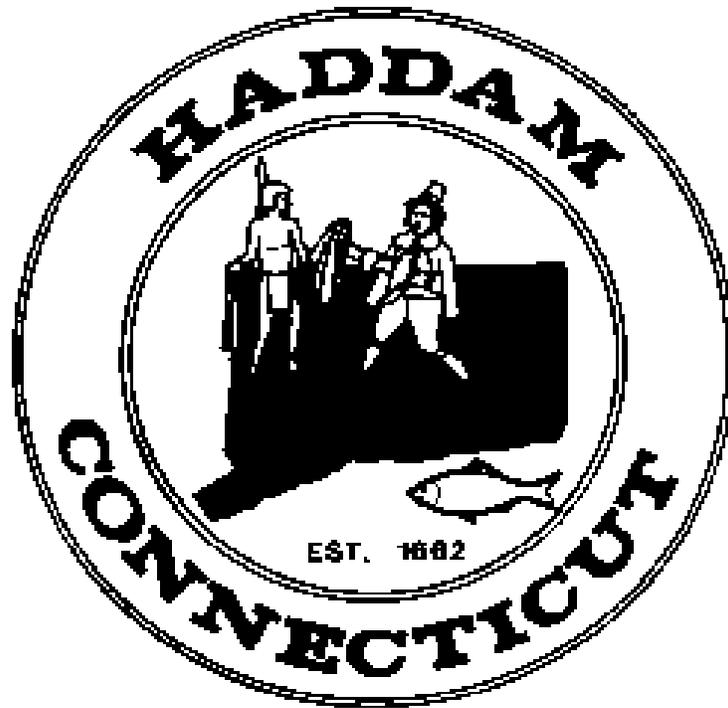


**ANNUAL REPORT
for the
TOWN OF HADDAM**



Fiscal Year July 2014 - June 2015

Town of Haddam 2014-2015 Annual Report

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<p>Town Office Building Hours Monday - Wednesday: 8:30 am - 4:00 pm Thursday: 8:30 am - 6:30 pm. Friday: 8:30 am - 12 noon</p>			
<p>Transfer Station Hours Wednesday & Saturday: 8:00 am - 3:45 pm, Sunday: 8:00 am - 11:45 am</p>			
<p>Please Note: <u>The Charter of the Town of Haddam</u> gives the Board of Finance responsibility for compiling and publishing the Annual Report. It does not, however, give the Board any authorization to see that reports of various agencies and departments are either submitted when requested or that the reports include all of the information required by the Charter or State Statutes. The reports are entered into the Annual Report substantially as submitted. All reports received are included in this Report.</p>			

It was another busy year for Haddam with reduced government spending for the second year in a row, productive grants, many new infrastructure improvements and some fun projects!

Infrastructure

We were finally able to pave the top of Plains Road and make it accessible in the winter to all residents in that area and the entire road is now open to through traffic from one end to the other.

Park Road engineering has been finalized, easements obtained and construction should begin in early 2016.

McTigh Road continues to be a tough project but we were able to finalize engineering for culvert design and reconstruction and started negotiations to acquire property in order to implement the water runoff improvements.

Grants

Haddam won a hard-earned \$300,000 Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) grant to investigate remediation costs and perform a market study on our historic Haddam Jail. This grant will allow us to fight for larger state and federal grants to clean up and decide the best future use without overburdening the taxpayers with the Jail's revival.

We also were the lucky recipients of the Nutmeg Grant which will put our Town Office Building on the information superhighway and allow us to hook up to the State's fiber optic intranet, allowing us to share large files and programs with other municipalities and the state, saving us money through sharing of resources.

Last year we educated our legislators for the first time about Haddam's unfair Education Cost Sharing (ECS) grant funding. We lobbied the state during the legislative session to rectify the fact that we are the tenth worst ECS-funded town in the state. Having our fair share of the ECS funding would bring our mill rate down by 2 mills, allowing us to once again be competitive with neighboring municipalities. As a result of our lobbying efforts, we were able to secure an additional \$100,000 for Haddam while other towns were flat funded.

We were accepted into UConn's Internship of Public Policy program (IPP), which will allow us to inventory and perform a business analysis and survey of our commercial entities, enhancing our economic future.

Energy Savings

As a result of the Energy Task Force's record-breaking SolarizeCT campaign, Haddam earned enough free solar panels to cover the electricity costs at our transfer station and became one of only a few towns in the state to win the EnergizeCT Silver award.

Board of Selectmen, cont.

The task force also began investigating a performance contract to upgrade our municipal building and street lighting to LED fixtures and received a grant to perform an energy audit on the firehouse to help save money on electricity and fuel usage in the future.

This year we approved the Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) program, which will allow commercial building owners to access affordable, long-term financing for clean energy upgrades through a voluntary assessment on their property tax bill. The business benefits from lower energy costs and the community wins, due to reduced electricity demand and new clean energy generation.

Environment

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized remediation and rehabilitation of the Higganum Cove superfund site, which now is a safe and beautiful connection to the Connecticut River. We also began the legal foreclosure process to transfer the property to the town and turn it into a park.

In Tylerville, the town is continuing to support the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) with its ongoing investigation and study of the pollution in that area. The comprehensive DEEP study will be finalized in early 2016. The town also continued discussions with the Department of Public Health (DPH) and DEEP on a plan for the contamination issues in Tylerville and a community well solution was discussed as a possible, more cost effective solution.

Board of Selectmen Meetings Attendance

First Selectman Melissa Schlag - 32 of 32 Meetings

Selectman Robert Duval - 31 of 32

Selectman Sean Donlan - 30 of 32

Selectmen Assistant Alice Zanelli - 18 of 32

Finance Coordinator Georgia Emanuel - 8 of 9 budget meetings

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa J. Schlag,

First Selectman

District Probate Court

Terrance D. Lomme, Judge of Probate - Saybrook District

The regional probate court serves the following towns in addition to Haddam: Chester, Clinton, Deep River, Essex, Killingworth, Lyme, Old Saybrook, and Westbrook. The total population of these towns is over 62,000 citizens, generating approximately one thousand new matters of all types, per year. The court is full time from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and is located on the second floor of the Old Saybrook Town Hall at 302 Main Street.

Probate, cont.

We handle all aspects of decedent estates and a variety of other matters. The court spends a substantial amount of its time on children's matters. Many times, the child's parents are unable or unwilling to care for their children and frequently it is the child's grandparents who apply to the Court for guidance. Grandparents, or other relatives, are usually appointed to take care of the child under the Court's supervision. If the parent or parents become capable and willing to take care of the child, their guardianship rights can be restored. There is usually an investigation by the Department of Children and Families. These can be difficult matters but the Court's focus is always on what is in the best interest of the child. We have also had the pleasure of approving adoptions, which is always an uplifting event.

The legislature passed new laws in 2015 which will raise probate fees effective January 1, 2016. The entry fees will increase from \$150 to \$225 on January 1, 2016. Filing fees for financial reports and accounts will also change.

Forms for filing probate matters can be found online at <http://www.ctprobate.gov>. Most of these forms are fill-able for the convenience of the public. Someone filing documents with the Court must certify that they have sent copies of the documents that they are filing to all of the other interested parties.

Thanks to the efforts of Chief Clerk Valerie Shickel, and the other clerks and assistant clerks, Sharon Tiezzi, Marjorie Calltharp, Stella Beaudoin, Helene Yates, Peggy Schroeder, and Jackie Craco, the court continues to operate smoothly and efficiently.

Respectfully submitted,
Terrance D. Lomme, Judge
Saybrook Probate Court District

Registrars of Voters

Raymond Skarsten and Saralyn Twomey, Haddam Registrars of Voters

Mission:

The Registrars of Voters are the Election Administrators and are responsible for upholding Connecticut State Laws regarding the electoral process, conducting all elections and referenda, training election workers, keeping voters informed through the news and the Town's website, maintaining and programming voting machines, and maintaining voter records.

Accomplishments/Achievements:

- The Registrars administered a Republican Primary 8/12/14, a Gubernatorial Election 11/4/2014 and 2 Regional #17 School Budget Referenda 5/2/15 and 6/2/15; also we administered a recount on the 5/2/15 Referendum;
- In conjunction with The Elections, the Registrars administered voting sessions at "The Saybrook at Haddam", Haddam, CT;

Registrars of Voters, cont.

- The Registrars held legislatively required “voter registration sessions”;
- The Registrars attended 2 conferences and training sessions to update Registrars and Deputies on new technologies and legislative requirements of the Connecticut General Assembly and Secretary of the State's Office, so we can achieve our required CEU's and continue training our poll workers with the most up-to-date information;
- The Registrars maintained and updated voter registration and history files, including conducting the annual town wide canvass. The current voter list includes 5,632 voters; see below the voter summary by party as 8/5/2015.
- The Registrars informed and educated voters through published notices and articles.
- The Registrars conducted our annual Haddam/Killingworth High School Registration session with the help of the school guidance counselors. Haddam registered 73 seniors.
- We also host the Middlesex County Registrar of Voters meetings throughout the year.

Town of Haddam – Voter Registration Summary (August 5, 2015)

District	Democratic	Republican	Unaffiliated	Other	Total
001 Firehouse	837	640	1,289	21	2,787
002 Central Office	734	554	1,244	17	2,549
003 Haddam Neck	83	76	117	0	276
<hr/>					
Totals:	1,662(30%)	1,276(23%)	2,657(47%)	38(.06%)	5,632

Respectfully submitted,
Raymond Skarsten and Saralyn Twomey
Haddam Registrars of Voters

Board of Finance

Joseph Centofanti, Chairman

The Board of Finance consists of six Regular members and three Alternate members. The regular members from July 2014 to October 2014 were Chairman David Kapitulik, Vice Chairman Harlan Fredericksen, John Bosco, Joseph Centofanti, Marjorie DeBold, and John Tabak, and Alternates James Bucko, Cheryl Haase, and Joanne Nesti. In November 2014, Mr. Centofanti was elected Chairman and Ms. DeBold was elected Secretary. From November 2014 through May 2015, the Board consisted of Chairman Joseph Centofanti, Vice Chairman Harlan Fredericksen, John Bosco, Marjorie DeBold, Secretary, David Kapitulik and John Tabak, and Alternates James Bucko, Cheryl Haase, and Joanne Nesti. In May 2015, Mr. Tabak, resigned due to his move out of Town and Ms. Haase was appointed as a Regular member. This left an alternate seat open and it was filled in June 2015 by the appointment of Robert McGarry.

Board of Finance, cont.

The Board of Finance is charged under the Charter of the town of Haddam, Section 9-2 to devote attention to four main areas: 1) preparation of the year's budget, 2) management and monitoring of the current budget, 3) long range capital planning in conjunction with the Long Range Capital Planning Committee, and 4) monitoring the school district budget.

For the Fiscal year July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015, the tax rate was set at 30.39 mils. The Board continuously works hard to balance the growing needs of the Town and requests from taxpayer and local agencies for funding with the effect/burden on the taxpayers.

The Board spends a significant amount of time on the Town budget and encourages all residents to communicate to the Board their thoughts on the operating budget, the capital plan and any other thoughts and ideas that may benefit the Town. We also continue to work to improve the budget document to provide additional information about the items included in the budget document and the budget process.

Residents are invited and encouraged to attend all Board of Finance meetings, which are held on the second Monday of each month except August when no meeting is formally scheduled. Minutes of the Board of Finance meetings are on file and are available at the Town Clerk's Office at the Town Office Building as well as posted on the Town's website.

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph Centofanti
Chairman

Assessor's Office

Marilyn R. Baumann, CCMail, Assessor

The Grand List of October 1, 2014 resulted in a total net figure of \$913,064,298, which was a significant increase of nearly 8 million dollars (\$7,899,595) across all categories (real estate, personal property and motor vehicles), and added about \$246,470 to our revenue based on calculations using the mil rate of 31.20. After adjustments by the Board of Assessment Appeals in March, there was a resulting increase of approximately \$240,250 in revenue. This was the largest increase since the slight decline with the 2010 revaluation. The most significant segment of the increase was due to continuing activity with new construction, additions and alterations to real estate.

At this writing, the revaluation effective October 1, 2015 is underway. This revaluation is being conducted as an update of statistics, as prescribed by state statute. For this update, data mailers were utilized for property owners to complete, and inspections were conducted on properties that had sold and those with outstanding building permits and certain other properties.

Assessor, cont.

Each property owner will receive a statement in the mail in late fall with information re: the previous assessment and the new assessment. This statement will detail an option to attend a formal hearing with the firm of Vision Government Solutions, Inc. (Vision), the company contracted by the town to assist us in the revaluation, in order to dispute your assessment. If no satisfaction is reached, an appeal to the Board of Assessment Appeals can be made.

As always, the cooperation of all property owners is *greatly appreciated* and is extremely important to making this a successful revaluation.

Since Haddam's last revaluation in 2010 changing economic conditions have caused inequities to develop, which means that some properties may have become overvalued or undervalued when compared to similar properties. The revaluation returns properties to current market values and their fair-share basis.

The ultimate goal of the revaluation is to establish uniformity in property valuation and to assure that all property owners are paying only their fair share and to value all properties by the same standard at the same point in time. It is extremely important that all property owners cooperate as best they can with our appraisers, data collectors and members of the Assessor's staff in order make this a successful revaluation. Our objective always is to provide taxpayers with a high quality revaluation with minimal intrusion.

For taxpayers who qualify, there are various state and local programs available that offer tax assistance. These programs include elderly/homeowners, veterans, additional veterans, the 100% disabled and blind, which are all administered through the Assessor's Office. Please do not hesitate to call or stop by so that we may explain any of these programs and help to determine for which program you might qualify.

As in the past, we will make every effort to keep you informed of all the activities and programs within the Assessor's Office. We will make this information available through our web site www.haddam.org and other publications.

In addition to our regular duties, the Assessor's Office has achieved a lot this past year. The preparation and commencement of the revaluation and the addition of PDFs of the Assessor's Property Record Cards (PRC) to the Vision web site are two major projects that we consider great accomplishments.

We are very proud of what we do and remain grateful for the continuing support of our awesome co-workers and the residents of this great town. We will be persistent in keeping the lines of communications open between us and strive to preserve fairness and equity, which is an essential component of our jobs.

Assessor, cont.

I remain ever-grateful to my Assistant Assessor Tammy Anderson for her dedication and thoroughness in all aspects of her position and never-ending support and assistance day-to-day.

We both look forward to another year of serving the fine citizens of Haddam and we appreciate your support. Anytime you feel we can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us at 860-345-8531.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn R. Baumann, CCMail
Assessor

Board of Assessment Appeals

Jo Ann Woickelman, Chair

The Board of Assessment Appeals consists of Judy Goldfarb, Lisa Lawrence and Chairman Jo Ann R. Woickelman.

The Board meets for hearings twice during the fiscal year: in September for motor vehicle appeals and in March for real property, personal property and supplemental motor vehicle appeals.

In September of 2014, ten motor vehicle appeals were heard. There were two who did not keep their appointments. During the March 2015 hearing, thirteen real property and five personal property appeals were heard. All board members attended both meetings.

The Board has a line item in the town budget of \$300.00, which will be used for continuing education. Paper supplies are obtained thru the Assessors' office.

Respectfully submitted,
Jo Ann R. Woickelman
Chairman

Office of the Tax Collector

Kristin Battistoni, Tax Collector

Taxes Collected for the 2013 Grand List: \$27,364,903.60. The breakdown is: \$27,291,608.80 from tax, \$72,658.80 from interest, \$336.00 from liens and \$300.00 from fees.

Tax Collector, cont.

The Total Collected from the 2012 through 1999 Grand Lists is \$361,060.57. The breakdown is: \$276,923.56 from tax, \$82,147.92 from interest, \$1,944.00 from liens and

\$45.09 from fees. Taxes are collectable for fifteen years. The total dollars collected for the year was \$27,725,964.17

The Board of Finance had approved a collection rate of 98.5% with the mill rate set at 30.39 for the 2013 Grand List. The above numbers represent a collection rate of 99.0% on the adjusted 2013 Grand List Levy of \$27,098,033.00. This collection rate is consistent with the two previous years in which our collection rate was 99.0% for the 2012 grand list and 98.9% for the 2013 grand list.

In November of 2014 I became a Certified Connecticut Municipal Collector (CCMC). In June the Tax Office said good-bye to Assistant Tax Collector Linda Walczak. After 13 years in the office, Linda retired and moved to Florida. She will be greatly missed!

Respectfully submitted,
Kristin Battistoni
Haddam Tax Collector

Town Clerk

Scott Brookes, Town Clerk

TOWN MEETINGS

July 15, 2014

Voted to appropriate \$160,000 from the Capital Non-recurring Fund to line item #17-90-335-13-10000 for the purchase of a new roll off truck.

Voted to authorize the First Selectman to enter into an agreement to sell, transfer and convey all of the Town's right title and interest of land being a 7 acre irregular shaped parcel of land located northerly of the terminus of Salmon River in the Town of Haddam, Connecticut. Said parcel being designated as Haddam Tax Map 10, Lot 23, Town of Haddam, County of Middlesex, and State of Connecticut. Conveyance of the above real property will be to the United States Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, or its designee, in consideration of payment of Fourteen Thousand Dollars (\$14,000).

A vote to amend the motion so that the Town of Haddam would deposit the \$14,000.00 into the open space acquisition fund.

Town Clerk, cont.

Results of the August 12, 2014 Republican Primary for Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Comptroller:

<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Votes</u>
Governor	*Thomas C. Foley	196
	John P. McKinney	122
Lieutenant Governor	*Penny Bacchiochi	100
	Heather Somers	132
	David M. Walker	84
Comptroller	*Sharon J. McLaughlin	220
	Angel Cadena	70

October 2, 2014

Voted to transfer \$35,000 from Solid Waste Disposal, MSW Disposal Fee to the Capital Non- Recurring Fund in order to fund the purchase of the roll-off truck. Yes – (4) No - (0) Abstained - (2) - Motion Passed

Voted to transfer \$700,000 from the Fund balance to the Road Fund to provide funding for the road and bridge projects that have been identified as being priorities for reconstruction.

November 4, 2014 **Connecticut Gubernatorial Election**

Governor & Lieutenant Governor		
Republican	Thomas F. Foley/Heather Somers	2005
Democratic	Dannel P. Malloy/Nancy Wyman	1480
Working Families	Dannel P. Malloy/Nancy Wyman	76
Independent	Thomas F. Foley/Heather Somers	75
Petitioning Candidate	Joe Visconti/Chester Harris	51
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS		
Republican	Lori Hopkins-Cavanagh	1609
Democratic	Joseph Courtney	1809
Working Families	Joseph Courtney	133
Green	William Clyde	59
Libertarian	Daniel Reale	29
STATE SENATOR		
Republican	Art Linares	2084
Democratic	Emily Bjomberg	1325
Independent	Art Linares	123
Working Families	Emily Bjomberg	83
Green	Colin Bennett	63
STATE REPRESENTATIVE		
Republican	Robert Siegrist	1965
Democratic	Philip Miller	1621

SECRETARY OF THE STATE		
Republican	Peter Lumaj	1876
Democratic	Denise Merrill	1454
Working Families	Denise Merrill	92
Independent	Peter Lumaj	86
Green	S. Michael DeRosa	106
TREASURER		
Republican	Timothy Hebst	2003
Democratic	Denise L. Nappier	1391
Working Families	Denise L. Nappier	76
Independent	Timothy Hebst	136
COMPTROLLER		
Republican	Sharon McLaughlin	1798
Democratic	Kevin Lembo	1519
Working Families	Kevin Lembo	88
Independent	Sharon McLaughlin	100
Green	Rolf Maurer	66
ATTORNEY GENERAL		
Republican	Kie Westby	1652
Democratic	George Jepsen	1676
Working Families	George Jepsen	110
Independent	Kie Westby	71
Green	Stephen Fournier	86
JUDGE OF PROBATE		
Republican	Anselmo Delia	1855
Democratic	Terrance Lomme	1649

December 9, 2014

A Resolution was passed: That the Town hereby accepts a certain Quit Claim deed from the State of Connecticut to the Town, Dated May 22,2013, for certain property located between Dish Mill Road and Route 81 and more particularly shown as "Land of the State of Connecticut to be conveyed to the Town of Haddam .0575 acres (25,065 sq. ft.)" more or less on a certain map entitled "Land to conveyed and easement to be granted by the State of Connecticut to the Town of Haddam Dish Mill Road, Haddam, Connecticut dated March 2012 Project No. 0056-0028 Scale 1"= 20 feet Sheet No 1 of 1 revised 02/27/13" as recommend by the Board of Selectmen and approved by the Planning & Zoning Commission pursuant to CGS Section 8-24.

December 22, 2014

A Resolution was passed: That the Town hereby grants an access and utility easement from the Town of Haddam to Laura Lee Matesky for certain property located off of Little City Road, Assessor's Map No. 43, Lot 6-2, Higganum, Connecticut 06441 as recommended by the Board of Selectmen and approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission pursuant to CGS Section 8-24 and the First Selectman is hereby authorized to execute such easement on behalf of the town.

2015

January 20, 2015

The Annual Town Meeting was held on January 20, 2015 at Town Hall, 21 Field Park Drive, Haddam, CT. The meeting was called to order at 6:01PM by First Selectman Melissa Schlag. Jonathan Sibley made the motion seconded by James Sibley to elect Marge DeBold as moderator. Motion Passed. The legal notice of the meeting was read and accepted as the call of the meeting.

1. A motion by Robert Duval and seconded by Earle Decker to appoint to the H-K Recreation Authority, William Bowles, Anthony Sledzik, Lisa Wiese, and Robert Fitzgerald, term to expire June 30, 2015. Yes: 10 No: 1 - Motion Passed
2. A motion by Jonathan Sibley and seconded by Melissa Schlag to accept the Town report of July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014. Motion Passed unanimously.

Jonathan Sibley commented that he had a substantial collection of old town reports back to the early 1900's. He would like to donate them to the town or historical society with the hope they could be preserved and possibly micro-filmed in the future.

APRIL 16, 2015

A Resolution was passed: That the Town of Haddam hereby decreases the spousal age requirement for the Elderly Tax Abatement Ordinance from 62 – 60 and reduce the residency years from 20 – 15.

Dated in Haddam, Connecticut April 6, 2015.

May 5, 2015

Regional District #17 School Budget Referendum: Adopted Regional School District #17 Education Budget of \$41,477,946.42 for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016. Haddam - Yes – 499 No -720 Killingworth - Yes -388 No-169 = Total Yes – 887 No – 889 - Re-canvass.

May 12, 2015

Re-canvass Both Towns Yes 888 No 889 – Budget Failed.

May 20, 2015

Annual Budget Town Meeting

1. A motion was made by Harlan Fredericksen, seconded by Joe Centofanti to approve the annual budget recommended by the Board of Finance for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 listed at \$7,482,636. Approved by voice vote - Motion Passed.
2. A motion was made by Harlan Fredericksen, second by Art Collins to adopt the Proposed Capital Budget. Approved by voice vote - Motion Passed.
3. A motion was made by David Kapitulik seconded by Art Collins to carry forward the following previously approved Capital plan projects.

Town Office Building Repair Blue Stone	4,133
Annex Water Cistern, Railing and Drain	25,750
Jail Doors & Windows	19,783
Haddam Neck Fire Department-Tanker 16 Refurbish	25,000
Haddam Fire Department-Sealing of Station 1 Apron	11,383

Town Clerk, cont.

Haddam Fire Department-Replace engine 6-13	130,000
Brickyard-New Well	15,000
Total	<u>\$231,049</u>

Approved by voice vote - Motion Passed.

June 2, 2015

Regional District #17 School Budget Referendum: Adopted Regional School District #17 Education Budget of \$41,468,081.42 for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016.

Haddam - Yes – 734 No -1,066 Killingworth - Yes -637 No-238 = Total Yes – 1,371 No – 1,304 - Budget Passed.

JUNE 29, 2015

1. A Resolution was passed: That we, the citizens constituting the legislative body of the Town of Haddam, hereby approves the C-PACE Agreement, and that the First Selectman is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the Town, to execute and deliver the C-PACE Agreement, together with such other documents as he or she may determine to be necessary and appropriate to evidence, secure and otherwise complete the C-PACE Agreement. Motion Passed.
2. Vote to appoint the H-K Recreation Authority for one year, William Bowles, Anthony Sledzik, Lisa Wiese, and Robert Fitzgerald, terms to expire June 30, 2016. Motion Passed.

STATISTICS

ADMINISTRATOR'S DEED	1	PARTIAL Rel	9
AFFIDAVIT	9	PARTIAL REL. MORTGAGE	2
AGREEMENTS	13	PERMIT	1
ASSIGNMENT OF MORTGAGE	43	POWER OF ATTORNEY	13
ATTACHMENT	0	PROBATE CERTIFICATE	19
CEMETERY DEEDS	0	QUIT CLAIM DEEDS	93
CERTIFICATE	0	RELEASE OF LIENS	62
CERTIFICATE OF DEVISE	11	RELEASE OF MORTGAGE	322
CHANGE OF NAME	13	RELEASE OF TAX LIENS	23
CLOSURE DOCUMENTS	0	DOCUMENT REMOVAL	1
COLLATERAL/CONDITIONAL AST	0	STIPULATED JUDGEMENT	1
COMMITTEE DEEDS	1	SUBORDINATION AGREEMENT	13
CONSERVATOR'S DEED	1	TAX LIENS	19
DECLARATION	0	TAX CERTIFICATE	28
EASEMENTS	8	TRADE NAME	22
EXECUTOR'S DEED	9	TRUSTEE DEED	9
FIDUCIARY'S DEED	1	UCC	33
FORECLOSURE	17	VARIANCES	5
FOREST FARM & OPEN SPACE	5	VETERANS DISCHARGES	19
JUDGMENT LIEN	37	WARRANTY DEED	123
LEASE/NOTICE OF LEASE	18	BIRTHS	57

<i>Town Clerk, cont.</i>			
LIENS	1	MARRIAGE	115
LIFE USE	0	DEATH	54
LIS PENDENS	27	DOG LICENSES	1098
MECHANIC'S LIEN	5	KENNEL LICENSES	9
MORTGAGE DEEDS	343	LIQUOR PERMITS	13
MORTGAGE MODIFICATIONS	12	MAPS	32
NOTARY	17	SPORTMANS LICENSES	521
NOTICE	3	TRANSFER STATION PASSES	2,358
ORDER	3		

Respectfully submitted,
 Scott Brookes
 Town Clerk

Planning and Zoning Commission

 Jamin Laurenza, PZC Chairman

Over the past year the Planning & Zoning Commission has updated and reviewed the Zoning Regulations, and reviewed the Plan of Conservation & Development (POCD). The Commission seeks to attract responsible economic growth that is in harmony with Haddam's historic character. Fundamental to that was the creation of the Architectural Review Board for the Higganum Village District. The purpose of the Design Guidelines is to raise the bar of development that is attractive and that complements our historic heritage. The Towns we seek to emulate have walk-able streets, interesting architecture and viable businesses. It has also been documented that buildings that are attractive and desirable command a greater appraisal which results in a higher taxable assessment.

This year the PZC also engaged the services of Milone and McBroom, a consultant, to conduct a housing study and draft regulations that will create a few pockets of more dense development. It is anticipated that this will create some housing diversity such as apartments, condos or micro housing to fill the niche market created by empty nesters, seniors, and young couples.

The Commission also collaborated with the EDC to sponsor a Visioning Plan that was conducted by the UConn School of Landscape Architecture. In the next year the Commission seeks to use the data from this forum to create special zoning regulations for Tylerville and to spearhead some streetscape opportunities.

2 subdivisions
 6 Special Permits

2 Site Plan Reviews
 2 Board of Selectman Referrals in accordance with CGS 8-24

Planning & Zoning, cont.

Attendance for the 2014/2015 fiscal year

Steve Bull (Vice Chairman) 16/16
Stasia DeMichele 6/16
Art Kohs 9/16
Michael Lagace Secretary) 8/16
Jamin Laurenza (Chairman) 14/16
Wayne LePard 15/16
Carmelo Rosa 13/16
Robert Braren 12/16
Raul de Brigard 11/16
Ed Wallor 16/16

Bunny Batzner (Recording Secretary) 16/16
Liz Glidden (Town Planner) 16/16

Respectfully submitted,
Jamin Laurenza, Chairman

Zoning Board of Appeals

Robin Munster, Chair

The Zoning Board of Appeals hears and votes on applications based on an appeal of the zoning regulations of the town. All parties are considered for each application and site walks are conducted when needed.

The budgeted amount to ZBA is for a publication to keep informed of change of regulations and/or information needed to conduct business.

Meetings Attendance:

Tom Berchulski	7/8	Jen O'Neal	5/8
Margo Chase-Wells	7/8	Mary Hickish	3/8
Marge DeBold	7/8	Helen Reeve	6/8
Robin Munster	7/8	Ken Wendt	7/8

Respectfully submitted,
Robin Munster
Chair

Wetlands Commission

Mark Stephens, Chairman

The Haddam Wetlands Commission is a state-mandated appointed local board which serves to carry out the regulations of the CT Inland Wetland and Watercourses Act (Sec.22a-36 through Sec.22a-45 of the CT General Statutes).

This Commission meets on the second Monday of each month in the Town Hall at 7:00 PM. In October it meets on the following Tuesday due to Columbus Day. It met for 5 regular meetings, 1 special meeting and 1 site walk meeting.

Wetlands Commission membership (with attendance record of regular and special meetings) was:

Paul Best	5 of 6
Jeremy DeCarli	5 of 6
Mal Gorin	1 of 6
Dan Iwanicki	5 of 6
Joe Laurenza	0 of 6
Robin Maule	2 of 6
Joe Stephens	5 of 6
Mark Stephens	5 of 6
Tom Worthley	2 of 6

The Commission received 6 permit applications, approved 4 permits, and denied 0 permits. The Wetlands Enforcement Officer received 2 applications and approved 5 permits, which include those given by the Commission after review.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Stephens
Chairman

Capital Planning Committee

Samuel D. Crum, Chairman

The Capital Planning Committee (CPC) requested information from all town agencies regarding their capital requests for expenditures in the amount of \$5,000 or more for the 10-year period 2015 to 2025. A letter from the First Selectman was sent to each agency chairman asking for this information within the paperwork provided.

The information was then processed and reviewed by the CPC. Agencies that submitted requests were then invited to meet with the CPC to clarify their requests and provide any necessary backup paperwork. Once all agencies had been interviewed, the CPC formulated the Town of Haddam Capital Plan for the period 2015-2025, prioritizing and filtering all agency requests.

Then the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance were presented with the ten-

Capital Planning, cont.

(10-)year Capital Plan and CPC members were available to review and answer any questions concerning the agency requests.

The Committee thanks Secretary Bette Dybick for her excellent work.

Scheduled Meeting Attendance:

A total of 8 meetings were held with the 9th scheduled meeting cancelled due to poor weather conditions.

Sam Crum 8/8; Jack Murphy 7/8; Jack Calhoun 4/8; Irwin Knafel 5/8; and Joanne Nesti 5/8.

Respectfully submitted,
Samuel D. Crum, Jr.
Chairman

Haddam Municipal Agent for the Elderly/Senior Center
Mark P. Lundgren, Municipal Agent/ Senior Center Manager

“Striving To Make Every Haddam Senior's Life Better”

Located at 923 Saybrook Road, the Senior Center is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9am to 3pm. The lunch time meal site is located at the Center and is open those days as well as Tuesday and Thursday from 10am to 1pm.

The Municipal Agent for the Elderly Office is located at the Center. Because the separate positions of Senior Center Manager and Municipal Agent are held by the same person currently, a number of efficiencies are realized. I want to thank the Board of Selectmen for its ongoing support. I started on August 1, 2011 as Center Manager and as Municipal Agent on February 1, 2012.

The 2014-2015 fiscal year saw the 'Trip and Fall Reduction Program' take on de-cluttering of the Senior Center. The safety of our seniors is always utmost in our minds and we look forward to any suggestions for improvements. In recent years we have removed various couches, metal folding chairs, throw rugs and heavy tables and replaced them with sturdy chairs with arm rests and lighter round (round so they can be rolled) tables. The folding chairs and heavy tables are now being used at the community center.

This spring the Town authorized a number of capital improvements for fiscal year 2015-2016. The most important is the replacement of the entry ramp. The new ramp design will allow not only for safer entry, but also for better parking and traffic flow, as monies should be available for some re-grading and paving of the parking lot.

Municipal Agent/Senior Center, cont.

First Selectman Schlag's Senior Ambassador Initiative started up with a 'Snow Bank'. Volunteers helped three families with shoveling and plowing this past winter. The Committee on Aging did a fund raiser at its annual June picnic and raised two-hundred and forty-six dollars for the fund, as we may not always have these wonderful volunteers every year.

The Senior Center sponsored a number of concerts and day trips this past year. The UkuLadies, our very own ukulele band, is experiencing a growing demand for performances. The new Recorder Group may still be on the small side, but they are good and are looking for participants.

Tai Chi has expanded to two sessions. The Needle Work Group is going strong. Bingo is played on the first and third Fridays with a group from Saybrook at Haddam regularly taking part.

As Municipal Agent for the Elderly, I have been promoting various programs, which include, but are not limited to, Haddam's generous homeowner's tax relief, the State's renters' rebate, and farmers' market checks. At the end of the year, we were informed that our months of work were not wasted, as an energy assistance day will be held in Haddam for the first time this fall.

I take seriously our mission statement: "Striving to make every Haddam senior's life better".

Respectfully submitted,
Mark P. Lundgren
Haddam Municipal Agent for the Elderly &
Haddam Senior Center Manager

Haddam Club 60

Beth Hartke, President

Haddam residents 60 and older are always welcome to join Haddam Club 60, this vibrant group of seniors that meet at the Haddam Senior Center on Saybrook Rd at 1PM on the first Monday of the month for a business meeting and the third Monday of the month for an entertainment meeting. The schedule is altered if there is a holiday which falls on either of those days; the meeting is then held on the next Monday.

We currently have 109 members and we see between 45-50 members at each meeting. This year's meetings have included visits from our local Historical Society; Lyman Orchards; medical personnel with info on strokes, heart health and hearing issues; Conn Light and Power; Chester ferry personnel; a local attorney; a banker; a photographer; and the Superintendent of Schools. We've been entertained by singers,

Haddam Club 60, cont.

dancers, and musicians. Many of us were tapping our toes and clapping our hands as we enjoyed the variety of eras of time shared with us.

Trips to various locations throughout the state are available on a regular basis and the opportunities to enjoy gourmet meals, visit historic places, and see beauty right here in our own state or at nearby locations are offered, as well. Please consider joining us, as we enjoy each other's company and the homemade goodies that are brought to each meeting by members of the group.

Special projects keep us busy. We support the food basket programs during the holiday season. We give a graduating high school senior a scholarship to help pay for his/her education, and are involved with our local school children, as well.

Funding from the town is used for our annual Christmas party. This year we spent \$1,120.00. The annual Mystery trip travelled to Salem, Massachusetts at the cost of \$1380.00. Our bylaws were updated since they had last been revised in 2007.

Respectfully submitted,
Gloria Maynard
President

Committee on Aging

Gloria Maynard, Chairman

The Committee on Aging met monthly throughout the year on second Monday of each month at 10:30 a.m. at the Haddam Senior Center. The average meeting attendance was 11 members.

Committee on Aging honorary member Edmund Vallera passed on during the year, and two other honorary members are unable to attend due to health problems.

Town funding was used in the following way:

The Senior Picnic for seniors of Haddam, Higganum and Haddam Neck. This event was held at the Senior Center due to inclement weather.

Projects undertaken by the Committee:

- Committee By Laws were updated
- A Brochure of Helpful Information was inserted in the Haddam Bulletin and distributed to all homes
- Picnic auction proceeds of \$247.00 was donated to Senior Ambassadors' Snow Bank Fund
- Speaker: Liz Glidden discussed Plan of Conservation and Development

Committee on Aging, cont.

- The Committee asked the Board of Selectman to decrease age requirements for Tax Relief Program and reduce the number of years of residency from 20 to 15 for Tax Relief Program
- Mark Lundgren and Robert Waller, committee members, attended a Health Fair in Groton
- The Committee on Aging asked the Board of Selectman to consider Full Year Discount for seniors at the Transfer Station; however, this request was denied.

All Committee on Aging Meetings are open to the public.

Respectfully submitted,
Gloria Maynard
Chairman

Haddam Veterans' Museum

Ronald Annino, Chairman

The Veterans' Museum is used to display military artifacts, war memorabilia, and other items associated with the towns past Memorial Days and veterans. Again, as in past years the displays have been expanded as new items were donated to the museum.

The museum at this time has no formal hours of operation, however groups or individuals interested in touring the museum are encouraged to contact any of the committee members whose phone numbers are listed below to schedule a time and date. The Museum has been opened in the past for as little as one person, so please don't hesitate to call. Tours of the museum were conducted for children from the Haddam Elementary School and other groups and individuals this year. The museum was also opened this year in conjunction with Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and the Pumpkin Run.

The majority of the museum budget is for utilities. In addition to the utilities, there are line items for the maintenance of the security and water treatment systems, and for museum supplies.

The Veteran's Memorial Walk, which was started in 2004, is continuing to be expanded. 4 new bricks were installed this year. The 4"X 8" pavers are engraved with the person's name, rank, branch of service and the time period during which they served. Anyone can purchase a brick to honor a friend, loved one, deceased veteran, or family member, who has been honorably discharged or is currently serving in the U.S. military. The veterans need not have enlisted from town, nor be a resident of the town. This is not a fund raiser so the bricks are sold for cost. Anyone seeking additional information on this matter is encouraged to contact any of the committee members listed below or the Town Office Building. As this is an ongoing project, there is no cutoff date to place

Veterans' Museum, cont.

an order. The installation of the pavers and the bricks is being performed by committee members and other volunteers.

The committee also maintains the display of historical memorabilia of the town's war dead, veterans, and past Memorial Day parades. The display is on permanent display at the Town Office Building. Also on display are the War Dead Flags used in the Memorial Day parade. The flags hang above the main entry way of the Town Office Building.

The committee does not conduct regularly scheduled meetings during the year. However, we do meet as needed during the year to plan activities, discuss issues concerning the museum, and to discuss the budget.

Veterans' Museum Committee Members

Richard Annino - 345-4802	Robert Kadrla - 345-8998		
Ken Vallera - 345-9124	Malcolm Meyers - 345-2291		
Jamie Kuchyt - 345-9110	Art Wiknik - 345-8619		
Teresa Kuchyt - 345-9110	James Annino - 860-953-0708		
Mike Zanelli - 345-8245	Nate Meyers - 345-2291		
Steve Abbatello	Jeff Hartke	Harold Edman	Bethany Meyer
Committee Chairman - Ronald P. Annino - 345-4451			

Respectfully submitted,
Ronald P. Annino
Chairman

Parades Committee

Ronald P. Annino, Chairman

In the last fiscal year the Parade Committee held the Memorial Day Parade and Service on Monday, May 25th. The service was well attended by veterans, other marchers and the general public.

Some of the expenditures from the committee's budget this year consisted of refreshments for Memorial Day and cash prizes for the winners of the Memorial Day Essay Contest held at the HK Middle School. Monies were also used to maintain the Higganum Center Green. The green is maintained by committee members at no cost to the town.

The committee and volunteers replaced the flags on the graves of over 500 veterans buried in the town's cemeteries this year. The flags are replaced annually and on an as-needed basis when required. The flags on the town greens are also replaced when necessary. In addition, Committee members raise and lower the flags at the Town Office Building, Fire Department and on the town greens when required by state and federal mandates.

Parades, cont.

The committee does not conduct regularly scheduled meetings during the year. However, they do meet several times during the year to plan the Memorial Day Parade, Veterans Day activities and to discuss the budget. Other items discussed are improvements and maintenance of the Higganum Green and the replacement and maintenance of the flags on the town's greens and in the cemeteries.

Parade Committee Members

Richard Annino - 345-4802 Robert Kadrle - 345-8998
Ken Vallera - 345-9124 Malcolm Meyers - 345-2291
 Jamie Kuchyt - 345-9110 Art Wiknik - 345-8619
Teresa Kuchyt - 345-9110 James Annino - 860-953-0708
 Mike Zanelli - 345-8245 Nate Meyers – 345-2291
 Bethany Meyer Jeff Hartke
 Steve Abbatello Harold Edman
Parade Committee Chairman Ronald P. Annino - 345-4451

Respectfully submitted,
Ronald P. Annino
Chairman

Health District

Thad King, Director of Health – Chatham Health District

Administration:

The Board conducted seven regularly scheduled meetings, one special meeting, and one public hearing, from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015. Minutes of those meetings are on file at the main office of the Director of Health and with the Town Clerk of each member town and at <http://www.chathamhealth.org>. In addition, the Personnel Policy and Budget Committee conducted four meetings, Community Health Committee conducted two meetings, and Environmental Health Committee two meetings.

Funding:

Revenues

Municipal	\$ 645,939
State/Federal	\$ 133,518
Fees	\$ 206,547
Interest	\$ 12
Other	\$ 804
Total	\$ 986,819

Health, cont.

<u>Expenditures</u>	\$ 957,942
<u>Fund Balance</u>	<u>\$ 28,877</u>

Services:

<u>Environmental Permits/Applications:</u>	
Septic Systems(New and Repaired)	184
Permits to Discharge	729
Water Supply Wells	177
Soil Testing-Lots	181
Site Plan Reviews	96
B-100a and Eng. Plan Reviews	375
Food Service Permits	253

Environmental Inspections:

Bathing Water	310
Day Care	17
Campgrounds	1
Pools	14
Housing Code - heat, water supply, plumbing	28
Pools	14
Investigation of EBL > 10 mg/dl	9
Lead Paint Inspection	2
Public Health Complaints	58
Food Service Establishments	557
Temporary Food Service Events	212

Community Health Programs

Seasonal Influenza Vaccinations	768
Community Health Education	42
Breast Cancer Outreach Contacts	809
Referrals for Screening	195

Total Reportable Disease Reports	486
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Health, cont.

Select Disease Reporting New Cases:	(Rate/100,000)
Hepatitis C	51
Chlamydia	153
Lyme	118
Flu (A & B)	86
Communicable Disease Case Work	27
Total Services	5,530

Respectfully submitted,
Thad King
Director of Health
Chatham Health District

Economic Development Commission

Michael Fortuna, Chairman

Activities

The Economic Development Commission (EDC) is, by Town Charter, charged with researching economic trends and making recommendations concerning actions to improve the Town's economic conditions and development.

Over the past year, the EDC has been involved with a number of initiatives to further the goal of sustaining and developing the Town's tax-base. Much of the commission's focus over the past several years has been on the two village centers, Higganum and Tylerville, as they provide the broadest opportunities for economic development within already established business and service centers. Infrastructure remains the biggest impediment to economic development, and as such remains a focus of the Commission.

EDC continues to recommend that the Board of Selectmen (BOS) establish a Water Pollution Control Authority and begin the process of designing a suitable public sewer and/or water system for Higganum Center and Tylerville. These infrastructure upgrades will provide the necessary platform for increasing a non-residential tax base and reducing the burden of taxes on residential property owners without adversely affecting the character of the Town.

EDC has recommended that the town adopt a Local Bidder's Preference Ordinance which will be a benefit to local contractors, suppliers or service providers when bidding on Town contracts.

Economic Development Commission, cont.

We continue to assist current businesses and encourage new ones at every opportunity. We will continue to work with the business community as well as Land Use Boards and Commissions to guide responsible development within the Town. Over the past year, Haddam has seen new businesses open and existing businesses expand, and we look forward to continuing this trend.

EDC recommended to the Board of Selectmen that Haddam become a member Town of the Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Program (CPACE), which will provide an affordable way for businesses to make their buildings more energy efficient and sustainable by upgrading systems and assemblies. Participation by business Owners is voluntary, but has proven effective in many of our surrounding communities. In May of 2015, the Board of Selectmen unanimously approved the CPACE program.

EDC members were able to participate in a presentation by River COG focusing on establishing an economic development strategy for Haddam and the other 16 towns it represents. We were also involved with the Tylerville Vision Plan spearheaded by UCONN and a workshop with CERC that discussed impediments and opportunities to economic development.

We continue to support other groups in town and remain committed to assisting any effort which improves the quality of life and responsible economic development goals of the community.

We encourage citizens, the business community and other Boards and Commissions to contact EDC if there are projects or initiatives they feel should be pursued. EDC meets the second Wednesday of every month at 7:00 PM at the Youth Center in Higganum Center.

Attendance:

The Commission had five meetings scheduled for the year; four meetings were held with one meeting cancelled.

Batzner – 2/3

Bergin – 4/4

Dachelet – 3/4

Fernandez – 0/4

Fortuna – 3/4

Vynalek – 2/4

Bayley – 0/0

Respectfully submitted,
Michael P. Fortuna
Chairman

The role of the Land Use Department is to ensure that development occurs in a method that is fair, legal and in harmony with the Plan of Conservation and Development and the Town Regulations. Our scope of work goes much deeper when you consider infrastructure development with roads and utilities, property development laws, interpretation of State and Town Regulations, economic development and coordination with other agencies such as DOT, DPH and DEEP.

The Land Use Department serves as staff to the following Town Commissions: Wetlands Commission, Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC), Economic Development Commission, Conservation Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA). Health permits for well, septic, and food establishments are also issued through the Land Use Department by the Chatham Health District.

The Land Use Office staff includes Liz Glidden, Town Planner, Jim Puska, Part Time Wetlands and Zoning Officer, and Maureen Tary as Administrative Coordinator.

In the past year we have worked particularly hard with DOT on the Bridge replacement efforts in Higganum and with the EPA regarding the remediation of Higganum Cove. In the last five years we have successfully resolved all of the pending Land Use legal cases. I am pleased to report that there have been no new ones either. This is a huge cost savings to the Town and a reflection of the hard work of the staff and commissions that render fair and thoughtful decisions. Soon we will be gearing up for the ten-year revision of the Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD). This is the long term vision and action plan for the Town.

A good deal of work that is done in the land use office is setting the stage for future years. Some of the projects we continue to work on are: addressing the ground water contamination in Tylerville, a pedestrian plan that will improve existing sidewalks and create new ones, creating housing diversity for empty nesters and singles, and repurposing some of the historic structures, such as the Jail and the Scovil Hoe buildings. Other ongoing activities include bond maintenance, working with the Lower CT River Valley Council of Governments and other neighboring Towns towards common goals and partnerships. The Town has also worked with federal and local agencies to preserve a number of parcels of land.

In the past year the Land Use Office has processed permits for the Chatham Health District, the Fire Marshal, ZBA, PZC, and Wetlands, and the following Zoning Permits:

Land Use, cont.

Land Use Department
Applications Fiscal Year
2014-2015

Blasting Permit	3
Chatham Health District Permits	196
DW Bond	9
DW Permit	7
DW Permit - repaving	3
DW Repaving Bond	3
E&S Bond	8
Wetlands Permits	21

Sign Permit	1
Site Plan Review	4
Special Permit	6
Subdivision	2
Variance	7
Zoning & Sign Application	3
Zoning Application	89
Zoning Change	1
Grand Total	364

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Glidden
Town Planner

Conservation Commission

Gail Kalison Reynolds, Chair

The Conservation Commission promotes preservation-minded management of Haddam's natural resources and open spaces, maintains inventories of Town natural resources and open spaces, leverages natural resource expertise to other Town boards and commissions, and educates and informs residents on conservation matters and issues.

Accomplishments for the fiscal year 2014-2015:

- Continued to progress Haddam's Open Space Plan, based on geographic information systems
- Continued to identify and map all conservation easements granted to the Town of Haddam by hiring intern to complete mapping
- Submitted guidance on town use of Higganum Cove.

The Conservation Commission welcomes citizen input and participation. The Commission meets at 7 p.m. on the final Wednesday of each month at the Haddam Community Center. Residents interested in joining the Conservation Commission may contact any of the Commission members or the First Selectman for additional information. Conservation Commission participation offers an excellent way for town residents to constructively contribute to the community and work to maintain the rural character and high quality of life found in Haddam.

Conservation, cont.

Meetings Attendance:

Walter Bragoni - 5/6
Ian Gibson - 1/6
Mardi Hanson - 5/6
Gail Reynolds - 6/6
Deb Umba - 1/6
Tom Worthley - 5/6
Bunny Hall Batzner, Recording Clerk – 6/6

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Kalison Reynolds
Chair

Haddam Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

Scott Larson, President

The Haddam Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. is comprised of the two Fire Companies that serve the Town of Haddam. The Haddam Volunteer Fire Company serves the Town of Haddam on the west side of the Connecticut River. The Haddam Neck Volunteer Fire Department (HVFD) serves the Town of Haddam on the east side of the Connecticut River. The Haddam Volunteer Fire Department is led by a Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors for 2014-2015:

Scott Larson, *President*
Randy Spencer, *Treasurer*
Jim Mandolfo, *Secretary*
Robert McGarry, *Chief Haddam Neck Volunteer Fire Department*
Sam Baber, *Chief Haddam Volunteer Fire Company*
Christian Michalowski, *Company Representative Haddam Neck Volunteer Fire Department*
John Boothroyd, *Company Representative Haddam Volunteer Fire Company*

The Haddam Volunteer Fire Department Board of Directors is the administrative liaison between the Fire Companies and the Town of Haddam. The Board of Directors also has administrative charge of all property and apparatus of the Fire Companies. The Board of Directors is the policy making authority for both Fire Companies and is charged with preparing the annual department budgets including the 5 year and 20 year plan.

HVFD Board of Directors, cont.

The Haddam Volunteer Fire Department, Inc and all of its members would like to thank the Residents, Business and Town Officials in the Town of Haddam for their continued support. We look forward to serving you in the future.

Respectfully Submitted,
Scott Larson
President, Haddam Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

Haddam Volunteer Fire Company

Sam Baber, Chief

For the fiscal year 2014-2015, once again the Haddam Volunteer Fire Company (HVFC) responded to over 439 calls for the year. A breakdown of the types of calls and the numbers are as follows: 128 Fire (Structure, brush, car), 264 Medical calls, 72 Motor Vehicle accidents, 2 Marine calls and 27 Community Service, etc. calls.

Training continues to be a high priority in the Company. Currently, we have 54 members; of those members 39 are certified to State level Firefighter I or II. In addition, we also have 24 medically trained members (either at the EMT or MRT level). This medical number also includes 1 member of the Junior Fire Department. We continue to provide mutual aid assistance to South Fire District, Durham, Killingworth, East Haddam and Chester as well as any other town when requested.

The Haddam Volunteer Fire Company is actively seeking new members and is open to anyone willing to join us. If you provide us with your time and willingness to make a difference, we will provide all the training for you. In particular, we have an increasing need for daytime firefighters. Membership packets are available for pick up at the Firehouse on any Monday night. See any member and they can get the information for you.

Our Junior Fire Department is doing very well. They currently have 9 members between the age of 14 and 18. With the help and guidance of their Senior advisors, they receive training in basic firefighting, how to respond to an emergency call and what to do once they arrive, community service and medical training/certification. They are also active in fundraising events which bring funds to their organization to use for operating and training. This year, we sent Junior 3 members to the State Fire Academy for a one week Cadet training program and all 3 successfully completed that course and were honored with certificates at a graduation ceremony. This program is a one week stay at the Fire Academy in Windsor Locks where the members are taught the basic firefighting skills needed. They then demonstrate those skills in an evolution at the

HVFC, cont.

graduation, showcasing the skills they have learned. The Junior program is open to town residents interested in firefighting. The benefit to the Fire Company is that when the members reach the age of 18, they have the basic skills needed when they decide to join the Senior department.

The Haddam Volunteer Fire Company Women's Auxiliary continues to provide support to the Fire Company in many different ways. They help at Company functions and activities such as the Children's Christmas Party as well as providing refreshments to the Fire Company at prolonged or major events.

The Fire Company is grateful to all the residents, businesses and other civic organizations for your support throughout the year. With this support, we can confidently provide the professional emergency response that everyone deserves.

Respectfully submitted,
Sam Baber
Fire Chief, Haddam Volunteer Fire Company

Haddam Neck Volunteer Fire Department

Robert W. McGarry, Chief

During this year the Haddam Neck Volunteer Fire Department (HNVFD) responded to a total of 39 calls as detailed below:

<u>Type</u>	<u>Total</u>
Fire	16
Medical	19
Motor Vehicle Accident	3
Other	1
Total	39

Additionally, the department provided medical and fire standby for the Haddam Neck Fair and medical standby at the Belltown Antique Car Show. The department added one new member this year. Two firefighters completed the training and certification for Firefighter 2.

As always the department thanks town residents for their continued support.

Respectfully submitted:
R. W. McGarry
Fire Chief, Haddam Neck Volunteer Fire Department

Program Narrative:

The Animal Control budget provides for one part time Animal Control Officer.

Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Accomplishments/Achievements:

To provide tax payers and pet owners with assistance in solving any animal-related problems they have in the most effective and timely manner possible. I completed Level I of the National Animal Control and Care Association course. I applied for and received a scholarship for Level II, saving \$525 in tuition.

Functions:

- Pick up roaming/lost dogs
- Provide advice/guidance to residents on barking, roaming and nuisance animals
- Provide advice/guidance to residents on wildlife nuisance issues (with assistance from the DEEP)
- Advertise and find homes for impounded unclaimed animals
- Hold a rabies clinic in June
- Issue citations as necessary
- Pick up injured/sick animals and seek medical treatment
- Ensure that dogs and cats are rabies vaccinated.

Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Goals and Objectives:

I am currently taking an eight-week course at the Connecticut Animal Control Officers Training Academy, given free by the state.

I would like to be able to access the dog license information on my phone.

I am in the process of compiling an updated list of licensed rescue rehabilitators that residents will be able to access online.

Respectfully submitted,
Daun Kowalski
Animal Control Officer

This was my first full year serving as Fire Marshal for the Town of Haddam. I would like to thank Scott Brookes of Haddam, James McDonald of Killingworth, and John Kananowicz of East Haddam, who assist as Deputy Fire Marshals when called upon.

We also have a new Deputy Fire Marshal, Chris Gamache, a longtime resident and a career firefighter, serving as a Lieutenant at South Fire District. We welcome Chris to the fold and look forward to many years of his service ahead. To be certified as a Fire Marshal, the classroom and field work involved is over 300 hours.

The Fire Marshal's responsibility is to enforce the Connecticut State Fire Code as well as investigate all fires that may occur in town. The Fire Code requires inspection of all civic and commercial buildings in town including schools, daycare centers, assisted living facilities, and residential buildings of more than two families.

The Fire Marshal works together with the Building Official and is required to sign off on all commercial building permits and Certificates of Occupancy.

There were a total of 15 fire investigations and 45 formal inspections during the fiscal year. This is in addition to plan review, informal meetings, training, and data analysis. One of the fires was determined to be Arson. The responsible party was arrested by the State Police, pleaded guilty, and is serving prison time.

In addition to the day to day work, all certified Fire Marshals must maintain their certification by attending 90 hours of continuing education training over a three-year cycle. In 2014, I attended the National Fire Academy with other officials from Connecticut.

The Fire Marshal is also tasked with submitting monthly NFIRS (National Fire Incident Reporting System) Reports to the State Fire Marshal. This information goes into a state and national database for research and analysis of fire and EMS incidents. I am exploring a new software program to automate this system and also assist the Haddam Volunteer Fire Company with their record keeping.

Please remember that all families should have an escape plan from their home in the event of fire, and remember "Smoke Detectors Save Lives".

Respectfully submitted,
William Robbins
Fire Marshal

The job of the Building Department is to assure that improvements and new construction are performed in a manner that is in conformance with the State Building Code. Inspections of work assure the property owner that the work has been done as proposed, and protects the consumer/contractor from liability. This year the Haddam Building Department went from using the 2003 International Residential Code to using the 2009 International Residential Code to reflect the State Building Code. In preparation for this transition, the Building Official met with several contractors to review the changes and continues to meet with contractors, as requested. 2014 brought us the "Solarize HK" program with 96 new solar installations.

I am also pleased to report that I have been reappointed as the Town of Haddam Building Official for a term of four years.

Building Department Applications for 2014-2015

New Dwellings – 14	Commercial Buildings – 2
Additions – 17	Commercial Alterations – 17
Alterations – 50	Commercial Additions - 3
Garages – 15	Masonry /Chimney/Stoves - 52
In- & Above-ground	Shed - 5
Swimming Pools – 8	Barns - 2
Heating – 147	Decks – 18
Plumbing – 64	Other: - 2
Electrical – 272	Porches – 3
Repair/Replacement – 13	Reroofing – 37
Demolition (includes sheds, pools and barns) – 13	Solar Systems/Roof-/Ground-mount Solar- 100

Fiscal Totals

Permits Issued – 865
Inspections – 1,187
Applications Reviewed – 865
Certificates of Occupancy – 78
Permit Fees - \$90,341.81
Valuations of Permits - \$12,327,943.37
State Training Fees - \$3,359.04

Respectfully submitted,
Fern Tremblay
Building Official

Public Works Department

Philip Goff, Assistant Director

The Public Works Department employs nine (9) full-time employees, including an assistant director, a part-time secretary, and two part-time transfer station employees.

The Public Works Department maintains all town-owned roads. Maintenance includes but is not limited to: reconstruction and resurfacing of roadways; maintaining, repairing, and improving bridges; cleaning and maintaining drains; roadside sweeping and mowing, brush removal, snow and ice removal; and maintaining and operating the transfer station.

A few things to remember: 1) There is a NO PARKING ban on roads during the winter months; 2) Town ordinance prohibits pushing or placing snow in town highways; 3) Please remember not to place leaves or other debris in roadways; and 4) Please remember that you need a windshield pass, which may be purchased for \$50 at the Town Clerk's Office in the Town Office Building, in order to access the Transfer Station.

Respectfully submitted,
Philip Goff

Haddam Public Health

Mary Todzia, President

Haddam Public Health, Inc. (HPH) is a non-profit, Town funded agency, directed by a twelve-member board. HPH has two employees: Candace Casale, RN, BSN, full time Public Health Coordinator and Andrea Herlth, part time Office Assistant.

The Board of Finance, with the input of the Board of Selectmen, cut \$12,000 from the HPH budget. \$78,000 barely covers our expenditures. Our treasurer saved \$5,000 with the changes to our insurance and workers' compensation. The challenge for this year will be to keep all that we offer.

In the 2014-2015 fiscal year, Ms. Casale spent approximately 75% of her time in direct contact with clients or their families in person or on the telephone. These contacts included service referrals/coordination, bereavement visits, and caregiver support.

Ms. Casale conducts blood pressure screening clinics at the Haddam Senior Center every other month from September to June (11:30 AM to 1:00 PM). People are also welcome to have their blood pressures taken at our office (11 Jail Hill Road, Haddam). A total of 112 blood pressures were taken.

Public Health, cont.

HPH maintains an Emergency Food Bank for town residents who find themselves in an emergency situation and without food for short periods of time. The Food Bank is stocked by food drives sponsored by local schools, churches, day care centers, youth and civic organizations, and individual donors. The Food Bank was used 122 times. A total of 6,578 food items were distributed to 45 families, 76 adults and 35 children. Also, bread, toiletries, and paper goods were given out. At Thanksgiving, 67 households received food baskets and 67 households received food baskets at Christmas.

HPH has an Emergency Fuel Bank, which assisted 39 households with heating oil, electricity, propane, gas or wood. Many generous donations were received to support this program.

Sports physicals were offered in August. Twenty seven (27) physicals were given by Dr. Karen Warner, MD with the help of Ms. Casale and several board members.

One Flu Clinic was held at the Haddam Volunteer Fire Company Fire House #1 in Higganum at which 65 flu shots were administered to senior citizens. HPH runs a durable medical equipment loan closet, which includes such items as walkers, wheelchairs, commodes, shower seats and benches, etc.. A total of 53 individuals made use of the loan closet during the past year and 62 items were loaned out.

There were five (5) regular scheduled HPH meetings during the 2014-2015 (extra added for budget preparation purposes). The HPH Board of Directors are

Noreen Carlson	Pam Strom
Ginny Evensen	Mary Todzia
Kim Gionfriddo	Karen Warner, MD
Tracy Thompson	Barbara White
Laura Porter	Keith Campbell, DMD
Claudette Sirois	Joseph Zaiantz, DMD

The HPH Board members are thankful to many people and organizations who donated their time and money in support of HPH's programs. We are pleased to be able to provide a wide range of quality services for the residents of Haddam/Higganum/Haddam neck. We encourage anyone with questions about or might be needing our services to call the HPH office at 860 345-4621.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Todzia
President

Youth & Family Services of Haddam-Killingworth, Inc.

Deborah Kelly, Executive Director
Joan Reed Wilson, Chairman, Executive Board

Board of Directors

Name	Town
Joan Reed Wilson, Chair	Higganum
Bernard McNulty, Vice Chair	Higganum
Carol Dupuis, Secretary	Higganum
Scott Monroe, Treasurer	Middletown
Louise Hayash	Killingworth
Dana Henry	Killingworth
Linda Kaufman	Higganum
Howard Thiery	Higganum

Staff

Name	Position	Work Hours/Week
Deborah Kelly	Executive Director	40
Kathryn Glendon, MPH, CHES	Director of Programs	40
Nathan Carpenter, LMFT	Director of Clinical Services	25
Patrice Colletti	Early Childhood Council Coordinator	10
Ann O'Mara	Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper	40

In addition to paid staff there are three Masters level interns and two undergrad interns.

Introduction

Youth and Family Services of Haddam-Killingworth, Inc. (YFS), has completed their 22nd year of service to youth and their families residing in Haddam and Killingworth. The agency has expanded its programs and services to meet the needs of our growing communities. Collaboration with Regional School District 17, and other youth serving agencies in both Haddam and Killingworth is ongoing to identify the needs of Haddam and Killingworth youth and avoid duplication of service. The primary office is located at 91 Little City Road in Higganum on the second floor. In addition, we have an office at the Killingworth Town Hall. The agency is supported by the towns of Haddam and Killingworth, state and federal grants, the State Department of Education, private and corporate donations; proceeds from fundraising events; and other grants from private foundations.

Office Locations

91 Little City Road; Higganum, CT
323 Route 81; Killingworth, CT 06419 (Killingworth Town Office Building/Satellite)

Our Mission

YFS is committed to enhancing child and youth development, enriching families, and promoting healthy Haddam and Killingworth communities.

Population Served

- Total Population/ 7,653 Haddam*
- Total Population/ 6,653 Killingworth*

Youth Under the Age of 18

- 1733 in Haddam*
- 1648 in Killingworth*

*CERC Town Profile 2013

Scope of Services

Interventions: Family counseling, individual counseling, group counseling, after school groups, groups that promote positive youth development, and a juvenile review board. Information and referral services are also provided.

Positive Youth Development: Community service opportunities for students, after school groups, groups for high school students during their lunch activity period, Moms and Tots held at the Killingworth Library, parent education, resource library for parents, relationship building activities for youth and their parents/caregivers, Special programs in response to needs of the community.

Annual Programs: HKHS Street Fest, Summer Program for Teens, Haddam River Days, planning and execution of the United Way Day of Caring which serves residents of both Haddam and Killingworth, the annual Pumpkin Run, annual fundraising raffle event, annual Back-to-School Backpack Program, annual Summer Program, and the Holiday Giving Program. This year we will host our first Senior Information Expo which will become an annual event. The agency also serves as a Salvation Army Service Unit for the Town of Haddam (distributing funds for needy residents).

Fundraising Events: Annual Pumpkin Run (managed by the Hartford Marathon Foundation), the Annual Spring and End of Year Fundraising Appeal. This year we will participate in the international Giving Tuesday fundraising campaign.

Healthy Communities Healthy Kids Coalition (formerly the Prevention Council):

This is a community coalition working to prevent and reduce substance abuse, other risky behavior, and, promote the wellness of our community. Activities include community wide events twice per year; member attendance at the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America Annual Conference in Washington DC; Youth In Action, a group of high school students committed to community service and prevention; stipend for a SADD advisor at Haddam-Killingworth Middle School; collaboration with Regional School District 17 to bring prevention related assemblies to students; community presentations/education; and collaboration with other youth serving organizations. The Middlesex United Way has supported the coalition's efforts to implement the Developmental Assets Model in the Haddam-Killingworth community (www.search-institute.org).

Accomplishments

In 2015 the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services has awarded YFSHK a \$500,000 dollar grant to support services implemented in Haddam-Killingworth under the Connecticut Strategic Prevention Framework Coalition Initiative. This grant was only awarded to 12 agencies in the State of Connecticut and we are very fortunate to be one of the grantees.

The continuation application for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has been approved for its 4th and final year of grant funding in the amount of \$48,258 for the Healthy Communities-Healthy Kids Coalition to prevent underage drinking through the Sober Truth on Prevention Underage Drinking Act (STOP ACT) grant program.

In 2015 Department of Children & Family along with CT Youth Services Association awarded YFSHK a JRB Enhancement grant in the amount of \$7,620. We have never received funding to support our JRB program and these funds will be used to provide families, involved with the JRB, with resources such as counseling, transportation, tutoring, treatment services, and pro social activities.

Collaborations: Collaborations include those with the business community, child protection teams, civic organizations, court services, health professionals, legislators, other non-profit organizations, other youth service bureaus, parent groups, law enforcement, regional action councils, religious communities, schools and other youth serving organizations, state agencies, systems of care, and local government.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Kelly, Executive Director
Joan Reed Wilson, Executive Board Chairman

Haddam Ambulance Services

Rudy Durinick, President/Chief of Service,
Haddam Volunteer Ambulance Service, Inc.

The Haddam Volunteer Ambulance Service, Inc., (HVAS), was very busy during the 2014 calendar year responding to over 700 calls, an increase of 14% from 2013. In the first half of 2015, HVAS has already responded to over 330 calls. Our call volume continues to increase as HVAS responds to numerous requests for medical emergencies, motor vehicle accidents and fire standbys.

It is our goal to make every household in our community a member of the Haddam Volunteer Ambulance Service. Our funding sources include membership dues, fund raising contributions and insurance payments. Many

Haddam Ambulance Services, cont.

townspeople have sent in their memberships, for which we thank you; however, typically less than half of the households in town respond to this important mailing. By being a member of HVAS, you are supporting your HVAS 911 team and our mission to provide Emergency Medical Service (EMS) to our town on a 24/7 basis.

HVAS continues to focus on recruiting new members to add to both its medical and service ranks. We look forward to continuing to work on both recruitment and retention. Future plans include working to establish a "Juniors program" at Haddam Killingworth High School where high school students can take an EMT course and participate in HVAS.

This past year, HVAS enjoyed increased public awareness in our community through various means including: publication of informational articles in the Haddam Bulletin, participation in the annual Touch a Truck event, continued distribution of HVAS' free "File of Life", which provides medical information to a responder in an emergency, sponsorship of a Little League team and the awarding of scholarships to two deserving graduating high school seniors pursuing the medical field.

Even though HVAS is not a Town agency, the Town of Haddam provides financial assistance by contracting emergency medical staffing, which utilizes HVAS's ambulances, equipment and supplies at HVAS's headquarters during critical hours when volunteers are unavailable. From all of us at HVAS we sincerely thank you the townspeople and our Town leaders for recognizing the importance of providing rapid emergency ambulance services to our town when our volunteers are not available.

HVAS has over 15 highly trained EMS personnel who take duty hours during the 365 days of each year, including holidays and weekends. HVAS' medical members train monthly and attend special recertification courses. HVAS also benefits from the work of its Auxiliary, a dedicated group of individuals who assist our service in non-medical areas, thereby allowing our technicians to devote more time to training and other duties.

HVAS always welcomes new members to join our team and we can be reached at our Business Office at (860) 345-2500 or by visiting our website at www.haddamambulance.org.

Respectfully submitted,
Rudy Durinick
President & Chief of Service

Craig Anderson, Chairman

The Park and Recreation Commission is a five (5) member body that generally is charged with the development, organization and supervision of recreational programs that are supported by the Town and such other power and duties as may be delegated at a Town Meeting. The Commission meets monthly.

The primary function of the Commission is to oversee the use, maintenance and improvement of the Town's recreational facilities at Great Hill Athletic Complex on Jail Hill Road and the Brickyard ball field on Dublin Hill Road. Over the recent years, there have been capital improvements at each facility designed for safety of the player participants and those who attend the games. Improvements over the past year include installation of breakaway bases for the Brickyard field allowing for multiple base path use and work relating to the expansion of the Playscape at Great Hill. Pending projects include construction of a basketball court at Great Hill, completion of the expansion of the Playscape and installation of a well and reconstruction of the vehicular access way at the Brickyard. The Commission also administers the contracts for maintenance of the facilities including lawn cutting, fertilization and other landscaping necessities. The contracts were re-bid and awarded this past fiscal year.

Groups having permitted use of the facilities include the Haddam Little League, the Haddam-Killingworth Soccer Club, the Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department, the Haddam-Killingworth Youth Lacrosse Association, the CT Outlaws baseball program and Haddam's Middlesex "Over 40" Softball Association team.

In September 2014, the Commission continued its new tradition of providing concert festivities at the Higganum Green as part of "Haddam River Days". Renamed "Family Fun Night", an overflow crowd enjoyed a concert and dancing, inflatable activities for the kids and great food and snacks made available by various civic and political groups. The event was again a huge success and the Commission looks forward to offering Family Fun Night for many years to come!

Respectfully submitted,
Craig Anderson, Chairman

Robyne Brennan, Executive Director

Introduction

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department is embarking on its 40^h year of service to the HK communities. Support and participation in our programs continues to grow. During the past year, we have provided over 150 various programs and activities for infants through senior citizens.

The Haddam-Killingworth Recreation Department's goal is to provide a comprehensive year-round recreational program which meets the needs of the individuals in the community. The department strives to provide positive recreational experiences which contribute to the individual's physical, social, emotional, creative, cultural, and educational growth and development in order to enrich the quality of life.

Continued use of the Regional School District #17 facilities has been instrumental in our ability to provide reasonably priced programs. We are able to provide numerous programs to the community including our child care after-school program which is state-licensed.

We have completed three years of offering on-line registration to the community, thus making it easy to register for most of our programs. This added option of registering for programs has been well received by the public and will continue to help us grow.

Staff:

Frank Sparks, Director of Recreation
Robyne Brennan, Assistant Director of Recreation
Jennifer Saglio, Director of Child Care
Sheila Benoit, Administrative Assistant

July 2014 – June 2015 Board Meetings Attendance:

Dan Colonia: 9/9
Robert Fitzgerald: 8/9
Bill Bowles: 8/9
Tony Sledzik: 5/9
Lisa Wiese: 7/9
Rob Grasso: 7/9
Bill Burley: 9/9

Note: Nine meetings were held; the February meeting was cancelled, the June meeting was cancelled; the November/December meetings were combined.

Respectfully submitted,
Robyne Brennan
Director of Recreation

The Village Parks Society is a volunteer non-profit organization responsible for managing Field Park, Kelsey Park and Meeting House Green, "as a pleasure ground for the people of Haddam". Field Park, which is located behind the Town Office Building, is a beautiful 10-acre park and arboretum. Within the park we have eight different trees, which are recognized as either unusual species or as one of the largest recorded within Connecticut. Field Park is open to the general public during daylight hours with no admission charge. Picnics, nature walks, horseshoes and other leisure activities are welcome. Groups may reserve the park by writing to Village Parks, P.O. Box 272, Haddam, CT 06438.

The Board of Directors wishes to thank the Town of Haddam for their continued financial assistance. We would also like to acknowledge the many donations we received during our annual membership drive. If any resident of Haddam wishes to become a member or volunteer some time to help us maintain the park, I invite you to contact me at 860-345-2627.

Last year our longest serving member Harvey Clew passed away. Harvey was an invaluable source of information on park history and past practices for maintenance. We will miss his advice and humor. Director Carl Conrad left our board after 10 years of service, like Harvey he was a valued member of our group. We worked with the Haddam Boy Scouts once again on park maintenance and Eagle Scout candidate Mihir Khute with help from Gerry Matthews made up 25 new wooden signs to identify tree species in the park.

Our By-laws require at least four (4) Board of Directors meetings a year. The following is the attendance of the Board of Directors meetings for the Village Park Society of Haddam July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015:

Scott Brookes, 4/4, Stuart Brookes 1/4, Harvey Clew 1/4, Carl Conrad 2/4, Tom Zupan 3/4, Charlie Pytlik 2/4, David Neal 4/4, Kristin Battistoni 4/4, Malcolm Meyer 2/4, Shelley Brookes 4/4 and Vic Marek 2/4.

Respectfully submitted,
Scott R. Brookes
President

Cynthia Muhlbach, Library Director

Library Hours:

Tuesday – Thursday 10:00 am to 8:00 pm

Friday 10:00 am to 6:00 pm (July & August 4:00 pm)

Saturday 10:00 am to 3:00 pm (July & August 1:00 pm)

Library Director: Cindy Muhlbach, MLS Staff: 11 part-time staff members

The fiscal year 2014-2015 recorded a circulation of 16,574 adult books, 12,548 youth and children's books and 16,017 DVD's, audio books and compact discs. The library has reference materials and periodicals available for public use. Patrons may request materials not available in Brainerd library from other libraries in the state through LION and ReQuest. The library also shares its resources with other state libraries through LION and ReQuest.

The library offers passes for local museums and parks. The passes provide free or reduced admission. The Friends of the Library provides these passes each year. These passes are popular with the patrons.

There were 37,756 visitors to the library this year. There are now 6,865 registered borrowers, 229 more than last year.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULT PROGRAMS

The library offers story hours for very young children and their parents. Margie Warner comes twice a month to sing with parents and children. She did a special Round the Campfire program that was attended by 41 children. Programs for older children included an In the Woods class, a Pond Life class, and a Primitive Technology class. A LEGO group was established this year. It has proved so popular that it now meets twice a month. A holiday story hour with Mrs. Claus telling her story was held in December. Thirty two children and their parents attended. Each child received a small gift.

The young adult programs have included a Henna Workshop and Beading classes with Laurie Irving-Gardner.

The summer reading program began in June with a BUBBLEMANIA program at Burr School that was attended by 85 children and their parents. The August finale included an Animal Adventure program and an ice cream social that was attended by 133 children and their parents.

ADULT PROGRAMS

The most popular programs for adults were Paranormal Encounters, Coyotes, presentation about the book Caravan of Dreams by Beth Lapin, a presentation on Social Security Benefits, a presentation by Sophie Helenek on her climb of Mt. Everest, a program on genealogy, and a shell craft workshop.

Brainerd Memorial Library, cont.

BOOK CLUBS

The library has three book clubs. The Nutmeg Book Club, for students in grades 4 – 6, discusses a Nutmeg prize winning book each month. The Healthy Exchange Book Club is for adults who read and discuss books about health, nutrition, fitness, and emotional wellness. The Brainerd Library Book Club is also for adults. The members choose contemporary fiction books to read and discuss. All clubs have animated discussions about the books they read.

FUND RAISING

- The TOUCH A TRUCK program was held in September on Higganum Green. Local organizations that use large equipment displayed trucks for the youngsters in the community to explore close up. A fire truck, a police car, an ambulance, an antique truck, and other large vehicles were available to touch. Volunteers who use these vehicles were available to talk with the children.
- COMMUNITY YARD SALE in October provided table space for townspeople to rent for a tag sale event.
- The TASTE OF HADDAM was held in May. Restaurants and local package stores in Haddam and other local towns brought food and drink samples to the library for tasting. Circle Consortium, a recorder group and Ukuladies, a ukulele group from Haddam entertained. The event provides a place for good food and conversation in a peaceful, pleasant environment. There was a silent auction of donations from many local stores and business, which was very successful.
- The second ANNUAL APPEAL to encourage community support the library occurred in December.

TRUSTEE MEETINGS ATTENDANCE:

There were 10 regular meetings and 2 special meetings this year. The January meeting was postponed until early February due to a snow storm. Virginia Evensen 12/12, Betsy Clifford 11/12, Mary Karkutt-Kulak 12/12, Pam Crum 12/12, Vivek Badami 5/9, Mike Jordan 4/12, Raul deBrigard 10/12, Jaime Beckman 9/12, BJ Noonan 9/12, Paul Geraghty 9/12, Mack Stewart 8/8, Tanja Moriarity 3/5, Renee Mitchill 1/2, and James Simpson 4/6.

During the year Renee Mitchill, Mack Stewart, Vivek Badami, and Tanja Moriarty resigned from the Board. At the end of the year, Betsy Clifford retired from the Board after many years of service to the Library. She has shared her skills and her expertise to benefit the library and the community and she will be missed on the Board.

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Muhlbach
Library Director

Officers:

Nancy LePard, President
Diane Andrews, Vice President
Diane LePard, Treasurer
Lindamae Peck, Secretary

Board Members:

Wayne LePard
Hollis Burr
Audrey Lundgren

The officers and members listed above with the exception of Audrey Lundgren and Lindamae Peck were in attendance at our annual meeting held on 5/8/2015.

There is an ongoing review by our finance committee made up of Diane LePard, Wayne LePard and Diane Andrews who continually make recommendations to the Board of Directors, as needed, in the handling or changing of our finances and budget needs.

We also voted to approve the repairing of the driveway in Burr Cemetery as well as the repaving of the Higganum Center Cemetery driveway. We anticipate this project to be completed in the 2015-2016 fiscal year.

We had several volunteers this year assisting with the maintenance of the cemeteries. Several of the high school students as part of their community service hours for graduation helped with brush and tree removal along with cleaning of the grounds. We had other volunteers who worked with these students by supplying their vehicles and equipment to remove the debris. This year, in particular, the cemeteries needed more maintenance because of the harsh winter we had. Volunteers also assisted with the removal of the winter decorations and arrangements prior to Memorial Day.

As a special project, a boy scout, Jacob Kerhley, worked on the cemetery in order to earn his Eagle Badge. His project had to be approved by the cemetery members as well as his troop leaders. His fellow boy scouts assisted him by removing the three feet of snow in the section of the cemetery so he could complete his project by his deadline. Upon completion of his project, the cemetery now has a beautifully constructed bench that sits on the hill that can be used for quiet meditation as well as a wooden bulletin board at the entrance of the cemetery that is used to post information or notices about the cemetery.

All monies received from the Town of Haddam have been used to assist with the cost of Raintree Landscaping's mowing fee of \$7,350 per season. We also have other mowing fees that total \$975 for the season, as well as other maintenance

Higganum Cemetery Association, cont.

fees. This year, the monies also assisted with the painting of the fence in Higganum Cemetery and cleanup of Higganum Burr Cemetery.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy LePard, President

Haddam River Days

Dawn Tarbetsky, Chairman

The Haddam River Days Committee has been organizing this event for the past 18 years. We are now a one-day event that still provides the spectacular fireworks display over the skies of Haddam Meadow State Park. Our committee members include: Dawn Tarbetsky, Alice Zanelli, Michelle Kowal, Tony Lafo and Robin Munster. Due to the lack of volunteers to put on this event, this 2015 display may be the last year for this wonderful town event. We sell hot dogs, hamburgers, corn on the cob, and drinks to raise money to continue the next year events. People are also very generous to donate during the year and the evening of the event.

Our estimated expenses:

Sanitation - \$300.00

Safety Lighting - \$ 800.00

DEEP permits/fees - \$1,500.00

Fireworks - \$5,000.00

Food, beverages and supplies- \$300.00

This event is largely funded on donations. If you would like to join the committee please contact Dawn Tarbetsky 860 345-2211. Thank you to our wonderful volunteers and attendees.

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn Tarbetsky
Chairman

Haddam Historical Society

Elizabeth Malloy, Executive Director

The mission of the Haddam Historical Society (HHS) is to: preserve, collect, interpret, and promote the history and heritage of Haddam for present and future generations. The society offers a variety of annual programs, events and activities to share local history with the community and out of town visitors. HHS provides quality educational programs to over 400 school students from local school districts and offers a summer program which highlights life in early 19th Haddam. Our community based history programs, which appeal to all ages and

focus on specific local events, people or industry, are extremely popular and help develop a strong respect for local history and foster hometown pride.

Our collections inventory is an integral part of the Haddam Historical Society and important to the Town of Haddam. We actively collect and preserve objects, manuscripts and items related to Haddam and its associated villages. In 2012 we developed our first large scale exhibit to celebrate the town's 350th anniversary which featured images and objects from the archives never seen before. Our collections continue to grow and the staff and volunteers use museum best practices to catalogue, archive and store these important and irreplaceable items. The society strives to share our town's heritage with residents and visitors alike.

Our collections are used by local high school students, scholars, authors and researchers as well as residents seeking information about their town. These objects help tell the story of the community's heritage and the important lessons of the past and help residents gain a better understanding of Haddam's cultural heritage. Donations this past year include a large collection from the descendants of Noah Dickinson including papers, objects and textiles, including a beautiful ceramic pitcher reportedly made in Haddam in 1850 from clay on Captain Dickinson's property. The collection is expansive, all-encompassing and growing.

The funds received were used to assist with collections care and helped properly preserve these unique documents and objects for generations to come. Funding was used to help offset the fixed costs in maintaining the collection as well as the purchase of archival storage supplies and technology to digitize historic photographs. Digitizing images makes them electronically accessible to researchers/ residents /students and could be displayed on our website or used in town wide exhibits. Historic photographs are fragile and the less they are handled the longer they last. Digitizing helps in their long term preservation.

Maintaining a sound environment with proper humidity and temperature controls are of the utmost importance in preserving and maintaining museum collections. Serious fluctuation in temperatures and moisture can severely deteriorate and damage not only paper archives but historic furniture, wood, metal, textiles and other materials. In addition providing a pest free, clean and environmentally and secure housing for the collections is also vital in the long-term sustainability of the collections. We believe our collections are important to all citizens of Haddam both present and future.

Haddam Historical Society, cont.

The Haddam Historical Society accomplished many things in 2014:

- Installed new museum security system
- Received grant from CT Humanities to conduct focus groups
- Hosted 41st annual CT Spring Antiques Show
- Hosted two local Town Talks in Haddam Neck and Higganum
- Prepared traveling exhibit on Shad Fishing which circulated at community events
- Provided programs for Haddam third graders and District #17 Fifth graders
- Offered programs for homeschoolers and girl and boy scouts
- Hosted our 9th Annual Summer Camp program
- Awarded our second \$500 scholarship to high school senior
- Hosted two successful fundraisers, Tavern Night and a Progressive Dinner
- Hosted annual events such as winter woolies, Founders Day and volunteer appreciation reception
- Hosted a book series on History and Human Rights Perspectives on Connecticut. Five Lectures well-attended
- Opened "Thankful's Cupboard", museum gift shop at the museum
- Active participant in Connecticut's Historic Gardens
- Haddam Collects Exhibit at CT Spring Antiques Show
- Continued Professional Development for staff and volunteers

2014 Collections Budget based on the HHS Approved 2014 Budget

Museum Security and Facilities	\$6050 (monitoring, heating/cooling)
Museum Security Upgrade:	\$1000 (new security system)
Supplies for new storage area:	\$1000 (supplies for creating a secure, local secure storage)
Office site Storage (climate controlled):	\$1384 (rent for off-site storage)
Insurance:	\$621.05 (Museum Collections policy \$150,000 coverage)
Archival supplies:	\$216 (Museum standard and approved)
Total:	\$10,271.05 [Total town funds received \$5,135]

2014-2015 Board Meetings Attendance

8/10	Myra Aronow
3/10	Jack Calhoun
6/10	Sue DeCarli
7/10	Marijean Conrad
7/10	Stephanie Denkowicz
9/10	Gloria Gorton
10/10	Dianne McHutchison
8/10	David Neal, Secretary
10/10	Terry Smith, President
8/10	Emily Smith
7/10	Kathleen Sullivan, Vice President
9/10	Donna Torza
7/10	Charlotte Stetson

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Malloy
Executive Director

Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments (River COG) _____
Judy Snyder, Office Manager

The Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments (RiverCOG), one of Connecticut's nine Regional Planning Organizations, is governed by the chief elected officials of its 17 member towns: Chester, Clinton, Cromwell, Deep River, Durham, East Haddam, East Hampton, Essex, Haddam, Killingworth, Lyme, Middlefield, Middletown, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Portland, and Westbrook. The RiverCOG is responsible for planning of regional land use, transportation, emergency preparedness, environmental conservation, economic development, and homeland security. RiverCOG also provides regional services, such as household hazardous waste collection.

Current officers for RiverCOG are Cathy Iino (Killingworth), serving as Chairperson, Dick Smith (Deep River) as Vice-Chairperson, Susan Bransfield (Portland) as Secretary, and Ed Meehan (Chester) as Treasurer. In December, RiverCOG welcomed Sam Gold to fill the role of Executive Director. Sam comes to us from the Council of Governments of the Central Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments in Waterbury, where he served as Executive Director. Sam is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners and has thirteen years of regional planning experience.

RiverCOG, cont.

Under state statute, RiverCOG, through its Regional Planning Committee (RPC), reviews proposed zoning text and map changes that affect property within 500 feet of municipal boundaries and subdivisions, which touch or cross town lines. The RPC is also working with staff on the first Regional Plan of Conservation & Development for the Lower Connecticut River Valley Region. The RPC includes a representative and alternate from each municipal Planning Commission in the region.

RiverCOG also conducts regional transportation planning as a federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (RiverMPO). As an MPO, RiverCOG is responsible for programming federal and state transportation funds provided to the region by the U.S. and Connecticut Departments of Transportation. In fiscal year 2015 RiverCOG completed its first Long Range Transportation Plan for the new region, conducted a series of rail corridor studies focused on the Valley Railroad State Park, and the completion of a regional digital parcel database (GIS).

RiverCOG hosts and staffs various regional initiatives and commissions including: the Connecticut River Gateway Commission, the Shoreline Basic Needs Task Force, the Land Trust Exchange, the Coast Guard Auxiliary, the Regional Agricultural Commission, the RiverCOG Strategic Economic Growth Committee, and other groups as space and time permits.

The River COG board approved the same annual dues rate for fiscal year 2015 as in fiscal year 2016. Total annual dues collected for fiscal year 2015 totaled \$146,953.42. The RiverCOG leveraged every dollar of local dues with over \$13 in other grants. The total budget of RiverCOG budget was \$2,082,323 in fiscal year 2015.

A copy of our full annual report is available on our website: www.rivercog.org.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Snyder
Office Manager

Connecticut River Gateway Commission

Judy Snyder, Office Manager

History

In 1973, the Connecticut Legislature recognized the Lower Connecticut River Valley as one of the State's most important natural, recreational and scenic areas, and authorized establishment of the Connecticut River Gateway Commission. In July 1974, the Commission became operational with eight

Gateway Commission, cont.

eligible towns, two regional planning agencies and the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection participating.

The Gateway Conservation Zone is about 30 miles long and includes those portions of its eight member towns (Chester, Deep River, East Haddam, Essex, Haddam, Lyme, Old Lyme and Old Saybrook, including the Borough of Fenwick) within view of the river. Since 1973, this area has been recognized as a unique area. The Nature Conservancy has designated the lower Connecticut River as one of its "Last Great Places"; the river's tidelands were recognized as an "internationally significant" habitat for waterfowl under the terms of the international Ramsar Convention; the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Interior has recognized the Lower Connecticut River Valley as "one of the most important ecological landscapes" in the United States; and in 1999, the River was designated as one of 14 American Heritage Rivers by the President of the United States.

Scenic Preservation Responsibilities

While other organizations have primarily concerned themselves with natural ecological systems in the river valley, this Commission has concentrated much of its attention on the protection of key lands along the river that contribute to the valley's scenic qualities. Since its inception, the Commission has worked with others to protect well over 1,000 acres of land through over \$1 million in gifts or purchase of scenic easements, development rights and fee simple titles. The Commission is in the final stage of donating their last two parcels of protected land, one in Chester and one in East Haddam.

Land Use Oversight Responsibilities

Another significant role assigned to the Gateway Commission by the 1973 legislation is establishment of common zoning standards for height, setback, lot coverage and the like, which member towns have agreed to adopt and enforce within the Gateway Conservation Zone. At its monthly meetings, the Commission reviews and acts on zone changes, regulations changes and variance applications affecting land within the Conservation Zone referred to it by local boards and commissions. No zone change or change in regulations affecting land within the Conservation Zone can become effective without the Commission's approval, a statutory responsibility that gives the Commission a great deal of authority and say over land use along the river in the lower river valley. It's a responsibility that the Commission takes very seriously.

As of June 30, 2015, Gateway member towns of Chester, Deep River, East Haddam, Haddam, Lyme, Old Lyme and Old Saybrook have incorporated the 2004 standards into their zoning regulations as required by State Statute. The *Gateway Commission, cont.*

Gateway Commission has completed new additions to the existing standards and has discussed them with each of the eight member town zoning authorities. It is expected that the new standards will be adopted and included in each town's zoning regulations by the end of 2015.

Other Activities

RiverCOG Environmental Planner Margot Burns has continued the collaboration of land trusts within the lower Connecticut River – the Lower Connecticut River and Coastal Region Land Trust Exchange (LTE) - with an eye toward a greater *Gateway Commission, cont.*

alliance and coordination amongst the trusts. Conservation effectiveness is the goal which is being pursued through regional collaboration without losing individual autonomy. The Gateway Commission's sister land trust – the Connecticut River Land Trust – participates in the alliance work. Find out about the Exchange at www.lcrlandtrustexchange.org

Delegates

Members as of June 30, 2015 include: Margaret Wilson (Treasurer) and Martha Wallace of Chester; Nancy Fischbach; Harvey Thomas and Emmett Lyman of East Haddam; Claire Matthews and Jerri MacMillian of Essex; Susan R. Bement and Derek Turner of Haddam, J. Melvin Woody (Chairman) and Emily Bjornberg of Lyme; Peter Cable and Suzanne Thompson (Vice Chairman) of Old Lyme; Madeline Fish (Secretary) and Belinda Ahern of Old Saybrook; Raul de Brigard of RiverCOG; and David Blatt of the Connecticut DEP (Commissioner's Representative). Fenwick Borough has been designated an ad hoc member and is represented by Borough Warden Ethel Davis. Going into fiscal year 2015-2016, the Commission continues to seek a regional representative from RiverCOG.

Contact

For more information, contact River COG Senior Planner and Gateway staff J. H. Torrance Downes at (860) 581-8554 or at tdownes@rivercog.org . Contact information can also be found on the web at www.ctrivergateway.org.

**TOWN OF HADDAM, CONNECTICUT
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES -
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - BUDGETARY BASIS - GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015**

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance With Final Budget Over (Under)
	Original	Final		
Taxes, Interest and Lien Fees:				
General property taxes	\$ 27,323,033	\$ 27,323,033	\$ 27,538,094	\$ 215,061
Elderly tax abatement	(95,000)	(95,000)		95,000
Interest and lien fees	115,000	115,000	157,432	42,432
Telecommunications property tax grant	25,000	25,000	22,505	(2,495)
Total taxes, interest and lien fees	27,368,033	27,368,033	27,718,031	349,998
Intergovernmental:				
Education cost-sharing	1,823,044	1,823,044	1,823,044	-
Tax relief for elderly	46,000	46,000	48,399	2,399
Veterans' exemption	6,000	6,000	6,396	396
Mashantucket Pequot grant	23,455	23,455	23,384	(71)
Local capital improvement grant	74,528	74,528	73,867	(661)
PILOT, State-owned real property	69,743	69,743	69,812	69
Miscellaneous state and federal	38,919	38,919	17,159	(21,760)
Total intergovernmental	2,081,689	2,081,689	2,062,061	(19,628)
Charges for Services:				
Licenses and permits	245,000	245,000	274,159	29,159
Recording fees	60,000	60,000	81,669	21,669
Miscellaneous	76,500	76,500	109,775	33,275
Town clerk state fees	20,000	20,000	3,258	(16,742)
Total charges for services	401,500	401,500	468,861	67,361
Interest Income	20,000	20,000	30,350	10,350
Total Revenues	\$ 29,871,222	\$ 29,871,222	\$ 30,279,303	\$ 408,081

**TOWN OF HADDAM, CONNECTICUT
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES -
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - BUDGETARY BASIS - GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015**

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance With Final Budget
	Original	Final		
General Government:				
Selectman's office	\$ 328,187	\$ 300,510	\$ 294,280	\$ 6,230
Probate court	2,661	2,661	2,661	-
Elections	50,730	45,830	45,650	180
Board of finance	43,300	43,383	43,168	215
Assessor	111,377	114,031	113,831	200
Tax collector's office	87,251	89,448	89,448	-
Treasurer's office	13,537	13,866	13,641	225
Town counsel	41,000	37,000	36,893	107
Town clerk	100,261	102,871	102,871	-
Town hall	9,013	9,013	10,477	(1,464)
Town office building	26,000	24,500	19,359	5,141
Town office building annex	5,350	5,350	3,968	1,382
Planning and zoning	5,770	5,770	5,359	411
Zoning board of appeals	90	90	90	-
Engineering department	50,000	30,134	30,134	-
Wetlands	100	100		100
Central services	179,988	155,688	152,588	3,100
Insurance and other benefits	996,438	951,216	948,978	2,238
Senior center	45,115	45,721	41,706	4,015
Youth center	7,450	7,450	5,332	2,118
Veterans Museum	8,650	8,650	5,691	2,959
Parades	1,325	1,325	524	801
Health director/food inspector	74,804	74,804	74,804	-
Economic development	5,500	1,700	1,588	112
Land use offices	150,845	153,778	147,580	6,198
Conservation	2,500	2,500	2,500	-
Contingency	177,500	17,917		17,917
Total general government	2,524,742	2,245,306	2,193,121	52,185
Public Safety:				
Fire protection	356,758	310,868	288,778	22,090
Police	323,852	324,466	324,466	-
Animal control	20,253	20,514	16,726	3,788
Emergency management	6,439	2,539	1,572	967
Fire marshal	17,241	17,605	15,943	1,662
Dispatch services	122,924	124,168	124,168	-
Building department	106,627	109,026	108,679	347
Total public safety	954,094	909,186	880,332	28,854
Public Works:				
General labor	594,435	662,786	662,786	-
General maintenance	567,000	567,000	590,187	(23,187)
Street lighting	36,000	36,000	38,983	(2,983)
Town garage	51,795	51,795	49,748	2,047
Snow and ice removal	325,000	474,729	502,959	(28,230)
Fire hydrants	2,000	2,000		2,000
Solid waste disposal	326,618	328,921	281,551	47,370
Tree maintenance	40,000	139,727	139,727	-
Total public works	1,942,848	2,262,958	2,265,941	(2,983)

**TOWN OF HADDAM, CONNECTICUT
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES -
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - BUDGETARY BASIS - GENERAL FUND (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015**

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance With Final Budget
	Original	Final		
Health and Welfare:				
Public health	\$ 78,376	\$ 78,376	\$ 78,376	\$ -
Social services	78,500	78,500	78,500	-
Transportation for the elderly	41,765	43,879	40,943	2,936
Water pollution & control	10,000	10,000	8,764	1,236
Haddam volunteer ambulance	97,500	97,500	97,500	-
Total health and welfare	306,141	308,255	304,083	4,172
Culture and Recreation:				
Haddam park and recreation commission	63,600	59,600	54,080	5,520
Regional recreational authority	107,309	107,309	107,309	-
Higganum athletic association	12,000	12,000	11,143	857
Village parks society	3,000	3,000	3,000	-
Middlesex county water	500	500	500	-
Brainerd memorial library	340,000	346,120	346,120	-
Haddam river days	5,000	5,000	5,000	-
Haddam historical society	5,135	5,135	5,135	-
Higganum cemetery association	3,000	3,000	3,000	-
Total culture and recreation	539,544	541,664	535,287	6,377
Education	22,376,890	22,376,890	22,376,890	-
Debt Service	257,785	257,785	257,785	-
Total Expenditures	28,902,044	28,902,044	28,813,439	88,605
Other Financing Uses:				
Transfer out	969,178	969,178	969,178	-
Total Expenditures and Other Financing Uses	\$ 29,871,222	\$ 29,871,222	\$ 29,782,617	\$ 88,605