

# TOWN OF NEWINGTON

131 CEDAR STREET
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06111

### OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

# **MEMORANDUM**

To: Newington Town Council

From: Marian Amodeo, Acting Town Manager

Date: August 11, 2006

Re: Monthly Report – July 2006

### **GENERAL ADMINISTRATION**

During the month of July, team meetings with various Town department heads and staff continued as solutions to residents' problems and other topics were discussed and worked on by appropriate staff. Personnel issues also were addressed as they arose. The following also took place:

- Continued contract negotiations with both the AFSCME and IBPO collective bargaining units.
- Met with OSHA representatives and staff regarding OSHA's findings as a result of an unscheduled inspection of Town facilities.
- Met with various department heads to develop a contingency plan for the Public Works Department with the impending resignation of Michael Mancini, Public Works Director.
- Conducted exit interviews with Jack Burke, retiring Development Director, and Karen Benner, Library Business Manager.
- Met with John Salomone, the newly appointed Town Manager.

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

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT	Overtime Hours	Cost
Vehicles and Equipment	40.90	\$ 1,582.49
Weekend Stand-by and Call-in	16.00	535.36
Road Maintenance	32.20	1,405.31
Landfill	5.0	165.92
E. Green School	<u>135.30</u>	<u>4,883.32</u>
Total	229.40	\$ 8,572.40
PARKS AND GROUNDS DIVISION		
Weekend Duty	38.00	\$ 1,437.16
Cemetery	15.00	567.30
Extravaganza	149.00	5,635.18
Pool Maintenance	62.00	2,344.84
Herbicide Application	<u>131.00</u>	<u>4,954.42</u>
Total	395.00	\$ 14,938.90

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

	2006-07 Budget	Overtime Expended
POLICE DEPARTMENT	Overtime Appr.	Fiscal Year to Date
Patrol	\$ 681,636.00	\$ 60,412.02
Investigation	73,048.00	2,538.87
Communication	57,035.00	12,747.81
Education/Training	54,837.00	930.38
Support Services	20,871.00	2,023.20
School Resources Officer Grant	3,349.00	372.15
Animal Control	11,000.00	<u>306.75</u>
Total	\$901,776.00	\$ 79,331.18

### **PERSONNEL**

- The Town Council completed its search for a new Town Manager and appointed John L. Salomone to the
  position effective August 21. Mr. Salomone has a broad background in municipal government having served
  in positions in the finance area as well as Manager for several municipalities, most recently as City Manager
  of Auburn, NY. He is very familiar with Connecticut, having worked here in various capacities for over 25
  years and is looking forward to returning to Connecticut.
- Seventeen applications were received for the Engineering Technologist I position. Interviews will take place in August.
- Resignations were received during the month from Dot Revzon, Youth Services/Clinical Casework
  Coordinator; Mike Mancini, Public Works Director; Jack Burke, Development Director; Karen Benner, Library
  Business Manager; and June Moore, part-time Revenue Clerk. Mr. Burke's last day was July 27 and Ms.
  Benner's, July 26. Ms. Benner will stay on as a part-time Reference Librarian.
- The part-time Revenue Clerk opening, a part-time Accounts Administrator position in the Finance Department, and the Youth Services/Clinical Casework Coordinator positions were advertised.
- Interviews for the Reference substitute position were held on July 11<sup>th</sup>. Eight people were interviewed including Karen Benner, the library Business Manager. Ms. Benner was hired for the position and will begin her training for the Reference position in August.

### **Professional Development**

Donna Dornfried, Assistant Town Clerk, attended the second year of the New England Municipal Clerks' Institute at St. Michael's College in Burlington, Vermont. This course of study evolves over three years and will enable the delegate to apply credits earned toward a certification.

#### **RISK MANAGEMENT**

The 2005-2006 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 for the 2005-06 plan year were estimated at \$7,613,292. Based on the unaudited paid claims total, the plan year ended with an estimated surplus of \$336,391.

### **INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND TECHNOLOGY**

- 117 work orders were completed, 41,767 SPAM/unsolicited emails were blocked from reaching Town employees, and 118 viruses were blocked from entering the Town's network.
- The Mobile Data Terminal deployment project for the Peter J. Lavery Law Enforcement Center (Newington Police Department) was completed.
- Scott Hoagland, Information Systems and Technology Specialist, worked with Cott Resolution staff on configuring a backup plan for the new Town Clerk application.

- Mr. Hoagland worked with IPC staff to resolve/ fix a logging issue that was occurring on several of the Police Department's database application servers.
- The absentee ballot database was updated to allow the Town Clerk to run two different elections at one time.
- The Town's financial application vendor, Tyler-MUNIS, provided the Town with a software patch to fix an accrual report issue that was identified by Finance Department staff.
- The sketches and pictures data for the Assessor's public computers was updated.
- A new concrete manual was installed on the Town's communications network for use by the Building Department.
- Gregg Breton, GIS Coordinator, updated the GIS database prior to creating updated maps and to reflect fiscal year 2005-2006 subdivisions.
- New Assessor maps were generated and posted on the Town's website.
- Paul G. Boutot, Director of Information Systems and Technology, and Mr. Breton attended the MDC GIS Advisory Committee Meeting in Hartford.

# **FINANCE**

### **Accounting and Administration**

- Corinne Aldinger, the Town's new Revenue Collector began her duties on July 10.
- The 2005-06 fiscal year closeout continued throughout the month; particularly busy was the accounts
  payable area where end of year transactions from departments were forwarded for processing. To date, no
  major appropriation issues have arisen.
- The fiscal year end 2006 transactions were processed throughout 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) 7/31/06

General Fund	\$38,733,473
Special Revenue Funds	1,368,348
Capital Projects Funds	810,913
Internal Service Fund	2,595,741
Trust and Agency Funds	1,357,299
TOTAL, ESTIMATED BY FUND	\$44,865,774

# INVESTMENTS, BY INSTITUTION TYPE (Unaudited)

7/31/06

	Interest %		Intere	est \$	\$ Invested
	Current	Last	Current	Last	
Ave. Monthly Yield, Annualized	Month	Month	Month	Month	
STIF	5.33	5.13	28,639	19,118	7,726,596
CLASS PLUS	4.88	4.75	31,814	27,482	12,257,070
Banknorth	5.38	5.33	38,818	38,876	13,099,329
Sovereign Bank MM	5.71	5.58	57,759	54,352	<u>11,782,779</u>
Total Outstanding Investments					44,865,774

### **Assessor**

- Real estate transfers were made in the Assessor's office database up to the end of July. The time required
  to process real estate transactions was improved due to the new Town Clerk's online computer system
  which was deployed and made available to the Assessor's office.
- Approximately 500 changes to motor vehicle bills were processed during the month. Several owners of real
  estate inquired about the increase to their respective tax bills due mostly to the 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 for the 2006 Grand List was begun as was planning for field work requiring inspections in the fall.
   Personal property forms were ordered for October filings by individual businesses. Motor vehicle pricings manuals were ordered for use in the fall.

### **Revenue Collector**

- The Tax Office was very busy taking payments from 9,642 Real Estate Accounts, 666 Personal Property Accounts and 14,583 Motor Vehicle Accounts on the 2005 Grand List.
- Efforts were also focused on closing the 2005-06 fiscal year and preparation of the Revenue Collector's annual report.
- Several new forms were created to send along with corrections to accounts to clarify information for taxpayers.
- The Tax Office also verified 520 corrections/additions/deletions, most of which were applied to the 2005 Grand List accounts. New accounts and corrected accounts were sent to taxpayers on a daily basis.
- New Tax Office balancing procedures were implemented during the month.

### **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. 1, 2006-07, ANIMAL TRANSPORT VEHICLE BODY

Opening Date: August 8, 2006

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

Opening Date: August 22, 2006

#### **TOWN CLERK**

- There was a slight decrease in the number of deeds recorded for this month compared to July 2005 (13%). The monthly activity generated \$15,811 in recording fees and \$51,440.65 for the General Fund.
- There were 75 property transfers showing revenue of \$32,949.55 for town conveyance tax, and \$66,144.11 collected for state conveyance tax.
- There were nine residential transfers—each over \$300,000, and one on Cheney Lane for \$423,000. 2660 Berlin Turnpike conveyed for \$302,000.
- The office installed a new front counter computer indexing system utilizing cashiering, indexing and imaging. This technology is designed to decrease the workload and increase output. Work stations and public access terminals enhance the overall efficiency of the office.

- Absentee ballots for the upcoming August 8 Democratic and Republican Primaries became available on July 18. Media coverage has put Connecticut in the spotlight for these races; consequently, the office issued almost 200 absentee ballots during July.
- On July 6, the Town Clerk attended the Fire Commissioners meeting to swear-in newly elected officers.
- On July 9, the Town Clerk addressed a group of residents at the Senior and Disabled Center. The presentation was an overview of responsibilities focusing on various aspects of the election process.

## Data Summary--July 2006

	July 2006	July 2005	FY 2006-07 to Date	FY 2005-06 to Date
Land Record Documents	562	646	562	646
Dog Licenses Sold	170	174	170	174
Game Licenses Sold	31	251	31	251
Vital Statistics				
Marriage Licenses	23	26	23	26
Civil Unions	0			
Death Certificates	16	23	16	23
Birth Certificates	25	28	25	28
Total General Fund Revenue	\$ 51,440.65	\$ 53,431.48	\$ 51,440.65	\$ 53,431.48
Town Document Preservation	\$ 1,091.00	\$ 614.00	\$ 1,091.00	\$ 614.00
State Document Preservation	\$ 1,098.00	\$ 1,228.00	\$ 1,098.00	\$ 1,228.00
State Treasurer (\$26 fee)	\$ 14,092.00		\$ 14,092.00	
Locip	\$ 1,626.00		\$ 1,626.00	
State Game Licenses	\$ 480.00	\$ 4,777.00	\$ 480.00	\$ 4,777.00
State Dog Licenses	\$ 1,185.00	\$ 1,169.00	\$ 1,185.00	\$ 1,169.00
Dog Licenses Surcharge	\$ 469.00	\$ 438.00	\$ 469.00	\$ 438.00
Marriage & CU Surcharge	\$ 304.00	\$ 304.00	\$ 304.00	\$ 304.00
Grand Total	\$ 71,785.65	\$ 61,961.48	\$ 71,785.65	\$ 61,961.48

### POLICE DEPARTMENT

- The department increased its patrol in the vicinity of the Berlin Turnpike on Fridays and Saturdays enforcing red light violations. This patrol is funded by the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation under the Red Light Enforcement Program. To date, this program has resulted in 52 arrests and 32 warnings.
- A reimbursement of \$937.50 has been requested for three bullet proof vests for new hires through the approved grant from the Department of Justice.
- The Community Services Unit received numerous complaints of traffic violations in neighborhoods and various intersections in July. Three areas that received significant attention during the month were Church Street by Edward Street, East Robbins Avenue by Longview Drive and Hartford Avenue by Garvan Street.
- Approximately 35 traffic stops were made by the Community Services Unit in July for speeding, stop sign violations, and equipment violations.
- The CSO participated in a pool party at Mill Pond Park sponsored by the Lucy Robbins Welles Library. Several positive contacts were made with Newington youth and parents who were attending the event.
- The Community Services Unit attended the Newington Senior and Disabled Center annual Safety Picnic. The purpose of the event was to provide participants with education regarding how to avoid being victimized by identity theft and commons scams. A police defensive tactics presentation was also thoroughly enjoyed by the seniors. There was also a police canine presentation.

- The CSO, with the assistance of Detective Frank Dannahey of the Rocky Hill Police Department, gave a presentation to approximately 30 parents regarding safe guarding children and young adults against internet predators. The event was sponsored by the Lucy Robbins Welles Library.
- The Community Services Unit sponsored a booth to distribute drug and alcohol education brochures, child identification kits as well as DARE promotional products at the annual "Life Be In It" Extravaganza. Demonstrations on seatbelt safety with the use of a vehicle rollover simulator were also given.
- Sergeant Allin and Officer Kaufmann attended a community policing conference "Leading the way to a safer nation" in Washington, DC. The conference was sponsored by the Community Policing Consortium in partnership with the U.S Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS).
- Officer William Jordan attended a School Resource Officer conference and workshop in Rochester, NY sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice.

## Patrol Calls July, 2006

AlarmBurg	162	F/Hazmat	1	MVASSIST	67
AlarmHold	3	F/Other	19	MVComplaint	52
Animal	37	F/Struc	5	Neighbor	9
AssaultIP	2	F/Veh	4	Noise	25
AssaultRep	8	Fingerprint	20	Notification	3
Assist	38	Fireworks	41	Open Door/Window	6
BreachIP	20	Followup	11	ParkingViol	18
BreachRep	1	Gun	3	PropFound	9
BurgIP	3	Harassment	23	PropLost	11
BurgRep	17	Hazard	45	RecoveredMV	1
CarSeat	8	IllegalDumping	2	RobberyIP	1
Check	106	IndecentExp	1	ServWarrant	22
ClearLot	15	Intoxicated	7	SexAssaultRe	1
Court	20	JuvComp	40	Specific Detail	39
CrimMisIP	4	Land/Tenant	3	StolenMV	14
CrimMisRep	41	LarcFromMV	24	SuddenDeath	2
CSO	1	LarcIP	14	SuicideAtt	2
CustomerIP	4	LarcRep	50	Suspicious	116
Dog	46	Liquor	5	SUSPMVOCC	7
DomesticIP	25	Location	44	SuspMVUnocc	2
DomesticRep	19	LockoutResid	2	ThreatIP	2
Drug	6	Medical	177	ThreatRep	1
DUI	4	Missing	8	TownOrd	5
EDP	10	MVAband	10	Traffic Stop	459
Escort	39	MVAEvading	10	TrespassIP	4
F/Alarm	36	MVAInjury	5	Trespass Report	4
F/COno	1	MVAProp	85	TOTAL FOR NPD	2,217

- Thirty-six offenses were the subject of investigation by Detective Division personnel in July.
- During the month of June 2006, 75 adults were arrested: 8 for assaults, 1 for burglary, 3 for forgery and fraud, 13 for narcotic violations, 6 for DUI, and 44 for other miscellaneous offenses. 12 persons under the age of 18 were also arrested or referred for criminal acts.

# June 2006

# June 2005

Type of Crime	# of Offenses	Value of Crime	# of Offenses	Value
Murder	0	-0-	-0-	-0-
Forcible Rape	1	\$278	-0-	-0-
Robbery	1	\$161	-0-	-0-
Assault	4	-0-	5	-0-
Burglary	13	\$29,792	5	\$1,469
Larceny Theft	68	\$30,451	47	\$41,440
Auto Theft	3	\$9,725	5	\$24,319
Totals	90	\$70,407	62	\$67,228

# **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

The Fire Department responded to 79 alarms/emergencies as follows:

	July 2006	1 month
		<u>Cum.</u>
Residential	17	17
Commercial, Industrial, Office	6	6
Hospital, School	7	7
Vehicle	2	2
Rescue, Police Assistance	2	2
Dumpster, Rubbish, Grass, Brush, Leaves	5	5
Hazardous Materials/Clean up	4	4
Investigative Alarm	35	35
False Alarm	0	0
Mutual Aid/Standby	1	1
Carbon Monoxide Investigation	0	0
Water Related Incidents/Pump-Outs	0	0
Total	79	79

# **Training Summary:**

	Members	Hours
NIMS Training	5	15
Mark I Training	1	20
Multi-Company Training	60	240

# **FIRE MARSHAL**

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

Inspections	34
Inspection Follow-Ups	53
Plan Review	2
Job Site Inspections	3
Underground Tank Removal	0
Fire Investigations	1
Fire Alarm Trouble	4
Complaints	5

Haz/Mat	0
Bomb Threats	0
Blasting	4

An electrical fire in a business at 112 Market Square resulted in moderate damage to the building on July 14.

### **PUBLIC WORKS/FACILITIES MANAGEMENT**

- The Maple Hill Avenue and Church Street rehabilitation project has been completed. All project items were completed within the schedule and within the budget.
- The Engineering Division staff continued to work with many development teams that have submitted applications to both the Conservation Commission and the Town Plan and Zoning Commission.
- Public Works Director Mike Mancini met with several homeowners in regard to storm drainage improvements. He also met with MDC officials to review settlements that may be related to sanitary sewers.
- The automated trash collection program began on July 31 after a delay due to a manufacturing difficulty by the first container manufacturing company. As is the case with any new program, there are some "bugs" that will need to be worked out but it is anticipated that the automated collection system will be a big improvement over the old system.

### **Highway Department**

- Highway personnel continued affixing information labels to the Town's storm water basins. The labels are
  part of the Storm Water Phase II public awareness program and inform residents as follows: "Drains to
  Waterways and Long Island Sound, NO DUMPING!"
- Crews assisted the Board of Education with drainage improvements at the Elizabeth Green Elementary School. The drainage project is part of a new playground area.
- Highway crews continued with topsoil restoration and bituminous patching repairs.
- Personnel continue to assist the Traffic Division with pavement markings.
- Equipment Operators spent several days organizing the Town landfill. Residents discard vegetation, propane tanks, used motor oil, and metal items. Items are then organized and disposed of accordingly.
- Miscellaneous projects completed during the month included pothole patching, curb repair, material hauling, and catch basin rebuilding.
- Mechanics refurbished a dump truck body and trailer hitch, modified a chipper box for proper fit and
  continued with fleet preventive maintenance services to both Fire and Police vehicles. Emergency and other
  repairs were performed throughout the month as well.

### **Facilities Management**

• On August 1, the Town Hall was shut down at 5:00 p.m. to allow CL&P to replace three (3) transformers in the building that were not operating in an efficient manner. The old transformers were not allowing the proper amount of voltage into the building which caused some of the air conditioning units to shut down as a precautionary move.

### **TOWN PLANNER**

July projects underway at the Town Planner's Office:

 New Meadow Phase II, Senior Housing – Request for Qualifications and project prospectus drafted and discussed with Town Council at its July 25<sup>th</sup> meeting. Town Attorney Steven Nassau assisted the Town Planner with the Special Conditions language which will set forth requirements for property option and ground lease to a preferred developer.

- On July 7<sup>th</sup> the Town Planner met with representatives from CHFA and the Connecticut Housing Coalition to discuss New Meadow Phase II senior housing project funding sources and procedures for partnering with developers using ground leases.
- Brownfields Assessment Project Fuss & O'Neill, project consultant, has been authorized to proceed with the Phase II Site Assessment report of the National Welding property at 690 Cedar Street. On July 14<sup>th</sup> New Britain Superior Court granted the Town's request for rights of access to this property. The Town Planner will coordinate with Fuss & O'Neill the preparation of a work plan for National Welding. Soil samples both under the building's floor and around the site will be taken and analyzed to determine levels of ground water pollution; up to 15 exterior and between 25-30 interior borings will be necessary. The Phase II work is expected to take 12 weeks to complete.
- On July 6<sup>th</sup> the Town Planner met with the property manager for Newington Business Park, former Torrington property on Willard Avenue, to review status of incomplete subdivision and site work related to Alumni Road, Huttig Company and Harris Company.
- On July 7<sup>th</sup> the Town Planner met with representatives of Hartford Hospital and a real estate developer interested in rezoning the hospital property at the corner of Constance Leigh Drive and East Cedar Street to construct a Walgreens Pharmacy. In April 2004, the TPZ denied a petition to rezone this property finding the retail use for this location was not consistent with the Town Center plan.
- Hartford Drive In Toll Brothers, developers of Newington Ridge, began site work. On July 13<sup>th</sup> the Town Planner met with the project manager and contractor to verify that limits of tree clearing have been flagged.

Development projects under review by the Town Plan and Zoning Commission and the Town Planner:

- <u>Shoppes at East Cedar Street</u> This 9 acre mixed use project (retail, restaurant, hotel, gas station) presented at public hearing on July 12<sup>th</sup>. Site walk scheduled for August 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- <u>Cedar Ridge Commerce Park</u> This 28 acre, four lot subdivision for commercial use presented at public hearing July 26<sup>th</sup>. This site plan proposes extensive excavation of rock and changes to the ridge's landscape. Site walk scheduled for August 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- <u>45 Costello Road</u> Proposed reuse of former equipment rental building for a 10,350 sq. ft. retail facility. Applicant requested continuance to August 9<sup>th</sup> to revise site plan.
- <u>2557 Berlin Turnpike</u> Proposed redevelopment of three blighted structures on a 2.7 acre parcel for a 100 unit Comfort Suites Motel. Revised plans submitted and scheduled for presentation August 9<sup>th</sup>.
- <u>Fountain Point Professional Park</u> Proposed for the corner of Willard Avenue and Alumni Road, 25,000 sq. ft. office use and 3,500 sq. ft. bank. Plans have been reviewed by staff and will be presented August 9<sup>th</sup>.
- <u>Corner of Louis Street / Pascone Place</u> Proposed 5,000 sq. ft. professional office building (Phase I) Site
  Development Plan will be scheduled for presentation by the Commission upon receipt at TPZ's August 9<sup>th</sup>
  meeting.
- <u>Deming Street Proposed Active Adult</u> 24 unit housing development. This project will require Special Exception and site plan approval of TPZ. Commission will schedule presentation date at its August 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- <u>1052 Main Street</u> Proposed expansion to rear of building adjacent to municipal parking lot to add retail uses and two apartments. This project will be presented at public hearing August 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

- Three permits issued for commercial buildings, a new 20,602 sq.ft., one story building for La-Z-Boy Furniture Gallery, 3000 Berlin Turnpike; a new 13,050 sq.ft. factory building, 176 Kelsey Street; and the steel shell for the Kelsey Street Building.
- Two electrical permits were issued for the Town of Newington, one for Newington High School for a CCTV System and one for temporary wiring for the Extravaganza on Garfield Street.
- A demolition permit was issued for the demolition of the movie screen, snack bar, and ticket booth at the drive-in at 2340 Berlin Turnpike.
- Thirteen Certificates of Occupancy were issued, 12 for single family residences (65 Waverly Drive, 68 Sterling Drive, 28 Dacosta Drive, 77 Sterling Drive, 169 Nicholson Street, 60 Waverly Drive, 70 Waverly

Drive, 83 Sterling Drive, 2207 Berlin Turnpike, 53 Robin Brook Drive, 89 Sterling Drive, and 95 Sterling Drive) and one commercial for a tenant fit-out for World Properties Int'l at 1100 Main Street.

Building Department completed a total of 544 inspections: Boiler (1), CO (40), Code (13), Decks (2), Drains (9), Electrical (143), Final (13), Footings (34), Foundation (14), Framing (44), Gas Line (8), Gypsum (8), Hot Water Heaters (1), Insulation (24), Lawn Sprinkler (1), Mechanical (48), Piers (6), Plumbing (50), Pools (5), Rebars (9), Roofing (5), Rough (32), Sheathing (4), Siding (3), Sill (6), Sprinkler (2), Tents (2), Trench (2), Water Proof (13), Windows (2).

### **Building/Renovation Permit Statistics**

Type of Permit	No. of Permits	Value of Permits
Addition/Alterations	15	\$ 357,761
Deck	7	35,484
Demolition	2	32,000
Electrical	53	497,475
Fence	0	0
Fire Suppression/Sprinkler	0	0
Footing/Foundation	0	0
Fuel Tank	1	900
Garage/Shed	7	19,098
Mechanical	34	397,540
New Commercial	3	2,943,000
New Residential	0	0
Plumbing	12	56,315
Pool	4	18,675
Roofing/Siding	21	161,913
Sign	5	5,550
Tent	0	0
Trailer	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	164	\$4,525,711

### Permit Value Comparison for July:

	2006	<u>2005</u>
Value of Permits Issued	\$4,525,711	\$3,737,548
Building Permit Fees Received	\$52,551	\$60,060
Other Income Fees	\$2,388	\$1,817
Building Permits Issued	164	229

### Total Value of Permits and Permit Fees:

2006-2007		2005-2006	
Value Permit Fee		Value	Permit Fee
\$4,525,711	\$52,551	\$3,737,548	\$60,060

### **HEALTH DEPARTMENT (Central Connecticut Health District)**

• The Town of Newington has joined the Central Connecticut Health District as of July 1, 2006. The District will provide public health services to the Town at a significant savings. District staff members have been working diligently throughout the month to ensure a smooth transition.

- Routine inspections for the month consisted of food establishments and outdoor public swimming pools. An
  emphasis was placed on streamlining the inspection process creating a more efficient way to provide public
  health services to the Town.
- The State mosquito trapping program has been ongoing since the start of the summer. This year to date, there have not been any mosquitoes trapped in Mill Pond Park that have tested positive for West Nile Virus.
- Numerous complaints were received by Greg Mattus, Public Health Inspector in the Newington office, involving tall grass, noise, air pollution, obnoxious odors, food service, and illegal dumping/trash.
- New complaints for the month numbered 27, none of any major significance.
- District inspectors met several times during the month to discuss projects for the fiscal year and to discuss the production of a summer health and safety video that would be aired on local cable access channels in all four District towns.
- District employees participated in the East Hartford Health Department's pandemic influenza drill by calling their pandemic flu hot line and posing as infected residents. Local health departments from throughout the state were asked to call this hot line, testing its capabilities.
- The District's Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Judye Torpy has been reviewing and modifying emergency plans to include the Town of Newington. Judye is currently located in the Wethersfield main office and will be attending the Newington Local Emergency Planning Committee meetings.
- Interviews were held for the position of Chief of Environmental Health Services for the District on July 31, 2006. Six candidates were chosen and interviewed by a panel of Connecticut public health officials. The Chief of Environmental Health Services will be based in the Newington office.

### Statistical Summary

	Monthly	Year to	Last Year
	Totals	Date	to Date
Food Establishment Inspections	2	204	265
Food Establishment Reinspections	2	33	32
Other Routine Inspections	21	57	46
New Complaints Received	27	120	147
Complaint investigation made	35	145	155
Notice of Violation issued by Public Health Coordinator	9	38	34
Legal Order issued by Director of Health	0	2	2
Complaint compliance recorded	20	104	125

#### **HUMAN SERVICES**

- Youth Services Clinical Casework Coordinator Dorothy Revzon announced her retirement as of August 18.
   Ms. Revzon started with the Department in 1977 as a social worker and was promoted to Coordinator in 1985. She has supervised the Youth and Family Counseling program, provided clinical therapy to children and families, social casework to adults and elderly and clinical consultation with schools, police, courts other Town departments and public and private agencies.
- Interfaith Community Action of Newington (ICAN) is preparing to assist elderly and residents with disabilities to dispose of their old garbage containers. The Senior and Disabled Center is registering residents in need and volunteers will take the old containers to the landfill on August 12 and 13.
- A summer youth camp associated with the United Methodist Church based out of Wethersfield assisted seven residents in need with home projects. These included house repairs, painting and yard work.
- Staff from Parks & Recreation, Human Services, Senior and Disabled Center and Library met to coordinate fall programs.
- Positive Youth Development activities included:
  - A full schedule of summer programs such as Farm Fiesta Week, Survivor Week, The World Around You Week, Run, Shoot and Score Week, Horseback Riding, Tubing and Canoeing.

- Summer Youth Adventure Mentors have initiated a staff/self evaluation system which has enhanced feedback by staff, participants and the mentors.
- > The Challenge Course was repaired in early July and has been used by a variety of groups including Capitol Region Education Center and Youth Services of Wethersfield and Middletown.
- > The climbing wall at the Extravaganza.
- > Planning for the fall SCORE After-School Program for middle school age youth.
- The Youth and Family Counseling Program handled seven new cases with 38 active cases, 10 inactive and 5 closed cases. There were 58 clinical therapy sessions conducted and 70 contacts made with families and other agencies. The majority of new cases came from parents and reflected family conflict with children beyond control as the identified issue.
- Social Casework was provided to 68 active cases with 22 new referrals.
- There was an increase in the number of residents calling for information and referral. While social workers refer residents to a variety of health, mental health, housing and state agencies, many times residents need support and guidance to ensure they get connected with the services they need.
- Food Bank participants totaled 68. Clothing Closet, 15 and Special Need approvals, 19.

### July 2006 Statistics

Selected Programs	FY 06-07 Undp. Total This Month	FY 05-06 Undp. Total Last Month	FY 06-07 Cum. Undp. Total YTD	FY 05-06 Cum. Undp. Total YTD
Youth and Family Counseling	38	41	38	38
Positive Youth Development	794	636	794	480
Youth Works (Job Bank)	4	7	4	2
Information and Referral	194	214	194	163
Social Casework Cases Under 55 = 45 Over 55 = 23	68	78	68	69
Food Bank Participants	68	68	68	87
Special Needs	19	27	19	14

### SENIOR AND DISABLED CENTER

- In what has become a very popular event, the Newington Police Department flipped burgers and talked about safety at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Police Safety Picnic, enjoyed by a sellout crowd.
- Beginning July 5<sup>th</sup>, a new service was made available to Dial-A-Ride eligible residents. In cooperation with the Towns of Wethersfield and Rocky Hill and through funding made available by the State of Connecticut, an enhanced medical transportation program was implemented. The service, provided through Logisticare Inc. and available Monday through Friday, provides door to door service for medical appointments to Wethersfield, Rocky Hill, Glastonbury, Hartford, West Hartford, East Hartford, Bloomfield, Farmington, and New Britain.
- Center Director Dianne Stone attended CRCOG's Annual Meeting on June 29<sup>th</sup> to accept an award on behalf
  of the Town of Newington. The award was granted to Newington, Wethersfield and Rocky Hill in recognition
  of the collaboration to create the Medical Transportation Program.
- As part of an ongoing diabetes support program, Certified Diabetes Educator Sue DiCarlo gave a
  presentation on July 14<sup>th</sup>.
- On July 29<sup>th</sup> Andrew House Health Care sponsored a Lunch and Learn program featuring Dr. William Vincent talking about arthritis. These programs are offered at no cost to participants.
- A 4 week collage workshop was provided to members by Bob Monize.
- Cribbage is the latest game to formally take off at the Center. In addition to Scrabble, mah jongg and bridge, the games room has become a happening place.
- The Center currently has 3,518 members with 26 new members enrolling in July.

Dial-A-Ride Wellne		s Clinic	Senior Café	
	1	,		
Trips	Miles	On-site	Off-site	Meals Served
1,282	3,933	154	12	1,127

# Project Homeshare

	Current Matches	Providers	Seekers	Counseling Calls
Newington	6	11	4	3
Other Comm.	6	41	60	26

# **PARKS AND RECREATION**

### **Administration**

- The Master Plan consultant, CEHP, Inc., conducted four Ice Cream Socials in neighborhood parks to obtain input regarding future interest and ideas. Beechwood, Beacon, and Littlebrook Parks had solid participation; Seymour Park's event was rained out. Interviews were also held with other special interest groups.
- The Mill Pond Basketball Court was resurfaced and painted with funds from the Romano family.
- A Crisis Management Plan was completed for all departmental staff to address emergency situations.
- OSHA abatements were made throughout the month to comply with recommendations.

### **Recreation Division**

- The department has 204 classes with 3,794 registrations.
- Trips for the playgrounds included bowling, the Science Center of Connecticut, the movie theater, and The Great Escape. Special Events included a cookout, Olympic events, and Wacky Water Week.
- The Summer Music program held its annual concert on July 26 at John Wallace Middle School; 110 students performed.
- The Library held its annual Library Splash Party at Mill Pond Pool; 375 people attended.
- Mid-season evaluations were done for all Playground Program Counselors.
- Staff Appreciation Night at the New Britain Rock Cats Game was held for all seasonal summer staff.
- Newington Parks and Recreation hosted a swim meet versus Plainville Parks and Recreation with 35 swimmers. Approximately 25 younger swimmers participated in a meet against East Hartford.
- The hot and humid weather brought increased pool usage; Mill Pond had 6,090 swimmers and Churchill had 4,303 during open swim times.
- The Mill Pond Park Extravaganza on Saturday July 15, was an outstanding day for the Newington community. Former Parks and Recreation staff members Clem Lemire, Bob Stanley, Bill DeMaio, and Kathy Bagley were invited back to received the Life. Be In It. Extravaganza Award.
- Thursday night concerts at Mill Pond Park sponsored by Data-Mail and the Newington Lions Club have been well attended.

# **Parks and Grounds Division**

- Flags were installed and removed following Independence Day.
- Weather incidents resulted in a number of calls from residents concerning downed tree limbs and requests for removal of trees. Division personnel responded to approximately six limb removals.
- Cul de sac mowing continued as well as roadside boom mowing to address a number of areas throughout the Town.
- Division personnel also participated in the clean up of the Ropes Course near the Highway Garage.

- Sod in excess of 12,000 square feet was installed at the Newington High School soccer fields to prepare for season use.
- Herbicide applications began along certain Town roadsides at guardrails and selected points to control weed invasion.
- Young Farm Community Gardens received over 1,500 gallons of water per week.
- Division personnel were extensively involved in the preparation and closing of the Extravaganza. Over 300 hours of crew time is involved in this event.
- There were nine interments in Town Cemeteries during the report period.

## **LIBRARY**

- With 750 children, 130 teens and 350 adults participating, the pirate-themed summer reading programs continue to be a big hit. Incentive prizes, such as paperbacks, coupons to local restaurants, and baskets filled with gifts, are being earned each week.
- The Friends' Advisory Board met in July to discuss its 2006-07 budget. The Friends' fiscal year begins on September 1, and they plan to continue funding the museum passes, some of the audiovisual materials and many of the popular programs the community has come to enjoy over the years.
- The Friends' summer bus trip to Salem, Massachusetts was a success with 54 people enjoying the New England Pirate Museum and other activities.
- A bus trip to a concert featuring the music of John Williams at Tanglewood is planned for August.
- 1,460 children and their caregivers attended 34 programs. The Summer Splash Party held at Mill Pond pool attracted 375 people on a warm summer night.
- 175 family members were treated to an entire night in the library at the annual *Locked in the Library* sleepover.
- Other highlights included Book Time with Ronald McDonald and Time Warp Trio Pirate Adventure.
- A program that spanned all ages, *Songs of the Sea*, entertained 64 people with stories and songs about the sea.
- Programs of interest for teens included two acting workshops, a magic program, the teen camera club and a viewing of *Pirates of the Caribbean* as part of the Friday Night Film for Teens.
- Atocha Quest for Treasure was screened for seniors at the Brown Bag it with a Movie series.
- Topics of note that were researched this month included:
  - ➤ How do statins work?
  - What does the Romberg test do?
  - > Sample letters of resignation.
  - > Exploring Martha's Vineyard by bike and kayak.
  - Non-fiction books on the environment for first grade.
- Circulation of materials was 41,113, a 5% increase from the previous year; an average of 1,037 people entered the library each day. The 27 museum passes circulated a total of 102 times during July. 5,824 reference questions were answered and 1,319 items were processed and added to the collection.
- Other use statistics for the month of July include: the library's homepage, 6,361hits; Internet computers, 2,531 hours logged; 1,138 items were checked out at the patron self-checkout station.
- Two summer interns, part of the CREC program, worked hard in the Collection Management department doing a myriad of tasks that staff has been unable to handle because of the high volume of traffic at the library this summer.