



John L. Salomone
Town Manager

TOWN OF NEWINGTON

131 CEDAR STREET
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06111

OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

MEMORANDUM

To: Newington Town Council
From: John L. Salomone, Town Manager
Date: September 15, 2006
Re: Monthly Report – August 2006

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

- The month of August was one of transition as I began my duties as Town Manager for the Town of Newington on August 21. Marian Amodeo returned to her position as Library Director after serving as Acting Town Manager very capably for seven months. Ms. Amodeo and I met a number of times as she briefed me on the status of various projects.
- Meetings were held with various department heads and key personnel in order to become acclimated to the Town of Newington.
- Contract negotiations continued with both the AFSCME and IBPO unions.
- Meetings and discussions continued with Aero-Craft Industries regarding a proposed tax abatement agreement.
- Finance Director Bill Hogan and I met with representatives from the MDC regarding their proposed \$800 million bond referendum scheduled for November. I also attended the MDC budget workshop on August 24.
- Various discussions were held regarding the new voting technology which will become available for the November election as part of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA).
- A ribbon cutting ceremony was held at the new Cold Stone Creamery on August 25.
- I attended the Kiwanis Club Meeting on August 28 at which former Mayor Bill Reynolds spoke.
- On August 30 I attended the Groundbreaking Ceremony for a new adult care facility at the Veterans Administration Hospital.
- I began meeting with Town Boards and Commissions with a goal to visit most in my first six months of tenure.

Paid overtime for the month of August 2006 was as follows:

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT	Overtime Hours	Cost
Vehicles and Equipment	59.80	\$ 2,252.24
Weekend Stand-by and Call-in	16.00	548.80
Road Maintenance	20.50	906.78
Landfill	3.00	103.44
R. Chaffee School	326.90	11,469.13
E. Green School	55.10	1,970.07
Total	481.30	\$ 17,250.46

Phone: (860) 665-8510 Fax: (860) 665-8507
townmanager@ci.newington.ct.us
www.ci.newington.ct.us

PARKS AND GROUNDS DIVISION		
Weekend Duty	24.00	\$ 946.08
Cemetery	32.50	1,281.15
Pool	48.50	1,911.87
Herbicide	<u>109.00</u>	<u>4,296.78</u>
Total	214.00	\$ 8,435.88
	2006-07 Budget Overtime Appr.	Overtime Expended Fiscal Year to Date
POLICE DEPARTMENT		
Patrol	\$ 681,636.00	\$ 116,295.95
Investigation	73,048.00	5,124.70
Communication	57,035.00	19,671.67
Education/Training	54,837.00	3,939.31
Support Services	20,871.00	2,023.20
School Resources Officer Grant	3,349.00	372.15
Animal Control	<u>11,000.00</u>	<u>920.27</u>
Total	\$901,776.00	\$148,347.25

PERSONNEL

- Mike Mancini, Director of Public Works, resigned effective August 11 to take another position. Tony Ferrara, former Town Engineer for Berlin, was hired to provide support for the engineering, inland/wetland and plan review processes in the Public Works Department.
- An exit interview was conducted with Dot Revzon, Youth Services/Clinical Casework Coordinator, who retired August 18.
- The Librarian I/Business Manager position was posted internally and advertised to the public after there were no inside candidates.
- Over 80 applications were received for the vacant Recreation Supervisor position. Interviews of the top candidates will be scheduled during September.
- After receiving almost 400 applications for the part-time Revenue Clerk position, Stacey Emmanuel was appointed effective September 7.
- The Accounts Administrator position in the Finance Department was advertised as a part-time position. Josephine Aux was appointed to the position effective September 5. Ms. Aux has a degree in Accounting from CCSU and served as an intern for the Finance Department in the early 1990's.
- An interview panel was conducted for the Youth Services/Clinical Casework Coordinator position. An appointment is anticipated in early September.
- Applications are being sought for Police Officer in anticipation of future vacancies.
- The Engineering Technologist I position was placed on hold pending a review of the structure of the Public Works Department.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The first month of the 2006-2007 Blue Cross/Blue Shield plan year produced a combined paid claim total that was lower than the estimates that were developed at renewal. The total claims were estimated at \$678,637 per month; the initial number for July 2006 came in at \$625,138.

INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND TECHNOLOGY

- Completed 103 work orders.
- Blocked 46,893 SPAM/ unsolicited emails from reaching Town employees and blocked/ quarantined 113 viruses from entering the Town's network.

- Finalized the setup/ configuration of the Town Clerk’s public workstation and cashiering workstation to work with the new indexing software (Cott Resolution). IST staff continues to work with Cott staff to complete mapping conversion and internal web server installation.
- Deployed two of four OPAC computers and an Adult Listen station at the Lucy Robbins Welles Library.
- Updated remote access procedures for several outside vendors that support various Town applications.
- As district returns were processed by the Town Clerk’s office and Registrars of Voters, IST staff posted primary results on the Town web page throughout the evening of August 8.
- The Town’s web site had more than 27,000 visits during the month. The most heavily trafficked sections were the Community Calendar and the activity calendars of Parks and Recreation, the Senior and Disabled Center, and the Library.
- Met with CRCOG’s (Capitol Region Council of Government) outside vendor to plan the setup/ configuration of a site to site virtual private network between CRCOG and the Town.
- Continued working with CLT-Tyler staff on the deployment of the Assessor’s new Computer Aided Mass Appraisal (CAMA) software application.

FINANCE

Accounting and Administration

- Meetings were held with the Town Attorney on the Marcus Group/cell tower dispute.
- Analysis and follow up was conducted with Town staff regarding the proposed Aero-Craft tax agreement. A tentative agreement is finalized pending approval of the Council.
- No major grants were received during the month.

The Town received the following interest rates on investments. This list includes outstanding investments that are under the control of the Finance Department and includes the General Fund and other Town Funds.

INVESTMENTS, BY ACCOUNTING TYPE

(Unaudited)

8/31/06

General Fund	\$39,016,636
Special Revenue Funds	1,855,246
Capital Projects Funds	815,001
Internal Service Fund	2,946,482
Trust and Agency Funds	1,364,506
TOTAL, ESTIMATED BY FUND	\$45,997,871

INVESTMENTS, BY INSTITUTION TYPE

(Unaudited)

8/31/06

	Interest %	Interest \$	\$ Invested		
<i>Ave. Monthly Yield, Annualized</i>	Current Month	Last Month	Current Month	Last Month	
STIF	5.52	5.33	65,787	28,639	11,542,385
Banknorth	5.45	5.38	66,833	38,818	14,666,162
CLASS PLUS	4.94	4.88	30,121	31,804	7,469,590
Sovereign Bank MM	5.20	5.71	54,135	57,759	<u>12,319,734</u>
Total Outstanding Investments					45,997,871

Assessor

- Real estate transfers were completed in the Assessor's office database up to August 28.
- The proposed contract with Aero-Craft was finalized for Town Council approval after meetings with company representatives, Town Attorney Steven Nassau, and analysis of historical contracts.
- The Assessor and the Town Attorney met to plan for pending court cases against assessments made during the October 1, 2005 revaluation.
- Eight new condos at Woodlands and two at Fennwyck were inspected, valued, and added to the 2006 Grand List due to Certificates of Occupancy issued by the Building Department. These properties will also receive a prorated 2005 tax bill based on their respective dates of Certificate of Occupancy.
- Preparation began for the 2006 Grand List. Planning for field work requiring inspections in the fall was done; personal property forms were worked on for mailing in mid-September.

Revenue Collector

- The Tax Office staff was extremely busy the first week in August processing the last minute tax payments.
- Over \$4,725,000 was collected for the 2005 Grand List with 1,063 Real Estate, 233 Personal Property and 4,087 Motor Vehicle accounts being paid.
- Delinquent bills were mailed to 1,264 real estate, 289 personal property, and 7,349 motor vehicle taxpayers.
- Escrow companies are increasing mortgage payments due to the revaluation tax increase which is generating an abundance of additional telephone calls from taxpayers for explanations and comparisons from last year to this year.

PURCHASING

RFP NO. 4, 2005-06, CEMETERY SERVICES

Opening Date: November 2, 2005

Respondent

Newington Memorial Funeral Home, Newington

The proposal is under review.

BID NO. 25, 2005-06, NEWINGTON HIGH SCHOOL 3RD FLOOR AIR CONDITIONING

Opening Date: September 6, 2006

BID NO. 1, 2006-07, ANIMAL TRANSPORT VEHICLE BODY

Opening Date: August 8, 2006

Bidder	Location	Bid
Swab Wagon of Pennsylvania	Elizabethville, PA	\$13,015

The bid was awarded to Ford of Branford.

BID NO. 2, 2006-07, POLICE VEHICLES

Opening Date: September 7, 2006

RFP NO. 1, 2006-07, DEVELOPER OF AFFORDABLE, AGE-RESTRICTED HOUSING

Opening Date: August 22, 2006

Respondents:

Beach Investments, LLC, Rocky Hill
New Samaritan Corporation, Hamden

The proposals are under review.

TOWN CLERK

- 695 documents were filed on the Newington Land Records for August. Recording fees were \$21,110; there were 105 property transfers with \$152,146.15 collected for state conveyance tax and \$59,832.59 collected in town conveyance tax.
- There were two large transfers during August - property at 172 Kelsey Street sold for \$1,450,000 from RANDM Realty LLC to Souto Properties of Connecticut LLC; and 75 Lowrey Place conveyed for \$5 million from Northwood Plaza Associates LLC to Newington Center LLC. Property at 20 Waverly Drive transferred for \$500,000; there were twelve residential sales each over \$300,000.
- On August 8, 2006 there was a Republican Primary with a 3% turnout and a Democratic Primary with 51% turnout.
- The Town Clerk and Director of Human Services presented another Lunch & Learn session on August 28th where participants learned how to “Stress Less—Smile More” to make healthy changes within the workplace.
- On August 24th, the Town Clerk attended a regional meeting with Wethersfield and Rocky Hill—discussion involved the upcoming referendum and ballot question appropriating \$8 million for The Metropolitan District’s “Clean Water” initiative.

Data Summary--August 2006

	<u>August 2006</u>	<u>August 2005</u>	<u>FY 2006-07 to Date</u>	<u>FY 2005-06 to Date</u>
Land Record Documents	695	736	1,257	1,382
Dog Licenses Sold	77	100	247	274
Game Licenses Sold	122	88	153	339
Vital Statistics				
Marriage Licenses	23	28	46	54
Civil Unions	0		0	0
Death Certificates	17	21	33	44
Birth Certificates	13	9	38	37
Total General Fund Revenue	\$ 83,722.29	\$ 68,128.37	\$135,162.94	\$121,559.85
Town Document Preservation	\$ 1,331.00	\$ 717.00	\$ 2,422.00	\$ 1,331.00
State Document Preservation	\$ 1,336.00	\$ 1,434.00	\$ 2,434.00	\$ 2,662.00
State Treasurer (\$26 fee)	\$ 17,238.00		\$ 31,330.00	
Locip	\$ 1,989.00		\$ 3,615.00	
State Game Licenses	\$ 4,251.50	\$ 1,496.50	\$ 4,731.00	\$ 6,273.50
State Dog Licenses	\$ 573.50	\$ 710.00	\$ 1,758.50	\$ 1,879.00
Dog Licenses Surcharge	\$ 182.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 651.00	\$ 688.00
Marriage & CU Surcharge	\$ 285.00	\$ 494.00	\$ 589.00	\$ 798.00
Grand Total	\$110,908.29	\$ 73,229.87	\$182,693.44	\$135,191.35

REGISTRARS

- In July, 169 voter registration cards either in person or by mail, in August, 257.
- Primaries for both political parties were held in August; inspection of voting machines was done and instructions provided to election officials.

- The Secretary of the State announced that a new voting machine has been approved, a telephone with fax machine for the handicapped elector, as required by the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), which shall be in place for the November election.

Current Registered Voters

Democrats	7,618
Republicans	3,255
Unaffiliated	6,992
Other	15
Total	17,880

POLICE DEPARTMENT

- Areas that received significant attention in August for traffic complaints were Cedar Street and Hartt Lane, Garfield Street and Walsh Avenue, Culver and Apple Hill and Audubon and Hillcrest Avenue
- Approximately 102 traffic stops were made by the Community Services Unit in August. In addition, the Community Services Unit participated in a traffic detail with the Mid-State Traffic Enforcement Unit. Officers from Berlin, Rocky Hill, Cromwell, Wethersfield and Newington spent the day enforcing traffic laws in the five towns. Over 75 traffic stops were conducted during the detail.
- Officer Friendly programs were conducted at Newington day care centers centered on Stranger Awareness. Officer Dan Kaufmann also spent a day working with the Muscular Dystrophy Association for its Jail & Bail fund drive. He “arrested” area citizens who had to raise their “bail” in charity donations to the MDA. The fund drive was quite successful, raising in excess of \$3,000.00.
- The Community Services Unit deployed the department’s traffic “SMART” trailer to various neighborhoods in town. This month the trailer was deployed to Connecticut Avenue, Reservoir Road, Walsh Avenue, Culver Street, and Littlebrook Drive. Additional traffic enforcement will result in these areas due to these traffic studies.
- The Community Services Unit provided additional traffic control during the first days of the new school year and additional police presence at Newington High School and the middle schools during the first week of school.
- 44 offenses were the subject of investigation by Detective Division personnel in August.

Patrol Calls - August

AlarmBurg	173	F/Other	9	Noise	34
AlarmHold	4	F/Struc	5	Notification	4
Animal	42	F/Veh	4	OpenDoor/Win	6
AssaultIP	2	Fingerprint	39	ParkingViol	22
AssaultRep	11	Fireworks	11	PropFound	16
Assist	21	FollowUp	35	PropLost	10
BreachIP	12	Gun	2	RecoveredMV	2
BreachRep	3	Harassment	28	RobberyIP	1
BurgIP	1	Hazard	24	ServSubpoena	3
BurgRep	9	IllegalDumping	3	ServWarrant	20
CarSeat	15	IndecentExp	1	SexAssaultIP	1
Check	90	Intoxicated	12	SexAssaultRep	4
ClearLot	13	JuvComp	60	Shots	6
Court	20	Land/Tenant	3	SpecDetail	29
CrimMisIP	5	LarcFromMV	14	StolenMV	17
CrimMisRep	39	LarcIP	8	SuddenDeath	2
CustomerIP	7	LarcRep	60	Suicide	1
CustomerRep	1	Location	87	SuicideAtt	3

Dog	43	LockoutMV	2	Suspicious	132
DomesticIP	29	LockoutResid	1	SuspMVOcc	3
DomesticRep	10	Medical	184	SuspMVUnocc	3
Drug	4	Missing	14	ThreatRep	4
DUI	3	MVAband	8	TownOrd	8
EDP	7	MVAEvading	13	Traffic Stop	558
Escort	34	MVAInjury	13	TrespassIP	7
F/Alarm	21	MVAProp	97	TrespassRep	3
F/COno	1	MVAssist	71		
F/COsymp	1	MVComplaint	39		
F/Hazmat	2	Neighbor	11	TOTAL FOR NPD	2,380

UCR/NIBRS Selected Crimes

2006

2005

Type of Crime	# of Offenses	Value of Crime	# of Offenses	Value of Crime
Murder	0	-0-	-0-	-0-
Forcible Rape	0	-0-	-1-	-0-
Robbery	3	\$2,348	-0-	-0-
Assault	14	-0-	10	-0-
Burglary	15	\$19,063	15	\$12,593
Larceny Theft	65	\$29,552	58	\$34,485
Auto Theft	9	\$86,151	2	\$20,500
Totals	107	\$137,114	86	\$67,578

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Fire Department responded to 56 alarms/emergencies as follows:

	<u>August</u> <u>2006</u>	<u>2 months</u> <u>Cum.</u>
Residential	12	29
Commercial, Industrial, Office	3	9
Hospital, School	2	9
Vehicle	5	7
Rescue, Police Assistance	0	2
Dumpster, Rubbish, Grass, Brush, Leaves	2	7
Hazardous Materials/Clean up	4	8
Investigative Alarm	26	61
False Alarm	0	0
Mutual Aid/Standby	0	0
Carbon Monoxide Investigation	2	3
Water Related Incidents/Pump-Outs	0	0
Total	56	135

Training Summary:

Training	Members	Hours
Aerial Operation and LDG	45	135
IS-700	10	30
Total		165

FIRE MARSHAL

The Fire Marshal's Office completed the following activities during the month of November.

Inspections	26
Inspection Follow-Ups	45
Plan Review	9
Job Site Inspections	1
Underground Tank Removal	0
Fire Investigations	2
Fire Alarm Trouble	3
Complaints	1
Haz/Mat	0
Bomb Threats	0
Blasting	6

- On August 9th, a clothes dryer fire in the basement of a home at 134 Cedar Ridge Drive resulted in minor damages to the single family home.
- On August 12th, a fire of undetermined origin caused extensive damage to a mercantile occupancy in a strip mall located at 337 Willard Avenue. No injuries were reported.

PUBLIC WORKS/FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

- The Town's crosswalks were all repainted prior to the opening of the schools. In addition, the striping crew completed the repainting of approximately six miles of double yellow striping.
- The automated trash collection program continues to have some problems, but as a whole has been running smoothly for a majority of the residents.

Highway Department

- Highway personnel began the reconstruction of Raynel Road with the installation of over 200 feet of 15 inch drainage pipe and 500 feet of 4 inch under-drain piping. Crews also installed two new storm water basins as well. The drainage improvements will increase storm water carrying capacity and ultimately improve road longevity.
- Crews assisted the Board of Education (BOE) with drainage improvements and stone wall fabrication at the Ruth Chaffee Elementary School. Paving and drainage enhancements are part of a new playground area.
- Personnel continue to assist the Traffic Division with pavement markings and sign replacements.
- Equipment Operators assisted a private contractor with vegetation grinding at the Town landfill.
- Miscellaneous projects completed during the month included pothole patching, curb installation for the BOE, material hauling, street sweeping, tree stump removal, trimming of tree branches within the Town's right-of-way and catch basin rebuilding and cleaning.
- Mechanics prepared leaf collection equipment for the annual leaf collection program and continued with preventative maintenance schedules and emergency repairs for all Town department vehicles and equipment.

Facilities Management

- Facilities Management has addressed all the OSHA violations the Town was cited for as a result of the recent OSHA inspection.
- Necessary repairs/renovation have been made per State requirements so that the Parks and Recreation Day Care Center can obtain State approval to operate.
- Facilities Management also replaced approximately 100 street signs that were stolen by vandals.

TOWN PLANNER

August projects underway at the Town Planner's office:

- Town Center Streetscape Phase II STEAP Grant – Phase II Streetscape improvements along the west side of Main Street have been completed. The area of improvements was reduced in scope from 785 linear feet to 270 linear feet because of high bid results. Of the \$250,000 grant, \$104,574 has been expended leaving a balance of \$145,427. An application for \$500,000 of additional STEAP Grant funds was submitted to the Office of Policy and Management in December 2005 and a request to extend the Phase II balance has been approved by DECD. The Office of Policy and Management has been requested to place the Town's STEAP grant request on the Bond Commission's September 29th agenda.
- New Meadow Phase II Senior Housing – A Request for Qualifications was completed and advertised August 1 and 4 with a return date of August 22. Two submissions were received. The proposed schedule is to invite prospective developers to present their qualifications to the Town Council at its September 29th meeting.
- Facade Easement Rehabilitation Loan Program – Final payment was released on August 4 to G. Donovan & Associates, project contractor. This payment was withheld for several months because of incomplete punch list items and the unacceptable awning signage at Flowers Etc. and the Chamber of Commerce. Property owners have been provided with product and workmanship one year warranties pursuant to program guidelines.
- Deming-Young Farm Foundation, Inc. – The Town Planner has collaborated with Town Attorney Steven Nassau to prepare a property lease for the farmhouse and a leasehold of approximately 20,000 sq. ft.
- National Welding, 690 Cedar Street, Phase II Environmental Assessment – On August 3 the Town Planner and Fuss & O'Neill Inc., environmental engineers, conducted a site walk and building inventory in preparation of initiating the EPA Brownfield's Phase II Assessment. This inventory data will be used to identify locations for soil sampling within the buildings and around the three-acre property.
- Traffic Consultant Services – At the request of the Town Plan and Zoning Commission (TPZ), a traffic consultant firm has been retained to assist the Commission with reviews of two large development projects on Cedar Mountain, near the intersection of Russell Road and the Berlin Turnpike. Both projects are proposing to share a common roadway and traffic signal at the crest of East Cedar Street. The consultant is charged with review and critique of the internal and off site impacts and will provide expert advice on appropriate traffic safety design measures.

Development Projects under review by the Town Plan and Zoning Commission and Town Planner during August:

- Shoppe's at East Cedar Street – This is a 9-acre mixed use project (retail, restaurant, hotel, gas station) - public hearing was continued to September 13. The Commission conducted a site walk on August 23.
- Cedar Ridge Commerce Park – This is a 28 acre, four lot subdivision for commercial use - public hearing was continued to September 13. This site plan proposes extensive excavation of rock and changes to the ridge's landscape. Site walk was conducted on August 23.
- 2557 Berlin Turnpike – Proposed redevelopment of three blighted structures on a 2.7 acre parcel for a 100 unit Comfort Suites Motel. Revised plans were submitted and an Inland Wetlands Commission review is required.
- Fountain Pointe Professional Park – Proposed for the corner of Willard Avenue and Alumni Road, 25,000 sq. ft. office use and 3,500 sq. ft. bank. Plans were presented August 9 and 23.
- Corner of Louis Street / Pascone Place – Proposed 5,000 sq. ft. professional office building (Phase I). Site Development Plan presented at the TPZ's August 23 meeting.
- Deming Street Proposed Active Adult – 24 unit housing development. This project will require Special Exception and Site Plan approval of TPZ. The Commission has scheduled a public hearing for September 27.
- 1052 Main Street – Proposed expansion to rear of building adjacent to municipal parking lot to add retail uses and two apartments. This project was presented at public hearings on August 9 and August 23.

- 183 Louis Street – Volvo Aero-Craft proposed site development for new 27,000 sq. ft. manufacturing facility. Scheduled for presentation on September 27.
- Sam's Club Store – Realm Realty's proposal for a 134,000 sq. ft. retail store and 12 pump gas station facility at the former Caldor Plaza. Phase I Redevelopment approved for Stew Leonard's in March 2006.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

- One permit issued for a single family home in Newington in August (50 Waverly Drive).
- 16 permits were issued for townhouses in Newington (Building #33 Sterling Drive, Units # 149, 155, 161, 167; Building #34 Sterling Drive, Units # 173, 179,185,191; Building #44 Sterling Drive, Units # 146, 152, 158, 164; and Building #45 Sterling Drive, Units # 122, 128, 134, 140.
- One Footing and Foundation Permit was issued for Stew Leonard's, 3475 Berlin Turnpike.
- Two permits were issued for the Town of Newington, an electrical permit for placement and cutover of 100 pair telephone cable to the Senior and Disabled Center, and a plumbing permit to run a gas line underground for a natural gas fired grill for the Fire Department Co. #2 on 190 Richard Street.
- Permits were issued to add a sprinkler and a canopy to the existing garden center at Wal-Mart, 3164 Berlin Turnpike. Ten Certificates of Occupancy were issued in August, eight for single family residences (74 Sterling Drive, 80 Sterling Drive, 6 Pfister Drive, 20 Waverly Drive, 86 Sterling Drive, 9 Dacosta Drive, 92 Sterling Drive, and 101 Sterling Drive) and two for commercial (Cold Stone Creamery, 2997A Berlin Turnpike, and 'Art of Touch" Therapeutic Message and Skin Care,180 Market Square).
- Building Inspectors completed a total of 579 inspections: Chimney (1), CO (32), Code (18), Concrete Floor (1), Decks (3), Drains (4), Electrical (142), Final (13), Footings (26), Foundation (23), Framing (53), Gas Line (16), Gypsum (6), Hot Water Heaters (2), Insulation (26), Mechanical (51), Piers (6), Plumbing (56), Pools (11), Rebars (2), Roofing (5), Rough (44), Sheathing (8), Sheds (2), Siding (2), Sill (7), Sprinkler (5), Sub Slab (4), Tents (5), Water Proof (5).

Seminars attended by the Building Inspectors for their continuing education credit were:

Pete Hobbs	August 2006 NEBCA Meeting – August 22, 2006
------------	---

Building/Renovation Permit Statistics

<u>Type of Permit</u>	<u>No. of Permits</u>	<u>Value of Permits</u>
Addition/Alterations	21	\$ 742,110
Deck	4	25,500
Demolition	0	0
Electrical	60	419,507
Fence	0	0
Fire Suppression/Sprinkler	3	79,830
Footing/Foundation	1	140,000
Fuel Tank	2	3,800
Garage/Shed	7	52,780
Mechanical	29	100,087
New Commercial	0	0
New Residential	17	3,861,550
Plumbing	30	131,102
Pool	5	35,010
Roofing/Siding	39	281,213
Sign	3	11,000
Tent	1	1,045
Trailer	0	0
Total	222	\$5,884,534

Permit Value Comparison for August:

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
Value of Permits Issued	\$5,884,534	\$2,508,000
Building Permit Fees Received	\$68,395	\$36,900
Other Income Fees	\$1,171	\$5,112
Building Permits Issued	210	154

Total Value of Permits and Permit Fees:

<u>2006-2007</u>		<u>2005-2006</u>	
Value	Permit Fee	Value	Permit Fee
\$10,410,245	\$120,946	\$6,245,554	\$96,960

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

- The Central Connecticut Health District received word from the Connecticut Department of Public Health that mosquitoes trapped in Churchill Park tested positive for the West Nile Virus. There has been an increase in the number of positive mosquitoes trapped in the state over the past month. In response to this increase, Governor Rell has provided mosquito larvacide at no cost to the Town of Newington and other communities that are at higher risk. Application of the mosquito larvacide will hopefully reduce mosquito populations, and decrease the risk of transmitting the virus to humans.
- Health District staff responded to a fire on Willard Avenue which destroyed a local food establishment and caused smoke damage in adjacent businesses.
- Greg Mattus, Sanitarian covering Newington, has completed a plan review for a new McDonalds restaurant on the Berlin Turnpike. The existing McDonalds restaurant will be demolished and replaced with a new building. The new McDonalds restaurant will be better able to accommodate motorists entering and exiting from the Berlin Turnpike, as well as provide a more efficient drive-through with greater capacity.
- Central Connecticut Health District staff has met with representatives of the Newington Senior and Disabled Center regarding the annual flu clinic. The clinics will be held at the Newington Senior and Disabled Center as well as locations in the other member towns. Newington residents will be able to attend flu clinics in any of the four Health District member towns (Newington, Rocky Hill, Berlin, Wethersfield). Residents will be able to obtain a schedule for the clinics by contacting any one of the four district offices or by logging on to the Central Connecticut Health District web site www.ccthd.org.
- Routine inspections for the month consisted of food service establishments, day care centers, and public swimming pools. A public swimming pool located at a Newington condo complex was closed by order of the Health District due to health/electrical code violations and hazards.
- Nancy Brault has accepted the position of Chief of Environmental Health Services for the Central Connecticut Health District. Nancy will be located in the Newington office and will start work on September 18, 2006. Ms. Brault is currently a Sanitarian for the Northeast District Department of Health.
- Numerous complaints were received in the Newington office, including pools with stagnant water breeding mosquitoes, tall grass, rats, overgrown and unkempt properties, trash/litter, food service employees not using gloves handling exposed foods, pet odors, swimming pools with unsafe conditions, and illegal dumping.
- Mr. Mattus has been working closely with the Newington Parks and Recreation Department and the State Department of Public Health to ensure that State requirements are met for the licensing of the Parks and Recreation after school day care program located in the Town Hall. Samples of air, water, soil, and dust were collected in the areas to be used by the day care to check for lead and radon gas.
- New complaints for the month numbered 36.

Statistical Summary

	Monthly Totals	Year to Date	Last Year to Date
Food Establishment Inspections	22	225	324
Food Establishment Reinspections	3	36	39
Other Routine Inspections	2	59	50
New Complaints Received	36	156	175
➤ Complaint investigation made	41	186	182
➤ Notice of Violation issued by Public Health Coordinator	6	44	42
➤ Legal Order issued by Director of Health	0	2	2
➤ Complaint compliance recorded	24	128	155

HUMAN SERVICES

- The Human Rights Commission held a food collection at the A&P and Stop and Shop stores; 85 bags of food were donated and \$131 was contributed by residents.
- Interfaith Community Action of Newington (ICAN) assisted 25 seniors and residents with disabilities by disposing of their old garbage containers at the landfill.
- ICAN taped a “Daily News” Show hosted by Director Ken Freidenberg to inform the community of their availability and also made an appeal for more volunteers.
- Director Freidenberg collaborated with Newington High School, Rocky Hill Youth Services and Rocky Hill Schools to submit a two town grant to the State Department of Education for after-school programming. Rocky Hill Schools volunteered to be the grantee.
- The annual Capital Area Substance Abuse Prevention Council grant was submitted on behalf of the Youth-Adult Council.
- The Early Childhood Council is planning the first of three parent workshops scheduled to begin October 5 entitled “Discipline for Young Children.” This is a collaboration of Human Services, Newington Public Schools, Lucy Robbins Welles Library, Parks and Recreation and Newington Child Care Association.
- The Youth-Adult Council is planning a substance abuse prevention program with Ginger Katz, scheduled for October 26. Ms. Katz will share the tragic story of her son’s death due to drugs and alcohol with seventh and eighth grade students during the day and a program for all Newington parents in the evening at Town Hall.
- Youth Worker Crystal Morawitz coordinated and provided a variety of positive youth development activities including:
 - A full schedule of August programs such as Flippers; Fins and Fur Week; Planes, Trains and Automobiles Week; Wacky Water Week; Horseback Riding; Beach Bum Days; Mini-Golf and Go-Karts and Adventures in Camping.
 - The Challenge Course was extremely active with numerous users including Trinity College, Sacred Heart University, Capitol Region Education Council, Newington Police Swat Team and Wethersfield Social and Youth Services in addition to Human Services summer programs.
 - Distribution of the fall brochure for the SCORE After-School Program for middle school age youth. Activities are planned almost every day from October through December.
 - Preparations for the first cycle of the Rite of Passage Experience (ROPE) program for sixth grade students as part of the Health and Wellness curriculum.
- The Youth and Family Counseling Program handled six new cases with the active caseload at 36. There were nine inactive and five closed cases. Staff and contractors conducted 42 clinical therapy sessions and made 61 contacts with families and other agencies.
- Social Casework was provided to 85 active cases with 25 new referrals.
- Over 100 eligibility re-determinations were conducted for the Food Bank and Holiday programs.

August 2006 Statistics

Selected Programs	FY 06-07 Undp. Total This Month	FY 06-07 Undp. Total Last Month	FY 06-07 Cum. Undp. Total YTD	FY 05-06 Cum. Undp. Total YTD
Youth and Family Counseling	36	38	44	46
Positive Youth Development	296	794	1,090	993
Youth Works (Job Bank)	5	4	4	9
Information and Referral	135	194	329	332
Social Casework Cases	85	68	93	93
Under 55 = 41				
Over 55 = 44				
Food Bank Participants	84	68	152	181
Special Needs	24	19	43	25

SENIOR AND DISABLED CENTER

- More than 75 people were treated to a day of nostalgia and entertainment with a special presentation about Savin Rock. Presented by HealthNet, the program featured a video of the park, hotdogs, pop corn and live music.
- A group of participants gathered on August 16 for a 'stuff-a-thon'. Cuz We Care, a local charity, creates pillows that are donated to local dialysis centers, hospitals, nursing homes, etc. More than 500 pillows were created on the assembly line.
- Participants got an opportunity to beat the heat with the ever popular annual ice cream social sponsored by Newington Health Care Center. More than 100 people enjoyed the all-you-can eat ice cream feast.
- Center staff met with staff of the Central Connecticut Health District to begin planning for a flu shot clinic to be held in the fall. Once the District receives the vaccine supply, a definite date will be set and advertised.
- The Center acquired some 'new' furniture this month as the Diagnostic Center replaced their waiting room furniture.
- The Center currently has a membership of 3,522 with 34 new members in August.
- The new medical transportation program is working very well. A few early problems with the service seem to have been rectified and passenger response has been very positive.
- Information and referral and social casework remain active. Most issues relate to financial need.

Dial-A-Ride		Wellness Clinic		Senior Café
Trips	Miles	On-site	Off-site	Meals Served
1,439	4,253	111	12	

Project Homeshare				
	Current Matches	Providers	Seekers	Counseling Calls
Newington	6	11	4	1
Other Comm.	6	43	61	29

PARKS AND RECREATION

Administration

- Superintendent of Parks and Recreation Wendy Rubin and Assistant Superintendent Ted Fravel met with representatives from the Make A Wish Foundation to assist in making a Newington youth's wish come true with a thank you party at Mill Pond Park.

- Ms. Rubin is serving on a CIRMA Sports & Recreational Liability Task Force; the first meeting was hosted in Newington.

Recreation Division

- A total of 206 summer programs, sessions and classes were offered, comparable to last season.
- The 2nd Annual Dog Daze was held at Mill Pond Pool after the pool was closed for the season. Approximately 80 dogs and owners attended.
- Family Movie Night at Mill Pond Park attracted approximately 75 people but had to be moved indoors due to rain.
- The Frank O'Rourke Fun Runs were held on six Wednesday evenings, with 15 to 22 runners in each race.
- Mill Pond Pool and Churchill Pool were open for 8 and 9 weeks, respectively. Approximately 570 children participated in the Learn to Swim Program, 309 residents participated in specialty programs such as Swim Team, Adult Swim Lessons, 4th of July family picnic, etc. A total of 17,692 people visited the pools this summer. 1,381 pool passes were issued which is comparable to the last three seasons.
- Staff training was on-going throughout the summer. Lifeguards at both pools participated in a total of 24 surprise drills, including two spinal injury drills which involved participation from Newington Volunteer Ambulance Corps and Newington Police Department.
- The Summer Playground Program ended the season with a trip to Lake Compounce and a DJ Party in the park. The program operated for seven weeks at seven sites with 440 registrations, a 9% increase in participation over last year.
- New programs for the fall include two additional Music Together classes, Teen Monster Mash Dance, updated Halloween Party, Kickboxing, Scrapbooking Crop Club, and Scrapbooking Workshop.
- New bus trips are scheduled for the fall including the Bronx Zoo, Baseball Hall of Fame, Halloween in Salem MA, and a Noshing Tour of New York City.

Parks & Grounds

- Division personnel conducted field layout and painting throughout the month in preparation for camps, scholastic practices, and fall sports.
- Substantial pruning efforts resulted in neater grounds at the schools and various public buildings.
- Work continued on installed the remaining lawn and shrubbery for the firehouse expansion at Fire Co. 2.
- As a result of safety inspections done this year, a number of pieces of equipment throughout the park system were removed.
- Park Department members supplied over 1,000 gallons of water each week to the gardeners at the Deming-Young Farm garden area.
- There were 10 burials in Town cemeteries and one removal during August.

LIBRARY

- The pirate-themed summer reading programs ended for 2006, going on record as one of the most successful to date. 1,329 children read throughout the summer, earning 3,649 paperback books as they logged in how much time they spent on reading. 376 adults read 3,050 books and vied for themed gift baskets offered each week. Teens were not left out, as 149 teens read 1,069 books, earning "book bucks" to be used at the auction finale.
- 1,193 children and their caregivers attended 34 programs. Highlights included *Alex the Jester*, who presented a musical performance in the Council Chambers to an audience of 175. The annual roller skating party, *Bird Friends of Pirates*, and the *Buddy Bake-off* also contributed to high attendance numbers. The ever popular weekly story-based programs and pre-school groups visited by the library staff rounded out the month.
- Thanks to the Friends of the Library, three new museum passes (Basketball Hall of Fame, CT River Museum, and Mark Twain House) were added to the already large collection. Patrons can reserve passes

online at the library's website, www.newington.lib.ct.us, and enjoy free or discounted admission rates at many area museums and other family attractions.

- 11 programs were held for adults and teens. *Act Up* and the Teen Camera Club, along with an auction that culminated the Teen reading program, were attended by over 110 teens. Adult offerings included a Friends' sponsored bus trip to Tanglewood and a Monday night film series.
- The annual New Teacher Orientation was conducted by library staff. Teachers were given presentations of databases and materials and introduced to the specialized teacher services that the library provides. They were also provided library cards as part of their week-long orientation with the Education Department.
- Topics of note that were researched this month included:
 - Why does the ocean have salt?
 - Award-winning Italian films.
 - Blue Back Square information.
 - Ratings of furnaces.
 - WiFi spots on Cape Cod.
- The library staff currently maintains two blogs on literary topics. The latest one, which was put out to the public on August 15, has had 45 visits to date. The blog contains staff book suggestions and solicits comments and opinions from others.
- Circulation of materials was 41,139; an average of 1,041 people entered the library each day; the 25 museum passes circulated a total of 120 times during August. 5,894 reference questions were answered and 1,256 items were processed and added to the collection. There were 7,027 hits to the library's homepage.