# 227<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL REPORT

# TOWN OF WARREN, CONNECTICUT

#### YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2015

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#### BOARD OF FINANCE TOWN OF WARREN 50 Cemetery Rd. Warren, CT 06754

#### ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2014/2015

To the Voters and Taxpayers of the Town of Warren:

The Board of Finance presents herein highlights of the Auditor's Report by Charles Heaven & Co., Certified Public Accountants, and the Annual Reports received from various town offices, boards and commissions for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2015. A full copy of the Auditor's Report is available in the Town Clerk's office.

At Town Meeting held May 21, 2015 voters approved the budget for the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 summarized below:

#### **EXPENSES**

Education Other Town Expenses	\$3,206,832 \$2,016,317
Total Estimated Expenses	\$5,277,149

#### **INCOME**

Total Anticipated	\$256,500
(non-tax) Income	
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	•
Amount to be raised	\$5,020,649
by Taxation	
	•

This budget resulted in a mill rate of 14.2 mills. Copies of the completed budget are available from the Town Clerk.

Jack Travers, Chairman

\$5,277,149

Jack E. TraversRobert KennedySusan HaxoDavid C. RobinsonRobyn KaslerLuke Tanner

Total Estimated Income

#### Board of Selectmen

#### Annual Report 2014-15

The Town is one year older (229 years old) along with the rest of us. Each year we keep learning and growing. This past year has been like that for the Board of Selectmen. We continue to attend classes given by CCM, CIRMA, COST, and others to better our Town and community.

During the year, a new website was designed and introduced to all. We are very pleased with the results and ease of use for both visitors and the town hall staff who update it. The Town purchased two (2) new AEDs (Automated External Defibrillators) and received another one with a grant. The AEDs are located in the Town Hall, Community Center and the last one floats between the Beach during the summer and Park and Recreation concerts/events. All Town staff were trained on the devices hoping never to use them. A cell phone booster was installed in the Town Hall for Verizon phones so now customers and residents are able to use their phones without losing the connection.

The Warren Town crew has been busy this year. After another hard winter that did not want to end, the crew replaced all of the cross pipes on Rabbit Hill Road from Tanner Hill to Route 341 and then repaved that section of road. They are in the process of replacing the cross pipes on Reed Road as they get ready for next year's chip sealing and paving. Along with keeping up with road work and town facilities, they were busy cleaning out and selling old equipment. One very much needed item we were able to replace was a 20 year old chipper with a new one. Other old equipment was sold and funds were used to reimburse the equipment fund per the Town Meeting.

The NHCOG (Northwest Hills Council of Governments) which the Town belongs to, will be housing a new road sweeper for our district at our Public Works garage. By housing the sweeper, the Town will be able to use it first and receive it at a discount compared to the other towns in the district. The garage is also home to Home Land Security's light tower and portable electric sign; both items are available for the Town to use.

With all the new requirements and regulations placed on the Towns, adding a new part time clerical position to help our staff was imperative. This new part time person would float throughout the different offices and help out as needed. We are very happy to have Richelle joining our family. When you are at the Town Hall stop in and say hello. We want to thank the Town Hall staff and the Road Crew for their hard work and support, without which the board could not do its job.

Respectfully submitted for the Board of Selectmen,

Craig B. Nelson, First Selectman

#### OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK

#### ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 1, 2014 - JUNE 30, 2015

#### Office Hours:

 Monday
 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

 Tuesday
 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

 Wednesday
 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

 Thursday
 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

 Friday
 CLOSED

The following reflects volume of records processed in fiscal year 2014/2015:

VITAL RECORDS RECORDED	LICENSES ISSUED
7 Births	51 Sports
13 Deaths	179 Dogs
20 Marriages	18 Marriages
·	
40 Total	248 Total
	RECORDED  7 Births 13 Deaths 20 Marriages

A Historic Documents Preservation Grant of \$5,000 was received. The funds were used to convert to a new land record indexing system, including the purchase of two new computers. The new system works beautifully and is much more user friendly for the public as well.

Joanne C. Tiedmann Town Clerk

# TOWN OF WARREN Assessor's Office 50 Cemetery Road Warren, Connecticut 06754

#### Assessor's Report

The 2013 Grand List for the Town of Warren is reflected in the 2014/2015 Fiscal Year. The Taxable Net Grand List for 2013, after the Board of Assessment Appeals changes and Certificates of Correction by the Assessor, is as follows:

Real Estate 329885150 Personal Property 3979420 Motor Vehicle 13575360

Taxable Net Grand List 347439930

Linda E. Birtaccin

The next scheduled Revaluation is for the 2017 Grand List.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda E. Bertaccini

Assessor

#### **BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS**

WARREN TOWN HALL 50 Cemetery Road WARREN CONNECTICUT 06754

#### ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015

The Warren Board of Assessment Appeals held a public meeting on September 7, 2014 to hear appeals on motor vehicles and other personal property on the Grand list of October 1, 2013; no applications were received. The Board also set hearing and meeting dates for the following calendar year: Meeting date of February 19, 2015 and hearing dates of March 7, 2015 and September 12, 2015.

The Warren Board of Assessment Appeals held a meeting on February 19, 2015 to review (8) eight applications and to schedule hearings on March 7, 2015. Applicants were called and a letters were sent to confirm hearing date and times. Two (2) applicants were sent new appraisal letters from the Assessor, which lowered the value. The letters sent were confusing and they were under the impression they needed to appeal in order to receive the new appraised value (no action is required by the property owner). Hearings were not scheduled. One (1) applicant was rescheduled to March 25, 2015 and one (1) applicant was scheduled for a site visit. Two (2) applicants had computer errors, which were fixed and it corrected the appraised value of the property and two (2) applicants had no changes made to their request.

At a special hearing date of March 25, 2015, the Committee discussed the site visit of one applicant and corrected a footage discrepancy of the second floor of the building. A change was made to the field card and applicant was notified of the correction. The next applicant was heard regarding a change to his assessment based on the property being exempt due to it being used by a charitable organization. The exemption was granted based on the organizations by-laws and state statues.

Respectfully Submitted, Board of Assessment Appeals Joseph Manley, Chairman Paul S. Taltaval Colleen Frisbie

# Town of Warren Building Department

50 Cemetery Road Warren, CT 06754 Tel/Fax (860) 868-7881, Ext. 111

#### ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2014 - 2015

The following is a three-year comparison of total construction activity in the town of Warren:

Fiscal Year	12-13	13-14	14-15
No. Permits	180	164	175
New Dwellings	3	3	0
Construction Value	\$6,868,903	\$9,686,025	\$7,726,815
Fee Value	\$59,222	\$82,199	\$66,025

Overall construction value was down by 20% this fiscal year. There were no permits issued for single family dwellings. There was a slight increase in the number of permits issued for the year.

Just a reminder that the State of Connecticut Building Code is adopted and required by Town Ordinance. Any building project, electrical, plumbing and heating repairs, wood stoves, solar systems, swimming pools (in ground and above ground), reroofing and siding, require the filing for a permit from the Building Official.

I would like to thank all departments, commissions and the residents of the Town of Warren for their help and cooperation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph E. Manley Building Official

#### **CONSERVATION & INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION**

#### **Annual Report**

July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015

The Inland Wetlands Commission is charged with protecting the inland wetlands and watercourses within the Town of Warren. The inland wetlands and watercourses of Warren are an indispensable and irreplaceable but fragile natural resource. The wetlands and watercourses are an interrelated web of nature essential to:

- an adequate supply of surface and underground water;
- hydrological stability and control of flooding and erosion;
- the recharging and purification of groundwater; and
- the existence of many forms of animal, aquatic, and plant life.

The preservation and protection of the wetlands and watercourses from random, unnecessary, undesirable, and unregulated uses, disturbance or destruction is in the public interest and is essential to the health, welfare, and safety of the citizens.\*

The Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commission is made up of 5 regular members and 3 alternate members:

#### **Regular Members**

Keith Jewell, Chairman Cindy Shook, Vice Chairman Nancy Binns Dawn Blocker Nora Hulton

#### **Alternate Members**

Tom Caldwell John Favreau Darin Willenbrock

Alternates Darin Willenbrock and Tom Caldwell joined this Commission this year. The Inland Wetlands Commission meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month at the Town Hall at 7:00PM.

The Inland Wetlands Commission met for 10 of their 12 regularly scheduled meetings and held 4 special meetings. This fiscal year proved to be a busy one for the Commission, with 24 Inland Wetlands Permits granted; none were determined to be a significant activity impacting wetlands. One application was denied due to lack of information. The Commission also issued 4 declaratory rulings for as-of-right uses and modified one previously approved permit.

Stacey Sefcik, the Inland Wetlands Enforcement Officer, under Section 12 of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourse regulations, has the authority to approve a permit for an activity that is not located in a wetland or watercourse when such agent finds that the conduct of such activity would result in no greater than a minimal impact on any wetlands or watercourses. Ms. Sefcik issued 4 such permits this year.

The Land Use Office is open between 9:30AM and 12:30PM Mondays and Wednesdays; however, the Inland Wetlands Enforcement Officer can be available at other times throughout the week by appointment. She can be reached at (860) 868-7881 x 117 or at <a href="mailto:landuse@warrenct.org">landuse@warrenct.org</a>. If you are planning a project, please contact Stacey early on so that she can review the proposal with you and help you through the permitting process.

\*contains content from the Inland Wetlands Regulations, adopted from DEP 4<sup>th</sup> model.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey M. Sefcik Inland Wetlands Enforcement Officer

#### PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

#### **Annual Report**

July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015

The Town of Warren Planning & Zoning Commission wrestles each month with sensitive land use applications, issues and topics. They work hard to protect and preserve the rural character of Warren while at the same time being sensitive to the rights of property owners to develop their land and to the economic development of the Town.

The Planning & Zoning Commission is made up of 8 regular members and 3 alternate members:

Regular Members

Bob Bolte, Chairman Chris Brodhead, Vice Chairman Susan Bates Christopher Fischer Phil Good Robyn Kasler Howard Lethbridge John Miller Alternate Members Brian Coyle Kelly Tobin Darin Willenbrock

The Commission meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7:30PM at Town Hall, with additional special meetings and public hearings as needed.

Fiscal Year 2014-2015 was a busy year, with the Commission holding 11 of 12 regularly scheduled meetings and one special meeting. The Commission scheduled 6 public hearings for special exception applications; three applications were approved, one was denied due to lack of information, and two applications were ultimately withdrawn. Approved applications included the construction of a Veterans' Memorial on Town-owned property, the construction of an addition within the shoreline setback area, and the construction of athletic fields and tennis courts accessory to a private school. One public hearing was held regarding the modification of an approved site plan for a private school property; the modification request was ultimately approved. The Commission also issued 5 zoning permit approvals during the year; three for timber harvests and two for new driveways.

The Commission also adopted an amendment to Sections 2 and 16 of the Zoning Regulations in order to clarify the definition of structure and patio, and to permit patios of up to 100 square feet within the shoreline setback area; patios greater than 100 square feet may be permitted by special exception. Acting in their planning capacity, the Commission approved a 3-lot resubdivision on Tanner Hill Road.

Stacey Sefcik, the Zoning Enforcement Officer, issued 22 zoning permits for various applications. These included several additions, garages, pools, decks, and sheds. Several violations of the Zoning Regulations were investigated and addressed.

The Land Use Office is open between 9:30AM and 12:30PM Mondays and Wednesdays; however, the ZEO can be available at other times throughout the week by appointment. The ZEO can be reached at (860) 868-7881 x 117 or at <a href="mailto:landuse@warrenct.org">landuse@warrenct.org</a>.

If you are planning a project, please contact Stacey early on so that she can review the proposal with you and help you through the permitting process.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey M. Sefcik, CZET Zoning Enforcement Officer

#### **ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

#### **Annual Report**

July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015

The responsibilities of the ZBA include granting variances from the Zoning Regulations, hearing appeals from the Zoning Enforcement Officer's decisions, and granting Motor Vehicle License Approvals. The most common applications to the Zoning Board of Appeals are requests for variances to the Zoning Regulations. In order to grant a variance, the Board must make the following findings:

- A) There are special conditions or circumstances affecting the lot but not affecting, in general, the zoning district in which the lot is situated. These conditions or circumstances are related solely to:
  (i) the unusual shape or topography of the land; or (ii) the condition or location of an existing structure. These special conditions or circumstances shall not be related to the personal conditions or circumstances of the applicant.
- B) The exceptional difficulty or unusual hardship claimed by the applicant is not due to the actions either of the current property owner, a previous property owner, or the applicant.
- C) The strict application of the Zoning Regulations would deprive the property owner of all reasonable use of the property.
- D) The exceptional difficulty or unusual hardship is not merely financial.
- E) The relief granted is the minimum necessary to provide a reasonable use of the property.
- F) The relief granted will not adversely affect the surrounding properties or be otherwise harmful to the public welfare.

The Zoning Board of Appeals meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month in the Town Hall at 7:30 PM provided there is an application to consider or other business pending. This past year, Board held three regular meetings to hear three variance applications. One request to build a second story addition within the shoreline setback area was ultimately withdrawn, and a request to construct a 9-foot tall deer fence in the front yard setback was granted. A third application for several variances in order to facilitate a free split of property was ultimately denied. During this fiscal year, the Board heard no appeals from the Zoning Enforcement Officer's decisions; nor did the Board hear any applications for Motor Vehicle License location approval.

The Zoning Board of Appeals is comprised of 5 regular members and 3 alternates:

#### Regular Members

George Githens, Chairman Jon Garvey, Vice Chairman Trisha Barry William Hopkins Rick Valine

#### **Alternate Members**

Peter Brodhead Nancy Florio Ray Furse

This fiscal year, the Board welcomed Rick Valine as a new regular member.

Variance applications and the required application fee should be received in the Land Use Office at least three weeks prior to the meeting date in order to ensure adequate time for required legal notices to be published. Generally site visits are made by the board members on each application prior to the public hearing. The Zoning Enforcement Officer, Stacey Sefcik, is available to assist applicants on Mondays and Wednesday from 9:30AM-12:30PM. She can be reached at (860) 868-7881 x 117 or at landuse@warrenct.org.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey M. Sefcik, CZET Zoning Enforcement Officer



# Town of Warren

Social Services 50 Cemetery Rd Warren CT 06754 860-868-7881

### ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2014 – 2015

Warren Social Services supports local residents through advocacy; referral to local, state and federal assistance programs; short-term financial assistance; linking with employment opportunities and career support services; and short-term counseling. The mission of this department is to assist the residents of Warren in developing the skills and knowledge necessary to seek services and support through self-advocacy.

A total of 27 Warren households were assisted by the Social Services director utilizing a variety of local, State and Federal resources. This assistance totaled \$ 15,007.62:

\$ 6,620.00	State of CT/Federal Energy Assistance Program (11 households)
\$ 937.90	Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation
\$ 2,816.89	Good Neighbor Fund
\$ 984.80	Northwest CT Fuel Bank
\$ 1,898.03	Operation Fuel
\$ 1,750.00	Foundation for Community Health Prescription Assistance Program

Nine Warren children received new backpacks filled with school supplies, clothing, shoes and winter coats through the United Way Back to School Program. Local Girl Scouts and Junior Women's Club of Litchfield Hills provided Thanksgiving baskets for six Warren Families. Ten households, 17 children, received December holiday gifts, food, and gift cards through the support of the Junior Women's Club of Litchfield Hills, Region 6 School District holiday gift drive, The Community Foundation of Northwest Connecticut's year-end critical needs/holidays' grant, Warren's Stuff-a-Truck gift drive, and local individual sponsors.

Respectively Submitted,

Leah Pullaro, LMSW Warren Social Services

#### Warren Park and Recreation Department

The Warren Parks and Recreation Department continues to provide quality recreation programs for all Town residents. The Department encourages a healthy lifestyle through the many recreation course offerings. The Department is most grateful to the Town of Warren and the Regional School District for the use of the town and school facilities as well as the many volunteers who make the many special event opportunities available to residents of Warren.

Many of our popular programs include adult fitness, yoga, karate, kid kicks karate, after school skiing, dance and basketball. The department provided five open skating days at the Gunnery and Rumsey Hall School. Residents also were provided the opportunity to take advantage of open skate dates provided by the Kent and Washington Recreation Department. This collaborative effort also allowed our residents to participant in figure skating classes at the Kent School through the Kent Recreation Department. A new winter snowshoeing activity and the kayaking & paddle board clinics were well received.

The Annual Trick or Trunk event and Holiday on the Hill are two special events that continue to be popular family events. The Holiday on the Hill which includes the Holiday Bazaar, tree lightning and the caroling are always well received as a community event especially with all the other activities that are part of the event. The Annual Warren Cider Run was held in October and proceeds continue to fund the Warren Parks and Recreation Scholarship with the Connecticut Community Foundation.

The department's primary way of communicating information about its programs and town wide events continues to be its email system. The newsletter email format continues to be well received as measured by the high percentage of open and click rates. The department also sent information out via two postcard mailings and continues to collaborate with other town departments in coordinating a newsletter/brochure mailing; which was sent to every household in town.

The Warren Town Beach continues to be a popular spot for recreational swimming, picnicking and swim lessons. Lifeguards were issued a complete uniform to improve visibility and professionalism. The beach facility is in constant use during the summer months and continues to run smoothly. Weekly training under the supervision and direction from Patrick Bonis, beach manager, was provided to all guards. This ongoing training is a main safety initiative that aids in the development of our town beach staff. All gate guards and lifeguards are certified.

The department is committed to provide cultural opportunities through our Summer Concert Series. The concerts provided an opportunity for Warren Woods Park to be the "community's backyard". It has allowed the community to gather and enjoy the music while enjoying family and friends. The community enjoyed the sounds provided by Wildcat Hill Band, Truck Stop Troubadours and Time Rider.

Many senior trips utilizing the services of the Northwest Transit took place. Some of the day trips included the following: Connecticut Flower and Garden Show, Ringling Brothers & Barnum Bailey Circus, Sheffield Island, Port Jefferson, New York via Bridgeport Ferry, Connecticut Science Museum, Concert at the Bushnell Theater, Mystic Seaport, Octoberfest at the East Side Restaurant, New England Museum of Art, Holiday Light Fantasia at Goodwin Park in Hartford and UCONN Women's Basketball game.

We are pleased to report our Senior Luncheons have been well received throughout the year. There was a luncheon during the summer months at Warren Woods, Holiday luncheon in December and a St. Patrick's event at the Community Center. The luncheons are all catered events and entertainment added to the festivities. We are collaborating and inviting our friends from Morris Senior Center to add to our fellowship.

Other trips that used a motor coach bus included the following: 9-11 Memorial Museum, Big E, Radio City Christmas Spectacular Show, Yankees vs Cleveland Indians baseball game, and Yankees vs Red Sox Baseball game, Bronx Zoo and Ellis Island /Statue of Liberty

"Movie Night" was very popular. Movies included: How to Train Your Dragon 2, and Big Hero 6. The Movie Night was sponsored by Parks and Recreation and the Warren Public Library.

The Sunday OPEN GYM program at the Community Center allowed participants to utilize the gym during the winter months. Participants were able to play table tennis, air hockey and XBOX 360 video games such as bowling and soccer for some good exercise in the community room. Basketball was the main activity in the gym

In order to service the wide range of Warren citizens, we have converged our recreational offering by collaborating with neighboring towns. This collaboration has also allowed many trips to take place and especially at a cost effective rate.

The Warren Parks and Recreation meets in Warren Town Hall's Conference Room at 6:30 pm on the fourth Monday of every month, except in December when no meeting is held. Meetings are open to the public and comments and suggestions are welcome at the start of the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Murphy - Director

#### **Commission Members**

Kim Lawrence - Commission Chair

Carla Angevine

Sarah Churyk

Dan Dacey

Kristina Daudelin

Kit Lundberg

Loreen Lethbridge

Dave Schneiderbeck

#### **GOOD NEIGHBOR FUND**

#### 2014 - 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

In 1977 a committee was formed in Warren to assist any resident whose temporary financial situation was considered overwhelming. The GNF is funded by individual donations and grants. Donations are tax-deductible contributions, and are held in a town account in the custody of the town treasurer.

Warren families seeking assistance are requested to make an appointment with Leah Pullaro, the town's Social Service Director, who screens the applications. Leah brings the request to GNF committee members to see whether we need to convene or poll the members. Individuals for the committee are appointed by the selectmen's office. Once a decision is made an application goes to the town treasurer to write out a check to pay whatever bill, directly to the company. All information is coded and at no time is any personal information including names given to the committee, treasurer or anyone else.

The GNF served 14 families since the last annual report. Recipients are not obligated to repay, some have done so by subsequent donation or service to the town.

Beginning Balance 6/30/14	\$ 16,343.19
Assistance	2,816.89
Gift Cards from Grant	1,000.00
Interest (6/30/15	21.14
Donations	7,711.00
Grants	1,000.00
Balance 6/30/15	\$ 22,248.89

Due to the severe winter and rising costs of fuel, there was an increase in financial help needed this year. With funds diminishing we made an appeal to the Town in May, 2014, and as always our townspeople gave generously. Thanks to all.

#### 2014-2015 Board

Lois Abrams	Kathy Newton	Pastor Gary Kitchin	Craig Nelson, ex offio
Susan Haxo	Joyce Keith	Mary Miller, chair	Colleen Frisbie, treas, ex offio
Leah Smith	Lois Abrams	Joanne Tiedmann, vice	Leah Pullarol, Dir of SS, ex offio
	Linda Kennedy	Ellen Prindle, secretary	•



#### THE WARREN PUBLIC LIBRARY, INC.

15 Sackett Hill Road Warren, Connecticut 06754 860-868-2195 Warrenpl@optonline.net www.warrenctlibrary.org

The Warren Public Library seeks to meet and anticipate the community's intellectual and social needs, while at the same time, provide a place for the discovery and exploration of ideas. The library is a source of materials and programs that enrich the community through the promotion of reading and learning in a positive and supportive environment.

October, 2015

# Our 100th Year and Looking Ahead

In early November of 2014 we began the celebration of our 100<sup>th</sup> year with a wine-tasting at Hopkins Vineyard and raised funds with donated works of art from local artists and authors. It was a great evening of meeting our neighbors and patrons. And a great show of support.

Throughout this anniversary year we had 4000 visits to the library, gained 75 new patrons and circulated nearly 8,000 items. We hosted 112 programs and meetings with an attendance of 1,555. Our interlibrary loan services are growing. Online books and news service are also being utilized at a moderate pace.

We are looking forward to our 101<sup>st</sup> year. We have added four new board members and a new space within the library. With this new space opportunities for more programs and activities are now available to us.

We are moving on to a new year and new horizons.

We thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,

Martina Winkel

Martha Winkel

Library Director

**Board of Directors** Marylyn Hendricks, Vice-Chairman Jane Manley, Secretary Jill Seavey Co-Treasurer Judith Bronson Co-Treasurer

Constance Burks Eric Schoenfeld Bradford Hoar Kelly Tobin Thomas Paul



#### Warren Historical Society Annual Report For inclusion in Town of Warren Annual Report - 2015

2015 was another banner year for the Warren Historical Society, as we worked to fulfill our mission: to discover, celebrate and preserve Warren's history through its collections, programs and exhibits. Early in the year, we accomplished the painstaking move of our treasured collection of documents, photographs and artifacts into our new space in the Community Center, carefully cataloging each item in our new database on our new computer. We celebrated this move and our new Museum space in May with an Open House, where many in the community were able to see the collection and the special exhibit of the History of Warren in 10 Objects. Since the move, we have accepted 32 donations from 6 donors, notably a painting by Herb Abrams, and have hosted 4 researchers who have visited the collection.

The community and communication is important to us, and we hope that you have seen us – on Facebook, where we post every Monday; at the Fall Festival, where our booth invited passers-by to guess the Warren location from one of our ancient photographs, and to see the winners of this year's WHS photo post card contest; or at our Annual Meeting presentation, this year's on Warren's General Store. We continue to benefit from the community's generosity, both in our annual appeal and during the spring "Give Local" campaign. We use these funds to fulfill our mission, are now preparing to purchase additional storage and exhibit items; perhaps you have seen our new display case in the Warren Town Hall? Additionally, the funds are used to support annual programming, including History Day with the Warren School, the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Bell Ringing, and a lecture program, this year's starting with Peter Vermilyea who spoke on "Hidden Litchfield".

The financial stability of the Warren Historical Society has improved steadily over the course of the past few years. In the fall of 2014, we mailed our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual fundraising appeal to our members and prospective members. We received more than 40 donations and raised close to \$15,000. In the spring of 2015, we participated in the Connecticut Community Foundation's "Give Local Campaign," through which we received an additional \$4275 in donations. With these funds, we were able to purchase all the materials we needed to move our collection out of the Academy and into our new museum space. We also purchased new shelving to house the collection, gun safes for the firearms in our collection, and computer equipment to catalog our items. With the support of our existing donor base and the addition of new members, we plan to make our collection more available to the public and to expand upon our events and activities in the community. Your support allows us to do this and more.

For any questions about our projects and upcoming programs, or to become more involved in our work, please contact WHS President John Favreau at jpfavreau@earthlink.net.

#### ANIMAL CONTROL

This department answered approximately 600 calls during the 2014 - 2015 fiscal year. The complaints were primarily about roaming animals. Whether it was bears in the backyard, bobcats and coyotes out in the middle of the day or roaming horses and cows; along with the usual dog and cat complaints. Several birds were found with injuries and were taken to Audubon in Sharon.

Eight animals were actually impounded-six dogs and two cats. Five dogs were redeemed by their owners while one was adopted. One of the cats came in extremely ill and did not survive, the other was adopted. The two that were adopted went through the state sponsored Animal Population Control Program. For a reduced fee all dogs or cats that are adopted from the pound are spayed/neutered, and given their rabies and distemper vaccine. The fee is \$45.

Rabies is still here and will be a part of everyday life for years to come. Please vaccinate your animals against this disease, which if left untreated is fatal to humans and animals alike.

With more and more animal cruelty cases being reported, please use the phrase, if you see something, say something, as the animals can't speak for themselves.

Any questions and concerns please call 860 868 2870.

Respectfully submitted,

Cyndy Brissett Animal Control

#### Printed by: Joanne Tiedmann Title: LWA 001.jpg: FirstClass

#### **LAKE WARAMAUG AUTHORITY ANNUAL REPORT 2015**

The Lake Waramaug Authority was established by ordinances of the towns of Washington, Warren, and Kent under State of Connecticut statute. Its primary purpose is to ensure year round lake safety for all who enjoy the lake's numerous recreational activities. The Lake Authority Patrols the lake during the summer months, and monitors other safety issues including, but not limited to dock, buoy and float placement, as well as permits and safety patrols for the many rowing regattas. The Town of Washington and Warren - 40 % and Kent - 20%, financially support the work of the Lake Waramaug Authority.

Under the continued direction of Steve Sordi, Resident State trooper for the Town of Washington, and director of the Marine Patrol, the marine staff continues with their regular and random summer patrols on the Lake from early spring when the ice breaks and crew teams practice, until the mid autumn months. This season, there were a total of 20 patrol shifts incorporating 155 Officer hours on the Lake. There were 14 safety checks conducted, 1 violation and 2 warnings issued, and 5 stranded vessel assists. The volume of non-motor craft, particularly kayaks and canoes has increased again this year.

This is the first summer that motorboats were regulated by a slow no wake zone in the northern section of the state park. This provided a safer environment for the many paddlers using that area of the lake. There were no violations within the slow no wake zone.

Access to Lake Waramaug via the boat launch at the New Preston site continues to operate smoothly. All boats entering the water are carefully checked for invasive species in an effort to continue to keep the lake free of invasive species. The Lake Waramaug Authority is pleased to report that the boat inspection program had another successful year with the cooperation of resident and day boaters alike. Car top craft also require inspection and with the addition of the new sign at the State Park, we are hopeful that all boats entering the lake are inspected. Dowler's Garage in New Preston continues to inspect car top craft that wish to launch when the boat ramp is not open.

During the winter months the Authority conducts emergency ice rescue drills to ensure that all involved are up to date with their training and are familiar with the operation of the airboat. A new faster launch system for the airboat has been purchased and will be installed and fully operational before winter.

Members of the Lake Authority represent the three surrounding towns. They include Chairman Ed Berner of Warren; Secretary Sandy Papsin of Washington; Treasurer Gary Davis of Kent and representatives Kevin Brady and Chris Garrity of Kent, Bill Hopkins and Gary Curtiss of Warren, Dean Sarjeant and Ed Matthews of Washington.

This is the sixth season for the boat. All marine officers have been fully trained and are qualified to operate the boat for patrols and emergencies.

Continued thanks are extended to all the town residents who have patiently cooperated with the boat inspections and understand the importance of protecting our lake for today, tomorrow and all future generations.

Respectfully Submitted,

## Sandy Papsin

Sandy Papsin Secretary, Lake Waramaug Authority

# TORRINGTON AREA HEALTH DISTRICT ANNUAL REPORT: JULY 1, 2014 – JUNE 30, 2015

The TAHD served over 137, 000 people in twenty boroughs, cities and towns covering 611 square miles.

The TAHD **Community Health Program** investigated the following communicable diseases: **27** Campylobacteriosis, **9** Salmonellosis and **11** Giardiasis. TAHD conducted a contact investigation for 1 case of tuberculosis. 10 clinical samples were submitted to state lab for respiratory viruses. TAHD monitored several travelers from West Africa for Ebola virus symptoms. TAHD provided guidance to school nurses, daycares and community members on a variety of health issues. TAHD nurses administered **651** doses of flu vaccine and **6** doses of pneumonia vaccine to local residents. TAHD consulted with 44 residents regarding potential rabies exposures which resulted in TAHD submitting 29 raccoons, bats, and other animals to the State of CT Laboratory for rabies testing. Guidance on post exposure prophylaxis was provided as well. Ticks brought in by **83** residents were sent to the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station for Lyme disease bacteria testing.

The TAHD is a member of Fit Together, a Northwest Connecticut Healthy Eating and Active Living Initiative. This past year, Fit Together has worked to introduce "Let's Go -5210" The program works in a multi-sector setting to spread the message of: 5 - servings of fruits and vegetables, 2 - hours no more of recreational screen time, 1 - hour or more of physical activity, and 0 - sugary drinks, more water every day.

The TAHD is also an active member of the Litchfield County Opiate Task Force. More than 60 members from community agencies have joined to help strategize and develop solutions to the growing heroin/opiate addiction and overdose epidemic. The task force focuses on intervention, prevention, and community education. The task force was instrumental in creating an Opiate Addiction Counselor position at Charlotte Hungerford Hospital to assist those seeking substance abuse treatment.

The TAHD **Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program** provided case management for more than 115 children with blood lead levels (≥ 5µl). TAHD collaborated with the **Connecticut Children's Healthy Housing Program** (CCHHP formerly the LAMPP Program) to assist property owners with lead abatement of their properties. Abatement / Remediation Orders were issued for 8 properties. Of these, 5 completed abatement. 3 other properties under old outstanding orders also completed abatement. Lead Poisoning Prevention materials were distributed to daycares, health centers, etc. TAHD **Healthy Homes Program** conducted a total of **30** home inspections (26 initial and 4 follow-up). Healthy Homes Presentations were provided to 2 community groups.

The TAHD **Immunization Action Program** (IAP) continues to work with local providers to ensure compliance with immunization laws among the pre-school population. The focus this past year has been on vaccine handling and storage as well as proper documentation. The TAHD conducts site visits as well as is a resource for local providers.

The TAHD Emergency Preparedness Program was active this year in Ebola Virus planning, education and monitoring of travelers from West Africa. TAHD worked with community partners to develop and implement consistent Ebola protocols and plans. TAHD participated in "Operation Get Smart", a full scale exercise designed to test Region 5's response to a mass casualty incidence. TAHD continues to work on exercising and refining plans to mass distribute medications to the population in event of a public health emergency.

The TAHD-Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Program partnered with the Northeast Regional Law Enforcement Educational Association at Troop B as well as some Fire Explorer Units in Canaan and Norfolk in an effort to attract members. The MRC is doing the MRC \* B \* FIT & MRC \* B \* READY school age preparedness and nutrition education programs training for both, and the program will be presented in local communities this summer. The TAHD hosted an AmeriCorps Team during the summer of 2014.

The TAHD partners with Phoenix Labs for its **Water Testing Program**. Phoenix Labs, a full service lab located in Manchester, CT offers a wide range of testing of drinking water, wastewater, groundwater/landfills, storm water, soil and more. TAHD collects samples when requested, and offers free technical advice on water testing results.

TAHD Environmental Health Program resulted in the following inspections/licenses/permits: 1886 food inspections, 704 temporary food permits, 68 new septic systems, 179 repaired septic systems, 152 private well permits, 50 private pool permits, 147 beauty salons & barber shops inspections, 549 house addition permits, 227 soil tests, 22 subdivision lots, 60 public pools and beaches were inspected, and 31 daycare centers inspected. Records show that 671 samples were submitted to the state lab for testing of drinking water, beach and pool water, lead in water and paint, asbestos, food, sewage and volatile organic compounds and pesticides in water. Sanitarians investigated 338 complaints of various public health concerns; 38 legal orders/voluntary compliances were issued for enforcement purposes.

Robert Rubbo, MPH, Director of Health

# LITCHFIELD HILLS PROBATE DISTRICT, #24

Serving Canaan (Falls Village), Cornwall, Harwinton, Kent, Litchfield, Morris, Norfolk, North Canaan, Salisbury, Sharon, Thomaston and Warren <a href="www.litchfieldprobate.org">www.litchfieldprobate.org</a>

# The Honorable Diane S. Blick, Judge

Litchfield Location

Linda F. Riiska, *Chief Clerk* Dawn W. Pratt, *Clerk* 

Tanya M. Matulis, Asst. Clerk

Kent Location

Judge Blick - Tuesdays Mornings

Canaan Location

Beth L. McGuire, *Clerk* Heath B. Prentis, *Asst. Clerk* 

It is with great pleasure that I report to the residents of the Litchfield Hills Probate District the activity of the Probate Court for the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015.

Type of Matter	Number of Matters
Fee Waivers	38
Decedent's Estates	1,081
Trusts	162
Adoptions & Termination of Parental Rights	3
Guardian of the Person of a Minor	57
Guardian of the Estate of a Minor	30
Mentally Ill, Non-Committed Children (MINC)	0
Conservators	173
Persons with Intellectual Disabilities	116
Name Changes	32
Adult Commitment	1
Probate matters handled	1,693
Passports processed	156

Two years ago the launch of the Litchfield Hills Probate Court website, together with a court listing and website link on each Town's website, has been a great asset as it introduces the residents to the staff, court locations and hours of operation. The website also provides information as to the types of matters under the court's jurisdiction and is an excellent resource for the public to obtain up-to-date forms and helpful user guides.

The Court's location in the Litchfield Town Hall is open Monday through Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. The Court's location in the North Canaan Town Hall is open Monday through Thursday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. I continue to be available in the Kent Town Hall on Tuesdays 9:00 am to 11:00 am.

The Court Staff joins me in extending our sincerest appreciation to the town leaders, residents and professionals who utilize the services of the Probate Court for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,

suice & Beick

Diane S. Blick Judge of Probate

November 30, 2015

#### Regional School District No. 6 Annual Report 2014-2015

Throughout the year the news was filled with stories about the rapid pace of change impacting public schools. From globalization to digitalization, from higher standards and even higher-stakes testing, and from a focus on students to a focus on curriculum, the changing landscape of education dominated much of the discussion in the media, in politics, and at the family dinner table.

Yet, while Region 6 is not immune from social and political dynamics, I am proud to say that Region 6 continues to focus on the individual needs of students and the values of our communities. Neither Washington nor Hartford will change who we are and what we value as a district; and the needs of our students will always be at the forefront of our decision-making.

To ensure that we stay focused on our priorities, the school board worked diligently throughout the year to develop a five-year plan that identifies four areas of greatest importance for Region 6. Chief among the goals is a deep and meaningful commitment to student growth and achievement, particularly in reading, writing, and communicating. We believe that the students' ability to succeed in all subject areas is predicated on their ability to read effectively. In a recent Forbes article, employers identified problem-solving, decision-making, and effective communicating as the primary skills they look for in prospective employees and providing students with these skills is embedded within the district's goals.

Region 6 believes in the correlation between quality teaching and student achievement. Therefore, the second goal of the district is to support its teachers in their ongoing growth and development through meaningful feedback and effective and relevant training.

Furthermore, we want relevant assessments to measure students' progress, therefore, the third goal is to responsibly assess students to measure their learning throughout the year and adjust classroom instruction to meet their diverse learning needs. We do not believe that one test is indicative of our student learning; we rely instead on multiple measures of assessment to enable us to better understand the students as individual learners and not merely "good test takers".

The fourth and final goal in the plan is to develop a "Blueprint to the Future", a comprehensive study of what parents and the community want their schools to look like as we progress through the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The community can be proud of its schools and in a recent survey, 91% of community members rated Region 6 schools at or above average, and 68% rated them above average or "exceptional."

While we will always strive to improve, we know that our students have a unique and meaningful educational experience in a safe, secure, and nurturing environment. We relish being a "hidden gem" of educational excellence and sincerely appreciate the continued support of our communities.

#### NORTHWEST HILLS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

The Northwest Hills Council of Governments (COG) opened the doors to its new office this year at the Village Market Place in Goshen Center to serve our 21-town region. The COG's work program includes activities in both regional planning and regional service delivery. Planning activities include developing a regional plan of conservation and development, a regional transportation plan, natural hazard mitigation plans, emergency management planning, and village center revitalization. For more information, news, events, and planning resources please visit our website: <a href="https://www.northwesthillscog.org">www.northwesthillscog.org</a>.

This year, the COG began work on two new grant funded projects, the NW CT Food Hub Feasibility Study to better connect local farmers with wholesale buyers and the 8-Town Shared Economic Development Services project to help small towns attract and retain businesses and keep their village center areas vital. The COG also worked with the NWCT Economic Development Corporation and the NWCT Chamber of Commerce, on an action plan to implement the region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy and to gain formal State and Federal Economic Development District designation for our 21-town region to open it to additional funding possibilities.

The COG board consists of the Mayors and First Selectmen from the 21 member towns. The group meets on a monthly basis to discuss issues of municipal concern, oversee existing COG programs, and explore new opportunities for regional cooperation to enhance local government efficiency. A variety of issues of regional significance were discussed at the monthly meetings of the COG this year including maintaining local roads, municipal grants for supporting agriculture, municipal waste oil disposal, and regional health insurance collaboration. Guest speakers included the State Comptroller, Commissioner of Economic Development, and Secretary of State. In addition to the COG's regular monthly meetings, a special meeting of the COG was held to discuss legislative priorities with local legislators.

The COG also coordinates a number of popular regional service delivery programs including household hazardous waste collection days, a prescription assistance program, a fuel bank program, the Northwest Hills Public Works Equipment Cooperative, and the region's cooperative purchasing program. The COG also provides assistance to a number of organizations in the region including the Regional Housing Council, Northwest Hills Road Supervisors Association, Public Safety Task Force, Recycling Advisory Committee, Housatonic River Commission, and Torrington Facade Improvement Program Committee. In addition, the COG hosts a quarterly "5<sup>th</sup> Thursday" forum for area Planning and Zoning Commission members to meet and discuss items of mutual interest, hear guest speakers, and provide input on regional plans.

COG member towns include Barkhamsted, Burlington, Canaan (Falls Village), Colebrook, Cornwall, Goshen, Hartland, Harwinton, Kent, Litchfield, Morris, New Hartford, Norfolk, North Canaan, Roxbury, Salisbury, Sharon, Torrington, Warren, Washington, and Winchester.

Respectfully submitted, Rick Lynn, AICP Executive Director



NEW MILFORD
VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION

68 Park Lane Road New Milford, Connecticut 06776 860 354 2216 fax 860 350 2852 www.newmilfordvna.org

November 10, 2015

First Selectman Town Hall Warren, CT 06754

The following are numbers of home health visits provided to the residents of the Town of Warren during the fiscal year July 2014 thru June 2015:

Skilled Nursing 30
Physical Therapy 52
Occupational Therapy 8
Home Health Aide 12
Medical Social Worker 1
Clergy 1
Total: 104

Our Blood Pressure Clinics in Kent and New Milford are always open to your Residents.

Our Agency has been listed in the top 500 across the United States not only our regular Home Health Care Services Program but our Hospice Program also.

We Welcome the opportunity to service your town and hope to continue to expand our services in your area.

Thanking you in advance for your assistance in helping us reach your population with our Services and Community Programs.

Sincerely, Andrea S. Wilson Executive Director



#### VNA NORTHWEST, INC.

607 Bantam Road, Unit F
Bantam, Connecticut 06750-1635
860-567-6000 www.vnanw.org

Fiscal Year July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015

VNA Northwest, Inc. provided a variety of health services to Warren residents during the past year, including skilled nursing, physical therapy, home health aide and health guidance visits to frail elderly residents.

Blood pressure screening sessions were held at Warren Prime Time House These sessions have been found to be invaluable in early detection of a wide range of health problems.

VNA Northwest sponsored a flu & pneumonia clinic at Town Hall in the fall of 2014. Residents participated in two Bend & Stretch fall prevention clinics sponsored by the town. The Bend & Stretch program is known to build muscle strength, improve balance and help to prevent falls.

#### Services Paid for by:

Town/	Other
<u>Grant</u>	<u>Payor</u>
12	
	1
	158
21	16
	71
•	17
1	4
	-
	188
2	
	<u>Grant</u> 12



# Litchfield Hills Chore Service

Serving Goshen, Litchfield, Morris, Roxbury, Warren & Washington
P. O. Box 294, Litchfield, CT 06759
Phone: 860-567-6121 • Cell: 860-806-0954
Fax: 860-567-6122 • Web Site – ChoreServiceLH.org

#### Litchfield Hills Chore Service Annual Report 2014-2015

The Litchfield Hills Chore Service is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization whose mission is to help our elderly residents, ages 60 and older, stay independently in their own homes in the community for as long as possible. The Chore Service provides local workers to help with housekeeping tasks, transportation to shopping and medical appointments, gardening and outside chores.

Serving the towns of Litchfield, Goshen, Morris, Roxbury, Warren and Washington, the Litchfield Hills Chore Service's Board of Directors is comprised of the First Selectman of each member town, plus at least one additional member from each town. During the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2014 and ending September 30, 2015, the Chore Service provided a total of 6858 hours of service to over 120 seniors, 32 of these seniors were new to the program. 5172 or 75% of these service hours went to help people at or near the poverty level with 23% of funding for this portion of the program from a federal grant through the Western Connecticut Area Agency on Aging (WCAAA). These seniors which number about 100 are not charged for their services but are asked to give a donation based on their ability to pay. However, no one in this category is denied service whether or not they can pay, and we average approximately \$6.15 an hour from this group. 400 of these service hours were driving time taking seniors to shopping and medical appointments. 432 or 6% of our service hours were provided to seniors with a higher income and considered "private clients." These elderly paid the full rate requested of \$24 per hour. The balance of the service hours, 1254 or 18% went to seniors in the Connecticut Community Care (CCCI) program and we are paid an hourly rate by the State of CT of \$16.32. The cost of providing services to all seniors is approximately \$24 per hour.

Income for the Chore Service totaled \$161,382 and comes from the following sources: The Western Connecticut Area Agency on Aging (WCAAA) provided \$37,548, and grants applied for and received came from the Connecticut Community Foundation in the amount of \$10,000, the Marian Isabell Coe Fund of \$5000, the Diebold Foundation of \$10,000, and the Community Foundation of Northwest CT of \$500. This past year we initiated a major Fund Drive and mailed letters to everyone in the region. In support of this the Connecticut Community Foundation awarded us a mini grant of \$3000, the Torrington Savings Bank contributed \$1000, and the Union Savings Bank contributed \$500 toward this initiative. We also had the help of a consultant, Anne Green from the Non-profit Alliance Initiative from the Connecticut Community Foundation who helped write the letter and guide the program. This effort was very very successful and we raised over \$16,500 which helped the Litchfield Hills Chore Service end the fiscal year with a positive balance of \$477.

We also participated in the "Give Local" on-line giving campaign and took in \$2161. The Litchfield Junior Women's Club donated \$600 through our Fund Drive. Additional monies came from private pay clients of \$7,037, CCCI client reimbursements of \$18,771, and Chore client donations totaled \$31,540, plus some in-kind and miscellaneous monies.

Town Assessments of \$10,604 were received as the participating towns were asked to each pay an assessment based on a percentage of the hours of service provided in their respective town with the goal of providing \$10,500 in funding to the Chore Service.

Expenses for operations and payroll totaled 160,905 with the majority of expenses going to payroll totaling \$110,082. This money goes back into the community as chore workers are local people most working in or near their own home. Payroll taxes totaled \$13,663, insurance \$8,518, mileage reimbursement to workers \$4606, and the balance going to supplies, printing postage, bookkeeping, etc.

The Litchfield Hills Chore Service is constantly seeking additional sources of funds to support its operations and gratefully accepts donations. The major challenge is having enough operating funds to keep pace with the ever increasing services requested from an aging population. The six member towns have an average age of 49 to 50 years with a senior population over the age of 65 in the neighborhood of 5000 people. Seniors are living longer healthier lives and this program keeps them living independently in their own homes in a safe, clean environment and ensures that they have the services they need to continue to be active and productive members of the community. The average age of Chore Service clients is late 70's to early 90's, however we serve any senior age 60 and over.

A town by town analysis of the services is as follows:

- Litchfield had total service hours of 3447, 2340 in the WCAAA program, 131 for private clients and 976 for CCCI clients. Wages for Litchfield chore workers totaled \$42,894.
- Goshen had total service hours of 371, 330 in the WCAAA program and 42 for private clients. Wages for chore workers totaled \$4931.
- Morris had total service hours of 1365, 1233 in the WCAAA program and 98 for private clients and 35 for CCCI clients. Wages for chore workers totaled \$17,194.
- Roxbury had total service hours of 702, 573 in the WCAAA program and 129 for private clients. Wages for chore workers totaled \$8,600.
- Warren had total service hours of 144, 137 in the WCAAA program and 7.5 for private clients. Wages for chore workers totaled \$1719.
- Washington had total service hours of 829, 561 in the WCAAA program, 25 for private clients and 243 for CCCI clients. Wages for chore workers totaled \$10,379.

Respectfully submitted, Sally Irwin, Coordinator

# NORTHWEST CONSERVATION DISTRICT 1185 New Litchfield Street \* Torrington, CT 06790 \* 860 626 7222 \* www.conservect.org

The Northwest Conservation District (NCD) is a local environmental non-profit organization serving 34 municipalities in northwestern Connecticut. Our mission is to promote the conservation and wise use of natural resources through education and technical assistance services.

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

We partnered with your towns' land use commissions and staff on site development reviews for land use types ranging from agricultural and residential to commercial and urban settings. Each time we review and make recommendations on any proposed land use change, we balance development with protection of water, soil and other sensitive natural resources. We provide practical science based solutions, using the latest technologies including Low Impact Development (LID), to ensure that projects work with the landscape instead of against it. The need for the expertise of our licensed professional staff on erosion issues and managing storm water run-off has continued to grow yearly due to more frequent and intense storms events. We provided field inspections and consultation to your town as well as local citizens seeking environmental information, referrals or technical assistance in areas ranging from pond health to eradicating invasive vegetation. Our GIS Center continues to provide field surveys, maps and reports upon request for projects ranging from the acquisition of open space to trail mapping, wetlands projects, school improvement projects and asset management.

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

Educational signage was installed for rain gardens constructed in Watertown, Thomaston and Torrington for water quality and storm water management. We continued to partner with the Northwest Hills COG and Housatonic River and Lake corridor towns' commissions and staff as part of an ongoing initiative to upgrade river corridor protection. We are continuing outreach to Farmington River corridor towns and lake protection associations for river and lake side protection projects and planning. The wildlife habitat at Native Meadows Preserve on the Housatonic River in New Milford expanded this year to include native pollinator plantings.

#### EDUCATION AT AN EARLY AGE LEADS TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IN THE FUTURE

Our support for the CT Envirothon Program provides hands-on science for high school aged students. This year, as part of this natural resource based curriculum and field day completion, each team explored urban forestry. The statewide Field Day competition held at Connecticut College saw students from local schools including Housatonic Valley, Litchfield High, Marvelwood, Northwest Regional 7, Nonnewaug and Wamogo continue to excel and set high standards as environmental stewards. Visit <a href="https://www.ctenvirothon.org">www.ctenvirothon.org</a> for more information.

#### EARTH DAY PLANT SALE, FISH AND PONDS

This year marked the 33<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of our Annual Earth Day Plant Sale. Thanks to the efforts of many loyal and energetic volunteers, our three day annual event at the Goshen Fairgrounds resulted in thousands of native shrubs, trees, edibles and perennials being planted in your towns. Our wide selection of plants was chosen to provide habitat for native creatures including pollinators, butterflies and birds and to create and enhance streamside buffers for water quality protection. We continued our Trout Stocking programs for the renewal of appropriate aquatic resources in local ponds and streams.

#### **OUR OUTREACH AND WEBSITE**

The District publishes the "Voice of Conservation" newsletter bi-annually and is working to increase our capacity to communicate with our members electronically and through our website, <a href="https://www.conservect.org/northwest">www.conservect.org/northwest</a>, thus further conserving natural resources.

#### THANKS TO YOU!

The Northwest Conservation District is very grateful for the ongoing support and partnership of the municipalities we serve and the generous contributions of local individuals, our funders and many faithful volunteers.

Adopted by Northwest Conservation District Board of Directors Date: October 27, 2015 NCD Annual Meeting

Curtis S Read, Chairman

Cutu & Read

NORTHWEST CONSERVATION DISTRICT

# Northwestern Connecticut Regional Housing Council Annual Report: September 2015

Affordable housing is on the agenda of most Northwest Corner towns, and rightfully so. It is the prime focus of the Northwestern Connecticut Regional Housing Council where town representatives of local housing organizations in the region gather quarterly to report on and gain valuable information for their town's housing efforts.

This year members of the Regional Housing Council collaborated with David Berto of Housing Enterprises, Inc. and the Northwest Hills Council of Governments (NHCOG) to apply for funding to create a "Northwest Hills Homeownership Program". Though it ultimately was not funded in the very competitive State funding round, it laid the foundation for a future proposal and collaborations.

We thank our 13 member towns for their financial support. The \$100 annual dues from the towns is a cost effective investment.

We also express our appreciation to Jocelyn Ayer of NHCOG for hosting our quarterly meetings, providing accurate minutes, and keeping members informed about new opportunities to develop safe, attractive, and affordable housing in the Northwest Corner.

More information on the Housing Council and on affordable housing in the region including a list of affordable housing options can be found on the NHCOG's website <a href="https://www.northwesthillscog.org">www.northwesthillscog.org</a>.

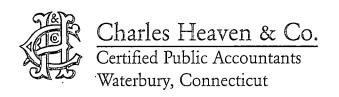
Respectfully submitted,

William Bachrach, Chairman



# TOWN OF WARREN AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTAL FINANCIAL DATA JUNE 30, 2015

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE PART OF THIS ANNUAL REPORT. THE COMPLETE AUDIT REPORT IS AVAILABLE IN THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE.



#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Finance Town of Warren, Connecticut

#### Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Warren, Connecticut, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town of Warren's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

#### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

#### **Opinions**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Warren, Connecticut, as of June 30, 2015, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### Change in Accounting Principle

As discussed in Note 14 to the financial statements, during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015, the Town adopted new accounting guidance, GASB Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions*. The Town's net position has been restated to recognize the net pension liability required in implementing GASB No. 68. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

#### Other Matters

#### Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis on Pages 4 through 11, budgetary comparison information on Pages 38 through 42 the Schedule of changes in net pension liability and related ratios on Page 43, the Schedule of employer contributions on Page 44, and Schedule of investment returns on Page 45 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

#### Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of Warren, Connecticut's basic financial statements. The combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements, and supplemental schedules are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements, and supplemental schedules are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements, and supplemental schedules are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

#### Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated February 1, 2016, on our consideration of the Town of Warren, Connecticut's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Town of Warren, Connecticut's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Charles Offenen a Co., (PAS February 1, 2016 Town of Warren Management's Discussion and Analysis June 30, 2015

This discussion is intended to provide readers a narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Town of Warren, Connecticut (the "Town") for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015. The information presented here should be considered in conjunction with the Town's basic financial statements that follow.

#### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- On a government-wide basis, the Town's assets and deferred outflows of resources of \$9,661,031 at June 30, 2015 exceeded the sum of its liabilities and deferred inflows of resources of \$2,844,264 resulting in net position of \$6,816,767. Of this amount, \$4,269,751 was invested in capital assets, while \$227,633 was restricted for road maintenance, and \$22,649 was restricted for social services. The remaining net position of \$2,296,734 was available to meet the Town's ongoing obligations to its citizens and creditors.
- At the close of the fiscal year, the Town's governmental funds reported, on a current financial resources basis, combined ending fund balances of \$2,750,902, an increase of \$347,678 from last fiscal year. The total fund balance of the General Fund of \$1,810,346 represented 34.31% of fiscal year 2015-2016 budgeted appropriations, while its unassigned fund balance of \$1,770,699, available for spending at the Town's discretion, represented 33.55% of that same amount.
- The final amended General Fund budget provided for the \$83,773 use of fund balance to finance approved appropriations. However, actual revenues were \$101,716 greater than budgetary projections, while expenditures and other financing uses were \$110,259 less than approved appropriations, resulting in an actual source of fund balance of \$128,202 and a positive budgetary variance of \$211,975.
- The Town's long-term debt at June 30, 2015 consisted of its general obligation bond of \$2,100,000 and pension plan liability of \$369,822.

#### OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

#### Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the Town's finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business. The statement of net position and the statement of activities, which are the government-wide statements, report information about the Town finances as a whole and about its activities in a way that helps the reader determine whether the Town is better or worse off as a result of the year's activities.

The statement of net position reflects all of the Town's assets and deferred outflows of resources, and all of its liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, the net result of which is reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator as to whether the Town's financial position is improving or deteriorating. However, significant changes in net position can also occur from year to year due to changes in accounting standards issued by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). To assess the overall financial condition of the Town other nonfinancial factors such as the property tax base and the condition of the Town's infrastructure also need to be considered.

The statement of activities presents information showing how the government's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses, such as uncollected property taxes that will result in cash flows in future fiscal periods are reported in this statement.

The government-wide financial statements distinguish functions of the Town that are principally supported by tax revenues, grants and intergovernmental revenues (governmental activities) from other functions that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges (business-type activities). The governmental activities of the Town include: general government, employee benefits, boards and commissions, health services, agencies, education, town building, town fire department, highways/public works/maintenance, other, town property, and interest. The Town does not report any funds that carry on business-type activities.

The basic government-wide financial statements can be found on pages 12 and 13 of this report.

#### **Fund Financial Statements**

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

Governmental Funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements, that is to say the Town's most basic services. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on cash and other financial resources that can be readily converted to cash flow in and out, and balances left at year-end that are available for spending. Consequently, the governmental fund financial statements provide a near or short-term view of the Town's finances that may be useful in evaluating the Town's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison.

The Town maintains nine individual governmental funds. Information is presented separately in the governmental fund balance sheet and in the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances for the General Fund, Town Aid Road Fund, Capital Non-Recurring Fund, and Equipment Replacement Fund, each of which is considered to be a major fund. The remaining five funds are combined into a single aggregated presentation in the financial statements. Individual fund data for each of these nonmajor funds is reported as supplementary information to the financial statements.

The Town adopts an annual appropriated budget for its General Fund. Budgetary comparison schedules have been included as required supplementary information for the General Fund to demonstrate compliance with this budget.

The basic governmental fund financial statements can be found on pages 14 and 16 of this report.

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

The basic fiduciary fund financial statements can be found on pages 18 and 19 of this report.

## Notes to the Financial Statements and Other Information

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. They also provide required supplementary information regarding the Town's progress in funding its obligations to provide pension benefits to its employees. In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report presents certain required supplementary information concerning the Town's net pension liablity and General Fund budget information.

The notes to the basic financial statements can be found on pages 20 to 37 of this report. Required supplementary information and supplemental schedules can be found on pages 38 to 45 of this report.

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

As noted earlier, net position may serve as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. The Town's assets and deferred outflows of resources exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows of resources by \$6,816,767 at the close of the fiscal year.

#### Town of Warren Net Position

	2015	2014	
Assets			
Current assets	\$ 3,067,799	\$ 2,578,406	
Noncurrent assets	6,519,751	6,810,202	*
Total Assets	9,587,550	9,388,608	
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	73,481		
Liabilities			
Current liabilities	237,780	256,995	
Long-term liabilties	2,469,822	2,535,480	*
Total Liabilities	2,707,602	2,792,475	·*.
Deferred Inflows of Resources	136,662		
Net Position			is .
Net investment in capital assets	4,269,751	4,410,202	٠.
Restricted	250,282	102,056	
Unrestricted	2,296,734	2,083,875	*
Total Net Position	\$ 6,816,767	\$ 6,596,133	
		1	

<sup>\*</sup> Restated to include the net pension liability

The largest portion of the Town's net position \$4,269,751 (62.6%) reflects its net investment in capital assets (e.g. land, buildings, machinery and equipment, and infrastructure assets such as roads and bridges). The Town uses these assets to provide services to its citizens; consequently these assets are not available for spending. Of the Town's remaining net position, \$2,296,734 (33.7%) is unrestricted and may be used to meet the Town's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors. The Town's net position increased \$220,634 during the fiscal year.

## Town of Warren Changes in Net Position

	÷.	
	2015	2014
Revenues:		
Program:		
Charges for services	\$ 246,854	\$ 238,952
Operating grants and contributions	104,777	103,777
Capital grants and contributions	181,621	192,487
General:		
Property taxes, interest, and lien fees	4,947,466	4,779,157
Investment earnings	6,442	5,554
Grants, contributions and fines not		
restricted to specific programs	34,472	51,943
Total revenues	5,521,632	5,371,870
Expenses:		
General government	452,591	472,153
Employee benefits	141,966	156,399
Boards and commissions	63,002	47,920
Health services	21,659	24,046
Agencies	58,615	61,007
Education	3,311,693	3,128,812
Town building	223,210	250,627
Town fire department	46,153	42,159
Highways, public works, and		
maintenance	771,682	703,665
Other	120,300	132,319
Town property	6,746	10,865
Interest	83,381	84,730
Total expenses	5,300,998	5,114,702
Change in Net Position	220,634	257,168
Net position, beginning of year	6,596,133	6,808,434
Restatement for net pension liability		(469,469)
Net position, end of year	\$ 6,816,767	\$ 6,596,133
		<del></del>

Governmental activities expenses of \$5,300,998 were \$186,296 greater than prior year expenses. This increase was primarily the result of increased cost of education, highways, public works, and maintenance costs offset by small decreases in numerous other departments.

#### FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE GOVERNMENT'S FUNDS

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

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

At the close of the fiscal year, the Town's governmental funds reported, on a current financial resources basis, combined ending fund balances of \$2,750,902. Of this amount, \$227,633 was restricted to the improvement to unimproved/improved roads, \$22,649 was restricted for social services, \$245,349 was committed to the community senior center renovation, \$41,747 was committed to parks and recreation, \$117,650 was committed to the cemetery operation, \$269,685 was committed to equipment replacements, \$15,843 was committed for waste disposal, and \$3,427 was committed to revaluation. In addition, \$29,920 was assigned for the subsequent year's budgeted deficit, and \$6,300 was assigned for the maintenance of Warren Woods. The \$1,770,699 unassigned fund balance of the General Fund was available for spending at the Town's discretion.

The General Fund is the chief operating fund of the Town. The fund balance of the General Fund increased \$128,202 during the fiscal year. As a measure of the General Fund's liquidity, it may be useful to compare its fund balance to the ensuing year's budgeted appropriations. Total fund balance of the General Fund at fiscal year-end represented 34.3% of fiscal year 2015-2016 budgeted appropriations, while its unassigned fund balance represented 33.6% of that same amount.

During the fiscal year, the fund balance of the Town Aid Road Fund increased \$141,919, the fund balance of the Capital Non-Recurring Fund increased by \$25,114, the fund balance of the Equipment Replacement Fund increased by \$34,954, and the combined fund balances of all nonmajor funds increased \$17,489 during the fiscal year.

#### GENERAL FUND BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS

The final amended General Fund budget provided for the \$83,773 use of fund balance to finance approved appropriations. However, actual revenues were \$101,716 greater than budgetary projections, while expenditures and other financing uses were \$110,259 less than approved appropriations, resulting in an actual source of fund balance of \$128,202 and a positive budgetary variance of \$211,975.

Additional appropriations to the original budget totaled \$9,127. Significant additions to original departmental appropriations included a \$3,427 continuing appropriation for revaluation, an additional appropriations of \$5,500 to the Planning and Zoning Commission, and \$200 to town insurance.

#### CAPITAL ASSET AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

#### Capital Assets

At June 30, 2015, the Town's investment in capital assets, net of depreciation, was \$6,519,751, a decrease of \$290,451 from the previous fiscal year. Capital asset additions totaled \$56,094, including the cost of a woodchipper and a Ford F250 truck, while depreciation expense was \$346,545, resulting in the aforementioned decrease. Details of the Town's net investment in capital assets is as follows:

	2015	2014
Land	\$ 1,313,371	\$ 1,313,371
Land Improvements	17,274	18,091
Buildings & Improvements	3,571,943	3,680,334
Machinery, Equipment, & Vehicles	786,128	852,558
Infrastructure	831,035	945,848
	\$ 6,519,751	\$ 6,810,202

Additional information on the Town's capital assets can be found in Note 7 on page 30 of this report.

#### Debt

The Town's long-term debt at June 30, 2015 consisted of a net pension liability of \$369,822 and a general obligation bond of \$2,100,000. An additional amount of \$150,000 of the general obligation bond is treated as short-term debt, totaling \$2,250,000. Detail on the general obligation bond is below:

Fiscal Year Ended June 30,	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
2016	\$ 150,000	\$ 79,313
2017	150,000	75,563
2018	150,000	71,813
2019	150,000	65,812
2020	150,000	59,812
2021	150,000	55,312
2022	150,000	50,625
2023	150,000	45,750
2024	150,000	40,688
2025	150,000	35,438
2026	150,000	30,000
2027	150,000	24,000
2028	150,000	18,000
2029	150,000	12,000
2030	150,000	<u>6,000</u>
Total .	\$ <u>2,250,000</u>	\$ <u>670,126</u>

The Town is also contingently liable for its pro rata share of the Regional School District No. 6's debt. At June 30, 2015, the Town's pro rata share (19.80%) was \$344,045.

Additional information on the Town's debt can be found in Note 8 on pages 30-31 of this report and the Statement of Debt Limitation on page 49.

# ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGETS AND RATES

Economic factors affecting the Town, including those that were considered in preparing the Town's General Fund budget for the 2015-2016 fiscal year, and those that will affect future budgets are as follows:

The Town's Mil rate remained the same, at 14.20 mils.

The \$5,277,149 2015-2016 General Fund budget increased \$47,179 from the prior fiscal year original budget. The budget includes an increase in general government for the 1<sup>st</sup> selectman clerical position, an increase in both the planning and zoning and the conservation commissions, an increase in Town Hall operations, an increase in highways and general operations (the new budgeted line item entitled road fund), and an increase in Town insurance. The budget also includes a decrease in education, which when netted with the aforementioned increases, increases the budget by \$47,179.

It is expected that general State financial aid will remain level, at best.

## REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Town of Warren's finances for all those with an interest in the government's operations. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional information should be addressed to the Office of the First Selectman, Town of Warren, 50 Cemetery Road, Warren, CT 06754.

Town of Warren Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances Governmental Funds Year Ended June 30, 2015

Net Change in Fund Balances

Fund Balance - end of year

Fund Balance - beginning of year

•		Majo	•			
	General Fund	Town Aid Road Fund	Capital Pro Capital Non-Recurring	oject Fund Equipment Replacement	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues:						
	\$ 4,892,945 \$	-	\$ - \$	-	\$ - 9	4,892,945
Interest and lien fees on property taxes	23,034	-	-	-	•	23,034
Intergovernmental	139,249	181,621	-		-	320,870
Investment income	5,569	112	114	448	199	6,442
Licenses, permits and other fees	193,028	-	-	-	•	193,028
Program fees and other receipts	8,000			600	51,752	60,352
Total Revenues	5,261,825	181,733	114	1,048		5,496,671
Expenditures:						
Current:				*		
General government	301,653	_			-	301,653
Employee benefits	131,105	-		٠ -		131,105
Boards and commissions	63,002	-	-	_		63,002
Health services	21,659	-			-	21,659
Agencies	58,615	-		_	-	58,615
Education	3,311,693	٠ ـ				3,311,693
Town buildings	223,210	-	-	-	•	223,210
Town fire department	46,153	-	<u>.</u>	-	-	46,153
Highway and general operations	505,884	•		-	-	505,884
Town Insurance	56,176	-		_		56,176
Other	1,143		-	_	93,358	94,501
Town property	6,746	_		r	25,556	6,746
Debt service	232,688	-	_		_	232,688
Capital outlay	· -	39,814	_	56,094	-	95,908
Total Expenditures	4,959,727	39,814		56,094	93,358	5,148,993
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over	4			è		
Expenditures	302,098	141,919	114	(55,046)	(41,407)	347,678
Other Financing Sources (Uses):						
Operating transfers	(173,896)	_	25,000	90,000	58,896	
Total other financing sources (uses)	(173,896)	-	25,000	90,000	58,896	<del></del>

141,919

85,714

227,633

25,114

220,235

245,349 \$

34,954

269,685 \$

1 234,731

17,489

180,400

197,889 \$

347,678

2,403,224

2,750,902

128,202

1,682,144

1,810,346 \$

Town of Warren
Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance
General Fund Budget and Actual (Non - GAAP Budgetary Basis)
Year Ended June 30, 2015

	Original and Final				Variance With
				•	Final Budget
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		Budget		Actual	 Over (Under)
Revenues:					
Property taxes	. \$	4,925,244	\$	4,915,764	\$ • • •
Interest and liens fees on property taxes		20,000		23,034	3,034
Telephone access tax		5,000		6,526	1,526
State of Connecticut - Grants:					
Elderly homeowners		6,000		9,279	3,279
Veterans tax relief		500		. 1,535	1,035
Historic document preservation				5,000	5,000
Local capital improvement program		1 .			(1)
State property (PILOT)		1		14,319	14,318
Mashantucket Pequot		`1		8,782	8,781
Education grants		99,777		99,777	
Judicial fines				225	225
Other grants				332	332
Contributions in lieu of taxes		500		500	-
Investment income		10,000		5,569	(4,431)
Other fees and receipts:					•
Building permits		40,000		67,604	27,604
Building permits - Excess revenue					
over budget offsets expenditures	•			(27,604)	(27,604)
Planning, zoning and conservation		3,000		6,746	3,746
Conveyance tax		28,000		78,769	50,769
Dog fees		1,200		1,895	695
Recording and map fees		10,000		8,369	(1,631)
Rent of town buildings		500		5,560	5,060
Library rent		600`		600	
Photocopies and other miscellaneous fees		5,000		16,459	11,459
Other income	•			8,000	8,000
Amounts available for appropriation	\$	5,155,324	\$	5,257,040	\$ 101,716

Town of Warren
Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance
General Fund Budget and Actual (Non - GAAP Budgetary Basis)
Year Ended June 30, 2015

ear Ended June 50, 2015	Original	Transfers and Additional	Final		Variance With Final Budget
•	Budget	Appropriations	Budget	Actual	Over (Under)
Expenditures:		***		<del></del>	
General Government		•			
First Selectman - salary \$	50,129	\$ \$	50,129 \$	50,129	\$ . <b></b>
First Selectman - clerical & bookkeeping	30,000		30,000	31,990	1,990
First Selectman - expenses	6,500		6,500	5,933	(567)
Second Selectman	3,700		3,700	3,700	
Third Selectman	3,700		3,700	3,700	
Treasurer - salary	6,103		6,103	6,103	
Treasurer - expenses	1,500		1,500	1,403	(97)
Town clerk - salary	34,795		34,795	34,795	
Town clerk - expenses	15,000	,	15,000	13,424	(1,576)
Computer management	2,500		2,500	2,047	(453
Tax collector - salary	20,424		20,424	20,424	
Tax collector - expenses	5,000		5,000	4,837	(163
Assistant town clerk and tax collector	500	-	500		(500
Fire marshall	3,800		3,800	3,639	(161
Building inspector	35,000		35,000	58,053	23,053
Building department - Excess revenue over budget			·	(27,604)	(27,604
Dog warden	8,000		8,000	6,860	(1,140
Animal shelter	1,500		1,500	1,885	385
Police	500		500	351	(149
Office equipment	6,000		6,000	2,027	(3,973
Town engineer	2,500		2,500	1,000	(1,500
Legal counsel	5,000	, <b></b>	5,000	1,640	(3,360
Auditor	16,500	· <b></b>	16,500	16,000	(500
GASB # 34 Compliance	1,000		1,000	1,000	(300
Probate court	2,614	<del></del>	2,614	2,614	
Elections	14,000		14,000	12,933	(1,067
Social services	12,000		12,000	10,166	(1,834
Historical document preservation	12,000		12,000	5,000	5,000
Revaluation - continuing appropriation	,	3,427	3,427	5,000	(3,427
Total General Government	288,265	3,427	291,692	274,049	(17,643
	200,203		291,092	214,049	(17,043
Employee Benefits Insurance benefits	82 NAA		82 000	41,286	(40,714
Retirement fund contribution and fees	82,000 55,000		82,000 55,000	-	
	55,000		55,000	55,392	392
Social security	33,000		33,000	33,427	427
Uniforms	1,000		1,000	1,000	(20.905)
Total Employee Benefits	171,000		171,000	131,105	(39,895

Town of Warren
Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance
General Fund Budget and Actual (Non - GAAP Budgetary Basis)
Year Ended June 30, 2015

	Original	Transfers and Additional	Final		Variance With Final Budget
Expenditures (continued):	Budget	Appropriations	Budget	Actual	Over (Under)
Boards and Commissions			_	,	
Assessor \$	•	\$	\$ 38,000	•	• • •
Board of assessment appeals	500		500	390	(110)
Board of finance	. 600		600	577	(23)
Planning and zoning commission	10,000	5,500	15,500	15,707	207
Conservation development				65	65
Zoning board of appeals	1,500		1,500	1,533	33
Conservation commission	7,000		7,000	10,677	3,677
<b>Total Boards and Commissions</b>	57,600	5,500	63,100	63,002	(98)
Health services					•
Torrington area health district	8,845		8,845	8,845	
Visiting nurses	6,000		6,000	3,022	(2,978)
Paramedic intercept	10,000		10,000	9,792	(208)
Total Health Services	24,845		24,845	21,659	(3,186)
Agencies				·	, , ,
Lake Waramaug Authority	5,000		5,000	3,562	(1,438)
Inter-local commission	7,461		7,461	7,461	
NW CT Regional Council of Governments	1,158		1,158	1,158	
Library	27,000		27,000	27,000	. <del></del>
Civil Defense - town communication	1,000		1,000		(1,000)
Litchfield County Dispatch	14,158		14,158	14,166	8
Regional non-profit agencies	3,000		3,000	1,804	(1,196)
Litchfield County soil conservation	600		600	600	
Elderly bus	2,500		2,500	1,097	(1,403)
Council of Small Towns	1,900		1,900	1,767	(133)
Total Agencies	63,777		63,777	58,615	. (5,162)
Education	,			,	(-,,
Wamogo Regional School District	3,311,693		3,311,693	3,311,693	
Town Buildings	, ,		, ,		
Operations	73,000		73,000	70,955	(2,045)
Waste collection and hauling	88,000		88,000	85,462	(2,538)
Recycling	500		500		(500)
Energy improvements	1,500		1,500		(1,500)
Capital improvements	30,000		30,000	23,941	(6,059)
Bristol resource recovery	35,000		35,000	29,118	(5,882)
Household hazardous waste	2,500		2,500	1,317	(1,183)
Custodial services	14,000		14,000	12,417	(1,583)
Total Town Buildings	244,500		244,500	223,210	(21,290)
Town Fire Department	,		2,000		(=1,=>0)
Fire department insurance	20,000		20,000	18,003	(1,997)
Workman's compensation	6,500		6,500	5,150	(1,350)
Gas and diesel fuel	4,000		4,000	4,000 .	(1,550)
Truck maintenance	19,000		19,000	19,000	
Tax abatement	26,000		26,000	22,819	(3,181)
Total Fire Department	75,500		75,500	68,972	(6,528)
10mi 1 no populationi	75,500		,2,200	00,712	(0,520)

Town of Warren
Required Supplementary Information
Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance
General Fund Budget and Actual (Non - GAAP Budgetary Basis)
Year Ended June 30, 2015

• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		Transfers and	•		Variance With
	Original	<b>Additional</b>	Final		Final Budget
Expenditures (continued):	Budget	Appropriations	Budget	Actual	Over (Under)
Highways and General Operations		• •			
Highway labor \$	238,990	\$	\$ 238,990 \$	111,822	\$ (127,168)
Highway department operations	110,000		110,000	215,221	105,221
Snow removal	80,000		80,000	98,923	18,923
Town garage	19,000		19,000	17,071	(1,929)
Maintenance town equipment	30,000		30,000	29,958	(42)
Gas, fuel, oil	35,000	,	35,000	32,889	(2,111)
Total Highways and General operations	512,990		512,990	505,884	(7,106)
Town Insurance					•
Town Insurance	56,000	200	56,200	56,176	(24)
Miscellaneous	•				
State dog fees	1,200		1,200	1,143	(57)
Miscellaneous	3,000	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	3,000	/	(3,000)
Total Miscellaneous	4,200		4,200	1,143	(3,057)
Town Property			•		
Improving town property	10,000		10,000	4,438	(5,562)
Street lighting	2,300		2,300	2,308	8
Total Town Property	12,300		12,300	6,746	(5,554)
Debt Service					
Interest & principal	233,000		233,000	232,688	(312)
Other Financing Uses:					
Operating transfers out					•
Fire truck replacement fund	40,000		40,000	40,000	, <b></b>
Park and recreation fund	46,800		46,800	46,800	
Non-recurring capital expenditure fund	25,000		25,000	25,000	
Cemeteries	12,500		12,500	12,096	(404)
Equipment fund	50,000		50,000	50,000	
Total operating transfers	174,300		174,300	173,896	(404)
Total Expenditures and Other					
Financing Uses	5,229,970	9,127	5,239,097	5,128,838	(110,259)
•	-	•			
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over					
Expenditure and other uses	(74,646)	(9,127)	(83,773)	128,202	211,975
Fund Balance at beginning of year	74,646	9,127	83,773	1,682,144	1,598,371
Fund Balance at end of year \$		\$	\$ \$	1,810,346	\$ 1,810,346

Town of Warren Nonmajor Government Funds Combining Balance Sheet June 30, 2015

			Special	Revenue Fur	nds	•	
	-	Park and	d Warren Good		Force	Social Service	
	I	Recreation	Cemetery	Neighbor	Majeure	Special Project	
<u> </u>		Fund	Commission	Fund	Fund	Fund	Total
Assets:			• •				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	\$	118,122 \$	14,060 \$	S \$	\$	132,182
Due from other funds		41,747		8,189	15,843	400	66,179
Total Assets	\$=	41,747 \$	118,122 \$	22,249 \$	15,843 \$	3 400 \$	198,361
						•	
Liabilities:							
Due to other funds	\$	\$	472 \$		\$ \$	\$	472
Fund balances:							
Restricted for:				٠			
Social services				22,249		400	22,649
Committed to:							
Parks and recreation		41,747					41,747
Cemetery operations			117,650		,		117,650
Waste disposal					15,843		15,843
<b>Total Fund Balances</b>	_	41,747	117,650	22,249	15,843	400	197,889
Total Liabilities and							
Fund Balances	\$_	41,747 \$	118,122 \$	22,249 \$	15,843 \$	400 \$	198,361

Town of Warren Nonmajor Governmental Funds Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances Year Ended June 30, 2015

	Special Revenue Funds						
	Park and	Warren	Good	Force	Social Service		
	Recreation	Cemetery	Neighbor	Majeure	Special Project		
	Fund	Commission	Fund	Fund	Fund	Totals	
Revenues:							
Investment income \$		\$ 178 \$	21	\$ \$	- \$	199	
Program fees and other receipts	39,605	1,000	9,702	1,045	400	51,752	
Total Revenues	39,605	1,178	9,723	1,045	400	51,951	
Expenditures:		•					
Cemetery expenditures		12,096				12,096	
Programs and Activities	77,446		3,816			81,262	
Total Expenditures	77,446	12,096	3,816			93,358	
Excess (Deficiency) of revenues							
over expenditures	(37,841)	(10,918)	5,907	1,045	400	(41,407)	
Other Financing Sources:				•			
Operating transfers in	46,800	12,096	·		_	58,896	
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues and Other Sources over			. ~	,			
Expenditures	8,959	1,178	5,907	1,045	400	17,489	
Fund Balance - beginning of year	32,788	116,472	16,342	14,798		180,400	
Fund Balance - end of year \$	41,747	\$ 117,650 \$	22,249	\$ 15,843 \$	400 \$	197.889	

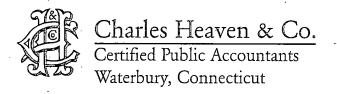
Town of Warren Schedule of Property Taxes Levied, Collected and Outstanding (Report of the Tax Collector) Year Ended June 30, 2015

		Taxes	•			Adjusted		Collectio	ns	Total	Taxes
		Receivable July 1, 2014	Assessor's Law Additions	ful Corrections  Reductions	Suspense Transfers	Taxes Receivable	Taxes	Interest & Liens	Refunds and	Net	Receivable
Grand List: October 1,	_	<b>0</b> , 2, 202	. 11441110005	Accurations	TTAIISICES	Receivable	Taxes	Liens	Adjustments	Collections	June 30, 2015
•	2013 \$	5,101,414	19,755 \$	(213,584) \$	(1,147) \$	4,906,438 \$	4,868,938 \$	18,605 \$	(626) \$	4,886,917	\$ 38,126
	2012	43,126	128	(434)	(840)	41,980	18,928	4,796	1,981	25,705	21,071
	2011	22,740		, 	(445)	22,295	4,828	1,659	204	6,691	17,263
	2010	4,973			(143)	4,830	277	91	·	368	4,553
	2009	6			p. n	6	6	. 5		11	
Suspense colle	ctions	<b>6</b>	·		834	834	834	535		1,369	·
Totals	\$	5,172,259	19,883 \$	(214,018) \$	(1,741) \$	4,976,383 \$	4,893,811 \$	25,691 \$	1,559 \$	4,921,061	\$ 81,013

Town of Warren Statement of Debt Limitation Connecticut General Statutes, Section 7-374 (b) Year Ended June 30, 2015

Tax collections (including interest and lien fees) for the year ended June 30, 2015	\$	4,921,061
Reimbursement for revenue loss on:	. "	
Tax relief for elderly - (CGS 12-129d)		9,279
Total tax collections (including interest and lien fees) for the year ended June 30, 2015	\$	4,930,340

	General Purposes	Schools	Sewers	Urban Renewal	Pension Deficit
Debt Limitation:					•
2 1/4 times Base \$	11,093,265	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$
4 1/2 times Base	• •	22,186,530	-	-	-
3 3/4 times Base	٤.	-	18,488,775	, -	-
3 1/4 times Base	-	•	-	16,023,605	-
3 times Base	· ·	_	-	-	14,791,020
Total Debt Limitation	11,093,265	22,186,530	18,488,775	16,023,605	14,791,020
Indebtedness:			•		
General Obligation Bonds - Issued June 15, 2010	2,250,000	-	-	-	-
Warnogo Regional School District #6	•				
Towns share 19.8%					
General Obligation Bonds Issue of 1999 -\$1,735,000	-	344,045	-	-	•
Total Indebtedness	2,250,000	344,045			<u>-</u>
Debt Limitation In Excess Of					•
Outstanding And Authorized Debt \$	8,843,265	\$ 21,842,485	\$ 18,488,775	\$ 16,023,605	\$ 14,791,020



INDPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FIANNCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Board of Finance Town of Warren Warren, Connecticut

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Warren, Connecticut as of and for the year ended June 30, 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town of Warren, Connecticut's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated February 1, 2016.

#### **Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Town of Warren, Connecticut's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of Warren, Connecticut's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of Warren, Connecticut's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or, significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

## **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Town of Warren, Connecticut's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

## Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Charles Heaven & Co. Waterbury, Connecticut

February 1, 2016