

CORNWALL
TOWN REPORT
2021 - 2022

Cover credit: Hudson River School artist

# FOND ADIEU, SALUTE

# WELCOME

Stella Marie Aguilar

Stevie Wren Alburn

Andrew Reynolds Chalk

Veda Brooke Cheney

Genevieve Betty Dinneen

Willow Reya Goldstein

Finley Michael Heaney

Theodore Robert Julian

Mark Terence Mager

Kiva Boynton Meneau

Evelyn Marie Russ

Liam Lawrence Stevens

Nathan Robert Tremarzo

Edward J. Baird, Jr

Jane Bean

Erika Carroll

Duncan Hannah

David Chamberlain Heininger

John "Jack" Kling

Kathy Ann Lyon

Willis E. Ocain

John O'Donnell

Harvey Offenhartz

Louis M. Paniati

Margaret Bourne Pedersoon

Michael Joseph Pierce

Flor Reyes

Joy Setton

Lawrence VanValkenburgh

Ingeborg Wilkinson

Johan Winsser

Joanne Wojtusiak

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Agricultural Advisory Commission
CHM William Dinneen, Jr.
SEC Wendy Kennedy
Garrick Dinneen
Chris Hopkins
Jennifer Larson
Ted Larson
Mary Riccardelli
Jen Markow
Spencer Markow
Brian Saccardi
Dana Saccardi
Dean Saccardi
Susan Saccardi

**Hunt Williams** 

Bradford Hedden 672-2917 Asst. Jack Malahan 672-6230

Animal Control Officer

Assessor

Kayla Johnson 672-2703 JoAnne Dodge Office Hours: Wed 9-3 Tues 1-4

Board of Education
Iris Hermann '23 U

Hugh Cheney '23 D Dean Saccardi '25 D

CHM Emily Pryor '25 R Rachel Matsudaira '23 R Martha Bruehl '25 D

CLERK: Anne Kosciusko 672-2939 REP. TO HVRHS BOARD:

John Sanders '23

**Board of Finance** 

Lisa Lansing Simont '27
Carl Zejke Hermann '25
Simon Hewett '27
Rocco Botto '23
David Hubbard '23
CHM Joseph Pryor '23

ALTERNATES:

Jessica Brackman '23 John Brown, Jr. '23 CLERK: Barbara Herbst

**Board of Selectmen** 

FIRST SELECTMAN:
Gordon M. Ridgway '23

SELECTMEN:

Priscilla Pavel '23 Janet Carlson '23

CLERK: Vacancy
Tel. 672-4959
FAX 672-4068

Selectmen@CornwallCT.gov

Board of Assessment Appeals

Blaine Matthews '23 CHM Richard Bramley '23 Richard Wolkowitz'25

Building Code Appeals

David Williamson 672-4959

**Building Official** 

Paul Prindle **672-0711** HOURS: 8:00-9:00 am

**Emergency Management Director** 

Diane Beebe Marc D. Simont, Asst. John Bevans, Asst.

Conservation Commission Nancy Berry'23

Vacancy '23 CHM Heidi Cunnick '22 Debbie Bennett '24 Sean Quinn '22 Kate Freygang '23 Cornwall Grange #32 Trust Fund

Wendy Kennedy '24 Debra Tyler '22 Susan Saccardi '23

Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department

PRES: Earl Tyler
CHIEF: Fred Scoville III
Rescue Capt. Elizabeth Ridgway
(For a list of volunteers, see p. 42)

**Demolition Officer** 

Paul Prindle **672-0711** HOURS: 8:00-9:00 am

Fire Marshal

Stanley MacMillan, 364-0909

Deputy: Timothy Limbos Charles Carlton Jr. Robert Norton

**Historian** 

Dorothy Clarke-Wolfe '24

**Housatonic River Commission** 

ALT Philip W. Hart '23 ALT Barton Jones '24

Highway Department

FOREMAN:

James Vanicky Crew:

Ted Cheney

John A. Malahan, Jr. Fred Scoville II Town Garage: 672-6230

Inland Wetlands and Water Cours-

es Agency

CHM D. Stevenson Hedden '23
William J. Hurlburt '23
Debbie Bennett '23
Peter Demy '23
Allan Bahn '23
ALTERNATES:

Jeffrey Morgan '23 Vacancy '21 Judge of Probate

Diane Blick 860-824-7012 LITCHFIELD HILLS PROBATE COURT, DISTRICT 24

**Justices of the Peace '25** 

Dave Cadwell
John F. Brown, Jr.
Gordon Scott Cady
Margaret Cooley
B. Daniel Evans
Mark Hampson
Allen G. Herkimer II
Judith A. Herkimer
Carl Hermann
Lisa Lansing Simont
Phyllis Nauts
Priscilla Pavel
Debra Tyler
Katherine West
Phillip Rollin West

**Cream Hill Lake Study Group** 

Ivan Miller '23 Betty Spence '23 Heidi Cunnick '23 Nancy Berry '23 Richard Griggs '23



# **Land Use Administration**

Karen Griswold-Nelson Administrator ZEO and Clerk HOURS: Tues. & Thurs 9-12 860-672-4957 See Planning & Zoning, Zoning Board of Appeals and Inland Wetlands Agency

Municipal Agent On Aging

Heather Dinneen **672-2603** HOURS: By appointment Food Pantry - see page 34

**Economic Development Commission** 

Mare Rubin '24
Gary Steinkohl '24
Richard Bramley '22
Bianka Griggs '22
Jane Herold '23
CHM Simon Hewett'23
Duncan Webb '23
William McClane '24
Oscar Anderson '24
Arnon Fischer'22
Janet Carlson - BoS Representative

**Northwest Regional Tourism** 

Bob Ensign '22

Northwest Regional Mental Health

Kimberly Sullivan '23

# Town Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9 to noon and 1-4 PM unless otherwise noted

# Park and Recreation Commission

Shanna Robinson '23 Erin Berry '22 Wendy McFarlane '22 Stephen Saccardi '22 CHM Michelle Shipp '23 Jane Hall '23 Stacy Dolan '23 Melissa Bronson '22

#### ALTERNATES:

Vacancy '23 Vacancy '22

## DIRECTOR:

Jennifer Markow 672-4071 Mon & Wed 9-12

# Hammond Beach

DIRECTOR: Marina Kotchoubey

# Planning and Zoning Commission

Stephen Saccardi '25 Christine Gray '23 CHM Anna Timell '23 James LaPorta '27 Phill West '25 Keith Bodwell '27

ALTERNATES:

Michelle Shipp '23 Bruce Bennett '27 Will Evans '25

# Social Services Administrator

Heather Dinneen 672-2603

# **Recycling Coordinator**

Ted Larson **672-4079** 

# Registrars of Voters

Republican

Cara Y Weigold '23

Democrat

Jayne W. Ridgway "23

307-7077 or 672-0279 respectively.

# Tax Collector

Jean Bouteiller '23 672-2705 Monday 1-4 Wednesday 9-12/1-4

# Torrington Area Health District

# Representative

Josh Tyson '22 860-489-0436

# Town Clerk

Vera L. Dinneen '24 672-2709 Town Office Hours

#### ASSISTANT TOWN CLERKS:

Jennifer Kenniston-Larson Karen Griswold-Nelson

#### **Treasurer**

Richard Bramley '23

# Finance Office

Barbara Herbst 672-2707 Mon/Thurs 9:00-5:00 Tues/Wed 8:30-12:30

# Tree Warden:

Fred Scoville III '23 Bruce Bennett, Asst. '23 Jim Vanicky '23

# **Zoning Board of Appeals**

George Wolfe'27 Barbara Wolkowitz '23 Ian Elwell '23 Betty Spence '27

CHM Vacancy '25

Amy Worthington-Cady '23

#### **ALTERNATES:**

Fred Scoville '26 Vacancy '24 Jonathan Berry '28

# **Zoning Enforcement Officer**

See Land Use Administrator p. 9

# **Sanitary Transfer Station**

Ted larson Manager William Berry Assistant Furnace Brook Road (672-4079) For additional information, see back cover

# Civic Organizations

# Cornwall Child Center

Cream Hill Road, West Cornwall Amy C. Martinez DIRECTOR: 672-6989

# Cornwall Historical Society

7 Pine Street, Cornwall Village PRESIDENT:

Lisa Lansing Simont

## **HOURS:**

Sat, 10 am-4 pm and Holiday Mondays 1-4 pm Otherwise by appointment, call **672-0505** 

# Cornwall Housing Corporation PRESIDENT:

Maggie Cooley

# Cornwall Library

30 Pine Street, Cornwall Village DIRECTOR:

Margaret Haske Hare

## **Hours**

Tues, Thurs, Fri, 10 am-5 pm. Wed. Noon-7 pm. Sat 10 am-2 pm.

# **Hughes Memorial Library**

Lower River Road, West Cornwall PRESIDENT:

Janet Carlson

# 672-6374 Hours

Friday, 4-7 pm;

Saturday 9:30 am-12:30 pm

For more civic organizations, go to www.cornwallct.org

# CORNWALL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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The Cornwall Business Directory is continuously being updated, please see

https://cornwallct.org/

then click on link in the upper right side of the page where it says "Consider Cornwall", then scroll down to the "Business Directory". Here you can search businesses by category, keyword, by location or address.

Currently there are 137 listings and you can find general and contact information for a multitude of Services and Shopping including but not limited to

Agriculture and Farm Furniture & Craftsmen

Hardware and Building Materials **Animal Services** 

Apparel, Gifts & Home Décor Miscellaneous Appliances & Electric Music Lessons Architects

Beverage & Package Stores

Books

**Business Services** Carpenters, Builders & Contractors

Catering, Food and Grocery Civil Engineering & Surveying

Entertainment Floor & Wall Coverings

**Painting Contractors** Personal Care & Nutrition

Photography Pottery

**Property Management** 

Real Estate Recreation

Tree Work & Logging Workspaces & Meetings



# ANIMAL CONTROL

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Well, it's been a relatively quiet year in town, and kind of a mixed bag of calls. The tally is as follows.

Fox 2 Cats 3

Birds 3 (two were rehabbed at Sharon Audubon)

Skunks 2 Raccoons 4

Dogs 14 (all returned home safely with wagging tails and happy owners)

Woodchucks 4
Squirrels 2
Bobcat kitten 1

Bears several calls, one of which had a bear IN THE HOUSE!

Remember to bring in your bird feeders, take your trash to the transfer station, and lock your vehicles at night. Bears can open doors and they're not looking for change in the ashtray.

If you haven't done so already, please register your dog with Vera Dinneen in the Town Clerk's office.

Respectfully submitted,

Brad Hedden



# TOWN MEETING VOTES – AN ABSTRACT

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#### Annual Town Meeting Held November 19, 2021 via ZOOM Virtual Meeting

Reports of the officers, boards and commissions having reports to make were received.

**Voted:** To adopt the Five-Year Capital Plan for the Town of Cornwall for the years 2022-2023 to 2026-2027, as recommended by the Board of Finance and the Board of Selectmen. The vote was unanimous.

#### Special Budget Town Meeting Held at Cornwall Consolidated School on May 20, 2022

**Voted**: To approve the proposed budget for Fiscal Year July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023, as recommended by the Board of Finance. The vote was unanimous.

**Voted**: Upon recommendation of the Board of Selectmen, to authorize them to execute an Easement Agreement in favor of Blaine E. Matthews, Jr., his heirs, successors, and assigns, granting to him a permanent easement to replace, maintain and repair the existing pipe carrying septic tank effluent from Parcel A beneath Whitcomb Hill Road to Parcel B, as shown on a survey on file as Map 291 in the Cornwall Land Records. The vote was unanimous.

#### Special Town Meeting Held at Cornwall Consolidated School on June 25, 2022

Communications were received from the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance with respect to the resolution entitled "RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$6,230,000 FOR THE WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT PROJECT IN WEST CORNWALL VILLAGE AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF \$6,230,000 BONDS OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE".

The Board of Selectmen had already voted, pursuant to Section 7-7 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, that the votes on the above resolution of the call of the Special Town Meeting held on June 25, 2022, be removed from the call of such meeting, and adjourned to a referendum vote at Adjourned Town Meeting to be held on July 9, 2022.

As a result, this Special Town Meeting was held to only consider and discuss the resolution, not to vote on it.

(The results of the referendum were 302 Yes and 179 No)

Respectfully submitted, Vera L. Dinneen Town Clerk

# **BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

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The Board thanks Marina Kotchoubey for her service to the Town on the Board of Selectmen. Janet Carlson was elected to the Board. The current Board quickly prioritized 10 issues for action and has made progress on each.

- 1) <u>Housing</u> the increasing scarcity of affordable housing in Cornwall was addressed by the Town adopting a housing plan and the Board of Selectmen appointing an implementation plan group.
- 2) <u>Health Care</u> The Town enjoyed a decline in Covid cases and has continued to offer vaccination clinics and outdoor events. A mobile health care van was in Town on a regular basis. The Board went on record opposing proposed reduction in maternity and other services at Sharon Hospital.
- 3) <u>West Cornwall Waste Water Project</u> The Board, with the assistance of its advisory committee, hosted several public meetings prior to the successful Town wide referendum in early July which secured Town funding approval for the project.
- 4) <u>Updated Transfer Station</u> the Transfer Station was thoroughly completed with a new office.
- 5) Continue renovations of Town Buildings The Town office building was re-sided and the parking lot repaved.
- 6) <u>Improved Internet Service</u> Permits were pulled by contractors of Optimum/Altice to install a fiber optic system through Town.
- 7) <u>Disbursement of ARPA Funds</u> Disbursement was done by a group of Town emergency officials. Most of the Town's first allocation of \$200,000 went to many of Cornwall's non-profit organizations, affected businesses and stipends for front line workers and first responders.
- 8) <u>Planning and Zoning Commission efforts to implement the 2020 Town Plan of Conservation and Development</u> was supported by the Board.
- 9) <u>Support of Volunteer Organizations</u> was achieved by use of ARPA funds and collaboration on important projects including the Food Pantry.
- 10) The Board supported the efforts of the Economic Development Commission to continue to attract new residents and businesses to town. Many residents are pleased to have a restaurant open in West Cornwall. Cornwall's population grew almost 10% according to the 2020 Census.

We are pleased to report new volunteers are helping out in many ways. Thanks to all the people who continue to work hard to make Cornwall the special place it is. From celebrations on the Town Green to Highway maintenance, many people toil to keep things moving in a positive direction. The Board also thanks and sends best wishes to Barbara Bigos, our longtime Assessor who retired after the current revaluation. Kayla Johnson, who works also in Salisbury, is the new capable replacement.

Sincerely.

Salm Gordon M. Ridgway, Arst Selectman

Priscilla Pavel, Selectman

Janet Carlson, Selectwom

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# TOWN OF CORNWALL 5 YEAR CAPITAL PLAN Fiscal Years 2022 – 2026 Approved Previously Changes Final Popple Swamp, pave Town St 300,000 300,000

			Approved Previously	Changes	Final
FY 2021-2022	Road Improvement: Repair roads in Group 3				
	Popple Swamp, pave Town St		300,000		300,000
	Bridges / Culverts (TBD)		10,000		10,000
	Cornwall Consolidated School Projects		40,000		40,000
	CVFD Truck Fund -		80,000		80,000
	Town Buildings		150,000		150,000
	Guardrail ~ Dibble Hill			40,000	40,000
	HWY Truck replacement fund (Trk # 9)		100,000		100,000
	Revaluation		30,000		30,000
		TOTAL	710,000	40,000	750,000
FY 2022-2023	Road Improvement: Repair roads in Group 4			·	-
	Cornwall Bridge		300,000		300,000
	Bridges / Culverts		10,000		10,000
	Cornwall Consolidated School		40,000		40,000
	CVFD Truck Fund		80,000		80,000
	Town Buildings		150,000		150,000
	Guardrail ~ Whitcomb Hill		-	40,000	40,000
	HWY Truck replacement fund (Trk # 9)		100,000	10,000	100,000
	11 1 Truck replacement rand (Tik 1/2)	TOTAL	680,000	40,000	720,000
FY 2023-2024	Road Improvement: Repair roads in Group 5	TOTAL	000,000	40,000	720,000
1 1 2023-2024	East Cornwall		300,000		300,000
			20 10 17 17 17 17 17 17		98229 84 81 91
	Bridges / Culverts Cornwall Consolidated School		10,000 40,000		10,000 40,000
	CVFD Truck Fund		80,000		80,000
	Town Buildings		150,000		150,000
	Highway Truck #10		100,000		100,000
	DPW Mowing Tractor		40,000		40,000
	DI w Mowing Tractor	TOTAL	720,000	SHE	720,000
FY 2024-2025	Road Improvement: Repair roads 1	TOTAL	720,000	-	120,000
F1 2024-2023	Cornwall Hollow		300,000		300,000
	Bridges / Culverts Cornwall Consolidated School		10,000		10,000
			40,000		40,000
	CVFD Truck Fund		80,000		80,000
	Town Buildings		150,000		150,000
	HWY Truck replacement fund (Trk 10)	TOTAL	100,000		100,000
	D. II.	TOTAL	680,000		680,000
FY 2025- 2026	Road Improvement: Repair roads in Group 2			200.000	200.000
	North Cornwall / Cream Hill			300,000	300,000
	Bridges / Culverts			10,000	10,000
	Cornwall Consolidated School		$\vdash$	40,000	40,000
	CVFD Truck Fund			80,000	80,000
	Town Buildings			150,000	150,000
	HWY Truck replacement fund (Trk 3)			100,000	100,000
		TOTAL	-	680,000	680,000
	GR	AND TOTAL	2,790,000	760,000	3,550,000

Approved Board of Selectmen

Modified and Approved Board of Finance

Town Meeting

10/6/2020 10/15/2020 4/23/2021







AMERICAN KESTREL helpers

# **BOARD OF FINANCE**

The Cornwall Board of Finance held ten Regular Meetings during the fiscal year as well as two Special Meetings which directly preceded two of the Regular Meetings to address vacancies on the Board. Minutes for all Board of Finance Meetings can be found on the Cornwall web site; <a href="https://www.cornwallct.org">www.cornwallct.org</a>.

#### STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 6/30/2022

Revenues	7,980,817
Expenses	7,637,178
Change in net position	343,639

Net position, beginning of year 11,143,143 Net position, end of year 11,486,782

The COVID-19 pandemic continued to dominate conversations and impact activity. The Emergency Declaration issued on 3.10.20, continued to be in effect for the entire Fiscal Year. Town offices remained open for the Fiscal Year.

While there were no changes to the budget preparation process due to the Covid-19 pandemic, changes to the budget approval process continued. All Board of Finance meetings were held via the Zoom teleconferencing platform. However, the annual Public Hearing to present the proposed budgets, was a hybrid meeting held at Cornwall Consolidated School and via the Zoom platform. The budget referendum was held in person.

The Mil rate for FY 2022-2023 was set at 14.49, a 13.2% decrease from the prior year.

The FY 2022-2023 budget is available for viewing at <a href="www.cornwallct.org">www.cornwallct.org</a> or copies may be requested from the Finance office by calling 860-672-2707 or emailing Finance@CornwallCT.gov.

The Town ended the year with a \$214,570 budget surplus. The revenues exceeded budgeted amounts by \$129,188. This is principally related to favorable variances in fees collected by the Town Clerk, as well as property taxes, delinquent taxes and interest and fees collected by the Tax Collector. LoCIP funding was budgeted but not requested before the end of the fiscal year. The FY '22 and FY'23 LoCIP funding will be requested in the spring of 2023 and be recorded in FY '23. Overall, the Town's expenditures were \$85,382 less than budgeted amounts principally attributable to expenses being lower than budgeted amounts for Hammond Beach, Public Liability insurance, Land Use Administration and CVFD Operations/Fire and Rescue. The Tax collection rate remained steady, the tax collection for FY '22 was 98.7% compared to 98.8% in the prior year.

Board membership changed during the fiscal year due in part to the election of Janet Carlson to Selectwoman. Rocco Botto was elected as an Alternate in November and was later elevated to a full member to fulfill Janet Carlson's term. In February 2022, Jessica Brackman was appointed to the Alternate seat vacated by Rocco Botto.

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# **BOARD OF FINANCE**

Meetings include regular reports from the First Selectman and the following topics were discussed and considered when preparing the 2022-2023 budget

- a) Revaluation and the 15% increase in the Grand List.
- b) WC Wastewater project and the federal funding that was applied for.
- c) Garbage removal increasing costs associated with the closure of MIRA.
- d) Cyber security insurance costs.
- e) Student enrollments and future projections of enrollment.
- f) Capital expenditures and town buildings.

In February of 2022, the Board of Finance received a resignation letter from the Auditor Sandra E. Welwood. The letter explained that the firm could not "continue to provide our audit clients with the level of services that they require due to a lack of experienced staff availability and the continued increase in costly audit procedures required by the audit profession."

At the March 17th meeting a motion was made "to appoint Sinnamon & Associates, LLC for a period of three years based on the proposal received."

Thank-you to all the Cornwall boards and commissions for your efforts to keep costs stable for the coming fiscal year.

Cornwall's fiscal health, as documented in the Management Discussion and Analysis included in the back of this report, is still exceptional in this continued period of economic uncertainty.

Members of the Board of Finance would like to extend gratitude to both John LaPorta and Janet Carlson for their service on the Board of Finance.

Joseph Pryor, Chairman Rocco Botto Simon Hewett Jessica Brackman, Alternate Lisa Lansing, Vice Chairman Zejke Hermann David Hubbard John Brown, Alternate



# ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

In October, 2021 we completed the state mandated revaluation. This occurs every 5 years and brings real estate values current with market conditions. Cornwall saw a 19.26% increase in the overall grand list. I would like to thank the residents for their patience, assistance and understanding during this process. Our next town wide revaluation will be in 2026.

Although real estate is the bulk of our work, the office serves many other functions:

We assist realtors, appraisers, surveyors, title searchers, attorneys, and property owners with a variety of questions and projects.

We discover, list and value all motor vehicles and business personal property in town.

We administer tax relief programs for certain low income or disabled home owners and renters; as well as the blind, disabled and veterans.

We process all filed deeds and surveys to maintain ownership.

We approve and monitor the farm and forest tax relief programs.

We review all building permits and zoning permits for property changes.

We monitor all real estate websites to make sure that our information is accurate and to be aware of what is on the market and what is selling.

rayayongo

Kayla Johnson, Assessor CCMA 1

Joanne Dodge Associate Assessor

# **BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS**

The Cornwall Board of Assessment Appeals (BAA) is a three-member board whose current members are Blaine Mathews, Richard Wolkowitz and Richard Bramley. We met on March 16, 2022 and heard four petitioners appealing their property assessments after the revaluation process for the October 1, 2021 Grand List.

- 1. A Railroad Street property had a modest reduction in the overall assessment.
- 2. A Bald Mountain property had a modest reduction in the in the overall assessment.
- 3. A Sharon-Goshen Turnpike property had a substantial reduction in the overall assessment after the BAA and assessor had a walk thru of the main house and realized the actual interior needed major upgrading and modernizing. The grade valuation of the house was reduced.
- 4. A Whitcomb Hill property had no change made after the presentation by the petitioner.

The total changes the BAA passed reduced the Grand List \$137,200.

The BAA will hear appeals of assessment each year in the month of March for those petitions filed by February 20<sup>th</sup> with the Town Clerk. The BAA also meets each September for the sole purpose of automobile appeals.

Respectfully submitted, Richard Bramley, Chairman



# **BUILDING OFFICIAL**

# **Building Official**

In spite of rising building costs and the uncertain political situations world wide, Cornwall continues to move along at a moderate pace. COVID-19 is still in the mix and the situation becomes less predictable as supply of many building materials is still not back to normal.

The following is a ten year comparison of construction activity in the Town of Cornwall:

Fiscal Year	No. Permits	New Dwellings	Construction Value
12/13	342	2	\$10,882,840
13/14	372	2	\$7,184,900
14/15	329	1	\$6,656,683
15/16	300	3	\$9,242,993
16/17	284	1	\$7,518,571
17/18	311	0	\$9,219,330
18/19	275	3	\$6,854,820
19/20	260	2	\$9,328,374
20/21	319	1	\$8,143,657
21/22	307	0	\$9,038,551

The future looks a little brighter with several New Single Family Dwelling proposed as well as a few major renovations to existing dwellings.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul R. Prindle Building Official SUSTAINABLE CT CORNWALL ENERGY TASK FORCE

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We are gearing up for a Silver Award in 2023!

As a town, we have been working on these sustainable actions:

- Economic Development: Supported economic development with our website and farmers' markets
- Natural Resources: Advised on the Natural Resources Inventory and maintained Invasive Plant management
- o Planning: Followed our POCD with Sustainable Actions and resources
- o Infrastructure: Used Our Clean Communities Municipal Action Plan as a guide
- o Innovative Action: Completing our Air Quality Report with UConn
- o Sustainability Outreach: Completed a nature trail at Welles Preserve
- o Communication: Annually participated the Green Tent at the Ag Fair with presentations by natural resource conservation organizations and contributions to the Chronicle.
- Stewardship: Attained the Forever Wild, and Wild and Scenic statuses and renovating the Housatonic Meadows State Park
- o Creative Culture: Developed many new activities, and events through many organizations

This upcoming year the town will be working on these sustainable actions:

- o Natural Resources: Work on our Natural Resources Inventory and Invasive Plants Programs
- o Communication: Include sustainable action on our website
- Waste Management: Initiate a composting program and awareness of waste issues
- o Land Management: Enhance for biodiversity, establish priority places, enhance farming
- o Affordable Housing: Work towards positive solutions with collaboration between organizations

All Energy Task Force programs such as the Home Energy Solutions Program (HES) for home energy audits, SBEA (Small Business Energy Audits), rebates and incentives can be accessed at www.energizect.com. Our town uses CRI-energy.com (888 403 3500) for advice and services.

The Cornwall Fuel Oil Group still obtains reduced pricing on heating oil. We use Bantam/Wesson who have a good service plan and also reduce rates for backup generators. Contact Rick Wolkowitz at 860 672 6366 or richard wolkowitz@yahoo.com.

Please visit us at the Ag. Fair in the fall where we now have a Green Tent to highlight all the green efforts in town including conservation, stewardship and development. Representatives from Cornwall's Conservation Trust, Conservation Commission, Energy Task Force and Sustainable CT and others will be there. This year we have been collaborating on zoom and ecology walks for the interim.

As usual, come celebrate our Solar Christmas tree in December.

Programs are announced and updated on these websites: cornwallconservation.org, cornwallctenergy.org, and SustainableCT.org. We'd love to get your feedback. Come join us! Cornwall is working on a Sustainable Future with diligence and creativity!

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Freygang,

Cornwall Energy TF, Sustainable CT, and the Cornwall Conservation Commission

Cornwall Energy (Task Force-CETF) supports our commitment to energy conservation and clean energy with educational materials, events, reporting, and consistent presence at town events to present innovative ideas. The solutions for efficient, sustainable and now resilient towns have been expanded into the actions suggested by Sustainable CT, a program based in the Sustainability Institute at Eastern CT University. The new program covers Equity, Economics, Natural Resources, Arts and Culture, Planning, Transportation, Energy, Communication, Purchasing, Health and Wellness, and Housing. It provides resources, expertise and funding that will help towns in their endeavors. (See SustainableCT.org/actions) In our town, the two programs have joined with the Cornwall Conservation Commission.

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# CORNWALL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

The Cornwall Economic Development Commission, which is now in its twelfth year, was created in response to Cornwall's Town Plan 2010, which indicated that the Town needed economic health and growth guidance. The Commission is funded by the Town of Cornwall and its mission is to create, develop and maintain a healthy and viable business climate, locale and heritage in Cornwall CT. To promote tolerance and acceptance of economic diversity and the right/need to work in Cornwall, CT.

The members of the Commission are Simon Hewett (Chair), Bianka Languer Griggs (Vice Chair), Gary Steinkohl (Treasurer), Duncan Webb (Secretary), Oscar Anderson, Richard Bramley, Arnon Fischer, Jane Herold, William McClane III and Marie Louis e Rubin, D. Neil Frauenglass has been designated an Honorary Member. Selectwoman Priscilla Pavel resigned from the Commission in June, and the Commission thanks her for her many years of service.

The Commission holds its regular meetings on the fourth Tuesday of each month, and meetings this year took place over Zoom due to the pandemic. The meetings are open to all. Further information on the Commission can be found at <u>Visit Convallations</u>.

During this year, the Commission has sought the views of Cornwall businesses as part of its regular meetings, and representatives of Northwest Lumber Company, Cornwall Market and 3 Guys Ski and Ride presented to the Commission during the year to June 30. The Commission thanks each of them for their participation.

The key activities of the Commission during the year were as follows:

- Spors ared The Twelve Days of Christmas event in West Cornwall
- Spors ared the installation of wi-fi on the Cornwall Village Green.
- Continued to support the Buy/Hire Local initiative
- Developed events to highlight the attractions of Comwall
- Supported the Board of Selectmen in attracting new business es/residents to Comwall
- Supported the Town website
- Used social media advertising to attract tourists and potential buyers

Fiscal 2022 has seen increased activity in Town, including the opening of the long-awaited restaurant in West Cornwall. The Commission looks forward to continuing to assist in the growth of Cornwall.

Simon Hewett

Chair





The Northwest Hills Council of Governments (NHCOG) consists of the Mayors and First Selectmen from 21 member towns in the Northwest Corner. It is one of the nine Councils of Governments that have been established in Connecticut.

NHCOG generally meets on a monthly basis to discuss issues of municipal concern, oversee COG planning projects, and explore new opportunities for regional cooperation. Additional information on COG initiatives and activities is available at: www.northwesthillscog.org.

NHCOG experienced a complete organizational changeover during the last Fiscal Year (FY), which consisted of the latter half of 2021 and the first half of 2022. Executive Director Rick Lynn retired after more than 30 years and was replaced by Robert Phillips prior to the start of the FY. Office Manager, Darlene Krukar retired after more than 20 years of service to the region. Community Development Director, Jocelyn Ayer assumed a new position outside of the COG, as did Janell Mullen; former Regional Planner for the COG. Staffing needs were analyzed along with a strategic planning exercise which resulted in modified titles and roles such as Assistant Director, Senior Regional Planner, and Financial/Office Manager, which were filled by Emily Hultquist, Kathryn Faraci and Sarah Better, respectively. Emily brought many years of previous experience with her from the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG), Kathryn retired from the state DOT and brought her 35 years of expertise to the region, and Sarah brought banking experience as well as small business management to the COG.

Prior to the restaffing efforts, NHCOG operated with only two staff for approximately 2.5 months. Despite these staffing challenges, work continued on the implementation of the COG's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the region later in the FY. Major strategies outlined in the CEDS include expanding access to high-speed fiber optic broadband (Fiber to the Home – FTTH), promoting tourism/arts/culture, supporting local farms, strengthening manufacturing, and encouraging entrepreneurs and innovation. A new round of funding from US EDA was applied for and granted at the end of the FY and will provide for an update to our 5-year CEDS and continued implementation of the goals and objectives.

NHCOG continuously promotes the on-line Interactive Regional Trail Map that was developed by the COG in cooperation with the Housatonic Valley Association to promote access to the public trails in the region.

NHCOG is allocated about \$2M each year from ConnDOT for priority local road improvement projects and projects are currently in various stages of approval/development in Burlington, Litchfield, Torrington, and Winchester.



NHCOG also serves as the oversight agent for approximately \$385,000 in Homeland Security Grant funding that is received each year for the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) Region 5. There are a number of projects and equipment acquisitions to support this program within multiple Emergency Support Function groups in Region 5 (all of NHCOG and portions of NVCOG and WESTCOG).

In 2021, NHCOG continued coordination of numerous popular programs such as a prescription assistance program in cooperation with the Foundation for Community Health, a Neighbor-to-Neighbor program in cooperation with the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, the Northwest Hills Public Works Equipment Cooperative, and the region's cooperative purchasing program. The Fuel Bank program partnership that was previously managed by NHCOG was concluded.

NHCOG also continued to assist local organizations including the Regional Housing Council, Northwest Hills Road Supervisors Association, Recycling Advisory Committee, and the Housatonic River Commission.

In addition, NHCOG continued to host a quarterly "5th Thursday" forum for area Planning, Zoning, and Conservation Commission members to meet and discuss items of mutual interest, hear guest speakers, and provide input on regional plans. However, two of the planned events had to be cancelled due to insufficient staffing levels.

Serving as officers of NHCOG during FY 2021-2022 were Don Stein, Chairman; Bob Valentine, followed by Henry Todd, Vice Chairmen; Charlie Perotti, Secretary; and Michael Criss, Treasurer.

Respectfully Submitted, Robert Phillips

Robert A Phillips, AICP Executive Director

# CORNWALL PARK AND RECREATION

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Hard to imagine that a year later, we were still impacted by Covid and limited in the activities and events that we could hold. Once again, for health and safety reasons we held no indoor events which meant that the colder months were not very active.

We did however make the most of our warmer days and had several opportunities to gather and celebrate being together again.

Senior Luncheons and Breakfasts were held outdoors at Foote Field. The meals were delicious and the conversations even better. Everyone enjoyed being able to spend time together and to catch up on the latest Cornwall "news". Our numbers grew to a steady 30 plus people, so we purchased several new picnic tables for The Pavilion area to accommodate the numbers and still have space to spread out.



Sports were offered Regionally, and our Cornwall kids played basketball and soccer this year. Working all the other Region One Park and Rec Departments to offer sports was a great solution to dwindling numbers of kids in each town and those interested in playing sports.

Park and Rec also hosted several vaccination clinics throughout the year, both for Flu and Covid. At times, we had quite the line waiting to get "shot" at Town Hall. Many Cornwallians came, but we also had quite a few people come from surrounding towns.

Our thanks to Griffin Health for sending out great teams to helpkeep our community healthy!

July Fest was rained out and moved to August. We were lucky to have local musicians play for us; Rachel Gall on Fiddle opened up the night and The Barn Door Band rocked us until dark. CCS 8th graders served hot dogs and we had an ice cream truck for dessert. The event was such a success that we knew we would have more music on The Green next summer.

Halloween returned under Covid rules and was a modified version of our traditional Halloween Night Activities. The Park & Rec Commission grilled up Hurlburt hamburgers and Maple Hill Farm hot dogs for dinner. The kids got to trick or treat through the Village and parents got to reconnect with each other. It was quite a treat to be able to gather again



CORNWALL PARK AND RECREATION

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December brought some special visitors to Cornwall. The Grinch and Santa came to collect food and toys for the Food Bank. Covid was especially "Grinchy" so our visitors had to say "Hello" from afar and via a drive-thru/drop-off event could help the Grinch gather food and Santa gather toys for our Cornwall neighbors. Maple Hill Farm brought a special guest as well and Santa seemed to be looking to add a new member to his team.

Winter also brought us some sad news that our Chair Johan Winser was quite ill and stepping down. Johan passed this spring and is greatly missed. As we held our spring events, he was always on our minds and in our hearts.

Finally, the weather turned to welcome us back outside and we could resume holding events. Spring Celebration was a welcome sight to see so many little ones hunting for eggs. The Easter Bunny hopped through the Village, stopping along the way for a few pictures.



The Annual Town Picnic returned after a 2 year Covid hiatus

with a few changes. We held it at the Town Beach as CHLA was under construction and not available.

Another addition was live music by Jonny G (from Lespecial and the music Cellar in Millerton). Both changes added a special touch to the event and will now become part of the tradition. What a fun way to welcome



summer....music, food, ice cream sundaes hosted by the AG Commission,

and for the brave of heart and those not fearing cold water swimming in the lake



Respectfully Submitted by, Michelle Shipp (Commission Chair) Jen Hurlburt Markow (Director)

Commission Members: Erin Berry (Secretary), Stacey Dolan, Wendy Mcfarlane, Jane Hall, Shanna Robinson, Melissa Bronson, Stephen Saccardi



Park and Recreation brings COVID vaccines and flu shots to Cornwall residents

# REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

Throughout the year the Registrars work to maintain the official voter list which includes enrolled party members and unaffiliated voters. Starting in January a canvass is done to identify any voter who may have moved out of Town. Twice a year we attend a Statewide Voter Conference for continuing education and training. Our main task is to prepare and run elections.



In the November 2021 Municipal election 624 voted in person, 54 by Absentee ballots

and 2 by Election Day registration with 54.26% voting. There were only four contested races.

If you wish to register to vote you may do so by stopping in at the Town Office or online. Helpful links are available at the community website <u>cornwallct.org</u> listed in the registrar section under Town Offices. You can also look up and verify your registration information online.

As of October 4 there are 1144 Total Registered Voters, 577 Democrats, 188 Republicans, 363 Unaffiliated and 16 other minor parties.

Don't forget to vote November 8, 2022 at Town Hall!

Respectfully submitted,

Jayne Ridgway

Cara Weigold

Caahogeld

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# Cornwall Social Services - Annual Report FY 21-22

The Cornwall Social Services Office works to connect Cornwall residents with local, regional and state resources in order to meet basic needs. The Office oversees the Back to School and Holiday Gift Programs, as well as the Food Pantry.

In FY 21-22, there was an increased demand for support, primarily in regard to food, as residents access the Food Pantry as a way to cut down on household expenses in order to free up funds for other bills. 86 households accessed the Food Pantry and 41 households received some form of financial support. Weekly deliveries of food to CCS were coordinated to support children who arrived at school without enough food. Unfortunately, there was also a decrease in donations, both financial and food as we neared the end of the Fiscal Year. This, coupled with inflation and rising costs for nearly everything left the

To Donate to the Food & Fuel Fund: PayPal:

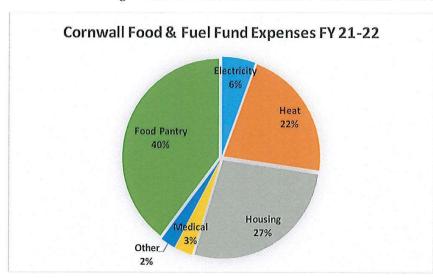
CWLFINANCE@OPTONLINE.NET

Tax-Deductible Donations: Cornwall Food & Fuel Fund PO Box 97, Cornwall CT 06753

Non-Perishable Food Donations can be dropped inside the back doors of UCC Church, or shipped directly to: Food Pantry, 8 Bolton Hill Road, Cornwall CT 06753 Thank you!

Food and Fuel Fund in somewhat of a "perfect storm." Thankfully a partnership with CT Foodshare was approved which will allow the Pantry to access free food and decrease monthly expenses. An ARPA funds award will allow the Pantry to continue to operate until this partnership is in place.

Expenses tracked as they have in previous years, as shown on the graph below. The total expenses of the Food & Fuel Fund during the Fiscal Year was \$157,663, a 44% increase over the previous fiscal year.



If you need help covering heat, housing, food or medical bills, please reach out.

Heather Dinneen, LCSW Director of Social Services cornwallsocialservices@gmail.com 860-671-9315 (call/text) 860-672-2603 (office)

Many many thanks to the volunteers who help at the Food Pantry each week. And to UCC for continuing to allow the Pantry to use the Day Room.

# TRANSFER STATION

It's business as usual at the Transfer Station. The mask mandate has been lifted; however, we still have a three-car limit due to Covid-19. The swap shop is open every day of operation but still check with Ted or Will before unloading. As it was last year, bulk containers continue to fill up fast. Please call the transfer station to ensure there is room in the bulk containers.

We are still in the process of rectifying the ongoing situation with MIRA, the burning facility in Hartford. Many towns have opted out of the MIRA contract, leaving a few towns in the Northwest corner still with a contract. MIRA closed in June so now our MSW (trash) is being trucked to a landfill in Pennsylvania.

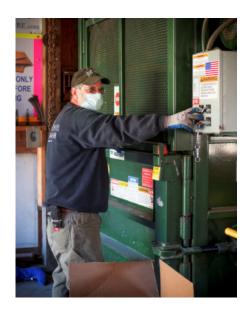
Once again, we ask for your help in reducing the amount of organic material by home composting.

As of June, our new building was still under construction. It is our hope to be in it by early August. Please be respectful of our hours of operation. As a reminder the Transfer Station is open 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Sunday is 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. ONLY.

Thank you everyone for being understanding throughout 2022 and being patient during increased wait times at the Transfer Station.

As always: REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE and REPURPOSE

Many Thanks Ted Larson, Manager Will Berry, Attendant





# CORNWALL BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT

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Despite our desire to "go back to normal" at CCS, the beginning of school year 21-22 looked very much like the previous year. The continuing pandemic required covid related protections, plans and protocols in all Region One schools. Superintendent Lisa Carter and our principal Mary Kay Ravenola worked with staff and families to create a school experience that would be safe, and as normal as possible.

The Board worked remotely via zoom meetings all year. Mrs. Ravenola presented wonderful slide shows at every meeting to share with us the work and creativity happening at the school. Teachers joined our meetings to present their own "spotlight on student learning". The board as well as the Cornwall community that enjoys being involved at the school, were not permitted to enter the building.

Thanks to our excellent Board of Education, who last year were: Martha Bruehl, Hugh Cheney, Iris Herman, Rachel Matsudaira, Emilie Pryor, and Dean Saccardi. Our buildings and grounds committee, which meets monthly to set priorities for work and upgrades to our campus, included board member Hugh Cheney and staff members Mary Kay Ravenola, Annie Kosciusko, Tom Brown, and Pete Selino (retired custodian) and community member Phil Hart. Many policies are required and necessary to run the school, and are reviewed and up-dated on an ongoing basis. Iris Herman and Martha Bruehl serve on the policy committee which shifted to a regional format mid-year. Rachel Mastudaira and Dean Saccardi and community member Jen Markow serve on the region one middle school athletics and activities committee. An ad hoc committee to review staff contracts and issues regionally includes Martha Bruehl. Our region one representative continues to be John Sanders who attends and reports at our meetings.

The CCS budget is an important component of the board's work and was passed in March 2022 at \$2,664,983 for the 2022-23 school year, and was later approved by the town. The working budget committee includes Emilie Pryor, Rachel Matsudaira, Mary Kay Ravenola, and Annie Kosciusko, but the entire board of education is involved with reviewing and approving our budget. Board clerk Annie Kosciusko is the budget linchpin.

For CCS highlights including graduation and staff news please refer to Principal Ravenola's report. Cornwall is incredibly fortunate to have her leading our school with a steady and compassionate hand. Also, a heartfelt thanks to the entire staff who endured another uncertain year with professionalism and positivity.

Remember that our Board of Education meetings are open to the public and you are most welcome to attend.

Respectfully, Emilie Pryor, Chair



8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation



#### 2021-2022 CCS Principal's Report

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The 2021-2022 school year despite COVID-19 still in our presence began with a greater degree of normalcy for students and staff. Students were able to travel class to class this year which was a welcome change from staying in one room all day the previous year. With adjustments, we held an in-person Open House in September and student conferences in October and March. A special parade honored local veterans on Veterans Day where the whole school lined the parking lot waving flags and clapping to show our appreciation for their service. The winter sports program was able to run again and the majority of students skied at Mohawk Mountain while some others participated in winter hikes. A modified fourth grade Arts Day was held at each school and all students were able to go on field trips by the end of the year. 8th graders ended the year with a trip to Boston!

The staff worked hard to ensure that our school had a positive climate throughout the year. Staff and students continued to participate in daily morning meetings and focused on Habits of Mind (HOM) so that students had the opportunity to voice concerns, engage with issues, and actively co-create a positive and respectful learning environment. CCS also continued the whole school focus on Habits of Mind (HOM) which provided opportunities for students to learn and apply important life skills throughout the challenges of their day such as persisting, managing impulsivity, listening with understanding and empathy and being open to continuous learning.

The Cornwall Consolidated School class of 2022 was a group of 19 amazing students. Steven Barber, Everet Belancik, Graham Belancik, Hayden Bell, Henry Berry, Lily Beurket, Colton Bodwell, Colby Brown, Arianna Danforth Gold, Steven Delgado Buni, Mia DiRocco, Julissa (Dylan) Gonzalez, Robbie Happy, Simon Markow, Gabe Poll, Caleb Robles, Finn Scribner, Joseph Villa Arpi, and Andra West graduated under a large tent outside at CCS. The graduation speaker was Marina (Matsudaira) Muench, a 2012 CCS graduate. The ceremony was followed by Marzano's Pizza Truck for all. It was a joyful celebration and marked the end of a successful year.

This year there was a slight dip in enrollment at Cornwall Consolidated School partly due to families with weekend homes in Cornwall who enrolled their children full time the previous year deciding to return to NY mostly due to parents' jobs. The previous school year ended with 119 students enrolled and the 2021-2022 school year began with 110. When school ended in June, the enrollment was at 106.

There were some staff changes as well for 2021-2022. Amanda Jacquier, an educational paraeducator in Kindergarten, left in January to do her student teaching at Kent Center School and Rylee King was hired as her replacement. At the end of the year, we celebrated the retirement of two amazing teachers. Chris Hanley, art teacher, and Jane Hanley, world language teacher. Susana Martinez-Bauer was hired to replace Chris Hanley. Unfortunately, a replacement has not been found for Senora Hanley due to a shortage of world language teachers. We also had some resignations and sadly

said goodbye to Kathy West, middle school Science teacher; Zachary Hebert, middle school English Language Arts teacher; Brittany Perrone, School Counselor and Taylor Hurley, grade one teacher. We are excited to welcome Joseph Markow as middle school Science teacher, Helena Sweet as middle school English Language Arts teacher, Kirsten Gray as grade one teacher and Nicole Folino as School Social Worker.

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This school year the CCS Culture & Climate Team provided opportunities and activities for our students to keep them engaged in learning, their school and community. Spirit days and virtual school wide dance parties were planned and the Gathering Room was decorated in various themes by students throughout the year. Food drives and other fundraising activities were held to remind students of the importance to give back to their community and world whenever possible. The CCS Walkathon also was back in the spring and students raised funds for the Voices of Children foundation specifically for children in Ukraine at that time.

Eighth graders led the morning announcements daily over the intercom Monday through Thursday. On Fridays, they transformed the music room into a live newstation and live streamed the announcements. They learned how to work video cameras, sound boards, microphones, lights and took turns as newscasters. They also had activities throughout the year for the younger students such as a Trick or Treat Trail and CCS Virtual Teams.

Leadership opportunities existed for students during the school year. Student-led conferences were held providing students the opportunity to present information and insight about their academic achievement and progress to teachers and parents. A student advisory team was created where staff and students met monthly to discuss school concerns or ideas to create the best learning environment for all. Eighth graders created Exploration presentations on a topic of their choice and created a video with the support of Catherine Tatge and Dominique Lasseur, Executive Directors of the Civic Life Project.

In the spring, Student Leadership Awards were presented to CCS students at a Cornwall BOE meeting. Seventh grader Daniel Lesch and eighth grader Mia DiRocco were awarded the Connecticut Association of Board of Education Leadership Award. Alexandra West, an eighth grader, was awarded the Litchfield County Superintendent Association Leadership Award.

CCS truly appreciates all the support from our special community!

Mary Kay Ravenola, Principal



Trick or Treat Trail



Veterans Day Parade



Fifth & Sixth Graders on a Field Trip to the Cornwall Transfer Station



Winter Sports Program



Eighth Graders in Recording Studio For Morning Announcements

# 2021-2022 CCS Staff List

Last Name	First Name	Position
Binkowski	Cathy	Grade 4 Teacher
Boucher	Aaron	Physical Education Teacher
Brown	Tom	Head Custodian
Carlson	Candy	Kindergarten Teacher
Coleman	Angie	Region One Occupational Therapist
Collins	Tricia	Region One Special Education Paraprofessional
Hanley	Christina	Art Teacher
Hanley	Jane	World Language Teacher /Spanish
Hanna	Jandi	Region One Speech Pathologist
Hatcher	Sukie	Region One K-8 Special Education Teacher
Herbert	Zachary	Middle School English Language Arts Teacher
Hill	Jennifer	Title One Reading Teacher
Hurley	Taylor	Gr 1 Teacher
Ingellis	Suzanne	Region One Special Education Paraprofessional
King	Rylee	Educational Paraprofessional
Kosciusko	Anne	Board Clerk
Krueger	Danielle	Middle School Math Teacher
Lindstrom	Karen	Region One School Psychologist
Munson	Laura	Library Paraprofessional
Nelson	Victoria	Gr 3 Teacher
Perrone	Brittany	School Counselor
Pramuka	Kristi	Gr 2 Teacher
Rashkoff	Clare	Nurse
Ravenola	Mary Kay	Principal
Rovezzi	Patricia	Administrative Assistant
Simonetti-Shpur	Alicia	Music Teacher
Thulin	Jake	Custodian
Vincent	William	Middle School Social Studies Teacher
West	Katherine	Middle School Science Teacher

# REGION 1 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

2021-2022 was a year characterized by perseverance and resilience on behalf of Region 1 staff, students, and their parents/caregivers as we all learned to live with continued presence of COVID-19. Protocols for vaccination, testing, masks and quarantine influenced classroom environments and student/staff attendance. However, despite the occurrence of virus surges as it morphed into new variants, Region 1 staff remained dedicated to providing a high-quality education to our students and our students remained engaged in their learning. By the end of the year, school operations had returned to near normal and the year ended on a positive note.

National media has publicized data indicating significant learning loss for students at all grade levels. This has not been the experience for students in Region 1. State summative data indicate that, while not yet attaining pre-pandemic levels of achievement, most students finished the year meeting or exceeding grade level expectations in the tested areas of English/Language Arts, Math and Science. Additionally, students were able to participate in school plays and concerts, art shows, athletic competition and field trips. Everyone worked together to successfully navigate COVID-19 disruptions, including substitute teacher and bus driver shortages.

As school staff worked hard to return schools to normal operations to the greatest extent possible, they closely monitored student mental health and the impact the pandemic has had on students. Administrators have used some of the federal ARP/ESSER funds to hire support students by adding counseling staff to ensure the presence of trained clinicians to support them. They have also planned team-building, student discussion groups and other engaging activities to cultivate safe and healthy school climates.

With respect to physical plants, school building committees continued to complete repairs and any new construction projects as needed.

Finally, administrators have worked with school safety committees to ensure that schools are safe and secure.

Region 1 staff, students and their families successfully weathered another challenging year as a result of their commitment to engaging in high quality learning experiences while caring for the well being of one another. We are proud of and thankful for the strength of the Region 1 community.

Respectfully submitted, Lisa B. Carter







Cornwall Child Center - 8 Cream Hill Road / West Cornwall, CT 06796 860-672-6989

> CornwallChildCenter@yahoo.com www.CornwallChildCenter.org



#### The Cornwall Child Center Annual Report July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

The Cornwall Child Center's fiscal year started off with a solid enrollment base for the Summer of 2021, bringing in approximately \$39,000 which was up \$19,000 from the previous year.

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The town of Cornwall provided \$50,000 for operating costs which was an increase of \$5,000 from the previous year and the Annual Appeal brought in \$9,899 which was down a little, but close to what we typically average.

"The natural disaster that was COVID, coupled with the federal relief programs, and increased state support from the legislature and Governor Lamont, presented unique opportunities for our field and for OEC." This is a quote from Commissioner Bye from the Office of Early Childhood. What this means is that Licensed programs that applied for **Stabilization funds** received them last year. A total of approximately \$120 million was distributed in the State of CT. Cornwall Child Center applied to this Stabilization Grant and received \$49,572. The Board of Directors and I have earmarked these funds for our teaching staff and are committed to provide equity of pay, including benefits to show them that they are respected as professionals and cherished as educators. We are also committed to retaining the teachers that we have.

In March of 2022 we applied and received \$15,000 from the ARPA Funding/Grant through the Town of Cornwall. This full amount went to the paving of our parking lot in June of 2022 by Metcalf. The total cost of the project was \$16,800. We also spent \$3,000 to replace our "border" fence in the Preschool area.

We received a grant of \$1500 for literacy and an additional \$6245 in gifts.

In May of 2022, we were able to host our "in person" fundraiser at the Torrington Country Club. This event was well attended and raised \$11,250.94

To end our Summer this year we had a family carnival at the Center which included a Bounce House and a Pizzeria Marzano food truck. We feel truly Blessed.

The COVID -19 pandemic has highlighted childcare as **essential**. This service that we provide, and that the town supports, is vital to our community, to the economy and to the development of our youngest population. Cornwall Child Center, including its administration, Board of Directors and teaching staff, are committed to continue providing the best Early Childhood Education experience to the families we serve.

Sincerely,

Amy C. Martinez

Director

# **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

This past fiscal year 2021-2022 we moved beyond our COVID-19 emergency-declarations. Our guard is still up while activities have come close to the normal experienced prior to the pandemic. Smiling faces have emerged, yet at the same time masks are not seen as something unusual. We ask citizens to continue exercising caution and to monitor the impacts of COVID variants.

Weather in early 2021 provided minimal excitement as we were brushed by two storms, Henri in August 2021, and a tropical depression in October 2021. Both brought rain and wind but no wide-spread damage or extended power failures. For a change the northwest corner was also spared heavy snows. We experienced twenty-eight winter events, each primarily mixed precipitation including a soggy holiday season. Unlike prior years, we were not pressed to activate emergency plans. Henri was handled remotely with tremendous cooperation with Eversource. Their implementation of a remote reporting system allows us to log and prioritize power issues including road closures directly with Eversource. This increases our collective efficiencies and minimizes the need for individuals to gather in one location. Updates to the emergency protocols due to these procedural changes will be filed with the state in late 2022.



In February the Cornwall Association hosted a brief talk I gave on emergency preparedness. The major theme: It isn't what you gather for an emergency, but a mental willingness to accept that emergencies do happen; that is when real preparations begin.

This upcoming year will involve training related to the changes the state has made to their emergency tracking and resource systems. COVID-19 isn't exactly in the rearview mirror yet and remains an important focus for this office.

As always, Cornwall's Office of Emergency Management is focused on the safety of all citizens. The review of our plans, improvements to our response, coordination with local and state bodies, along with the appropriate use of Emergency Declarations are our ongoing activities. Our success and safety as a community, depends on our behaviors as individuals.

May we all enjoy the pleasures of the seasons in safety!

Diane Beebe

Emergency Management Director

# CORNWALL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

	Fire	EMS
July 2021	16	24
August 2021	11	17
September 2021	7	16
October 2021	9	23
November 2021	9	20
December 2021	5	13
January 2022	6	22
February 2022	8	26
March 2022	15	16
April 2022	4	18
May 2022	12	15
June 2022	10	18
Total	112	228

There were 112 fire calls for the year; in order of frequency: 49 false alarms, 24 motor vehicle accidents, 11 power lines down, 8 fires, 6 rescues, 5 standby/mutual aid calls, 4 public assists, 3 gas leaks, and 2 chimney fires. The Fire division of CVFD held 35 in person drills and 12 meetings during the year to ensure training, orientation to trucks and equipment, and protocols were kept up to date. Training included materials ranging from car fires to ice water rescues. There were also 10 additional, out of house-training sessions attended by members.

As a Department, we held 11 monthly meetings (November's was canceled due to a spike in Covid-19 cases in Town). The meetings transitioned from Zoom to hybrid, to socially distanced, in person, inside meetings. It was great to have the Department members back together under one roof again, and also to welcome several new members face to face. Included in these in-person gatherings was the annual Memorial Day parade, which had been put on hold to the public during the height of the pandemic. Cornwall photographer Lazlo Gyorsok expertly captured images of a Department happy to show their merits and camaraderie during the festivities.



The EMS squad responded to 228 calls; including various mutual aid calls to neighboring towns, and the

resuscitation of an individual in cardiac arrest. We added a contract with a third Advanced Life Support Paramedic Service to adjunct our Basic Life Support capabilities. We now have the ability to have ALS from *Northwest Medic 1* based out of Hartford Healthcare's Charlotte Hungerford Hospital in Torrington. This is in addition to Northern Dutchess Paramedics (Millerton, NY) and Trinity Medic 2 (Torrington, CT).

There were 12 EMS meetings and 19 local drills (including joint drills with the Fire Division). Three trainings were specifically for CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) and AED (Automated External Defibrillator) use and included members of the Community for greater access to life saving skills. Mandatory drills included Hazmat Awareness, Human Trafficking, Bloodborne/Airborne Infection prevention, and PTSD Awareness. Two drills covered responding to Mass Casualty Incidents (MCI).

Our team continued to respond to COVID-19 positive households and were able to protect themselves with PPE provided by the State and Federal Government. This was thanks to the PPE coordination and distribution efforts of our Emergency Director, Diane Beebe. We were able to send boxes of extra surgical masks, isolation gowns, and other items to responders in Ukraine. It was great to give back not only to our community, but abroad as well!

CORNWALL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

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Three members completed Emergency Medical Responder training and one member received their Emergency Medical Technician license. If you would like to join the rescue squad, contact Captain Elizabeth Russ <a href="mailto:emscaptaincornwall@gmail.com">emscaptaincornwall@gmail.com</a>. New members are always welcome for both EMS and Fire divisions of CVFD.

Fred Scoville, Chief; Earle Tyler, Assistant Chief

#### **CVFD Officers**

Chief: Fred Scoville (Fire, EMS)
Assistant Chief: Earle Tyler (Fire)
Captain West Cornwall: Ted Larson (Fire)
EMS Captain: Elizabeth Ridgway (EMS)

Captain Cornwall Bridge: Will Russ (Fire, EMS)
Lt. West Cornwall: Ian Ridgway (Fire, EMS)
Lt. Cornwall Bridge: Rob Thompson (Fire)
EMS 1st Lt.: Jayne Ridgway (EMS)
EMS 2nd Lt.:Joyce Hart (EMS)

# **Executives**

President: Earle Tyler (Fire)

Vice President: John LaPorta (EMS) Treasurer: Patience Lindholm (EMS)

Secretary: Iris Hermann Chaplain: Micki Nunn-Miller



# Responding and Support

#### **Members**

Steve Hedden

Allan Bahn Peter Jaquet Tom Barrett Chris Kesl Marie Bate Anne Kosciusko Diane Beebe Lauren Kosciusko Mary Kate Kosciusko John Bevans Terry Burke Skip Kosciusko Dave Cadwell Thomas Kurilenko Mike Carano John LaPorta Casey Cook Ted Larson Michael DeGreenia Ali Lesch

Garrick Dinneen Patience Lindholm
Richie Dolan Bill Lyon
Ralph Dzenutis Rod MacNeil
Jane Hall Bob Meyers
Joyce Hart Micki Nunn-Miller
Connie Hedden Jack Preston

Iris Hermann Elizabeth Ridgway
Chris Jackson Ian Ridgway
Brendon Jankowics Gordon Ridgway

Alex Rehnberg

Jayne Ridgway Rebecca Ridgway Will Russ

Brian Saccardi Steve Saccardi Larry Saed Fred Scoville Dick Sears Jessica Slaven Robert Thompson

Earle Tyler
Josh Tyson
Jim Vanicky
Jim Whiteside
Jonah Whiteside
Bob Whitford
Hunt Williams
Dave Williamson

# TORRINGTON AREA HEALTH DISTRICT ANNUAL REPORT: JULY 1, 2021 – JUNE 30, 2022

The TAHD served over 133,000 people in twenty boroughs, cities, and towns covering 611 square miles.

The TAHD **Community Health Program** partnered with DPH and FoodCORE to investigate: **7** giardiasis, **4** campylobacteriosis, and **14** salmonellosis cases. TAHD guided schools, daycares, and community members on a variety of health issues and administered **563** flu vaccines to residents. TAHD consulted with 7 residents regarding potential rabies exposures submitting **7** specimens to the DPH Laboratory for rabies testing. Ticks brought in by **64** residents were sent to the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station for Lyme disease bacteria testing.

TAHD is an active member of **Fit Together**, a Northwest Connecticut Healthy Eating and Active Living Initiative. The 5210-fitness initiative is the cornerstone of the groups outreach and educational efforts. Fit together allocates its resources for community assistance and has awarded \$15,000 in mini grants to community partners to support projects that align with Fit Together's mission and strategies. These included funds to assist the Torrington Kids Marathon, a new Torrington Kids Golf program, the Torrington Middle School Fitness trail, fitness equipment for the Gilbert School and healthy snacks and healthier food preparation at Café Yum in the Torrington Public Schools. Fit Together supported sustainable healthy environmental opportunities in Torrington and Winsted by designating funding for a new all level fitness trail along the Sue Grossman Still River Greenway.

TAHD is an active member of the Litchfield County Opiate Task Force (LCOTF) and a member of the LCOTF executive committee, working on strategies and solutions to the opiate epidemic. TAHD received a grant to provide programming for the Statewide Expansion and Response Project for the Overdose Detection Mapping Application to ensure comprehensive coordination of services. This application along with the data from the medical examiner's office and our Spike response alert allows our team to respond to a suspected drug overdose. TAHD staff provided training to local pharmacies and medical offices on the CT Prescription Monitoring and Reporting System, Naloxone administration, Medication Assisted Treatment, and Resetting Pain Expectations as part of the Academic Detailing on Opioid Safety. TAHD is also part of Rural Communities Opioid Response Program-Implementation (RCORP) aimed at reducing the morbidity and mortality of substance use disorder (SUD), including opioid use disorder (OUD), in high-risk rural communities. This will advance RCORP's goal by strengthening and expanding prevention, treatment, and recovery services to enhance rural residents' ability to access treatment and move towards recovery.

TAHD entered into a contract with United Way of Connecticut (UWC) to expand upon cross-sector efforts within the state to implement a comprehensive public health approach to suicide prevention to reduce suicide morbidity and mortality among three key vulnerable populations in the state: 1) middle-aged adults 35-64 years of age, particularly those in high-risk occupations or with serious mental illness or substance use disorder, 2) young adults 18-24 years of age and 3) adolescents 10-17 years of age.

TAHD is an active member of the **National Diabetes Prevention Program** working to prevent or delay type 2 diabetes. This is a yearlong, lifestyle change program designed for people with prediabetes and those at high risk for type 2 diabetes. Goals for participants include 150 minutes of weekly activity and 5 to 7% weight loss. TAHD began the first program in November at the Winchester Senior Center. At completion of the program, participants will receive a Certificate of Completion.

The TAHD **Immunization Action Program** (IAP) worked with local providers and hospitals to ensure compliance with CT childhood immunization laws. TAHD has partnered with 12 medical and 40 community-based organizations in the district to educate, bring awareness, and encourage immunization.

TAHD provided medical providers with educational materials for staff and patients to promote vaccine confidence and promoted educational events. For community partners, we have set up displays in libraries, museums, food banks and attended numerous events such as back-to-school night & health fairs. TAHD distributed approximately 100 posters in public spaces such as post offices, coffee shops, libraries, and town halls. To encourage vaccination, TAHD continues to utilize social media.

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The TAHD **Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program** provided case management for more than 40 children with blood lead levels ( $\geq 5\mu/dl$ ) as well as provided educational information to more than 100 families. Abatement/Remediation Orders were issued for 1 property. 2 abatements were completed.

TAHD Environmental Health Program resulted in the following inspections/licenses/permits: 868 food inspections, 349 temporary food permits, 121 new septic systems, 309 repaired septic systems, 207 private well permits, 111 private pool permits, 248 beauty salons & barber shops inspections, 560 house addition permits, 366 soil tests, 38 subdivision lots, 69 public pools were inspected, and 20 daycare centers inspected. Records show that approximately 366 samples were submitted to the state lab for testing of drinking water, beach and pool water, lead in water, soil and dust, and stool samples for pathogens. Sanitarians investigated 287 complaints of various public health concerns; 25 legal orders/voluntary compliances were issued for enforcement purposes.

The TAHD **Emergency Preparedness Program** continues to work with local and regional community partners. Activities included: outbreak investigations, contact tracing, consultation (health partners, public safety, town, and school officials) receiving and distribution of personal protective equipment, and vaccination clinics. A Point of Dispensing (POD) drill was done at the Torrington Middle School.

The **Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Program** aimed its focus on local community education with a wide range of topics. Educational and training opportunities consisted of Heart Saver First Aid, CPR/AED courses, Mental Health during the COVID19 Pandemic, Opioid Crisis, recognition, and response, STOP the BLEED, and Emergency Preparedness in the home. TAHD's goal was to increase awareness and create a training curriculum so the public can better protect themselves and others in a safe, timely, and effective manner.

To date, TAHD has vaccinated 10,641 individuals for COVID through public and private clinics as well as homebound vaccinations. During November-January we held COVID-19 booster clinics. TAHD partnered with Hartford Healthcare, New Opportunities, Community Health & Wellness as well as The Office of Rural Health for the pediatric population and have hosted approximately 20 mobile vaccination clinics through DPH & Griffin Health Care. TAHD continues to distribute at-home COVID-19 test kits throughout the community including community centers, libraries, shelters, and food pantries.

The TAHD partners with Hydro Technologies lab for its **Water Testing Program**. Hydro Technologies, a full-service lab located in New Milford, CT offers a wide range of testing of drinking water. This partnership allows TAHD to offer a local option for water testing to its member towns. In addition, we offer free technical advice on private drinking water wells, sampling procedures, and water testing results.

Robert Rubbo, MPH, Director of Health

# **CORNWALL AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION**

The 29th Cornwall Ag. Fair as it was seen by Bessie the cow and farmer Fred......

Wow that was a quick ride to the Fair, gates open on the trailer and who should be the first person I see but farmer Fred to give me a little assist out of the trailer. Well Bessie, good to see you back at the fair, we will have a little catching up to do seeing how we weren't able to be here last year.

Folks said there was a huge pandemic going on all over the world and it was best that everyone stayed home. Everything seemed to be the same up on Cream Hill, I was able to get good grass, water and grain. No problem on my end. Anyhow, I guess that is what our people needed to do.

Hey Fred, take a look, people are starting to show up for the Farmer's Market, maybe someone will bring me a handful of apples!

And there they go Bessie, tractors and antique cars and old trucks are showing up too. What a nice selection and even a hit and miss engine in the mix.

Oh good, I see Brad is getting some logs cut so the Ag. Commission can build a little garden shed at the Lorch Farm Community Garden. Hey Bessie, maybe I'll go down and help them put it up.

Well Fred, here comes a whole crew with a Conestoga wagon. The Frontier Mess. Oh, that's right, I heard Wendy say they were coming to do a cooking demonstration just like it would have been done back in the day out on the prairie.

Also, by the flagpole, the fire department members and the ambulance squad have gathered around. Looks like a 20-year anniversary commemoration for 9/11. Lee Collins is playing his bagpipes. Well Fred, that sure was a nice ceremony to honor our fallen heroes.

Boy it sure does look like there are a lot of people here today. I have had so much attention over here in the animal tent. All the kids are running around and playing in the hay bales. They are even chasing a tennis ball around with a leaf blower. Look Fred, now they are getting a face full of whipped cream looking for that good old Bazooka bubble gum!

Now the three-legged race has started and everyone just finished throwing eggs at each other. Seems a little crazy but they sure are having fun.

Wow the time has passed by so fast, that it's already time for me to go do my job over at the cow chip raffle. Maybe you could lead me over to the squares Fred. I have no idea where the chip will land but some lucky person with the winning ticket will go home with a little extra cash. Everyone will leave here today with a great feeling that they have helped out the Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department. The Fire Department and Ambulance crew are here for my people every day of the year. 24/7.

Well Fred, my work here is done and it sure has been a great day at the Fair and an even better time visiting with you and all the folks from around town!

In the trailer I must go. Hoping to see all of you next year!!

Respectfully submitted by Bessie and Fred and the whole crew on the Cornwall Ag. Commission.

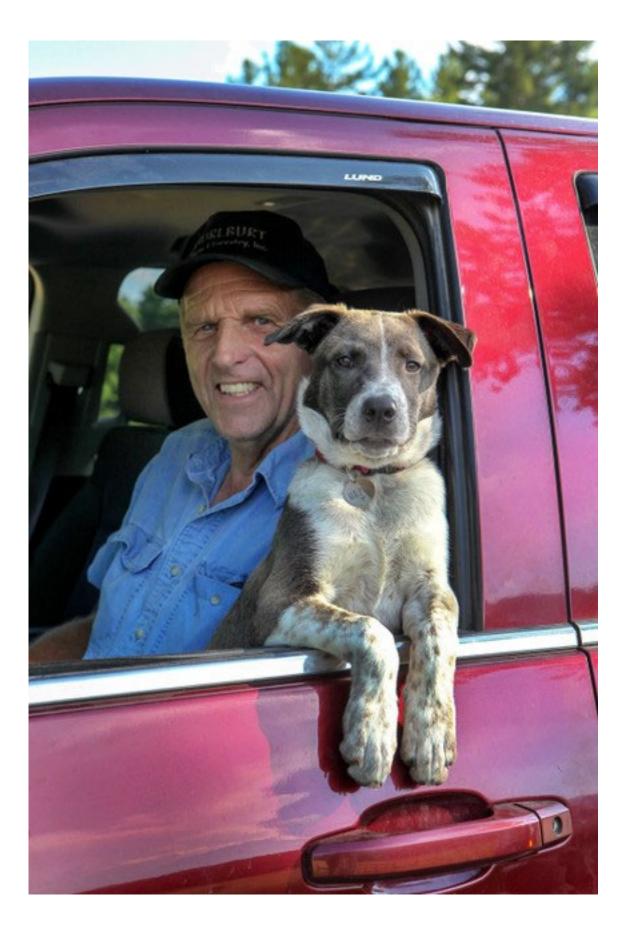
# INLAND WETLANDS AND WATERCOURSES AGENCY

The Cornwall Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency held 9 ZOOM regular meetings in the year 2021-2022. A total of 7 applications for activities within regulated areas were reviewed by the Agency. The 7 applications were for regulated activities associated with the construction of one new single family residence, one new reconstructed single family residence, several decks and one dock repair, and two septic upgrades for new and expanded accessory structures. The remainder of the applications were "Petitions for Declaratory Rulings" (PDR's) or as "use as of right" applications. The "Petitions" included pond maintance for both residential ponds and ponds used for fire protection, septic repair and the expansion of an agricultural operation in Cornwall Village.

New regulations enacted in 2011 with higher standards for the consideration of "use as of right" petitions continue to result in better prepared petitions and quicker turnaround times, important factors when dealing with activities such as septic repairs, and maintance of existing ponds in the landscape that provide for fire protection. The receipt and transmission of applications electronically to Agency members has resulted in quicker turnaround overall and more time for review by Agency members. The change to electronic transmission of applications allowed the Agency to more easily adapt to the new COVID19 requirements that information be on the website for review prior to the meeting. Individual site walks prior to meetings – a self-imposed standard not common to most Agencies, continues to result in better informed decisions.

Chairman D. Stevenson Hedden, Deborah Bennett, Peter Demy and William Hurlburt remain as regular Agency members. Long serving member Roger Kane resigned in January 2022 with newly appointed alternate Alan Bahn moving up to a regular member position. Jeff Morgan was appointed as an alternate. Agency member Deborah Bennett has taken on the task of being the Agency liaison between the Town and environmental groups to address invasive plants including Japanese Knot weed and its potential impact on water resources and in particular, the Housatonic River and scenic West Cornwall Village. Karen Griswold Nelson remains as Agency staff, serving as Agency secretary, Authorized Agent and Enforcement Officer. The Agency overall has members rich in experience in agriculture, horticulture, environmental site development, and case law. This balance allows the Agency to continue to serve the town with well-grounded understanding and application of the current wetlands and watercourses regulations adopted for the protection of Cornwall's valuable water resources while allowing for reasonable development.





# **CORNWALL CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

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The Cornwall Conservation Commission (CCC) met monthly throughout the 2021-'22 year at either regular or special meetings. The commission started the year off with a strategic planning session to identify priorities and goals for, and shape the work of, the coming year. One of those goals was to write, approve and post bylaws on the CCC website; those approved bylaws will shortly be posted on the website. In a small town, it is only through coordinated group efforts that we effectively manage change; CCC expresses its gratitude to the organizations, commissions, town government and individual citizens who have shared efforts with our work.

# Protecting our Forests'

# Managing Invasive Species

Continuing efforts on the Japanese Knotweed eradication program have started to show successful results in many places around the town. The CCC in association with the Cornwall Garden Club and the Conservation Commission, held a hands-on workshop to educate the public on the impact of *Berberis thunbergia* (barberry) on our native field and forest assemblages; and on how to identify and eradicate this invasive species.

# Protecting our Forests Biodiversity: Implementing best practices for caring for hazardous Trees

Housatonic Meadows and the CCC endorsed efforts to repair the damage done by the State Parks Dept at Housatonic Meadows State Park. The goal has been to create a hazard tree policy with DEEP and to replant an educational and ecological garden in the area where many heritage trees were removed.

# Protecting our Waterbodies

# The Cream Hill Lake Task Force

The Lake Task Force (LTF) tested waters three times during 2021-'22. The monitoring included testing for water clarity, dissolved oxygen, temperature, and nutrients; samples were analyzed by University of Connecticut's Center for Environment and Engineering. The LTF fundraised for a lake water monitoring town wide workshop to be held by consultant limnologists Aerlimnology, to be held during fiscal 2022-'23.

# **CORNWALL CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

# Housatonic Railway Company (HRCC) Right of Way Herbicide Application

CCC members are working in collaboration with representatives from six other northwest corner towns to develop recommended *No Spray Zones* in areas close to well water and/or running through state or federally identified critical habitat; and to encourage HRCC to use best practices in applying herbicides.

# Participating in Statewide Conservation Efforts:

# Working Towards Sustainable CT Silver Level

CCC continued its efforts with the state's Sustainable CT program. The commission has played a leading in encouraging the state to better tailor its programs to CT's smaller towns so they can more effectively participate in the Sustainable program. In response, the state has reached out with interns and staffing to address those issues. The original strategies for energy conservation administered by the Energy Task Force are still relevant as are many of the program's strategies. See <u>SustainableCT.org</u> and a separate report on sustainability in this document.

# Addressing concerns of Waste: Composting

In conjunction with the Cornwall Garden Club, CCC is developing a composting program as part of the effort to reduce solid waste by reducing the amount of compostable materials in the waste stream. This work will culminate in outreach programs to the town of Cornwall in 2022-'23.

# Participating in Town Sponsored Events: Agricultural Fair

In association with the Cornwall Conservation Trust and the Garden Club, the CCC participated under The Green Tent at the annual Agricultural Fair. CCC demonstrated composting methods and presented posters on Sustainable CT, *in* addition to other activities.

#### Members

Debby Bennett Heidi Cunnick, Chair Sean Quin Nancy Berry Katherine Freygang

# PLANNING AND ZONING

This was an extraordinary year in ways that relate directly to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Planning and Zoning Commission meetings continued to be held remotely by Zoom, having begun in this format in May 2020. Increased public participation was thereby enabled and people working from home took an increased interest in the workings of local and regional government in general. Public participation at meetings and public hearings increased greatly.

In Cornwall, the Planning Commission and the Zoning Commission exists by town ordinance as a combined Planning and Zoning Commission (the Commission), therefore all Commission members act in both their "planning" and "zoning" capacities at all meetings. In January 2022, Anna Timell was re-elected as chairman, regular member James LaPorta as vice chairman and regular member Phill West as secretary. Christine Gray was elected as a regular member in November 2021 with Michelle Shipp appointed as an alternate in April 2022 to fill the vacancy. Other members include regular member Keith Bodwell and Bruce Bennett and Will Evans as alternates.

Between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022, the Commission held a total of thirteen meetings, one of those as a special Plan of Conservation and Development update forum in January. Acting in its Planning capacity, the Commission heard one 8-24 referral relating to the use of a town road for necessary septic repair. The Commission passed no new regulatory amendments although an appeal was mounted by one Cornwall resident against the new Home Business Regulation that had been passed at the end of the previous calendar year. This appeal was eventually dropped and the new regulation has now been in effect since June 3 2021 without any recent controversy.

Other routine business consisted of the election of Officers, establishment of a meeting schedule, and approval of the Land Use budget. The Commission also supplied membership to the Steering Committee established to create an Affordable Housing Plan in keeping with a state mandate (Chapter 126A Section 8-30j). In accordance with the directive of the Commission in harmony with the 2020 Plan of Conservation and Development, Planning Consultant Janell Mullen started a process of reformatting the Zoning regulations to improve clarity, consistency and ease of use, add helpful definitions and ensure compliance with state legislative updates. Several changes occurred in State legislation (Public Act 21-29 which included updates to the Zoning Enabling Act ("8-2"). That work is on-going.

Between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022 twenty five Zoning permits were issued by the Zoning Enforcement Officer acting as the authorized agent for the Zoning Commission. Three zoning permits was issued for proposed new single family residences. Other zoning permits included four permits for additions and modifications to single family residences, ranging from decks to expanded living space and/or office space to total rebuilds, six permits for swimming pools and seven permits for accessory structures ranging from sheds and garages to agriculture structures. Other permits issued included two permits for home based businesses and three changes of use. Two special permits were approved, one permit for a major home-based business as allowed under the new regulations and one new detached accessory apartment in a historic agricultural structure.

The Commission greatly appreciates the dedication and assistance of Zoning Enforcement Officer Karen Nelson and Commission Planning Consultant Janell Mullen, without whom none of our work would have been possible

# ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Cornwall Zoning Board of Appeals held one regular meeting in the year 2021-2022. The one regular meeting, held in November 2021, was to hear the appeal for a variance. Since that November meeting, long-time member and former chairwoman, Joanne Wojtusiak passed away and regular member and presiding chairman, Donald Bardot resigned. The Board, as of June 31, 2022 consists of regular members Amy Worthington-Cady, Ian Elwell, Betty Spence, George Wolfe, and Barbara Wolkowitz replacing Joanne Wojtusiak and alternate member Jonathan Berry.

Despite lack of activity, it should be noted that many of the thoughtful decisions made by the Zoning Board of Appeals in past years have resulted in recommendations in the 2020 Town Plan of Conservation and Development being addressed by the Planning & Zoning Commission. These future regulatory changes will assure that residents of all ages can add ADA wheelchair ramps or meet other ADA requirements without needing variances. These changes will support the overall goals of the Plan "Housing Section" to provide appropriate housing for all ages, including options that are affordable, attainable, energy efficient and handicap accessible.



# NORTHWEST CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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1185 New Litchfield Street \* Torrington, CT 06790 \* 860 626 7222 \* www.nwcd.org

The Northwest Conservation District Inc. (NWCD) is an environmental non-profit organization serving 34 municipalities in northwestern Connecticut. Our mission is to promote conservation and protection of natural resources through education and technical assistance services.

#### TECHNICAL SERVICES AND PROJECTS IN SUPPORT OF OUR MISSION

During 2021-2022, we partnered with our town's land use commissions and staff on site development reviews and field inspections for land use in residential, agricultural, commercial, and urban settings. When we review and make recommendations on proposed land use changes, we balance development with protection of natural resources. We provide practical, science-based solutions using the latest techniques, including Low Impact Development (LID), to ensure that projects work with the landscape and are designed to address changes in our climate.

#### EDUCATIONAL SERVICES AND PROJECTS IN SUPPORT OF OUR MISSION

In order to safely continue our educational initiatives, we offered virtual workshops on topics including LID and stormwater management, residential rain gardens, soil health, renewable energy options, pollinator gardens, home composting, invasive plant management, and best agricultural management practices. We led a district-wide No-Mow-May initiative and supported the state-wide Pollinator Pathway Northeast (www.polliinatorpathway.org), Many of our "virtual" programs also support SustainableCT towns with their certification efforts.

The CT Envirothon Program (www.ctenvirothon.org) provides hands-on science for high school students through workshops and educational support. Participating schools take part in an annual May Field Day statewide competition and the winning team goes on to compete at a National Conservation Foundation (NCF) competition. Because of the pandemic, the workshops were again adapted to an online format. Monthly webinars or material releases for the four main stations - Aquatics, Forestry, Soils and Wildlife were placed on CT Envirothon's Youtube channel. The Field Day Competition, held at the Tolland County Agricultural Center, saw 21 teams competing including 6 teams from NWCD area schools; Housatonic Valley Regional, Nonnewaug Regional 14, Northwestern Regional 7 and Marvelwood. The Field Day winning team, Housatonic Valley, participated in the NCF July competition in Oxford, Ohio. Visit www.ctenvirothon.org for more information.

#### **EARTH DAY PLANT SALE**

Our Earth Day Plant Sale was held at the Goshen Fairgrounds as a "Pre-order - Scheduled Pick-Up" three-day event in late April with overwhelming support from our many faithful customers. We continue to encourage people to make personal changes to promote clean air, clean water, healthy soils, and quality habitat for all.

#### **OUTREACH AND WEBSITE**

The "Voice of Conservation" bi-annual newsletter, and a new yearly "Education Edition" in print form and electronic offerings through our website, and Facebook. Recorded webinars and educational articles are offered on our website and items of interest on our Facebook and Instagram pages. We are planning additional on-line outreach to conserve valuable resources and reaches a wider audience. To be added to our mailing list, email info@nwcd.org

#### THANKS TO YOU!

The Northwest Conservation District is very grateful for the ongoing support and partnership of the 34 municipalities that we serve and the generous contributions of local individuals, our funders, and many faithful volunteers. The generous support that we have received this year and past years allowed us to move forward on a long-term goal to provide scholarships for graduating high school seniors and college students interested in pursuing careers in environmental sciences and becoming future environmental stewards. We are here to serve you and welcome feedback and requests for information, assistance, and educational programming.

Lawrence Rousseau, Chairman, Northwest Conservation District

# HOUSATONIC RIVER COMMISSION

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"to coordinate on a regional basis the local management and protection of the Housatonic River Valley in northwestern Connecticut'

The Housatonic River Commission (HRC) held eleven regularly scheduled monthly meetings over the past year. Meetings took place at 7:30 on the second Tuesday of each month. Due to the continued challenges with COVID, all but two meetings were held over Zoom. The Commission is made up of representatives appointed by the Board of Selectmen in each of the following towns along the Housatonic River: Canaan, Cornwall, Kent, New Milford, North Canaan, Salisbury, and Sharon. The HRC is responsible for monitoring and advising these seven towns on issues that involve the Housatonic River and working to maintain an environmentally healthy and scenic river corridor. The annual dues requested from each town are \$400 per year.

The process of recognizing the Housatonic River through the National Park Service's (NPS) Wild and Scenic designation as a Partnership River with federal financial support continues with significant help from Housatonic Valley Association (HVA). Quarterly meetings of the Housatonic Wild and Scenic Coordinating Committee have continued with representatives from NPS, HVA, CT Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP), FirstLight Power, and Northwest Hills Council of Governments (NHCOG). At these meetings, each group provides updates on their work addressing issues in the Housatonic River Management Plan including HVA's successful River Information and Outreach (RIO) program, fishing management (CT DEEP), and river access. Tremendous time and

energy have been spent on river access as dynamic changes in river usage resulted in noteworthy action by towns to maintain safety. HRC's mission includes maintaining public access, and the proposed Ruggles Landing is being partnered with the state and town of North Canaan to allow for safe river usage.

Now two decades since the historic EPA/GE/Pittsfield consent decree HRC continues to monitor the PCB cleanup and remediation proposals for the rest of the Housatonic River.

As always, land use issues within the Housatonic River Corridor remain a significant concern. We continue to support efforts to address invasive plant species along the waterway, with several members working to monitor and in some cases control troublesome, aggressive invasives in the inner river corridor. Monitoring the work of the Housatonic Railroad, including their track repair, herbicide use, and derailment risk also continue. The River Commission provided comments and suggestions on many proposed projects as development along the River continues to increase significantly. All towns are reminded to please be sure that the HRC is notified of any proposed project within the River Corridor.

We welcome all citizens to come to our meetings and get involved in discussions about the River. We are also grateful for the support we have received from the member towns, local zoning officials, and the Northwest Hills Council of Governments. Jesse Klingebiel, Secretary

# The Cornwall Association\_

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The Cornwall Association fosters and builds our Cornwall community through town-wide events and forums. This year we:

- hosted our town's annual Newcomers Tea where we welcomed those new and recently new to Cornwall, told them about our town and organizations and how being involved is the fabric of our community, and gave them a lovely 'Welcome to Cornwall' Gift Bag,
- led forums on Emergency Preparedness, The Impact of Invasive Insects in Connecticut Forests, and Bear Awareness.
- put on two Trivia Night Live! games which were great fun and raised money for our Library and the Cornwall Food and Fuel Fund.



- created The Cornwall Bears, a communitywide art project, with Cornwallians painting 33 bear cutouts which were seen our town all summer, culminating in prizes to those voted 'best bears' (pics of winners here) and fundraising \$1700 for the Cornwall Food & Fuel Fund.







More about us at <u>www.CornwallAssociation.org</u>, and there you can find how to become a member.

Gary Steinkohl, President; Board Members: Tony Appio, Dave Cadwell, Casey Cook, Peter Demy, Katherine Freygang, Richard Griggs, Priscilla Pavel, Michelle Shipp, Brenda Singer

www.CornwallAssociation.org

CornwallAssociationInc@gmail.com

P.O. Box 128 West Cornwall, CT 06796



# **CORNWALL CONSERVATION TRUST, INC.**

www.cornwallconservationtrust.org

<u>Conservation Activities</u>: Since our last report of October 11, 2021, Cornwall Conservation Trust, Inc. (CCT) has the following to report:

Our organization earned reaccreditation with the Land Trust Accreditation Commission, proving once again that, as part of a network of over 450 accredited land trusts across the nation, it is committed to professional excellence and to maintaining the public's trust in its conservation work.

CCT purchased 24 Acres off Cornwall Hollow Road with public donations for conservation and now named The Asmund and Joy Boyum Preserve.

CCT worked with Northeast Wilderness Trust to keep 375 acres "Forever Wild" on our Greyledge, Dobbs and Red Mountain Preserves.

Our virtual annual meeting celebrating Coltsfoot Valley was well attended. The YouTube video can be found on our website.

In collaboration with The Cornwall Library we presented a Zoom program on invasive insects with Rob Clark, followed up with an in-person hike at Trinity. More events were held outdoors, including a barberry hackathon, trail building and trail introductions, a birding with phone apps tutorial, and a hike at Cathedral Pines with Peter Del Tredici discussing the Ecology of Disturbance.

Our 6th annual Clean-Up/Green-Up took place in September 2022 and proved to be another successful event.

Scholarships: The 2022 Student Grant program, now in its 14th year, awarded six scholarships to local students. Three of the students are previous recipients. Awards were granted to Natalie Wadsworth of Falls Village; Lydia Klingebiel and Brennan Wilkins of Kent; Alexa O'Connor and Maddie Simonds of North Canaan; and Johanna Cuccia of Bethlehem.

Annual Meeting: Our Annual Meeting will again be virtual this year – live on Zoom – on Saturday November 12 starting at 4pm. CCT will be hosting a panel discussion on conservation and affordable housing – getting to "both and". Registration is required via the CCT website.

CCT Board Members: The CCT Board of Directors are as follows: Debby Bennett, Jean Bouteiller, Terry Burke, Will Evans, Katherine Freygang, Ed Greene, Bart Jones, Robinson Lacy, Larry Master, and Pat Mulberry. Honorary Directors: Duke Besozzi, Nev Dunn, Denny Frost<sup>†</sup>, and Hector Prud'homme<sup>†</sup>, Larry Van Valkenburgh<sup>†</sup>, and Johan Winsser<sup>†</sup>.



Essex Hill Road along Cathedral Pines, circa 1920s.

From:

Barton T. Jones President

October 4, 2022

# The Cornwall Foundation, Inc.

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The Cornwall Foundation makes grants to nonprofits, community organizations, and civic entities that serve the residents of Cornwall. It relies on contributions received in an annual appeal to the Cornwall community to make grants that are targeted primarily to meet one-time needs, to serve as seed money for new programs, or to respond to emergencies. To the extent donations are expressly designated as endowment funds, or exceed what is required to fund current grants, they are added to a professionally managed endowment, the income from which is available for future grants. The Cornwall Foundation is qualified as a charitable organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and donations are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.

Since its founding in 2003 the Cornwall Foundation has made more than \$245,000 in grants, and its grant-making budget has risen to \$27,000 per year. During the twelve months through June 2022, it made grants to the United Church of Christ, to replace the windows in a meeting room used by a number of local civic organizations; the Housatonic Youth Services Bureau and Greenwoods Counselling, for mental health services; the Food & Fuel Fund, for the food pantry; the Cornwall Association, for its Cornwall Bears project; Camp Mohawk, for camp scholarships for Cornwall girls; and the Cornwall Consolidated School, to purchase a warming cabinet to allow it to participate in a federally funded hot lunch program.

More information concerning the Cornwall Foundation, including a list of past grants, instructions and forms for grant applications, and directions for making donations, can be found at www.cornwallfoundation.org.

Photo Lang





P. O. Box 115, Cornwall, CT 06753 7 Pine Street, Cornwall, Connecticut www.cornwallhistoricalsociety.org (860) 672-0505

In 2021 and 2022, the Historical Society (CHS) opened its doors on a part of Cornwall's past which had been closed off and forgotten. Based on research by citizen historians Ryan Bachman and Ann Schillinger into the lives of black and indigenous Cornwall people, "Finding Freeman/s" told stories we hadn't heard before about people who were at the heart of Cornwall's history. Curated by Dr. Frank Mitchell, former director of the Amisted Project at the Wadsworth Atheneum, the exhibit laid the groundwork for more research into other, untold stories.

CHS was successful in its appeals for grant support. We received an Operating Support grant as well as a planning grant -- totaling \$21,386 -- from CT Humanities, the statewide non-profit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). CHS also benefited from the CT ARPA Covid-relief fund through the Town of Cornwall. The town also granted the society another \$6,000 in organizational support for which we are very grateful since fund-raising sagged during the pandemic.

Even though the pandemic summer just past attracted fewer visitors, CHS filled the house for two performances of the puppet show "The Autobiography of James Mars, a Slave Born and Sold in Connecticut" by Puppetsweat of New Haven. The shows were narrated by Cornwall's own Jill Cutler.

When CHS opened its door this past summer, visitors saw a new layout for the public area of the old carriage house. Now more exhibit space will mean that more of Cornwall's story can stay on view for those who visit by appointment in the fall and winter months. We are happy to make our exhibits as available as possible all year long. The Town's support has helped us do that and we are thankful.

Lisa Lansing Simont, president; Steve Brandfield, vice president; Ann Trowbridge, secretary; John Coffin, treasurer. Members of the board: Anne Grant, Michael Heming, Bill McClane, and Jacque Schiller.

Curator: Suzanne Fateh.







# **CORNWALL HOUSING CORPORATION**

Since the last Town Report and following a year of monthly open Zoom meetings, a steering committee of interested volunteers, aided by Janell Mullen, NHCOG Regional Planner, completed the state-mandated Affordable Housing Plan. The public was able to make comments and ask questions at these meetings, at a Housing Forum held early in the process, and at another held six months later before the committee approved its final draft.

After one small but important adjustment to reflect evolving legal response to what the enacting legislation actually meant by the words "opt-out", both the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Board of Selectmen accepted the Plan for the Town. Almost immediately another committee was drafted to design strategies to implement the Plan's recommendations, and it has met monthly with results to be reported on next year.

An additional preview of coming attractions concerns our expectations of what we will gain from Jocelyn Ayer's new organization, the Litchfield County Center for Housing Opportunities (LCCHO). The CHC is one of the regional housing providers to take advantage of a grant this group secured from the CT Department of Housing (DOH) to provide shared staffing for project development and management assistance. The grant will fund both the services of Project Manager Lindsay Larson and a potential pool of seed money for pre-development activities. This grant was given by the DOH in recognition of the successes achieved and the challenges faced by all-volunteer housing organizations in the County, and the welcome assistance is free to us through June of 2024. Needless to say, the CHC feels incredibly lucky to have Jocelyn and Lindsay helping us this way.

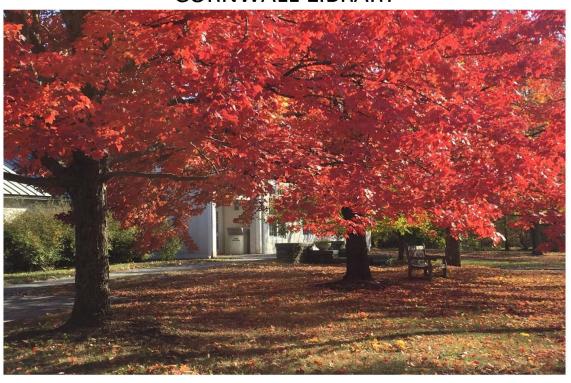
Not surprisingly, the rental apartments at both Bonney Brook and Kugeman Village are always filled, with healthy waiting lists. Despite the continuing difficulties posed by crazily inflated cost of materials and the barriers to achieving a mortgage, we are working towards success with applicants for our four Parcel Program lots and always on the lookout for additional land for more projects. All it takes is an acre, though two would be even better, so please look around you for some corner that might suit!

The new fiscal year also marks the election of Ginni Block as President of the CHC. She is backed by a board almost as enthusiastic and hard-working as herself, and will undoubtedly continue to be supported by the Board of Selectmen and the town in general. You can learn more at our website: cornwallhousingcorporation.com.

Ginni Block Rocco Botto Will Calhoun Hugh Cheney Margaret Cooley Bill Fairbairn Beth Frost Paul Prindle Kate Ward Wayde Wolfe

# **CORNWALL LIBRARY**

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#### **Annual Report Fiscal Year 2021-2022**

The overall effort of the Library is to be available and accessible to the Cornwall community. We expanded our downloadable collection, our adult programming, and added significant children's programming. Our new technical capabilities are available to all town groups.

**Collection:** The Cornwall Library's collection remains robust, at 29,000 volumes plus thousands of downloadable eBooks and audiobooks through Overdrive. We have three ways to request books through interlibrary loan so virtually any book in a Connecticut library is available to Cornwall Library patrons. Please note we are always looking for book recommendations, especially for children and young adults.

**Circulation:** Circulation is slowly returning to pre-pandemic levels. We are on track for a 31% increase over 2020-2021 but we remain below pre-pandemic levels.

**New Patrons:** We added 87 new patrons in the past year.

**Programs:** The Library's programming has been wonderful. It is original and of high quality. In the past year the Cornwall Library has hosted 9 literary events, 7 art shows and sales, 6 children's events plus a weekly toddler group and a Thursday afterschool art group. We have presented 4 events focused on nature, 5 focused on local events/concerns, 2 events on national concerns, and 2 other events, one on puppies and one on turtles.

The Library offered 4 series of art classes and one 8-week course on Middlemarch. In addition, the Library is once again the site for a monthly knitting group, yoga, and a weekly Zumba class.

We held 3 major fundraisers, the Labor Day Art Sale, the Book Sale, and Books and Blooms.

# **CORNWALL LIBRARY**

**Building and Grounds**: The Library building is 21 years old. It has been carefully maintained and needs no repairs at this time, in fact we made some improvements this year. We added a patio in the rear of the Library with an awning and furniture, a tent for events and programs, a bicycle rack, and a teak bench in the front of the building.

We have enhanced our technical resources. We opened our wifi to the public and extended its reach outside of the building. The Town of Cornwall economic development commission has installed equipment that extends the wifi ever farther, well onto the green. In addition, the Town, through an ARPA grant, funded a hybrid live/zoom room. Work will begin on this soon. It will be available to all town groups.

**Finances**: The Library's finances are always carefully monitored and are strong. Along with expanded services comes on expanded budget. The annual town grant supplies about 25% of our funding. We depend on contributions for the rest.

In short the Library is doing very well. We responded to changing needs, by expanding and enhancing our collection and our programming, especially children's programming. We are grateful for the continued support of our wonderful community.

Margaret Haske,
Director of the Cornwall Library







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Housatonic Youth Service Bureau 2021-2022 Annual Report

## **Town of Cornwall**

Happy Birthday HYSB! In December 2021 the Housatonic Youth Service Bureau celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> birthday...30 years of service to the youth and families of Region One.

We proudly serve the Northwest Corner as the only mental health agency providing FREE clinical services to children ages 3-21 and their families and we continue to grow and expand our programs to meet the increasing needs of our communities.

The Housatonic Youth Service Bureau is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that serves the towns of North Canaan, Canaan, Salisbury/Lakeville, Sharon, Cornwall, and Kent. Our licensed clinicians provide a variety of free services that promote the overall health and wellbeing of children and their families and impact the lives of thousands living in our community.



Learning about personal superpowers and creating our own superheroes!

Post-pandemic fallout continues to have a huge impact in the work that we do; families are still coping with loss, anxiety, feelings of isolation, and hesitation about how/when to return to "normal" while also facing judgement and even criticism for those decision. We have also noted in significant increase in truancy cases being referred to our Juvenile Review Board. During the 2021-2022 school year, HYSB worked with 132 students in the region for individual counseling, 16 of those students resided in Cornwall (double the number Cornwall students from the previous year).

Throughout the 2021-2022 school year our clinical staff visited each of the 7 public schools as well as some of our private schools weekly to provide in-person counseling services to children during the school day. One of the critical differences between HYSB and other providers is our relationships with the school communities. This partnership allows us to be in the schools during the school days brining the services directly to the students and eliminating the barriers of transportation, scheduling, parent/caregiver availability, etc.

In addition to our counseling services, HYSB offers custom group programming which is based on the unique needs within each community and designed to provide a safe environment where children can connect with their peers and HYSB social workers to discuss sensitive topics and share strategies for overcoming adversity and learning when and how to engage with other adults and authorities.

Your continued annual support makes it possible for HYSB to make a difference in the lives of thousands within our community.



Through the funding from the Town of Cornwall and generous donors across Region One, HYSB is able to continue to offer our free services, such as mental health counseling, community outreach, youth empowerment and summer internship programs as well as case management services, referral services, and other services for the children and families in the town of Cornwall. We are incredibly grateful for your continued financial support and look forward to continuing our work together for the children and families of the town of Cornwall.

Sincerely,

Kelly Parker

Executive Director





HYSB staff use a variety of methods when talking with clients including art therapy, play, traditional talk therapy, etc. Our focus is on the comfort and confidence of our clients during all of their sessions.





PO Box 356 | Falls Village, CT 06031 | P: (860) 824-4720 www.hysb.org | info@hysbct.org



Chore Service, founded in 1992, provides in-home, non-medical assistance to seniors and people with disabilities within the community so that they may remain safely and independently at home. Chore employs local, caring people to provide essential services such as house cleaning, laundry, companionship, transportation, yard work, etc. to residents in North Canaan, Cornwall, Falls Village, Kent, Norfolk, Salisbury/Lakeville, and Sharon. Services are partially funded by a grant from the Western Connecticut Area Agency on Aging which subsidizes clients aged 60 and over regardless of income. Client contributions supplement the grant along with donations from towns, churches, charitable foundations, and donors so that the program can remain affordable for everyone. When necessary, referrals are made to the VNA, physicians, social workers, etc. to assure safety.

From July 2021 through June 2022, Chore provided services to 11 Cornwall residents. These residents received over 275 hours of help with chores such as cleaning, errands, and yard work so that they could continue to remain safely in their homes. Five Chore Workers who live in Cornwall earned over \$13,680 last year.

Chore applied for ARPA funding and is grateful for those towns, including the Town of Cornwall, that allocated funds to help reduce Chore's negative financial impact resulting from the pandemic. We are also thankful for those towns which are still considering our funding requests.

Safety for both clients and workers remains a priority. COVID safety protocols and training remain in place with PPE supplied to workers and clients in need.

The need for services continues to grow and no one is ever turned away for the ability to pay. Like many businesses, Chore continues to be affected by the labor shortage and found it essential to increase worker compensation. Chore continues to seek ways to attract additional workers and volunteers.

Our federal grant monies are depleted before the year ends, so we are delighted that the Town of Cornwall continues to contribute to these services. Many thanks to those that have supported and continue to support Chore. We are most grateful for the generous support of all our donors, including the Town of Cornwall.

Chore Service remains committed to helping our most vulnerable community members. If you need assistance or know someone who might benefit from our services, please call (860) 435-9177 or visit our website at www.choreservice.org. Also, if you are looking for employment or volunteer opportunities and would like to make a difference in someone's life, please give Chore a call.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane MacLaren Executive Director jane@choreservice.org



#### **OUR MISSION**

"For more than 60 years, the Little Guild has been dedicated to rescuing, healing and individually nurturing homeless dogs and cats. We match these animals with caring homes in our community and provide programs to strengthen the bonds between pets and people."

Founded in 1960, the Little Guild is the largest no-kill animal shelter in Northwest Connecticut. Throughout our history, the primary role of the organization has been to rescue and adopt animals. We have developed a special strength in matching animals to appropriate homes, yielding one of the very highest save rates nationally for a no-kill shelter, over 99% this past year. In addition to overseeing daily and medical care, our dedicated staff provides individualized training, behavior assessments, playgroups, temperament testing, socialization, appropriate exercise and mental stimulation for the animals in our care.

In recent years, the Little Guild's work has expanded to meet our community's needs throughout Litchfield County and the surrounding areas. We provide emergency housing for pets of families in crisis, food and medical assistance to keep animals in their homes, and community education and training. We have a pet pantry offering free pet food and supplies on site and we partner monthly with Friendly Hands Food Bank to bring pet pantry supplies out into the community. Annually, at Coe Park in Torrington, we hold the Pittie Party, a no-cost vaccination clinic, during which we offer vouchers for no-cost spay/neuters at local veterinary practices. We support women in crisis who need pet care while they are in programs at Women's Support Services and the Susan B. Anthony Project, and offer educational programs to schools and youth organizations. Thanks to the support of the Cornwall Foundation and the Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation, we offer no-cost dog training to adopters and Cornwall Town Residents, and low-cost training to community members.



As a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, the Little Guild raises approximately 75% of its operating budget annually through adoption fees, fundraising and donations. The Little Guild holds two major fundraising events annually, the Great Country Mutt Show in the spring, and the Run & Wag 5K in the fall.

The Little Guild is embarking on an effort to raise a new building to serve the needs of the Northwest Corner more effectively. An improved building will allow us to save more animals, provide more welfare programs to local pet owners and expanded educational programs to schools and civic organizations. The Little Guild Board of Directors has spent over two years thoroughly researching the needs and possibilities, forming a Building Committee, Land Use Committee and Capital Campaign Committee. The consulting firm of Danosky & Associates LLC was hired to conduct a pre-campaign feasibility study and the Building

Committee toured animal welfare facilities throughout New England, meeting with the executive directors of each shelter, and researched many more online. The Land Committee refocused their efforts to keep the facility in Cornwall and are now not only confident that we can find a solution to build at our current

site at 285 Sharon Goshen Turnpike in West Cornwall but that we'll be able to do so while maintaining operations in our existing building. The Little Guild benefits from strong community support from Town of Cornwall and we have a vibrant base of local volunteers – all of which is integral to our success.

The Capital Campaign Committee is overseeing an ongoing capital campaign to fund the facility. Thanks to the generous support of the Robert Rosenheim Foundation, a fully participating board, several family foundations, and supportive local donors we are already well on our way to reaching our goal.

In July 2022 the Building Committee retained the services of the Hamden-based architectural firm Silver, Petrucelli & Associates to design the shelter for our current site and we anticipate breaking ground in 2023. Through proper layout and configuration, prudent use of proportion and scale, and intelligent grouping of rooms and work areas, a new building of equivalent size can accommodate more animals and greatly improve workflow. The improved structure will offer a healthier and quieter environment for the

animals. Coupled with the disposition and improved management protocols, the new design will present an opportunity to rescue 50% more animals, as well as offering quarantine capabilities. Cats will have increased space with outdoor windows, there will be a large community room to host training, education and community events, and space for adopters to socialize with the animals.

A new facility will have an amazingly positive impact on the animals we care for, the community we serve and the volunteers who support us. It will diminish some of our current challenges while allowing us to expand our programming, offer enhanced education and training activities, and additional medical clinics. A new facility for the Little Guild will serve as a central resource for everyone living in Northwest Connecticut and the surrounding counties - animals and humans alike.



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The Little Guild's 19 Board of Directors meet four times annually: President Karen Doeblin, Vice President Richard Lanier, Secretary Justin Vagliano, Treasurer Charles Short, Albert Banta, Kelly Bozzuto, Dr. Carrie Cannon, Page Dickey, Philippa Durrant, John Guenther, Inge Heckel, Diane Mattes, Dr. Matthew Nebel, Katherine O'Brien, Joan Osofsky, Jill Sheffield, Dr. David Ott, Betsy Vorce and Alice Yoakum.

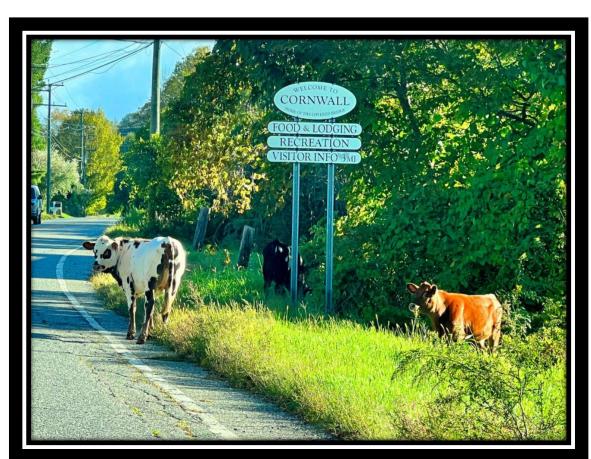
The Little Guild Advisory Council Members are: Mary Lanier, Chairperson, Kate Beatty, Tom Brashares, Sabina Breece, John Brett, Blair Brown, Dev Chatillon, Louise Dunn, Jonathan Edelman, Diana Greene, Jill Hetson, Rodger Hicks, Gail Jacobson, Jeff Jacobson, Chet Krayesski, Bob Meyers, Phyllis Nauts, Howard Pulchin-Ramos, Natalie Randall, Diana Ripley, Jerome Roth, Richard Schlesinger, Jim Sheffield, Lisa Sorce Aiba and Bunny Williams.

To make a tax-deductible donation to the Little Guild or to the Little Guild Capital Campaign, please contact Executive Director Jenny Langendoerfer at director@littleguild.org.













#### **Women's Support Services Annual Report**

This past year has arguably been one of the busiest years Women's Support Services (WSS) has ever experienced. The numbers speak for themselves. During the past year we:

- Provided support services to 821 clients, 412 of whom were new clients. This is a nearly 30% increase in two years.
- The composition of our new clients includes:
  - o 381 adults and 31 children
  - o 297 female, 111 male clients, 4 clients who chose 'Other'
- Responded to 1485 hotline crisis requests a nearly 65% increase in two years.
- Provided emergency shelter to 20 people for a total of 2,135 nights of shelter. This included 11 women, 2 men, and 7 children.
- Provided criminal and civil court advocacy and support to 670 victims of family violence –
   a 44% increase over two years.
- Conducted 194 prevention workshops to children and teens in area schools.

The increasing requests for support and expansion of programming has fueled growth in other areas as well. WSS recruited an additional Advocate this spring, bringing our Client Services team to 5 full-time staff. We have also added a Director of Operations, bringing us to 12 full-time staff members altogether. We also moved into new offices this spring, and we now have the space to host events and training workshops — along with all of our staff members! We are also in the midst of plans to create a welcoming community space, complete with kitchen and laundry, a dining area, and space for clients and their families to rest, do homework, and have a sense of normalcy, all while accessing vital services and supports under one roof. Thank you to the Town of Cornwall for your grant of \$1,500 last year, which has been critical in helping Women's Support Services meet the increased requests from our clients and community.

Our growing team has brought us diversity, critical skills, and increased capacity. Our new Director of Community Engagement, in collaboration with the Director of Clients Services, revised our prevention education program to create a seamless progression of lessons from grade 6 – grade 12. In the Region One Middle Schools and High School, every student will access WSS programming. Also

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exciting is the fact that our Prevention Education team has begun engaging parents around the topics we are discussing with their children at school. This is a critical point for helping parents and caretakers to reinforce the lessons and strategies their students are leaning, and will also be a learning opportunity for them. The Director also revitalized our certification training program for volunteers and re-launched our *Early Years Program*, which focuses on Kindergarten - Grade 2. This program is largely volunteer-run.

I felt like a rock star reading to the class! The kids loved brainstorming. The class was very engaged and loved asking questions during and after hearing the story. It was the end of their school day when I left. As I walked outside, I overheard one of the students talking with her dad. She was excited to show him her paper and tell him about the story from class. I'm hoping that by bringing home her paper, she (and the other students) will share the lessons with her siblings and other people outside of class.

Amanda Gregg, WSS Volunteer

We are also better able to serve our clients. We now have staff members who are bilingual in English and Spanish, we have more options for emergency and interim housing, and we have the capacity to provide consistent support to clients who enter the Rapid Re-housing program, but still need on-going support. Most clients need support beyond counseling. They need help accessing services, obtaining legal documents, negotiating with agencies, organizing meetings and childcare, etc. If they don't have a car or just need someone to be with them, there is an entirely different level of support that is required.

We are also expanding our community education program, which helps healthcare and emergency service providers identify victims of abuse and refer to them to our services. We are engaging area businesses and other community partners to ensure that we are reaching the people who need our services, to raise awareness about the many forms of domestic violence, and to spread the message that abuse is not acceptable and victims are to be believed, not blamed.

The on-going support of the Town of Cornwall has been critical to the continued strengthening

of our programs and support services.

Thank you!

# TOWN OF CORNWALL, CONNECTICUT MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS JUNE 30, 2022

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As management of the Town of Cornwall (the "Town"), we offer readers of the Town's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Town for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022.

#### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- The assets and deferred outflows of resources of the Town of Cornwall exceeded its liabilities at the close of the most recent fiscal year by \$11,486,782 (net position). Of this amount, \$4,549,623 (unrestricted net position) may be used to meet the government's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors. Restricted Net Position is \$90,544, which is comprised of \$53,793 for the Cornwall Endowment Fund, \$16,251 for Open Space and \$20,500 for the Food & Fuel Fund. The remainder of its net position is invested in capital assets.
- As of the close of the current fiscal year, the Town of Cornwall's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$4,385,293, an increase of \$330,050 in comparison with the prior year. Of this amount, \$2,823,673 is available for spending at the government's discretion and called the Unassigned fund balance. The Assigned portion is \$478,340, the Committed portion is \$944,565, the Restricted portion is \$36,751 and the Nonspendable portion is \$101,964. See page 36 of the audit report for details.
- At the end of the current fiscal year, the fund balance for the General Fund was \$3,280,038, of which \$175,000 has been assigned for the subsequent year's budget and \$241,288 has been assigned for other purposes leaving an unassigned fund balance for the General Fund of \$2,815,579 or 37.6% percent of total General Fund expenditures for the subsequent year 2022/2023.

# **OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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

# **Government-Wide Financial Statements**

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

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

The Statement of Activities presents information showing how the government's net position is changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses

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# TOWN OF CORNWALL, CONNECTICUT MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS JUNE 30, 2022

are reported in this statement for some items that will result in future cash inflows (revenues) and outflows (expenditures).

Both of the government-wide financial statements present functions of the Town that are principally supported by tax revenues, grants and intergovernmental revenues (governmental activities). The governmental activities of the Town include general government, public safety, highways, sanitation, health and welfare, recreation, and education. The Town does not report any funds that carry-on business-type activities

The government-wide financial statements can be found on pages 10-11 of the audit report.

#### **Fund Financial Statements**

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

#### **Governmental Funds**

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

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund Balance Sheet and the governmental fund Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

The Town maintains nine (10) individual governmental funds. Information is presented separately in the governmental fund Balance Sheet and in the governmental fund Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances for the General Fund. The Town also reports the Capital Projects Fund and the Town Special Grant Fund as major funds.

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

The basic governmental fund financial statements can be found on pages 12-15 of the audit report.

# TOWN OF CORNWALL, CONNECTICUT MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS JUNE 30, 2022

#### Fiduciary Funds.

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

The basic fiduciary fund financial statements can be found on pages 16-17 of the audit report.

#### Notes to the Financial Statements.

The notes to the financial statements provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and financial fund statements. The notes to the financial statements can be found on pages 23 - 42 of this report.

#### Other Information.

The combining statements referred to earlier in connection with non-major governmental funds are presented following notes to the financial statements. Combining and individual fund statements and other schedules can be found on pages 46–60 of this report.

#### **GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS**

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position and an important determinant of its ability to finance services in the future. In the case of the Town, assets exceeded liabilities by \$11,486,782 At the close of the most recent fiscal year.

By far the largest portion of the Town's assets is its investment in capital assets (e.g., land, buildings, machinery, and equipment). It is presented in the statement of net position less any related debt used to acquire those assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the Town's investment in its capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities.

The Town's net position increased by \$343,639 during the current fiscal year.

# NET POSITION - June 30, 2022 and June 30, 2021

The restricted portion of the Town's Net Position represents net position restricted for capital projects and other purposes. The balance of Unrestricted Net Position \$4,549,623 may be used to meet the government's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.

At the end of the current fiscal year, the Town is able to report that all categories of net position increased by \$343,639 during this fiscal year. This increase is primarily attributable to principal pay down of bonded debt and the excess of depreciation over additions to capital assets.

A comparative detail of net position for the last two fiscal years is as follows:

# TOWN OF CORNWALL, CONNECTICUT MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS JUNE 30, 2022

	2022		-	2021
<u>Assets</u>		<u>.</u>	<u>-</u>	
Current and other assets	\$	4,836,434	\$	4,801,860
Capital assets, net of depreciation		7,964,115		8,191,911
<u>Total assets</u>		12,800,549		<b>12,993,77</b> 1
Deferred Outflows of Resources	P	10,832		16,249
<u>Liabilities</u>				
Current and other liabilities		<b>527,88</b> 1		1,459,946
Long-term liabilities		796,718		406,931
Total liabilities		1,324,599		1,866,877
Net position				
Net Investment in capital assets		6,846,615		<b>6,748,2</b> 14
Restricted		90,544		73,510
Unrestricted		4,549,623		4,321,419
Total net position	\$	11,486,782	\$	11,143,143

## CHANGES IN NET POSITION - June 30, 2022 and June 30, 2021

#### **Governmental Activities**

Governmental activities increased the Town of Cornwall's net position by \$651,782.

Key elements of the activities are as follows: 84.7% of the revenues of the Town were derived from property taxes, followed by 11.6% from Operating grants and contributions, 2.0% from charges for services, and 1.7% from investment income, capital grants and other revenues.

Major revenue factors included decreases in charges for services, operating grants and contributions, capital grants and other income. This is impacted by a decrease of \$408,963 from \$600,807 to \$191,844 in the on-behalf payments from the state of Connecticut for the teachers retirement contribution which offsets both income and expenses, see note 2. Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, the tax collection rate remained consistent with prior fiscal years.

For Governmental Activities, 59.4% of the Town's expenses relate to education and repayment of long-term debt for school construction, 12.5% relates to highways and public works, 9.8% relates to public safety and health and welfare, and the remaining 18.3% relates to government, community services, administration, and other areas.

For the most part, major expense factors for the General Fund remained consistent as compared to the prior year. Major capital asset events during the fiscal year include carpet and windows for the Cornwall Consolidated School, guide rails on Dibble Hill and improvements to the transfer station office building.

A comparative detail of changes in net position for the last two fiscal years is as follows:

# TOWN OF CORNWALL, CONNECTICUT MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS JUNE 30, 2022

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	2022	2021
Revenues:		
General revenues:		
Property taxes	6,759,146	6,688,835
Unrestricted investment income	9,164	17,800
Grants and contributions not restricted to	114,489	42,614
Other revenue	10,808	92,625
Program revenues:		
Charges for services	158,909	206,167
Operating grants and contributions	927,443	1,032,746
Capital grants and contributions	858	134,467
Total revenues	7,980,817	8,215,254
<u>Expenses</u>		
Governmental activities		
General government	1,225,370	1,085,012
Public safety	215,484	557,683
Highways	955,993	607,149
Sanitation	1 <b>84,246</b>	185,278
Health and welfare	267,900	154,371
Recreation	74,407	75,420
Education	4,504,943	4,702,052
Other	1 <b>78,927</b>	153,738
Debt service	29,908	42,769
Total Expenses	7,637,178	7,563,472
Change in Net Position	343,639	651,782
Net Position, beginning	11,143,143	10,491,361
Net Position, ending	\$ 11,486,782	\$ 11,143,143

#### FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

#### **Governmental Funds**

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

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# TOWN OF CORNWALL, CONNECTICUT MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS JUNE 30, 2022

As of the end of the current fiscal year, the Town's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$4,385,293 an increase of \$330,050. Sixty Five Percent of this total amount constitutes Unassigned fund balance, which is available for spending at the government's discretion.

The General Fund is the chief operating fund of the Town. At the end of the current fiscal year, total fund balance of the General Fund totaled \$3,280,038, an increase of \$214,570 over the previous year of which \$175,000 was assigned for the subsequent year's budget and \$241,288 was assigned for other purposes.

As a measure of the General Fund's liquidity, it may be useful to compare both Unassigned Fund Balance and total Fund Balance to total fund expenditures. Unassigned Fund Balance of \$2,815,579 represents 37.6% of total General Fund expenditures budgeted for the subsequent Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

## **GENERAL FUND BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS**

The Town ended the year with a \$214,570 budget surplus. The revenues exceeded budgeted amounts by \$129,188. This is principally related to favorable variances in fees collected by the Town Clerk, as well as property taxes, delinquent taxes and interest and fees collected by the Tax Collector. Overall, the Town's expenditures were \$85,382 less than budgeted amounts principally attributable to savings in insurance and benefits and public safety as well as conservative expense budgeting.

Although \$288,110 of fund balance was anticipated to be needed to balance the budget, only \$73,540 was used.

A detailed schedule of revenues and expenditures, budget and actual, can be found on 46-49 of this report.

# CAPITAL ASSET AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

## Capital Assets

The town's investment in capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation) for its governmental fund as of June 30, 2022 amounted to \$7,964,115. This investment in capital assets included land, buildings and system improvements, infrastructure, and machinery and equipment.

Major capital asset events during the fiscal year include carpet and windows for the Cornwall Consolidated School, guide rails on Dibble Hill and improvements to the transfer station office building.

#### June 30, 2022 and June 30, 2021

		2021		2020
Land and infrastructure	\$	2,471,431	\$	2,412,138
Building and improvements		4,183,383		4,427,957
Machinery and equipment		1,309,301		1,411,792
Total (net of accumulated depreciation)	\$_	7,964,115	\$_	8,251,887

# TOWN OF CORNWALL, CONNECTICUT MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS JUNE 30, 2022

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## **Long-Term Obligations**

At the end of the current fiscal year, the Town had outstanding debt of \$1,128,332 related to governmental activities as follows.

	2022		_	2021	
General obligation bonds	\$	1,103,318		\$	1,427,480
Landfill closure		25,014	_		32,466
Total	\$	1,128,332		\$	1,459,946

Additional information on the Town's long-term debt can be found in Note 8 on pages 34-35 of the audit report.

## **ECONOMIC FACTORS AND THE NEXT YEAR'S BUDGETS AND RATES**

The COVID-19 pandemic continued to dominate conversations and impact activity, The Emergency Declaration issued on 3.10.20, continued to be in effect for the entire Fiscal Year. Town offices remained open for the Fiscal Year.

While there were no changes to the budget preparation process due to the Covid-19 pandemic, changes to the budget approval process continued. All Board of Finance meetings were held via the Zoom teleconferencing platform. However, the annual Public Hearing to present the proposed budgets, was a hybrid meeting held at Cornwall Consolidated School and via the Zoom platform. The budget referendum was held in person.

The Town's elected officials considered many factors when setting the fiscal year 2023 budget and property tax rates.

- a) Revaluation and the 15% increase in the Grand List.
- b) The unassigned fund balance of the General Fund.
- c) WC Wastewater project and the potential of federal funding for a portion of the project.
- d) Garbage removal cost increases associated with the closure of MIRA.
- e) Cyber security insurance costs.
- Student enrollments and future projections of enrollment.
- g) Capital expenditures and town buildings.

All of the above factors were considered in preparing the Town's budget for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

## **Requests for Information**

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Town's finances for all those with an interest in the government's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the Finance Office, Town of Cornwall, P.O. Box 97, Cornwall, CT 06753.

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# TOWN OF CORNWALL, CONNECTICUT STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

	General Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Town Special Grant Fund	Non Major Governmental Funds	Total
Revenues:		•	•	s -	\$ 6,845,771
Property taxes	\$ 6,845,771	\$ -	\$ -	-	9,164
Investment income	9,589	2,232	-	(2,657) 29,634	158,909
Fees and charges	129,275	-	240.012		796,591
Intergovernmental revenue	531,089	-	249,812	15,690	204,746
Contributions	-	858	•	203,888	
Other revenues	52,261		-	216.555	52,261
Total revenues	7,567,985	3,090	249,812	246,555	8,067,442
Expenditures:					
General government	866,880	37,623	153,670	88,078	1,146,251
Public safety	153,541	-	-	-	153,541
Highways	538,911	-	-	-	538,911
Sanitation	188,455	-	-	-	188,455
Health and welfare	57,657	-	-	210,243	267,900
Recreation	74,407		-	-	74,407
Education	4,203,279	52,292	51,142	43,478	4,350,191
Other	178,927	-	-	-	178,927
Debt service	350,466	-		-	350,466
Capital outlay	-	488,343	-	-	488,343
Total Expenditures:	6,612,523	578,258	204,812	341,799	7,737,392
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues					
Over Expenditures	955,462	(575,168)	45,000	(95,244)	330,050
Other financing sources (uses):					
Transfers In	45,000	755,000	-	30,892	830,892
Transfers Out	(785,892)	-	(45,000)		(830,892)
Total other financing sources (uses):	(740,892)	755,000	(45,000)	30,892	
Net change in fund balances	214,570	179,832		(64,352)	330,050
Fund balances beginning of year	3,065,468	669,586		320,189	4,055,243
Fund balances end of year	\$ 3,280,038	\$ 849,418	\$ -	\$ 255,837	\$ 4,385,293

#### TOWN OF CORNWALL, CONNECTICUT REPORT OF THE TAX COLLECTOR FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

Grand List October 1	Balances	Current		Lawful Corrections				Collectable			Collections						Transfers To		Balances	
	6/30/2021			Additions		Deductions		Taxes			Taxes		Interest and Liens		Total	Suspense		6/30/2022		
2020	•	•	6,707,132	5	3,909	S	5,106	5	6,705,935	\$	6,617,268	\$	16,977	\$	6,634,245	S	1,305	\$	87,362	
	79,294		0,707,102	•	13	-	127		79,180		32,623		7,312		39,935		-		46,557	
2019			-		13				38,457		19,753		7.488		27,241		-		18,704	
2018	38,457		-		-		_		29,451		13,565		8,315		21,880		1,863		14,023	
2017	29,451		-		-		_		25,562		12,625		9,711		22,336		-		12,937	
2016	25,562		-		-		-				11,074		10,679		21,753				10,727	
2015	21,801		-		-		-		21,801				12,524		23,468				10,868	
2014	21,812		-		-		-		21,812		10,944				25,051				7,514	
2013	18,291				-		-		18,291		10,777		14,274				-		7,510	
2012	12,754		-		-		-		12,754		5,244		7,654		12,898		•			
2011	4,390				-		-		4,390				-		-		•		4,390	
2010	8,213		_				-		8,213				-		-		•		8,213	
	9,069				_				9,069		-		-				-		9,069	
2009			-						9,668						-		-		9,668	
2008	9,668				-				8,637		-				-		-		8,637	
2007	8,637		-		-		-												9,661	
2006	9,661		-		-		-		9,661		-		200		-		6,465			
2005	6,465		-		-			_	6,465	_	6 702 072	-	94,934	•	6,828,807		3,168	2	265,840	
ntala	\$ 303.525	2	6,707,132	S	3,922	S	5,233	2	7,009,346	2	6,733,873	2	94,934	4	0,020,007	3	3,100	-	200,010	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

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## PLEASE ABIDE BY THE 5 MPH SPEED LIMIT ON ENTERING & EXITING FACILITY.

#### FEES FOR BULKY WASTE - CASH ONLY BASIS - SEE ATTENDANT BEFORE DUMPING:

No Bulky Waste on Sundays - Payment expected at time of dumping

Appliances with CFC & HCFC gases \$13.00

Standard Pick-Up Truck-load \$50.00 (pro-rated for partial loads)

Auto batteries \$5.00 and up
Automobile tires \$4.00 each
Light truck tires up to size 825/20 \$5.00 each
Tires on rims add \$1.00 each
Shingles \$60.00 and up

BULKY WASTE: <u>Pay as you dump.</u> THE TRANSFER STATION WILL ACCEPT (not on Sundays), "BULKY WASTE" UP TO 2.5 YARDS (a standard pickup load) <u>PER RESIDENCE</u> OR BUSINESS. ONLY NON-HAZARDOUS MATERIALS CAN BE DUMPED. THIS INCLUDES WOOD, FURNITURE, ETC. WASTE MUST BE IN SIZE AND SHAPE ACCEPTABLE TO THE TRANSFER STATION OPERATOR.

**DEMOLITION MATERIALS: Not accepted on Sundays** 

Accepted on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Limit one load per month per residence.

Lumber must not be longer than 4' in length.

For major amounts the rental of a dumpster is necessary.

Shingles/ Sheetrock/Carpet: Make arrangements at Transfer Station prior to disposal. Check with attendant for rate information.

SCRAP METAL: Accepted - See attendant before unloading.

**PAINT:** Accepted – See attendant before unloading (exceptions apply).

**MATTRESSES:** Accepted – See attendant before unloading (exceptions apply).

**YARD WASTE:** Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection <u>does not permit</u> the disposal of yard wastes (i.e. leaves, grass clippings) at transfer stations.

Please compost your yard waste, wreaths, plants, animal waste with your kitchen waste of fruit & vegetable peelings. Composting can reduce solid waste by 40%!

**BRUSH BURNING:** Brush can be burned only with a permit and during low risk weather. Obtain permit beforehand at the Selectman's Office, 9:00 am-12:00, 1:00-4:00 pm. Monday-Thursday, 860-672-4959.

**BRUSH TO BRUSH DUMP:** \$25.00 a pick-up load; \$50.00 dump-truck load; 5 yard maximum. Prior arrangement is needed to deliver brush to the brush dump at the gravel bank. **Call Jim** at the Highway Garage at 860-672-6230. Monday-Friday between 7:00-7:30 a.m. or 3:00-3:30 p.m. Checks for fees charged may be mailed to Selectmen's Office, Town of Cornwall, P.O. Box 97, Cornwall, CT 06753.

**LOGS AND STUMPS:** Too large to burn are not accepted at the brush dump. Call Supreme Industries in Harwinton at 485-0343 or Steve Leining in Sheffield, Massachusetts at (413) 528-8066 for removal or google other possible companies.

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION:** Cornwall's trash is hauled to Hartford to be burned in the <u>CRRA Mid-Connecticut Project</u> <u>waste-to-energy facility</u>. This facility generates electricity to power about 45,000 homes and sells that electricity into the power grid. The by-products of this process – ash and non-processable waste – end up in modern lined landfills, but trash-to-energy reduces by 90% the volume of material going into landfills. While Cornwall pays \$60.50 per ton (in FY 2011) to bring trash to the trash-to-energy plant, it pays nothing to bring its recyclables to CRRA's recycling facility. In fact, CRRA pays Cornwall for its recyclables. RECYCLE! Save Cornwall's money!

# **CORNWALL TRANSFER STATION**

24 Furnace Brook Road (Route 4) - 860-672-4079

**HOURS:** Tues., Thurs. & Sat.: 9:00-4:30 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00-11:00 a.m.

We can only accept garbage and trash generated IN THE TOWN OF CORNWALL

you must have a Transfer Sticker ~ you can obtain a Transfer Sticker from Transfer Station attendants.

**RECYCLING:** Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection has mandated recycling.

#### **PLACE IN SEPARATE CONTAINERS**

Loose & rinsed Bundled in brown bags or tied Loose

in shed in container to the left outside shed in container to left in shed in container to right

milk cartons newspapers office paper juice boxes (aseptic) magazines junk paper metal cans catalogs cereal boxes clean aluminum foil corrugated cardboard - 3'x3' & smaller shoebox cardboard

glass jars (w/no lids) (no waxed cardboard)

wax milk containers

juice box containers (aseptic)
plastic #1 through #7 (no bigger than

three-gallon size)

cannot accept: as recyclables: (to be disposed of as household waste)

Unmarked plastic

Lids, caps or screw tops

Styrofoam (excepting "peanuts")

Please rinse all containers for the attendant's safety.

Cardboard bigger than 3' x 3' is to be flattened and kept separate to be baled.

# -- No Bulky Waste on Sundays

- 1. **METAL** other than cans goes into the metal bin if space is available.
- 2. PAINT in original container with lid and label.
- 3. BULKY WASTE accepted only when space available call first! 860-672-4079 Fees apply. Pay as you dump.
- 4. All wood, plywood, pressboard goes into bulky waste. Fees apply. Pay as you dump.
- 5. **B**ulky waste, woods, metal: Please reduce, cut and compact prior to dumping.

MISCELLANEOUS: Check with attendant. We accept for recycling and/or redistribution:

Fluorescent light bulbs: compact and tube variety

Rechargeable batteries: Nickel Cadmium (NiCad) Lithium Ion (Li-ion), small sealed lead (Pb) and

Nickel Metal Hydride (Ni-MH) rechargeable batteries

Polystyrene peanuts (the packing kind)

Clean, used clothing in good condition can be placed in the large bin outside the gate

Waste oil and motor oil
Plastic Flower pots
Printer cartridges
Electronics
Paper egg cartons
Redeemable glass and plastic bottles

Antifreeze Books Eye Glasses Smoke Detectors Black Plastic Retired Flags

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> RECYCLABLES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE \*\*\*