



CITY OF TORRINGTON



ANNUAL REPORT

2011-2012







# CITY OF TORRINGTON

## 2012 ANNUAL REPORT

### *From the Office of the Mayor*



Mayor Ryan J. Bingham

*Greetings!* I cannot begin to say how honored I am to serve the citizens of Torrington, you have put great faith in me and I am privileged to serve you. Another year has gone by and the City of Torrington continues to make positive strides through a difficult economy.

We continue to work with our City Council and Board of Education to ensure that your tax dollars are being spent wisely, and efficiently. We have been successful at finding various cost savings while still providing the same levels of service that our citizens deserve.

As always, we continue to be proactive in finding and applying for various grants from State and Federal sources. In 2012 alone we received almost \$1,200,000 for things such as new sidewalks, a façade improvement program, downtown murals, a small business consultant and more. Utilizing these grants enables our city to grow and improve without a high cost to the taxpayers. Torrington has also become the home of over 24 new businesses and multiple business expansions.

Downtown Torrington continues to be a focal point of our city and I'm proud of the success we've seen thus far. Thanks to the great work of our Arts. Culture. Torrington (ACT) Commission and the Torrington Downtown Partners, downtown Torrington is now home to a

stunning new art gallery. In addition, work is scheduled to begin in the Spring of 2013 on brand new sidewalks for the West side of the street with another grant received to do similar work on the East side of Main Street.

Torrington is home to so many great businesses and individuals who work hard to make their city a wonderful place. Whether a small retail business on Main Street or an international company in one of our industrial parks, Torrington is the place to be for business. We strive to remain business friendly and attract new companies to town while nurturing ones that already exist.

In closing, I would like to remind everyone that should they ever want to voice their comments or concerns I am always accessible. It gives me no greater pleasure than to be able to listen and help residents whenever possible. You are strongly encouraged to call, write, email, or stop by my office if you need anything. I have been greatly honored to be your Mayor for the past 7 years and look forward to our future.

Warmest regards,

Ryan J. Bingham  
December 2012

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## CITY GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

### CITY COUNCIL

Marie Soliani, Paul Samele Jr., Gregg Cogswell, Drake Waldron,  
Elinor Carbone, Gerry Zordan

### MAYOR'S OFFICE

Mayor—Ryan J. Bingham  
Mayoral Aide—Tim Waldron  
Staff—Maurette Wall

### BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION

Co-Chairmen—Mayor Ryan J. Bingham & Michael Clark  
Members—Lorel Purcell, Edward Cook, Douglas O'Connell, Kenneth Traub,  
Elinor Carbone with one vacancy



New artwork unveiled at the  
corner of Main Street and Water  
Street

## CITY DEPARTMENTS

### ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Assessor—Donna L. Patchen, CCMA II  
Deputy Assessor—Gail Sartori, CCMA II  
Staff—Ingrid Beeman, Delisse Locher & Lisa Gay

### BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

Chairperson—Charlene Antonelli  
Members—Jessica Rinaldi & James Bailey  
Alternates—Thomas Gluz & 1 vacancy

The Torrington Assessors Office's primary mission is to discover, list, and value all taxable and non-taxable real property, business personal property, and motor vehicles within the city. This function involves maintaining accurate configurations of land and ownership, and establishing valuations upon which the city levies its property taxes. The office provides important mapping, parcel data, and ownership/assessment information and assistance to taxpayers and government agencies.

Assessments are compiled annually into a document known as the Grand List. We strive to develop values with fairness and impartiality in accordance with the laws of the State of Connecticut. The individual assessments in the Grand List distribute an individual taxpayer's property tax liability. The office also administers certain state and local tax exemption programs for the blind, totally disabled, elderly homeowners, local option freeze, State freeze, local option veterans, State veterans, local veterans, farm land, forest land, Enterprise Corridor zone, MME exemptions, 490 farm building exemption and manufacturer's equipment and machinery.

*We are  
committed to providing  
accurate information in  
a timely and courteous  
manner.*

The assessor’s office is used by a wide range of professionals as well as individual taxpayers. We are committed to providing accurate information in a timely and courteous manner. Appraisers, attorneys, real estate agents, developers, title searchers, federal and state agencies frequently reference the information contained on our assessment records. Information of particular importance includes updated ownership information, current real property sales data, personal property assessments, updated parcel tax reference maps, and other current property characteristics including zoning, utilities, and any building data.

**Customer Volume**

The office generated approximately **\$2,482** in copying fees (e.g. copies of property record cards, tax maps, etc.) which is turned into the City’s General Fund. Most of this revenue literally comes across the counter \$1 at-a-time and represents the large volume of customers we serve throughout the year. Furthermore, we wrote approximately **3,032** Certificate of Corrections during the 2011-2012 fiscal year. Most of these were motor vehicle related and again represents the large volume of taxpayers we deal with on a personal basis. Over 426 motor vehicles were adjusted manually before the bills were created.

**2010 Grand List Totals**

Here are the assessment totals for the 2010 Grand List of taxable property. The Net Taxable Value of **\$2,344,731,930**



Main Street in downtown.

<b><u>ASSESSMENTS:</u></b>	
Real Estate	2,037,343,770
Personal Property	174,969,150
Motor Vehicle	<u>203,410,230</u>
<b>Gross Grand List</b>	<b>2,415,723,150</b>
<b><u>EXEMPTIONS:</u></b>	
Real Estate	34,299,950
Personal Property	33,542,780
Motor Vehicle	<u>3,148,490</u>
Total Exemptions	<b>70,991,220</b>
<b>Net Taxable Grand List</b>	<b>2,344,731,930</b>

ASSESSOR’S OFFICE (CON’T)

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statute the City is required to implement a full physical revaluation of all property in the City every ten years and an interim statistical revaluation every 5 years. The City contracted with Total Valuation Services in Waterbury, to collect all data, physically inspect and assist the Assessor in the 2008 Grand List valuation process. However; the new assessed values were implemented for October 1, 2009. The next scheduled “interim” City-wide revaluation will be for the Grand List of 2014.

**City of Torrington Assessor's Website**

The Assessor's office continues to update the website, [www.torringtonct.org](http://www.torringtonct.org) choose ‘Departments’, then ‘Assessor’. Also, the Assessor’s Office offers various types of forms for your use, in a printable version. We also offer multiple pages of information and answers to most frequently asked questions. If the specific information you are looking for is not available, please feel free to call our office 860 489-2222 to obtain the most current information regarding all State and Local programs.

**Five Highest Assessments - Personal Property, Real Property & Motor Vehicle Combined 2011 Grand List**

Property Owner	Assessment
Connecticut Light & Power	\$ 28,048,220
Dudrow Torrington LLC	\$ 19,254,250
Torrington Water Company	\$ 14,943,930
Torrington Triplets LLC	\$ 14,820,440
O & G Industries	\$ 10,813,400



Kid's Play—a new Children's Museum



Balloon artist at Main Street



Price Chopper at Torrington Triplets

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

Members—Christopher Rovero, Ellen Hoehne, Kenneth Traub, Karl Brady Jr., Vincent Merola III, Fiona Capabianca, Paul Cavagnero, Andrew Nargi, Daniel Thibault & John Kissko

## ADMINISTRATION

Superintendent—Cheryl F. Kloczko  
 Assistant Superintendent—Susan C. Domanico  
 Director of Special Education—Dr. Beth Robin  
 Director of Student & Professional Services—William Joslyn  
 Director of Business services—Danielle Batchelder  
 Director of Facilities—David Bascetta

### Goal #1

#### Align the secondary education program to provide continuation of services in grades 6-12:

- Reorganize grades 6-12 administrative responsibilities to provide a continuum of practice between TMS and THS;
- Continue development of curriculum based upon the Common Core Standards that will provide a more rigorous course selection for students;
- Increase the number/percent of students in grades 6-12 participating in more rigorous course work including but not limited to: honors classes at TMS in Algebra, Biology, etc.; early college credit, courses such as Honors, AP, and UCONN ECE; internship and apprentice opportunities with local businesses and non-profits; certifications for special classes including EMT, CNA, etc., and expanding the On Line Learning Program for all students;
- Reduce the rate of students at risk for being retained in 9<sup>th</sup> grade and dropping out of school through the development of alternative initiatives through multiplatform learning opportunities that provide students with the opportunity to solve a real world problem while working with the practicing professional;
- Reduce the number of discipline issues by implementing a common behavior program for students in grades 6-12 implementing a common language with specific directions resulting in expected outcomes.

### Goal #2

#### Design and implement a three year sustainable budget:

- Produce a three year operating budget that is fiscally responsible and prepares all the students of Torrington with the skills to be college and career ready;
- Produce a three year operating budget that supports district initiatives and meets the requirements of state education, mandated reforms;
- Produce a three year capital budget that includes a facility review once every five years;
- Maintain a Budget Plan that reviews and monitors revenue and expenses;
- Maintain a balanced budget for each fiscal year.

### Goal #3

#### Policies and Bylaws

- Review and edit all current policies and Board of Education Bylaws for consistency in practice, and continue to post them on the Torrington Public School website for community information;
- Complete a gap analysis of current policies.



Torrington High School Soccer.



Southwest School



Torrington BOE Headquarters on Migeon Avenue.





Forbes' Flyers performing at the Main Street Marketplace.

## BOARD OF EDUCATION (CON'T)

### Student Academic Performance for 2012 Connecticut Mastery and Connecticut Academic Performance Test

Connecticut Master Tests, (CMT) were administered to all students in grades 3-8 in March of 2012 and will continue to be administered through 2014 when the Connecticut State Department of Education, (CSDE) changes over to the Smarter Balanced Assessment. Under the CSDE's Education Reform Act the new CT metrics are more rigorous than those held under the Federal No Child Left Behind Law. Public schools in Connecticut are now provided with growth targets or School Performance Indices (SPI) in 10 areas: one overall school rating, four content area ratings, and five demographic areas (Special Education, English Language Learners, race, ethnicity, Free/Reduced Lunch). SPI is an index and not a percentage of students achieving the target, as it was required with Adequate Yearly Progress, therefore, movement is referred to in points rather than percents. However the goal remains the same, school improvements that lead to student academic achievement. All schools as well as the district must demonstrate growth and improvement each year. The chart below demonstrates the elementary schools' overall performance index for 2012 and the target performance index for 2013.

District	School name	SPI 2009-2010	SPI 2010-2011	SPI 2011-2012 	SPI 3-Year Average	SPI Target for 2012-13
TORRINGTON	SOUTHWEST SCH	81.1	77.7	74.9	76.5	77.5
TORRINGTON	VOGEL WETMORE SCH	78	78.4	79.8	76.6	77.6
TORRINGTON	FORBES SCH	80.5	81.4	79.9	77.7	78.6
TORRINGTON	TORRINGTON MS	78.9	79.8	80.4	79	79.8
TORRINGTON	TORRINGFORD SCH	81.7	81.5	81.6	80.8	81.4
TORRINGTON	EAST SCH	85.2	84.8	87	84.9	85.1

Connecticut Academic Performance Tests were administered to all tenth graders in March of 2012 and will also continue to be administered through 2014, after which the change will be made to the Smarter Balanced Assessments. The chart below demonstrates the high schools overall performance index for 2012 and the target performance index for 2013.

District	School name	SPI 2009-2010	SPI 2010-2011	SPI 2011-2012	SPI 3-Year Average <sup>▼</sup>	SPI Target for 2012-13
TORRINGTON	TORRINGTON HS	67.2	67.1	67.6	67.3	69

Torrington Public Schools, as all public schools in Connecticut, are expected to demonstrate improvement in the academic achievement of all students. They are expected to close the achievement gap so all students, regardless of race, ethnicity, socioeconomic level, requiring support services, or are learning English as a second language, are college and career ready, and able to compete in a global work force. Improvement in student academic achievement will occur because there must be improvement in schools, the culture, the rigor of the academic standards, the curriculum, the instructional strategies implemented, and the outreach by school personnel to students, families and the greater community. As educators we are expected to recognize the academic, social, emotional, and physical needs of the whole student and design the learning environment in which they will succeed. This paradigm shift in instructional planning and strategies requires teachers to move way beyond the stand and deliver methodology to opportunities and learning tasks that require higher level thinking and far greater engagement on the part of the students.

To achieve these end goals three types of collaborations will have to occur on many levels. The first begins in the schools and will require teachers to work in quality, grade level and subject level groups, which focus on capacity building, instruction and systemic solutions. The second effort is between the schools and the families and engaging parents and guardians in their child’s education program beyond parent conferences and fund raisers. The third is between the schools and greater community, developing partnerships for internships and real work experiences with practicing professionals. The end goal is to create the conditions for improved student achievement by developing human capital and the organizational systems to support large-scale instructional improvement.



Torrington High School



Students from Southwest School

## BOARD OF EDUCATION (CON'T)

Account	2010-2011 Actual Budget	2011-2012 Adopted Budget	2012-2013 BOE Approved Budget	Change	% Change
Salaries	\$33,497,461	\$32,610,905	\$34,212,748	\$1,601,843	4.91%
Benefits	\$14,601,792	\$14,970,069	\$14,951,822	(\$18,247)	-0.12%
Professional & Tech Serv.	\$1,244,657	\$1,071,611	\$1,271,043	\$199,432	18.61%
Property Services	\$984,642	\$1,149,494	\$993,947	(\$155,547)	-13.53%
Purchased Services	\$10,013,039	\$10,432,737	\$10,826,785	\$394,048	3.78%
Supplies & Materials	\$3,124,924	\$3,070,112	\$3,098,291	\$28,179	0.92%
Property	\$372,816	\$307,045	\$425,722	\$118,677	38.65%
Other	\$98,599	\$86,585	\$55,572	(\$31,013)	-35.82%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$63,937,930</b>	<b>\$63,698,558</b>	<b>\$65,835,930</b>	<b>\$2,137,372</b>	<b>3.36%</b>
<b>NOTES:</b>					
<b>Salaries:</b>	Includes contractual wages for all school employees Also incl. wages for substitutes, tutors, stipends, OT, etc.				
<b>Benefits:</b>	Includes employee health, dental, life and disability insurances. Also includes. Workers compensation, unemployment, employer share of social security and non-certified retirement benefits.				
<b>Professional &amp; Technical Services</b>	Includes Legal, consulting and rehabilitative services performed by outside contractors. Includes substitute service and professional development				
<b>Property Services</b>	Services purchased to operate, repair and rent property owned or used by the district				
<b>Purchased Services</b>	Includes transportation, out of district tuition, travel and property/liability insurance				
<b>Supplies &amp; Materials</b>	Includes instructional and non-instructional supplies, materials, textbooks and energy				
<b>Property</b>	Includes expenditures for new and replaced equipment as well as technology software & computers that exceed \$1,000.				
<b>Other</b>	Includes professional memberships, school program fees, adult education services and board dues.				

## BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Building Official—Brett Zuraitis  
 Building Inspectors—Edward Scarpato & John Palladino  
 Staff—Emily Barbero & Brenda Summers

The Building Department's primary function as a member of the Department of Public Safety and Construction Services is the enforcement of the Connecticut State Building Code and ordinances of the City of Torrington.

The office does plan reviews and all phases of inspections for new and renovation construction to ensure code compliance and public safety. The staff has expertise in all phases of construction, mechanical and electrical installations and is available to answer questions on code issues.



A vacant industrial building on Ella Grasso being utilized for a new industry.

The staff has expertise in all phases of construction, mechanical and electrical installations and is available to answer questions on code issues.

## CITY & TOWN CLERK REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS

City & Town Clerk—Joseph L. Quartiero  
 Assistant City Clerk—Carol Anderson  
 Assistant Town Clerks—Ruth Febboriello, Lynn Florio & Pam Prevuznak

The Town and City Clerk, serves a vital role by securing and preserving the public records of the municipality, thereby ensuring historical records for future generations. The position is complex, requiring the clerk and staff to understand various laws, to review and understand documents that are presented to him or her by citizens showing eligibility for various licenses and registrations.

The Town and City Clerk and his assistants avail themselves of the many training opportunities that are offered each year by the Connecticut Town Clerks Association and the International Institute of Municipal Clerks to make sure they are educated and up to date of the many and often changing laws relating to their position. The office operates as the cornerstone of municipal government – in touch with and on track with legislative responsibilities and operations. The office is the gateway to City Hall for the citizens of our city, and we are the office that our elected officials count on to make sure public meetings, public records, elections and special projects operate smoothly. In this way they can better serve their community.

The office operates as the cornerstone of municipal government – in touch with and on track with legislative responsibilities and operations.

## CITY &amp; TOWN CLERK OFFICE (CON'T)

**Essential Job Functions:**

- The City Clerk & Staff's work consists of recording, processing and indexing of land records, including maps and other official documents using automated and scanning systems; prepares indices on a daily and monthly basis and updates land record books.
- Processing vital statistics such as: issuing birth, death and marriage certificates and licenses, cremation, burial, and disinterment permits and records; indexes and files vital statistical information.
- Issues of a variety of licenses and permits such as canine and sport licenses and a variety of other individual forms such as voter registration cards and other permits as authorized.
- Records indexes and files maps, veteran discharges, liquor permits, and trade name certificates, and notifies appropriate agencies as needed.
- Receives and processes records, and is financially responsible for various fees and taxes.
- Responsible for election procedures; compiling and filing reports of election activity and results with the Secretary of the State; performs a variety of voter administration functions including voter registration, absentee ballot administration, petitions and enrollment in political parties; maintain voting records.
- Oversee, prepares, finalizes various reports to such state agencies as Secretary of State, DEP, State Treasury, State Library, etc; also prepares grants as necessary.
- To date the City Clerk's Office has applied for and received more than \$156,000 in grants for historic preservation.
- Administer oaths to newly elected and appointed officials.
- Files votes, appointments and terms of office for elected officials and appointed board and commission members.
- Responds to general inquiries from the public and officials on a variety of issues including research and genealogy.
- Records and certifies Notary Publics; serves as a notary for Town officials and the public.
- Serves as the Clerk for the City Council, Board of Finance, Board of Safety, Police and Fire Pension Fund and the City Employee Pension Fund. Prepares agendas, creates meeting minutes, posts notices and minutes, places ordinances in the paper and updates the Town Code book and has it posted online.



DARE Car Show downtown.

Visit [www.torringtonct.org](http://www.torringtonct.org) to learn more about our great city.



Main Street Marketplace

### CORPORATION COUNSEL'S OFFICE

Corporation Counsel—Ernestine Yuille Weaver (until August 2012)  
Staff—Elaine Fabiaschi

The Corporation Counsel office serves as the chief legal advisor of and the attorney for the City and all City officers and departments in matters relating to their official duties. The Office of the Corporation Counsel works closely with all departments of the City government and provides preventative and proactive counsel to the City Council, Board of Finance, Board of Public Safety, and also provides legal support to the Planning and Zoning Commission, the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Inland Wetlands and Zoning Enforcement office, and all other boards, commissions, committees, and municipal agencies as well. The Corporation Counsel acts as the legal advocate for the City in suits involving individual claims against the City, brings suits on behalf of the City, and coordinates the services of outside legal counsel.

The Corporation Counsel is responsible for research and writing legal opinions; review and drafting of ordinances, contracts, agreements and various other legal documents. In addition, the Corporation Counsel oversees and facilitates the City's acquisition and sale of property, including the acquisition of certain easements and assists other departments in the enforcement of the law.

*The Office of the Corporation Counsel works closely with all departments of the City government.*

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economic Development Director—Rose Ponte  
Staff—Elaine Fabiaschi

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Members—Bill Battle, Dawn Gutowski, George Noujaim, Greg Mele, James Thibault, JoAnn Ryan, Nancy Sieller, Stephen Michna and one vacancy

### ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION

Members—Gail Kruppa, Sally Bergad, Jacque Williams, Kim Fazzino, Bill Haygood, Lynn Gelormino, Steve Criss, Jessica Hodorski & Sharon Waagner

*The mission of the Torrington's Office of Economic Development is to provide extensive support to current and prospective businesses of all sizes. The Office is charged with diversifying the City's tax base, creating new employment opportunities and strengthening Torrington's role as the regional heart of Litchfield County. The Office acts as a Community liaison for public, private and not-for-profit entities.*

### **Business Climate**

The City of Torrington is the hub of CT's Northwest Region and is an ideal place to start or expand a business. Torrington provides direct access to affordable commercial, industrial and retail properties; a dedicated and skilled workforce; outstanding educational, cultural, and recreational opportunities; and offers competitive business incentives to new and expanding companies.



Bill Battle at the DARE Car Show.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (CON'T)

**Pro-Business Climate:**

Since in office Mayor Ryan Bingham has created a pro business government and the results are already proving successful. Over the past five years major retail projects have been completed. National retailers such as Target, Bed Bath and Beyond, Walgreens, Lowe's, Planet Fitness, Platinum Car Wash, and Panera Bread have made substantial investments by moving to Torrington. In addition manufacturers in Torrington continue to grow and expand and over 15 new small businesses ventures opened in 2012.

**New in 2012:**

In 2012, the State Office of the Arts unveiled the City Canvas Initiative, which focused on the theme that Great art=Great places. Cities in Connecticut were invited to apply for funding to bring new public art to their downtown centers. Torrington received one of those grants, and we hired Danielle Mailer and Jo Yarrington, two well-known Connecticut Artists, to create 3 public art pieces that were installed throughout the Downtown Center. Also from the State Office of the Arts, Torrington was awarded an Arts Leadership Grant, this grant will leverage local funding and allow us to hire a marketing firm to promote Torrington events, as well as create a brand and logo for our City.

*Since in office Mayor Ryan Bingham has created a pro-business government and the results are already proving successful.*



Danielle Mailer and her award-winning cat design.

Main Street Marketplace is the City's signature summer event. First implemented in 2010 by Torrington's Arts Culture Torrington Commission (ACT), it continued to grow even more popular in 2012. Every Thursday evening in July and August from 5-9 PM, Main Street is transformed into a European open air market, complete with street performers, jazz concerts, artisans, Farmer's Market vendors, and outside dining cafes. One of its many goals was to prove that downtown can be vibrant. This highly successful event brought close to 3000 visitors to Torrington every week. Local merchants experienced increased sales, and greater visibility. The community enjoyed the many attractions that were offered and investors became interested in Torrington.



Vendors in the Marketplace Farmer's Market has seen real increased interest in their products as the regular

## **Business Incentives**

In an effort to attract, retain, and expand business Torrington offers a number of business incentives that include the following:

### **Enterprise Zone**

The City of Torrington and the Town of Winchester were designated in July of 2005 as an Enterprise Corridor Zone. This designation allows the municipality to provide incentive benefits for eligible business relocation/ expansion projects within the zone.

Eligible businesses, including manufacturers, warehouse distributors, and certain designated service related businesses are eligible for the following benefits:

A 5-year, 80% abatement of local property taxes on all qualifying real and personal property that are new to the grand list of the City of Torrington as a direct result of a business relocation, expansion or renovation project.

A 10-year, 25% or 50% credit on that portion of the Connecticut Corporate Business Tax that is directly attributable to the business relocation, expansion or renovation project as determined by the Connecticut Department of Revenue Services and as provided under section 12-217(e) of the Connecticut General Statutes.

*The goal of the Zone is to expand the commercial industrial base and to help lower the tax burden on the business community by revitalizing once-productive industrial areas.*

### **Façade Program**

In 2012, Torrington was awarded \$500,000 façade grant from the State of Connecticut. The program is designed to improve and beautify the exterior appearance of store fronts and commercial buildings while preserving their architectural heritage.

Over the last several years, Torrington has successfully managed façade programs. In 2010 through a grant by the CT Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD), the program helped to fund 70 façade improvement projects, rebates totaling approximately \$650,000 have leveraged an additional \$905,000 in private investment for commercial building facades throughout Torrington. We anticipate similar participation with this year's award.

### **Assistance to Small Businesses**

The City of Torrington offers low interest financing for eligible small businesses through the Litchfield Hills Regional Micro-Loan Program. The purpose of the program is to diversify the economic base, create and retain jobs (especially for low- and moderate-income persons), and encourage and leverage private investment.

In 2012, Torrington  
was awarded  
\$500,000 façade  
grant from the  
State of Connecticut

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (CON'T)



The old Brunswick factory is one of Torrington's Brownsfield sites

**Brownfield Remediation Programs:**

Some neighborhoods that once housed employed industrial workers now contain large vacant abandoned campuses, which contain environmental contaminants that are preventing redevelopment and the creation of new job opportunities. The City is committed to revitalize our neighborhoods especially those affected by these vacant manufacturing spaces. The City was awarded two grants to achieve this very important goal.

**Brownfield Assessment Grants:** The assessment grant will allow Torrington to develop an inventory of Brownfield properties, from which properties will be prioritized and assessed in a streamlined and cost-effective manner, and further action needs will be determined in order to facilitate the properties' redevelopment.

**Brownfield's Revolving Loan Fund:** The Revolving Loan Fund will provide Torrington the ability to offer the necessary incentives to allow interested parties to undergo the expense of the clean-up of these sites and the ultimate redevelopment of them. The Revolving Loan fund will offer low interest loans to eligible parties to clean and redevelopment abandoned or vacant sites.

The Brownfield's incentive programs will allow Torrington to continue to make progress with revitalizing the abandoned industrial sties.

For more information about doing business in Torrington, please contact: Rose Ponte, Economic Development Director at 860-496-5920 or visit the City's webpage at [www.torringtonct.org](http://www.torringtonct.org).

**SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY**

Elderly Services Director—Nancy Sullivan Hodkoski

Staff—Kerry Palmer, Christine Trudeau-Brown, Carol Tucker, Paula Dante, Karen Bentley, Charlie Abolin, & John MacDonald

Nutrition Supervisor—Joel Sekorski

Staff—Sherry Cote, Claudia Lefcheck, Fran Daley, Roseanne Wheeler & Flo Winegar

**SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY COMMISSION**

Chairperson—Peter Bronzi

Vice Chairperson—Adele Reale

Secretary—Joan Altschuler

Members—Carol Buice, Sandra Richard, Doris Richards & Annette Caputi

Alternates—Martin Boyajian, Angelo LaMonica & Brian Mattiello



Torrington is committed to providing the best in support for our senior citizens.

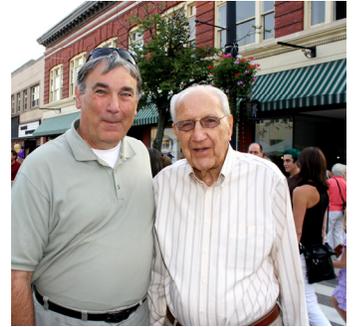
***The mission of the Edward E. Sullivan Senior Center is to provide an environment to enhance and enrich the lives of older adults by offering recreational activities, nutrition services, educational and wellness programs and social services to meet the diverse needs of all people.***

A dedicated staff of 63 people and 185 volunteers work passionately to administer services. The Sullivan Senior Center, located at 88 East Albert Street, is a multipurpose Center for people age 60 and over. The Center is open Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., evenings and weekends for special events. Over 5,500 people participated in programming this year. A 12-page newsletter entitled, **“All About Us @ the Sullivan Senior Center”** is published monthly with information outlining the activities, travel itineraries, menus, calendar of events and timely informational articles focusing on topics of importance and interest to older adults. Newsletters may be picked up at the Senior Center, mailed for a nominal fee or accessed on line @ [www.seekandfind.com](http://www.seekandfind.com) or the City’s website [www.torringtonct.org](http://www.torringtonct.org).

The Department is a hub for older adults and continues to offer recreation, information and referral, insurance counseling, Income Tax Assistance, Bereavement Support, Parkinson’s Disease Support, AA, Al-Anon, computer classes, congregate meals, meals-on-wheels, transportation, chore services, a wide range of health screenings, flu shot clinics, Italian classes, AARP Driver Safety, educational seminars, an extensive travel program, legislative advocacy, community gardens, Zumba Gold, Wii Bowling, Golf and Tennis, Bend & Stretch, Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program, seniorcize, yoga, tai chi, Qigong, billiards, craft and painting classes, chess, cribbage, wood carving, Belles & Beaux Choral Group, holiday parties, Valentine Exchange with Torrington and Southwest School students, Wednesday Jam Sessions and volunteer opportunities. The Park Avenue Thrift Shop continues to thrive and generate income for the Center’s programming and upgrades.

Current economic conditions continue to impact seniors and are evident by the number of inquiries and completion of applications for assistance programs. Two thousand three hundred and Seventy Five (2,375) applications were processed including Energy Assistance, Renters Rebate, Medicare Part D, Medicare Savings Program, Income Tax Assistance, Title XIX, assistance with Advance Directives and Medigap Insurance. Appropriate referrals were made to social service agencies, such as Protective Services for the Elderly, Legal Services, Financial Counseling, Money Management Program, Housing, the Center for Medicare Advocacy, Home Care Program for Elders, Health Care Services and the Community Health and Wellness Center of Greater Torrington. Notary services are available.

The City of Torrington – Sullivan Senior Center is the grantee agency for seven grants, totaling \$1,529,613 to support programming. The Litchfield Hills/Northwest CT Elderly Nutrition Program served 35,532 congregate meals to 1,131 individuals and 229,490 meals-on-wheels to 785 homebound seniors. Additionally 2,702 emergency shelf stable meals were distributed to 480 people for snow days and natural disasters. Torrington Special Diet Meals Program served 4,220 therapeutic meals-on-wheels to 31 individuals under age 60, the Medical Transportation Program transported 467 individuals to 6,449 medical appointments, the Torrington Chore Program provided 6,666 hours of in home service to 93 elders, Bend and Stretch offered 708 hours of instruction to increase balance and flexibility in order to prevent falls to 70 individuals, and a grandparent respite grant of \$4,857 assisted 11 grandparents, who are the legal guardian of their grandchildren with summer camperships. The grants are funded with Federal, State and Local government dollars, client donations, private donations and fundraising dollars.



Torrington has a very active and engaged older community.

The Department is a hub for older adults and continues to offer recreation, information and referral, insurance counseling,

## SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY (CON'T)

*Services for the Elderly Commission:*

The Services for the Elderly Commission consists of seven voting members and three alternates. The Commission meets monthly to review and evaluate the conditions, needs and programs for older adults living in the City of Torrington and greater Torrington area. The Commission forwards recommendations to the Mayor and City Councilors regarding grant funding and awarding bids for projects at the Sullivan Senior Center. Their guidance is invaluable. *Thank you for another successful year!*

## EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

Fleet Manager—Emil Castro

Service Coordinator—Alan Regner

Master Mechanic—Dennis Klonoski

Heavy Duty Mechanics—Kingsley Beecher and William Layman

Medium Duty Mechanic—Jason Langston

Welder/Fabricator—Ralph Boscarino.

*Our primary goal*

*is to carry on a*

*tradition of*

*excellence and*

*efficiency.*

The Equipment Maintenance Department provides stellar service to all City Departments including the Board of Education. We are responsible for the maintenance and repair of approximately 376 pieces of equipment. The vehicles and equipment vary: Plow trucks, heavy equipment, handicapped vans, and assorted lawn maintenance equipment.

Since our inception, we have been providing maintenance and repairs to all types of equipment and vehicles, meeting the ongoing challenge of vehicle system advancement and the demand for trained skilled staff that is able to adapt to the needs of all departments. No matter what variety or magnitude a department fleet may be, we provide high quality efficient preventive maintenance and repairs

Each employee is highly skilled and with continuously training in their fields will be able to keep up with the changing technology. This training allows us the capability of handling any type and size of gasoline or diesel powered equipment.

General maintenance and upkeep begins with a preventative maintenance schedule for each vehicle. Depending on the equipment and use, oil changes, tire rotation, tune-up, etc. are scheduled to keep the vehicle in good mechanical condition.

Repairs are initiated through a repair order system. As the repair orders are received, they are reviewed, prioritized and the work is scheduled. A repair can range from changing a light bulb to a major overhaul, involving replacement parts, in-house rebuilding, fabricating and welding. Our maintenance department has full service welding capabilities.

Our primary goal is to carry on a tradition of excellence and efficiency.



The Equipment Maintenance Department helps keep all types of City vehicles up and functioning properly.



City Hall during the 2012 DARE Car Show

### FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Treasurer—Art Mattiello

Comptroller—Alice Proulx

Purchasing Agent—Pennie Zucco

Staff—Sheryl Lewis, Nancy Michna, Brenda Reginatto & Christine Upton

### BOARD OF FINANCE

Chairman—Mayor Ryan Bingham

Members—Frank Rubino, Brian Paganini, Laurene Pesce, Thomas Scoville,  
Bill Lamoin & Mark Bushka

The Finance Department of the City of Torrington currently consists of the Treasurer's, Comptroller's and Purchasing Agent's offices. All financial activity for the City (excluding the Board of Education) is maintained and monitored by employees of the Comptroller and Treasurer offices. All revenues, Small Cities Grant activities, bond issues, bond payments and wire transfers are processed and recorded by the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer. All vendor, payroll and pension payments, as well as benefits administration and general ledger activities are processed by the comptroller's staff. This office is also the central location for the annual independent audit as well as the annual budget process.

All purchases of services, supplies and materials through the purchase order process (excluding the Board of Education) are made by the purchasing department by authority of the City Charter through competitive bidding and negotiations. Orders for materials and services over \$10,000 are procured through a sealed bid process are posted on the City of Torrington's website while orders under \$10,000 are procured using quotes, proposals and other methods from qualified sources, through negotiation and/or price comparisons from multiple vendors.

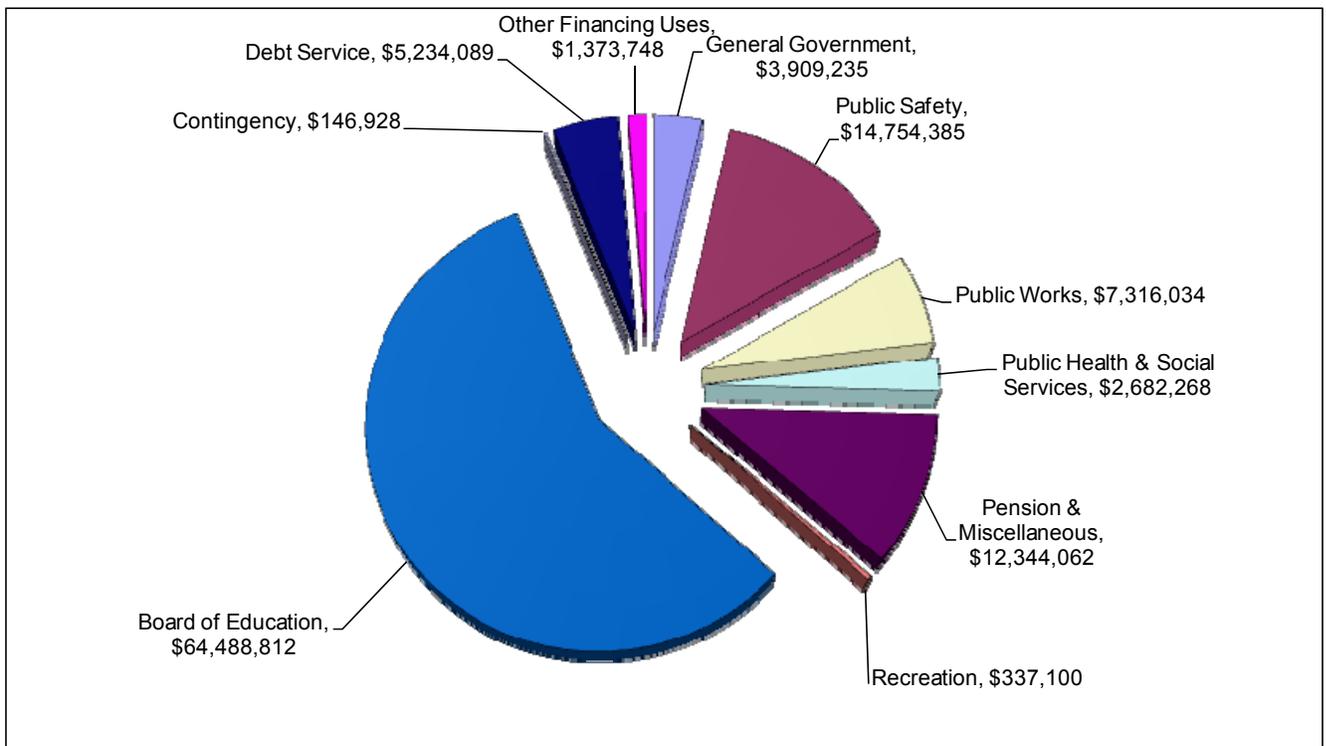


The Finance Department makes sure the City runs smoothly and in a responsible manner—which makes

FINANCE DEPARTMENT (CON'T)

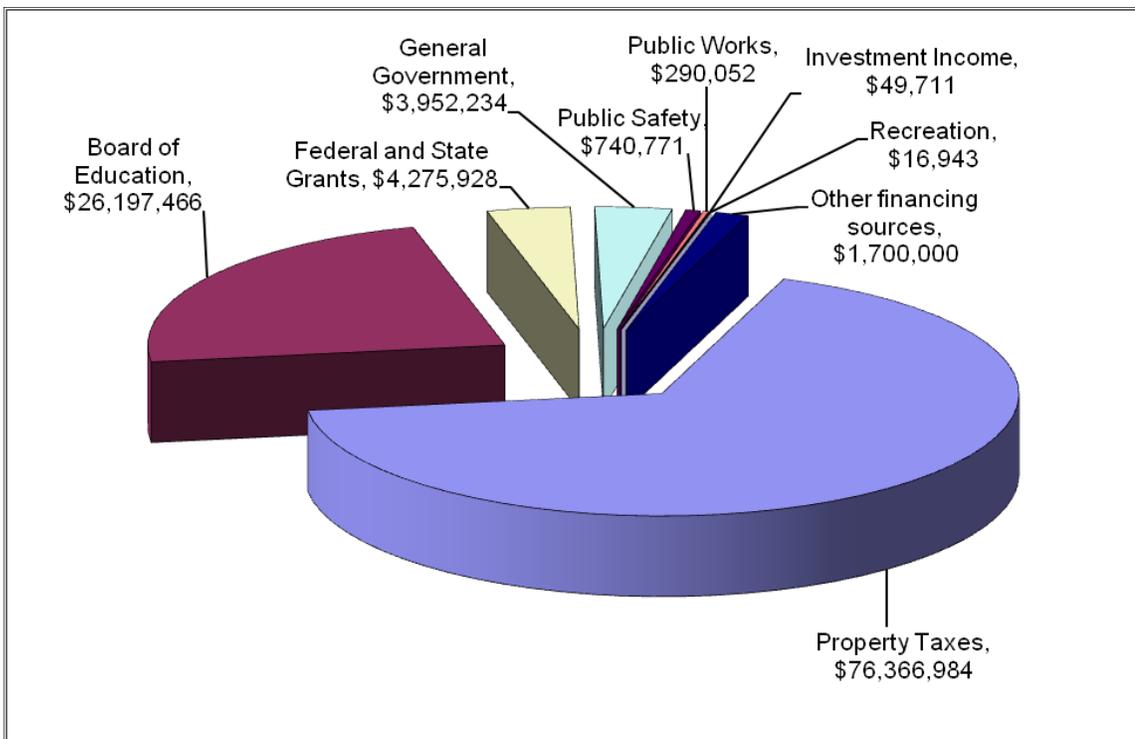
Expenses	Actual	Percentage
<b>General Government</b>	<b>\$3,909,235</b>	<b>3.47%</b>
<b>Public Safety</b>	<b>\$14,754,385</b>	<b>13.10%</b>
<b>Public Works</b>	<b>\$7,316,034</b>	<b>6.50%</b>
<b>Public Health &amp; Social Services</b>	<b>\$2,682,268</b>	<b>2.38%</b>
<b>Pension &amp; Miscellaneous</b>	<b>\$12,344,062</b>	<b>10.96%</b>
<b>Recreation</b>	<b>\$337,100</b>	<b>0.30%</b>
<b>Board of Education</b>	<b>\$64,488,812</b>	<b>57.28%</b>
<b>Contingency</b>	<b>\$146,928</b>	<b>0.13%</b>
<b>Debt Service</b>	<b>\$5,234,089</b>	<b>4.65%</b>
<b>Other Financing Uses</b>	<b>\$1,373,748</b>	<b>1.22%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$112,586,662</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Total expenditures and encumbrances were \$112,586,662. The chart below shows how those expenditures were allocated.



Revenues	Actual	Percentage
<b>Property Taxes</b>	\$76,366,984	67.23%
<b>Board of Education</b>	\$26,197,466	23.06%
<b>Federal and State Grants</b>	\$4,275,928	3.76%
<b>General Government</b>	\$3,952,234	3.48%
<b>Public Safety</b>	\$740,771	0.65%
<b>Public Works</b>	\$290,052	0.26%
<b>Investment Income</b>	\$49,711	0.04%
<b>Recreation</b>	\$16,943	0.01%
<b>Other financing sources</b>	\$1,700,000	1.50%
<b>Total revenues and other financing sources</b>	<b>113,590,089</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Total Revenues were \$113,590,089. The chart below identifies individual revenue sources. The Mill Rate for FY 2011 - 2012 was 32.50.



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Director of Information Technology—Gerald Crowley  
IT Department Head—Rodolfo F. Pullano  
Systems Administrator—Steve Pienczykowski

The goal is to improve support responsiveness and performance across the City while mitigating the cost for support personnel.

This proved to be a challenging year for the City’s Information Technology (IT) Department. The IT Department lost its Systems Administrator to another opportunity at the beginning of the year. Though shorthanded, the IT Department was able to continue with many of the upgrade projectors that were planned. This fall the IT Department was able to gain the services of S. Pienczykowski from the Board of Education in a Shared IT role. Other changes included the redirection of R. Pullano’s service from primary support of City Hall to primary support for the Police and Fire Departments.

The new fiscal year brought the opportunity to increase the performance of the data network between municipal sites by upgrading the WAN connections. The project is currently underway with AT&T running Opt-E-MAN and GigMAN connections throughout the City. Project completion is expected by the end of January.

The IT Department is continuing its migration to new hardware across City Departments. The Maintenance Department recently received a new server and applications providing them with up-to-date tools to manage the maintenance process. A new project underway is a joint venture between the Board of Education and the City for a unified helpdesk and systems management console. The goal is to improve support responsiveness and performance across the City while mitigating the cost for support personnel.

2012-2013: Future goals for the IT Department will be based on continuation of existing initiatives. The IT Department would like to expand VOIP services to improved communications reliability across the city. Network connectivity & reliability persist as areas to improve upon.



Timber Lake

## LAND USE DEPARTMENT

City Planner—Martin J. Connor, AICP  
 Wetlands and Zoning Enforcement Officer—Kim Barbieri  
 Staff—Lona Kirk

## PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

Chairman—Richard Calkins  
 Vice-Chairman—Greg Mele, (Economic Development Liaison)  
 Members—Doris Murphy (Inland Wetlands Liaison), Gregory Perosino  
 Paul Summers  
 Alternates—James Bobinski, Donna Greco, Christine Mele  
 Ex-Officio Members—Mayor Ryan Bingham  
 & Public Works Director Gerry Rollett

### PLANNING:

Function: To prepare plans for the development of the City for the use of land for residential, recreation, commercial, industrial, and other purposes. To recommend thoroughfares, parks, and other public improvements.

### ZONING:

Function: To regulate the height and setbacks of buildings, the use of land, the number of parking spaces, and the minimum size of building lots. Perform inspections for all zoning permits issued, issue all zoning violations, certificate of compliances, and checks compliance for certificate of occupancy.

The Commission reviewed 11 applications for Special Exceptions, 21 Site Plan applications, one subdivision/resubdivision application, three zoning regulation amendment changes, two Location Approvals. The City Planner reviewed and approved 13 Site Plan applications in the Local Business or General Business Zone.

The Planning and Zoning Department Staff issued 188 Zoning Permits for new construction, additions, accessory structures, conversions and change of uses. 299 Certificates of Compliance were issued. Regular inspections are made to determine compliance for all permitted work, prior to signing off on the Certificate of Occupancy.

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PAST YEAR:

- The Planning and Zoning Commission adopted amendments to the Torrington Zoning Regulations, New Section 4.16, Alternative Incarceration, Substance Abuse/Mental Health, Medical Marijuana Dispensary Overlay Zone (ASM Zone)
- 299 Industrial Park Lane, 9,600 sq. ft. addition
- 157 Litchfield Street, addition to Brooker Memorial Child Care Center
- 500 Technology Park Drive, construction of 40' x 80' new building
- 23 Garfield Street, construction of warehouse addition
- Flood and Erosion Control Board met for an update on the Naugatuck River Clearing Project
- Adoption of *Torrington Trails Map*, prepared by Zoning Officer Kimberly Barbieri & David Scherf GIS Manager
- CCAPA Citizen of the year awarded to Nick Iannacito



Kids playing at the new Kid's Play Children's Museum.



The Planning & Zoning Commission.

*The Committee reviews each project for aesthetic matters pertaining to planning and design as they relate to the physical characteristics and appearance of the site, neighborhood and City*

### TORRINGTON HEARING OFFICERS

Joel Perlotto, Esq.  
James Steck, Esq.

The Hearing Officer is appointed to hear appeals on written citations that are issued to property owners for zoning violations.

### ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Chairman—Marc Trivella  
Members—Greg Perosino, Robert Mileti, Roberta Boe, John Sullivan, Jonathan Laschever, Martin Connor, AICP, City Planner & Ed Fabbri, City Engineer

The purpose of the Architectural Review Committee is to advise the Planning and Zoning Commission on the physical aspects of the City's environment. The Committee reviews each project for aesthetic matters pertaining to planning and design as they relate to the physical characteristics and appearance of the site, neighborhood and City. The Committee reviews and makes written recommendations on all site plans, changes to facades of non-residential buildings and all signs, except those on one two and three family residential properties and those less than 35 square feet in area.

During Fiscal Year 2011 - 2012, the Architectural Review Committee reviewed 17 applications and made recommendations to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

### CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Chairperson—Christine Altman (Liaison to Inland Wetlands)  
Member—Tara Jo Holmberg, Gary Eucalitto, Stephen Michna, Butch Klug, Scott Whittaker, Brian Reardon, Andrea Tallman, Diane Carroll  
(Linda Beyus left partway through the FY)

The purpose of the Conservation Commission is to advise the Planning and Zoning Commission on the cultural and natural aspects of the City's environment as it relates to planning issues and development applications. The Committee reviews projects for planning and design as they relate to the property's location near other protected open space land, appropriateness for acquiring open space, and identify natural or cultural features on the land that should be preserved or protected. The Commission reviews and makes written recommendations on all subdivision plans (greater than 4 lots).

The Conservation Commission also is responsible for maintaining the Open Space Inventory for the Planning & Zoning Commission and completed updating & expanding the Plan of Conservation & Development's Open Space section.



The East Branch of the Naugatuck River.

During Fiscal Year 2011-2012, the Conservation Commission reviewed one Zoning re-subdivision application. They sponsored the Earth Day Clean Up in April and the Naugatuck River Clean Up in June. The Commission also accomplished the following:

- Sponsored a Thursday Marketplace and provided a 'conservation' puppeteer
- Printed new Torrington Trails Maps
- Wrote a grant for the National Parks Service to support the Torrington Trails Network
- Wrote a \$12K grant with the CT Trust for Historic Preservation for a historical/structural assessment of the Jacob Strong House on Highland Avenue
- Accepted 21.13A of new open space land as part of an Army Corps settlement.

### ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Chairman—David Moraghan

Vice Chairwoman—Kathleen Perrotti

Members—James Marinelli, Jenn Healy, Genevieve Gangi,

Alternate—Karen Falk, Marc Trivella, Ken Edwards

The Zoning Board of Appeals consists of eight citizen volunteers who hear and decide upon all requests for variances from the City of Torrington's Zoning Regulations as well as appeals of any order, requirement or decision made by an official responsible for the enforcement of Torrington's Zoning Regulations.

The Zoning Board of Appeals received and acted upon one variance application, and one appeal of the Zoning Enforcement Officer's decision.



The Constructed wetlands at the east end Stop and Shop in the sum-

### INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION

Chairman—Jay Bate Jr.

Vice Chairwoman—Christine Altman

Members—Jane Bakker, Kathy Carlson, Doris Murphy, Tom Telman & Nicole Bastiannse-Fritch,

The City of Torrington Inland Wetlands Commission promulgates the regulations concerning all activities affecting the wetlands and watercourses within the territorial limits of the city, including regulations dealing with the licensing of activities on such wetlands, watercourses and upland review areas.

The Inland Wetland regulations delineate the upland review areas to be 75 feet from any wetland soil types and 100 feet from any watercourse or waterbody (either manmade or natural). Any regulated activity occurring within these upland review areas, would require an inland wetland permit.

During the 2011-2012 fiscal year the Inland Wetlands Commission received and acted upon 11 Inland Wetlands Permit Applications and issued 5 Orders and 0 As-of-Right Farm Use requests, and the authorized Inland Wetlands Agents issued 4 Inland Wetlands Agent Determinations.



The Commission on a site walk to assess possible impacts to wetlands

**PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT**

Personnel Director—Thomas Gritt  
 Staff—Kelley Pleil

**BOARD OF ETHICS**

Chairman—John Todor  
 Members—Timothy Driscoll, John Dillon, Candace Barth & Kathleen Rines  
 Two Vacancies

The Personnel Department is also active in community initiatives such as the United Way and the Mayor's Task Force on Cancer.

The City of Torrington's Personnel Department provides for the centralized administration of personnel policies affecting municipal employees and job applicants.

Recruitment is a major responsibility. This past year, fifteen people were hired as regular full-time employees. Three competitive testing sessions were conducted to qualify candidates for WPCA, Street department, and Senior Center openings.

In the area of labor relations, contract negotiations were conducted with the unions representing Clerical, Public Works, Supervisory, and Fire department employees. In addition, numerous hearings were held on employee issues and grievance arbitrations at the State Labor Board.

The Safety Advisory Committee met throughout the year to ensure the continuation of safe work environments for City employees. Work site inspections were periodically done to identify potential hazards and drug testing was accomplished in accordance to city, state, and federal standards.

The Personnel Department is also active in community initiatives such as the United Way and the Mayor's Task Force on Cancer. During the past year, Personnel again served as the liaison between the City and Torrington High School's Career Internship Program. This cooperative venture provides students with an exposure to the variety of employment opportunities available in a municipal setting and earns them high school credits for volunteer work in City departments. Fifteen students participated in the program this past year.



Forbes' Flyers performing at

## PROBATE COURT

Judge of Probate—Michael Magistrali  
 Clerks—Gale Pellegren and Suzanne Pombar  
 Assistant Clerks—Michelle Considine & Paula Marchetti  
 Court Assistant—Yuberkis Batista

The present Torrington Area Probate Court is the result of sweeping probate court consolidation legislation in 2009 that reduced the number of probate courts in the state from 117 to 54. As a result of that legislation, the Torrington Probate Court was merged with the Winchester Probate Court and the New Hartford Probate Court. The new court began operation on January 5, 2011. The Torrington Area Probate Court now serves the towns of Torrington, Goshen, Winchester, Colebrook, New Hartford, Barkhamsted and Hartland. The Court continues to operate out of the first floor of Torrington City Hall. During the 2011 calendar year, the court handled 1,320 different matters and has already handled 1164 matters in 2012 to the date of this report.

Connecticut's probate court system is built on a 300-year-old foundation of commitment to service, integrity, and the rule of law. Today, in addition to their traditional role of overseeing decedents' estates and trusts, the probate courts handle a wide range of sensitive issues affecting children, the elderly, persons with intellectual disabilities, and individuals with psychiatric impairments. In carrying out their responsibilities, the probate courts strive to protect the rights of individuals while affording those involved in probate matters an approachable and consumer-friendly environment.

The jurisdiction of the Probate Court is broader and the types of matters handled more diverse than most citizens are aware. Hearings in the Torrington Probate Court are held every Tuesday and Thursday, and other specially scheduled days. Most hearings are open to the public. Children's' matters, commitment actions, and guardianships of intellectually disabled persons are confidential and are not open to the public. The public is invited to visit the Probate Court on the first floor of City Hall for more information on the Court's operation. Information is also available on-line at <http://www.jud.ct.gov/>, the Connecticut Judicial Department web site.

Probate judges are the only elected judges in the State of Connecticut and serve four year terms. The present Torrington Area Probate Judge, Judge Michael F. Magistrali, was first elected as Judge of the Torrington Probate Court in the statewide election of November 1998 and took office on January 6, 1999. He has served continuously since that date and now presides over the newly formed Torrington Area Probate Court.

The jurisdiction of the Probate Court is broader and the types of matters handled more diverse than most citizens are aware.



Probate now deals with many matters



Army Corps mandated clearing the banks the Naugatuck River began.

**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

Director of Public Works—Gerald Rollett, PE  
 Staff—Mary Zordan  
 Custodial Staff—John Lombardi & Philip Dubourg (retired)

**ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**

City Engineer—Edward Fabbri, PE  
 Assistant City Engineer—Matt Walsh, PE  
 Manager of GIS/Tech—David Scherf  
 Staff—Roxanne Foster, Mark Zordan, Dale Carter & Tom Kozlak

*We also strive to administer and uphold the City's ordinances, policies and regulations in a consistent manner without compromising the intent of such standards.*

The Engineering Department's mission is to provide professional, well-organized and the most cost effective municipal engineering services to the citizens of Torrington as well as other Divisions and Departments of the City. Our objectives include being good stewards of the public infrastructure and using state of the art technologies and construction materials to produce longer lasting and cost effective infrastructure improvements. Objectives include providing engineering services within budget and required timeframe while protecting the public health, safety and welfare of the Citizens of Torrington. We also strive to administer and uphold the City's ordinances, policies and regulations in a consistent manner without compromising the intent of such standards. Our goals include providing dependable and high-quality customer service.

The Engineering Department provides a high level of expertise required in the planning, design and administration of public infrastructure improvement projects. The Engineering staff provides technical services to City Departments, Boards and Commissions and is responsible for ensuring compliance with established standards and specifications of the City of Torrington. The Engineering office personnel provide information on City services to the public and document complaints from residents for further investigation and response. The staff monitors and inspects the construction of all improvements that are to become part of the City's infrastructure system and maintains those plans, maps and files. Responsibilities include coordination with utility companies on scheduling their utility infrastructure upgrades with City street paving work. The Engineering Department maintains the City's Geographic Information System (GIS) and provides GIS-based database and mapping support to town residents, consultants, contractors and City Departments.



Incorporating Low Impact Development strategies into local business development—Eastside Stop and Shop

**WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY**

Administrator—Raymond E. Drew

Staff—Mary Zordan

Function: To administer the financial assurance of the Water Pollution Control Authority; Operate and Maintain a Seven (7) Million Gallon Per Day Advanced Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF), Operate and maintain 170 miles of Sanitary Sewer Collection System, and 15 Wastewater Pumping Stations. Operate a drop site recycling facility for used motor oil, batteries, antifreeze, fluorescent bulbs, and electronics. Operate and maintain a regional septage receiving facility and regional grease processing facility. Administer the sewer use billing system, industrial pretreatment monitoring, maintenance, and construction of Wastewater Treatment Plant, Collection System and Pumping Stations.

For the year 2011-2012 the WPCA generated approximately \$3,922,721 in revenue from approximately 11,800 customers located in Torrington, Harwinton, and Litchfield

For the year 2011-2012 the WPCA generated approximately \$3,922,721 in revenue from approximately 11,800 customers located in Torrington, Harwinton, and Litchfield, Twenty One Septage and Fats, Oil & Grease (FOG) haulers serving eighteen (18) towns in the Northwest Region. There were 16 Sewer Discharge Permits Issued in FY 2011-2012.

**Projects:**

- WPCF SCADA Upgrades
- Reconstruction New Harwinton Rd Pump Station
- WPCF Facility Plan Update
- Bioreactor Mixer Installation
- Nutrient Optimization Study

WPCA	Budget	Expenditures
	2011-2012	2011-2012
Salaries & Wages	\$909,871	\$908,502
Employee Benefits	\$390,071	\$386,800
Utilities	\$419,400	\$408,400
Materials & Supplies	\$104,750	\$118,133
New Equipment	\$111,000	\$103,392
Repairs & Maintenance	\$68,750	\$58,230
Contractual Services	\$613,266	\$588,473
Contingency	\$25,000	\$13,547
Sinking Fund	\$216,214	\$214,183
Debt Service	\$1,032,348	\$1,032,346
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,890,670</b>	<b>\$3,832,006</b>

## STREET DEPARTMENT

Superintendent of Streets—Bob Lizotte  
 Assistant Superintendent—Edward Nuzenski  
 Staff—Len Chevalier

*We strive to continue  
 providing the high level  
 of service the tax payers  
 and public have become  
 accustomed to.*

The Street Department maintains and makes repairs to an estimated 170 miles of roads, streets and bridges. During construction season the work includes reconstruction of existing roads, catch basin repairs and replacements, installation of new drainage systems, pothole patching, roadside mowing and road sweeping. The work for the winter season includes plowing and treating roads to remove ice and snow, snow removal when necessary, roadside brush control and tree removal, gutters and swales are cleaned when weather allows. Throughout the year street signs are maintained, garbage totes are delivered, repaired or replaced, catch basins are cleaned.

We serve the tax payers of Torrington and the traveling public. We strive to continue providing the high level of service the tax payers and public have become accustomed to. The Street Department also provides services to other City departments as needed.

The Street Department continues to look for ways to increase the efficiency of manpower and equipment thru ever changing technologies. This is accomplished with training and equipment changes and upgrades.

## PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Superintendent—Brett Simmons  
 Recreation Director—Donna Winn

## PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

Chairwoman—Patricia Fairchild  
 Members—Fran DuCotey, Jim Pescatore, Dan Lovallo & Gerry Carbone

## COE PARK MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Chairwoman—Susan Coe-Holbrook  
 Members—Margaret Keywan, Lori Chiron, Mark McEachern, Mary Zbel,  
 Dr. Isadore Temkin & Marc Trivella

The Torrington Parks and Recreation Department is comprised of two divisions. The Recreation Department is responsible for organizing and administering a comprehensive assortment of recreation programs, athletic leagues, and special events for youth, teens, adults, senior citizens, and families. The Parks Department is responsible for the operation and maintenance of 26 parks and facilities, comprised of over 230 acres of both active and passive parkland. The Torrington Parks and Recreation Department is proud to offer an outdoor pool, pond for fishing, playgrounds, picnic shelters, athletic fields, trails, outdoor basketball courts, tennis courts, ice rink, sledding hill, indoor gymnasium, Skatepark, Teen Center, Recreation Hall, Civic Center, Gardens at Coe Memorial Park, and Carl Bozenski's Christmas Village.

The Recreation Department was once again very busy organizing many programs for the community to enjoy. Some of the programs offered during 2011-12 included: sports camps and clinics, swim lessons, summer playground program, trips, dance and fitness classes, sports leagues, and an assortment of special interest programs.

Torrington Parks and Recreation Department has many popular special events that are available to the community throughout the year. Some of the special events offered in 2011-12 included: our annual Halloween Party, Trunk or Treat, Tree Lighting Ceremony, Last Night, Easter Egg Hunt, Northwest Idol Contest, Summer Concert Series, Winter Carnival, Polka Night, Outdoor Movie Nights, Magic Motion, and Pitch Hit and Run. The Parks and Recreation Department collaborated with various organizations on events including the Arts and Culture Commission, Torrington Lions, Torrington Police Athletic League, Torrington Titans, and Torrington Municipal and Teachers Federal Credit Union.

In addition to organizing programs, the Recreation Department administers facility rentals at the Armory and Coe Memorial Park Civic Center. Both facilities were rented by many local organizations, community agencies, and private users. The Parks and Recreation Department also schedules and prepares athletic fields for use by many local organizations at Alvord Park, Bishop Donnelly Sports Complex, Fuessenich Park, Oak Avenue Park, Joe Ruwet Park, John Toro Sports Complex, and Major William Besse Park. During 2011-12, the Recreation Department implemented a new registration program that allows for on-line registrations and greater access to our many program offerings. The staff in the Recreation office has done a great job transitioning to this new program. In the ensuing year, we plan to continue to improve access to our on-line registration system, implement a facility reservation module, and improve our department website.

The Parks Department continued to complete regular maintenance functions throughout the parks system including: mowing, trimming, turf maintenance, landscaping, lining and grooming ballfields, painting, trash removal, graffiti removal, pool maintenance, building maintenance, snow removal, tree maintenance, and much more.

The Parks Department completed several projects during 2011-12 including: installing a new sound system at Fuessenich Park, upgrading the filtration system and building a new concession stand/entrance building at William M. Besse Municipal Pool, and athletic field improvements throughout the city. The Parks Department works continuously to improve the appearance of the parks by completing landscaping projects, repairing fences, upgrading park amenities, and installing new park entrances gates. Other major facility improvements completed in 2011-12 included: renovating the front entrance at the Armory and installing a new drainage system at the Oak Avenue Sports Complex.



The Sue Grossman Greenway continues to gain in popularity.

Torrington Parks and Recreation Department has many popular special events available to the community throughout the year.



An active Day at the Besse Park Pool.



Another good girl meets Santa at Christmas Village.

#### PARKS & RECREATION (CON'T)

The Parks and Recreation Department looks forward to continuing to offer new and exciting programs and events during the upcoming year, and will continue to collaborate with local organizations to provide an assortment of programs and special events to the community. The Parks Department will continue to move forward with improvement projects such as renovating outdoor basketball courts, installing new bleachers at Fuessenich Park, sidewalk repairs, paving parking lots, and renovations to Coe Memorial Park and Christmas Village.

The Parks and Recreation Department would not be able to offer such a wide variety of activities without the support and help of the community and the many volunteers, sponsors, and local organizations. We would also like to thank the dedicated staff at the Torrington Parks and Recreation Department, the members of the Parks and Recreation Commission, and other City Departments for their time and commitment. The Parks and Recreation Department is focused on providing a comprehensive assortment of community-oriented programs and facilities.

*We look forward to seeing you out in the parks ~ Explore the Possibilities!*

ACTIVITY	CONTACT
American Legion Baseball	Biff Pond
Babe Ruth Baseball League	Jim Pescatore
BMX	Tod Pfeffer
City Dance & Fitness	Sherry Grech
Connie Mack Baseball	Bill Heintz
Midget Football	Shawn Klebe
USSSA	Chris Fisher
Torrington Dragons	Phil Alexander
PAL Basketball	Tony Pietrafesa
Miss Stacey's Art and Play Preschool Aged Program	Stacey Munson
Teen Center	Bernice Gioia
Torrington Little League	Kim Deep
Torrington Youth Soccer	Scott Murelli
Tri-State Rebels	Curtis Anthony
Volleyball League	Susan Fritch
Torrington Softball	Ken Frizzo

## BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Chairman—Mayor Ryan J. Bingham

Members—Douglas Benedetto, Richard Zaharek, Angelo LaMonica,  
Darlene Battle, Christopher Cook & James Potter

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Chief—Michael Maniago

Deputy Chief—Chris Smedick

## DETECTIVE BUREAU

Commander—Lt. Michael R. Emanuel Jr.

## PATROL DIVISION

Patrol Captain—Captain Todd Schaller

Day Shift—Lt. Bruce Whitely

Evening Shift—Lt. Louis Gonzalez

Midnight Shift—Lt. Kerwin Anders

The Patrol Division is the back bone of the Torrington Police Department and handles a variety of calls including; but not limited to, motor vehicle accidents, burglaries, missing persons, larcenies, domestic violence incidents, shopliftings, civil disturbances, robberies, and assaults. In 2011 the Torrington Police Department responded to over 50,000 calls for service with the greatest majority of them investigated or initiated by the Patrol Division.

The Patrol Division is commanded by a patrol captain. In addition to commanding the patrol division the patrol commander has overall command of the Animal Control Division, Field Training Officer Program, Accident Investigation Team, and the Special Response Team.

The Patrol Division is comprised of three shifts that are each commanded by a lieutenant. Assigned to each shift are three patrol sergeants who supervise and direct officers in the field. Each shift is staffed with varying numbers of officers as determined by the patrol commander.

Currently, there is one patrol captain, three shift lieutenants, nine sergeants, and forty-eight patrol officers assigned to the patrol function for the Torrington Police Department.

**The Animal Control Division** is supervised by the Animal Control Officer. Assisting the Animal Control Officer is one part-time Assistant Animal Control Officer (AACO). The AACO works twenty hours per week assisting the ACO. The Animal Control Division responds to a variety of animal calls, maintains a kennel facility, and conducts education and licensing programs for citizens in the community. Animals up for adoption can be viewed on the department's web site at [www.torringtonpd.org](http://www.torringtonpd.org).

**The Field Training Officer Program (FTO)** is directed by the Training Division. FTO's provide training, mentoring, and assistance to officers upon graduation from the police academy. Upon successfully completing the program trainees are assigned to a shift in the Patrol Division.



Officer Steve Pisarski at the DARE Auto Show.

The Patrol Division  
is the back bone of  
the Torrington  
Police Department  
and handles a  
variety of calls.



Officer Quinn Sullivan & K-9 Chase.

POLICE DEPARTMENT—PATROL DIVISION (CON'T)

**The Special Response Team** is commanded by the patrol commander who has an executive officer and two team leaders. The SRT conducts high risk warrant service and high risk motor vehicle stops and responds to barricaded suspects, hostage situations, and searches for high risk subjects. Team members are highly trained in handling weapons, conducting building searches, and preparing and executing search warrants. Team members have attended training from the National Tactical Officer's Association, International Association of Chiefs of Police, Smith and Wesson, Armor Holdings, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). In addition, the team consists of crisis negotiators trained by the FBI. All team members train a minimum of once per month.

**The Accident Investigation Team (AIT)** is supervised by a senior sergeant. Accident Investigation Team members come from the patrol, detective, and support divisions. The AIT is highly specialized and trained and responds to fatal accidents, accidents that are life threatening in nature, and any other accident where their special skills are required. Team members are sent to a variety of training classes, in varying locations, to prepare them and keep them current on accident investigation techniques. Members are trained in Advanced Accident Investigation, Reconstruction, as well as Commercial, Pedestrian, and Motor Cycle accident investigation. The AIT has highly specialized equipment consisting of laser mapping and computer programs to assist them in their very technical investigations.

The Torrington Police Department's Patrol Division is committed to;

The Torrington  
Police  
Department's  
Patrol Division is  
committed to;  
  
"Quality Service  
to the  
Community  
through  
Continuous  
Improvement"

**"Quality Service to the Community through Continuous Improvement"**

POLICE DEPARTMENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Commander—Captain Francis Balzano  
Executive Officer—Lt. Wayne Newkirk  
Division Supervisor—Sgt. John Recchini

The following units fall under the auspice of the Support Service Division:

**Records Division**

The Records Division is responsible for myriad tasks including, but not limited to, filing of all police reports, data entry, payroll, court liaison, F.O.I. requests, maintaining Restraining and Protective Order files, Pistol Permit applications, Vendor permits, maintaining the Sex Offender registry, requests for background checks, requests for copies of Police reports, and numerous other tasks of equal importance. The Court Liaison Officer is also attached to the Records Division and his duties include preparing all paperwork for transmittal to court, handling prisoner transport, and being a general liaison between the Police Department and the State's Attorney's Office.



Captain Balzano and a few of the Explorers' on site at the DARE Auto Show.

**Information Technology**

The I.T. manager is responsible for running and maintaining the second largest network in the city, as well as maintaining 21 Mobile Data Terminals, the A.F.I.S. fingerprint scanner, and being the local control for the State Law Enforcement Telecommunications Network.

**Support Administrative Operations**

The Executive Officer oversees the following Areas: Building Maintenance - Building Planning and Research – Fleet Maintenance – Radio Communications Equipment – Public Safety Dispatching Liaison – Overtime Administration - General and Specialized Administrative Functions.

**Traffic Division**

Manages the Traffic Operations Unit and supervises civilian employees including the Signs & Marking Technicians, Traffic Signal Electricians and Parking Enforcement Officers. Handles traffic laws and ordinances, traffic zoning regulations, and street closures. Handles all aspects of city wide parking and parking meter operations. Responsible for installation and maintenance of all city owned traffic signals. Applies for state and federal traffic grants. Manages DUI and Traffic Safety enforcement. Administers Outside Duty Assignments.

**Community Policing Unit**

The following areas fall under the control of this unit: Crime Prevention / Block Watch Program, Problem Oriented Policing Assignments, Internship Program, Police Explorers program and the Police Athletic League (PAL). PAL has grown tremendously over the last year as a result of the collaboration with a variety of community- based organizations including schools, churches and cultural groups.



Police Honor Guard.

PAL has grown tremendously over the last year as a result of the collaboration with a variety of community- based



Torrington Police Athletic League.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Fire Chief—John Field (retired)  
 Deputy Fire Chief—Gary M. Brunoli  
 Training/Safety—Lawrence Hepburn  
 Staff—Maureen Lamanna & Pamela Edwards

**PREVENTION/INVESTIGATION DIVISION**

Fire Marshal—Timothy Tharau  
 Deputy Fire Marshals—Richard Prinee and Edward Bascetta

*The Torrington Fire Department is committed to serving the City of Torrington with the highest level of life and property protection.*

**Mission:**

The Torrington Fire Department is committed to serving the City of Torrington with the highest level of life and property protection. They will provide preventive measures, excellent and compassionate service, and a safe work environment; in an atmosphere that encourages innovation, professional development, and diversity.

Annual Incidents	2011	
Building Fire	30	30
Vehicle Fire	18	18
Brush Fire	11	11
Other Fire	111	111
Rupture/Explosion	12	12
Motor Vehicle Accidents	333	333
EMS Assist	200	200
Rescue/ Medical Other	33	33
Hazardous Condition	463	463
Service Call	819	819
Good Intent	306	306
False Call	354	354
Severe Weather	98	98
Other	13	13
<b>Total calls - 2801</b>		<b>2801</b>



Fire Marshal Tim Tharau making sure everything is safe at our Downtown Marketplace.

	Budget	Expenditures
	<u>2011-2012</u>	<u>2011-2012</u>
<b>Fire Department Budget</b>	5,085,975	5,016,528.68

### Administration/Operations:

The City of Torrington is in the process of selecting a new Fire Chief to lead the Department for the coming years. This is a great opportunity to continue with completion of the goals set forth in the Torrington Fire Services Strategic Plan. The selection process should be completed in early October of 2012.

The Torrington Fire Department has assumed responsibility of the emergency management division for the City of Torrington. Richard DallaValle has been appointed to the position of Emergency Management Director and reports directly to the Fire Chief. Emergency Management Division has been very busy working with other emergency services responding to numerous large storms that have affected our City.

The City of Torrington completed a 5000 square foot addition to Torrington Fire Headquarters. The addition has provided a new Emergency Operations Center and a home for Litchfield County Dispatch. A majority of the cost associated with this project was acquired through federal grants. The new center was activated for the October storms that hit the State with heavy rains and a snow storm.

Litchfield County Dispatch assumed dispatch and communications responsibility for the City of Torrington's Emergency Services. The new communications system has combined the efforts of the police, fire, and emergency medical services into one system utilizing civilian personnel. The consolidation has improved the level of service to the Citizens of Torrington as was expected.

The Torrington Fire Service completed the Strategic Plan which will provide direction for the next five years. The Torrington Fire service continues to look at innovative ways to improve efficiencies in providing the service needs of the City. The committee will begin reviewing the plan in early 2013 to see the progress made and make the needed adjustments as we move forward.

### Acquisitions:

The Torrington Fire Department has placed into service two new pieces of apparatus last year. Engine 4 is a Rosenbauer engine/pumper assigned to Headquarters. Engine 2 is an American Lafrance engine/pumper/ladder assigned to the North End Station. The new acquisition has added a great addition to the versatility of the current fleet.

The City of Torrington purchased its first water tanker for the Fire Service. The tanker was assigned to the Drakeville Volunteer Fire Department. This piece will be added to the Fire Services' initial structural fire response as a water supply resource. This tanker has given a new purpose and value to the service needs of the City.

The Torrington Fire Department has acquired a grant to purchase a new "Class A" Burn Trailer. The Trailer is being built and will arrive in early 2012. This Trailer has provided Torrington's Fire Service with enhanced live fire training.



Torrington Fire Department  
Headquarters

The new  
communications  
system has  
combined the efforts  
of the police, fire, and  
emergency medical  
services into one  
system utilizing  
civilian personnel.

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Director—Rick DallaValle



Disasters can happen anywhere and at any time. By taking the time to create a family disaster supplies kit, your family will be prepared in the event of a disaster.

All residents are urged to keep a three day supply of needed items on hand at all times in case of an emergency.

The Emergency Management Office and Emergency Operation Center (EOC) are located at the Torrington Fire Department, 111 Water Street. This is a state of the art facility completed in 2011. The EOC is equipped with a Smart Board, Teleconferencing, video monitors, computers, and a new, advanced telephone system. In the event of a disaster, this center is opened for the duration of the incident. The center is manned by key city employees, outside agencies, such as health, medical, and transportation, along with utility representatives. The office phone number is 860-626-7537. The emergency phone number to call during an incident is 860-626-7535.

Mr. Dalla Valle maintains and updates the City's basic emergency plans and serves as a liaison between the City, the State, and Federal agencies on issues of emergency management. He can be reached at the office phone number above or on his cell phone at (860) 309-9685.

The City operates an emergency radio frequency at 153.875 MHZ and relays emergency messages to and from the Area 5 EOC located at 111 Water Street in Torrington. The Center maintains, monitors, and holds monthly radio drills on 147.240 MHZ repeater and operates a mobile command communication vehicle, which can be utilized at all emergency incidents.

All residents are urged to listen for radio broadcasts during an emergency or read the local papers for information. All information pertaining to the storm will be put out through those means during the duration of the incident. They are constantly updated and have up to the minute changes as they occur.

The Emergency Management Office also has a list compiled of local volunteers and is constantly looking for more people to be involved. Please contact the office if you are interested in volunteering.

All residents are urged to keep a three day supply of needed items on hand at all times in case of an emergency. This should consist of food items, water, a flashlight, and a battery operated radio to stay informed during the incident. Bedding, such as, pillows and blankets, should also be available.

## TAX COLLECTION OFFICE

Tax Collector—Robert Crovo

## TORRINGTON HOUSING AUTHORITY

Executive Director—Claudia Sweeney

Members—Robert Ralieg, David Murelli, Robert Milano, Dr. Mario D'Angelo & Ruth Tedesco

**REGISTRAR OF VOTERS**

- Clerk—Nan Samele
- Assistant Clerk—Annette Caputi
- Republican ROV—Amelia Waldron
- Democratic ROV—John Ciesco

The Registrar of Voters office duties include registration of voters, taking enrollments in the respective parties, party transfers and erasures, hiring and training election day officials, preparing all material and having all records up to date to ensure an orderly election process.

This office also conducts any party primaries and all city referenda. We do an annual canvass to verify the addresses of each elector in Torrington. We hold voter registration sessions at Torrington High School and Oliver Wolcott Technical School. With the constant changing of election laws, the Registrars and Deputies must be in close touch with the Secretary of the State and always be aware of new laws and calendar deadlines. Two conferences with workshops are attended each year and meetings with ROVAC (Registrars of Voters Association of Connecticut).

Due to redistricting, Torrington is split between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Congressional districts, the 8<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> Senatorial districts, and the 63<sup>rd</sup>, 64<sup>th</sup> and 65<sup>th</sup> Assembly districts. We have 8 polling places. We are now using optical scan voting machines. During the fiscal year July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012 there were 659 new registered voters: 157 Democrats, 157 Republicans, 312 unaffiliated, and 33 minor parties.

For more information call the Registrar of Voters office at 489-2226 or 489-2227. Voter registration cards are available at City Hall, the Library, social service agencies, and the Dept of Motor Vehicle. The form can also be downloaded from the City of Torrington Website.

*During the fiscal year 2011-12 there were 659 new registered voters: 157 Democrats, 157 Republicans, 312 unaffiliated, and 33 minor parties.*

**OUTSIDE AGENCIES**

**LITCHFIELD HILLS COUNCIL OF ELECTED OFFICIALS**  
 Planning Director—Rick Lynn, AICP

The Litchfield Hills Council of Elected Officials is the state-recognized regional planning organization for the eleven-town Litchfield Hills Region. The LHCEO consists of the Mayors and First Selectmen from the member towns of Barkhamsted, Colebrook, Goshen, Hartland, Harwinton, Litchfield, Morris, New Hartford, Norfolk, Torrington, and Winchester.

The LHCEO meets monthly to discuss issues of intermunicipal concern, promote regional cooperation, and direct various regional planning activities. Serving as officers this year were Hartland First Selectman Wade Cole as Chairman, Barkhamsted First Selectman Donald Stein as Vice Chairman, Torrington Mayor Ryan Bingham as Secretary, and Norfolk First Selectman Susan Dyer as Treasurer. The LHCEO is based at the Goshen Town Hall and has two employees.



## LITCHFIELD HILLS COUNCIL OF ELECTED OFFICIALS (CON'T)

Major activities of the LHCEO this year included the following:

### **Planning and Coordination**

- A variety of issues of regional significance were discussed at the monthly meetings of the LHCEO including: municipal growth trends, economic development, cooperative purchasing, affordable housing, homeland security priorities, legislative priorities, road improvement projects, regionalizing health insurance, the draft State Plan of Conservation and Development, and consolidation of police dispatch centers. In addition to the LHCEO's regular monthly meetings, several special meetings of the LHCEO were also held to discuss legislative priorities with local legislators.
- The LHCEO responded to numerous requests for demographic, economic, and housing data. The LHCEO also reviewed and commented on several referrals of proposed zoning changes, town plan updates, or development proposals near municipal borders this fiscal year, as required by state statute.
- The LHCEO administered a Business Energy Efficiency Program for towns in the region this year with funding provided by the State. This program offered financial assistance to area businesses for window replacement, building insulation, energy saving light bulb replacement, and solar installations. Thirty two projects were approved with the funding available.
- The LHCEO continued to receive funding this year from the CT Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security to help coordinate the activities of the Regional Public Safety Task Force and other emergency planning programs.
- The LHCEO also administered the "Litchfield Hills Public Works Equipment Cooperative" this year. Under this program, interested area towns can share in the use of two street sweepers and one catch basin cleaner.
- The LHCEO, in conjunction with the Northwestern CT Council of Governments, NWC Economic Development Corporation, and the NWC Chamber of Commerce, also helped coordinate an update of the region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy this year.

### **Transportation Planning**

- The LHCEO continued to help administer the region's Rural Collector funding program this year, as well as several local road projects funded under the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.
- Two meetings of the Litchfield Hills Road Foreman Association were held this year to discuss local experience with road maintenance activities, opportunities for cooperative purchasing, and operation of the Litchfield Hills Public Works Equipment Cooperative.
- The LHCEO also continued its active support this year for federal and state funding to build a new transit center for the Northwestern CT Transit District. LHCEO staff also prepared and reviewed several grant applications to enhance transit services in the region.

*The LHCEO meets monthly to discuss issues of intermunicipal concern, promote regional cooperation, and direct various regional planning activities.*

### **Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling**

In cooperation with the Northwestern Connecticut Council of Governments, the LHCEO continued to coordinate meetings of the Regional Recycling Advisory Committee. This Committee oversees the regional recycling program and coordinates the scheduling of household hazardous waste collection days in the regional area. Two successful household hazardous waste collection days were held this year for area residents, along with two electronics collection days sponsored in cooperation with the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority.

NORTHWEST CONNECTICUT TRANSIT  
Director—Carol Deane



The Northwestern Connecticut Transit serves 16 towns in Northwest Connecticut. Our total ridership is for FY12 was 42, 852 with 17,553 of the trips from Torrington residents.

All towns receive Dial A Ride which is curb to curb service for all persons (anyone under 12 years of age must be accompanied by an adult). Transportation is provided for grocery shopping, medical appointments, hairdressers, nutrition, etc. This service required a 24 hour notice and all vehicles are wheelchair accessible. Dial A Ride services are from 9AM to 3PM

The District also has a first come, first serve basis Interregional service to out-of-area towns for medical appointments and other purposes. Round-trip fares vary depending on destination. This service is available on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and all seniors ride free with a suggested donation. Special trips can be planned to go to out of town malls, restaurants, excursions to Christmas Tree Shoppes etc. These trips usually have one person who is in charge of the destinations and signs up riders for these trips.

Weekend Dial a Ride service is also available in many towns. Torrington has a Saturday and Sunday service that currently has a waiting list.

Job Access service is available for Torrington and Winsted residents. This service provides transportation for the Greater Canaan factories for all three shifts. Two buses provide this service.

In addition to the above, the District provides the CANDYSTRIPER service which is contracted out to Kelley Transit. This service provides deviated flexible service to Torrington, Litchfield and Winsted.

Deviated flexible service means the bus will travel off the route  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile to assist riders who cannot get to the bus stop.

NORTHWEST CT TRANSIT AUTHORITY (CON'T)

Fare Structure is as follows:

Adults	\$1.25
Students	.90
Disabled	.65

Elderly Ride Free with a suggested donation of \$1.25  
 Children under 5 ride Free

Interregional Service	Hartford Area	\$12.50 round trip
	New Haven Area	\$12.50 round trip
	Waterbury Area	\$9.50 round trip
	Danbury Area	\$9.50 round trip

Seniors ride free with suggested donation  
 Job Access \$2.00 One Way

For more information please call 860-489-2535 or 1-866-906-RIDE (7433)

Our website is [www.nwcttransit.com](http://www.nwcttransit.com)

TORRINGTON AREA HEALTH DISTRICT—350 Main Street  
 Director of Health—Jim Rokos

*The TAHD Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program ensured that follow up care was provided for more than 40 children with elevated blood lead screening levels.*

The TAHD served over 137, 000 people in twenty cities and towns covering 611 square miles. In addition to its 19 city, town and borough members, the TAHD provided contracted public health services to the Town of Middlebury starting on July 1, 2011, and that town officially joined the TAHD on June 1, 2012.

The TAHD **Reportable Disease Program** investigated the following communicable diseases: 13 Campylobacteriosis, 18 Salmonellosis and 12 Giardiasis. TAHD nurses conducted case management on 1 case of tuberculosis and 3 cases of latent tuberculosis infection. TAHD held 10 seasonal flu and pneumonia clinics where TAHD nurses administered 781 doses of flu vaccine, and 20 doses of pneumonia vaccine to local residents. 36 raccoons, bats, and other animals were submitted to the State Lab for Rabies testing. Ticks brought in by 154 residents were sent to the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station to determine if they were positive for Lyme Disease bacteria.

The TAHD **Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program** ensured that follow up care was provided for more than 40 children with elevated blood lead screening levels. 5 new children required extensive case management due to lead poisoning. TAHD also collaborated with the **Lead Action Medicaid Participants (LAMPP) Program** to assist property owners with lead abatement of their properties. Sanitarians and nurses were involved in 7 partial lead inspections, and 7 epidemiological investigations to comply with State mandates. Abatement orders were issued for 6 properties. Educational sessions were held for area physicians and child and family programs, and educational packets were distributed to group daycares.

TAHD also implemented a new **Healthy Homes Program** that gave homeowners and tenants an opportunity to have a more holistic inspection made of their living space with the goal of improving the housing stock in NWCT one dwelling at a time. Six homes were inspected and follow-up inspections were arranged for Program evaluation purposes.

The TAHD **Immunization Action Program (IAP)** continues to work with local providers to ensure compliance with immunization laws among the pre-school population. The new state immunization registry rolled out in May of 2012 and is a work in progress. It is currently used by state personnel and IAP coordinators. Private medical practices will be brought online this fall and the state IT department is also working with various Electronic Medical Record Companies in hopes that future immunization records will be downloaded directly into the state data bank.

In the fall of 2011, during storms Irene and Alfred, the TAHD **Emergency Preparedness Program** worked with community partners to provide emergency communication, ensure food and water safety, and community hygiene. Staff continues to train to improve emergency response activities using the Incident Command System (ICS). TAHD continues as the Regional Public Health Advisor for all local health departments in Region 5 of the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS). TAHD meets monthly with both local and regional planning partners to update plans and conduct trainings and exercises.

The TAHD-**Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Program** continues to provide first responder support training and firefighter rehab. The TAHD-MRC has trained 300 community members in CPR and First Aid. The MRC sponsored a team of AmeriCorps volunteers who completed a six week deployment in Northwest Connecticut. Projects included: completion of an inventory of TAHD assets, hiking trail remediation, and community emergency preparedness education.

The TAHD is the fiduciary agent for a **Community Transformation Grant (CTG) Program** for Litchfield County. This is a 5 year federal grant with the goal to reduce chronic diseases by promoting healthy lifestyles (tobacco free living, active living and healthy eating, and quality preventive services) focusing on changes to policies, systems, and infrastructure. The first two years are capacity building with the anticipation that many more dollars will be forthcoming for implementation. To date, TAHD has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Charlotte Hungerford Hospital, NWCT-YMCA and NWCT- United Way, formed a county wide coalition representing five sectors from each community, and signed a contract with Education Connection to deliver a Community Needs Assessment.

The TAHD continued its partnering with Phoenix Labs. for its **Water Testing Program**. Phoenix Labs is a full service lab located in Manchester, Connecticut that offers a wide range of testing of drinking water, wastewater, groundwater/landfills, storm water, soil and more. The TAHD continues to collect samples when requested, and offers free technical advice on any water testing results.

The TAHD  
Immunization Action  
Program (IAP)  
continues to work with  
local providers to  
ensure compliance  
with immunization laws  
among the pre-school  
population.



Among other things the TAHD reviews and permits street vendors like those at a Thursday Downtown Marketplace.

TAHD (CON'T)

TAHD **Environmental Health Program** resulted in the following inspections/licenses/permits: 1972 food inspections, 715 temporary food permits, 62 new septic systems, 141 repaired septic systems, 146 private well permits, 89 private pool permits, 157 beauty salons & barber shops inspections, 501 house addition permits, 229 soil tests, 18 subdivision lots, 61 public pools and beaches were inspected, and 21 daycare centers inspected. Records show that 558 samples were submitted to the state lab for testing of drinking water, beach and pool water, lead in water and paint, asbestos, food, sewage and volatile organic compounds and pesticides in water. Sanitarians investigated 494 complaints of various public health concerns; 25 legal orders/voluntary compliances were issued for enforcement purposes.

VETERAN'S SERVICE OFFICE—33 Coe Place

Administrator—Len Dube

Office Manager—Bud Atwood

The Veteran's Service Office, located on Coe Place next to Fuessenich Park, provides services "from the cradle to the grave" for eligible military veterans and their families. Temporary financial assistance is available through the Soldiers' Sailors; and Marine Fund for eligible veterans and their families. Ombudsman type assistance is provided to complete necessary forms that cover VA Medical Insurance, burials, counseling services, awards and decorations, etc. Final Honors military funeral quads are available for eligible veterans with services provided within the State of Connecticut.

