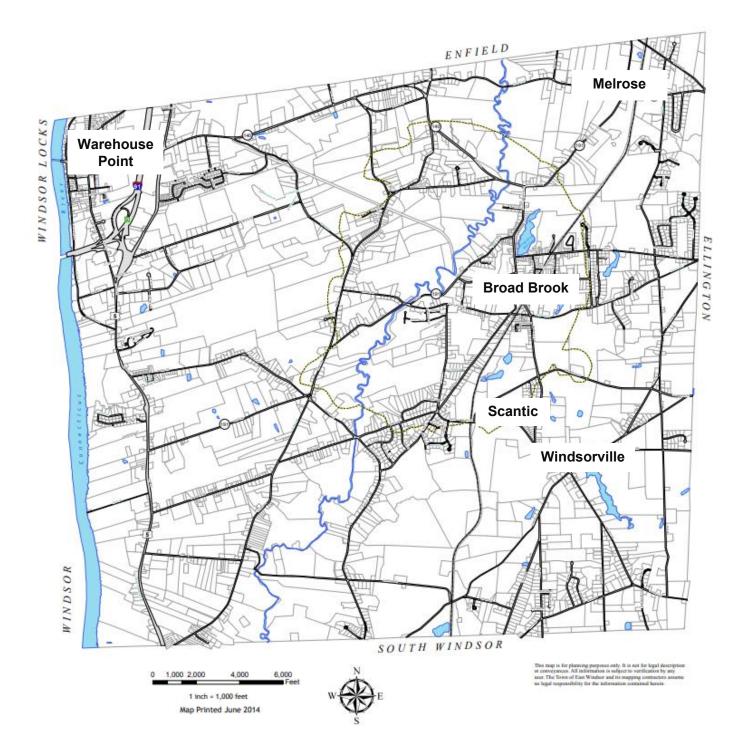


# Town of East Windsor • Annual Report • FY2019-20







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# Introduction

or more than two hundred and fifty years, East Windsor has found its ♦ home along the Connecticut River, halfway between Hartford, Connecticut and Springfield, Massachusetts. For all that time, we have taken great pride in our rural character and agricultural roots. And while we continue to embrace our rich agrarian past, we also look towards the future. Our central location puts us in the heart of New England's Knowledge corridor, and we are working hard to capitalize on the resources that are available to us to inspire economic growth in the region.

Our past is something that we are proud of as a community, and our future is bright. This publication is intended to share some of the things that are happening here now. Like most places, we have a story to tell that is uniquely ours. This first edition will serve as an introduction of sorts to key programs, staff, opportunities and partners. As our story grows, we will be working hard to share successes we've made along the way, as well as new opportunities that present themselves.

We are proud of our community and the great people in it, and it is our hope that this guide will serve as an introduction to its readers about what our community can be.

In East Windsor our best days are ahead!

Jason E. Bowsza

First Selectman





# PRINCIPAL TOWN OFFICIALS - JUNE 30, 2020

# BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Jason E. Bowsza, First Selectman

Marie DeSousa

Sarah Muska

Alan Baker

Charles Nordell

#### **BOARD OF FINANCE**

Jerilyn K. Corso, Chairman

Karen M. Christensen

Barbara Petano

Tom Lansner

Thomas Talamini

William Syme

Noreen Farmer - Alternate

Danelle Godeck - Alternate

# **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Catherine Simonelli, Chairman

Heather Spencer

Kathryn Carey-Trull

Sarah Andrews

Courtney Sevarino

Frances Neill

William Raber

Randi Reichle

David Swaim

## GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Chief of Police/Director of Emergency Management, Edward DeMarco, Jr.

Deputy Chief, Roger Hart

Treasurer/Finance Director, Amy O'Toole

Tax Collector, Patricia Kratochvil

Assessor, Helen Totz

Town Clerk, Joanne Slater

Director of Planning and Community Development, Ruben Flores-Marzan

Director of Public Works & Engineering, Leonard Norton

Director of Recreation and Community Services, Melissa Maltese

Building Official, Rand Stanley

Interim Fire Marshal, Richard Austin

#### **EDUCATION**

Superintendent of Schools, Christine DeBarge, Ed. D.

Business Manager, Andrew Paquette



# Town Meetings & Abstracts of Minutes

# **Special Town Meeting & Referendum Vote** By Voting Machine or Paper Ballot October 17, 2019

Special Town Meeting of the Town of East Windsor was held at the Town Hall, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT on October 17, 2019. The meeting was called to order by First Selectman Robert Maynard at 7:30 p.m. Motion was made by Andrew Hoffman to nominate Robert Maynard to preside as Moderator, seconded by William Loos. Motion was made by Thomas Talamini to nominate Jason Bowsza to preside as Moderator, seconded by Richard Pippin, Jr. Paul Anderson made the motion to have nominations cease, seconded by Angelo Sevarino. Jason Bowsza was elected as Moderator, by hand vote. Town Clerk, Joanne M. Slater read the Town Meeting Warning. Moderator, Jason Bowsza read the Eligibility to Vote requirements.

The following resolution was introduced and read by Paul Anderson:

Item #1: To consider, and vote on an Amendment to Ordinance Number 66-2 Creating a Sewer Authority as approved at the October 3, 2019 Board of Selectmen Meeting.

Paul Anderson moved that the foregoing resolution be adopted. This was seconded by Charles Szymanski. The resolution passed by a hand vote.

The following resolution was introduced and read by Natalie Ryan.

Item #2: To consider, approve and vote on the Ordinance Establishing a Tax Exemption for Exemption of Real and Personal Property Acquired by Certain Tax-Exempt Institutions as presented at the Board of Selectmen Meeting held on March 21, 2019.

Natalie Ryan moved that the foregoing resolution be adopted. This was seconded by Andrew Hoffman. The resolution passed by a hand vote.

The following resolution was introduced and read by Charles Szymanski.

Item #3: To consider a resolution (but not vote on) approving and authorizing the First Selectman to sign the Amended Facility Sharing Agreement - Regional Animal Control Facility agreement as approved at the October 3, 2019 Board of Selectmen Meeting.

Charlie Szymanski moved to consider, but not vote on the foregoing resolution, 2nd by William Loos. There was discussion about the pros and cons of this resolution. This meeting was video-taped, and the YouTube video can be accessed through the town website.

The following resolution was introduced and read by Steve Dearborn.

Item #4: To consider (but not vote on) the Ordinance Regarding the Creation of the Town of East Windsor Casino Impact Fund ("CIF") as approved at the October 3, 2019 Board of Selectmen Meeting.

Steve Dearborn moved to consider, but not vote on, the foregoing ordinance, 2nd by William

Loos. There was discussion about the pros and cons of this resolution. This meeting was video-taped, and the YouTube video can be accessed through the town website.

The following resolution was introduced and read by Andrew Hoffman.

Item #5: To consider (but not vote on) the Ordinance Regarding the Distribution of Funds from the Town of East Windsor Casino Impact Fund as approved at the October 3, 2019 Board of Selectmen Meeting.

Andrew Hoffman moved to consider, but not vote on, the foregoing ordinance. There was discussion about the pros and cons of this resolution. This meeting was video-taped, and the YouTube video can be accessed through the town website.

William Loos made a motion to adjourn, 2nd by Steve Dearborn. The meeting adjourned at 10:08p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanne M. Slater, CCTC

Town Clerk

Town of East Windsor

# **Town Meeting** December 19, 2019

A Town Meeting of the Town of East Windsor was held at the Town Hall, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT on December 19, 2019. The meeting was called to order by First Selectman Jason Bowsza at 7:30 p.m. Motion was made by Sarah Muska to nominate Jason Bowsza to preside as Moderator, seconded by Paul Anderson. Rebecca Talamini made a motion to have nominations cease, seconded by Sarah Muska. Jason Bowsza was elected as Moderator. Town Clerk, Joanne M. Slater read the Town Meeting Public Notice. Moderator, Jason Bowsza read the Eligibility to Vote requirements.

The following resolution was introduced and read by Jillian Hubbard:

Item 1: To consider and act upon a resolution that the reports of the Selectmen, Town Treasurer and other Town officers, be accepted as printed, errors and

# Town Meetings & Abstracts of Minutes

omissions accepted. Jillian Hubbard moved that the foregoing resolution be adopted, seconded by Paul Anderson.

There was no discussion.

# This resolution was adopted.

The following resolution was introduced and read by Rebecca Talamini:

Item 2: To consider and act upon a resolution authorizing and empowering the First Selectman and Town Treasurer to borrow from time to time on behalf of and in the name of the Town for the purpose of meeting current expenses until the tax monies are available, and to issue notes for same, and to determine the amount of such notes and to execute, sell and deliver same.

Rebecca Talamini moved that the foregoing resolution be adopted, seconded by Jillian Hubbard.

There was no discussion.

## This resolution was adopted.

The following resolution was introduced and read by Robert

Item 3: To consider and act upon a resolution authorizing the Selectmen, as provided in Chapter 240, Part 11A of the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut Revision of 1959 and as amended, to enter into any and all agreements with the Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Transportation relative to the expenditure of any unexpended balance of highway funds allotment due to the Town on July 1, 2020 and to enter into an agreement, with said Commissioner concerning the expenditure of said allotment.

Robert Lyke moved that the foregoing resolution be adopted, seconded by Rebecca Talamini.

There was no discussion.

# This resolution was adopted.

William Loos made a motion to adjourn the meeting. This was seconded by Rebecca Talamini. The meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanne M. Slater

Town Clerk

Town of East Windsor

# **Town Meeting** January 9, 2020

A Town Meeting of the Town of East Windsor was held at the Town Hall, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT on January 9, 2020. The meeting was called to order by First Selectman Jason E. Bowsza at 7:30 p.m. Motion was made by Sarah Muska to nominate Jason Bowsza to preside as Moderator, seconded by Thomas Talamini. Charles Nordell made a motion to have nominations cease, seconded by Sarah Muska. Jason Bowsza was elected as Moderator. Town Clerk, Joanne M. Slater read the Town Meeting Public Notice. Moderator, Jason E. Bowsza read the Eligibility to Vote requirements.

The following resolution was introduced and read by Rebecca Talamini:

Item 1: To consider and vote on the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen pursuant to C.G.C. 7-9b that the hours for referenda held by the Town of East Windsor in the Calendar year 2020 be held from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Rebecca Talamini moved that the foregoing resolution be adopted, seconded by Catherine Simonelli.

There was no discussion.

#### This resolution was adopted.

The following resolution was introduced and read by Kathleen Bilodeau:

Item 2: To consider and vote on an added appropriation in the amount of \$150,000 for completion of the Splash Pad project at East Windsor Park.

Kathleen Bilodeau moved that the foregoing resolution be adopted, seconded by Nichole DeSousa.

There was discussion.

#### This resolution was adopted.

Joan Eckel made a motion to adjourn the meeting. This was seconded by Catherine Simonelli. The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanne M. Slater

Town Clerk



# STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL -BUDGETARY BASIS - GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

		Budgeted	Amou	ınts			riance With nal Budget
	-	Original		Final	Actual	O۷	er (Under)
REVENUES	-						
Property taxes	\$	32,677,581	\$	32,677,581	\$ 33,541,867	\$	864,286
Intergovernmental		6,278,896		6,278,896	6,380,436		101,540
Local revenues		578,320		578,320	657,648		79,328
Revenues from use of money		150,000		150,000	221,143		71,143
Total revenues		39,684,797		39,684,797	40,801,094		1,116,297
EXPENDITURES							
Current:							
General government		2,158,121		2,170,831	2,055,495		(115,336)
Public safety		4,126,293		4,249,453	4,040,963		(208,490)
Public Works		3,360,622		3,264,824	3,244,935		(19,889)
Community Services		930,649		923,044	856,282		(66,762)
Employee Benefits		3,601,562		3,120,436	3,035,431		(85,005)
Contingency		51,000		-	 		
Debt service		1,040,429		988,103	984,538		(3,565)
Capital improvement		997,221		1,517,328	1,517,327		(1)
Total Town		16,265,897		16,234,019	15,734,971		(499,048)
Current:							
Education		23,919,000		23,919,000	 23,402,324		(516,676)
Total expenditures		40,184,897		40,153,019	39,137,295		(1,015,724)
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over							
expenditures		(500,100)		(468,222)	1,663,799		2,132,021
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES							
Appropriation of fund balance		500,000		650,000	-		(650,000)
Sale of Assets		100		100	-		(100)
Transfers in		-		-	37,397		37,397
Transfers out				181,879	181,879		0
Total other financing sources (uses)		500,100		831,979	219,276		(612,703)
Net change in fund balances	\$		\$	363,757	\$ 1,883,075	\$	1,519,318



## SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES BUDGET AND ACTUAL - BUDGETARY BASIS - GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance With Final Budget	
	Original	Final	Actual	Over (Under)	
PROPERTY TAXES					
Current and prior year levies	32,577,581	32,577,581	33,067,800	490,219	
Interest and lien fees	100,000	100,000	474,067	374,067	
Total property taxes	32,677,581	32,677,581	33,541,867	864,286	
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUES					
Educational cost sharing grant	5,404,187	5,404,187	5,504,507	100,320	
Town aid road grant	267,358	267,358	267,488	130	
Payment in lieu of taxes on State owned property	548,433	548,433	548,433	-	
Mashantucket Pequot and Mohegan Fund grant	15,432	15,432	15,432	_	
Telephone access grant	15,000	15,000	17,052	2,052	
Adult education	15,986	15,986	15,847	(139)	
Tax relief - veterans	5,850	5,850	5,738	(112)	
Pro-rata share of CT fines	5,000	5,000	4,276	(724)	
Tax exempt property - totally disabled persons	1,650	1,650	1,663	13	
Other grants	-	-	-	-	
Total intergovernmental revenues	6,278,896	6,278,896	6,380,436	101,540	
LOCAL REVENUES					
Building Department	250,000	250,000	254,788	4,788	
Town Clerk	220,100	220,100	215,207	(4,893)	
Treasurer	35,100	35,100	115,140	80,040	
Land use permits	13,800	13,800	17,582	3,782	
Parks and Recreation	32,500	32,500	28,384	(4,116)	
Police Department	10,500	10,500	10,079	(4,110)	
Greater Hartford Transit District	7,000	7,000	7,432	432	
Aircraft miscellaneous	•	•	•	830	
	3,500	3,500	4,330		
Dial-A-Ride Public works	3,000	3,000	2,250	(750)	
	2,500	2,500	2,332	(168)	
Assessor Other	300 20	300 20	124	(176)	
	20	20	-	(20)	
Total licenses, fees and charges				70.220	
for goods and services	578,320	578,320	657,648	79,328	
REVENUES FROM THE USE OF MONEY					
Interest on deposits	150,000	150,000	221,143	71,143	
Total revenues from the use of money	150,000	150,000	221,143	71,143	
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES					
Appropriation of Fund Balance	500,000	650,000	-	(650,000)	
Transfers in from:				-	
Casino Fund			37,397	37,397	
Sewer Assessment Fund	-	-	-	-	
Total other financing sources	500,100	650,100	37,397	(612,703)	
Total revenues and other financing sources	40,184,897	40,334,897	40,838,491	503,594	
			, ,		



#### SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES BUDGET AND ACTUAL - BUDGETARY BASIS - GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

	Budgeted Amounts			Variance With Final Budget	
	Original	Final	Actual	Over (Under)	
GENERAL GOVERNMENT					
Selectmen	264,899	263,258	234,006	(29,252)	
Charter Revision	-	1,625	1,625	-	
Ethic's Commission	510	500	-	(500)	
Board of Finance	45,263	44,875	43,550	(1,325)	
Assessor	194,810	203,845	197,239	(6,606)	
Board of Assessment Appeals	1,581	1,550	609	(941)	
Tax Collector	128,133	144,716	132,252	(12,464)	
Treasurer	241,946	245,639	237,703	(7,936)	
Capital Improvement Commission	765	750	625	(125)	
Legal	265,200	303,245	287,548	(15,697)	
Activity Fees & Assoc	142,857	140,896	138,132	(2,764)	
Information Technology	200,530	242,863	241,474	(1,389)	
Town Clerk	138,073	143,531	137,833	(5,698)	
Registrar of Voters	65,204	56,850	48,241	(8,609)	
Planning	246,729	208,888	194,570	(14,318)	
Planning & Zoning Commission	3,315	3,250	2,871	(379)	
Zoning Appeals Board	1,428	1,400	250	(1,150)	
Propery Insurance	208,565	155,000	153,912	(1,088)	
Inlands/Wetlands	1,836	1,800	1,630	(170)	
Veterans Commission	1,224	1,200	1,050	(150)	
Agriculture Commission	510	500	-	(500)	
Conservation Commission	510	500	-	(500)	
Economic Development Commission	4,233	4,150	375	(3,775)	
Total General Government	2,158,121	2,170,831	2,055,495	(115,336)	
PUBLIC SAFETY					
Police Department	3,416,035	3,484,048	3,352,587	(131,461)	
Police Commission	1,530	1,500	1,250	(250)	
Broad Brook Fire Department	440,640	464,000	450,920	(13,080)	
Emergency management	18,229	68,206	17,851	(50,355)	
Building Department	177,112	162,464	153,014	(9,450)	
Fire Marshall	18,428	20,067	16,662	(3,405)	
Communications	54,319	49,168	48,679	(489)	
Total Public Safety	4,126,293	4,249,453	4,040,963	(208,490)	
PUBLIC WORKS					
Public Works	915,634	890,967	890,967	-	
Town properties	1,061,511	1,027,989	1,010,521	(17,468)	
Road improvements	433,500	398,518	398,518	-	
Building Committee	1,224	1,200	-	(1,200)	



#### SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES BUDGET AND ACTUAL - BUDGETARY BASIS - GENERAL FUND (Continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

	Budgeted Ar	mounts		Variance With Final Budget
	Original	Final	Actual	Over (Under)
EDUCATION	23,919,000	23,919,000	23,402,325	(516,675)
DEBT SERVICE	1,040,429	988,103	984,538	(3,565)
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT	997,221	1,517,328	1,517,327	(1)
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	3,601,562	3,120,436	3,035,431	(85,005)
CONTINGENCY	51,000	<u> </u>		
Total expenditures	40,184,897	40,153,019	39,137,295	(1,015,723)
OTHER FINANCING USES				
Transfers out:				
Dog Fund		35,973	35,973	-
YSB Fund		29,836	29,836	
OPEB Fund	-	45,000	45,000	-
Heart & Hypertension Fund	-	37,642	37,642	0
Storm Emergency Fund	-	33,428	33,428	-
School Cafeteria Fund		<u> </u>	-	
Total other financing uses	-	181,879	181,879	0
Total expenditures and other financing uses	40,184,897	40,334,898	39,319,174	(1,015,722)
				(Concluded)



#### SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES BUDGET AND ACTUAL - BUDGETARY BASIS - EDUCATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

		Budgeted	l Amou	ınts			Variance With Final Budget
		Original		Final		Actual	Over (Under)
EDUCATION							
Salaries							
Certified personnel	\$	9,673,954	\$	9,876,174	\$	10,067,124	\$ 190,950
Clerical		1,054,621		998,638		993,452	(5,186)
Building administration		838,726		807,747		807,748	1
Teacher's aides		770,612		843,466		1,241,536	398,070
Custodial		730,103		684,103		695,738	11,635
Administration		454,344		487,694		487,694	-
Tutors		397,903		384,651		379,012	(5,639)
Nurses		282,729		282,729		279,667	(3,062)
Support services		122,601		82,579		78,600	(3,979)
Stipends		149,172		149,172		147,160	(2,012)
Substitutes		46,503		46,503		48,022	1,519
Summer school		113,519		133,805		133,965	160
Adult education/enrichment		39,146		37,244		37,244	-
Total salaries		14,673,933		14,814,505		15,396,962.00	582,457
Employee Benefits							
Health insurance	\$	2,138,555	\$	2,261,604	\$	2,017,093	(244,511)
Retirement and social security		1,214,667		1,214,667		1,136,824	(77,843)
Workmen's compensation and							
travel insurance		150,392		180,452		168,341	(12,111)
Total employee benefits		3,503,614		3,656,723		3,322,258	(334,465)
Purchased Services							
Public transportation	\$	1,750,959	\$	1,673,671	\$	1,459,990	(213,681)
Tuition	7	1,962,859	Y	1,937,859	7	1,022,483	(915,376)
Other professional services		798,459		712,859		746,861	34,002
Cleaning/repairing		4,000		4,000		57,955	53,955
Maintenance		311,160		227,230		164,572	(62,658)
Public utilities		165,760		165,760		213,697	47,937
Liability insurance		53,572		53,572		3,438	(50,134)
Travel, conferences and other		/-		/-		-,	(, - ,
transportation		21,989		22,989		17,170	(5,819)
Communications		59,492		43,434		37,009	(6,425)
Printing/binding		18,821		18,821		12,303	(6,518)
Property insurance		133,576		133,576		120,049	(13,527)
Total purchased services		5,280,647		4,993,771		3,855,527	(1,138,244)
Supplies							
Other supplies	\$	92,706	\$	88,786	\$	90,728	1,942
Instructional		67,651		70,171		113,792	43,621
Heat and energy		138,886		138,886		183,106	44,220
Custodial/maintenance		52,418		52,418		81,584	29,166
Textbooks		, -		, -		12,155	12,155
Food service		65,000		65,000		305,000	240,000
Total supplies		416,661		415,261		786,365	371,104
Capital equipment							
New equipment	\$	_	\$	_	\$	_	-
Dues and fees	Ļ	44,146	Ą	38,741	Ç	41,213	2,472
Total capital equipment		44,146		38,741		41,213	2,472
Total education	\$	23,919,001	\$	23,919,001	\$	23,402,325	\$ 516,676
. 5 (2) (3) (3) (3)	<del></del>	23,313,001	<u> </u>		<u> </u>	23, .02,323	7 310,070

# FIRST SELECTMAN'S OFFICE

he year 2020 saw a change in leadership in East Windsor town government. The newly elected Board of Selectmen now includes First Selectman Jason E. Bowsza, Deputy First Selectman Marie DeSousa, and Selectmen Alan Baker, Sarah Muska and Charlie Nordell.

# **Strengthening Communication**

Developing a strong rapport and opening lines of communication with the community has been a high priority. To achieve this, I am utilizing new tools to provide better and more consistent communication to our residents than was offered in the past. During the last year, my office has been producing a community newsletter, the Five Village Voice, that is mailed to every home in town four times per year.

I have instituted weekly town-wide phone calls to keep residents up to date on issues of local concern. We have also integrated more user-friendly software into our permitting process and upgraded the Town's GIS software, providing enhanced transparency to residents and businesses in town.

# **Responding To Covid-19**

In March, the entire planet was hit with the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), which had a significant and immediate impact on every facet of life. Our community and every other community were forced to systematically shut down aspects of our daily lives to give the most vulnerable people in our society a better chance of weathering the pandemic. This forced us to forego major parts of our routines to help prevent the collapse of our healthcare system. Throughout the pandemic, our first responders continued to do their work each day without hesitation, even as they faced the same fears and uncertainty as the rest of us. We are very grateful for their dedication.

Local government was forced to adapt the way services are provided due to the pandemic. Teachers had to quickly learn to teach remotely via internet platforms as a result of schools being shut down in March. These teachers showed a commitment to our students that made us all proud of the fine people who educate our children.

Testing for positive cases of COVID-19 became a key piece in preventing the spread of the virus in the community. In May, the Town began a partnership with Priority Urgent Care to provide live virus testing at no charge to residents. This was expanded to include antibody testing as well as the administration of the flu vaccine.

Because of COVID-19, many traditional rites of passage were conducted differently. In May, Geissler's held a graduation ceremony for their graduating high school and college seniors. These young people who had been shelf stockers and cashiers in our local grocery store found themselves on the front lines of the pandemic, helping to ensure that people still had access to food. As young adults, they proved to be unexpected heroes. East Windsor High School found yet another way to celebrate our graduates by hosting a commencement parade, passing each school in town with the streets lined with proud parents, families and friends cheering on our graduates.

As a result of the pandemic, many of our senior citizens were feeling isolated from the community. The Department of Recreation and Community Services continued to regularly check on the seniors via telephone calls and safely distanced visits to their homes. The department also organized a series of drive by parades to help alleviate their loneliness and bring them some cheer.

# **Fiscal Conditions**

Because of the economic devastation caused by COVID-19, we had deep concerns about the community's fiscal health. To help ease the burden on residents, the Board of Selectmen delayed the collection of property taxes from July 1 to October 1, hoping the extra

time would provide some relief. When October 1 came, we found our tax collection rate was the healthiest it had been in at least four years, showing the resiliency of our community in managing the pandemic.

Beyond providing a tax deferment, the Town took additional actions to protect the fiscal health of our community. Town and Board of Education employees' health insurance was converted from a higher cost plan over to the Connecticut Prevention Partnership 2.0, which provides better healthcare to our employees at less cost to them, and still saved the Town more than \$400,000 per year.

The Town also implemented safeguards against recalcitrant developers from leaving subdivision projects partially completed. Several times in recent years, the Town was left vulnerable to this poor practice, incurring tens of thousands of dollars in expenses to complete road improvements associated with subdivisions. This will no longer occur because the Town has instituted a "Developer's Agreement," which contractually obligates developers to complete work that they have started without the Town being financially exposed.

COVID-19 left municipalities around the country in a position where unbudgeted, unpredictable costs needed to be incurred to mitigate the pandemic. East Windsor has been approved for more than \$80,000 in federal reimbursements for COVID-related expenses, lessening the burden on our budget and budget reserves.

# **Government Modifications**

The Year 2020 also brought with it the quadrennial election of President of the United States. Without exception, presidential elections see the highest level of voter participation. For this reason, the Board of Selectmen chose to include several questions amending the Town Charter and an ordinance re-



# FIRST SELECTMAN'S OFFICE

solving the tax disparity issue affecting Warehouse Point Fire District residents on the ballot. Resolving the fire service tax disparity was particularly significant as that issue languished unresolved for many years.

The charter questions aimed to correct minor technical deficiencies in the Charter, modernize the title of Town Treasurer to Finance Director, and ensure added transparency to the budget process. All four questions passed by huge margins. Because changing the Charter affects every resident in town, and because the fire service ordinance had such a significant impact on the community, the Board of Selectmen saw the presidential election as the best opportunity to get broad feedback from the community.

# **Economic Development**

Despite the effects of COVID-19, economic development remained a focus of the Town in the last year. Upon taking office, I made business outreach a priority, meeting with business leaders in the community several times per week, learning what assistance they need from the Town to survive and to thrive. I had the opportunity to visit Geissler's Supermarket, JR Russo and Associates, New England Auto & Truck, InfoShred, Collins Pipe Company, the East Windsor Chamber of Commerce. SBS, Wilcox Excavation, and others.

The Town also joined the Connecticut Main Street Center, a nonprofit organization that has helped towns across Connecticut to revitalize their downtown areas. In East Windsor, this is of significance because we have both downtown Broad Brook and downtown Warehouse Point, two village centers with very different needs to encourage development and redevelopment. Partnering with Connecticut Main Street Center could help us create a vision for revitalization of both areas.

The biggest success seen by the Town in terms of economic development is

undoubtedly the negotiation of a tax stabilization agreement with Gravel Pit Solar, a renewable energy project that will become the town's largest taxpayer once construction is completed. Gravel Pit Solar is slated to be the largest grid-scale solar development in New England, and will be located on Charbonneau's gravel pit, as well as some adjacent farmland. They will contribute nearly \$10 million in new revenue and capital investments to the town over the life of the agreement. Obviously, we are excited to welcome Gravel Pit Solar to the Town of East Windsor.

Long overdue investment in key town features have happened this year. Town Hall has been completely renovated and reorganized to increase customer service and efficiency. We have invested in our parks by installing bathroom facilities at the Abbe Road Soccer Complex (which will allow for the expanded hosting of tournaments there soon),

and East Windsor Park has seen a considerable facelift. We have installed a handicapped-accessible walkway from the parking lot to the waterfront, installed a new splash pad, installed two youth soccer fields to relocate East Windsor youth teams to the park, and we are planning to build a bandshell before the start of next season.

#### Conclusion

The year 2020 has been an eventful year, although I think most people will be glad to see it end. Our hope for the next year is that the pandemic will come to an end and that we will be able to return to some of the normal activities that people in our great community know and love. In East Windsor, our best days are still ahead!

Respectfully submitted,

Iason E. Bowsza First Selectman





# Assessor's Office

he Assessor's Office is responsible for discovering, listing and valuing all real estate and taxable motor vehicle and personal property in East Windsor. The goal of Assessor Helen Totz and her staff is to ensure that the assessed value of individual taxpayers is proper so that each taxpayer pays no more than their fair share of the property tax.

In order to accomplish this, we review information regarding all three classes of property for accuracy. This process includes conducting random audits of Personal Property business accounts, inspecting and listing new construction (as well as verifying any demolition of property), reviewing and updating tax maps, and maintaining current title information for all real estate parcels. The Department of Motor Vehicles provides the office with lists of all motor vehicles registered within the Town, and once each vehicle has been valued, these lists comprise the Motor Vehicle and Supplemental Motor Vehicle Grand Lists.

Motor vehicles and Personal Property are assessed at 70% of the current fair market value, as of October 1 of each year. Real Estate assessments are based on values set at the time of the 2017 revaluation, as provided by state statute. Revaluations are every five years by State law; the next revaluation will be effective for the 2022 Grand List. Analysis of property sales during 2021 and 2022 will be the basis for that revaluation and the values it generates.

In addition, all state and local exemption programs that affect the tax bills of elderly, military, blind and disabled taxpayers are administered by this department. All of this information results in a "Grand List" which is a list of all taxable property in East Windsor and its assessed value. This information is the basis for the Tax Collector's tax bills. In addition, all tax-exempt real estate is valued and declared in a separate Grand List, the value of which is reported to the State for various grants and reimbursements.

Various annual reports based on the Grand List are compiled and provided timely to the Office of Policy and Management in order to ensure a proper Equalized Net Grand List which affects state grants and reimbursements.

Helen Totz, CCMA II, Assessor



# East Windsor Building Department

he East Windsor Building Department is located at 11 Rye Street in the village of Broad Brook. We exist to serve the community through an informational permitting process dictated by State Statute. On July 1, 2020 we updated our permitting software to an expanded platform. On November 1, we went live! What that means is all permits can be applied for online. You do not have to come into town hall, sift through paperwork, and wonder if it is good enough. Go online to the Building Department, follow the prompts, and apply. We are excited to announce and promote this exciting development. And, in this Covid-19 socially distanced, socially aware work world we currently exist, this promotes safety. That's our business, safety.

We seek compliance with the 2018 Connecticut State Building Code. Please, use us as a Community Resource. We are here for you in that we are dedicated to safety in the built environment. We assist and work with numerous Federal, State, and Local Agencies and Departments.

Below are the statistics outlining the previous year. These figures should not be considered comparable with any previous year end total number of permits or revenue. There are unique variables with every permit and/or project.

#### \*907 Total Permits issued for FY 19/20

#### \*1352 Total Inspections performed for FY 19/20

#### \$ 224,666.32 Total Revenue Generated

Building 348 Electric 220 Gas Mechanical 229 Plumbing 110

Our Business is your safety, plain and simple. Please ask if you don't know, check the batteries in your Smoke and CO detectors, and use us as a Community Resource. Please visit us at the Town of East Windsor's website. Be Safe.

# Rand Stanley,

**East Windsor Building Official** 



he Town of East Windsor Emergency Management prepares for and mitigates the effects of disaster on the lives and property for the residents and business owners in Town through leadership, coordination, and support in the four phases of Emergency Management: Mitigation, Preparedness, Response, and Recovery, within the NIMS (National Incident Management System) and ICS (Incident Command System) framework. Working with all town and emergency/public safety departments in Town such as Police, Fire, EMS, DPW, and others - We continue to work planning and preparing for natural disasters and unfolding emergencies that may occur in our Town or in the state or region. We continue to update our public safety and emergency plans and procedures, our shelter operations and coordination efforts, communication, and take part in local and statewide emergency drills.

We work through a unified command system and coordinate with all town, state, and federal agencies when the need arises. Our efforts also include maintaining professional working relationships with private entities like Eversource and other utilities, which may someday have an impact on our community - if a disaster or emergency event occurs. We continue to receive and maintain grants, file mandated reports, and stay current with best practices for emergency management. This is important work, and as always, if you are interested in making a significant impact in your community and you are over the age of 18, please call or email us to learn more about volunteer opportunities.

It has been a very busy year thus far, as we continue to deal with Covid-19 (A National Pandemic). We have dealt with Storm Isaias resulting in large scale loss of power and other conditions impacting the Town. We would like to thank our town departments this year, like DPW, BBFD, WHPFD, EW Ambulance, Community Services, our Schools, the Treasurer, and our Elected Officials for their diligent service and commitment. If you need information about preparing yourself or your property for a disaster, please feel free to contact us at any time.

Edward J. DeMarco, Jr. Police Chief & Director of Emergency Services

# **Broad Brook Fire Department**

→his past year, the Broad Brook Fire Department responded to a record number of calls for service. We saw an increase of 6% over the previous year. We responded to 744 incidents of various types during the fiscal year of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. Those included 44 fire calls, (12 of which were structure fire type calls) in town or in our neighboring communities, 406 rescue incidents (of which 337 were for priority 1 medical calls), 44 hazardous conditions, 71 service calls, 92 good intent calls and 87 false alarm incidents. Our members also attended a total of 1,125.50 hours of documented training despite having months off in the beginning of the year due to COVID-19.

We welcomed 8 new members last year and lost only 3 throughout the year boosting membership in our ranks. Two of the new members attended Basic Firefighter-1 training to become certified as Interior Firefighters. The others were either already certified or too young to get the training. At the current time our active membership including officers, totals 47 members, 24 of which are active status, 9 active reserve status, 5 are junior members and 9 limited members.

Our part-time staff currently consists of a total of 20 per diem employees (4 that are current members of the department) that strive to fill 3 daytime shifts Monday through Friday, 10





hours a day between the hours of 7 am and 5 pm. While this is a very good start, daytime coverage is still at a critical low and will need to increase over the next few years to be able to provide good initial immediate service to the citizens of the Town of East Windsor and the commuters that travel through town on a daily basis. The fire department responded to a total of 509 calls for service between the hours of 6 am and 6 pm Sunday through Saturday, which 409 or 61.51% of those calls between 6 am and 6 pm were done Monday-Friday, another 11% increase over last year. This time continues to be our most difficult time to staff with adequate members and proves to be most challenging time for us to provide sufficient services to the town, its residents and the people who visit and travel through our town. We are also fortunate enough to continue to staff two-night shifts with two firefighters on Friday and Saturday nights from 10pm to 6am.

We continue to research and plan for the replacement of one of our Engine Tanks. This truck is critical to us and we have been spending more on its service and downtime than ever before. With its age and normal wear and tear, this truck is becoming more and more costly to maintain. We take great pride in providing and continue to provide the best fire protection and EMS care possible to the town and its citizens.

# Thomas V. Arcari, Fire Chief **Broad Brook Fire Department**

#### Warehouse Point Fire District

The Warehouse Point Fire District continues to provide First Class Fire / Rescue Services to the Town of East Windsor. The department consists of Fire Chiefs, Fire Officers, Fire Marshals, Firefighters, Emergency Medical Personnel, Junior Firefighters, and is governed by the Board of Fire Commissioners.

The Warehouse Point Fire District Fire Marshals' Office continues to make improvements to the service it provides to the fire district. The Fire Marshals' Office consists of 1- part time fire marshal and 4-part time deputy fire marshals. Along with the annual and bi-annual inspections, the fire marshals' office conducts inspections and plan reviews of building projects within the fire district.

The Fire District consists of two fire stations; Station 1 located at 89 Bridge Street and Station 2 located at 15 Stoughton Road. Station 1 houses two Class-A Pumper Trucks, one Aerial Tuck, and a Forestry Vehicle. Station 2 houses one Class-A Pumper Truck and one Heavy Rescue Truck. The Departments membership consists of 24 volunteer members and 10-part time Fire Service Maintainers that are trained in firefighting, emergency medical, and rescue services. Fire personnel train approximately 12 to 16 hours per week and respond to an average of 16 emergency calls per week. With the constantly changing standards in the fire service it has

become more demanding to all volunteers.

In July of 2020 the Fire District expanded the Fire Service Maintainer Program. A total of two Fire Service Maintainers (FSM) are be paid hourly from 11:00 pm to 7:00 am seven days per week. Their primary job is to maintain and check all fire district equipment and also respond to incident calls during the assigned hours. In addition to the night shift we are currently running 3 day shifts which allows us to cover the critical response times 7:00 am to 5:00 pm while our volunteers are at their full-time employment. Filling these shifts became a necessity in order to provide services to our community due to the nationwide reduction of volunteer firefighters.

The Fire District residents approved two much needed projects. Project # 1, a 5600 square foot apparatus bay addition to the Bridge Street Fire Station. Newer fire apparatus are larger and the existing fire house bay doors are too small to accommodate the new apparatus. Project # 2 The residents unanimously approved the purchase of a replacement fire apparatus to replace Engine 6 that is currently over 30 years old and is becoming costly to repair.

The Fire District continues to work closely with the Broad Brook Fire Department providing and receiving mutual aid for many emergency calls on a daily basis. The two departments combined respond to approximately 1,450 emergencies a year. The departments also conduct joint training to ensure operating procedures are flawless during emergency situations.

The position of a volunteer firefighter is drastically changing and becoming very demanding for the ordinary family. The mandatory training a volunteer firefighter must complete annually is becoming more serious and time consuming. This significantly reduces the volunteer membership and makes it difficult to find volunteers. With the increasing emergency calls, we receive an abundance of mutual aid from surrounding towns and it will soon come down to hiring full time firefighters. The Fire District and the Department must continue to propose new ideas and options to adequately respond to all fire incidents.

As Chief of the Warehouse Point Fire District, I am grateful to all our members for their dedicated service to the Fire District and the Town of East Windsor. I am also grateful to all members' families the make their service to this community possible. I would like to thank the community for their continued support throughout the past years.

James P Barton, Fire Chief Warehouse Point Fire District



# **Broad Brook Library**

¬he Broad Brook Library is a public library that promotes reading by making is easy to take out books with no library card required. In addition, there is no penalty for returning a book later than the due date. We are a non-profit corporation with a Board of Trustees. We are here for you!

- The Broad Brook Library was established in June 1919.
- We have had a very successful year in 2018.
- While our patronage was down this year due to the pandemic, we have tried to accommodate our regulars. Currently we are open for limited hours with appropriate restrictions.
- · We continue to acquire new books to satisfy our readers. Our emphasis has been on large print books, encouraged by donations from the East Windsor Lions Club.
- The return of town funding is helping to keep us in business.
- We have free Wi-Fi service available, as well as color or black and white copying and printing.
- We have been able to get some unique historical reference books. They are available for review inside the library.
- There will be continued improvements in our programs and offerings.

# **Warehouse Point Library**

he Library Association of Warehouse Point has received two substantial state grants in 2020 that have significantly contributed to the technology and safety at the library. In April the Library Association of Warehouse Point received a CT state PEGPETIA grant for new technology in the library. More computers and monitors for patrons and new computers for some staff, two children's computers, and two learning stations on a new counter will provide access to the internet and essential digital library resources for East Windsor residents and new opportunities to increase digital literacy for their children. A new copier for public use will provide scanning, color and black and white copies, and fax service. Once the library is able to have meetings and programs again, a new projector with USB ports and wireless connections and new chairs will enable the library to present more and better audio and visual programs in a more comfortable community room. In the small meeting room, a screen is available to Zoom with others or record meetings. East Windsor residents will be better equipped to access, use, and share information electronically at their library.

Children will now have access to the Early Literacy Station™ that is designed specifically for our youngest patrons ages 2-8 and features over 4,000 localized learning activities. The fun, interactive and engaging content spans all seven curricular areas: math, science & nature, social studies & geography,

reading, art & music, writing & computer skills, and reference. The AfterSchool Edge™ is designed for elementary school children ages 6-12 is ideal for enrichment, intervention, homework help and skill reinforcement.

The Library has purchased the platinum edition of Tumble-Books, a collection of animated talking picture books, readalongs, ebooks, quizzes, lesson plans, and educational games easily accessed online by students, teachers, and parents from the safety of their home.

The Library has other digital databases available with your library card. These include: Universal Class, with over 500 online courses; Brain Fuse JobNow offers resume, job interview and career resources; Libby or Overdrive allows you to borrow ebooks, audiobooks and magazines; freegal a downloadable music service, and a SimplyE app for more e-resources. For more information call the library at 860-623-5482.

The library has also received a Public Library Connectivity Grant through Gov. Lamont and the Connecticut State Library to assist the library in serving the community during the time of COVID-19. By the end of December the library will install air purification systems throughout the library, provide touchless toilets, faucets, soap, and towels, provide more spread out seating in cleanable chairs, have touchless self-checkout, purchase PPE for staff, and have adequate cleaning solutions and supplies.

#### Some highlights of 2019/2020:

- Collaborated with East Windsor schools and FRC to offer parents, elementary and preschool students to a curbside summer reading program and a new online database, Tumble Book Library.
- The Library supported the Town Parks and Recreation Department by submitting a "Baa, Baa, black sheep" scarecrow for the 2019 October Scarecrow contest and displaying Parks and Rec publications.
- Library users borrowed over 29,059 items.
- We welcomed over 1,900 children to 70 children's programs and have continued to offer Zoom children's programs several times a week.
- Our 49 adult programs included movies, concerts, crafts, book clubs, and more, and now include Zoom book discussions.
- We hosted over 800 people in 94 meetings and are holding some meetings for small socially distanced groups.

Our staff dedicates themselves to supporting the unique population and cultural interests of East Windsor by providing diverse materials, content and technology in creative ways. The Library offers much to the community.

Lois Hiller Warehouse Point Library Director



ew Programs: Food Explorers (Cooking programs for Preschool, Elementary & Middle School Groups led by a Registered Dietician), After Toons (drawing program by a real-life comic illustrator for East Windsor Middle School), World Cup Cheer (Introductory Cheer and Tumble Class at Broad Brook School)

#### **Highlights:**

- A record number of participants attended our annual Open Skate at Enfield Twin Rinks during Winter Break 2019 (125 skaters).
- Summer Fun Camp (2019) averaged between 50-55 participants per week. One hundred and six different children attended throughout the summer, from 11 different towns. The split between resident and non-resident attendees was right around 50/50.
- Summer 2019 saw an increase in season passes sold at East Windsor Park.
- We hosted over 1700 people on weekdays, and over 1500 people on the weekends at EW Park from June to August.
- Implementation of water safety signs down at the waterfront.
- Hearts for Heroes Campaign: recognition of front-line workers and first responders during the COVID-19 pandemic with East Windsor Strong Signs.



- Completion of ADA accessible sidewalk down to the waterfront at East Windsor Park & purchase of ADA beach mats to allow for wheelchair access on the beach.
- Goals for this year include continuing to engage the community in new and innovative ways as we navigate the challenges of programming during COVID-19, as well as expanding on outdoor program offerings to keep kids active and appreciative of the nature around them.

# Melissa Maltese **Director of Recreation and Community Services**

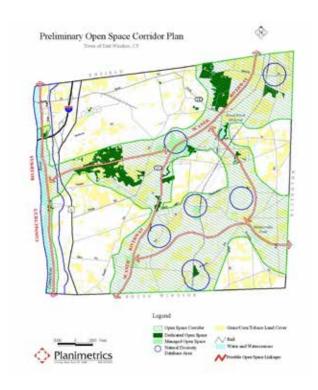
he Planning and Development Department is instrumental in the review and administration of residential, commercial and industrial projects in East Windsor that both increases the Town's tax base and improves quality of life. The Department also assists the general public, businesses, developers and property owners by helping navigate the planning and permitting processes. Department staff consists of a full-time Town Planner, a fulltime Zoning Enforcement Officer/Wetlands Compliance Official/ Economic Development Liaison, a full-time Planning Assistant, and a part-time Planning Clerk.

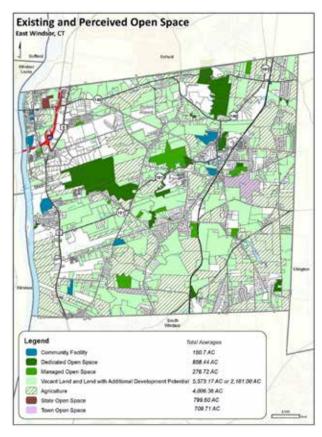
#### The Planning and Development Department is responsible for:

- Short-Range Planning: administering planning and development regulations, evaluating and processing land use and zoning permit applications.
- Long-Range Planning: implementing East Windsor's Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD), coordinating with regional and State entities such as the Capitol Regional Council of Governments and the State of Connecticut.
- Strategic Planning: conducting data collection, processing and analysis of current local, regional and statewide conditions to determine issues and opportunities that may be of interest to East Windsor as it works to maximize its value while preserving its essence.
- Supporting Boards and Commissions: providing administrative and technical support to the Planning and Zoning Commission, Economic Development Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency, Agricultural Commission and Conservation Commission.

#### **Highlights of 2019-2020:**

- Reviewed 191 zoning applications for new residential, commercial, and industrial development.
- Implemented a new permitting software enabling residents and business owners to apply for and check the statuses of their permits/projects online.
- With the assistance of a consultant, conducted a grant funded planning study of the Warehouse Point neighborhood.
- Reviewed plans for new projects for commercial construction totaling over 150,000 SF.







n behalf of the dedicated members of the East Windsor Police Department I am honored to present our Annual Report for 2019/2020. During these uncertain times of Covid-19 and Police Accountability nationwide, more than ever the East Windsor Police Department seeks and needs the support of our community. You should know that your police officers and civilian staff members are professional, dedicated, hard-working, and honest. If you need police assistance, always remember to call your "Town-Wide-Team". One of the biggest challenges we face today, are mental health issues, drug addiction, and people who need a wide array of services. These difficult issues do not discriminate, they impact us all. Therefore, we intend to address this through programming and social service projects at the Police Department. We are in a unique position through comprehensive education and training, to provide expanded services that may directly and positively impact your neighbors, your friends, and your family. As always, our officers and civilian support staff are ready to provide services to you, during your times of need. It is only through communication and a strong partnership with you - that we can achieve our basic mission to preserve the peace, keep you safe, and provide overall public safety. We look forward to your support throughout the year.



# Respectfully, Edward J. DeMarco, Jr. Police Chief





The Public Works/Engineering Department consists of:

- 6 Highway Maintainers
- Parks and Grounds Maintainer
- Seasonal Maintainer
- Maintainer Mechanic
- Working Foreman
- 1 Administrative Assistant
- An Operations Manager and a Director of Public Works/ Town Engineer/Tree Warden.

The Department is responsible for:

The maintenance of approximately 70 miles of roads, including storm drainage, curbs, waterways, roadside mowing etc.

We are also responsible for the maintenance of the grounds at all Town parks and fields, around all town owned buildings, including Town schools and their playing fields as well as facilities maintenance for all town owned buildings. We are on call 24/7 to the East Windsor Police Department and

the Broad Brook and Warehouse Point Fire Departments for emergency purposes. We are responsible for the design and implementation of all Town roadway drainage and building construction projects. The Town Engineer reviews plans submitted to the Planning and Zoning Commission the Wetlands Commission and the Water Pollution Control Authority.

This construction season our pavement management and drainage projects included:

- the restoration of roadside shoulders for the entire length of Scantic Road
- · completed various drainage projects
- continued with inspections and cleaning of catch basins and drainage pipes.

Alternating split crews in the Spring due to the coronavirus pandemic reduced the number of projects that we had planned to complete.

**Leonard Norton** Director of Public Works/Town Engineer /Tree Warden





# REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

he primary tasks of the Office of Registrars of Voters are to ensure that every East Windsor voter experiences a smooth, safe, impartial and efficiently run election whether they are national, state, municipal, primaries, or referendums. Curb side voting is available to our disabled voters and we schedule supervised voting for our voters who are unable to travel to their designated polling place.

To register to vote you must:

- Be a United States Citizen
- Be 17 years of age (if you will turn 18 on or before election day)
- Be a resident of the Town of East Windsor
- Not be a convicted felon confined to an institution, community residence or on parole, or whose electoral privileges have not been restored (C.G.S. 9-12, 9-46)

Our responsibilities include the professional management of the voter registration and enrollment processes. Our office will utilize various methods and procedures to ensure that the voting rights of every East Windsor resident are protected. We are responsible for voter education and organizing the annual canvass of electors. Registrars maintain and update files, prepare department budgets and train election officials. We print registration and enrollment lists and ensure the proper maintenance of voting equipment.

To these ends, the Office of Registrars of Voters encourages every eligible voter to register, every registered voter to vote, and to make sure that every vote is counted accurately.

East Windsor has two voting districts. District 1 voting takes place at the Town Hall Annex, 25 School Street in Warehouse Point. District II voting takes place at the Town Hall, 11 Rye Street in Broad Brook.

The Office of Registrar of Voters recognizes that running a smooth election depends on being well-prepared. We want to

help the voters of East Windsor be prepared. Registering to vote in advance or updating your voter registration information e.g., a name change, new address or change in party affiliation can minimize confusion on Election Day.

Voter Registration cards may be picked up at the Registrars' Office located at the Town Hall Annex, 25 School Street, East Windsor, CT 06088 or the Town Clerk's Office at the Town Hall, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT 06016.

On-Line Voter Registration is a convenient service, especially during times of peak interest. The Online Voter Registration link can be accessed at: https://voterregistration.ct.gov/OLVR/welcome.do

Voters are also encouraged to use the Secretary of the State's Voter Lookup Tool. This tool allows a voter to look up their own information. They can confirm that their address on file is current as well as their party affiliation. It will be especially helpful in the Presidential and State Primaries because Connecticut only allows enrolled members of the major parties to vote in those elections. To access the Voter Lookup Tool log onto:

https://portaldir.ct.gov/sots/lookup.aspx

Both Registrars of Voters are elected for four-year terms. Each Registrar represents a major political party (one Democrat, one Republican) but each Registrar is obligated to provide service to any voter seeking their assistance regardless of party affiliation.

# Registrars:Term Expires:Angelo Sevarino (D)January 2023Karen Gaudreau (R)January 2023

Office Hours: Tuesdays normal hours are 8:00 am to 12:00 pm, or by appointment. Actual office hours may vary depending on current calendar requirements & voting duties.







n March of 2020, the Governor determined that in-person learning would need to stop due to the COVID 19 pandemic. The East Windsor Public Schools transitioned to a full remote learning model within two days and began offering meals to our students within that same time frame.

While the situation was not optimal from an educational standpoint, the staff and students worked diligently to finish the school year while dealing with a new teaching and learning situation.

During the closure, we continued to provide special education, English language instruction, related services and social work services to our students through virtual means. Parent meetings continued using Zoom or phone calls.

Board of Education meetings continued through Zoom.

In addition to the instruction and support provided to students during the March – June, cancellation of in-person instruction, the district is proud to have many accomplishments including:

### **BROAD BROOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

- BBS hosted Popsicles with the Principals at start of school year to welcome returning and new families.
- Conducted Winter Break Reading challenge. Winning students were Principal for the day.

- Preschool classes hosted a Friendship Feast for families the week before Thanksgiving.
- Students grades PK 4 performed and made art for the December Winter Concert.
- One Book One School celebration was held February 13-March 16. Each family received a copy of the book Gooseberry Park. A meteorologist from Fox 61 helped us kick off the event at a whole school assembly.
- Theaterworks performed the musical Rosie the Riveter and Friends on February 20th.
- Students with zero or one absence received a certificate each month.
- Continued our partnership with East Windsor High School - EWHS students visit multiple times to complete literacy activities with BBS students.
- · Monthly Mileage Club evenings gave students and their families a chance to exercise.
- · Celebrated Veteran's Day with a variety of activities, including letters to Veterans, creating an American Flag, boot camp and singing patriotic songs.
- On January 31 we presented a new bicycle to a student with perfect attendance - This was made possible through a grant from Horace Mann Insurance Co. in East Windsor.



- January 27-31 BBS celebrated Kindness Week. Each day students were challenged to show appreciation and make new friends.
- At the end of the year we virtually hosted a school-wide assembly to celebrate student learning and attendance -Award Presidential Excellence and Presidential Achievement Awards in addition to attendance and other awards.
- In May we celebrated ACES (All Children Exercise Simultaneously) Day with a virtual group exercise session.
- At the end of the year, using Zoom, students were able to meet their next year's teacher and class.

#### EAST WINDSOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Virtual Promotion Ceremony and Awards
- 8th Grade certificates and awards delivered to students houses.
- Library Top Patron Awards
- · Choral and Band awards
- Virtual Awards Day for 5th, 6th, and 7th Grade
- Physical Education Fitness Awards
- Geography Bee (school):
  - Geography Bee: Rakshit Bisoi
- Invention Convention:
  - Ana-Lois Davis won the Petit Family Foundation: Promising Young Women Inventor Award, the CT Academy of Science and Engineering Award, 3M Science Applied to Life: Best Invention Enhancing Business, Homes or Lives, the University of Connecticut Early College Experience Awardee, and moved on to the U.S. Invention Convention Finals with her invention the CPR Smart Gloves
  - 6th-grade student Peter Davis received the CIC Recognized Inventor Awards and moved on to the U.S. Invention Convention Finals with his Hot Cap invention
  - Mark Feeney was the 3rd place winner for the Young Inventor of the Year Award with his invention, the Smart Stand
- Invention Convention Nationals:
  - Ana-Lois Davis received the Health and Medical Award by Danaher and the Best Engineering Award by Maxim Integrated.
- · Pep Rallies quarterly
- School dances
- EWMS 6th Grade Science Fair



- Honors/High Honors
- · Student of the Quarter Awards
- · Monthly Perfect Attendance Awards
- · Crystal Apple Award
- Winter Concert
- Spirit Days
- Incentive days
- Pi Dav
- Read Across America Week
- UNITY Day Celebration
- Veteran Day Celebration
- Jazz Band
- Student Council
- · Academic Honor Roll bracelets of recognition
- · Fall Book Fair
- Virtual EWMS Art Show
- · Canned Food Drive
- · Safe School Climate Activities for students/staff
- · Lunch Bunches provided monthly by teams/departments

#### HIGH SCHOOL

• On June 18, 2020, 67 students graduated from EWHS. Students this year were given the opportunity to walk across



the stage here at East Windsor High School and accept their diploma from the administration in a private setting, while being videoed. All student videos were then compiled into one complete graduation ceremony that was viewed electronically. This year graduates were also able to participate in a Car Parade to celebrate their accomplishments.

- The school held its first virtual awards night and a virtual scholarship night.
- Safe School Leaders lead activities throughout the year Hello week and Unity Day.
- All students utilized the portal on their one-to-one device during distance learning.
- 40 Student mentors visited both BBES and EWMS on 3 occasions - October 22 in preparation for Unity Day and Read Across America Day were 2 of these days. Mentors presented a lesson on kindness and read with students.
- 14 students participated in the Empower program- a program focused on building leadership skills while enhancing their ability to think critically and communicate with others.
- In observance of National Bullying Prevention Month, October, EWHS celebrated Unity Day to show support for kindness, acceptance, and inclusion.
- In December, a group of students attended Student Day at Capital Community College. During the experience, students attended 4 sessions: cybersecurity, architecture, biotechnology, and nursing. Students ate lunch and heard a presentation about transitioning to college with different opportunities offered at Capital.
- Students scoring 3,4 or 5 on Advanced Placement exams moved from 32% in 2019 to 45% in 2020.
- · Students worked in after school clubs.
- Students recognized monthly in "Spotlight" breakfast ceremonies for a variety of reasons. Students were nominated by their teachers for academic, social, or emotional reasons.
- The school counseling department held an alumni panel.
- All students enrolled in ECE UCONN English passed the class and earned UCONN credit.
- LEO's helped the East Windsor Lions with their annual Turkey Shoots. Members went weekly for 5 weeks. This is the East Windsor Lion's major fundraiser for the year. The LEOs also hosted a blood drive in November and collected 21 pints of blood beating their goal by one. LEO's also hosted a holiday craft at the East Windsor Senior Center. They had lunch with senior citizens, and painted holiday/winter ornaments and magnets. They took extras back to give one to each staff member. Freshman Kate Wyse played music

- for them on the piano. Six new members were inducted in January at the high school. Families and Lions attended, and dinner was served.
- · Student government planned a pep rally and spirit week in October.
- · Seven new members were inducted into our chapter of the National Honor Society in March.
- Administrators and counselors made home visits to all seniors with goodie bags to congratulate them on graduation.
- A well-attended virtual game night was held for staff and students, where students played bingo and a Kahoot. Prizes included graduation frames and plaques and gift cards to popular restaurants.
- Fourteen freshman and sophomores participated in an EM-POWER program, funded through a grant offered by Park and Recreation. Nicole Walker and Shawn Couture supervised the event where students participated in various team building and critical thinking exercises on EWHS campus and the program concluded with going to EMPOWER's ropes course in Middletown in November. The plan was to continue this program in the Spring and use these students as leaders, hopefully this will be possible in the near future.
- Heather Halla and Nicole Walker brought a group of juniors and seniors to Capital Community College where they took a tour, had lunch, and went to four sessions: cyber security, architecture, biotechnology, and nursing. They learned about transitioning to college and what Capitol Community College had to offer as well as attending a major fair at the end of the day.

# ATHELTICS AT EAST WINDSOR HIGH **SCHOOL**

# **Cross Country**

- · Nate Kita
- NCCC All-Conference
- · Class S All-State
- · Boys finished 9th in the State Meet

#### **Football**

• The football team had an 8-2 regular season which earned them a spot in the CT state football playoffs. Only 32 of 134 teams that compete in CIAC football make the postseason. This was the fourth consecutive year that the team has qualified. East Windsor player Tyler Ouellette was selected as an All-Conference player for the second consecutive season. He was also a team captain. Members including Tyler, Mike and Pat Russotto, and Caleb White were all on the team's leadership council this past season.



#### Volleyball

Increased player participation to over 22 players

#### **Boys Soccer**

 Senior Ryan Bell named to NCCC All-Conference Team for second consecutive season

#### **Girls Soccer**

- Awarded NCCC Team Sportsmanship Award
- · Awarded Country-wide Platinum Award for team sportsmanship
- Freshmen Sidney Arzt named to NCCC All-Conference

#### **Boys Swim**

• Junior Joe Stavolone only EWHS swimmer, had opportunity to be named to All-Conference and All-State prior to winter shutdown

#### **Boys Basketball**

· Nominated for State of CT Team Sportsmanship Award for third straight year

#### Girls Basketball

- Lauren Keel recently scored her 1,000-career point at Stafford
- Seniors Alyssa Saponare and Lauren Keel both named to NCCC all-conference team
- · Lauren Keel was also named to Class S all-state team for third consecutive year
- Feature story about Lauren was in the Hartford Courant and the Journal Inquirer, as well as a feature segment on Channel 30 News.
- The team qualified for the NCCC tournament
- The team qualified for the state tournament for the 5th straight year
- The team advanced to the state quarter finals before CIAC canceled the remainder of winter season

#### **Ice Hockey**

- Seniors Alex Knisley and Ryan Bell named to All-Conference team.
- Team advanced to state quarter finals before CIAC canceled remainder of season.

#### **MUSIC**

- Band students marched in the Big E Harvest Day parade with marching bands from over 20 other New England schools in September.
- Band students marched in the Four Town Fair parade involving the towns of Enfield, East Windsor, Somers, and



Ellington in September.

- Music department students sold mums in collaboration with Syme Family Farm as a fall department fundraiser in September.
- Choir students sang the National Anthem at the school homecoming pep rally and band students performed pep music for the crowd.
- A small group of senior band students performed several popular songs for the pep rally as a rock band.
- Choir students performed the National Anthem at the Veteran's Day road race in collaboration with the East Windsor Veteran's Affairs Committee.
- · Fifteen selected band and choir students who were nominated by their music director rehearsed and performed in the NCCC Music Festival, which involves high school students from the towns of East Windsor, Granby, Bolton, Rockville, Suffield, Ellington, East Granby, Somers, and Stafford in November.
- Band and choir students auditioned for the Eastern Region Music Festival in November, competing against other high school students in their category from around the eastern region of Connecticut. Several students who were accepted then attended a three-day festival in the spring and performed in the Eastern Region Festival concert at the University of Connecticut Jorgenson Theater.
- Middle and high school choir students led a holiday carol singalong at the Broad Brook Fire Department following the East Windsor Torchlight parade event.
- Band and choir students performed in a winter concert, showcasing the accumulation of their semester's work on selections of wind ensemble, choral, and jazz music.
- · Band and choir students arranged, rehearsed, and performed music for an in-school concert around the holidays.



- · Music students sold poinsettia flowers as a winter fundraiser in December.
- A freshman choir student from the music department scored high enough to qualify for an All-State Audition and then scored high enough to make the All-State Festival, an incredibly competitive process. The same student went on to submit auditions for the National level choir and was accepted into that as well.
- · Band and choir students collaborated to create virtual performances of the songs "(Risk) Everything for a Dream" and Mozart's "Ave Verum Corpus" for the high school graduation event.

#### **HEALTH OFFICE**

- All nursing staff trained in CPR.
- · Nursing staff trained in Stop the Bleed.
- Broad Brook School students were educated on appropriate hand washing techniques and on flu prevention.
- First flu clinic for students was held.
- High School students participated in health education day. All students spent time learning about numerous health issues including vaping, human trafficking, safe dating, mental health self-awareness, drug addiction, stop the bleed, flu and Lyme disease.
- All 7th and 8th graders participated in a DPH vaping presentation.
- · Middle School and High School nurses address a different health issue every month on their new office bulletin boards.
- Nurses speak to health issues in their schools' monthly newsletter.
- · Every school addresses attendance in their monthly newsletters and provide parents with attendance tips.
- Attendance flow sheet developed to use in parent meetings.
- Health website updated.
- All nursing staff recertified in CPR.
- Remote learning attendance process developed for nursing staff to track attendance and Covid 19 cases.
- All School Safety and Hazards FEMA plan updated and turned into state.
- We continue our collaboration with CHC to provide medical, dental and behavioral health services to the students of East Windsor Schools.

#### BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

• Upgraded our Hydrotherm Boiler Controller.

- Performed preventative maintenance on all mechanical systems in all district buildings.
- Refinished the gymnasium floors in all three buildings.
- · Replaced emergency lights and other needed emergency equipment.
- Installed mini-split system in a classroom at East Windsor High School.
- Full deep cleaning/disinfecting of the all district buildings after the Governor ordered students to stay home due to the COVID 19 pandemic.

#### TECHNOLOGY

- Replaced 1 to 1 devices that were out of warranty for 3rd and 4th, 7th and 10th grade.
- In coordination with the Curriculum Director, applied for PEGPETIA Grant to replace aging interactive boards with new Interactive TVs.
- Received reimbursement from Dell for approximately 20,000 for computers that were traded in.
- Implemented the SBAC Secure Browser early to support the SBAC Interims using the real SBAC browser.
- Implemented a live inventory of student laptop repair database to reduce downtime when a student laptop needs repair that is shared with main offices so status can be looked up in real time.
- Refurbished approximately 100 out of warranty laptops using spare parts of other units.
- Implemented a live inventory of classroom interactive technology.
- Streamlined laptop deployment process when a new student is enrolled to get them using technology faster.
- Upgraded to a streamlined SchoolDude ticketing interface for easier user input of I.T. requests.
- Maintained district Network.
- · Collaborate with Security to maintain and oversee the security systems.
- Filed for E-rate reimbursement on behalf of the district.
- Diagnosed and repaired approximately 500 laptops.
- Grades K-8 are now able to take home their 1 to 1 device.
- · Remote support for home students established (distancetech@ewct.org).
- Reduced copy usage due to increased technology use.

Christine DeBarge, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools





he Senior Center is an active and proud member of the East Windsor community. We are a place where older adults can access multiple services in one spot. We provide our East Windsor Seniors with vital community services that assist them in staying independent and healthy. Our services include but are not limited to, meal delivery for the homebound, transportation to medical appointments and grocery shopping, outreach along with Medicare screening, trips, special events, fitness and health programs as well as lifelong learning.

This year we introduced a new Fitness class and a Strength and Balance class through Silver Sneakers. Silver Sneakers is a health and fitness program that is included with many Medicare plans making the new classes free for Silver Sneaker members and \$3.00/ class for non-members. We had a very large following for both programs.

We went on many trips this past year. We took a ride on the carousel at Bushnell Park, toured the beautiful Lavender fields at Lavender Pond Farm and went to our annual Yard Goats game where one of our seniors was honored as A Hero Among us for his time in the service. We even went to the Trolley Museum for the first time! Many of our seniors told us that they "grew up in East Windsor without ever having gone to the Trolley Museum!"



# SENIOR CENTER

As we know, COVID-19 hit all communities hard. It was especially difficult for our seniors because they are one of the most vulnerable populations. In March we closed to the public, remaining open only for meal delivery, grocery shopping and minimal doctor appointments. Staff working from home spent our days reaching out to seniors by phone for

wellness calls. Most of our seniors received phone calls at least once a week to make sure that they were feeling well, had all their food, basic needs and of course social needs being met. We organized two parades in which senior center staff, our First Selectman and Public Work employees drove by our seniors' homes to wave hello. Both were a big hit.

We had many exciting events, for example our first ever Senior Prom planned for 2020. We are looking forward to when we can open our doors once again to offer programs to our seniors. Our goals for 2021 are to revamp our fitness programs and offer more intergenerational activities. We want to continue to offer our seniors vital programs that keep them independent within our community. You

can follow us on Facebook and/or on the East Windsor Town website at https://www.eastwindsor-ct.gov/senior-services for the latest up to date programs.

#### TRANSPORTATION AND NUTRITION

→he Dial-A-Ride Transportation program continues to be a successful and much needed program for our seniors 60 years of age and older and residents on Social Security Disability who are 18 and older. We provide transportation for our clients to their doctor's appointments, to do their banking, grocery shopping, pick up prescriptions and many other essential stops. We transport to the Senior Center daily for our lunch program and for any programs that are being offered. We also provide transportation to the Five Corner Cupboard and to the Mobile Food Share. A suggested donation of \$50 is asked for yearly. For more information about our Transportation program please call

us at 860-292-8261 to register. We have had a successful year during 2019-2020. The following are some of our biggest accomplishments:

- We did a total of 7,615 total trips this year even with limitations due to COVID-19.
  - We traveled 21,939 miles in 2019-2020.
  - We saw a decline in number of passengers but new initiatives due to COVID-19 were put into place to leave the residents home and bring services to them, such as prescriptions and groceries. We also had to close our programming due to the senior center closing.

On the nutrition side of things our Café served 6,200 meals this year. These meals are prepared by CRT and delivered each day to the center. Our nutrition volunteers help us to decorate, serve, and make our seniors' dining experience wonderful each day. The monthly socials still prove to be a fan favorite among our seniors. For those seniors in town that are home bound we partnered with

CRT again and our amazing Meals on Wheels (MOW) volunteer drivers graciously delivered 6,695 meals. We are always in need of MOW drivers, feel free to call us at 860-292-8279 to find out more about becoming a MOW driver. This year we also continue to develop partnerships with the schools and local businesses hosting students and receiving donations for different lunch and learn opportunities. We also partner with the Five Corner Cupboard to get fruits, vegetables and bread to our seniors every Wednesday at no cost to them. This year due to COVID-19, we had to switch to grab and go meals as well as having our staff deliver meals on wheels. This adjustment while challenging at times, was very well received by our residents and our staff was happy that we could still ensure food was getting to our most vulnerable clients.

Melissa Maltese **Director of Recreation and Community Services** 



# SOCIAL SERVICES

he Social Services Department is an essential part of the community aiding with social, emotional, and economic needs while helping clients to attain self-sufficiency and maintain economic well-being. We were happy to welcome two new staff members to our team and they are helping with efficiency and problem solving on a day-to-day basis. Our department helps individuals and families access assistance with their energy needs through the Connecticut Energy Assistance Program.

This past year we processed 329 applications, providing a total of \$347,185.83 in assistance. Of those applications 148 live in Broad Brook, and 181 live in Warehouse Point.

- We are also responsible for distributing Farmer's Market Coupons to seniors and this year 33 seniors received coupons for a total market cash value of \$1,150.
- Another way that we help our seniors and individuals with disabilities is to process Renter's Rebate applications. This year we processed 165 applications which resulted in \$82,358.16 worth of benefits being paid, this number changes each year due to deaths and relocations. Of the applications we took in 100 of them were by people 65 and older and 65 were under the age of 65.
- We also help our families with programs such as Back to School backpacks and holidays. Backpacks, school supplies, and shoe vouchers were provided to 116 children. We

- strive to provide holiday joy as we partnered with the VNA and Five Corner Cupboard to provide 107 Thanksgiving and 110 Christmas baskets of food to families in need. Our partners in the community helped us to provide holiday gifts to 198 children to brighten their holidays as well.
- Our Power Pack program that runs in conjunction with Parks and Recreation and the Hunger Action Team had another successful year with 74 children receiving back packs of food every Friday during the school year. We were also able to fill 30 backpacks during the summer months for eight weeks. This program is possible due to the generosity of our residents and our partnership with Food Share.
- Goals for this upcoming year are to do more community outreach, assist with financial literacy and SNAP outreach for residents of East Windsor.

These programs are just a few of the services that we are highlighting. In addition to case management, we assist our clients with referring them to resources through CHR, 211, and other local and state-run agencies. Each day is different in our office and we are constantly reaching out to gain the knowledge to help our clients in their time of need. If you or someone you know is in need please reach out to us at 860-623-2430.

Melissa Maltese, **Director of Recreation and Community Services** 





# TAX DEPARTMENT

- The Tax Office is responsible for the billing and collection of real estate, personal property, motor vehicle taxes, billing and collection of sewer facility connection and sewer benefit charges, C-Pace billing and collection, aircraft registration billing and collection, Warehouse Point Fire District billing and collection, and parking ticket collection.
- The Tax Office reports to various commissions, departments and state agencies both monthly and quarterly. The Tax Office also works collaboratively with municipal departments to help solve problems and find efficient solutions for the taxpayers of East Windsor.
- The Tax Office is always striving to find more cost effective and efficient ways for processing and handling tax bills and collections.
- The Tax Department staff stayed current with changing laws and trends of collection through education and infor-

mative networking with other collectors.

- JULY: 7/1- Tax bills are due
- SEPTEMBER and MARCH: Delinquent motor vehicle accounts turned over to collection agency and personal property accounts to a marshal
- APRIL and NOVEMBER: Delinquent real estate accounts turned over to attorney for Tax Sale
- JANUARY: January 1st 2nd half of July Real Estate and Personal Property bills due and Supplemental Motor Vehicle bills due
- APRIL: April 15th- Delinquent Real Estate and Personal Property accounts are liened. Delinquent real estate accounts turned over to attorney for Tax Sale

Patricia Kratochvil, CCMC **Tax Collector** 



# Town Clerk's Office

he Town Clerk's Office is responsible for the following services:

Fishing & hunting licenses

- · Absentee ballots
- · Voter registration
- Dog licenses
- Certified copies of: births, marriages & deaths
- Trade name certificates
- Filing subdivision/survey maps
- Liquor permit filing
- Notary services
- Land record recording & copies of: deeds, liens, releases, foreclosures, probate certificates & mortgages
- · Issues marriage licenses
- · Administers oaths
- Files DD-214 military discharges
- 250th Anniversary & Veterans products for sale

In addition to the above, our daily duties include:

- Maintaining the Town Clerk's web page
- · Maintaining the town website calendar
- · Posting minutes and agendas on the website
- Posting new ordinances on the website
- · Taking the minutes at town meetings

- Monthly reports to the State of Connecticut
- Working closely with the Registrar of Voters
- Election & referenda duties
- · Receives lawsuits filed against the town & distributes to other departments

The Town Clerk's office was awarded a grant in FY2020 in the amount of \$5,500, from the State of Connecticut, for historical preservation of records. This grant money was used to hire a Document Management Specialist. The Document Management Specialist is going through boxes full of old records, which belong to numerous departments in the town. He identified all permanent, confidential, and historical records. He also is completing destruction lists to be sent to the State Library for approval. These boxes are all located at the Town Hall Annex. This project will identify all permanent, historical and confidential records and records that can be destroyed.

- REVENUES COLLECTED IN THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE - \$705,368.26
- Funds collected for the State of Connecticut \$490,247.07
- Town of East Windsor revenues \$214,951.19
- Selling Veterans T-Shirts & commemorative coins -\$170.00

Amy R. Lam Town Clerk



he Treasurer's Office has the responsibility of administering the Town's finances and accounting for all town funds, except those of the Board of Education. Detailed statements of this accounting appear in the Town's Annual Audit which is on file in the Town Clerk's Office. The Treasurer prepares monthly reports for the Board of Finance. In addition, the Town Budget is developed and administered with the First Selectman's Office.

The Treasurer's Office handles the daily Treasury operations including deposits and banking and manages cash and debt obligations. The Treasurer's Office processes both accounts payable and payroll bi-weekly. During the fiscal year the Treasurer's Office transitioned to MUNIS financial software.

For Fiscal Year 2019-20 the Treasurer's Office processed 5,885 separate expenditures and payroll, benefit and tax records for 232 employees.

#### Town Finances for the Fiscal Year 2019-20

- The Town's adopted General Fund budget for 2019-20 totaled \$40,184,897.
- The mil rate was 34.25.
- The Town's S & P credit rating is AA+ Moody's credit rating is Aa2.
- The Town achieved a collection rate of 98.81% on the current levy.
- The Town's long-term liabilities at June 30, 2020 totaled \$10,470,888.
- The Town's actual expenditure were \$39,223,240 and actual revenues totaled \$40,838,491.

The comparative actual information, by function and funding source for the fiscal year is presented along with a detailed statement of revenues and expenditures on pages 7-11. The Town's Annual Audit which is on file in the Town Clerk's Office and available on the web at www.eastwindsor-ct.gov.

Amy O'Toole Treasurer/Finance Director



# Long term debt outstanding as of June 30. 2020

Use of Proceeds	<b>Maturity Date</b>	Outstanding Amount
Bond 2014-Refinance	06/30/2025	\$ 965,000
Bond 2016-BBES Modulars/Public Improvements	06/30/2037	4,885,000
Bond 2019–EWMS Roof	01/03/2019	960,000
Note Payable – North Road Sewer Phase I	04/24/2052	1,910,226
Note Payable – North Road Sewer Phase II	02/03/2055	1,328,567
Lease - DPW Trucks	01/01/2025	227,929
Lease – Town Hall HVAC	11/12/2024	194,166



# **WPCF**

he East Windsor Water Pollution Control Facility provides sanitary sewer service to approximately 2,500 accounts. The operation is overseen by the East Windsor Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA). Paul Anderson is the Chairman and John Mazza is the Vice Chairman. The WPCA is responsible for oversight of a 2.25-million-dollar operating budget. This budget cycle the WPCA decided to use fund balance to reduce the sewer use from a proposed \$28.00 increase resulting in a \$16.00 increase. The WPCF staff includes a Superintendent, Chief Operator, Process Control Operator, Office Manager, Two Plant Mechanics, One Operator III, One Operator II and Two Operator I. Staff is responsible for the operation, maintenance, repair and replacement of the treatment facility at 192 South Water Street along with Ten sewage pumping stations and 37 miles of sanitary sewer and force main.

All staff hold professional certifications in wastewater treatment, collections systems, and laboratory along with some specialized licenses such as NASSCO, GIS, and IT. The Net Present value of the WPCF's assets are estimated to be \$75,000,000 to \$90,000,000.

The WPCF operates in a very proactive and predicative manner. We have completed many capital projects over the past years without taking on debt. This has saved ratepayers large sums of money and prepares the facility for the next decade or more. The following capital projects were completed during the 2019/2020 fiscal year. The Sodium Hypochlorite Tanks were replaced after being in service for over 25 years. This was double their life expectancy. A testament to the maintenance practices undertaken by WPCF staff. A major cleaning was performed in the influent wet well. The Influent pumps and mixers were also rebuilt. We continued with the

door replacement program allowing us to utilize the older structures. New pumps and motors were installed for the secondary end of the facility. The IT staff at the WPCF upgraded many computers and expanded our wireless network enabling communication across the entire WPCF footprint.

We are planning to rebuild our septage handling facility over the winter. This will include all new valving, re-piping, rebuilding of the pumps and upgrade of the heating and ventilating. WPCF Chief Operator Ed Alibozek has applied for some mitigation grants with both FEMA and the State of CT. We recently entered into an energy efficiency program audit with Eversource.

This year the facility treated over 335 million gallons of wastewater. This is a decrease over last year's 479 million gallons of wastewater treated. The plant was upgraded in 1995 with a design flow of 2.5 Million Gallons per day. This year brought challenges to the WPCF as we deal with the Covid -19 pandemic. There were and still are many unknowns with this virus. There is concern that wastewater workers are exposed to misting and sprays that may contain the virus. All staff are operating at a heightened level of awareness and all safety practices are being followed. As essential workers we need to be extra vigilant of exposure.

We encourage anyone with questions regarding any aspect of our operation to contact us as we are more than happy to answer your questions. The facility operates 24/7/365. Our normal operating hours are 6.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and Friday from 6.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

Arthur Enderle III WPCF Superintendent



# Commissions

# **Agricultural Commission**

◀he Agricultural Commission seeks to promote and raise awareness of the value of agriculture in East Windsor and to assist and encourage farming in Town.

- This year we hosted the annual Farmer's Coffee networking event at the Melrose Schoolhouse for all interested in agriculture.
- We participated in presenting the Northern CT Agricultural Summit held February 29th. The event was spearheaded by the Town of Enfield and held at Asnuntuck Community College.
- The Community Garden had a great season. There were 30 plots rented and many beautiful and productive gardens. This was double the number of plots last year. With a lack of rain, we thank the Broad Brook Fire Department for a huge effort to keep the Garden supplied with water.
- · The Commission is currently seeking a grant to restore an overgrown shade tobacco field that is part of the Town owned Kogut Farm.

# American Heritage River Commission

The American Heritage River Commission started our year with the 9th annual cardboard boat race which had 6 boats and raised \$100 for the 5 Corner Cupboard. We continued our summer water testing for E. coli but the results were not in our favor. Too many high bacteria-count readings during the summer prevented the Commission members from going into the Scantic River to clear downed trees from the blueway. In late September, we did get in one fun paddle (meaning no chain saw work to unblock our travels) and went from Sabonis Landing to the Cemetery Road take out.

Never idle, the members focused their efforts on bridge maintenance. We decided that any bridge that needed to be repaired and/or replaced would be made 6 foot wide instead of the previous 4 foot widths. Several college students helped the Commission members and we truly appreciated their enthusiasm. Numbers were spray-painted on the refurbished bridges and newly carved markers also were also put up. This was all in an effort to provide a reference should someone get hurt and require assistance.

Our 10th annual New Year's Day hike had 265 participants putting their names on our traditional sign-in board. Two DEEP officers joined us for the event. Even with very muddy conditions, there were no complaints, only appreciative remarks about the great day. We were able to present to the Pantry over 599 pounds of pet and people food that had been donated.

Winter high water in the Scantic River moved several bridges which needed to be brought back to their footings and anchored in place.

Covid 19 forced us to improvise. Instead of inside the Osborn House, we held our 3rd Thursday monthly meetings outside on its patio. There we could practice social distancing, and still meet to plan our next project. When Covid-19 hit with its many restrictions, our trails saw added traffic. The trail guides flew out of the kiosk holder. We revised the guides and had more printed. And now we really needed to step up our bridge work. To date Bridges #1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 have been redone. A 29 foot mud-walk was installed prior to Bridge #3. For Connecticut Trails Day, the State of Connecticut cancelled formal hikes because of crowds potentially passing the virus. People were encouraged to hike on their own in small groups. Many did come to the Scantic River State Park and celebrated the outdoors. Those who have been stuck indoors with limited entertainment opportunities are benefiting from the work of the AHRC members and our volunteer helpers, providing wonderful hiking trails to use.

# **Capital Improvement Planning** Committee

The Capital Improvement Planning (CIP) Committee consists of up to 9 members who are appointed annually by the Board of Selectmen. In the fall of each year, town departments are invited to submit requests for project funding for the current year and the following four fiscal years. Projects must meet the Town's Capital Improvement criteria to be considered for funding by the CIP Committee.

The multi-step CIP process begins with the submission of department requests and ends with the assignment of town approved budget funds to specific projects.

- Town Departments submit requests and provide information to the CIP Committee that both justifies the need for, and the estimated cost of, each project over a series of meetings.
- · The CIP Committee reviews and prioritizes projects based on 7 factors creating an impartial priority for each project. The committee then evaluates the projects, determines those with the highest need and proposes a funding amount for each project for the upcoming fiscal year.
- The proposal is submitted to the Board of Selectmen for inclusion in their budget review. The Board of Selectmen may adjust the committee's recommendations prior to sending the budget to the Board of Finance.
- The Board of Finance may further adjust the requested budget prior to the budget referendum.
- After the Town has approved a budget, the committee will again convene to recommend specific projects to receive funding based on the actual budget and taking into consideration any changes to project status that have occurred since the original review period.

For FY20, the CIP Committee received requests to fund 37 projects from nine different town departments over the



following five years. The total cost of the projects submitted for the five-year period of FY20-24 is \$12,293,692. FY20 project requests totaled \$3,260,740. A total of \$900,660 was allocated in the final budget leaving \$2,360,080 or almost 75% of the cost of these projects unfunded.

The table provides a breakdown of the submitted FY20 projects, the funding requested by the town department, the recommended budget by CIP and the final budget allocation for each project.

# Respectfully submitted, Cathy Simonelli, Chair

#### **Charter Revision Commission**

On December 19, 2019, the Board of Selectman established the Charter Revision Commission (CRC) to be composed of seven members. The intention of the commission was to review and make recommended changes to be on the ballot for the election in November of 2020. The charge that was given by the BOS was "To consider minor and technical changes thought necessary by the CRC; consider reviewing the charter's budget processes as outlined

in Chapter 8 of the Town Charter; and make other recommendations as deemed necessary by the Commission."

Members were appointed to the CRC in January of 2020. On February 11, 2020 the CRC met for the first time to discuss their charge and how to approach their review.

As the CRC started to focus on Chapter 8, we discussed some different options and had the Town Treasurer run scenarios from past budgets to get an idea of the best option:

- 1. Keep the existing 2% budget increase but remove CIP and debt services
- 2. An arbitrary 8% with and without CIP and debt services
- 3. Social Security COLA
- 4.2% tax increase

During the May meeting, the Town Treasurer presented her findings on the different scenarios and the outcome didn't prove any idea was better than another. One idea that had been discussed at several meetings was to have a voter percentage turnout (the

CRC chose 15%) in order for a budget to be passed or rejected. In the previous 3 years, 7 budget referendums took place and only 2 had a higher than 15% turnout. This made it hard to justify the 15% idea. The final recommendation regarding chapter 8 was if the budget failed after three referendums, it would be passed to the Board of Finance to set the budget for the next fiscal year.

In June, the CRC passed its recommendations of the technical/grammatical changes, modification of the name Town Treasurer to Finance Director, and sent said changes to the BOS. The BOS then held a public hearing in which they were in agreement with the technical/grammatical changes and the name change of Town Treasurer to the Finance Director. They were not in agreement with the recommendation to send the budget to the BOF after 3 failed referendums.

The following three questions were determined and passed by the BOS to have on the November ballot.

1. Shall the Town Charter be amended to make grammatical, technical

Department/ Entity	Project	Project Request FY 19/20	FY20 Budget Recommendation	FY20 Budget Allocation
Assessor's Office	State Mandated Revaluation required every 5 years	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
BBFD	Replace 2001 HME Pumper truck - cost distributed over 5 yrs.	\$200,000	\$100,000	
Board of Education	Replace HS kitchen steam boiler	\$20,485	\$20,485	\$20,485
Board of Education	Replace original 88 Café tile over 65 years old with vinyl tile	\$27,500	\$27,500	
Board of Education	Expand MS north parking lot; adds 39 spaces	\$71,300		
Board of Education	Replace 25+ year old HS 5-wing carpet	\$53,000		
Parks and Rec	Bring town playgrounds to code	\$45,000		
Parks and Rec	Expansion and renovation plans for multiple fields, courts and equipment	\$100,000		
Parks and Rec	Expand and restructure East Windsor Park Basketball Court	\$75,515		
Police Department	Replace older high mileage vehicles. 2.5 vehicles funded annually to maintain fleet	\$100,900	\$100,900	\$44,900
Police Department	Replacement of aged, inadequate software system	\$36,980	\$36,980	\$36,980
Police Department	Replace old, failing laptops in police vehicles	\$23,070	\$23,070	
Public Works	Chip Sealing of roads	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000
Public Works	Annual pavement maintenance and/or reconstruction	\$1,000,000	\$500,000	\$400,000
Public Works	Ongoing replacement of Public Works and Parks & Grounds vehicles and equipment	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$140,000
Public Works	Ongoing maintenance and replacement of Town wide dramage	\$50,000	\$50,000	
Public Works	Overdue state mandated updates to the GIS System	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000
Public Works	Purchase equipment for use in the DPW service garage	\$20,000	\$10,000	1000
Public Works	Repair South Rd Sewer to allow transfer to WPCA	\$94,000	\$94,000	\$13,825
Public Works	Repair/replace town sidewalks	\$44,000		HITTERSOILS
Scout Hall	Replace 18 yr. old HVAC unit w/life expectancy 20 yrs.	\$30,000		
Town Property	Vehicle replacements	\$25,590	\$20,000	
Town Property	Replace critical aged PO + Radio Tower generators	\$97,000	\$50,000	
Town Property	Upgrade exterior lighting throughout town	\$40,000	\$10,000	
Town Property	Replace dog pound kennels thaide and out	\$61,930	\$20,000	
Town Property	Replace aging roofs (DPW and BBFD/Sr. Ctr)	\$600,000		
Treasurer	Replace current financial software	\$124,470	\$124,470	\$124,470
	Totals	\$3,260,740	\$1,507,405	\$900,660



changes and clarifications that do not affect the meaning of the Town Charter? Passed

- 2. Shall Section 6-6 of the Town Charter be amended to permit the Town Treasurer to be the Town Finance Director? Passed
- 3. Shall Section 8.4 of the Town Charter be amended to require the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Education to each submit their initial budget recommendations to the Town Clerk at least five days prior to the initial budget public hearings of each Board? Passed

Respectfully submitted, **Charter Revision Commission** Rebecca Talamini, Co-Chair Tanya Unsworth, Co-Chair James Richards, Secretary **RuthAnn Lansner Richard LeBorious Heather Spencer** Nicole Vacila

#### **Conservation Commission**

The mission of the East Windsor Conservation Commission is to:

- · Maintain and review an inventory of open space and farmland in Town
- · Advise other boards on land conservation issues
- Promote the value of conserving the Town's natural resources

The Commission is pursuing PA490 status for Open Space after it was included in the Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD).

We are reviewing action plans cited in the POCD.

The Commission continues to seek more funding for the Open Space Fund in order to respond to future opportunities for land preservation.

# **Historic Preservation Com**mission

What is the Historic Preservation Commission?

The East Windsor Historic Preservation Commission is a group of concerned citizens; members of the electorate appointed by the Board of Selectmen and women. The task of the Commission is to identify, archive, and preserve structures, sites and monuments significant in the town's history and cultural development. The historic Preservation Commission provides the citizenry with publications and programs to promote awareness and appreciation of the town's history and offers assistance to private citizens who wish to preserve individual properties of significant historical or architectural value.

#### Why Preserve old properties?

For many of today's citizens the idea of preserving the old is contrary to the idea "newer is better". Recently, however, communities have begun to acknowledge the fact that with the increasingly rapid neglect, endangerment and disappearance of the old buildings, sites, and monuments; a town's significant past and the roots of its citizenry, the town's heritage, is lost forever.

In any community there are structurally sound buildings that are representative of significant architectural and historic eras of the town. often rehabilitating these buildings is wiser than destroying them, both aesthetically and financially.

### What is Preservation?

Preservation is the conservation of any architectural or historical structure, site or monument. It is the maintenance of the basic design and building materials of such a structure.

In adaptive preservation the emphasis is on saving the appearance and authenticity of the exterior of a building. Then the interior can be adapted to a more modern use as a residence, commercial or municipal facility.

## How can an individual support the efforts of the Historical Commission?

1. Contact a commission member if you are willing to explore the possibility of identifying or preserving your

- individual property as a significant historical or architectural site.
- 2. Contact a commission member if you are aware of any endangered property significant to the town's heritage.
- 3. Contact a commission member if you are an individual or business that is able to donate services or make a financial contribution to assist with preservation projects.
- 4. Contact a commission member if you are a member of the legal profession who is able to donate your services in drafting legislation to further preservation.
- 5. As a member of the electorate support the commission's efforts to preserve sites in the community and lobby the legislature for support and funding for continued preservation.
- 6. Attend a meeting with your family and friends or any informational program sponsored by the commission to promote the historic and cultural heritage of East Windsor.

Remember: Prepare for the future by preserving the past.

# Inland Wetland And Watercourses Agency

The Inland Wetland and Watercourses Agency's (IWWA) mission is to protect the inland wetland and watercourse resources of the Town of East Windsor by effectively implementing and enforcing the Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Regulations. The Agency reviews all developmental activities proposed within and adjacent to inland wetland and watercourse areas at regular monthly meetings held on the first Wednesday of each month. We urge the public to attend these meetings and to call the Planning and Development Office for any information concerning inland wetlands and watercourses.

The Agency is a regulatory body authorized and required by Connecticut State Statute. The Commission is comprised of six regular members and two alter-



nate members appointed by the Board of Selectmen to serve staggered fouryear terms. Regular members of the IWWA included Chairwoman Rebecca Talamini, Vice Chairman Dick Pippin, Secretary Richard Osborn, Alan Baker and Kurt Kebschull. Alternate members included Michael Sawka and Jamie Sydoriak. The Agency is assisted by a Wetland Agent, as well as Planning and Development Department staff. The staff accepts and reviews applications and provides information to the public.

During the fiscal year 2019-2020, the IWWA received a total of 17 applications. Permits were issued for regulated activities associated with construction of new houses, commercial buildings, and drainage improvements.

The IWWA is constantly working to improve the capability of its members and staff through continuing education. Within a given year, this includes training provided by CT DEEP, the CT Association of Conservation and Inland Wetland Commissions among others. These opportunities allow members and staff to refine specific skills, learn about recent legislative changes or updates and learn action responses to common wetland concerns.

The Inland Wetlands Regulations and application form can be found on the Town's website: www.eastwindsor-ct.gov. The Town's online GIS system can be used to provide specific information regarding the presence of wetlands on a given parcel within East Windsor. This system can also be accessed via the Town's website.

# **Planning & Zoning Commission**

The Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) typically meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month. The Commission consists of five regular members and three alternates, all appointed by the Board of Selectmen to serve four-year staggered terms. The PZC consists of 5 regular members and 3 alternate members. This past year Joe Ouellette served as Chairman of the Commission, Richard Sullivan as Vice

Chairman, and Tim Moore as Secretary. The remaining regular members were Jim Thurz and Mike Kowalski. Serving as alternate members were Marti Zhigailo, Frank Gowdy and Anne Gobin.

The Commission reviews and acts on applications for Commercial and Residential development along with proposed changes to the Subdivision and Zoning Regulations. They also prepare, amend, and adopt the Plan of Conservation and Development every 10 years.

The PZC is supported by the Planning and Development Department. Copies of all land use regulations, application forms, and bylaws are available in the Planning and Development Department at Town Hall. These documents are also accessible via the Town's website at www.eastwindsor-ct.gov.

The PZC held 16 Regular Meetings in the past year. Applications received are broken down into the categories of Site Plan Reviews (1), Special Use Permits (3), Zone Changes (3), Text Amendments (2), and Subdivisions/Resubdivisions (2).

# Respectfully submitted, Joe Ouellette, Chairman

#### **Veterans Commission**

The Veterans Commission is a volunteer organization and is committed to honoring and helping veterans. Interested individuals are encouraged to attend meetings and get involved. We meet on the second Thursday of every month. Meetings during the COVID 19 challenge have been conducted at the American Legion Post 40 Hall at 7 Gardner Street. Recommended CDC guidelines like social distancing and face masks are followed.

The Commission hosts several events each year. Some of these events include:

- Memorial Day ceremonies at the Town Green each year.
- Placing American flags on the graves of around 1,000 veterans in the Town's seven cemeteries.
- Placing flags on the utility poles in

- Broad Brook and Warehouse Point during the summer.
- Providing two \$750.00 dollar scholarships to deserving East Windsor High School students.
- · Annual Veterans Day 5K Race is our major fundraiser.
- Wreaths Across America at the Windsorville Cemetery.

The Joseph Tracy Veterans Memorial Green was completed in 2018 and is a memorable place to visit. The site is being beautifully maintained by the East Windsor Parks and Recreation Department.

Military and veterans' memorabilia can also be found at the East Windsor Historical Society's Museums on the Green at 115 Scantic Road.

### Jim Barton, Chairman

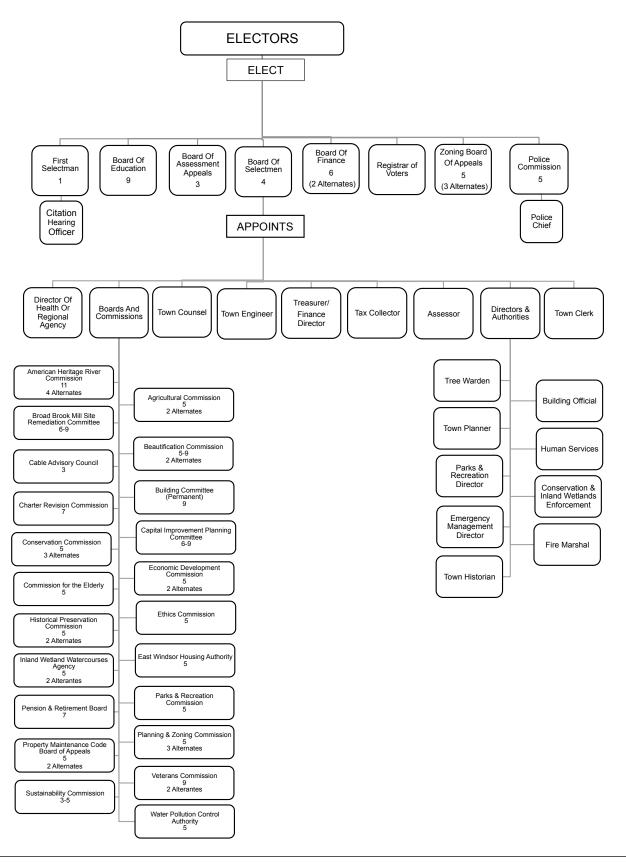
# **Zoning Board Of Appeals**

The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) consists of 5 regular members and 3 alternate members, all elected to serve four-year terms. This past year José Giner served as Chairman and Nolan Davis as Vice Chairman. The remaining regular members were Mystica Davis, Dan Noble and Steve Smith with Bob Yosky, serving as an alternate member.

The primary function of the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) is to review and act upon applications for variances from the Zoning Regulations when it is determined that a literal interpretation of the law creates a unique hardship on the property. The ZBA also hears and decides appeals where citizens allege that there is an error in an order, requirement, or decision made by the Zoning Enforcement Officer. In addition, the ZBA acts under the authority of the State Statutes to grant location approval for dealing in or repairing motor vehicles.

This year the ZBA held two regular meetings at which one variance was denied.

Respectfully submitted, José Giner, Chairman





#### First Selectman's Office

860-623-8122-p, 860-623-4798-f 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT 06016

Jason E. Bowsza, First Selectman jbowsza@eastwindsorct.com

Melissa LaBelle, Executive Asst. to First Selectman mlabelle@eastwindsorct.com

Jennifer Sanchez, Admin. Asst. jsanchez@eastwindsorct.com

#### **Animal Control**

860-292-1962 Mill Street, (Shelter) Broad Brook, CT 06016

Kaley Curtis, Animal Control Officer curtisk@eastwindsorpd.com

Kathryn Kane-DiBacco, Animal Control Officer kane-dibaccok@eastwindsorpd.com

#### Assessor's Office

860-623-8878-p, 860-623-4798-f 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT 06016

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Kerilynn Lewis, Asst. Assessor klewis@eastwindsorct.com

Luann MacIntosh, Assessor Clerk lmacIntosh@eastwindsorct.com

#### **Board of Education**

860-623-3346-p, x7404 860-292-6817-f 70 South Main Street, East Windsor, CT 06088

Christine DeBarge, Ed. D., Superintendent cdebarge@ewct.org

Patrick Tudryn, Asst. Superintendent ptudryn@ewct.org

Annie Kalesnik, Admin. Asst. akalesnik@ewct.org

#### **Building Department**

860-623-2439-p, 860-623-4798-f 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT 06016

Rand Stanley, Building Official rstanley@eastwindsorct.com

Ginny Powers, Asst. to Building Official

gpowers@eastwindsorct.com Mark Liljedahl, Clerk mliljedahl@eastwindsorct.com

#### **Emergency Management**

860-623-2174-p, 860-627-1404-f 25 School Street, East Windsor, CT 06088

Chief Edward DeMarco, Director demarcoe@eastwindsorpd.com

Deputy Chief Roger Hart, Deputy Director hartr@eastwindsorpd.com

#### **Health Department**

860-745-0383-p, 860-745-3188-f 31 North Main St., PO Box 1222, Enfield, CT 06083-1222

Patrice Sulik, Director of Health Department psulik@ncdhd.org

Mike Caronna, Director of Environmental Health mcaronna@ncdhd.org

#### Park Hill

860-623-8467-p, 860-623-8554-f 1A Park Hill Road, Broad Brook, CT 06016

Linda Collins, Executive Director ewhaed@gmail.com

Marisa Prior, Asst. Executive Director ewhaed1966@gmail.com

# Parks & Recreation Office

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Samantha Charette, Recreation Lead

scharette@eastwindsorct.com

Irene Mosher, Admin. Asst./Financial Clerk imosher@eastwindsorct.com

Debbie Williams, Program Asst. dwilliams@eastwindsorct.com

#### Planning and Development

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Asst. Town Planner - Vacant

Amanda Calve, Admin. Asst. mbauer@eastwindsorct.com

Peg Hoffman, Admin. Clerk mhoffman@eastwindsorct.com

### Police Department

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Deputy Chief Roger Hart, Deputy Director hartr@eastwindsorpd.com

Maria Diana-Root, Admin. Asst. dianam@eastwindsorpd.com

Judith Tweedlie, Supervisor Of Records, Division & Public Information

tweedliej@eastwindsorpd.com

Dan Angelica, Records Clerk angelicad@eastwindsorpd.com

#### **Public Works and Engineering**

860-292-7073-p, 860-292-7072-f 11 Rye Street (mailing address) Broad Brook, CT 06016

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Len Norton, Director lnorton@eastwindsorct.com

Joseph Sauerhoefer, Operations Manager jsauerhoefer@eastwindsorct.com

Mark Coulter, Highway Foreman

Admin. Asst. to DPW Director tregan@eastwindsorct.com

#### Registrar of Voters

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Angelo Sevarino - Democrat asevarino@eastwindsorct.com

Karen Gaudreau - Republican kgaudreau@eastwindsorct.com

#### Senior Services

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Shawna Tustin, Lead & Program Asst. stustin@eastwindsorct.com

Nutritional Site Coordinator -

Vacant

#### **Social Services Office**

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Bridget Joy, Admin. Asst. & Intake Asst. bjoy@eastwindsorct.com

#### Tax Collector's Office

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Heidi Vane, Financial Account Aide

hvane@eastwindsorct.com

#### Town Clerk's Office

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Larisa Hiti, Asst. Town Clerk lhiti@eastwindsorct.com

#### Town Treasurer's Office

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Kimberly Prostka-Scavotto, Asst. Treasurer kscavotto@eastwindsorct.com

Gayle Carolus, Asst. Treasurer gcarolus@eastwindsorct.com

#### Water Pollution Control Authority

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Ed Alibozek, Chief Operator ealibozek@eastwindsorct.com

Laura Michael, Office Manager lmichael@eastwindsorct.com

