Doppler weather radar located at 375 Deercliff Road. The hearing took place over 4 months and more than 12 hours of testimony was received. After careful consideration, the proposal was denied by the Commission.

Each approved subdivision/resubdivision must contribute, per State law, a portion of the total property to the Town as dedicated open space. As an alternative, an applicant may make a payment to the Town in lieu of this land dedication. In fiscal year 2013/2014, \$56,500 was received. These funds are deposited into a special account to be used solely for future open space acquisition; this account has now grown to over \$584,000.

The Commission periodically considers changes to its Zoning Regulations. A public hearing process began in July regarding a possible change to commercial sign regulations, which is supported by the Avon Chamber of Commerce. A hearing also began concerning a possible change to the Plan of Conservation and Development as it relates to 700 acres of undeveloped land owned by Avon Old Farms School.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION STATISTICS					
	FY 09/10	FY 10/11	FY 11/12	FY 12/13	FY 13/14
Meetings Held	18	18	14	17	16
Applications:					
Subdivisions	4	3	2	8	5
Site Development Approvals	12	13	16	14	10
Special Exceptions	12	17	21	12	15
Special Exceptions – Signs	13	6	6	6	7
Staff Approvals	4	6	7	5	10
Zone Change	0	3	5	1	1
Regulation Changes	2	5	0	2	0
Miscellaneous Info:					
New commercial buildings (SF)	23,200	66,000	95,600	53,000	63,000
New commercial tenants (SF)	9,000	12,700	74,000	14,600	15,000
Fees in Lieu of Open Space	\$132,000	\$32,000	\$30,000	\$27,000	\$56,500
Acres of Open Space Acquired	1	18	22	1	13
Subdivision Lots Approved	27	10	2	19	46
Total Residential Units Approved	27	10	8	19	46

SEPTEMBER 2015

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October 2015

NOVEMBER 2015

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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Town Council	2	3 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
4	5	6 Inland Wetlands Commission	7	8 AWPCA	9	10 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
11	12 COLUMBUS DAY TOWN HALL, LIBRARY & SCHOOLS CLOSED	13	14	15	16	17 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm Voter Registration Session Avon Town Hall 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
18	19	20 Planning & Zoning Commission Library Board Meeting	21 ACEC	22 Zoning Board of Appeals	23	24 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
25	26 Board of Finance	27 Voter Registration Session Avon Town Hall 9:00 am - 8:00 pm	28	29	30	31 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm HALLOWEEN

REPORT OF THE INLAND AND WETLANDS COMMISSION

CLIFF THIER, *Chairman*

MICHAEL BEAUCHAMP, *Vice-Chairman*

STEVEN M. KUSHNER, AICP, *Director of Planning and Community Development*

JOHN E. McCAHILL, *Planning and Community Development Specialist*

The Inland Wetlands Commission, pursuant to General Statutes, regulates certain activities within areas in Avon designated as inland wetlands and watercourses. During fiscal year 2013/2014, the Commission held 8 regular meetings, at which 9 applications were reviewed. Conservation Restrictions are often required as a condition of approval to permanently protect wetlands and regulated areas. The Commission also concurred with 3 Staff Approvals which were authorized by the Appointed Wetlands Agent.

The applications reviewed by the Commission included:

- **Sunlight Construction, Inc.** – Regulated activities associated with the construction of sanitary sewer, stormwater drainage, trails, landscaping and single family homes in vicinity of Lenox Road.
- **Ensign Bickford Realty Corp.** – Regulated activities associated with the excavation and removal of unsuitable soils in the vicinity of 70 Ensign Drive.
- **Silvio Brighenti Family, LLC** – Regulated activities associated with the construction of a single family home at 16 Timothy Way.
- **Oakland Developers, LLC** – Regulated activities associated with the construction of three single family homes in the vicinity of 354 & 362 Huckleberry Hill Road.
- **Homeowner Residential Projects** – Regulated activities associated with the construction of single family homes at 457 New Road, 28 Foothills Drive and 124 Hollister Drive.

FISCAL YEAR	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14
Meetings	10	9	7	8	8
Applications reviewed	10	13	10	8	9
Public Hearings	0	1	0	3	2
Applications approved	9	13	9	6	11
Pages of meeting minutes	77	55	68	93	92
Acres protected through conservation restrictions	11.87	3.48	0	1.1	6.9

REPORT OF THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

BRIAN J. LADOUCEUR, *Chairman*

The main function of the Zoning Board of Appeals, pursuant to General Statutes, is to hear requests for variances from requirements of the Zoning Regulations. Additionally, the Board hears appeals relating to decisions of the Zoning Enforcement Officer and reviews applications for automobile dealers' and repairers' licenses as agent for the Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles.

The Zoning Board of Appeals consists of five elected regular members and three appointed alternate members. During fiscal year 2013/2014, the Commission held 8 meetings, at which 15 applications were reviewed.

In reaching its decisions, the Board evaluates requests for variances based on a determination of hardship and ensures that buildings and land uses remain in harmony with the general purpose and intent of the Zoning Regulations. Variances included requests to reduce front, side and rear yard setbacks for the construction of garages, sheds, decks, pools, generators, detached buildings, and additions; and variances to allow for the expansion of non-conforming buildings. The Department of Planning and Community Development provides staff assistance to the Board.

SUMMARY OF ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS ACTIVITIES					
	FY 09/10	FY 10/11	FY 11/12	FY 12/13	FY 13/14
Meetings	10	7	8	10	8
Applications	18	14	17	17	15
Granted	18	13	17	16	15
Denied	0	0	0	0	0
Withdrawn	0	1	0	1	0
Pages of meeting minutes	30	23	23	38	24

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF ZONING ENFORCEMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

JOHN E. McCAHILL, *Planning and Community Development Specialist*

The Division of Zoning Enforcement and Environmental Compliance performs administrative duties and provides professional and technical assistance to assure that all activities on residential, commercial and other properties throughout the Town comply with the Town's land use regulations; as well as applicable state statutes and regulations. The Division routinely performs permit reviews, plan reviews, and site inspections; conducts investigations for compliance related matters, and cites violations to gain compliance with local regulations. The Division provides staffing to the Inland Wetlands Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals. It also provides technical assistance to various departments and agencies regarding environmental compliance issues and regulatory programs.

During the fiscal year 2013/2014, routine compliance inspections were conducted on numerous single family lots and 12 larger active projects. Other activities included:

FISCAL YEAR	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14
Certification of Zoning Compliance	385	518	502	496	625
Temporary Sign Permits	129	102	98	91	88
Enforcement Activities:					
Sign Violations	185	153	170	182	195
Zoning Violations	17	16	14	13	11

Additionally, the Division provided administrative and technical assistance for a number of revisions to the Zoning and Subdivision Regulations; as well as updates to the Aquifer Protection mapping.

OCTOBER 2015

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November 2015

DECEMBER 2015

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS	2	3 Election Day Polls Open 6:00 am - 8:00 pm Inland Wetlands Commission	4	5 Town Council	6	7 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
8	9	10 Planning & Zoning Commission	11 VETERANS DAY TOWN HALL, LIBRARY & SCHOOLS CLOSED	12 AWPCA	13	14 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
15	16	17 Library Board Meeting	18	19 Zoning Board of Appeals	20	21 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
22	23 Board of Finance	24	25	26 THANKSGIVING DAY TOWN HALL, LIBRARY & SCHOOLS CLOSED	27 TOWN HALL, LANDFILL, LIBRARY & SCHOOLS CLOSED	28 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
29	30					

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF BUILDING INSPECTION

JAMES SANSONE, CBO *Building Official, Fire Inspector, Deputy Zoning Officer*

The Division of Building Inspection is charged with the responsibility of ensuring compliance with the Connecticut State Building Code and related CT General Statutes. The purpose of this code is to protect the public's health, safety and welfare in all buildings and structures where they live, work and play. This is accomplished by assisting residents, building contractors, and the design community with code interpretation and guidance throughout the permitting, plan review, and construction process.

Avon, unlike much of the nation, is experiencing a moderate increase in the number of new home permits. New single-family-home building permits have typically been a major source of revenue for the Division. This past fiscal year, a total of 28 new, single-family homes were permitted. The average value of a single-family residence permitted was \$372,346. This figure represents building construction costs and does not include the cost of a building lot. The average building-permit fee for those 28 new, single-family houses was \$5,591, with an average house size of 3,560 square feet. When reviewing the chart below for more detailed reporting, please be aware that all permit types, such as construction, electrical, plumbing, mechanical, demolition, and fire protection are included in the number of building permits.



The number of both commercial permits and other types of residential permits has remained steady, with the number of plan reviews and inspections required remaining high. This year, several major projects were completed and Certificates of Occupancy issued. Among those were the New England Pasta Co. and StonePost Bakery, Advance Auto Parts, Benistar, located at 10 Tower Lane, CREC Magnet School for the Arts, located at 59 Waterville Road, and Sweet Frog Yogurt Shop and Moe's Southwest Grill, both located at the Shops at Dale Road.

Pictured is construction of a new commercial building at 117 Simsbury Road.

This year, during the month of May, the Building Department participated in Building Safety Month, sponsored by the International Code Council. This promoted awareness of Building Code importance where we all live, work and play. During May, several handouts and other promotional materials were made available at the public counter for both adults and children - in all, a successful event. The Department continues to implement the recommendations of the last ISO review completed in 2008. We are also in the process of developing mutual aid agreements with neighboring communities. These agreements would be utilized in the event of a natural or man-made disaster, where a single building department may become overwhelmed.

Fiscal Year	FY 10/11	FY 11/12	FY 12/13	FY 13/14
Family Dwelling	32	20	46	28
Commercial Buildings	1	2	2	1
Permits Issued	1,554	1826	1,954	2,005
Inspections Conducted	1,970	2,171	2,404	2,249
Permit Fees Collected	\$457,265	\$559,043	\$842,516	\$695,072
Value of Permits Issued	\$32,317,339	\$34,205,274	\$52,928,314	\$42,734,952

REPORT OF THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR AND FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

JAMES DIPACE, *Fire Marshal/EMD*

JAMES SANSONE, *Fire Inspector* / THOMAS POST, *Fire Inspector*

DENNIS BIANCHI, *Public Fire Educator – (Volunteer)*

Once again this year we combine the Emergency Management report with the Division of Fire Prevention. The Division of Fire Prevention provides fire safety code inspections for new and existing buildings, fire safety code plan reviews, public fire education programs, and determines cause and origin for all fires. This year, the Division of Fire Prevention along with the Volunteer Fire Department conducted their yearly fire safety programs for kindergarten through 4th grade at both elementary schools. Since implementing this program in the schools, we have found that students are better prepared in the event of a fire and are also less likely to start fires.

The Emergency Management Director maintains the town Emergency Operations Plan and activates/operates the Emergency Operations Center (located at the Avon Police Dept.) during town wide disasters or emergencies. This year, 30 town staff members, in conjunction with Farmington Valley Health District, participated in a day long tabletop exercise to determine how the town would respond to an emergency such as a pandemic flu. For the fifth consecutive year, all 5th grade students were instructed in Student Tools for Emergency Planning (STEP). Avon now has students in five grade levels, including the high school level, that are better prepared for a disaster or emergency.

FIRE PREVENTION – ACTIVITY REPORT - FY 13/14			
Plan Review	99	Town Safety Committee	0
Budget	7	Staff Meeting P & D	9
Communications	2	Fire Dept. Meetings	56
Complaint	10	Blasting Permit or Inspection	7
Professional Development	40	Fire Investigation	73
Construction Inspection	14	Office Administration	134
Incident Response	113	Open Burning Permit or Complaint	12
Building Code Inspection	37	Emergency Management	70
Fire Code Inspections	243	Consultation	45
Public Fire Education	525	TOTAL ACTIVITIES	1,496

NOVEMBER 2015

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December 2015

JANUARY 2016

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Inland Wetlands Commission	2	3 Town Council	4	5 Special Holiday Event Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
6 HANUKKAH BEGINS	7	8 Planning & Zoning Commission	9	10 AWPCA	11	12 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
13	14 HANUKKAH ENDS	15 Library Board Meeting	16 ACEC	17 Zoning Board of Appeals	18	19 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
20	21 Board of Finance	22	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE Town Hall Closes At 12:30 pm Library Closes at 1:00 pm	25 CHRISTMAS DAY TOWN HALL, LANDFILL, LIBRARY & SCHOOLS CLOSED	26 Library Regular Saturday Hours 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
27	28	29	30	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE Town Hall Closes At 12:30 pm Library Closes at 1:00 pm		

REPORT OF THE TOWN ENGINEER

LAWRENCE E. BARIL, P.E., *Town Engineer*

The Engineering Department also includes Sanitary Sewers and Geographic Information Systems (GIS). The Engineering Department provides technical advice to other Town departments, boards and commissions, and the public. The Department is responsible for preparing engineering designs and specifications for the construction of municipal public works improvement projects. Construction plans for roadways, drainage, and sanitary sewer systems constructed by private developers are reviewed and inspected to ensure compliance with town standards. In addition, the Department is responsible for processing excavation, driveway, and sewer connection permits and related inspections and sign-off. Highlights for fiscal year 2013/2014 include:

- P & Z Applications – 48 applications were submitted for commercial and residential projects requiring review and comment by the Engineering Department. Eleven Inland Wetlands applications also required review and comments.
- Permits – 68 permits were issued for the construction of driveways or work within the Town's right-of-way; down from 90 the previous year. Engineering performed hundreds of inspections for permitted work and public works projects and also received 1,621 Call-Before-You-Dig requests; 16 were emergency (after hours) requests.
- Requests for Service – responded to numerous requests by residents, Police, and Public Works for issues such as drainage, sight line, property line, and tree ownership.
- FEMA requests – we provide assistance to residents to request relief from FEMA for flood insurance, often caused by flaws in FEMA's digital flood zone mapping.
- Old Wheeler Lane Bridge – utilizing the Federal Local Bridge program (80% federal/20% local) we selected the consultant and are managing this bridge rehabilitation.
- Road Acceptances – during this year, there were several new road segments accepted into the Town's road network, within the Bridgewater subdivision – totaling 0.90 miles.
- Old Farms Bridge Replacement – Working with ConnDOT, for redesign, permitting, and construction administration – all funded by ConnDOT.

Geographic Information System (GIS) is responsible for development and maintenance of the Town-wide mapping system. This includes data maintenance and acquisition, special mapping projects for Town events, accident reconstruction assistance, maintenance of Assessor's mapping, specialty and general map development, and support for Town departments, emergency management, and residents. Engineering and GIS staff this year:

- Managed improvements to the updated Town of Avon interactive mapping website accessible to the public through a link located on our Town website.
- Performed major database upgrade and migration to contemporary technology.
- Continued maintenance and improvements to the scanned map system for Engineering, Planning, Wetlands, and Town Clerk maps.
- Added data to the digital database for Town-owned storm drainage systems.
- Maintained the Assessing tax maps, which are available on the Town website.

- Worked with CRCOG staff and consultant to migrate Avon GIS data to the new State standard.
- Maintained the pavement management system database by updating roadway rehabilitation information.

REPORT OF THE AVON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

MICHAEL FARRELL, *Chairperson*

The Sewer Department is responsible for operations and maintenance of the sanitary collection system, which includes over 85 miles of piping, 2,473 manholes, and four Town-owned pump stations. This includes the maintenance of inter-town agreements for waste treatment, sewer use billing, special contracts for equipment and support, routine inspections, and emergency call outs for service. Additionally, the following issues were addressed:

- Permits and acceptance of collection system infrastructure – 34 permits were issued for connection to the Town's sewer collection system during the fiscal year down from 53 the previous year. Mainline sewers constructed in the Weatherstone and Knoll Lane subdivisions were accepted into the Town network. Constructed a mainline extension from Old Farms Crossing to Berta Lane
- Sewer Use Billing – The annual sewer use fee was increased this fiscal year from \$306 to \$325 per Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU). The AWPCA considered possible relief for elderly / fixed income residents.
- SCADA System – The Town's Secondary Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system has been maintained and incrementally improved to add more features to facilitate maintenance, control, and system monitoring. Included this year were additional controls and emergency equipment for the Meadowbrook pump station.
- Sewer Construction – Active sewer extensions this fiscal year included Weatherstone (Phase III), Berta Lane, and Avon Place.
- Potential connections – Existing subdivisions with open lots will continue to produce future connections.
- Lateral extension program – Requests are frequent from land owners and developers regarding sewer availability. We also review the pavement management plan annually to coordinate utility work with pavement rehabilitation projects. Future sewer extensions will continue to be discussed and evaluated.
- Route 44 Sewage Pump Station – The pumps in this station were original equipment installed some 35 years ago. Due to their age and state of wear, they clogged often causing potential backups and requiring expensive maintenance. We replaced the pumps with more energy efficient, and modern equipment and added SCADA monitoring.

The Avon Water Pollution Control Authority meets on the second Thursday of each month in the Selectmen's Chamber. Dates and times are posted on the Town's website. The public is invited and is afforded an opportunity to speak during each meeting.

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

ANN L. DEARSTYNE, *Town Clerk*

The Town Clerk's office is responsible for the recording of Avon's records, which include land records, registration of trade names, vital statistics, veterans' discharges, recording and certification of Notaries Public, the issuance of various permits, such as burial, cremation, liquor, Dial-A-Ride tickets, and the issuance of licenses for marriage, sporting and dogs. The Town Clerk is responsible for the issuance of absentee ballots for elections, primaries, and referenda, and assists with voter registration.

This year, the volume of documents recorded decreased. The conveyance receipts also decreased for the Town of Avon and for the State. The office collected \$1,333,182.36 in Conveyance Tax that was forwarded to the State and \$446,182.77 retained by the Town.

The office assisted in the election process with the preparation of poll ballots and the issuance of absentee ballots. A Municipal Election took place on November 5, 2013. The Annual Town Meeting, held on May 5th on the fiscal year 2014/2015 budget, was adjourned to a referendum on May 14, 2014. A combined total of 206 absentee ballots were issued during this fiscal year. The following represents a summary of the activities of this office for the past three years:

TOWN CLERK'S SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES			
Activities	FY 11/12	FY 12/13	FY 13/14
Revenues Collected	\$775,158.06	\$ 966,179.89	\$ 829,199.77
State Conveyances	\$1,247,025.76	\$1,695,575.98	\$1,333,182.36
TOTAL	\$2,002,183.82	\$2,661,755.87	\$2,162,382.13
Pages of Land Records	21,609	24,212	15,474
Documents Recorded	4,602	5,204	3,548
Maps Recorded	23	40	36
Veterans Discharge	21	22	27
Births Recorded	104	99	128
Marriages Recorded	126	114	115
Deaths Recorded	181	191	176
Burial Permits	133	125	131
Dog Licenses Sold	1,821	1,918	1,922
Dial-A-Ride Tickets Sold	3,882	3,837	3,101
Sporting Licenses Sold	213	243	220
Pages of Minutes Recorded	632	817	765

The Town of Avon joined the Connecticut Town Clerks Portal in June 2010 for online access to town land records. This allows the search of land records 24/7. The website is: <https://Connecticut-townclerks-records.com>. The index and recorded documents can be viewed back to January 3, 1961.

The Connecticut State Library Historic Preservation Account, through Public Act 00-146, allows for collection of a \$3.00 fee for each document recorded, with \$2.00 of the fee forwarded to the State Library and \$1.00 per document retained by the Town to be used for historic document preservation. Approximately \$2,655 was retained this year for our continued document preservation efforts. Through the Historic Preservation Grant Program, the Town applied for the funding and received a \$4,000 grant in July 2013, which was used to reduce and recreate large land record volumes. This freed up more space in the vault.

The Community Investment Act, Public Act 229, provides funding for municipal capital improvements, open space matching grants, farm viability grants and farmland preservation activities, and new and existing affordable housing programs. Under the Act, the Town Clerk's office collects a \$40.00 fee for each document recorded in the land records. Of that, the Town Clerk's office retains \$1.00, the Town retains \$3.00, and the remaining \$36.00 per document is remitted to the State Treasurer's Office. This generated for the Town \$7,965.00 and \$95,580.00 for the State.

We would like to make our residents aware that this office is a source of a great deal of information, most of which is public. The only restriction by state law is birth records. We are always available to assist people in locating records maintained by this office.

REPORT OF THE REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

GENEVIEVE A. CLARK & LAURA HUNT, *Registrars*

At the beginning of fiscal year 2013/2014, there were 11,981 electors in the Town of Avon. The breakdown was as follows: Republican – 3,936; Democratic – 3,341; and Unaffiliated – 4,704.

On November 5, 2013, a Municipal Election was held in each of the three districts: Avon High School – 1,847 voted for a 36% turnout; Firehouse Company 1 – 996 voted for a 30% turnout; and Roaring Brook School – 1,284 voted for a 35% turnout. A total of 4,203 eligible voters voted for a 35% turnout.

The Town Budget Referendum was held on May 14, 2014. A total of 479 eligible voters came out for a 4.1% turnout. The results were 322 yes and 157 no.

This year, Election Day Registration was held for the Municipal Election. A total of 23 new voters registered and voted. In January 2014, on-line registration was available on the Secretary of the State website.

A High School voter registration was held in May for students who would be eighteen by November 3, 2014. During the period from January 1, 2014 to May 31, 2014, the Registrars of Voters conducted the Annual Voter Canvass, using the information provided by the National Change of Address Files.

The Registrars of Voters attended both the Fall and Spring Conferences for certification and review of existing and new legislation laws.

As of June 30, 2014, there were a total of 11,272 eligible voters: Republican – 3,736; Democratic – 3,169; and Unaffiliated – 4,367.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGING

ALICE HERRMANN, *Chairperson*

The Committee on Aging is charged with evaluating the conditions and needs of the elderly and making recommendations to the Avon Town Council regarding programs and resources to support areas of need. The Committee reviewed the programs and activities provided at the Senior Center. The Committee was highly supportive of the new programs and services being offered, and was especially pleased with the ongoing outreach efforts, which have resulted in a marked increase in Center activity involving new participants. In addition, the Committee reviewed current programs and services, such as the Senior Meal Program and the Dial-A-Ride Program. The Committee unanimously supported the continuation of the Town's local tax-relief program, which is designed to assist local elderly homeowners. The Committee also unanimously supported expanding the Senior Center hours to five (5) days per week, with a full time coordinator.

REPORT OF THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

HARRY DERASADOURIAN, *Assessor*

The Assessor's Office is responsible for the preparation of the Town's annual Grand List. This year the Grand List was \$2,582,648,610. The Grand List is a complete listing of all properties in town, their ownership, and assessed value as of October 1st each year. This information is then used by the Board of Finance to help determine the mill rate and in preparing the July tax bills. The Town is required to recalibrate all real estate assessments once every five years to 70% of their fair market value. This was last completed in 2008. As a result of our 2013 Revaluation, the overall Grand List decreased by 4.65% or \$125,988,860. Listed below are the three categories that make up the Grand List. The amounts reported are prior to any adjustments made by the Board of Assessment Appeals.

Real Estate decreased \$136,597,470 to \$2,308,677,970 or -5.59%. This decrease is a direct result of the 2013 Revaluation. These new assessments will stay in effect until 2018 when the Town is scheduled to perform its next Town wide Revaluation. All new construction built prior to 2018 will be assessed using the same criteria that was used to establish the 2013 assessments, allowing for equity within the Grand List.

Personal Property increased \$4,362,910 to \$97,338,470 or 4.69%. Items that make up personal property include business furniture, fixtures, office equipment, computers, leased equipment, industrial and construction equipment, utility poles, pipes, cables and conduits. Personal Property is assessed each year at 70% of its value.

Motor Vehicles increased \$6,245,700 to \$176,632,170 or 3.66%. Included in this figure are all motor vehicles registered and garaged in Avon on October 1st of each year and vehicles are valued using the NADA Pricing Guide.

In preparation of the Grand List, tax maps are kept current and extensive fieldwork is completed to update our records for building changes. This office is also responsible for the administration of the veterans, blind and disabled exemption programs and the State and Town elderly tax relief programs. This year a total of \$173,410 was granted in elderly tax relief to 238 property owners.

TOP TEN TAXPAYERS • 2013 GRAND LIST

Name	Nature of Business	Assessed Value
1. GAIA Avon Place LLC	Condominiums	\$ 15,287,990
2. CL&P	Utility	14,814,580
3. Avon Marketplace Investors	Shopping Center	14,325,490
4. Two Fifty Five West Main, LLC	Shopping Center	14,052,020
5. Sixty Four Avonwood Road Assoc.	Apartments	13,674,330
6. Toll CT Limited Partnership	Residential Subdivision	12,730,970
7. Nod Brook, LLC	Shopping Center	12,482,220
8. Ensign-Bickford Realty Corp.	Office Park	10,754,440
9. Avon Water Co.	Utility	9,870,330
10. Brighenti Family Wellness Center	Medical Office Building	9,175,050
TOTAL		\$127,167,420
% Of Grand List		4.96%

2013 GRAND LIST

Grand List	Exemptions	Net Grand List
2,582,648,610	19,934,100	2,562,714,510
Percent of Grand List by Class		
	2013	2012
Real Estate	89.4%	90.3%
Motor Vehicle	6.8%	6.3%
Personal Property	3.8%	3.4%

As always, we are ready to explain and review individual assessments with each property owner.

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

RICHARD S. CONNEL, *Chairman*

As required by State law, the Board of Assessment Appeals held one meeting during the month of March to hear appeals concerning the Grand List of October 1, 2013. Any property owner who felt the assessment of their property was inaccurate could appeal to the Board. The Board of Assessment Appeals meets during March. A total of 41 appeals were heard (41 Real Estate, 0 Personal Property, and 0 Motor Vehicle). The result of these appeals was:

<u>Real Estate</u>	<u>Personal Property</u>	<u>Motor Vehicles</u>
16 Granted 25 Denied	0 Granted 0 Denied	0 Granted 0 Denied

Final Grand List after the Board of Assessment Appeals was decreased by \$3,633,980.

<u>Gross</u>	<u>Exemptions</u>	<u>Net</u>
2,579,014,630	19,934,100	2,559,080,530

Board of Assessment Appeals Members

Richard S. Connel, Chairman
Samuel Chester Laura Mensi
Stephen Hunt Timothy Owens

REPORT OF THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT

MARGARET COLLIGAN, *Director of Finance*

The Department of Finance includes Finance Administration, Accounting, Assessing, and Revenue Collection. The Director of Finance provides general oversight and approval for their activities and coordinates the preparation of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), assembling data provided by the three divisions, other Town Departments, the Board of Education, and the Town's independent auditors. This office coordinates with the Town Manager's office in the preparation of the annual budget, offering detailed budgetary information throughout the annual budget process at the Town's website, with which taxpayers can inform themselves about the Town's revenues and expenditures. The Director also coordinates the bond rating and sale processes, which involve the efforts of many, including both elected and appointed officials, and the support of the Town's bond advisors and counsel. The Town's bonds are currently rated Aaa by Moody's Investors Service and AAA by Standard & Poor's.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS					
Finance Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current "work-in-progress" for Finance Administration includes: a formal Policies and Procedures Manual for the Town and BOE; preparation of a Uniform Chart of Accounts and Reporting, as required by the State of Connecticut; implementation of GASB 67 on defined benefit pension plan; implementation of the Budget Module, in the Town's Financial System. The successful completion of the HR Module in the Town's Financial System. 				
Accounting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decreased checks by 10%. 28% of vendor payments processed by EFT. New: 42% ACH advices notified by email instead of US mail. 97% of Payroll transactions are EFT. Financial System is fully implemented and integrated for financial reporting. Novatime (time and attendance) system was upgraded this year. Implementing Email payroll advices to substitute for paper advices (September 2014). 				
Assessing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to provide easy accessibility to real estate property information to the public and offer the ability to view what their personal taxes will be by entering assessment data into the Tax Calculator Form on the Town's web site. Access real estate property information via a desktop kiosk in the Assessor's Office, or at http://www.avonassessor.com. Local Tax Relief Program is income adjusted higher than State Program, which increases the number of residents that are eligible. 				
Revenue Collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Converting more manual processes to electronic means for importing and exporting data. On-line viewing of tax bills; public may now sign up for payment reminders and paperless billing. Continued on-line collection of tax payments by credit card or e-check for tax bills. 				
PERFORMANCE MEASURES	FY 09/10	FY 10/11	FY 11/12	FY 12/13	FY 13/14
# of years "GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Finance Reporting" received	28	29	30	31	32
# of years "Distinguished Budget Presentation Award Program" received	28	29	30	31	32
% of Current Tax Levy Collected	99.82	99.74	99.72	99.77	99.76

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF ACCOUNTING

LAURIE DORN, *Town Accountant*

The Accounting Division maintains and safeguards all financial records of the Town. Throughout the year, Accounting processes and records all revenues and expenditures for the Town and maintains the general ledger to create various reports and financial statements for the Independent Audit, award winning Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), and state and federal audits. The Town's last audited CAFR is available for review on the Town's web page, www.avonct.gov.

The Accounting Department has fully implemented the payables, receipts, general ledger and payroll modules of the upgraded ADMIN AUC program. This year we are implementing the budget module.

ACTIVITY INDICATORS	FY 09/10	FY 10/11	FY 11/12	FY 12/13	FY 13/14
Payroll Checks Issued	177	205	179	139	129
Payroll Direct Deposits	4,508	4,361	4,588	4,582	4,522
Employees, W-2s Issued	315	310	294	299	365
Health Insured Retirees in System	66	72	76	79	79
Retirements Processed	9	11	2	5	0
Vendor Accounts Active	4,349	4,640	4,957	5,265	5,655
Manual Checks Issued	215	166	159	151	139
Total Vendor Checks Issued	3,606	3,331	3,255	3,353	2,779
Avg. Pooled Investment (millions)	27M	30M	27M	16M	23M

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT	FY 09/10	FY 10/11	FY 11/12	FY 12/13	FY 13/14
% Payroll payments made by check	4%	4%	4%	3%	3%
% Payroll payments by EFT	96%	96%	96%	97%	97%
Vendor payments by EFT	761	747	801	731	1,190
% of payments by EFT	21%	22%	25%	22%	30%

REPORT OF THE COLLECTOR OF REVENUE

DEBORAH FIORETTI, *Collector of Revenue*

The Revenue Division is responsible for the overall administration of the Town's revenue collections. Governed by Federal law, State statutes and Town ordinances, the following represents the total collected in each classification:

COLLECTOR OF REVENUE SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES			
	FY 11/12	FY 12/13	FY 13/14
% of current tax levy collected	99.72%	99.77%	99.76%
% of prior years' tax levy collected	77.84%	84.79%	58.29%
Current Tax Collection	\$65,710,719	\$63,941,635	\$67,319,263
Prior Years' Tax Collection	\$146,642	\$187,290	\$106,337
Sewer Use	\$1,514,140	\$1,259,487	\$1,453,186
Sewer Connections	\$77,500	\$603,589	\$243,090
Sewer Assessments	\$214,344	\$87,821	\$42,313
Water Main Assessments	\$9,986	\$7,581	\$626
Town Department Revenues	\$2,448,354	\$3,309,348	\$2,747,967
Tax Interest	\$161,608	\$163,113	\$155,857
Sewer Interest	\$13,973	\$21,618	\$19,393

The Revenue Office has been automating tax procedures, which have reduced office staff while still providing accurate and efficient processing of tax payments. The larger banks are paying escrowed real estate tax payments by wire transfer which has enabled funds to be deposited into the Town account within twenty-four hours of transfer. In July, the paperless billing was integrated into the web-based payment service that processes electronic checks, credit and debit card payments, displays tax bills and retains payment history. This service also offers paperless billing, email reminders, alerts and payment confirmations. In addition, by providing a paperless billing option, the Town of Avon will be able to reduce costs and utilize a "green" service that helps the environment.

The Office files real estate liens and monitors bankruptcy claims, processes Certificate of Correction and Refunds, updates the Grand List as a result of property transfers from data received from the Assessors Office and responds to requests from attorneys, lending institutions and title searches for tax information. The Office responds to taxpayers' inquiries regarding their account status, issues monthly updates on delinquent accounts, and furnishes Income Tax information.

The Office, in addition to preparing, mailing, and collecting taxes, makes daily bank deposits to ensure maximum investment income. The Office is also responsible for the preparation, filing and monitoring of Alias Tax Warrants with a State Marshal, when delinquent notices fail to result in payment. The statutory reports on the Town's levy, owners' benefits, disability and veteran's exemptions are filed in conjunction with the Town Assessor. Quarterly reports of the Town's collections are filed with the US Bureau of the Census.

Program Activity	FY 12/13	FY 12/13	FY 13/14
Certificates of Correction	1,362	1,386	1446
Property Transfers	495	635	574
Refunds	288	420	267
Tax Bills Processed	27,350	27,444	27,673
Sewer Use Bills Processed	3,700	3,743	3788
# Warrants Collected	299	189	298

REPORT OF THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

MARGARET COLLIGAN, *Chairperson*

This program was established in the fiscal year 2000/2001 Operating Budget. The Information Technology Committee reports to the Town Manager and currently consists of the Finance Director, CAD/GIS Manager, Assistant Town Manager, Library Director, Police Chief and Captain, Director and Deputy Director of Public Works, Town Engineer, and the Fire Marshal/Assistant Building Official/Emergency Management Director. This Committee recommends and updates/streamlines information technology processes and policies, interacts with users, and directs consultants to design, implement and maintain the Town's information technology operations with a continued emphasis on providing "24/7" government information via the Town's website at www.avonct.gov. A new and improved user-friendly, "citizen-centric" website is slated to roll out the last quarter of 2014, and will feature more easily navigated pages and information, including budgets, annual audits/reports, RFP's, job opportunities, agendas, minutes, ordinances, on-line registration for Recreation program, payment of taxes on-line, and a "tax impact calculator," which assists residents in determining their property taxes. The Committee will continue to manage all forms of remote access to the Town's computer systems, including internet and Geographic Information Systems.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES	FY 09/10	FY 10/11	FY 11/12	FY 12/13	FY 13/14
# of workstations and servers supported	88	88	91	92	91
# of Help Desk Calls Processed (Monthly Average) and % addressed in one shift turnaround *	111/96%	46/98%	53/98%	48/98%	150/95%
Replacement and new computer purchases (34% of inventory is used/refurbished)	5	12	5	10	12
Server Availability (Business Continuity Indicator)	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%
# of Threats Detected and Prevented (Monthly Average)	9	14	9	10	11
Training Classes Held (not including outside classes)	0	2	2	1	2

* Not all requests are captured through the automated on-line request as administrator does not submit electronic requests for work performed on a proactive basis.

TOWN OF AVON WEBSITE STATISTICS	FY 09/10	FY 10/11	FY 11/12	FY 12/13	FY 13/14
Total Hits	2,391,809	1,668,899	1,313,568	2,055,272	1,287,974
Visitor Sessions	375,022	344,270	281,691	370,479	299,558
Avg. Session Length (secs.)	8.89	7.52	14.09	13.15	15.40
No. of Pages Viewed	2,390,590	1,665,570	2,037,275	2,026,875	1,235,416
Down-loaded Adobe Files	134,503	132,527	96,735	124,448	98,874
Number of Subscribers	FY 09/10	FY 10/11	FY 11/12	FY 12/13	FY 13/14
Agendas	659	744	1,191	1,180	930
Bulletin Board	943	1,045	882	893	1,145
Employment	456	509	595	657	692
Recreation Bulletin Board	1,002	1,102	1,342	1,050	1,215
Library Notices	1,053	1,131	1,211	6,636*	5,401
TOTALS	4,113	4,531	5,221	10,416	9,383

*One time increase due to the automatic subscription of all AFPL card- holders.

FARMINGTON VALLEY VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION, INC.

INCY S. MUIR, *Executive Director*

In keeping with the long standing history of the Farmington Valley VNA of promoting health and wellness in the community and providing home health and Hospice care to the residents of Avon, we are pleased to report another successful, but challenging year. Our Agency is very proud that it continues to operate as a non-profit, independent VNA that is not owned, operated or otherwise managed by a hospital or large health care system. We are working diligently to retain this structure and the historical, charitable mission that the Farmington Valley VNA has carried out since 1908. Our committed staff and Board of Directors remain focused on the values and proven benefits of a smaller, local and engaged non-profit health care provider among the alarming trends of mega consolidations of Connecticut hospitals and health care providers with out of State and for profit corporations.

Despite aggressive competition with these systems and for profit home health and Hospice providers, our Agency continues to operate efficiently and very effectively. Even with flat or decreasing State and Federal reimbursement for services, and significant budgetary constraints, the Farmington Valley VNA has attained remarkable accomplishments. Our patient care and quality outcomes exceed State and Federal benchmarks and we are honored to have been designated, for the second year in a row, as a '2013 Home Care Elite' home health provider. This is an independent compilation of the most successful home care providers in the United States. Our Agency ranked in the top 100 nationally and is one of only two agencies in Connecticut that attained this designation. This prestigious designation is the result of outstanding patient care outcomes, quality improvement measures, patient experiences and financial management.

So many people have been positively touched in some way by our organization. Blood pressure screenings, flu immunizations, in-home health services following surgery, illness or injury, educational programs at locations throughout the community, and compassionate Hospice services when caring for a terminally ill loved one in the home ~ these are just a few examples of the ways the Farmington Valley VNA has benefited local residents of all ages. A variety of specialized services are also provided including complex wound care management, prothrombin time testing, pulse oximetry, cardiac nursing including a Congestive Heart Failure management program, early rehabilitation protocols after total joint replacements, and diabetes education and management.

The Agency's Community Health Programs Department also provides an outstanding level of quality services with a focus on illness prevention, education and maintaining good health. More than 900 Avon residents participated in one more blood pressure screenings, immunization programs, health and wellness screenings or educational programs offered in the past year. This reflects an increase of over 200 participants compared to last year. The flu immunization program has been negatively affected by the competing services now offered by pharmacies, urgent care facilities and national home health franchises. However, residents often return to the Agency to receive their flu shot as they appreciate the VNA's nurses' knowledge of the immunization being given, education they provide, and the personalized attention they receive from an engaged, caring health professional. The Agency has also expanded adult vaccine administration to include Zostavax (the Shingles vaccine) and Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis) due to the rising incidence of Shingles among the middle age population and waning childhood vaccinations resulting in a greater incidence of Whooping Cough (Pertussis).

Despite the growing complexities of retaining its independence and local presence, the Farmington Valley VNA is very pleased to be an integral and vital part of Avon's community, and remains committed to high quality health care delivery to Avon residents and families.

For additional information about the Farmington Valley VNA and its programs, please call 860-651-3539 or visit www.farmingtonvalleyvna.org

REPORT OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

ALAN E. ROSENBERG, *Director of Social Services*

The Social Services Department is responsible for administration and direct provision of social and human service activities of the Town. Like Avon itself, our services have grown and changed over the years. Today, our major program areas include services to single adults, families, youth, seniors, and the disabled. In addition to the services listed below, other programs this past year included:

- The Avon Police Association provided holiday dinners at the Avon Senior Center.
- The Department received substance abuse prevention funding through a State (DMHAS) grant. Funds were used to pay for the supplies necessary for Avon Public Schools' participation in Red Ribbon Week, as well as other prevention activities.
- With the assistance of an ongoing State grant program, the Department administers a Youth Services Bureau to enhance the provision of local services for youth and their families. Services provided include: Programs for substance abuse prevention, parent training, individual and group counseling, and programs that foster positive youth development.

The Department would also like to acknowledge the dedicated corps of local volunteers and organizations whose help make many of these programs possible!

SOCIAL SERVICES STATISTICS				
Service Provided	FY 13/14	FY 12/13	FY 11/12	FY 10/11
Short-term Counseling/Assessment	543	494	549	573
Information & Referral (regarding various local, regional, state & federal programs)	553	595	625	677
Energy Assistance Applications	171	160	180*	177*
Avon Emergency Fuel Bank Expenditures	\$9,811	\$5,930	\$11,299	\$15,666
Holiday Gift Basket Program	104	100	91	82
Avon Dial-A-Ride Service	2,494 rides	2,903 rides	2,647 rides	2,143 rides
Income Tax Preparation Assistance Program	205	188	137**	60
Avon's Special Needs Fund (aids families in crisis situations who do not qualify for public assistance)	66 occasions \$13,040	115 occasions \$22,930	109 occasions \$21,467	142 occasions \$27,329
Hartford Dispensary Trust Fund (short-term assistance)	45 occasions \$8,616	29 occasions \$6,221	45 occasions \$10,059	37 occasions \$6,810
Elderly/Disabled Renters Rebate Tax Relief Program	83	81	65	67
Salvation Army – Farmington Valley Service Unit (temporary assistance)	67 families \$14,647	85 families \$17,893	66 families \$17,470	70 families \$22,791
Avon Food Bank Expenditures	\$18,514	\$11,855	\$12,920	\$5,482
Youth Development Programs	15	13	17	15

* Prior years included applicants from Canton.

** Sessions held at Simsbury Public Library, with extended hours available.

REPORT OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES SENIOR CENTER DIVISION

JENNIFER BENNETT, *Program Coordinator*

The Avon Senior Center enjoyed another busy and exciting year. We had 10,430 seniors sign our Daily Attendance Sheet; 1,277 programs with 14,077 seniors attending these programs. The programs provided are all to enhance the lives of our older adults in the Avon area. We had one intern this year. We are elated by all who contribute to and participate in making the Senior Center a successful focal point in the community. The staff and team of dedicated volunteers are happy to serve the Town of Avon senior citizens throughout the year.

The Senior Center acts as a referral and resource center for seniors and their families seeking information on services available that support older adults' needs. The Senior Center also offers a place for recreation and socialization where they can attend classes such as Zumba and Tai Chi, belong to groups and clubs, play card and board games and enjoy games such as Shuffleboard and Wii Bowling. We have Billiards and Table Tennis that people enjoy playing throughout the week. Our puzzle group is going strong. We framed a few of the special puzzles in the Senior Center. These programs engage seniors and give them purpose, and the Senior Center is a place to turn to for answers. The Senior Center helps answer questions regarding housing, service information, resources, financial questions such as Medicare counseling, provides support, and helps to promote a weekly lunch program. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, older adults participate in our CRT (Community Renewal Team) Congregate Meal Program, which prepared 4,191 meals this year for seniors.

We continue to collaborate with the community for diverse programs. The collaborations include Town departments, Schools, Avon Chamber, local facilities and businesses, Regional Senior Center Programs, and the Farmington Valley VNA. Through these collaborations, we continue to offer programs for seniors to enjoy. The Senior Center continues to promote health, wellness and prevention by offering programs that are sponsored by our local health care providers. One of the more popular programs is Thursday Movie Matinees, co-sponsored by the Senior Center, Avon Library and the Friends of the Avon Library.

AVON SENIOR CENTER STATISTICS

# of Programs Per Year	FY 09/10	FY 10/11	FY 11/12	FY 12/13	FY 13/14
Health Clinics	90	100	100	100	85
Speaker's Programs	55	45	47	50	50
Social Events, Holiday Parties, Dances	65	60	50	50	45
Regional Senior Center Programming	6	10	10	8	10
# of Participants Per Year					
Senior Meals Program	4,322	4,235	4,471	4,372	4,191
Information & Referrals	700	1,000	1,050	1,100	1,200
Outreach	120	200	300	350	400
Advocacy	65	80	85	90	95
Public Relations	90	95	110	120	125
Intergenerational Programming with Schools	560	402	400	200	250
Computer Lab Use	525	843	1,320	1,365	1,470
Senior Volunteer Program	40	40	40	40	40
Shuffleboard	0	0	313	360	347
iPad Training	0	0	154	74	178

REPORT OF THE SIMSBURY REGIONAL PROBATE DISTRICT

CYNTHIA C. BECKER, *Probate Judge*

The Simsbury Regional Probate District encompasses the Towns of Avon, Canton, Granby and Simsbury and is located in the Simsbury Town Hall. Cynthia C. Becker, former judge for the Avon Probate Court, was elected as Judge of the Simsbury Regional Probate District for the term commencing January 5, 2011.

The mission of the Simsbury Regional Probate Court is to assist individuals and families residing in the district who require the services of the court in an efficient and compassionate manner. The probate court strives to ease the process as much as possible, knowing that during stressful times, it is difficult to cope with the unknown.

Although the staff and judge cannot provide legal advice to the users of the court, informational pamphlets are available and questions are always welcome. In addition, Judge Becker, in her capacity as Judge of Probate, is available to speak to community groups about probate matters.

Jurisdiction of the Court: Connecticut probate courts have jurisdiction over probating of wills, administration and settlement of decedent's estates, overseeing the carrying out of the terms and provisions of testamentary and living (inter vivos) trusts, and reviewing the accountings of trustees. In addition, probate courts appoint, supervise, and remove conservators of the person and estate of individuals incapable of managing their personal or financial affairs, due to mental or physical disability. These areas represent over half of the Simsbury Regional Probate Court's workload.

The probate court also has jurisdiction over the appointment and supervision of guardians of the property and persons of minors and persons with developmental disabilities; the removal of unfit parents as guardians of their children; the termination of parental rights of parents who cannot fulfill their parental responsibilities; the adjudication of paternity of children born out of wedlock; and the finalization of adoptions. These matters make up about one third of the court's caseload, but are some of the most sensitive and time-consuming responsibilities of the court.

While probate courts have jurisdiction to authorize the commitment of those suffering from mental illness, drug, or alcohol addiction to appropriate hospitals or facilities for treatment, these cases represent a small percentage of the court's workload due mainly to the absence of psychiatric facilities in the region.

New Developments: The Connecticut Probate Assembly revised the Probate Practice Book, which means that the users of the Probate Court will find there have been some procedural changes and new forms. The new Probate Court Rules of Procedure went into effect July 1, 2013. A complete copy of the Probate Court Rules of Procedure can be found at the judicial website: <http://jud.ct.gov/probate/CourtRules/default.htm>. A list of the new Probate Court forms can be found on our website: www.ctprobate.gov.

2013-2014 Workload of Court: During the past year, 197 applications were accepted for probating decedent's estates. In addition, 156 small estate affidavits and tax purposes only estates were filed. The Court also processed 43 applications for Conservatorships, Guardianships of the Estate and Person of minors, Guardianships of the Intellectually Disabled, Termination of Parental Rights, approval of Adoptions, Name Changes and intervivos trust matters.

Court Contact Information: The Probate Court is located at the Simsbury Town Hall, 933 Hopmeadow Street, and is open Monday's from 8:30 AM-7:00 PM, Tuesday through Thursday, 8:30 AM-4:30 PM, and Friday's from 8:30 AM-1:00 PM. On-line information about the courts is available on our website, located at www.jud.ct.gov, click on "probate". Many of the forms used by the probate courts are now available through the website.

REPORT OF THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

WILLIAM F. VERNILE, *Director of Human Resources*

The Director of Human Resources plans, organizes, and administers the personnel, benefits, labor relations, and occupational safety and risk management programs of the Town and provides related consultative services to the Town Manager and Department Heads.

The Human Resources Department administers personnel programs, including: recruitment, examination, classification, compensation, orientation, employee benefits, and employee development and training. In addition, the Department administers equal employment, affirmative action, workplace safety, and the practical application of State and Federal laws pertaining to employment practices. The Department is also responsible for the Town's Risk Management program, including analysis, procurement, implementation, and administration of liability, property, and casualty insurance, and workers compensation.

The Director of Human Resources is also responsible for Town labor relations activities, including negotiations and administration of collective bargaining agreements and may serve as the principal representative of the Town in grievance, arbitration, and workers or unemployment compensation hearings.

Activity	FY 09/10	FY 10/11	FY 11/12	FY 12/13	FY 13/14
Full-Time Hires	11	9	5	4	11
Part-Time Hires	7	7	6	15	5
Promotions	7	6	3	7	3
Exit Interviews	12	10	6	9	6
Safety Committee Meetings	4	4	4	4	4
Grievances	23	8	2	1	2
MPPs	1	4	1	3	0
Negotiation Meetings	5	4	6	6	6

REPORT OF THE YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU

SUZI ALEXE, *Youth Services Coordinator*

The Avon Youth Services Bureau provides professional emotional, social, and developmental support and assistance to all Avon youth and families, through its wide array of services: brief assessment, short-term counseling and referrals, parent education, youth advocacy, positive youth development, teen advisory board, teen activities, juvenile review board and community outreach.

For the 2013-2014 school year, the Youth Services Bureau continued to educate Avon youth on bullying including cyber bullying, drugs and alcohol, tobacco, internet safety, peer pressure, friendship, diversity, responsibility, and leadership.

Prevention efforts included the following major events: Red Ribbon Week, Rachel's Challenge, World No Tobacco Day and Substance Free Graduation. Rachel's Challenge was developed by the family of Rachel Scott, the first victim of the Columbine School Shooting. Mr. Scott presented Rachel's Challenge to all of the students from AMS and AHS and the program to the community as well. The message of the program is to spread kindness and respect. Students from AMS formed a Club called Friendly Outreach (Friends of Rachel) whose mission is to sustain Rachel's Challenge to spread kindness and curb bullying.

The Peer Mentoring/Tutoring Program, a partnership between the Avon Public Schools and Avon Youth Services, now in its third year, has attracted NHS students from AHS paired them with middle school students, who meet weekly in the Media Center, at Avon Middle School to help complete homework and share study skills, school success, positive peer influence, and positive self-image. Many of the students have developed strong bonds, and many middle school students have expressed how helpful the mentor/tutors have been and how it makes their entry into AHS smoother. In addition, many AMS students have expressed the desire to pay it forward and have shown interest in becoming mentors.

The highlight for many students is the end of the year celebration which gives students the chance to socialize outside of school. This year the Club went to Glow Cove mini golf in Canton.

REPORT OF THE 2013 AVON DAY COMMITTEE

Avon Day Committee

Avon Day was held on Saturday, September 21, 2013 at the Thompson Brook School athletic fields. Avon Day began at 11:00 a.m. and ended at 6:30 p.m. The 2013 Avon Day Committee began planning for this event in November 2012, and held meetings in the months of January, March, April, May, June, July, August, and September of 2013. All of the committee meetings were held in the Conference Room at the Department of Public Works.

The committee is pleased to report that even with a bit of bad weather interrupting the day, we raised over \$6,300 for local charities and \$3,009 for the Town's Special Needs Fund. There were 80 Non-Profit and Corporate booths, along with 9 "Taste of Avon" food booths.

Our many thanks go to the children and adults who volunteered to help with the many activities of the day, which included: inflatables, clowns, face painting, balloons, a train ride, Boy Scout bridge building, Ski Sundown competition with real snow, a ReMax balloon ride and Avon's Volunteer Fire Department fire trucks on display. The entertainment included The Avon Robotics Team, Avon Kempo & Aikido, AHS-Mr. Ismail's Instrumental/Strings, The Zoo, Northwest Catholic High School Jazz Band & Choir, Healthtrax, Snap Fitness and The Cory Reiman Band. The event concluded with our annual Pie Eating Contest.

Avon UNICO Chairperson, Greg Van Deusen, presented the "Citizen of the Year" award at the opening ceremonies to Marlene Del Gallo, who accepted the award on behalf of the late Len Del Gallo Sr., who was recognized for his contributions to the community and specifically for his commitment to the Avon Day Event.

The 2013 Avon Day Committee wishes to thank our Town Council and Town Manager, Brandon Robertson, for allowing our committee to put on this event again this year. In addition, this event cannot take place without the help and cooperation from the following Town Departments: Recreation and Parks, Board of Education, Public Works, Volunteer Fire and the Police. The committee also wishes to thank all of the sponsors, contributors, residents, and visitors for participating in the event. As a committee, we look forward to planning the 2014 Avon Day event.



REPORT OF THE AVON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

TERRI WILSON, *President*
 HELAINE BERTSCH, *Secretary*
www.avonhistoricalsociety.org

The mission of the *Avon Historical Society* is to identify, collect, utilize, publish, display, promote and preserve the history and heritage of Avon. The Society was founded in 1974 and maintains four properties. Two are open to the public, free of charge, on Sundays, from 2:00-4:00 p.m., from June through September, or by appointment. Membership in the Society is open to the public.

School House #3 – 8 West Main Street (Route 44). Built in 1845, it was moved from its original location on the site of the current Avon Free Public Library to its current location. It features a display of the Farmington Canal (1928-1847) and many other artifacts of the town's history. Open by appointment only.

Pine Grove Schoolhouse – 3 Harris Roads (Route 167). A restored one-room schoolhouse, built in 1865 when Avon's 7th school district was established by the State. The school was in use until 1949, then restored for our nation's Bicentennial in 1976 and opened to the public. Features include period desks, books, slates, etc. Thanks to a grant from the CT Trust for Historic Preservation and many private donations, all the windows were restored in 2014 in time for its 150th anniversary celebration on June 7, 2015. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Derrin Farm House – 249 West Avon Road (Route 167). A farmhouse, built c. 1810, which was last used for the caretaker of the First Co. Governor's Horse Guard. The Society leased the building in 1996 and has been restoring it ever since. Today, the first floor is open to the public. In 2015, it will interpret the history of the Ammi Derrin family which lived there from 1850-1880. In 2014, it was listed on the State Register of Historic Places.

First Co. Governor's Horse Guards Barn - 239 West Avon Road (Route 167). A lease was signed by the Society in early 2011 for adaptive reuse of this barn on the property. The Society is actively seeking funding for this project and welcomes the public's participation in this effort to save this c. 1880 English Bank Barn. It is not open to the public yet, as work needs to be done to secure it for this use. Thanks to a Barn Grant from the CT Trust for Historic Preservation in 2014, and many private donations, the roof will be replaced soon. In 2014, it was listed on the State Register of Historic Places.

The Marion Hunter History Room - Avon Free Public Library. This room is the location of local maps, deeds, genealogical information and other historic items. The History Room was dedicated in June of 2012, when the newly renovated Library opened. Check out the ever changing display case.

The Society holds events and partners with other local groups to bring history to the public. We are in the midst of a four-year commemoration of the Civil War and, as such, we have joined with other groups to sponsor several programs and special events through 2015.

Avon Historical Society Board of Trustees	
Terri Wilson, President	Helaine Bertsch, Secretary
Pam Fahey, Vice President	Sat Mayall, Treasurer
Trustees: John Forster, Capri Frank, Mary Harrop, Ben Isaacson, Glenn Lawrence, Carolyn McGrattan, Elisabeth Neff, Sebastian Saraceno, Kate Margaret Stoll, Eric Thronson, Leonard Tolisano, and Peter Wright	

REPORT OF THE FARMINGTON VALLEY HEALTH DISTRICT

JENNIFER C. KERTANIS, *Director of Health*

Preventing Disease, Promoting Health, Protecting Against Health Threats



The Farmington Valley Health District is the local health department for the Town of Avon. Enforcing CT General Statutes, the Public Health Code and health district regulations are an important part of our work to ensure that the public's health is protected when eating out, swimming in a public pool, going to a salon or drinking water from a private well. This year we were able to increase required food service inspections by 20% by adding a new Environmental Health Inspector. Pictured is Kevin Elak, RS, testing water at a public pool as part of the health department's routine pool inspections.

The following provides a summary of permits issued and the inspections and site visits conducted during the fiscal year.

Permits Issued		Inspections/Site Visits/Sampling	
Food Service Establishments	98	New Septic	35
Temporary Food Service	59	Septic Repair	71
Salons	36	Public Bathing	29
New Septic	11	Food Service Establishments	242
Septic Repair	33	Complaints (ALL)	33
Pools	19	Salons	40
Well	1	Day Care Facilities	6

Emergency Preparedness Exercise Helps Strengthen Public Health Response Plans: In collaboration with Emergency Management, Police, Fire and other town departments, the Farmington Valley Health District participated in a "table top" exercise focused on our response during a pandemic flu. During the exercise, town departments reviewed their specific roles and responsibilities, updated contact lists and talked through specific components of existing plans. In addition, the Health District participated in a statewide exercise that tested our ability to successfully receive large quantities of medical countermeasures, such as vaccine or antibiotics, in the event that we had a disease outbreak that required their administration. Periodic testing of our plans is important and helps keep our plans current and response partners trained.

FVHD Rolls Out new Website: As your local health department, we serve as subject matter experts in disease prevention and health promotion. Providing factual educational resources and tools on important public health topics and disease prevention is an important part of the work that FVHD does. This year we redesigned and updated the website to make it more user-friendly. The new page includes more content including links to additional resources. We also created a Facebook page enabling us to rapidly share information. Visit us at www.fvhd.org!

REVENUES - APPROVED FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014/2015

	ACTUAL FY 12/13	BUDGETED FY 13/14	ADOPTED FY 14/15	\$ INC/ (DEC)	% INC/ -DEC		ACTUAL FY 12/13	BUDGETED FY 13/14	ADOPTED FY 14/15	\$ INC/ (DEC)	% INC/ -DEC
PROPERTY TAXES & ASSESSMENTS						CHARGES FOR CURRENT SERVICES					
Gross Levy	\$68,516,469	\$70,769,917	\$72,473,161	\$1,703,244	2.41%	PUBLIC SAFETY					
Uncollectible	\$665,565	\$635,565	\$585,565	(\$50,000)	-7.87%	Police Services - Fund #7	\$85,824	\$56,807	\$10,000	(\$46,807)	-82.40%
Net Levy	\$67,850,904	\$70,134,352	\$71,887,596	\$1,753,244	2.50%	Accident Reports & Photos	\$1,151	\$1,200	\$1,300	\$100	8.33%
Supplemental Real Estate	\$139,496	\$85,525	\$85,525	\$0	0.00%	Alarm System	\$3,750	\$5,500	\$1,500	(\$4,000)	-72.73%
Supplemental Motor Vehicle	\$540,168	\$280,920	\$383,834	\$102,914	36.63%	Animal Pound Fee	\$1,880	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$500	33.33%
Prior Levies	\$85,080	\$85,000	\$130,000	\$45,000	52.94%	PUBLIC WORKS					
Interest & Penalties	\$163,115	\$120,000	\$100,000	(\$20,000)	-16.67%	Sewer Use Charges - Fund #5	\$1,534,392	\$1,680,484	\$1,475,000	(\$205,484)	-12.23%
Sewer Assessments - Fund #5	\$23,832	\$60,000	\$75,000	\$15,000	25.00%	Sewer Connection Charges - Fund #5	\$655,699	\$239,685	\$62,500	(\$177,185)	-73.92%
Water Main Interest	\$1,086	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	Landfill (Residential) Fees	\$143,733	\$141,000	\$144,975	\$3,975	2.82%
Lakeview Water Ext. Assessments	\$7,581	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	Landfill - Bulky Waste/Other	\$29,468	\$36,000	\$30,000	(\$6,000)	-16.67%
Telephone Gross Receipts	\$57,995	\$100,000	\$60,000	(\$40,000)	-40.00%						
TOTAL PROPERTY TAXES & ASSESSMENTS	\$68,869,257	\$70,865,797	\$72,721,955	\$1,856,158	2.62%	HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES:					
						Vital Statistics	\$25,900	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$5,000	25.00%
LICENSES, FEES & PERMITS						RECREATION & PARKS:					
Police Protection	\$8,370	\$2,600	\$9,000	\$6,400	246.15%	Organized Summer Programs	\$36,073	\$30,000	\$34,000	\$4,000	13.33%
Building, Struct. and Equip.	\$828,896	\$430,000	\$475,000	\$45,000	10.47%	Swim Fees	\$48,250	\$65,000	\$62,000	(\$3,000)	-4.62%
Hunting and Fishing	\$84	\$75	\$125	\$50	66.67%	Fees: Non-Reimbursable	\$5,618	\$4,000	\$4,200	\$200	5.00%
Animal Licenses	\$13,346	\$5,500	\$1,900	(\$3,600)	-65.45%	Fees: Reimbursable - Fund #9	\$305,158	\$258,282	\$255,170	(\$3,112)	-1.20%
Street and Curb	\$3,700	\$1,780	\$2,500	\$720	40.45%	Maintenance Fees - Fund #9	\$49,993	\$56,175	\$57,900	\$1,725	3.07%
Recording & Conveyance	\$680,961	\$490,000	\$500,000	\$10,000	2.04%	Senior Rec. Activities - Fund #9	\$11,933	\$9,350	\$10,640	\$1,290	13.80%
Conservation and Development	\$27,476	\$20,650	\$25,000	\$4,350	21.07%	EDUCATION					
Sale: Maps/Publications/Copies	\$32,131	\$20,000	\$25,700	\$5,700	28.50%	Cafeteria Sales - Fund #14	\$1,085,523	\$1,223,215	\$1,125,641	(\$97,574)	-7.98%
LOCAP Recording Fee	\$14,826	\$13,000	\$5,000	(\$8,000)	-61.54%	BOE Athletic Game Receipts/Pay to Play	\$218,115	\$184,995	\$205,995	\$21,000	11.35%
MERS Land Recording Fee	\$0	\$0	\$4,500	\$4,500	100.00%	Use of School Facilities - Fund #15	\$65,568	\$54,000	\$54,000	\$0	0.00%
Sewer Permits & Inspection Fees - Fund #5	\$13,525	\$12,150	\$6,000	(\$6,150)	-50.62%						
TOTAL LICENSES, FEES & PERMITS	\$1,623,315	\$995,755	\$1,054,725	\$58,970	5.92%	FINES & FORFEITS					
						Courts	\$320	\$500	\$500	\$0	0.00%
INTERGOVERNMENTAL STATE GRANTS-IN-AID:						Public Library	\$16,551	\$16,000	\$20,000	\$4,000	25.00%
FEMA Reimbursement	\$27,711	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	BOE Employee Bnft Contrb, Dent/Life	\$118,148	\$118,917	\$117,946	(\$971)	-0.82%
Equalized Cost Sharing (ECS)	\$1,215,717	\$1,232,688	\$1,233,294	\$606	0.05%	BOE Miscellaneous Receipts	\$45,836	\$64,625	\$20,388	(\$44,237)	-68.45%
School Transportation	\$19,676	\$8,306	\$19,684	\$11,378	136.99%	BOE Tuition Receipts-Parent Paid (pre K Prog)	\$25,100	\$32,000	\$30,000	(\$2,000)	-6.25%
BOE Education Program Grants	\$0	\$32,000	\$0	(\$32,000)	-100.00%	BOE TEAM Program/Unified Program	\$9,250	\$0	\$6,250	\$6,250	0.00%
BOE Special Education Excess Cost	\$950,758	\$876,712	\$1,054,197	\$177,485	20.24%	BOE Cafeteria Rent Receipts	\$99,573	\$99,573	\$99,573	\$0	0.00%
BOE Open Choice Attendance	\$392,000	\$612,000	\$660,000	\$48,000	7.84%	BOE AHS Parking Fees	\$35,250	\$0	\$38,000	\$38,000	0.00%
Title II Part A Teachers - Fund #13	\$13,951	\$36,289	\$36,289	\$0	0.00%	BOE Interdistrict Tuition Valley Alt. Academy	\$7,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Adult Education Cooperative - Fund #13	\$2,018	\$1,987	\$1,987	\$0	0.00%	BOE Special Education Tuition	\$593,835	\$475,000	\$476,300	\$1,300	0.27%
IDEA 611 Part B - Fund #13	\$456,417	\$581,122	\$523,000	(\$58,122)	-10.00%	TOTAL CHARGES FOR CURRENT SVCS.	\$5,259,391	\$4,873,808	\$4,370,778	(\$503,030)	-10.32%
Education Jobs - Fund #13	\$7,971	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%						
Title I Improving Basic Programs - Fund #13	\$108,086	\$133,773	\$133,773	\$0	0.00%	OTHER LOCAL REVENUES					
Pre School IDEA 619 - Fund #13	\$18,332	\$18,537	\$15,537	(\$3,000)	-16.18%	Investment Interest	\$72,847	\$101,745	\$90,000	(\$11,745)	-11.54%
Carl Perkins - Fund #13	\$25,183	\$25,183	\$24,114	(\$1,069)	-4.24%	Refunds & Reimbursements	\$49,042	\$144,342	\$132,075	(\$12,267)	-8.50%
Sheff Settlement - Fund #13	\$182,375	\$182,375	\$182,375	\$0	0.00%	Sewer Use - Interest & Liens - Fund #5	\$21,519	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0	0.00%
ARRA IDEA Part B	\$18,537	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	Sewer Assessments Interest & Liens - Fund #5	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$0	0.00%
BOE Education Program Grants - Fund #13 Various	\$149,537	\$58,919	\$58,919	\$0	0.00%	Rents & Reimbursements - Sprint Tower	\$51,789	\$46,554	\$52,000	\$5,446	11.70%
Pequot Funds	\$13,463	\$14,251	\$14,803	\$552	3.87%	Donations & Grants Private Source - Fund #9	\$1,515	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Town Aid Road Fund	\$155,560	\$113,809	\$310,739	\$196,930	173.04%	Forest, Park Mgmt. Sales	\$0	\$10,000	\$0	(\$10,000)	-100.00%
Cafeteria - Board of Education	\$248,829	\$147,500	\$171,833	\$24,333	16.50%	Interlocal Program Funding	\$76,130	\$75,600	\$78,300	\$2,700	3.57%
Pilot: Colleges & Hospitals	\$0	\$3,232	\$0	(\$3,232)	-100.00%	BOE Funding School Resource Officer	\$0	\$0	\$76,000	\$76,000	100.00%
Public Library	\$1,220	\$1,200	\$1,250	\$50	4.17%	Salvage and Demolition Sales	\$15,873	\$13,000	\$15,500	\$2,500	19.23%
Property Tax Relief - Elderly	\$83,932	\$90,000	\$85,000	(\$5,000)	-5.56%	Sale of Property	\$10,291	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0	0.00%
Avon Education Foundation	\$260	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	Miscellaneous	\$16,443	\$11,812	\$14,688	\$2,876	24.35%
Grants in Lieu of Taxes	\$90,796	\$92,113	\$79,218	(\$12,895)	-14.00%	TOTAL OTHER LOCAL REVENUES	\$315,549	\$443,153	\$498,663	\$55,510	12.53%
Veteran Reimbursement	\$5,183	\$5,500	\$5,250	(\$250)	-4.55%						
LOCIP Fund - Fund #11	\$108,969	\$93,797	\$108,969	\$15,172	16.18%	OTHER FINANCING SOURCES					
Youth Services Grant	\$20,110	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	Use of General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Emergency Management and Homeland Security	\$9,879	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	Use of Unassigned Fund Balance - Fund #4	\$2,010	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000	100.00%
Judicial Branch 51-56	\$3,227	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%	Use of Unassigned Fund Balance - Fund #5	\$0	\$0	\$290,132	\$290,132	100.00%
Miscellaneous State Grant Receipts	\$44,417	\$7,400	\$7,400	\$0	0.00%	Use of Unassigned Fund Balance - Fund #7	\$130,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Manufacturing Transition Grant	\$326,995	\$213,211	\$0	(\$213,211)	-100.00%	Use of Unassigned Fund Balance - Fund #15	\$3,807	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Grants for Municipal Projects	\$0	\$0	\$213,211	\$213,211	100.00%	TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	\$135,817	\$0	\$300,132	\$300,132	100.00%
TOTAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL	\$4,701,109	\$4,581,904	\$4,940,842	\$358,938	7.83%						
TOTAL THIS PAGE	\$75,193,681	\$76,443,456	\$78,717,522	\$2,274,066	2.97%	TOTAL REVENUES-ALL FUNDS	\$80,904,438	\$81,760,417	\$83,887,095	\$2,126,678	2.60%

EXPENDITURES - APPROVED FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014/2015

	ACTUAL FY 12/13	BUDGETED FY 13/14	ADOPTED FY 14/15	\$ INC/ /(DEC)	% INC/ -DEC		ACTUAL FY 12/13	BUDGETED FY 13/14	ADOPTED FY 14/15	\$ INC/ /(DEC)	% INC/ -DEC
TOWN COUNCIL						CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT					
GENERAL GOVERNMENT						Planning & Zoning	\$412,378	\$438,808	\$457,965	\$19,157	4.37%
Legislative	\$47,331	\$49,754	\$51,808	\$2,054	4.13%	Conserv. Of Natural Resources	\$149,287	\$162,052	\$168,056	\$6,004	3.70%
Executive	\$449,931	\$473,984	\$487,542	\$13,558	2.86%						
Judicial	\$4,289	\$4,500	\$4,750	\$250	5.56%	TOTAL CONSERVATION & DEV'T	\$561,665	\$600,860	\$626,021	\$25,161	4.19%
Elections	\$90,465	\$93,652	\$100,468	\$6,816	7.28%	MISCELLANEOUS					
Legal	\$162,730	\$160,000	\$165,000	\$5,000	3.13%	Claims & Losses	\$199,874	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0	0.00%
Recording & Reporting	\$335,361	\$382,488	\$384,900	\$2,412	0.63%	Municipal Insurance	\$206,184	\$234,858	\$241,912	\$7,054	3.00%
Town Hall	\$146,579	\$101,282	\$102,813	\$1,531	1.51%	Intergovernmental Expend.	\$44,775	\$56,500	\$56,500	\$0	0.00%
Human Resources	\$221,321	\$232,150	\$239,295	\$7,145	3.08%	Contingency	\$206	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0	0.00%
Finance	\$1,474,666	\$1,458,736	\$1,539,373	\$80,637	5.53%						
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$2,932,673	\$2,956,546	\$3,075,949	\$119,403	4.04%	TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	\$451,039	\$316,358	\$323,412	\$7,054	2.23%
PUBLIC SAFETY						SUB-TOTAL TOWN OF AVON	\$20,319,106	\$20,851,925	\$21,494,682	\$642,757	3.08%
Police Protection	\$5,849,697	\$5,879,983	\$5,921,277	\$41,294	0.70%	SEWERS					
Fire Protection	\$1,751,964	\$1,720,019	\$1,780,152	\$60,133	3.50%	Operating Expenses	\$1,668,047	\$1,807,419	\$1,923,732	\$116,313	6.44%
Central Communications	\$657,758	\$758,182	\$788,486	\$30,304	4.00%						
Protective Inspection	\$259,228	\$320,071	\$332,678	\$12,607	3.94%	TOTAL SEWERS	\$1,668,047	\$1,807,419	\$1,923,732	\$116,313	6.44%
Other Protection	\$239,986	\$244,925	\$239,123	(\$5,802)	-2.37%	CAPITAL IMPROV. DEBT SERVICE					
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	\$8,758,633	\$8,923,180	\$9,061,716	\$138,536	1.55%	Bond & Anticipat. Notes	\$4,437,321	\$3,858,790	\$3,647,490	(\$211,300)	-5.48%
PUBLIC WORKS						TOTAL CAP. IMP. DEBT SERVICE	\$4,437,321	\$3,858,790	\$3,647,490	(\$211,300)	-5.48%
Administration	\$361,779	\$379,752	\$399,434	\$19,682	5.18%	CAPITAL IMPROVE. PROGRAM (CIP)					
Highways	\$1,920,855	\$1,876,355	\$1,953,527	\$77,172	4.11%	Capital Improvement Facilities	\$797,783	\$1,607,297	\$1,620,637	\$13,340	0.83%
Sanitation	\$344,190	\$406,639	\$403,731	(\$2,908)	-0.72%	Capital Improvement Equipment	\$900,000	\$506,000	\$920,000	\$414,000	81.82%
Machinery & Equipment	\$460,357	\$493,301	\$558,498	\$65,197	13.22%	Capital & Non-Recurr. (C.N.R.E.F.)	\$75,000	\$300,000	\$50,000	(\$250,000)	-83.33%
Buildings & Grounds	\$1,083,555	\$1,481,735	\$1,654,981	\$173,246	11.69%						
Engineering	\$303,361	\$339,987	\$352,935	\$12,948	3.81%	TOTAL CIP	\$1,772,783	\$2,413,297	\$2,590,637	\$177,340	7.35%
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	\$4,474,097	\$4,977,769	\$5,323,106	\$345,337	6.94%	BOARD OF EDUCATION					
HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES						Salaries	\$31,254,558	\$33,068,813	\$33,581,445	\$512,632	1.55%
Conservation of Health	\$117,024	\$131,000	\$131,329	\$329	0.25%	Employee Benefits	\$7,453,901	\$7,961,006	\$8,278,529	\$317,523	3.99%
Social Services	\$334,933	\$330,755	\$341,880	\$11,125	3.36%	Purchase Prof & Tech Services	\$1,147,175	\$831,715	\$856,534	\$24,819	2.98%
TOTAL HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES	\$451,957	\$461,755	\$473,209	\$11,454	2.48%	Property Services	\$641,298	\$763,538	\$771,691	\$8,153	1.07%
RECREATION & PARKS						Other Purchased Services	\$4,890,441	\$4,940,141	\$5,659,251	\$719,110	14.56%
Recreation	\$791,343	\$798,972	\$831,234	\$32,262	4.04%	General Supplies & Utilities	\$2,316,904	\$2,498,064	\$2,448,047	(\$50,017)	-2.00%
Parks	\$295,940	\$263,421	\$165,483	(\$97,938)	-37.18%	Equipment	\$663,504	\$244,053	\$257,605	\$13,552	5.55%
Senior Citizens	\$50,851	\$34,472	\$36,746	\$2,274	6.60%	Fees & Memberships	\$57,323	\$58,756	\$49,984	(\$8,772)	-14.93%
Community Activities	\$94,221	\$98,166	\$124,541	\$26,375	26.87%	Cafeteria Operation	\$1,309,960	\$1,370,715	\$1,297,474	(\$73,241)	-5.34%
TOTAL RECREATION & PARKS	\$1,232,355	\$1,195,031	\$1,158,004	(\$37,027)	-3.10%	Facility Use	\$69,375	\$54,000	\$54,000	\$0	0.00%
CULTURE & EDUCATION						Prepaid State & Federal Grants	\$982,667	\$1,038,185	\$975,994	(\$62,191)	-5.99%
Library	\$1,456,687	\$1,420,426	\$1,453,265	\$32,839	2.31%	Miscellaneous	\$85,138	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL CULTURE & EDUCATION	\$1,456,687	\$1,420,426	\$1,453,265	\$32,839	2.31%	TOTAL BOARD OF EDUCATION	\$50,872,244	\$52,828,986	\$54,230,554	\$1,401,568	2.65%
TOTAL THIS PAGE	\$19,306,402	\$19,934,707	\$20,545,249	\$610,542	3.06%	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$79,069,501	\$81,760,417	\$83,887,095	\$2,126,678	2.60%

ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

(As of June 30, 2014)

TOWN COUNCIL

Evans, Douglas M.
Maguire, Heather
Pena, David
Stokesbury, William C.
Zacchio, Mark W., Chairperson

BOARD OF FINANCE

Bratton, Margaret H.
Durdan, Catherine M.
Gugliotti, Thomas A.
Hamilton, Dean C.
Harrison, Thomas F., Chairperson
Speich, James E.
Stoll, Brian M.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Bernetich, Jeff
Birk, Kenneth S.
Glenn, Brian P.
Howard, Wendy J.
Lowry, Houston Putnam
Roell, Margaret J. (Peggy) Chairperson
Shea, Ames B.
Spivak, Jay S.
Zirolli, Kathy

TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Vacant - Lakeview Association
Dellamarggio, Jean, Secret Lake Association
DiPace, James, Vol. Fire Department
Harrop, Mary C., VNA
LaMonica, Caroline, Senior Citizens

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

Clark, Genevieve A. (Ann)
Hunt, Laura A.

JUDGE OF PROBATE

Becker, Cynthia C.

COMMITTEE ON AGING

Farrell, Gloria L.
Herrmann, Alice W.
Thomas, Patti

TOWN TREASURER

McCarthy, James R.

DEPOSITORY OF TOWN FUNDS

Bank of America Merrill Lynch
Citizen's Bank
Commerce Bank
CT ST Treasury's Short-Term Investment Fund (STIF)
Cutwater Investor Services Corporation (MBIA-Class for CT)
Farmington Bank
First Niagara Bank
HSBC Bank USA, N.A.
Liberty Bank
Northwest Community Bank
People's United Bank
Santander Bank, N.A.
Simsbury Bank & Trust Co.
TD Bank NA
United Bank
Wachovia Bank, N.A.
Webster Bank, N.A.
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Johnson, Dwight A.

ASSISTANT TOWN ATTORNEY

Murtha Cullina, LLP

CONSTABLES

Delgallo, Leonard Jr.
Propiescus, Robert M., Jr.

INSURANCE AGENT OF RECORD

USI

NCR MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

Walls, Marissa

NORTH CENTRAL EMS

Rinaldo, Mark R., Chief of Police

CAPITOL REGION COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS POLICY BOARD

Zacchio, Mark W. Member
Hines, Richard W. Alternate
Vacant
Robertson, Brandon Alternate

CT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES

Zacchio, Mark W. Member
Robertson, Brandon Alternate

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

Alter, Jonathan B.
Atwood, Arthur J.
Chester, Samuel D.
Clark, Marianne
Harrop, Mary C.
Hornaday, Diane S.
Hunt, Laura A.
Kaplan, Ilene D.
Katz, Morton N.
Lancaster, Mary Margaret
McCall, Richard B.
Merlin, Linda S.
Mozzicato, Maria J.
Rosenfeld, Daniel H.
Smalley, Viola R.
Tilson, Ann J.
Woodford, Penelope R.

RECREATION & PARK COMMITTEE

Donovan, Todd
Droppo, Donald R., Jr.
Jadovich, David A.
Marioni, Paul
Ponziani, Peter J.
Roell, Margaret J. (Peggy)
Trick, Michael F.

FIRE POLICE

Baldwin, Brianna
Barton, Jean
Bianchi, Dennis
Bloom, Andrew
Crozier, Raymond
Dudley, Clifford
Evans, Nancy
Gottlieb, Steven
Levine-Shein, Sharon
McCaffrey, Jay
McGuire, John
Sedlak, Kenneth
Therriault, Robert
Wernikoff, Gail

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

Armstrong, Thomas
Cappello, David M.
Clark, Marianne L.
Gackstatter, Chris
Griffin, Carol K.
Keith, Linda H., Chairperson
Mahoney, Peter

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Aube, Gina R.
Johansen, Eric
Ladouceur, Brian J. Jr., Chairperson
Oleyer, Michael R.
Ryan, Terry

INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION

Applefield, Dean S.
Beauchamp, Michael R.
Breckinridge, Robert, H. Jr.
Dean, Martha A.
Short, Bryan
Thier, Clifford S., Chairperson
Usich, Louis N. III

BUILDING CODE BOARD OF APPEALS

Eacott, James H. III
Ferrigno, William A.
Hinman, Dana
Magro, Paul C.
Vacancy

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

Chester, Samuel
Connel, Richard S., Chairperson
Hunt, Stephen E.
Mensi, Laura A.
Owens, Timothy S.

PLAINVILLE CATV ADVISORY COUNCIL (PACTAC)

Primeau, Elaine G.
Vacancy (Board of Education)
Vicino, Stephen

