

**Town of Kent  
Annual Report  
2020-2021**

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Photo credits: Bonnie Donzella, Casey Aakjar, Facebook

## Kent Animal Control Report 2021

A total of 12 animals were impounded from July 2020 through June 2021. 10 dogs were redeemed by owners, one rooster was adopted, and one sick cat needed to be euthanized.

98 complaints were investigated, including missing pets, roaming dogs, two animal bites, and miscellaneous domestic and wild animal questions.

No infraction tickets were dispatched.

Income source and income collected:

Pound fees - \$115.00

Donation - \$212.00

Respectfully submitted by

Lee Sohl

Kent Animal Control





## October 1, 2019 Grand List Report FY 2020-2021

TYPE OF ACCOUNTS	FISCAL YR	NUMBER OF ACCOUNTS	GROSS ASSESSMENT	BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS ADJUST.	TOTAL EXEMPTIONS	TOTAL NET VALUE
REAL ESTATE REGULAR	FY 20-21	1938	546,743,455	0	1,274,270	545,469,185
REAL ESTATE ELDERLY H.O	FY 20-21	29	5,065,900	0	63,000	5,002,900
REAL ESTATE EXEMPT	FY 20-21	214	124,134,800	0	124,134,800	0
REAL ESTATE TOTALS	FY 20-21	2181	675,944,155	0	125,472,070	550,472,085
PERSONAL PROPERTY	FY 20-21	372	18,988,189	0	1,342,720	17,645,469
MOTOR VEHICLE	FY 20-21	3120	27,605,900	-800	924,630	26,681,270
FINAL TOTALS		5673	722,538,244	-800	127,739,420	594,798,824

Respectfully submitted,  
Jennifer Dubray, Assessor



## **BOARD OF FINANCE 2020-2021**

## **FISCAL YEAR**

The Board of Finance prepares and monitors the Town's budget and then issues this Annual Report. In the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 the Board held 8 regular meetings, 3 Special Meetings, and the annual Town Budget Hearing via Zoom due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Members of the Board may attend other Board and Commission meetings, sit on various special committees, and participate, as an ad-hoc advisor, to the Region 1 School District.

The Board accepted, with regret, Chairman Mark Sebetic's resignation from the board and unanimously elected Tegan Baker Gawel to fill the board vacancy until November 2021.

Nancy O'Dea-Wyrick and Rufus deRham were unanimously elected Chair and Vice Chair respectively.

The KVFD EMS Staffing committee returned to the Board to request funding for paid EMT contracted services to cover the shortfall of EMT volunteers to ensure that all shifts are covered. The Board of Finance voted unanimously to send the request to a town meeting for the townspeople to approve up to \$55,000 be appropriated to be used exclusively to reimburse the fire department on a monthly basis for costs incurred from contracting with an EMS staffing agency that will cover shifts that cannot be filled with the current Volunteer Corps. It was approved by the townspeople unanimously on 1/21/2021.

The Board also voted to approve sending the Board of Education's prior year request to allocate \$140,000 for the Kent Center School Entryway Security Project, after postponing it for a year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, to a town meeting for approval. It was also approved unanimously by the townspeople on 1/21/2021.

The town Treasurer, Barbara Herbst successfully transitioned town employees to electronic timecards.

The Board accepted with regret longtime Board Clerk Lesly Ferris' resignation and later unanimously selected Bonnie Donzella to fill the vacancy.

The Board used \$486,250 from the town's undesignated funds bringing the total town budget in at \$13,336,529.

The Board set the mill rate for 2021-2022 at 18.57 mills down 0.24% from last year.

Board Members : Jim Blackketter, Tegan Baker Gawel, Rufus deRham, Fran Goodsell, Ed Epstein, Nancy O'Dea Wyrick (chair)

## Board of Selectmen

## Fiscal Year 2020-2021

It's hard to believe we have entered a second year of the global COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the ongoing rollercoaster ride, Town Government has persevered, shifted, and adapted, continuing to deliver services to our community.

The COVID-19 pandemic continued at a community spread level, spiking again over the summer as the much more contagious Delta variant arrived. When the COVID-19 vaccine was made available in the spring, our community responded as we have throughout the pandemic – the residents signed up and got vaccinated. From the early days of vaccine availability, we have had some of the highest vaccination rates in the state. 50 Governor Executive Orders to consume and implement made for a hectic time for town government. Zoom meetings continued to be the primary means for holding a meeting. The Board of Selectmen conducted all their meetings – over 30 in total - via the Zoom virtual platform.

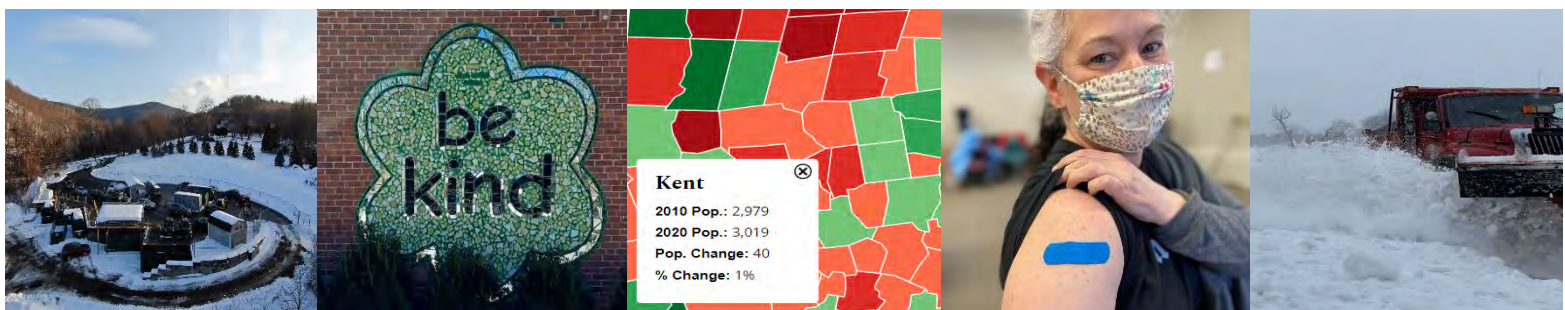
Some issues they addressed:

*Kent Volunteer Fire Department EMS Staffing:* Members of the KVFD came to the Board a number of times to present and discuss the issues facing EMS personnel coverage, and the Board moved to send a funding request to the Board of Finance, and ultimately to the town for a vote, which would enable the KVFD to hire an EMS staffing company to ensure 911 response for medical emergencies.

*KCS Entryway Project:* The Board also moved this request from the Board of Education for security improvements to the entrance to the school, to the BoF, and ultimately on to the voters.

*Cell Tower:* The Board worked closely with town counsel as party intervenors to an application before the CT Siting Council to erect a 180' tall cell tower in one of two possible locations – both in residential areas. Siting Council proceedings had to be held via Zoom due to the pandemic, which created additional challenges, including the need for multiple continuations of the evidentiary hearing. The Town argued options to the proposed monopole, and while the Siting Council ultimately approved the tower (at the 93 Richards Road location), it was approved at a height 20' shorter than what was proposed in the application. The developer plans to have the tower up and running by the summer of 2022.

*Union Contract:* This was my first union contract renewal cycle in my role as First Selectman, and hats off to our union representative, Public Works Road Foreman Rick



Osborne and union steward Mike Sivick. They made the process a productive one, and the Board approved a new contract to support our hard-working Public Works employees.

*Transfer Station Glass Pilot Project:* Through the leadership efforts of Housatonic Resource Recovery Authority Executive Director Jennifer Heaton-Jones, Kent was part of a pilot program to separate our recyclable glass at the transfer station. We have collected almost 30 tons of glass so far! Big kudos to our Transfer Station permit users for seamlessly making this change, and to our Transfer Station crew for the additional management needed to help make this a successful pilot program. Removing this material from the other recycling removes a major source of contamination from our recycling, and recycles 100% the glass into a product used to make concrete, replacing up to 50% of the cement used, reducing CO2 emissions on a nearly ton-for-ton basis. It is a no-brainer win for the planet.

*Civic Engagement:* The model to create BoS subcommittees made up of citizen volunteers to research, discuss and report back to the BoS on a number of topics continues to evolve, enabled so many residents to engage civically. When you add it all up, including the many Boards and Commissions, over 100 volunteers devote their time and expertise help our Town progress forward.

- *Kent Sustainability Team:* In February, the BoS passed a resolution to participate in the Connecticut Sustainable CT Program. This voluntary certification program assists towns in becoming more resilient, collaborative, and forward-looking; to build community and local economy, and to equitably promote the health and well-being of current and future residents, and respect the finite capacity of the natural environment. The team has chosen a number of cultural and environmental categories to focus on.
- *Streetscape Project:* The project to replace the sidewalks in the village continued, albeit at a much slower pace than any of us hoped for. The committee continues to push for major progress this summer.
- *Swift House:* The antique rental on Maple Street got some much-needed repairs, and the Task Force continues to meet to discuss and plan for future repairs.

This has also been a year of transitions.

Lesly Ferris, longtime Park & Recreation Director, and Patricia Braislin, longtime Assessor, both retired. Land Use Clerk Tai Kern and Social Service Assistant Debbe Christensen left municipal service, and we thank them all for their years of committed



public service. We also welcomed several new employees - Jennifer Dubray, who stepped up from Assistant Assessor and Assistant tax Collector to become the new Assessor; new Assistant Tax Collector Josie Donzella, new Treasurer's Assistant Marci Newton; new Interim Park & Recreation Director Miranda Lovato; new Transfer Station Attendant Zachary Wilcox, and returning Transfer Station Attendant Rob Hayes. His ever-unique and whimsical hats are a "fan favorite" sight on the weekends.

The loss of John Kaminski on December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and John Lindsay, known to so many as "The Mayor", on February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 saddened the entire community. Their commitment to the people of Kent will always be remembered.

Our community has persevered and even thrived through the challenges of the past year. We even grew a little - to a population of 3,019 (or 1%), according to the 2020 Census. While we continue to put our masks on, get vaccinated and alter our daily lives to stay safe, the compassion and kindness of this town is what keeps us all moving forward together.

Stay well.

*Yours in service,*

*Jean C. Speck, First Selectman*

*Christopher Garrity, Selectman*

*Edward Matson, Selectman*



## BUILDING DEPARTMENT



### **Fiscal Year 2020 - 2021**

*Joseph Manley, Building Official*

Following is a five year Construction Activity Comparison Report

Fiscal Year	Permits Issued	Const. Value	# New Dwellings	Fee Value
2016/2017	495	\$18,906,717.72	2	\$122,723
2017/2018	490	\$20,383,462.10	6	\$131,829
2018/2019	490	\$13,281,156	2	\$87,951
2019/2020	424	\$37,773,498	2	\$234,664
<b>2020/2021</b>	<b>584</b>	<b>\$31,701,683</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>\$196,141</b>

### **Construction for fiscal year 2020/2021**

As predicted, there has been a resurgence of residential construction for the 2020/2021 fiscal year with multiple new homes being constructed. Due to COVID, product availability has impacted the speed of completion of the houses. In addition, COVID continues to drive the need for alterations to existing homes making them “work from home” friendly.

### **What's upcoming for 2021/2022**

At this point in time, COVID is still impacting residential and commercial construction but the belief is that residential construction will continue at its current pace for at least the 2021/2022 fiscal year.

Dolores Perotti, *President*  
Cecely Ackerman, *Salisbury*  
Patricia Chamberlain, *Sharon*  
Michelle Considine, *Canaan*  
John Green, *Cornwall*  
Dinny Greene, *Cornwall*  
Carla Herman, *Cornwall*  
Priscilla McCord, *Lakeville*  
Judy Sheridan, *Kent*  
Michael Voldstad, *Salisbury*  
Lea Davies, *President Emeritus*  
Jane MacLaren, *Executive Director*



*Serving The Towns Of:*  
**Canaan**  
**Cornwall**  
**Falls Village**  
**Kent**  
**Norfolk**  
**Salisbury/Lakeville**  
**Sharon**

## **Chore Service – Kent Town Report 2021**

The Chore Service, founded in 1992, provides non-medical help at home such as cleaning, running errands, yard work, etc., for clients in Canaan, Cornwall, Falls Village, Kent, Norfolk, Salisbury/Lakeville and Sharon. Clients contribute only what they can (if they can) toward the service, and Chore Workers are paid \$14.00 per hour for their time. Fundraising, grants, and town contributions make up the difference between what clients can contribute and the cost of providing services.

From July, 2020 through June, 2021, The Chore Service provided 400 hours of services to thirteen Kent residents. These 13 residents received help with cleaning, errands, and yard work so that they could continue to remain safely in their homes. Two Chore employees who live in Kent earned over \$5,500 last year. Our federal grant monies that subsidizes services for those age 60 and over is always depleted before the year ends, so we are delighted that the Town of Kent continues to contribute to these services.

Here is what a few clients in Kent had to say about Chore Service:

*"My service lady is perfect – can't say enough about her service."*

*"She's a wonderful help to me. I really look forward to her time with me. I enjoy our chats."*

*"He is very professional and pleasant to receive help from."*

*"Thank you for this service which means so much to me after spending so much time in the hospital."*

*"It continues to be an indispensable help to me. It's a wonderful service."*

As we face more requests for assistance and we fear more cuts in our federal funding, we are most grateful for the support of our donors, including the Town of Kent, for your generosity.

Thank you!

Jane MacLaren  
Executive Director

P.O. Box 522, Lakeville, CT 06039  
Telephone: (860) 435-9177 • Fax: (860) 492-0730  
[chore@choreservice.org](mailto:chore@choreservice.org)

Fiscal Year 2020-2021

The Emergency Management Department continued all aspects of work, most notably the coordination of efforts to help mitigate the worldwide pandemic. We participated in weekly and sometimes twice a week calls with our regional partners, the Region 5 Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) coordinator, and the office of the governor. We also conducted calls with the local planning members on a regular basis. In early summer we began discussions with the four local schools to assist them with their back to in person school plans.

In July the state was hit with a week-long power outage. We worked with the utility companies to prioritize and restore power and utilities. This proved to be a trying time for all involved, prompting new requirements by the state power oversight committee to hopefully never have this magnitude and duration of an outage again.

With our annual influx of visitors to Kent during the warmer months, we once again worked with our Resident State Trooper to ensure the safest recreation areas for our residents and visitors to enjoy the beauty of the area.

Our newly created Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), assisted weekly with the COVID test site held in town at the transfer station. They also assisted with several additional commodity distributions during weather events. This team is always looking for new members and is a great way to volunteer to help in the community. Please email [CERT@townofkentct.org](mailto:CERT@townofkentct.org) for an application.

David Becker  
Emergency Management Director

Eric Epstein  
Deputy Emergency Management Director



# Letter from the Board President

Dear Friends of Greenwoods,

What a year it's been! Covid has continued to test everyone's sense of well-being and mental health. And, thanks to your faithful support, Greenwoods has been able to meet the surge of demand for our counseling services during this pandemic year and they have grown.

This September the Greenwoods Board elected a new President, Peter Aziz, to take over the helm, which has caused me to reflect how much our organization has grown in recent years, not just in meeting the challenges of treatment during Covid but also to confront the stubborn epidemic of addiction particularly in the remote rural parts of our community.

Under Executive Director John Simoncelli's leadership over the last four years, our range of services has expanded beyond individual counseling into a number of community-wide initiatives. Meanwhile, again thanks to your support, we have continued to be able to provide critical financial aid for those of our clients who can't afford the full or even partial cost of individual counseling. Note these new services:

- **Youth Mental Health Program**, with in-school programs, meeting kids where they are.
- **Community Outreach & Recovery Navigation Program**, pro-actively fighting addiction by meeting with town leaders, first responders, and the Northwest Council of Governments, creating awareness on latest response techniques and treatment modalities.
- **Opioid addiction treatment**. As our Executive Director, John Simoncelli is a recognized expert in the field and is a leader on the Executive Committee of the Litchfield County Opioid Task Force which seeks to harness and coordinate all the resources in the Northwest Corner to address the opioid and addiction crisis.
- **Payment assistance** through the Jane L. Havemeyer Fund, for individuals who qualify and need help paying for services.

The last year was an anomaly in every sense. We quickly moved into telehealth sessions and saw our **service statistics increase by 10% with almost 900 clients served and 4,499 client sessions performed**. Greenwoods' client base has grown more than 30% in the last four years.

Another highlight is that our Annual Gala on June 19<sup>th</sup> led by Trustees Pam Bowman and Victoria Sahadevan Fossland with a theme of "Stop the Stigma" was a stunning success which brought awareness of our mission to a throng of new supporters and has helped put us on a path to becoming a widely valued, mature, sustainable organization well positioned to serve the broad range of Litchfield County's mental health challenges, both today and in the future.

In sum, I am very proud of how Greenwoods has grown to meet the mental health challenges we and many of our neighbors variously face, and I am grateful to all of you who have--and I hope will continue to support us.

Regards,



Ted Bent



## Board of Trustees, Advisory Council & Staff Fiscal Year 2020/2021

### Officers

Ted Bent, President  
Michael C. Jackson, Vice President  
Peter Aziz, Vice President & Treasurer  
Elizabeth Preston DeVos, Secretary

### Trustees

Pamela Bowman  
Emily Littman Eisen, Ph.D  
Liz Funk  
Barbara Gold  
Karen Halpert  
Lance Leifert  
H. Tom O'Connor  
Victoria Sahadevan Fossland, MD  
Richard C. Sears  
C. Todd Staub, MD, FACP

Founder and Trustee Emeritus  
The Rev. W. David Dobbins, Jr.

### Advisory Council

Frederick A. Browne, MD, MBA  
Jeffrey L. Coploff, Esq.  
Alistair J. Highet  
Shauna Holiman  
Peter R. Houldin  
Susan Jordan  
Adrienne Lufkin  
Paul McLaughlin  
Edwina Millington  
Eric Salk, M.D.  
Ira D. Smith  
Patsy Stroble  
Katherine N. Vick

### Staff

John Simoncelli, LCSW, LADC, MPA - Executive Director  
Michele M. Sonnati, Executive Assistant  
Michael J. Pisco, MA, LMFT, MATS - Clinical Coordinator  
Ashely Salazar, Clinical Administrative Assistant  
Sara Cote, Clinical Administrative Assistant  
Michael Connell, LPC – Intake Clinician  
Joseph Holbrooks, LPC - Clinician  
Cynthia Vail, LPC - Clinician  
Elizabeth Griswold, LCSW - Program Manager  
Kristen Pavlik, LCSW, Youth Mental Health Program Clinician  
Julia Jagger, Community Outreach & Recovery Navigator  
Branden Stack, LPC - Youth Mental Health Program Clinician  
Elizabeth Tanner-Horn, LCSW - Youth Mental Health Program Clinician  
Dorothy Timmermann, LMFT - Clinician  
Sarah Toomey – Community Outreach & Recovery Navigator  
Barbara Herbst - Bookkeeper  
Marisa Johnson - Grants Manager  
Lois Silver - Billing Specialist

25 South Street | Post Office Box 1549 | Litchfield, CT 06759  
Website: [www.greenwoodsreferrals.org](http://www.greenwoodsreferrals.org) | Email: [info@greenwoodsreferrals.org](mailto:info@greenwoodsreferrals.org)  
Telephone: 860.567.4437



GREENWOODS  
COUNSELING & REFERRALS, INC.

## The First Step to Finding the Help You Need...

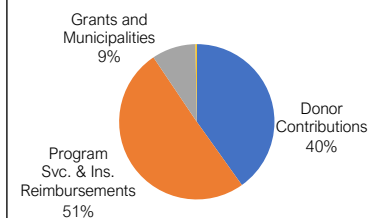


## Annual Report Fiscal Year 2020-2021

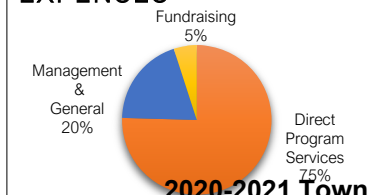
Our mission is to provide access to quality and affordable mental healthcare and related social services for individuals and families living or working in Litchfield County.

## Financial Highlights

### REVENUE



### EXPENSES



*Greenwoods Counseling & Referrals, Inc. Statement of Revenues, and other Support and Expenses for the Year Ended June 30, 2021*

Revenues & Other Support	
Donor Contributions	\$ 456,414
Program Services & Insurance Reimbursements	\$ 573,392
Grants and Municipalities	\$ 104,000
Investment Income	<u>\$ 3,168</u>
Total Revenues & Other Support	\$1,136,975
Expenses	
Direct Program Services	\$ 753,308
Management and General	\$ 195,427
Fundraising	<u>\$ 49,814</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 998,549
Change in Net Assets*	
	\$ 138,426
Beginning Net Assets	<u>\$ 112,207</u>
Ending Net Assets	<u>\$ 250,633</u>

\* Important to note that \$105,700 of the change in net assets is due to the recognition of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021's COVID-19 Relief Loan that was received in April of 2020 and forgiven in November of 2021.

2020-2021 Town of Litchfield Annual Report

## FY 2020.21 SUPPORTERS

### Leadership Circle \$10,000+

Anonymous  
Chrissy Armstrong & Ben Nickoll  
Pamela & Scott Bowman  
The Breaking the Cycle Foundation  
Conversations On the Green  
Department of Mental Health and  
Addiction Services  
Anne & John Herrmann  
Robert Hackney & Shauna Holiman  
Northwest Connecticut Community  
Foundation, Inc.  
Todd & Margaret Tibbets

### Presidents Circle \$5,000+

American Savings Foundation  
Rebecca & Ted Bent  
Sandra Breakstone & Ronald Garfunkel  
Elizabeth & Jay Chandler  
Jane & David Dobbins  
Donald & Susan Ginsberg  
Stephanie & Tim Ingrassia  
Lena Benas Memorial Fund  
Adrienne Lufkin  
Jacqueline Mott  
Rebecca & Jim Neary  
Sara & Robert Savage  
Todd & Dale Staub  
John H. Staub\*  
Town of Cornwall  
Town of Kent  
Town of Litchfield  
Town of Norfolk  
Town of Salisbury  
Town of Sharon  
Town of Winchester

### Trustees Circle \$1,000+

Anonymous (2)  
Alta Investments LLC  
Susan & Peter Aziz  
Lucy & David Ball  
BantamWesson/ BW Home Services  
Dr. and Mrs. Andrew Bazos  
Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation  
Tama & Brad Bernstein  
Treacy & Darcy Beyer  
The Canaan Foundation  
Paul & Donna Casali  
Civic Family Services, Inc.  
Community table Foundation  
Connecticut Community Foundation  
Crosswicks Foundation, LTD  
Betty & Tom Daniels  
Diane Davidow  
Michael Dennis & Katherine Wenning  
Elizabeth Preston DeVos  
Dobson Pools LLC  
Dymax Corporation  
Emily B. Littman Eisen, Ph.D.  
Joseph & Barbara Ellis  
Andrew Fabbri

### Trustees Circle \$1,000+ (Continued)

First Congregational Church  
(Kent, CT)  
First Congregational Church  
(Washington, CT)  
Martina Forman  
Rachel Fortuna & Jeff Mullen  
Geo & Grace Long Foundation  
Carole Gibney  
Susan & Murray Haber  
Michael Hallows & Lynn Perry  
Karen Halpert  
Wilson Henley & Bruce Glickman  
Maria Horn & Tom Quinn  
Peter R. Houldin  
Harriet Huston  
David Ivill & Vince Weiner  
Richard Johnston  
Susan & Thomas Kendall  
Kent Wine & Spirit  
Jane Klein  
Litchfield Bancorp, A Division of  
Northwest Community Bank  
Litchfield Distillery  
Ann Lozman  
Paula & Eric Madoff  
Susan & Philip Markert  
The Matthews Group  
Max Powers Motors  
William & Nancy McKelvy  
Eli Milbaur & Ryan Cangelo  
Edwina S. Millington  
Guy Moszkowski &  
Sandra Pinnavaia  
Newport Academy  
Barbara Page & John Liu  
Robert Parker & Peter Rogness  
James & Faye Preston  
Rene Bloch Foundation  
Carla Sacks & John Morris  
Philip Samponaro  
Mark & Marie Schwartz  
Victoria Sahadevan Fossland &  
Toby Fossland  
Abby & Dave Shapiro  
Sonoro Music  
Mr. & Mrs. Jon Stroble  
Synergy Advanced Healthcare LLC  
Tiffany-Thompson Foundation  
Torrington Savings Foundation  
Town Fair Tire Foundation Inc.  
Town of Canaan  
Town of Morris  
Town of Roxbury  
Town of Warren  
Marc Trevino & Camile Orme  
Cynthia & Lee Vance  
Kate & James Vick  
Western CT Coalition  
Elizabeth Whalen & Terrance Ryan  
The Wieder Family  
WOODCO, LLC  
Alicia Zalka & Victor Noliotti

### Counselors Circle \$500+

Altorelli Health  
Angevine Farm LLC  
Arbor Services of CT, Inc.  
Archdiocese of Hartford  
Aspetuck Animal Hospital  
Greg & Lisa Bachman  
Douglas & Diane Barnes  
Karen & Hal Benett  
Gavin Berger  
Kate Betancourt  
George & Barbara Blake  
Stephen & Wanda Brighenti  
Joan Lobis Brown  
Frederick A. Browne, MD  
Jay Collins  
Jeffrey Coploff  
Covered Bridge Electric Bike  
Denscot Pool & Spa  
Sharon H.S. Doty  
Eagle Electric Services, LLC  
Lee & Lisa Einbinder  
Karen & John Erickson  
Tal Fusion Coaching and  
Life Design  
First Congregational Church  
(Litchfield, CT)  
Elizabeth Gildersleeve &  
Richard Berman  
Joseph Godfrey & Keith Halstead  
Barbara Gold  
Mr. & Mrs. Morrey Halfon  
William Havermeyer  
Alice & Jim Hicks  
Paul & Jane Hinkel  
Hopkins Inn  
David & Caroline Hundley  
Dr. Ruth Jaffe  
Alexandra Jarislowsky &  
Kevin Snow  
Jaclyn Levin & Andrew Kandel  
Paula & Tom Keltner  
Barbara & Gene Kohn  
Sharon Korman  
Nicole & Allen Kovac  
Roxana Laughlin  
Kate Karet & Jeff Levick  
Jill & Michael Lloyd  
Rati Bahadur Madan &  
Karen Madan  
Joanne & Bill Mansfield  
Scott & Heather Meeker  
Greg & Audrey Meredith  
Audrey & Danny Meyer  
Pamela Moffett & Dwight Keeney  
Randy Leher & Harry Moses  
New Morning Market  
O&G Industries, Inc.  
Ben & Teresa Park  
Sally Gooch Paynter  
Martin & Mary Peabody  
Austin Pearson  
Elaine & Tom Peer

### Counselors Circle \$500+

(Continued)  
Wendy King Philips & Carl Philips  
Michael Pisco & Brittany Alvarez  
Steven Potolsky  
Elizabeth R. Rea  
Jack Reed  
Abbey & Tom Rosenwald  
Olga & Frederic Roze  
Julia & Jim Samartini  
Ken & Edie Schechter  
Maria Mostajo & Mark Schein  
Mitch Scherzer & Andrea Mann  
Dick Sears & Brenda Singer  
Tom Sebring & Steve Vaughn  
Coco & Frank Sellman  
Carolyn Setlow & Andy Shapiro  
Tyler Smith & Jean Solomon  
Karyn & Sal Sorce  
St. Andrew's Church (Kent, CT)  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
(Bantam, CT)  
BK & Perry Stafford  
Stonewalls By George LLC  
Tammy & Tom Tecklenburg  
The Congregational Church of  
Salisbury  
Town of Barkhamsted  
Jodi & David Utz  
Melinda vanden Heuvel  
Warren General Store  
Jamie & Shane Williams-Ness  
Royce Wilson  
Jay Youngling & Susan Jordan

### Circle of Friends \$250 - \$499

Anonymous  
Steve Ardussi  
Peter Bakstansky  
Penny & Bill Bardel  
Candy & William Boden  
Christopher B. Boshears  
Jessica Brackman  
Joyce G. Briggs  
Mr. & Mrs. Russ Brightly  
Nathalie & Christopher Brodhead  
James Gladstone & Kate Campana  
Terri Chaffiot  
Hope S. Childs  
Lisa Cornelio & Leslie Bakke  
Country Storage LLC  
Lou & Deborah Donne  
Elizabeth England & Tony Scott  
Daniel & Lynn Farley  
Margaret Field & David Robinson  
Emily FitzHugh  
Jane & Bob Gerber  
Susan Gianni  
Philip Gordon  
Charles H. Critchlow &  
Cecile S. Hanft  
Teresa Hargrave  
Harold & Janet Kamm

### Circle of Friends \$250 - \$499

(Continued)  
Matthew P. Karpas & Emily Dalton  
Caroline & Jason Klein  
John & Joanna Koster  
Markus Kraebber  
Howard Rosenfeld & Sheryl Leach  
Louise Lindenmeyer  
Eileen & Peter Litwin  
Consuelo Mack & Walter Mack  
Susie & John Magee  
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# **Housatonic River Commission**

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

## **Annual Report 2020-2021**

The Housatonic River Commission (HRC) held 10 regularly scheduled monthly meetings the past year. Meetings took place at 7:30 on the second Tuesday of each month. Starting in April 2020 the HRC meetings were held via Zoom due to the Pandemic. The Commission is made up of representatives appointed by the Board of Selectmen in each of the following towns along the Housatonic River: Canaan, Cornwall, Kent, New Milford, North Canaan, Salisbury, and Sharon. The HRC is responsible for monitoring and advising these seven towns on issues that involve the Housatonic River and working to maintain an environmentally healthy and scenic river corridor. The annual dues requested from each town are \$400 per year.

The process of recognizing the Housatonic River through the National Park Service's (NPS) Wild and Scenic designation as a Partnership River with federal financial support continues with significant help from Housatonic Valley Association (HVA). Quarterly meetings of the Housatonic Wild and Scenic Coordinating Committee have continued with representatives from NPS, HVA, CT Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP), and Northwest Hills Council of Governments. At these meetings each group provides updates on their work addressing issues in the Housatonic River Management Plan including HVA's successful River Information and Outreach (RIO) program, fishing management (CT DEEP) and river access. Tremendous time and energy has been spent on river access as dynamic changes in river usage during the COVID pandemic resulted in noteworthy action by towns to maintain safety. HRC's mission includes maintaining public access and the proposed Ruggles Landing is being partnered with the state and town of Canaan to allow for safe river usage.

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

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

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

Ian Strever  
*Principal*

Steven Schibi  
*Assistant Principal*



246 Warren Turnpike Road  
Falls Village, Connecticut  
06031  
Telephone (860) 824-5123  
Fax (860) 824-5419

The 2020-2021 school year presented challenges and opportunities that changed the world of education. The immediate shift to remote learning that took place in the previous year offered a glimpse of what this year might be like, and our experience then helped us to retool and prepare ourselves for learning in different settings during the fall. Books will be written about the nation's approach to these challenges, so this summary will pertain to the salient features of our experience at Housatonic Valley Regional High School and leave the minutiae to the historians and educational analysts.

The primary objective for the year was to ensure the health and safety of the members of our community. 23 members of our community tested positive for Covid-19 during the year, and 140 test administrations were reported (5.7% positivity rate for the population). Our fall semester operated in a hybrid model, with two cohorts attending school on different days of the week, bridged by a day of distance learning on Wednesday. This allowed us to conduct deep cleaning of the rooms, facilitated by our improved facility with remote learning technology. The year anomalously ended with only 177 days of instruction, permitted by the state board of education for the purposes of additional professional learning in those technologies and instructional strategies.

Our previous investment in a robust network infrastructure and the 1-1 Chromebook initiative allowed us to work well under these conditions, although the shortcomings of our area's internet access and the need for social-emotional supports for students became apparent. We began the year with a focus on Habits of Mind, a set of characteristics that describe the traits of effective learners and citizens, and we asked teachers to integrate these concepts into their lesson plans. Habits like "persistence" and "communicating with clarity" are natural skills for students, but this year also offered us opportunities to practice other traits such as "finding humor" and "responding with wonderment and awe" that might not be so apparent or as frequently prioritized in traditional classrooms.

From December 7 to January 20, we shifted to fully remote instruction, as much of the state did for at least a portion of the year. This was incredibly challenging for teachers and students alike, but born of necessity by the uptick in the positivity rate across the country. We regularly surveyed our students about their emotional state throughout the year, and words such as "anxiety" and "worry" became more prominent in their responses during this period. At the same time, we convened parent and

student groups to start to plan for a return to the classroom in the coming months, and although it was a difficult series of conversations, we ultimately developed a plan that brought all students back into our classrooms on April 19, after our Spring Vacation. We dissolved our cohorts at that point, and students remained together for four days of direct instruction each week through the end of the year.

While it is too early to say what the impact of this year will be, it is clear that there is some incomplete learning and there will be some lingering social and emotional considerations to address. Our School Counseling Department will assume greater significance throughout the building in supporting both students and teachers as we learn more about how to build resilience and overcome setbacks. We are adding a social worker to that department to assist students and families with more intense needs, and the expertise of the whole department will be called upon as our teachers work with Habits of Mind author Bena Kallick to extend those habits into all departments.

These habits will be especially helpful as we launch our Capstone Project, a course that will be required of all graduates wherein they undertake a “passion project” that encourages exploration of their interests and career prospects while requiring them to demonstrate the skills that are articulated in our Portrait of a Graduate. We developed some of that curriculum this year with teachers, and we will refine it in the fall before we launch the course in the spring. We are particularly enthusiastic about the aspects of the course that require students to work with a Technical Advisor from the community, and residents of our towns should expect to see more of our students involved in area businesses and activities as a result of this course.

We are also dedicated to expanding our appreciation of diversity and inclusivity. We are adding courses in Pride Literature and Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) Literature, with plans to offer courses in African American and Hispanic American History in the years to come. Although we cannot boast of the same kind of ethnic diversity that happens in other locations, we recognize the need to prepare our students to work toward a more accepting and inclusive world. To that end, we are also exploring ways to heterogeneously group students in courses that will encourage greater diversity in their conversations. A statistic that we will closely monitor is the achievement of students who qualify for free or reduced meals, a demographic that has historically underachieved in comparison to its full-pay counterparts in the classroom.

Our year ended with a more traditional graduation under the tent in front of school. In many ways, it was a “threshold” moment for our community, attended by approximately 350 guests and 65 graduates. Although still arranged to allow for social distancing, vaccinated participants were able to remove their masks for the event, and the subsequent celebrations very much resembled those of the past, which was a welcome moment for us all.

We await guidance about the restrictions that will be in place for the start of the 21-22 school year, but we will continue to prioritize the health and wellbeing of our community while monitoring new variants of Covid-19 and the emotional needs of our students. Our faculty ended the year with a review of the learning that happened in each course, where gaps may need to be closed, and what technological advances should be preserved to improve student achievement and communication with our families. While we are all eager to put some of this year's experiences behind us, we believe that the challenges of the 2020-2021 school year have also provided insight about how we can change education for the better.



Inland Wetlands Commission  
Annual Report  
July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Lynn Werner, Chairman  
Donna Hayes, Land Use Administrator

In 1972, the state legislature enacted the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Act, which requires the regulation of activities affecting the wetlands and watercourses of our state. In 1987, the IWWA was amended to declare it is the "public policy of the state" to require municipal regulation of such activities. The Inland Wetlands Commission in Kent is charged with overseeing regulation of such activities.

**Total Fees Collected:                      \$3640**

<u>Inland Wetlands Commission Activities:</u>	<u>Action:</u>
Applications	27
Permit Modifications	2
Permit Extensions	0
Agent Approved	8
Denied	0
Withdrawn/Void	1
Waived	3
Forestry	1

This fiscal year held many challenges for all the Commissions and Boards for the Town of Kent and the Inland Wetlands Commission was no exception. Meetings were held remotely due to COVID constraints making the members' jobs more challenging than normal. Site visits were mostly completed by various members of the Commission on separate visits. Despite these challenges, the Commission worked closely with applicants to ensure that the habitat, flood mitigation and water quality values of Kent's wetlands and watercourses are protected in the development process. We also worked with land owners to pursue the installation of a water leveling device through beaver dams to lower water level, reduce flooding, and enable beaver habitat to remain intact. If you'd like help with a beaver problem, call the land use office to receive information on this recent success story.

**Inland Wetlands Commission**

Appointed by the Board of Selectman for 5-year terms: Alternates serve 3-year terms

<u>Members:</u>	<u>Term Expires:</u>	<u>Alternates:</u>	<u>Term Expires:</u>
Lynn Werner	12/2025	Anthony Palumbo	12/2023
Paul Yagid	12/2021	OPEN *	12/2023
Margaret Smith	12/2022		
Ken Deitz	12/2024		
Kenneth Johnson	12/2023		

\*This position was filled in December of 2021 with the board of selectmen appointment of Hilary Clifton.

**Kent Center School**  
**9 Judd Avenue, Kent, CT**

**Fiscal Year Report 2020-2021**

*Michelle Mott, Principal*

At the close of this school year, Kent Center School was the elementary school for 204 students in grades Pre-K through 8. This was an unusual year at KCS in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, but we continue to uphold our mission, “The mission of Kent Center School is to ensure active learning and independence through responsibility, respect, and cooperation.”

Before leaving Kent Center School, we believe every student should be able to:

- Define and solve problems with (critical/creative) analytical thinking
- Communicate effectively
- Acquire new knowledge and skills independently

Keeping our school mission and the goal of preparing students who are college and career ready, we continue to work on our four building improvement initiatives to find success.

*Initiative 1: To implement a guaranteed and viable curriculum tied to comprehensive formative and summative assessments utilizing the Connecticut Core Standards, National Content Standards, and the Instructional Core (student, teacher, content).*

Teachers have spent multiple professional learning days this year continuing to align curriculum/instruction/assessment with the CCSS. A curriculum audit completed for grades K-3 through EdAdvance has helped teachers in these grades to identify priority standards and a scope and sequence for their content areas. Teachers in grades K-5 are in the second year of our new math program, Bridges. We were all very impressed by the progress that students made in math this year. Teachers in grades 6-8 continued the Illustrative program for math. The middle school teachers were pleased with the level of discourse this program creates within their classes. An adjustment will be made in the upcoming school year 2021-2022 to implement the newly released Illustrative curriculum in grade 5. This year, students were unable to attend off campus field trips due to COVID-19 restrictions. However, teachers worked with local programs to host virtual events. Virtual programs from Kent Memorial Library, Kent Historical Society and other activities were live streamed into the classroom. Professional learning was also completed with our instructional coaches, new benchmark screening system, and with using technology. Teachers worked diligently at the beginning of the year to adjust to new technologies and teaching strategies that would be effective for simultaneous learning for in-person and distance learners. New technology applications such as Kami, NearPod, and Zoom were helpful in this process.

*Initiative 2: To demonstrate improved student achievement as evidenced by multiple data sources, including local, regional, state, and national assessments.*

KCS staff continues to use multiple data sources to assess student achievement. This year, teachers' goals focused on social emotional learning in the classroom. Teachers developed individual growth goals that were linked to a habit of mind based on the needs of their students. The success and analysis of the goal was based on student reflection and growth in that specific area.

This year, we implemented a new benchmark assessment system, FastBridge. Students are assessed in Reading and Math three times throughout the year. The results of these assessments assist teachers in making effective instructional decisions for curriculum and student groupings. Students in grades 3-8 continue to participate in the annual Smarter Balanced Achievement Consortium. The results of these assessments are communicated to each school after the last day and teachers view these at the beginning of the next year.

Student achievement data for benchmark assessments and annual assessments continue to be shared and discussed at leadership team meetings, staff meetings, and Board of Education meetings.

*Initiative 3: To continue to implement the regional teacher and school evaluation plans, with precision, fidelity, and purpose, aligned to the district's school improvement goals.*

The school administrative team continued their work with Amy Tepper to discuss teacher observation and evaluation. Our work on the revision of the Continuum of Professional Practice continued, and teachers will be trained next year (2021-2022) with this document which will be implemented in 2022-2023. The CSDE released a Flexibility plan for teacher evaluation which was approved by the PDEC committee at the start of the year. We will continue with the CSDE Flexibilities plan for the 2021-2022 school year, as well.

*Initiative 4: To promote positive social and emotional health and well-being for all students.*

All students in grades K-8 participate in a program that promotes positive social and emotional health. Students in grades K-5 take part in *Second Step*, a program rooted in social-emotional learning that creates environments where students can be successful. Students in grades 6-8 participate in a prevention program called *Botvin Life Skills*. In partnership with HYSB and Women's Support Services, we are able to provide these programs for our students. The Safety Committee meets monthly to discuss our *Safe School Climate Plan* and *All Hazards/School Safety and Security Plan*. This plan was revised this year in accordance with the requirements during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

This summer, the custodial staff, leadership team, and reopening team spent an immense amount of time planning for our reopening during the pandemic. The custodial team removed all necessary furniture from classrooms. Additionally, they installed plexiglass in the cafeteria and any areas that were necessary for social distancing. We signed a contract with CINTAS who replaced all paper dispensers in the bathrooms and classrooms. In addition, hand sanitizer stations were installed in all the rooms in the building, as well as, in high traffic hallway areas. The leadership team and reopening team worked with other Regional team members to develop a written plan, video, and community presentation for students and parents.

This was a very unusual year for many schools. We are so grateful that we were able to be in-person with our students from the first day to the last day with very little disruption in between. Students, staff, and parents were flexible, understanding, and cooperative as we navigated the new waters of distance learning, quarantining, and many new protocols! We would like to thank the Kent Board of Education, Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance, and the Kent community for their continued support. We would also like to thank the KCS PTO for their hard work and effort this year to facilitate fundraisers, events, and activities for our students. We are so thankful for a community that supports its children's education.

It has been an interesting year, and we look forward to being back together next year.





*PO Box 262 • Kent, Connecticut 06757*

November, 2021

Dear Neighbor:

While the Covid pandemic has taken its toll on so many families, non-profit organizations and businesses, the Kent Community Fund, thanks to the immense generosity of our supporters, has been able to continue its mission of helping our neighbors with emergency needs. The outpouring of donations has been heartwarming and because of your overwhelming response, we are not sending out an appeal at this time. **Instead, we just want to keep you up to date on our activities.**

Working closely with the Town of Kent's social services director, in 2020, KCF:

- **Assisted neighbors** with payments for rent, utilities, medical and dental bills, transportation, fuel oil, home repairs and other needs. More grants benefited families and working people than in previous years, the result of Covid-related job losses. Rental assistance was the greatest need, especially early in the year.
- **Supported the Kent Food Bank** with the purchase of supplies from local stores and 5 ½ tons of free and low-cost food through KCF's membership in the Connecticut Food Bank. Food support in 2020 was seven times the 2019 total.
- **Provided support** to children and families through scholarship assistance for the After-School Program at Kent Center School and offered scholarships at the co-ed day camp operated by Camp Mohawk in Cornwall during the summer.
- **Supported** nursing visits to Kent elders by the staff of local visiting nurse associations and assisted with the cost of emergency Lifeline alert systems.

We thank you for your interest and support for our very special and caring community.

With gratitude,

Ruth Epstein, Board President

**Board of Directors:** Catherine Bachrach, Jim Blackketter, Ruth Epstein, Ruth Greenberg, Hal Kamm, George Potts, Lorry Schiesel, Joe Speranzo

[Kentcommunityfund.org](http://Kentcommunityfund.org)

# Kent Memorial Library

## Annual Report to the Town of Kent

Fiscal Year July 1, 2020- June 30, 2021

The Kent Memorial Library is a private non-profit association and serves as the principle public library for the Town of Kent. The historic building opened in 1922, and operations in the expanded space are overseen by the Kent Library Association, Inc. The Association raises around two thirds of its operating budget annually with a variety of fundraising events and a Membership drive. This year we are celebrating our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and have been planning a variety of events to commemorate this significant milestone. The mission statements of the Association and the Library are set forth below.

- The mission of the Kent Library Association is to provide the resources and oversight needed to ensure that the Kent Memorial Library accomplishes and adheres to its mission.
- The mission of the Kent Memorial Library is to provide a center for collaborative engagement, education and enrichment for the greater Kent community.

Like all public-facing service providers, the Library worked hard to continue to be a resource for the community while managing the dangers and instability of the Covid-19 pandemic. We successfully transitioned the majority of our programming to outside, supplementing with a robust slate of virtual programs. We were open to the public for circulation of materials and use of the building for research, browsing, and small gatherings until we closed to the public mid-November. We continued to provide curbside services and virtual programming for the duration of the Covid closure, reopening in February of 2021. We remained open for the duration of the fiscal year. All year, we continued to offer service and resource delivery options for our patrons at their comfort level and with safety in mind, both in circulation and programming. Moving programs outside and providing curbside pickup negatively affected our foot traffic, but it allowed us to continue to keep the staff and public safe while using our resources.

### Staffing and Board Oversight

For the FY'20-'21, Library staff had 4.43 FTE. Volunteers worked over 4270 hours and greatly supplemented staff resources. The Board of the Kent Library Association oversees the overall operation of the Library.

#### Officers as of June 2021

President:	Sandra Edelman
Co-Vice Presidents:	Sharon Hartwick and Janet Rivkin
Treasurer:	John Walker
Secretary:	Michaela Lawrence

#### Members

Jim Blackketter	Rudy Molho	Betty Ruddy
-----------------	------------	-------------

Janette Bornn	Ruth O'Meara	Julie Saxton	
Sam Callaway	P.H. Nargeolet	Dana Slaughter	
	Ellen Horovitz	Sharon Norton	Rick Vizzari
Carol Linn	Eric Roper	John Youngblood	

**Friends of the Library Chair:** Roz Molho

The Library received a second PPP loan from the Government to help with the lack of fundraising due to Covid. Much of that impact was felt in the fall, winter, and early spring of 2021. Beginning in the spring of 2021 we were able to restart our three main fundraisers, the Book Sale, the Car Raffle, and the planning of the annual Benefit party. That final event was postponed until August of 2021, so its usual impact on our July-June fiscal year was also late. We applied for and received a grant from the State Library for over \$14,000 to make some improvements to our exterior, in particular a new bench and new work table, both offering solar powered device charging and situated so patrons could take advantage of our wi-fi.

Due to the instability caused by Covid-19, the Library did not undertake any major capital projects during the FY2020-'21. We had some fundraising losses, but the PPP loans/grants from the Federal government in this fiscal and last replaced that lost income. We did increase our expenses for technology, increasing patron access to collections and programs, but otherwise kept spending to a particularly conservative level. We are planning ahead, however, and in the next year or so we will be undertaking a technology upgrade and likely exterior painting.

<b>Financial report</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>% change</b>
<b>Revenue</b>			
Public:			
Federal Paycheck Protection Program	<b>39,800</b>	<b>37,900</b>	<b>n/a</b>
Town of Kent	<b>100,500</b>	<b>110,000</b>	<b>9.45%</b>
State of CT	<b>401</b>	<b>1,510</b>	<b>277%</b>
<b>Total public funds</b>	<b>140,701</b>	<b>149,410</b>	<b>6.2%</b>
Membership	<b>64,996</b>	<b>81,426</b>	<b>25%</b>

Car raffle and Benefit	51,396	48,303	-6%
Book sale	46,980	33,761	-28%
Other	99,845	72,355	-28%
<b>Total private funds</b>	<b>263,217</b>	<b>235,845</b>	<b>-10.4%</b>
<b>Grants</b>	<b>47,800</b>	<b>16,538</b>	<b>-65%</b>
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>451,719</b>	<b>401,793</b>	<b>-11%</b>
	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>% change</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Staff	210,730	206,561	-2%
Books and programs	23,083	20,760	-10%
Utilities	19,814	17,891	-9.7%
Technology	28,827	34,227	18.7%
Maintenance and repairs	89,225	17,064	-81%
Other	74,230	46,160	-38%
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>445,909</b>	<b>342,663</b>	<b>-23%</b>
<b>Excess (deficit) of revenues over expenses</b>	<b>5,810</b>	<b>59,130</b>	

	2019-2020	2020-2021	% change
Association Members	313	402	28%
Cardholders	1153	1010	-12%

Visitors to the Library	32,685	20,489	-37%
<b>Circulation:</b>			
Books and audio books	16182	16,925	4.6%
Downloadable e-books & audiobooks (Overdrive and hoopla)	3391	3,161	-6.8%
DVD's and videos and hoopla	2384	1,841	-23%
Streaming video (NEW!)	2186	3,955	81%
<b>Programs (attendees / # of programs):</b>			
Children and young adults	3626/231	2484/202	-31.5/-12.5
Adults	5059/235	2658/136	-47%/-42%
Recorded Programs views		7681	
Computer usage	3545	2378	-33%
Website hits	51,684	59557	15%
Constant Contact Subscribers	1288	1403	9%

Submitted by Sarah Marshall, Director  
Kent Memorial Library  
32 North Main St.  
PO box 127  
Kent, CT 06757  
[smarshall@biblio.org](mailto:smarshall@biblio.org)  
860-927-3761

## **LAKE WARAMAUG AUTHORITY ANNUAL REPORT 2021**

The Lake Waramaug Authority was established by ordinance including the Towns of Washington, Warren, and Kent under State of Connecticut statute in 1967. Its primary purpose is to ensure year-round safety and law enforcement for all who enjoy the lake's numerous recreational activities. The Lake Authority conducts water patrols on the lake during the summer months, and is responsible for 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.

Under the direction of the Lake Waramaug Authority, the Marine Patrol staff patrols the lake throughout the year, primarily from early spring through Labor Day plus in the winter as needed depending on the conditions of the ice. Police and rescue divers are present for special permit activities on the lake such as rowing regattas and triathlons. The primary function of the Marine Patrol staff is education and enforcement of safe boating practices and Connecticut laws. This summer's complaints regarding water skiers without observers, wake board boaters, and absence of life jackets on paddle boards were addressed. The no wake zone at the north end of the lake between the state park property and the west shore of Arrow Point had no violations even though there was an increase in use of kayaks, canoes and paddleboards.

The Marine Patrol conducted fourteen patrol shifts logging a total of 70 officer hours. Safety checks were conducted during these shifts. They reported that both the absence of observers for water skiers and the hazards incurred by wakeboard boats are of great concern. The increased risk of injury for those on docks and using non-motor craft is indisputable. Docks and floats have seen damage along the shoreline created by the wakes of the wakeboard boats. Those using crafts such as kayaks, paddleboards, sailboats and swimmers are also exposed to greater risk. The Authority asks all boaters to be cautious and to be considerate of others while operating their motor crafts.

We are pleased to report that the New Preston Boat Launch has successfully inspected all boats entering the lake. Residents have been most cooperative and recognize the importance of these inspections to prevent invasive species from invading the lake. Car top craft launched at the State Park also require inspection, and this continues to be conducted at Dowler's Garage in New Preston when the boat launch site is not open.

Ice rescue drills are conducted throughout the winter months with a team of about a dozen trained members for both under water and under ice rescues. The Lake Authority has provided upgrades in gear for the members throughout the year.

The Town of Warren is represented by Chairman; Ed Bemer, Bill Hopkins, and Rebecca Holmes. Kent is represented by Treasurer; Sal Ulenthal, Kevin Brady and Chris Garrity. Washington is represented by Secretary; Sandy Papsin, Ed Matthews and Dean Sarjeant. The Lake Waramaug Authority's budget is supported by the three towns. 40% by Warren, 40% by Washington and 20% by Kent.

The Lake Waramaug Authority extends thanks to the Selectman of the three towns for their continued support and is appreciative of towns residents who understand and realize the fragility of the lake and take measures to continue to protect it and follow the environmental laws and safety measures that have been established throughout the years.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandy Papsin

Sandy Papsin  
Lake Waramaug Authority Secretary

## LITCHFIELD HILLS PROBATE DISTRICT #24

*Serving Canaan (Falls Village), Cornwall, Harwinton, Kent, Litchfield, Morris,  
Norfolk, North Canaan, Salisbury, Sharon, Thomaston and Warren*  
[www.litchfieldprobate.org](http://www.litchfieldprobate.org)

### The Honorable Diane S. Blick, Judge

#### Litchfield Location

Dawn W. Pratt, Clerk  
Natasha Mitchell, Assistant Clerk  
860-567-8065

#### Kent Location

Judge Blick  
860-927-3729

#### Canaan Location

Beth L. McGuire, Chief Clerk  
Megan W. Foley, Clerk  
860-824-7012

It is with great pleasure that I report to the residents of the Litchfield Hills Probate District the activity of the Probate Court for fiscal year July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 and request this report be included in the Town's next published Annual Report.

<u>Type of Matter</u>	<u>2019 – 2020 FY Number of Matters</u>	<u>2020 – 2021 FY Number of Matters</u>
Fee Waivers	79	99
Decedent's Estates	1,221	1,355
Trusts	175	205
Conservators	186	226
Name Changes	31	46
Guardian of the Person & Estate	72	126
Guardian of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities	105	154
Adult Commitment	2	0
Children's Matters:		
Adoptions/Termination of Parental Rights and		
Emancipation of a Minor/Determine Paternity	15	12
Power of Attorney Accounting Matters	1	4
<b>Total probate matters handled</b>	<b>1,887</b>	<b>2,227</b>
Passports processed	90	Discontinued

The number of probate matters handled by the Court increased even though from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 each of the town halls, where our court facilities are located, were primarily closed to the public due to the Covid 19 pandemic. During that time only those with an appointment were allowed at the Court. Throughout the pandemic, the Court has remained open and all work has been timely processed and hearings promptly scheduled. Hearings were held either by teleconferencing or Webex video conferencing. Town halls in our district have now reopened so in-person hearings have been resumed. Teleconference and Webex hearings are still being utilized but less frequently than during the pandemic.

The category Fee Waivers represents the number of matters which were handled by the Court for which no probate filing fee is collected due to the fact that the Petitioner is indigent.

The Court's location in the Litchfield Town Hall is open to the public Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. The Court's location in the North Canaan Town Hall is open to the public Monday through Thursday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. While the Kent Town Hall was closed to the public during the pandemic, office hours there on Tuesdays will begin August 2, 2021. Additionally, I continue to be available to the residents of Kent by telephone or scheduled appointment.

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,

*Diane S. Blick*

Diane S. Blick  
Judge of Probate

7/12/2021

## TOWN OF KENT, CONNECTICUT

### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (UNAUDITED)

**JUNE 30, 2021**

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The management of the Town of Kent, Connecticut (the "Town"), is pleased to present this overview of the financial activities of the Town for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021. The information presented below should be considered in conjunction with the Town's financial statements that follow:

#### **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

On a government-wide basis, the Town's assets and deferred outflows of \$28,126,991 exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows of \$3,302,813 at June 30, 2021, resulting in total net position of \$24,824,178. Of that, \$16,999,781 was invested in capital assets while \$7,766,947 represented unrestricted net position, available to meet ongoing government obligations. The Town's net position increased \$757,752 or 3.1% during the fiscal year.

The Town's governmental funds reported, on a current financial resource basis, a combined ending fund balance of \$6,967,356, an increase of \$341,415 or 5.2%, during the fiscal year. The General Fund operating surplus for this fiscal year was \$36,022. The General Fund balance at June 30, 2021, was \$3,482,219 of which \$486,250 is committed for expenditures in the 2021-2022 fiscal year, \$(153) is committed for Schaghticoke Litigation expenses, and \$46,778 is committed for Maple Street Debt Service.

The unassigned fund balance of \$2,872,233 of the General Fund represents 23.1% of the General Fund budgeted appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

#### **OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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

#### **Government-Wide Financial Statements**

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide a broad overview of the Town's finances, similar to those used by private-sector businesses. The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, which are the government-wide statements, report information about Town finances as a whole. All revenues and charges are reported as soon as the underlying event occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods.

The government-wide financial statements distinguish functions of the Town that are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, called "governmental activities" from other functions that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges, referred to as "business-type" activities". The governmental activities of the Town include general government, public safety, public works, health and welfare, recreation, sanitation, and education activities. The Kent Sewer Commission operates the Town's only business-type activity.

The government-wide financial statements can be found on pages 11 and 12 of this report.

### **Fund Financial Statements**

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain and control accountability over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. In order to comply with finance-related legal requirements, the Town, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting. All of the Town's funds can be divided into three categories: governmental funds, proprietary 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, the Town's most basic services. Unlike the government-wide financial statements, however, the funds focus on the current year's cash receipts and expenditures and the balances of expendable resources at the end of the year. Consequently, the governmental fund 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. This comparison is facilitated by a reconciliation schedule of both statements, found on pages 14 and 16 of this report.

The Town maintains various 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, Capital Projects Fund and the Town Special Grant Fund, each of which is considered to be a major fund. The remaining 14 governmental funds are combined into a single aggregated presentation in the governmental fund financial statements as other funds.

The Town adopts an annual appropriated budget for its general fund. A budgetary comparison statement has been provided on page 17 of this report to demonstrate compliance with the authorized budget.

The basic governmental fund financial statements can be found on pages 13 to 17 of this report.

**Proprietary Funds** are used to report the same functions presented as business-type activities in the government-wide financial statements. The information provided for proprietary funds is the same type as for government-wide financial statements but in more detail.

The proprietary fund statements provide separate information for the Kent Sewer Operating Fund, the Town's enterprise fund.

The proprietary fund financial statements can be found on pages 18 to 20 of this report.

**Fiduciary Funds** are used to account for resources held by the Town 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 provide services to the Town. The accounting used for fiduciary fund is much like that used for proprietary funds.

The Town currently has no fiduciary funds.

**Town of Kent, Connecticut**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited)**  
**June 30, 2021 (continued)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**

Notes to the financial statements provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements can be found on pages 21 to 45 of this report.

**GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS**

Net position may serve as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. The Town's net position was \$24,824,178 at June 30, 2021.

	Net Position					
	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Totals	
	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020
<u>Assets</u>						
Current assets	\$ 8,436,715	\$ 7,016,478	\$ 738,789	\$ 730,970	\$ 9,175,504	\$ 7,747,448
Capital assets	15,219,842	15,189,669	3,510,196	3,271,008	18,730,038	18,460,677
Noncurrent assets	-	-	221,449	221,400	221,449	221,400
	<u>23,656,557</u>	<u>22,206,147</u>	<u>4,470,434</u>	<u>4,223,378</u>	<u>28,126,991</u>	<u>26,429,525</u>
<u>Deferred outflows of resources</u>	-	11,943	-	-	-	11,943
<u>Liabilities</u>						
Current liabilities	1,370,675	731,587	267,904	25,528	1,638,579	757,115
Noncurrent liabilities	156,482	117,373	1,507,752	1,530,675	1,664,234	1,648,048
	<u>1,527,157</u>	<u>848,960</u>	<u>1,775,656</u>	<u>1,556,203</u>	<u>3,302,813</u>	<u>2,405,163</u>
<u>Deferred inflows of resources</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Net position</u>						
Net investment in capital assets	14,799,759	14,799,759	2,200,022	1,939,227	16,999,781	16,738,986
Restricted	57,450	57,448	-	-	57,450	57,448
Unrestricted	<u>7,272,191</u>	<u>6,511,923</u>	<u>494,756</u>	<u>727,948</u>	<u>7,766,947</u>	<u>7,239,871</u>
	<u>\$ 22,129,400</u>	<u>\$ 21,369,130</u>	<u>\$ 2,694,778</u>	<u>\$ 2,667,175</u>	<u>\$ 24,824,178</u>	<u>\$ 24,036,305</u>

The largest portion of the Town's net position (68.5%) reflects its investment in capital assets (e.g. land, buildings, machinery and equipment, and infrastructure assets), which is reported net of any related debt used to acquire those assets that are still outstanding. The Town uses these capital assets to provide services to its citizens; consequently those assets are not available for future spending. Although the Town's investment in its capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities. Unrestricted net position increased \$527,076 or 7.3% to \$7,766,947 during the fiscal year and is 31% of the total net position.

**Town of Kent, Connecticut**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited)**  
**June 30, 2021 (continued)**

	Changes in Net Position					
	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Totals	
	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020
Program revenues						
Charges for services	\$ 590,980	\$ 600,581	\$ 446,689	\$ 338,834	\$ 1,037,669	\$ 939,415
Operating grants and contributions	1,707,562	1,440,128	-	-	1,707,562	1,440,128
Capital grants and contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-
General revenues						
Property taxes	11,045,304	11,037,920	-	-	11,045,304	11,037,920
Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs	195,134	109,284	-	-	195,134	109,284
Investment income	9,706	110,030	383	337	10,089	110,367
Miscellaneous	274,464	34,452	-	-	274,464	34,452
Total revenues	<u>13,823,150</u>	<u>13,332,395</u>	<u>447,072</u>	<u>339,171</u>	<u>14,270,222</u>	<u>13,671,566</u>
Expenses						
General government	1,396,211	1,707,366	-	-	1,396,211	1,707,366
Public safety	416,595	402,031	-	-	416,595	402,031
Public works	1,854,743	1,970,556	-	-	1,854,743	1,970,556
Health and welfare	188,582	177,564	-	-	188,582	177,564
Recreation	216,282	243,944	-	-	216,282	243,944
Sanitation	149,824	130,003	431,937	421,965	581,761	551,968
Education	8,819,771	8,225,070	-	-	8,819,771	8,225,070
Interest on long-term debt	38,525	34,626	-	-	38,525	34,626
Transfers	12,468	27,363	(12,468)	(27,363)	-	-
Total expenses	<u>13,093,001</u>	<u>12,918,523</u>	<u>419,469</u>	<u>394,602</u>	<u>13,512,470</u>	<u>13,313,125</u>
Change in net position	730,149	413,872	27,603	(55,431)	757,752	358,441
Net position, July 1	<u>21,399,251</u>	<u>20,955,258</u>	<u>2,667,175</u>	<u>2,722,606</u>	<u>24,066,426</u>	<u>23,677,864</u>
Net position, June 30	<u>\$ 22,129,400</u>	<u>\$ 21,369,130</u>	<u>\$ 2,694,778</u>	<u>\$ 2,667,175</u>	<u>\$ 24,824,178</u>	<u>\$ 24,036,305</u>

**Governmental Activities**

Key elements of the activities are as follows: 80% of the revenues of the Town were derived from property taxes, followed by 12.3% from Operating grants and contributions, 4.3% from charges for services, and 1.5% from investment income, grants and other revenues and 1.9% from Miscellaneous fees and receipts.

Expenses increased \$174,478 or 1.4% from the previous year. Public Safety, Health and Welfare, Sanitation as well as *Education* all reflected increased costs. However, *General Government*, *Public Works* and *Recreation* all reflected decreases in spending.

**Business-Type Activities**

Business-type activities increased the Town's net position by \$27,603 principally related to the increased collection of user charges and the minimal increase in operating expenses.

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

The Town uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

**Governmental Funds:** The focus of the Town's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the Town's financing requirements. The unreserved 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 June 30, 2021, the Town's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$6,967,356. Of this amount, \$78,581 was nonspendable; \$3,311,443 was restricted for capital projects; \$40,041 was restricted by permanent funds; \$132,183 was committed through special revenue funds; and \$532,875 was committed for specific purposes. The remaining \$2,872,233 was unassigned.

The General Fund is the chief operating fund of the Town. As a measure of the General Fund's liquidity, it may be useful to compare both unassigned fund balance and total fund balance to total fund expenditures. The General Fund's unassigned fund balance of \$2,872,233 represents 23.1% of the General Fund budgeted appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022. The General Fund's total fund balance of \$3,482,219 represents 28% of total General Fund budgeted appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022. For the current fiscal year, the General Fund's fund balance increased \$36,022. See "General Fund Budgetary Highlights" for further discussion.

The fund balance of the capital projects fund was \$3,311,443 at June 30, 2021, an increase of \$283,590 from the previous fiscal year.

**Proprietary Funds:** The Town's proprietary fund provides the same type of information found in the government-wide financial statements, but in more detail. Net position of the Sewer Commission's fund was \$2,694,778 at June 30, 2021. The factors affecting the funds are discussed in the Business-Type Activities section of this report.

## **GENERAL FUND BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS**

The fund balance of the Town's General Fund increased by \$36,022 or 1.2% during the fiscal year. The original budget proposed and adopted in May 2020 included an appropriation of \$780,000 from the available fund balance. Actual revenues did not meet budgetary estimates by \$462,769 and actual expenditures were \$699,843 less than appropriations. As a result, \$0 of the General Fund balance was used to balance the budget.

**It is important to note that the State of Connecticut and the Town of Kent remained under an Emergency Declaration for the entire fiscal year due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. Public access to the Kent Municipal offices was restricted and access was only granted by appointment.**

**Town of Kent, Connecticut**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited)**  
**June 30, 2021 (continued)**

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Primary factors contributing to the budget surplus included collection of four 490 tax penalties, FEMA reimbursements from Storm Isaias, COVID Relief funding received for expenses incurred in the prior year and a significant increase in the fees collected on the transfer of Real Estate. Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, the tax collection rate remained at 99%.

To some extent, expenditures were impacted by the Covid-19 Pandemic. Open positions either remained unfilled or were very difficult to fill and the Park and Recreation department was unable to offer regular programming. There were two mid-year appropriations approved by taxpayers at the January Town Meeting. The first was in the amount of \$140,000 and was used for KCS Vestibule renovations to increase security and the second was in the amount of \$55,000 and was used to pay for EMT staffing to cover shifts that could not be covered by the Kent Volunteer Ambulance Corps.

## **CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION**

### **Capital Assets**

The Town's investment in capital assets for its governmental and business-type activities as of June 30, 2021, amounted to \$18,730,038 (net of accumulated depreciation). The investment in capital assets included land, buildings and improvements, machinery and equipment, vehicles, and infrastructure. The increase in the Town's investment in capital assets for the fiscal year was \$269,362.

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>		<u>Business-Type Activities</u>		<u>Totals</u>	
	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Land	\$ 1,378,530	\$ 1,378,530	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,378,530	\$ 1,378,530
Construction in progress	109,828	28,828	-	-	109,828	28,828
Buildings and improvements	7,017,153	6,908,116	1,004,280	1,023,312	8,021,433	7,931,428
Land improvements	50,996	59,525	-	-	50,996	59,525
Machinery and equipment	264,571	132,697	534,896	237,085	799,467	369,782
Vehicles	351,146	450,828	-	-	351,146	450,828
Infrastructure	<u>6,047,618</u>	<u>6,231,145</u>	<u>1,971,020</u>	<u>2,010,610</u>	<u>8,018,638</u>	<u>8,241,755</u>
	<u>\$ 15,219,842</u>	<u>\$ 15,189,669</u>	<u>\$ 3,510,196</u>	<u>\$ 3,271,007</u>	<u>\$ 18,730,038</u>	<u>\$ 18,460,676</u>

Major capital asset additions during FY 2020-2021 include a JD 4WD Loader to be used by the Highway department and window replacements and vestibule security renovations at the Kent Center School facility. The Kent Sewer Commission added a Belt Press, an air conditioning system for the plant office, a new mower and a used loader.

### **Debt Administration**

At June 30, 2021, the Town's long-term debt, the refunded general obligation bond of February 1 2012, was satisfied and there was no debt outstanding at the end of the fiscal year.

The Kent Sewer Commission does have USDA loan obligations and that information can be found on page 35 in the notes to Financial Statements.

Including \$727,980 of Regional School District No. 1 debt, for which the Town is contingently liable, the Town's outstanding debt is significantly below the statutory debt limit of \$77,068,103 (seven times the base for debt limitation computation).

Additional information on the Town's long-term obligations can be found in Note 8 of the financial statements.

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

While there were no changes to the budget preparation process due to the Covid-19 pandemic, there were several changes to the budget approval process. In continuum, all meetings were held via Zoom teleconferencing including the annual Public Hearing to present the proposed budgets. The budget referendum was held via Zoom as well which was in contrast to the prior year where the Board of Finance operated under an executive order from the Governor and approved the budgets and mil rate without holding a budget referendum. The Board of Finance anticipates that the budget approval process will revert to prior practices when all of the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions are lifted.

The Town's elected officials considered many factors when creating the fiscal year 2021 - 2022 budget and setting the property tax rate.

- Increased funding and an expansion of the Emergency Management Department.
- Increased funding for the Kent Memorial Library
- EMT staffing and the appropriate funding level needed for those services.
- Keeping Capital Project funding moderate.
- Keeping the Mil rate flat
- Enrollment at Kent Center School due to the influx of permanent residents.
- Covid Relief funding and ARPA funding

## **REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION**

Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report, or requests for additional financial information, should be addressed to the Board of Selectmen at 41 Kent Green Boulevard, P.O. Box 678, Kent, CT 06757.



**TOWN OF KENT, CONNECTICUT**

**GENERAL FUND  
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES  
BUDGET AND ACTUAL (NON-GAAP BUDGETARY BASIS)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021**

	Budgeted Amounts				Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	Original	Transfers	Final	Actual	
<b>Property Taxes</b>					
Property taxes	\$ 10,916,134	\$ -	\$ 10,916,134	\$ 11,029,210	\$ 113,076
<b>Interest and Lien Fees</b>	40,500	-	40,500	47,963	7,463
<b>Intergovernmental Revenues</b>					
Education assistance	27,830	-	27,830	27,594	(236)
Mashantucket Pequot	1,298	-	1,298	1,298	-
Town aid roads	285,000	-	285,000	291,531	6,531
In lieu of taxes	28,889	-	28,889	28,889	-
Other	1,000	-	1,000	60,538	59,538
	344,017	-	344,017	409,850	65,833
<b>Investment Income</b>					
Interest and dividends	50,000	-	50,000	6,397	(43,603)
	50,000	-	50,000	6,397	(43,603)
<b>Departmental</b>					
Building fees	18,000	-	18,000	29,182	11,182
Planning and zoning	15,000	-	15,000	24,471	9,471
Parks and recreation	32,000	-	32,000	10,135	(21,865)
Town clerk recording fees and conveyance taxes	80,000	-	80,000	209,632	129,632
Transfer station	95,000	-	95,000	107,870	12,870
Other	7,500	-	7,500	4,840	(2,660)
	247,500	-	247,500	386,130	138,630
<b>Other</b>					
Rental income	97,952	-	97,952	90,736	(7,216)
Telecommunications property	13,000	-	13,000	13,673	673
Miscellaneous	81,000	-	81,000	123,375	42,375
Surplus	780,000	-	780,000	-	(780,000)
Transfer from other funds	20,000	-	20,000	20,000	-
	991,952	-	991,952	247,784	(744,168)
<b>Total revenues</b>	<u>\$ 12,590,103</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 12,590,103</u>	<u>\$ 12,127,334</u>	<u>\$ (462,769)</u>

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**TOWN OF KENT, CONNECTICUT**

**GENERAL FUND  
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES  
BUDGET AND ACTUAL (NON-GAAP BUDGETARY BASIS)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021**

	<b>Budgeted Amounts</b>				<b>Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)</b>
	<b>Original</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>Final</b>	<b>Actual</b>	
<b>General Government</b>					
Board of Selectmen	\$ 212,899	\$ -	\$ 212,899	\$ 206,547	\$ 6,352
Probate Court	4,500	-	4,500	4,431	69
Elections	32,084	1,200	33,284	33,257	27
Board of Finance	25,266	500	25,766	25,631	135
Treasurer	56,017	-	56,017	54,691	1,326
Assessors	94,941	-	94,941	71,439	23,502
Tax Collector	76,493	-	76,493	66,370	10,123
Assessment Appeals	2,769	-	2,769	-	2,769
Conservation Commission	2,495	-	2,495	698	1,797
Town Clerk	141,815	-	141,815	128,017	13,798
Planning and Zoning	87,058	-	87,058	79,709	7,349
Zoning Board of Appeals	2,330	-	2,330	729	1,601
Inland Wetlands Commission	41,939	-	41,939	41,316	623
Building Inspector	14,138	2,100	16,238	16,213	25
Town Hall	117,700	-	117,700	110,555	7,145
Legal	29,000	46,000	75,000	74,674	326
Town library grant	110,000	-	110,000	110,000	-
Cemetery Association grant	37,000	-	37,000	37,000	-
Council of Governments	3,595	-	3,595	2,578	1,017
Insurance	103,717	-	103,717	94,494	9,223
Contingency	10,000	(7,240)	2,760	-	2,760
Historic District Commission	500	-	500	-	500
Other	5,401	-	5,401	5,024	377
	<u>1,211,657</u>	<u>42,560</u>	<u>1,254,217</u>	<u>1,163,373</u>	<u>90,844</u>
<b>Public Safety</b>					
Fire Marshal	34,776	-	34,776	26,992	7,784
Fire protection grant	86,500	55,000	141,500	125,707	15,793
Litchfield County dispatch	31,555	-	31,555	31,554	1
Resident trooper	190,000	-	190,000	175,146	14,854
Paramedic Association	41,516	-	41,516	40,892	624
Civil preparedness	4,950	-	4,950	4,808	142
	<u>389,297</u>	<u>55,000</u>	<u>444,297</u>	<u>405,099</u>	<u>39,198</u>
<b>Public Works</b>					
Highways	1,405,932	(67,500)	1,338,432	1,065,500	272,932
Town aid road	285,000	-	285,000	285,000	-
Town utilities	45,000	3,440	48,440	44,818	3,622
Town garage building	20,810	-	20,810	17,255	3,555
Tree upkeep	23,075	-	23,075	19,830	3,245
	<u>1,779,817</u>	<u>(64,060)</u>	<u>1,715,757</u>	<u>1,432,403</u>	<u>283,354</u>

**TOWN OF KENT, CONNECTICUT**

**GENERAL FUND  
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES  
BUDGET AND ACTUAL (NON-GAAP BUDGETARY BASIS)  
(CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021**

	Budgeted Amounts				Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	Original	Transfers	Final	Actual	
<b>Health and Welfare</b>					
General assistance	\$ 75,460	\$ -	\$ 75,460	\$ 73,934	\$ 1,526
Senior Center	19,075	-	19,075	14,236	4,839
Director of Health and health district	15,262	-	15,262	15,262	-
Welcome Center	7,500	12,500	20,000	19,976	24
Youth Service Bureau	7,000	-	7,000	-	7,000
Other grants	35,100	-	35,100	35,200	(100)
	159,397	12,500	171,897	158,608	13,289
<b>Recreation</b>					
Community house	24,855	-	24,855	23,044	1,811
Parks and recreation	161,135	-	161,135	111,872	49,263
Lake Waramaug Interlocal	2,000	-	2,000	1,953	47
Lake Waramaug Authority	2,400	-	2,400	2,066	334
Kent Center School ballfield maintenance	20,000	-	20,000	13,890	6,110
Swift house	11,300	2,200	13,500	13,469	31
	221,690	2,200	223,890	166,294	57,596
<b>Sanitation</b>					
Landfill monitoring	2,000	-	2,000	1,769	231
Transfer station	141,292	6,800	148,092	148,055	37
	143,292	6,800	150,092	149,824	268
<b>Board of Education</b>					
Local expenditures:					
Salaries	2,798,099	-	2,798,099	2,732,134	65,965
Employee benefits	922,724	-	922,724	857,032	65,692
Purchased professional services	43,375	-	43,375	42,070	1,305
Purchased property services	84,085	-	84,085	127,550	(43,465)
Pupil transportation	242,698	-	242,698	242,698	-
Supplies and utilities	403,853	-	403,853	377,438	26,415
Insurance	63,180	-	63,180	64,203	(1,023)
Dues and fees	13,750	-	13,750	7,457	6,293
Cafeteria subsidy	35,000	-	35,000	35,000	-
Contingency	40,000	-	40,000	-	40,000
Other	8,500	-	8,500	8,500	-
Regional Expenditures:					
Pupil services	970,991	-	970,991	907,229	63,762
HVRHS tuition	1,445,435	-	1,445,435	1,456,104	(10,669)
Administrative services	220,347	-	220,347	219,328	1,019
	7,292,037	-	7,292,037	7,076,743	215,294

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**TOWN OF KENT, CONNECTICUT**

**GENERAL FUND**

**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FINANCING USES**

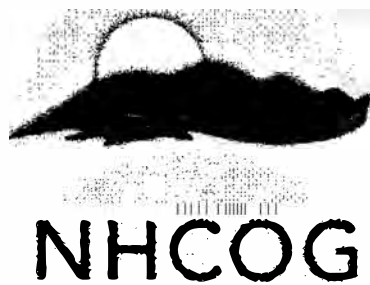
**BUDGET AND ACTUAL (NON-GAAP BUDGETARY BASIS)**

**(CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021**

	Budgeted Amounts				Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	Original	Transfers	Final	Actual	
<b>Debt Service</b>					
Principal	\$ 397,703	\$ -	\$ 397,703	\$ 397,703	\$ -
Interest	34,866	-	34,866	34,866	-
	<u>432,569</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>432,569</u>	<u>432,569</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<u>11,629,756</u>	<u>55,000</u>	<u>11,684,756</u>	<u>10,984,913</u>	<u>699,843</u>
<b>Other Financing Uses</b>					
Transfers out:					
Capital projects fund	952,847	140,000	1,092,847	1,092,847	-
Dog fund	7,500	-	7,500	7,500	-
	<u>960,347</u>	<u>140,000</u>	<u>1,100,347</u>	<u>1,100,347</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total expenditures and other financing uses</b>	<u>\$ 12,590,103</u>	<u>\$ 195,000</u>	<u>\$ 12,785,103</u>	<u>\$ 12,085,260</u>	<u>\$ 699,843</u>





— Northwest Hills —  
Council of Governments

## **2021 ANNUAL REPORT**

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

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

[www.no1thwesthillscog.org](http://www.no1thwesthillscog.org).

A major focus area in 2021 was the continued implementation of the COG's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the Region. Major strategies outlined in the CEDS include expanding access to high-speed fiber optic broadband (Fiber to the Home - FTTH), promoting tourism/arts/culture, supporting local farms, strengthening manufacturing, and encouraging entrepreneurs and innovation.

The COG also concluded the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update for all 21 towns in the region this year. At the time of this report, the retained consultant has submitted the draft plan for final FEMA review and approval. FEMA requires that these plans be updated every 5 years for towns to remain eligible for various FEMA funding programs.

The NHCOG continuously promotes the on-line Interactive Regional Trail Map that was developed by the COG in cooperation with the Housatonic Valley Association to promote access to the public trails in the region. A statewide CT Trailfinder website is now also complete which will further draw attention to the outstanding trail resources we have in the Northwest Hills. It is notable that the trail schema that was developed is being used for the development of a state-wide program.

A Corridor Management Study of East Main Street in Torrington was a major transportation planning project that was completed this past year. The purpose of this study was to develop recommendations to enhance the safety, traffic flow, and streetscape of this heavily travelled corridor. The COG also continues to coordinate the popular Rural Independent Transportation Service, which offers trips to the elderly and disabled for medical appointments.

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

The NHCOC also serves as the oversight agent for about \$385,000 in Homeland Security Grant overall funding that is received each year for DEMHS Region 5. There are a number of projects and equipment acquisitions to support this program and are decided upon by a committee made up of emergency support function leads on an annual basis.

In 2021, the COG continued coordination of numerous popular programs such as a prescription assistance program in cooperation with the Foundation for Community Health, a Neighbor-to-Neighbor program in cooperation with the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, a fuel bank program, the Northwest Hills Public Works Equipment Cooperative, and the region's cooperative purchasing program.

The COG also continued to assist local organizations including the Regional Housing Council, Northwest Hills Road Supervisors Association, Recycling Advisory Committee, the Regional Coordination Center for COVID-19 response and recovery, and the Housatonic River Commission.

In addition, the COG continued to host a quarterly "5<sup>th</sup> Thursday" forum for area Planning, Zoning, and Conservation Commission members to meet and discuss items of mutual interest, hear guest speakers, and provide input on regional plans.

Serving as officers of the COG during FY 2019-2020 were Don Stein, Chairman; Bob Valentine, Vice Chairman; Charlie Perotti, Secretary; and Michael Criss, Treasurer. COG staff included Darlene Krukar, Office Manager; Jocelyn Ayer, Community and Economic Development Director; Janell Mullen, Regional Planner; and Rick Lynn, Executive Director.

Finally, the COG extends its deepest appreciation for the more than 30 years that Rick Lynn served as Executive Director to the COG. In the month of June, Mr. Lynn retired and Robert A Phillips assumed the role as Executive Director.

The same appreciation is also extended to Darlene Krukar, who will also be retiring at the end of the calendar year 2021 after over 20 years of managing the financial and office administration.

Lastly, we wish the best of luck and appreciation to Jocelyn Ayer as she moves on to new opportunities in the region working on affordable housing initiatives by the end of the calendar year 2021.

Respectfully  
submitted, Robert  
A Phillips, ATCP  
Executive Director

## **Northwest Connecticut Regional Housing Council Annual Report**

*Submitted: October 2021*

Providing housing options that are affordable for young adults, young families, seniors, and those who work in our towns is critically important to our towns. Creating these housing options is the sole focus of the Northwest Connecticut Regional Housing Council,

The Council is made up of representatives from each town's local housing organization who meet quarterly to report upon and gain valuable information for their town-specific planning and housing development. At meetings, we learn from each other as we share the progress and current hurdles we are encountering in our varied town housing initiatives. Questions raised and hands-on ideas and resources cause attendees to leave the meetings with possible next steps, support, and resources. The Council also advocates for the funding resources critically needed by our local housing organizations to build affordable housing in our towns.

The Housing Council has a website with resources for our local housing organizations and people looking for information about affordable housing in Northwest Connecticut. The site contains links to all the housing organizations in our region, frequently asked questions, photos of the affordable housing in our region and stories from employers and residents about the importance of affordable housing options in our towns. Check it out at: [www.nwcthousing.org](http://www.nwcthousing.org)

We thank David Berto of Housing Enterprises Inc. for attending our meetings and providing technical assistance to our housing organizations. We thank our member towns for their financial support and NHCOC for hosting our meetings and organizing speakers. Our towns' \$100 annual dues are a cost effective investment in our area's future. For more information on the Regional Housing Council or the local housing organizations which are members, visit [www.nwcthousing.org](http://www.nwcthousing.org).

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Groody Musselman, Chair (Litchfield Housing Trust)  
Chris Sanders, Vice-Chair (Goshen Housing Trust)

## **Park and Recreation**

Collaboratively written by the Commission

Fiscal year 20-21 was a difficult one for Kent Park and Recreation.

Despite this there were still some highlights:

- Partnered with Kent Land Trust to put on the Summer Concert Series. Updates to the 2020 series included pre-registration and individually marked zones for attendees.
- As a Spring/Easter celebration, we introduced Kent Park and Rock Decorating Contest. Gift bags to all participants and prizes to the winners were picked up at Town Hall. 25 participants submitted photos of their rocks and were judged by community members via google docs.
- Restarted the After-School Program with updated health and safety protocols.
- Haunted Drive-thru Halloween event at Club Getaway. Volunteers transformed the entrance road at Club Getaway to create a drive through experience with spooky themes and haunted stations.
- Glow necklaces for Trick-or-Treaters. We helped Resident State Trooper Andrew Fisher distribute approximately 275 glow necklaces.
- The Commission's work on a Master Plan continues, with commissioners touring the parks to focus on areas of concern.
- Hiring CT Fence to work on fencing repairs at Emery Park and the tennis courts.
- Hiring Miranda Lovato in the spring as a part-time interim P&R Director. She stepped in as the ASP Director as well for the remainder of the 20/21 school year.

However, our ability to offer programs was adversely impacted in several ways.

First, staffing changes were instrumental.

Co-leader Susan Vizzari resigned from the After-School Program in February after many years of service.

This was followed in April by the resignation of Park and Recreation Director Lesly Ferris after 24 years of service. The commission thanks both these ladies for their time and commitment.

Finally, efforts to open Emery Park for the summer of 2021 were hampered by lack of lifeguard staff (despite trying to partner with Club Getaway for training).

Second, because of COVID-19 restrictions we had limited use of facilities. We were not able to use the KCS gym, closing the popular basketball program. We could not access town facilities at the Senior Center or the Community House which also shut down several programs. And for reasons other than COVID-19, we were unable to open Emery Park. Beaver related issues in the feeder pond created a health concern as well as preventing repair work on the pool.

Unfortunately, without the usual number of volunteers, the Commission was unable to keep up with the maintenance of the parks. Without steady use, our parks became a target for destructive behavior. Emery Park suffered. The Camp Kent Shed had windows broken as well as attempts to break the locks. Gates around the pool were damaged as well as a section of the fence. Two picnic tables were destroyed. At Kent Commons, the tennis court nets, fencing, and gates suffered damage and graffiti appeared in the pavilion. Dog walkers at both parks seemed to forget to pick up after the dogs, even leaving poo-bags near the garbage cans not in them.

Third, the obvious ramifications to the loss of programs is a loss of revenue. The commission is working to bring back programs, both traditional and many new ones. Search committees were formed to find a new ASP director and a new Park and Recreation Director. There is work to be done and we will be asking for the town's volunteers and tax payers to help us rebound with a renewed energy and commitment to all our residents.

Park and Recreation Commission Members, three year terms:

Lynn Harrington, Chair	term expires January 2024
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Abigail Smith Hanby, Member	term expires January 2024
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Blythe Everett, Member	term expires January 2023
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Michael Perkins, Member	term expires January 2023
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John Grant, Member	term expires January 2022
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Kate Symonds, Member	term expires January 2022
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Alternates, one year terms:

Diane Impastato, Alternate	term expires January 2022
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Julia Neff, Alternate	term expires January 2022
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## **PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION**

**Matthew Winter, Chairman**

**Donna Hayes, Land Use Administrator**

In their role as maintainers and establishers of the Town of Kent Zoning Regulations, the Planning and Zoning Commission is also responsible for the updating of the Plan of Conservation and Development. This update started at the end of this fiscal year and will continue to be worked on until the final version is ready for submission to the State in January of 2023. In addition, the Commission is responsible for making sure that the regulations are updated and comply with any changes to CGS Section 8-2. With recent changes being made to the State Statutes as a result of the Executive Orders issued due to COVID and the changes proposed by various organizations, updates to the Town's regulations have become a fluid endeavor and will continue as events evolve.

**Total Fees Collected:                      \$31,374**

There were a total of 106 applications submitted. The breakdown is as follows:

Sign Permits	8	Subdivision Approvals	0
Zoning Permits	67	Floodplain	0
Special Permit Approvals	13	Reg. Change Approvals	3
Site Plan Approvals	19	Zone Change Approvals	0
Driveway Permits	7	Modifications	2
Temporary	2		

### **P&Z Commission**

Members shall be elected at the biennial elections of the Town for terms of six years. Vacancies in office of members shall be filled by the Commission for the unexpired portion of the term. Alternates are appointed for 2-year terms by the Board of Selectmen.

<u>Members:</u>	<u>Term Expires:</u>	<u>Alternates:</u>	<u>Term Expires:</u>
Adam Manes	11/2023	Richard Chavka	11/2021
Darrell Cherniske	11/2025	Anne McAndrew	11/2021
Marc Weingarten	11/2023	David Birnbaum	11/2021
Alice Hicks	11/2021		
Karen Casey	11/2025		
Matt Winter	11/2021		
Wes Wyrick	11/2025		

***The Architectural Review Board*** consists of 5 regular members and up to two alternates who are appointed by the Planning and Zoning Commission for staggered two-year terms. During this fiscal year, the ARB acted on 3 applications, all of which were for miscellaneous alterations to existing properties. They continue to work with the owner of 60 North Main Street with regard to finishes and landscaping for the new gallery.

<u>Members:</u>	<u>Term Expiration</u>
Peter Hanby, AIA	8/2022
Ellen Corsel	8/2022
OPEN	8/2023
Derek Larson	8/2023
OPEN (A)	8/2022

# REGION 1

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

It is time again to reflect upon the events and achievements in Region I schools and report the highlights to the towns of Canaan, Cornwall, Kent, North Canaan, Salisbury, Sharon.

While the circumstances of the global pandemic created a frightening and challenging 2020-2021 for all; in Region 1, all of the pre-k-8 schools opened for full in-person attendance for the entire year. Housatonic Valley Regional High School (HVRHS) opened with a hybrid model (two cohorts of students who attended school in-person, each for half of the week,) and ended the year with all students attending in-person. Teachers and staff leaned into the concept of **Region 1 Strong!** and worked with families to ensure that students made expected grade level progress while attending to the social emotional needs that arose throughout the year. Although Region I schools were open for in-person learning, due to concerns about protecting those who were most vulnerable to the more serious effects of the virus, the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) allowed that families could opt to have their children attend school virtually from their homes. Thus, teachers throughout the Region simultaneously provided instruction to the students who were in attendance physically as well as online. By the spring, the combination of no in-school virus transmission and the availability of effective vaccines (for adults and adolescents) caused at-home learners to begin to return to school. Kent Center School began the year with 21 students engaged in distance learning and finished the year with 10. The High School began with 60 remote learners and ended the year with 52.

From a Regional perspective, most students achieved expected curricular learning targets. However, consistent with national and State trends, student achievement data indicates some shortfalls for all students in the areas of early literacy and math. Additionally, students who engaged in distance learning tended not to be as successful as their peers in mastering grade level expectations. At Kent Center School, most students were in attendance for the full year and met student achievement targets according to curricular expectations. Teachers are aware of those students who struggled throughout the year and are working with them to resolve areas of unfinished learning while continuing to focus on grade level expectations for the current year.

To ensure public awareness of the impact of COVID-19 on the school system, each Board of Education received a monthly summary of total cases for each district. Kent Center School (KCS) had an annual total of 24 COVID cases (including 5 students, 18 family members and 1 staff member) that touched the school community. HVRHS had a total of 30 cases (17 students, 11 family members and 1 staff member). There was no spread of the virus due to in-school transmission. We thank the administration, students and their families, and staff for their vigilance in keeping the case rates low by following all of the Region I Health and Safety practices throughout the year.

Region 1 also experienced a bump in student population (173 new students region wide) due to the in-migration of families who were escaping the more densely populated areas. KCS welcomed 34 new students as a result of this movement and HVRHS welcomed 18.

With respect to the school's physical plants, all schools in Connecticut received guidelines from the CSDE and the Connecticut Department of Public Health to support the mitigation of virus transmission while in the building. Modifications included the installation of window fans (placed to blow air out of the classroom), plexiglass dividers in classrooms and communal eating spaces and improved air filtration from existing HVAC systems. Kent Center School followed all of these guidelines.

# REGION 1

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

In addition to the COVID-19 projects, the respective BOEs approved the following building repairs and improvements for KCS and HVRHS as follows:

### KCS

- Reconfiguring the front entryway to better fortify the front of the school.
- Add a picture window so secretarial staff can see into the lobby.
- Reconfiguring office space.
- Upgrade the entire camera system (new DVRs, cameras, etc.).

### HVRHS

- Replaced booster pump in the North boiler room for the water system.
- Upgrade heating controls throughout the building.
- Replaced septic lines in the main part of the building.

Finally, the grant funds were disbursed to all schools throughout the year to offset the expenses incurred during 2020-2021 as well as over the next two years. Kent Center School has received \$343,357. The BOE has voted to allocate those funds to offset the cost of tutoring services, additional hours for the school counselor, building maintenance, and supplies needed for student safety. The High School has received a total of \$1,455,189 and those funds are allocated to building improvements, additional staff to work with students, and additional personnel in Central Office.

To be sure, 2020-2021 was a year like no other. However, thanks to the care, commitment and perseverance of BOEs, administrators, staff, families and community members, we remained *Region 1 Strong!* and did much more than just survive the year. Many thanks to all.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa B. Carter



# Resident Trooper

The Resident Trooper program offered by the State of Connecticut has continued to offer a liaison between the State Police and the Kent town officials, public and private schools, and the public. This program supplements the 24-hour police coverage of Kent by the Connecticut State Police Barracks in Litchfield.

The Resident Trooper's duties include investigation of both reported criminal activities and reported motor vehicle accidents. Motor vehicle laws are enforced to ensure compliance, and encourage safer driving. Periodically both the Resident Trooper and patrol Troopers will engage in safety belt (seat belt) and speed enforcement. Trooper Fisher also responds to calls for assistance, as well as helping fire and ambulance personnel with medical emergencies.

Trooper Fisher assisted with several community projects such as Pumpkin Run, Parade of Lights, Toy and Turkey drives. Trooper Fisher as incorporation with ECONN assisted with safety at both Kent Falls and Bulls Bridge. Trooper Fisher also assisted with the many complications of COVID-19 throughout the year.

During the fiscal year, Connecticut State Police responded to numerous requests for assistance in the town of Kent. State Troopers assisted Kent Fire Department and Ambulance as well as other State and municipal agencies numerous times. State Troopers also investigated abandoned motor vehicles, assisted citizens with non-criminal issues, served subpoenas, fingerprinted various types of applicants, removed traffic hazards, responded to roaming animal complaints, lost hikers, patrol checks of residential and business, as well as conducting other caretaking functions.

Trooper First Class Andrew Fisher, Kent Resident Trooper



## Social Services Department

Leah Pullaro, Director

The Social Services Department 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 Kent in developing the skills and knowledge necessary to seek services and support through self-advocacy. The Social Services director, utilizing a variety of local, State and Federal resources, assisted Kent households. The total financial assistance for the fiscal year was **\$153,220.34**:

\$31,032.22	State of CT/Federal Energy Assistance Program
\$37,078.00*	Kent Community Fund
\$20,593.50	State of CT Renter's Rebate Program for Elderly/Disabled
\$ 12,479.09	Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation
\$ 21,735.39	Kent Food/Fuel Fund
\$ 4,865.40	Foundation for Community Health Prescription Fund
\$ 10,076.15	Town Social Services Assist Fund

\*(Food Bank purchases \$8,511; heating fuel, medical, rent, utilities, car repair assistance \$28,567).

The Back to School Program provided twenty-seven Kent children with new backpacks and a gift card to purchase clothing. This program was made possible through the support of High Watch, Kent School, local churches, and individual donations.

The Kent Food Bank and Diaper Bank, thanks to the support of the Kent Community Fund and generous local donors, continues to supplement the nutritional needs of many Kent households. None of which could be possible without the hard work of dedicated volunteers. Over the last year, the Kent Food Bank provided food to prepare an average of 2,109 meals each month to an average of 36 adults, 21 children, and 18 seniors. The Food Bank's Vegetable Program was established in conjunction with Kent Land Trust and Marple Valley Farm provided 40 weekly shares of fresh organic vegetables.



**TOWN OF KENT, CONNECTICUT**  
**REPORT OF THE TAX COLLECTOR**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021**

Grand List October 1,	Restated Uncollected Taxes June 30, 2020	Lawful Corrections		Suspense Transfers	Adjusted Taxes Collectible	Collections			Uncollected Taxes June 30, 2021
		Additions	Deductions			Taxes	Interest and Lien Fees	Total	
2019	\$ 11,059,580	\$ 5,371	\$ 17,764	\$ 1,439	\$ 11,045,748	\$ 10,952,329	\$ 19,079	\$ 10,971,408	\$ 93,419
2018	150,775	5	4,441	1,222	145,117	127,774	19,236	147,010	17,343
2017	77,159	95	-	532	76,722	72,143	20,749	92,892	4,579
2016	3,827	-	-	300	3,527	758	386	1,144	2,769
2015	1,825	-	-	206	1,619	-	-	-	1,619
2014	2,697	-	-	6	2,691	101	93	194	2,590
2013	1,690	-	-	-	1,690	-	55	55	1,690
2012	1,120	-	-	-	1,120	35	9	44	1,085
2011	758	-	-	-	758	-	-	-	758
2010	580	-	-	-	580	-	-	-	580
2009	552	-	-	-	552	-	-	-	552
2008	281	-	-	-	281	-	-	-	281
2007	768	-	-	-	768	-	-	-	768
2006	53	-	-	-	53	-	-	-	53
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 11,301,665</b>	<b>\$ 5,471</b>	<b>\$ 22,205</b>	<b>\$ 3,705</b>	<b>\$ 11,281,226</b>	<b>\$ 11,153,140</b>	<b>\$ 59,607</b>	<b>\$ 11,212,747</b>	<b>\$ 128,086</b>

See accompanying Independent Auditors' Report.

**TORRINGTON AREA HEALTH DISTRICT**  
**ANNUAL REPORT: JULY 1, 2020 – JUNE 30, 2021**

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

The TAHD Community Health Program partnered with DPH and FoodCORE to Investigate: 3 giardiasis, 17 campylobacteriosis and 16 salmonellosis cases. TAHD provided guidance to school nurses, daycares, and community members on a variety of health Issues. TAHD nurses administered 478 doses of flu vaccine to residents. TAHD consulted with 27 residents regarding potential rabies exposures which resulted in TAHD submitting 14 specimens to the State of CT Laboratory for rabies testing. Ticks brought in by 66 residents were sent to the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station for Lyme disease bacteria testing.

TAHD is an active member of Fit Together, a Northwest Connecticut Healthy Eating and Active Living Initiative. A bike -rack was Installed at Winsted Health Center location, Fit Together awarded 8 mini grants to multiples schools and organizations throughout the community that promotes healthy eating and active living. Healthy cooking kid friendly videos were created and posted on the Fit Together NWCT- Healthy Starts Here ([how2fltkids.org](http://how2fltkids.org)) website.

TAHD Is an active member of the Litchfield County Opiate Task Force (LCOTF) working on strategies and solutions to the heroin/opiate epidemic. TAHD completed the Strategic: Prevention Framework for Prescription Drugs (SPF Rx) grant raising awareness and educating communities by utilizing the CT "*Change the Script*" campaign. Overdoses were tracked in a system called overdose Detection Mapping Application Program (ODMAP), TAHD received a grant to provide programing for the Statewide Expansion and Response Project for the overdose Detection Mapping Application (ODMAP) to ensure comprehensive coordination of services. TAHD staff provided training to local pharmacies and medical offices on the CT Prescription Monitoring and Reporting System {CPMRS} and Naloxone administration as part of the Academic Detallng on Opioid Safety (ADOPSI grant.

The TAHD Immunization Action Program (IAP) worked with local providers and hospitals to ensure compliance with CT childhood immunization laws. TAHD had an outstanding rate of 100% for referrals into CTWiZ (Connecticut's immunization information system). TAHD assisted health care partners with enrollment into the Vaccine Administration Management System (VAMS) and CT WIZ in order to track COVIO and other vaccinations.

The TAHD Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program provided case management for more than 46 children with blood lead levels(<5µ/dl) as well as provided educational information to more than 100 families. Abatement/ Remediation Orders were issued for 3 properties.

TAHD Environmental Health Program resulted in the following inspections/licenses/permits: 868 food inspections, 349 temporary food permits, 151 new septic systems, 340 repaired septic systems, 241 private well permits, 139 private pool permits, 92 beauty salons & barber shops inspections, 669 house addition permits, 389 soil tests, 33 subdivision lots, 37 public pools and beaches were Inspected, and 21 daycare centers inspected. Records show that approximately 346 samples were submitted to the state lab for testing of drinking water, beach and pool water, lead in water, soil and dust, and stool samples for pathogens. Sanitarians investigated 361 complaints of various public health concerns; 16 legal orders/voluntary compliances were issued for enforcement purposes,

The TAHD Emergency Preparedness Program worked with local and regional community partners on the COVID Response. Activities included: outbreak investigations, contact tracing, consultation (health partners, public safety, town, and school officials) receiving and distribution of personal protective equipment, and vaccination clinics.

**The TAHD-Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Program was very active this year playing an integral part In COVID-19 vaccination clinics. During the COVID-19 response, 26 volunteers assisted with many aspects of clinic operations including registration, vaccination, greeting, observation and parking duties.**

**During the month of December TAHD started mass COVID-19 vaccination clinics and continued to hold clinics weekly. To date TAHD has vaccinated 10,000+ individuals with the Moderna vaccine. Public clinics were held 3-4 days a week. Private clinics were held for educators. Working with community partners TAHD vaccinated vulnerable populations from congregate settings such as Mountainside, FISH and Primetime House.**

**Along with holding clinics TAHD went out to homes and vaccinated 71 homebound individuals with the J&J vaccine. Additional homebound individuals were vaccinated through partnering with New Opportunities, Charlotte Hungerford Hospital and Community Health and Wellness.**

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



**Robert Rubbo, MPH, Director of Health**



## TOWN CLERK & REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS



### Fiscal Year 2020-2021

***Town Clerk & Registrar: Darlene F. Brady***

*Assistants: Marie France Corsini, Lyn Stirnweiss*

The duties of the Town Clerk are based primarily on State Statutes (in fact Chapter 92 is devoted solely to the position) however we do work with several other state agencies. The statutory responsibilities of the office include; keeping the town seal (§7-101) and records of all votes of the town (§7-23), the recording of instruments and the safekeeping and indexing of records (§7-24, 25), accepting properly prepared maps for filing (§7-31), and collecting the fees for these transactions (§7-34). Liquor permits issued by the Department of Consumer Protection must be filed with the Town Clerk (§30-53) as well as Trade Name Certificates (§35-1). We also record military discharge papers (§1-219). Agendas and meeting minutes of all town boards and commissions must be filed with the Town Clerk pursuant to The Freedom of Information Act (§1-225) which in addition to maintaining files in the office; we also continue to make them accessible on the town's website. Under the guidance of the Secretary of State, we are involved with the processes of notary publics, justices of the peace, and the issuance of absentee ballots for elections. We issue dog licenses and sportsman licenses and collect the revenue for State. The Department of Public Health mandates the Town Clerk's issuing and recording of birth, marriage, and death certificates.

In addition to being open 31 hours a week for walk in business, our land records from 1928 to the present are available on-line at [searchiqs.com](http://searchiqs.com) or by following a link from our website [townofkentct.org](http://townofkentct.org). This allows attorneys and title searchers to access the information they need to handle Kent residents' real estate transactions right from their home or office, and gives residents not able to come in during office hours the ability to directly access their information.

We always welcome comments and suggestions on how to make our office better for our customers. Please feel free to give us a call at 860.927.3433 or email us at [townclerk@townofkentct.org](mailto:townclerk@townofkentct.org) with your ideas.

Revenues-Fees Collected			Vital Statistics	
Recordings	588	78457.00	Births	24
Copies		4958.00	Marriages	20
Vital Records		3890.00	Deaths	23
Fish & Game Licenses	37	38.00		
Dog Licenses	389	389.00		
Miscellaneous		340.00		
Conveyance Tax		172567.77		
Total Revenues		260639.77		

**Women's Support Services Annual Report**

**01 July 2020 – 30 June 2021**

**Town of Kent**

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As Women's Support Services celebrated our 40th Anniversary this September, we had much on which to reflect. From a grassroots, volunteer effort in 1981 with a budget of \$15,380 to a full-time staff of 10 members and a budget in excess of \$1 million, there have been a lot of changes along the way. Some of the significant achievements include:

- **1985** – Women's Emergency Services (as we were then known) is one of the founding members of the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV).
- **1986** – Governor O'Neill signs into law a bill making family violence a specific crime under state law and allowing police to make arrests without warrants in domestic violence cases.
- **1998** – WES partners with the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation to launch the "Calling All Cars" program, providing reliable donated vehicles to clients.
- **2001** – Trade Secrets, WSS's signature fundraising event is founded, enabling the purchase of a new home in Sharon.
- **2014** – WSS partners with CT State Troop 'B' in Canaan and Troop 'L' in Litchfield on the Lethality Assessment Program, helping police identify victims of abuse and refer them to WSS for support.
- **2018** – WSS significantly expands its prevention education programming, reaching all schools in Region One, along with a number of private schools in the area. The following year, WSS launches the "Boys and Men" programming.

As we reflect upon the past forty years, a critical element to our ability to reach clients, educate children and teens, and create a healthier community, has been our partnerships and the overwhelming support we have received from the community and from our volunteers. The past 18 months has been a testament to that support, as we have grappled with COVID-19 and its immediate impact. It was our partnerships – with town social workers, the state police, area healthcare professionals and the schools, volunteers and donors, who ensured client support and safety and delivered much-needed encouragement to our team. **Thank you to the Town of Kent for your grant of \$1,500 and for being such an important partner during this difficult time.**

**From 01 July 2020 through 30 June 2021, Women's Support Services:**

- Provided support services to **677 clients**, 369 of whom were new clients.
- The composition of our new clients includes:
  - 344 adults and 25 children
  - 269 female, 98 male, 2 who identified as Other
- Responded to **1234 hotline crisis requests**.
- Provided **emergency shelter to 32 people for a total of 2841 nights** of shelter. This included 7 women, 1 man, and 16 children.
- Provided criminal and civil court advocacy and support to **544 victims of family violence**.
- Conducted **139 prevention workshops** to children and teens in local schools, daycares, and camps.

The long-term impact of COVID-19 is revealed in our drastically increased shelter provision – a nearly 350% increase over last year – and our clients at court – a nearly 20% increase. It is clear that this impact will be felt for some time to come. In closing, we would like to share a quote with you. Our Family Violence Victim Advocate works at the GA 18 Torrington Superior Court where she ensures victim input to both the criminal and civil court processes. The quote below is taken from the victim impact statement that one of our clients read in court during the proceedings against her abusive boyfriend. It speaks to the resiliency and strength of our clients and the importance of our programming. It also reveals how the necessity of court closures at the height of COVID-19 meant that victims of domestic violence shouldered extraordinary burdens as their cases were delayed, often for months and months, and they were forced to face their abusers in court multiple times.

*Your honor, I have found a strength and courage these past two years I never knew I had. I will continue to use my voice to help advocate for other women who are domestic violence survivors and hold my abuser accountable. This is my third appearance in court to ask that my abuser be held accountable. I'd like to share a quote from an Advocate for victims, "...a survivor shouldn't have to prove how harmed they are to prove the danger of the perpetrator's actions. The heinous acts of the abuser should stand alone, and it shouldn't be on the back of the survivor to prosecute their abuser." **The abuse should not define the survivor – it should define the perpetrator.***

**Zoning Board of Appeals  
Annual Report  
July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021**

Anthony DiPentima, Chairman  
Donna Hayes, Land Use Administrator

As prescribed by Chapter 123, Section and Chapter 250 Section 14 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Zoning Board of Appeals has the authority to hear and decide upon any appeal to an order, requirement, decision or determination of the Zoning Enforcement Officer. In addition, they shall have the authority to vary or adjust the strict application of the Town of Kent Zoning Regulations in only those cases where the unusual size, shape or topography of a lot or other unusual physical conditions make it impossible to strictly apply a specific regulation. They are also charged with the authority to hear and decide upon all requests for Certificates of Approval for motor vehicle sales, services and repair uses.

<b>Activities:</b>	<b>Actions:</b>
Variance Applications	4
Appeal	0

Total Fees Collected:                      \$680

The applications were for the following section(s):

- All four requests were for variances to the setbacks for the placement of a shed, additions to existing structures and the placement of a generator and associated propane tanks.

**Zoning Board of Appeals**

The Board consists of 5 regular members and 3 alternates. All shall be elected at the biennial elections for terms of four years. The Selectmen shall appoint members and alternates to fill vacancies presently existing or hereafter occurring to hold office until the next town election.

<u>Members:</u>	<u>Term Expires:</u>	<u>Alternates:</u>	<u>Term Expires:</u>
Anthony DiPentima	11/16/2021	Richard Barber	11/21/2023
Nick Downes	11/21/2023	Patricia Oris	11/16/2021
Daniel Murray	11/16/2021	Mike VanValkenburg	11/19/2021
Anne Bisenius	11/21/2023		
John Noneman	11/16/2021		