

BROOKLYN, CT

LOCATION:	Geographical Center of Windham County
AREA:	29 Square Miles
MILES OF ROAD:	60
INCORPORATED:	1786
GOVERNMENT:	Town Meeting Board of Selectmen Board of Finance
POPULATION:	8,254

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HISTORY OF BROOKLYN

Brooklyn was once part of the lands claimed by the Mohegan Chief, Uncas. The land, deeded in 1680 to Captain James Fitch, was sold to the first local settlers in 1703. It was settled as part of the Town of Canterbury and Pomfret with the Northeastern third having separate existence as the manorial estate of Mortlake.

Mortlake had been purchased in 1686 as a refuge for Puritans who were forced out of England with the Stuart restoration. It was not part of any town and hence neither collected taxes nor provided services to the tenants residing within its bounds.

The civil disobedience of the inhabitants of Mortlake, along with the difficulty of other residents in attending church or town meeting in Canterbury or Pomfret, led to several attempts to settle a minister, form a church and set up a separate society. Petitions were sent to General Assembly and by 1734, permission was granted to form a society and build a church. Mortlake was finally included in the new society in 1752 and the community grew and prospered.

By 1770 the Meeting House was in need of replacement and the large white church, still standing on the green, was built. One of the owners of Mortlake, Godfrey Malbone, so opposed this construction that he undertook to build and support the first Episcopal Church in the area as an alternative to paying a substantial portion of the cost of the new Meeting House.

Brooklyn was a center of revolutionary activity both before and during the War of Independence. Israel Putnam, married to the widow of the first local minister, owner of the Gen. Wolfe Tavern, and veteran of the French and Indian War, who had served in Roger's Rangers and under both General Wolfe and Lord Amherst, was a key figure in the early stage of the

HISTORY OF BROOKLYN

revolution. Putnam was in overall command at the battle of Bunker Hill and was unanimously chosen as the first Major General in the Continental Army.

The Town of Brooklyn was incorporated in 1786 and in 1819 became the county seat. The large homes, the jail, the courthouse, now used as the town hall, all reflect this period of prominence which continued through part of the nineteenth century. The Agricultural Association was formed about 1820 and continues to attract visitors with the annual fair.

Eastern Connecticut was very much involved in the Civil War and the Town of Brooklyn was no exception. A glance at the local monument will show that local men served in most of the famous battles. Local mills provided clothing and the records of churches and organizations list substantial contributions in man power. Although Brooklyn has been primarily an agricultural community, the many streams provided power for a number of small mills. Eventually areas like West Wauregan and East Brooklyn were built around substantial textile mills. For a time, the center of Brooklyn supported a bank (now the library) and a newspaper, as well as several stores.

In more recent times, Brooklyn has developed into two distinct areas. The central and western parts have continued along a residential and rural path, whereas the eastern sector has become predominantly commercial.

The rural colonial beauty of Brooklyn Center has been preserved in spite of the fact that the Town is one of the fastest growing community's in Windham County. Many of the old churches and homes have been restored. The old Court House has been internally renovated to provide town office facilities, but the colonial exterior was left unchanged.

HISTORY OF BROOKLYN

Planning and Zoning were adapted early to preserve and guide the character and development of the Town. The result has been an attractive residential center in rural surroundings at a density level, which can be supported by the environment. Farming had ceased to be a major factor in the community. A school and recreation complex is centrally located. The former town garage is well screened by trees so as not to disturb the residential surrounding and additional recreational facilities are provided on adjacent property.

Brooklyn's Economic Development Commission continues to work on several projects to promote growth in key areas of the Town's economic front. Brooklyn has joined with Eastern Connecticut Enterprise Corridor (ECEC). This is a competitive incentive program to benefit business that expand, or relocate into the industrial development areas of the participating Town's along our Interstate 395 corridor.

The northeast Connecticut Visitors District has been relocated to the Citizen's Bank building in the center of Brooklyn. This location will be a key launching place for travel, writers and tourists to start their exploration of our quiet corner.

Several initiatives are being looked into to enhance the South Main Street business district in East Brooklyn. Our 'welcome' signs at the Brooklyn Center roads have received much praise. Economic Development Commission members individually are looking at specific programs to enhance our town's presence and friendly atmosphere. The amount of time that the Town receives from the variety of commission and board volunteer members enforces our belief that our citizens 'feel good about Brooklyn.'

Brooklyn has purchased 32 acres of river frontage along the Quinebaug River. Together with two lots already owned by the

HISTORY OF BROOKLYN

Town and the transfer of a lot from the CT DOT, we now own 3550 feet of river frontage. Working with landscape design, UCONN will generate a plan that will encompass activities and passive recreation for this area.

Located in the center of Windham County, proud of its heritage and its preservation but progressive in its outlook, Brooklyn intends to continue to be a vital element in Eastern Connecticut.

TOWN OFFICIALS

Board of Selectmen

Richard Ives – First Selectman
Robert Kelleher, Joseph Voccio

Selectman's Office

Richard Ives – First Selectman
Melissa Bradley – Administrative Assistant

Finance Department

Sherry Holmes – Finance Director
Sherri Soucy – Executive Assistant

Building Office

John Berard – Building Official
Audrey Cross-Lussier – Building/Planning Assistant

Land Use/Planning & Zoning Office

Jana Butts Roberson – Land Use Administrator
Martha Fraenkel – Zoning/Blight Enforcement Officer

Town Clerk's Office

Leona Mainville – Town Clerk
Katherine Bisson – Assistant Town Clerk

Revenue Collector's Office

Jocelyne Ruffo – Revenue Collector
April Lamothe – Assistant Revenue Collector

Assessor's Office

Kathleen Thornton – Assessor
Maryann Szela – Assistant Assessor

Recreation Office

Matthew 'Bucky' Lohbusch – Director
JoAnn Lohbusch – Assistant

TOWN OFFICIALS

Board of Finance

Gene Michael Deary – Chairperson

Board of Education

Aimee Genna – Chairperson

Board of Assessment Appeals

Cassandra Leach – Chairperson

Judge of Probate

Leah Schad

Town Counsel

Suisman Shapiro

Animal Control Officer

Dianne Collette – NECCOG

Fire Marshal

Doug Kramer

Tree Warden

Richard Regis

Road Foreman

Thomas Rukstela

Agent for Elderly

Tamsen Harris

Water Pollution Control Authority

David Fuss – Chairperson

Planning & Zoning Commission

Carlene Kelleher – Chairperson

TOWN OFFICIALS

Zoning Board of Appeals

Dan Ross – Chairperson

Board of Fire Commissioners

Peter Considine – Chairperson

Parks & Recreation Commission

Michael Gaudreau – Chairperson

Inland Wetland Commission

Real Gallant – Chairperson

Economic Development Commission

Robert Simons – Chairperson

Justices of the Peace

Andrew Dionne, Marie Dusseault, Keith Ellis, Roger Engle,
David Fuss, Richard Ives, Henry Jeffs, Robert Kelleher,
Virginia Jo Moses, Lauren Rossi, Elizabeth Stillman, Carolyn
Teed-Ives, Jane Walker

Town Office Hours

Town Hall & Clifford B. Green Memorial Center Offices

Monday – Wednesday 8:00am-5:00pm

Thursday 8:00am-6:00pm

Friday CLOSED

Town Highway Department

Monday – Thursday 7:00am-4:00pm

Friday 7:00am-11:00am

Summer Hours M-TH 6:00am-4:00pm

www.brooklynct.org

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

First Selectman's Report

The Town Government completed another year in good financial and physical condition. The audit firm of O'Connell, Pace & Company found no reportable material weakness in the way that we 'manage' your money. Our general fund unreserved balance was \$604,129 at year end June 30, 2016.

Our short-term bond anticipation notes decreased from \$5,290,000 to \$5,270,000.

The Town did transfer funds from our reserves to balance the budget. The tax collection rate in 2016 was 98.6%, of which 100% was collected. The Town Clerk's office saw a decrease in fees but an increase in conveyance tax. The building permit fees increased as well as the planning and zoning fees.

Our pension fund has a 73% funded ratio, which is good considering the current market conditions.

Housing stats for single family dwellings increased from 8 fiscal year end June 30, 2015 to 10 fiscal year end June 30, 2016. Our Town is a choice place for professionals to relocate to while maintaining employment in Providence, Boston, Worcester and surrounding cities.

The strength of town government is measured by its staff, citizen volunteers and customer satisfaction. Our offices are staffed with professionals who are customer friendly as they answer questions, assist our taxpayers and fulfill their myriad of duties. Together the Town employees and Town citizens make Brooklyn a better place to live.

Richard Ives, First Selectman

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Veterans

Brooklyn held the annual Memorial Day parade on Monday, May 30, 2016. A ceremony was held at the Tatnic Hill Bridge honoring soldiers, sailors and marines lost at sea. A parade followed in the center of Town with observances made by the Parade Marshal, Firing Squad, Clergy and various attendees ending with a final observance at the South Cemetery honoring all veterans of war. Students, Rebecca DiBenedetto and Stephanie Tanner-Bellows recited respected poems “Cover them over with beautiful flowers” and Abraham Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address.

VFW Post 2650 in Danielson, CT and AMVETS Post 47 participated in our Town’s annual Veterans Day Memorial as well as the Color Guard coordinated by Rodney Bissonnette. The remembrance ceremony was held on Veterans Day, November 11, 2016 at the monuments for the II World War, Korean War and the Vietnam War.

The Town appreciates the support of VFW, AMVETS and those who dedicated their time to these ceremonies and to the help received from the Fire Departments and our Resident Troopers.

Building Official

During the fiscal year of July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016, four hundred eleven (411) building permits were issued valued at \$9,550,249. 5 permits were renewed and 10 were new homes. Total receipts to the Town were \$77,118 in permit fees. There were also 18 apartment inspections done with receipts equaling \$270. The office hours of the Building Official, John A. Berard, are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Mondays and 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursday evenings.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Town Clerk

The Town Clerk's office records and maintains all land record transactions for all property owners in the Town of Brooklyn. This office recorded approximately 1627 land records in 2016 and maintains over 588 volumes of land records. The office has an electronic search system available to the public for researching land transactions. In addition, all land records are available online at www.uslandrecords.com. Survey and subdivision maps are also filed in the office and are now available electronically for printing. Twenty-two maps were recorded and reproduced in 2016. Over 2,500 maps are on file. A total of \$250,849 in fees were collected with 37% of the total submitted to the State of Connecticut.

In addition, the Town Clerk is the Registrar of Vital Statistics on behalf of the State Health Department. In 2016, 68 births, 91 marriages and 68 deaths were recorded and certified copies were sent to the State. Any resident requiring a certified copy of a vital record can request a copy for \$20 from the office.

Dog licenses are also available from the Town Clerk. Yearly registration is due during the month of June and all dogs must be registered when they become six (6) months old. All dogs must be vaccinated against rabies and the certificate showing the expiration date must be presented to the Town Clerk when licensing. Fees are as follows: \$19.00 per dog or \$8.00 per dog that is spayed or neutered.

The State of Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection provides the Town Clerk's office with a licensing system for obtaining hunting and fishing licenses. Residents also have the option to purchase their licenses online at www.ctwildlifelicense.com.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Notary application forms to become a Notary Public are available in the office. A Notary Public is required by State Statute to record his/her commission in their Town of residence with the Town Clerk. Notary Public services are available for a fee of \$5.00.

The office provides voter applications throughout the year and accepts new voter registration on behalf of the Registrar of Voters. This office also processes absentee ballot requests and is responsible for the preparation of election material for all elections and primaries.

Leona A. Mainville, MMC

Treasurer

The Treasurer's mission is to help provide the best quality services that are available in an efficient, cost-effective way for the town of Brooklyn residents and tax payers. To work together with all departments of the Town in a spirit of cooperation and trust and keep moving forward developing constructive solutions to help better the Town.

The Treasurer's responsibility is to receive, deposit, invest and disburse all Town funds.

The Treasurer has the authority to invest and reinvest in securities legal for investment of trust funds under the State Statutes.

The Treasurer, by State Statute, has custody of, and disburses all funds belonging to the Town and deposits these funds in banks and trust companies in which the Board of Selectmen and Treasurer are in agreement.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

The interest earned on investments for the budget year 2015/2016, ending on 6/30/2016 totaled \$21,233.

Sherry Holmes
Treasurer

Revenue Collector

The Revenue Collector's Office bills, collects, processes and safeguards the Town's tax receipts and Water Pollution Control fees. The office maintains balanced records of all accounts.

The Town of Brooklyn collects real estate and personal property taxes quarterly and are due July 1st, October 1st, January 1st, and April 1st. East Brooklyn Fire District taxes are due once a year on July 1st. Motor vehicle taxes are due once a year on July 1st. Sewer usage taxes are due twice a year on July 1st and January 1st. Bills are mailed each year in July. If for any reason a resident does not receive a tax bill for property that they own, they should contact the revenue office as soon as possible. Failure to receive a bill does not excuse a taxpayer from paying late charges. Sewer use fees are billed at the request of the WPCA upon passage of their annual budget.

Current collections this year on the October 1, 2014 Grand list totaled \$13,308,110.61. This includes collection of real estate, personal property, motor vehicle, sewer and fire district taxes due. Collections resulted as follows:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Type of Tax Bill	Amount Collected	Percent Collected
Real Estate	\$11,090,952.29	99.00%
Personal Property	\$477,979.99	99.00%
Motor Vehicle	\$1,350,687.43	99.00%
Sewer Usage	\$333,512.24	97.00%
East Brooklyn Fire District	\$54,978.66	100.00%

How Your Tax Bill is Computed

Grand Levy: The total amount of money that must be raised by the property tax to meet Town expenses during the ensuing year.

Grand List: An official listing of the assessed value of all taxable property in Town. Compiled each October 1st by the Assessor.

Tax Rate: Grand Levy divided by the grand list; usually expressed in terms of ‘mills’.

Mill: One thousandth of a dollar (.001)

The taxpayer’s bill is determined by multiplying the net assessed value of taxable property by the tax rate. Example: If net value is \$10,000 and the tax rate is 26.34 mills, then the taxpayer’s bill is \$263.40.

If you have any questions regarding your taxes, please do not hesitate to call the office at 860-779-3411, option 4.

Jocelyne Ruffo – Revenue Collector

April Lamothe – Assistant Revenue Collector

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Assessor

October 1, 2014 Taxable Grand List

Real Estate	\$ 480,388,320
Personal Property	\$ 20,909,608
Motor Vehicles	<u>\$ 52,953,619</u>
Total	\$ 554,251,547

The total grand list represented an overall increase of .83% increase from the October 1, 2013 Grand List.

Tax Relief Programs/Exemptions Filing Date

- Elderly and/or Totally Disabled Homeowners
Program* February 1st to May 15th
- Elderly and/or Totally Disabled Renters
Program* April 1st to October 1st
- Veterans Exemption (DD214) Before October 1st
Additional Veterans* Before October 1st

*Income based

Property field cards are available online at www.vgsi.com

Assessor maps are available online at www.neccog.org

Both sites can be accessed from the assessor's webpage at www.brooklynct.org

If you have any questions regarding the Grand List or any of the tax relief programs, please call the Assessor's Office at (860) 779-3411 Option #6 or visit the assessor's webpage at www.brooklynct.org

Kathleen M. Thornton, CCMA II
Assessor

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Board of Assessment Appeals

The Board of Assessment Appeals members (3) are elected positions for a two-year term. The Board is a review board to hear appeals of assessment for real estate, personal property, and motor vehicles. The Board meets twice a year in the months of September and March.

In September 2015 the Board met to hear and act on appeals for motor vehicles. There were 4 motor vehicle appeals. In March 2016, the Board heard and acted on 13 property appeals.

We would like to remind taxpayers of the State Statute, Section 12-112 that no appeal shall be heard by the Board, except at the dates set by the Board. A legal notice is filed for the September hearing. A petition needs to be filed by February 20th for the March hearing. The petition can be accessed on the Assessor's page of the Town's web site, www.brooklynct.org, or by contacting the Assessor's office.

The Board wishes to extend our thanks for everyone's cooperation and understanding of our decisions during this past year.

Cassandra Leach, Chairperson
Diane Wimmer, Member
Robert Simons, Member

Registrars of Voters

Annual Canvass and Voting History:

The annual canvass of voters was conducted from February throughout May; in compliance with Connecticut General Statutes. The canvass of electors was completed by the

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Registrars using the National Change of Address System which is a product that most town registrars used within Connecticut that is available from the U.S. Postal Service. The purpose of executing the canvass is to update existing voter records as well as to purge voter records for those voters who have moved out of town and/or state.

Mandated Voter Enrollment Sessions:

The Registrars held a state mandated (Sec. 9-17) enrollment sessions at the Woodstock Academy in March and April. We had a total of 49 students register to vote in these sessions; 11 students of which were from the Town of Brooklyn.

The registrars held several day-long enrollment sessions throughout the year to permit eligible residents to register as voters prior to the November elections. The Sec. of State increased the number of enrollment sessions in an effort to ensure all voters had ample opportunity to enroll as a qualified voter.

In addition, during the day of the November 8th election, the Registrars conducted a 'Election Day Registration - EDR' process at the Registrar's Office which also attracted another 82 new voters to register and vote in the November 8th Election process.

Required Training:

The registrars attended 2 state-wide Registrars Conventions – in June and in September, as an on-going effort to comply with Sec. of State Continuing Education requirements. State Law (Sec 9-192b) requires each registrar to obtain at least 10 hours of instruction for elections training processes per year.

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The registrars maintained active memberships and participated in both the State ROVAC Association and the Windham County ROVAC Association meetings.

The registrars facilitated and implemented successful training sessions prior to the November elections for poll workers in order to ensure an accurate and uneventful election process.

The registrars facilitated and implemented successful training and implementation of the new Handicapped Voter system which completely automated the handicapped voter access and generation of an actual ballot instead of a strip of paper for the counting of the votes on a ballot.

Election Results

Presidential Primaries: There was a combined Democrat and Republican Primary held in April of 2016. There were 2467 eligible democrat and republican voters and 1428 resident voters did not vote – resulting in 1039 voters or 42.12% of the eligible voters chose to vote in their primaries.

Presidential Election: The Presidential Election on November 8th of 2016 saw a total of 5302 eligible voters registered for the Presidential election. 1615 resident voters did not vote, resulting in 3687 voters or 69.54% of the eligible voters, chose to vote in the Presidential Election.

Respectfully Submitted by
Registrars of Voters

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Recreation Commission

Parks & Recreation Commission Members:

Michael Gaudreau, Chairperson	Cliff Soucy
Lauren Centracchio, Vice Chair	Chris Toney
Stephen Danna	Scott Allen
Kim Conroy, liaison	
Mae Lyons, liaison	Secretary: Christine Boyle

This fiscal year the department's programming once again included annual events and seasonal programming. The Before School Program (for grades K-4th) and After School Program (for grades K-6th) were offered for both full-time and part-time options. Both programs are near or at capacity throughout the year. We also offered our Full Day Recreation Program. This was offered from 8am-4pm on days when school as not in session, but staff had development days. This was open to K-6th grade.

The Brooklyn TEEN Center was up and running this year. During the 2015-16 school year, the Center offered after school and Saturday hours, with a variety of activities such as homework help with computer lab, game room with foosball, ping pong and more. A dance for ARC and other agencies was hosted by our TEEN Center with the help of our TEEN members.

The Summer Day Camp Program – 2015 was attended by approximately 150 children during the six-week program. Campers participated in camp activities and various camp trips. Favorite camp trips to Breezy Park Waterslides, Quassy Amusement Park and a trip to the zoo were included in this year's trips. Campardy, Wingmaster, Cosmic Kevin and others brought their shows and programs to camp again this season. Family Day at Camp was well attended and Safety

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Day in cooperation with the resident troopers, Troop D and the local fire departments was once again a huge success.

The holiday season programs offer an opportunity to bring our residents together through our annual events such as Letters to Santa, Toys for Giving Toy Drive and our Holiday Coloring Contest which is presented in partnership with the Brooklyn Post Office. Our Toy Drive was again a success thanks to the generosity of our local businesses and residents. The program continues to see a yearly increase in families requesting assistance, and the department is always fortunate to have many residents and businesses step forward to fill those needs. Many Brooklyn children sent Letters to Santa with return letters sent to all those who included a return address. Our Spooky Nights event, held at the Brooklyn Fairgrounds during one weekend in October was a huge success.

Attendants enjoyed a hay wagon ride through haunted scenes, including actors portraying scary characters, a “haunted house” located in the Better Living Building and a bonfire area with family friendly activities. Our Easter Egg Hunt was very well attended, and the annual Breakfast with the Bunny which included a breakfast cooked and served by the Danielson Lions Club went well. Our TEEN Center members and staff offered fun for the children attending, with all sorts of games and prizes in the gym.

The Summer Slam Basketball Clinic was popular and was held at the Brooklyn Middle School gym. This program is available to Summer Day Campers as well as all other interested area youths. Our fitness programs, such as Susan’s Complete Fitness, Sunrise Fitness and more are always popular. Our Running Club has continued to be popular and is offered as a Winter Warriors program during the colder months. Baton Twirling was well attended. Our Twirlers were prepared to march in the Memorial Day Parade, however

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

inclement weather cancelled the parade and Family Fun Day activities. The Memorial Day ceremonies were still well attended in the Better Living Building. Adult Open Gym was well attended, and ran from November through February at the Middle School Gym.

Our trips are offered in both the Spring/Summer and Fall/Winter Brochures. This year many people took advantage of the opportunity to join the department on the trips offered. Trips included the annual trips to the Boston Red Sox, New York City and Bruins game. A trip to Boston for a day of exploring on your own was once again popular. All the department's trips, programs and events are in our semi-annual brochures, mailed to all Brooklyn households in August and January. Information can also be accessed on the town website. Flyer updates are handed out in the Brooklyn Schools to all students. Many registration forms are now available online, for the resident's convenience. We are now on Facebook too.

The Parks & Recreation Department maintains our town parks in Brooklyn. Michael Dragon Complex at Prince Hill Park continues to be a popular facility used by leagues and individuals throughout the year. This park offers a playscape, picnic tables, walking track, trails, and playing fields. Many take advantage of the park's lighted basketball courts. The softball field is utilized by the local little league teams, and is now used as a "home" field for the Brooklyn school's softball team. The concession stand and restrooms are open during scheduled events. The Brooklyn School Cross Country Team once again enjoyed a season of competing and practicing on the department's well-maintained trails. The playing fields are aerated and seeded each season, to keep them at optimal condition. South Street Park offers a playscape, picnic tables and basketball courts, and is located at the corner of South

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Street and South Main Street. The Parks & Recreation Departments Maintenance employee maintains these parks, many walking trails, the town monuments and many other town owned areas. The Riverside Park is used for Little League play and by anyone interested in using the volleyball court or passive walking trails. Davis Park's 18-hole Disc Golf Course was up and running, and has become a popular addition to our facilities.

The Recreation Department's & Commission's goal is to continue to improve the current facilities and programs and to expand when the need arises. Our parks and recreation programming help to maintain the quality of life our residents deserve. We will work in cooperation with our town leaders, our school officials and various town departments, boards and commissions, to achieve the commission and department's goals. Brooklyn is fortunate to have many residents who share a vision for the future of the department, and continue to offer their support. The Parks & Recreation Commission and the Department have worked successfully for many years to improve and adapt to the changes happening in Brooklyn. We look forward to the challenges and opportunities ahead, in our continuing dedication to serve the residents of Brooklyn.

Matthew "Bucky" Lohbusch,
Parks & Recreation Director

Economic Development Commission

Lyn Lacharite stepped down as Chairperson after many years of leadership. Her talents with keeping on new business interests in town, her community outreach and her spear heading of Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies will be missed. Robert

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Simons replaces her as Chairperson and Mary Beth Leonard takes over her Ribbon Cutting coordination.

The Brooklyn EDC decided to sponsor the Brooklyn Fall Festival which included Car Cruise event at Walmart on September 24, 2016. Twenty artists and 5 vendors signed up for the festival at the junction of Route 6 and Route 169. The Car Cruise had over 100 cars exhibited. Attendance estimates were between 1500-2000 people.

Business Recognition: Plaque presentations were made to the new Danielson Glass location, Lemieux Insurance, Inspire Marketing and Brooklyn Pet & Hardware.

Brooklyn Economic Development Coordinator: Discussion has begun on the creation of an Economic Development Coordinator for the Town of Brooklyn. This position will be presented to the Selectman for Budgeting in 2017 along with a summary by the Board of goals.

Robert Simons
Chairperson

Conservation Commission

Activities\Projects\Grants

In April, Diane Wimmer and Jeannine Noel were elected as Co-Chairs. Treasurer duties remain shared by the chairs. Bev Thornton and Harry Adams resigned from the commission. The commission continues to function within the budget.

The commission maintains a Facebook page. It is updated regularly with events, photos, conservation topics and local information.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

The Source Water Protection Sub-Committee held monthly meetings. Source water threats were evaluated and a protection plan was formulated. The Source Water Protection Plan, Drinking Water Resource Map, and Protect Brooklyn Groundwater Brochure are now available on the Conservation Commission's page on the Town's website under "Links" and "Maps and Brochures". Marc Cohen of Atlantic States Rural Water and Waste Water Association gave a presentation at the Brooklyn School Open House in September. Approximately 150 brochures were handed out by Diane Wimmer at the open house.

At Family Fun Day, members of the commission distributed seeds in cowpots. The remaining cowpots and other materials were donated to the Rec Center. The Town held an Earth Day in which commission members participated.

The Disc Golf Course at Davis Forest continues to be enjoyed by residents. Tee signs and practice baskets were added to the course. Brooklyn has several trails for residents to explore: Quinebaug River Trail, Maury Bowen Complex, Williams/Ferguson Sanctuary, Milo Appley Conservation Showcase, Davis Forest, Creamery Brook Trail, Carol Randall memorial Nature Trail, and Donald Francis Recreation Park Trail. Trail maps can be found on the Conservation Commission's page on the Town's website under "Links" and "Brooklyn Trails".

Brooklyn Conservation Commission members continue to attend the Windham County Conservation Consortium meetings. The Consortium was created to link the conservation in Windham County in order to share information and experiences. The Consortium meets twice a year and continues to educate members on conservation issues.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Development Reviews

As a non-regulatory land use commission, the Brooklyn Conservation Commission conducts development site plan reviews and forwards recommendations to the other regulatory land use commissions, Inland Wetlands and Planning and Zoning. These recommendations are based on review of our natural resource inventory mapping and the potential for impacts from site plan proposals. For subdivisions of three or more parcels, Subdivision Regulations stipulate Open Space donations (quit claim or conservation easement) either to the Town of Brooklyn or other not-for-profit land preservation trust or a fee in-lieu of the property donation.

During the year of 2016, the Brooklyn Conservation Commission reviewed one subdivision plan and initially recommended Fee-in-Lieu. Upon receiving further information, the commission amended its recommendation in January 2017 to Open Space Set Aside.

Training

During 2016, local conservation and land use educational training events and webinars were attended by Brooklyn Conservation Commission members. These are essential in developing the skills necessary to protecting open space and the environment for future Brooklyn residents.

Sincerely,
Jeannine Noel, Brooklyn Conservation Commission

SERVICES

Brooklyn Library Association

The first independent Brooklyn Library Association was founded in 1775. The present Association was organized in 1893. In 1913, a group of citizens purchased the building presently housing the library and donated it to the Association. The library continues to be governed by an independent association and its executive committee. The day-to-day operation is the responsibility of Librarian Catherine Tucker.

The library is open to the public on Mondays and Wednesdays 2:00pm to 7:00pm, Tuesdays and Saturdays 11:00am to 5:00pm and Thursdays and Fridays 2:00pm to 5:00pm. Any Brooklyn resident may obtain a first library card and renew that card free of charge. The contact email for the library is brooklyntownlibrary4@yahoo.com

The library offers popular reading from the bestseller list, an extensive mystery collection, a growing juvenile collection, and access to online services. Three computers for Internet access and a printer are also available for public use. Patrons may also check out a Kill A Watt Kit to monitor home energy.

The library also offers a wide variety of online services on its website, www.brooklyntownlibrary.org. From this website, you can access Tumblebooks which has animated, talking picture books and real-alongs for children. Using Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome as your browser, you may access Consumer Reports Online with your Brooklyn Town Library card. The library also has a subscription to Universal Classes which offers over 500 free online classes to Brooklyn residents on a wide variety of topics from Adobe Photoshop to Autism Spectrum Disorders for Teachers to Fundraising

SERVICES

101. Patrons may enroll in up to 5 classes at one time. A library visit is necessary for the Brooklyn resident to initiate an account for these classes then class work may be done on a home computer with internet access. The web browser Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome is necessary to access both Consumer Reports and Universal Classes. We have Overdrive to allow patrons with Kindles, HD Kindles, Nooks, Tablets, iPads, iPhones, iPods and Android devices to access to 1,500 ebooks. For Brooklyn residents only, the library has purchased the new online Zinio magazine collection and ArtistWorks which is online music lessons for many instruments with video instruction by performers recognized in their specialties. Lessons range from beginner to intermediate and some instruments have lessons in more than one genre. InstantFlix and Comics Plus were added this year.

By using the barcode on their Brooklyn Library card, patrons may access BookFlix, an online storybook video resource for toddlers through Grade 3. The Brooklyn Library also subscribes to OneClickdigital eAudiobooks. Brooklyn town Library card holders may access via the library website to downloadable audiobooks for their computers, MP3 players and Ipods. The Brooklyn Library is a member of the Connecticut Library Network, which enables patrons to search the holdings of other libraries throughout the state and also borrow materials from many public libraries in Connecticut. Patrons may submit requests for interlibrary loans online through the FindIT CT system, or visit or call the library with the author and title information. When the requested items are received at the library, patrons are notified that their library materials are ready to be picked up. The Connecticut Library Network also provides patrons with access to the state's online database at research IT CT One Search found on the library homepage

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www.brooklyntownlibrary.org.

Discounted and free passes to the following local museums are available at the library:

Mystic Seaport	Wadsworth Atheneum Art Pass
Mystic Aquarium	Roger Williams Park Zoo
CTs Old State House	DEEP No Child Left Inside Day Pass
CT Science Center	

The library is very active in promoting reading for children of all ages. Each year the library provides a Reading Room at the Brooklyn Summer Recreation Camp. Library staff provides reading activities, book and games for all children who attend. The Brooklyn Library also offers a summer reading game for children who do not attend summer recreation. The library sponsors a book discussion group that meets regularly at the Creamery Brook Village Community Room. Book titles and date of upcoming discussions are posted on the library website. Everyone is welcome to attend these discussions.

The Friends of the Brooklyn Library continue to contribute in many ways to the library's program. Meeting times and locations are posted on the library website. The Friends hold a Fall Plant and Bake Sale each year on the Saturday after Labor Day. They also offer a selection of historic Brooklyn buildings by Cat's Meow. Pieces in the services include Friendship Valley, the Isreal Putnam Statue, the Town Pump, the Unitarian Church, Old Trinity, the Brooklyn Library, Mortlake Firehouse, and the Copper Beech Tree. Recently added pieces are Cat's Meow, Christmas ornaments of the library and Mortlake Firehouse. These may be purchased at the library. The Friends also had a once-a-month table at the Farmer's Market in Brooklyn where they sold baked goods and library tote bags. Proceeds from Friends' projects support library programs that include, but

SERVICES

are not limited to, funds for Library Passes and the Book Discussion Group.

Animal Services

Animal services are provided to the Town of Brooklyn through the Northeastern Connecticut Council of Governments Regional Animal Services Program. The Animal Services Program (begun in August 2004) currently serves the Towns of Brooklyn, Canterbury, Chaplin, Hampton, Killingly, Pomfret, Putnam, Sterling, Voluntown and Woodstock. The towns of Hampton and Voluntown were added in 2012 and Chaplin in 2014. The program has launched a Facebook page to aid in placing animals and helping in their care. Our program is available 24/7/365. We always have an ACO on duty. Please call 860-774-1253 for lost dogs, adoption questions, complaints and other issues regarding domestic animals (for wild animal issues, please call 860-424-3333, Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Wildlife Unit).

Brooklyn 2016	
Impound Dogs	35
Adopted Dogs	11
Impounded Cats	35
Adopted Cats	24
Redeemed Animals	28
Investigations	51

Since the Animal Services Program began, more than 4,000 animals have been either adopted or returned to their owner. No animal has been put down due to lack of space or because

SERVICES

the breed is deemed to be undesirable. The numbers associated with “euthanasia” are the result of an animal having a behavioral issue making not suitable for adoption or a disease issue where our consulting veterinarian determines that this action is warranted.

Please Remember!

Connecticut Law requires you to annually license your dog's during the month of June.

Contact the Town Clerk for details.

Brooklyn Resource Recovery Commission

The BRRC completed its twentieth year of operation of the transfer station and curbside recycling, electronic waste and disposal of waste paint. We also keep the brush and leaf collection up to State DEEP standards. We monitor water quality and have continued to pass all tests by DEEP.

The model airplane club is still going strong and extends an invitation to anyone who wishes to join or just come and watch.

We have put television monitors in to support surveillance of all areas and discourage trespassing when the dump is closes.

Hours of operation are Friday's 10am – 4pm and Saturdays 8am - 4pm with extended hours in the Spring and Summer.

SERVICES

Board of Fire Commissioners

The Brooklyn Board of Fire Commissioners is responsible for establishing policies of the Town's Government related to public safety and emergency medical services as required by ordinance and state statutes. It is also responsible for overseeing the activities of the independent volunteer fire departments as they relate to the public and the Town's Government. Current members are Chairman Peter Considine, First Selectman Richard Ives, Lucien Brodeur, Felix Ramos, Patrick Gauthier, Jeffrey Otto, and James Soler.

The Board reviews each department's budget request and updates a capital expenditures plan for equipment replacement, both of which are presented to the Board of Finance for approval and incorporation as necessary into the Selectmen's and capital budgets for taxpayer approval. The board has recently decided to extend expected useful life of most types of fire apparatus from twenty to twenty-five years, reflecting the quality of Brooklyn's apparatus, maintenance provided and duty cycles anticipated.

Volunteer Fire Companies

Brooklyn's volunteer fire companies operate out of three fire stations to provide emergency services to the Town. The East Brooklyn Company operates out of a station owned by the Brooklyn Fire District that is located on South Main Street. The Mortlake Company operates out of its main station on Canterbury Road in Brooklyn Center and also out of a station located on Wauregan Road, near the Plainfield town line. Each Company is a non-profit corporation responsible for its own operations. The Town supplies funds to cover operating expenses, worker's compensation and liability insurance as well as capital funds for major apparatus and equipment

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purchases for each company. The Town also supplies capital funds for the periodic replacement of smaller capital equipment such as radios, pagers and personal protective equipment, including self-contained breathing apparatus.

Both fire companies conduct fund raising events during the year to supplement the funds provided by the Town. The proceeds from these events lower the cost of public fire protection to residents of Brooklyn and enable the fire companies to purchase supplies and equipment beyond the bare minimums. The fire companies appreciate your support of these worthwhile fund raising endeavors.

The fire companies are also active in soliciting and obtaining grant funds from the state and federal government and from private sources. The East Brooklyn Fire Department was successful in obtaining a FEMA grant that paid for a mobile breathing air compressor and storage unit. The Mortlake Fire Company has been the recipient of several grants that have provided an Attack Tanker Fire Truck, a Rescue Truck, a HazMat Decontamination Trailer, a Regional Trench and Collapse Rescue Team and an Environmental Contamination Response Trailer and Equipment as well as numerous smaller equipment items. Unfortunately, state and federal grants for these purposes are increasingly categorical and are not as available as they have been in past years.

The level of training and performance certification required to Brooklyn's volunteer firefighters are identical to those required of full time paid firefighters. Our volunteers participate and instruct in local and regional training programs. Members are active participants and hold leadership positions in several associations and organizations that are influential in determining regional and state wide policies in the public safety area. The fire companies are

SERVICES

proud of the achievements of their members and feel that attaining these high standards demonstrates to the taxpayers the seriousness of their efforts.

In addition to responding to alarms of fire and serving as first responders to hazardous materials incidents, each fire company provides first response service to medical emergencies occurring within their respective areas. Early intervention by trained medical responders coupled with rapid transportation to a primary care hospital has shown an improvement in the outcome of critical medical emergencies. Each of the fire companies responds with semi-automatic defibrillators and other state-of-the-art lifesaving equipment. This technology for monitoring and restoring correct cardiac rhythm had improved the chances of survival in certain coronary disorders. The Town participates in the Regional Paramedic Intercept program. This effort allows a paramedic, trained to higher levels than local EMTs, to respond to the scene of an emergency or to intercept the ambulance en route to the hospital. The paramedic can administer drugs and perform other procedures under the direction of the Emergency Room physician.

The response of the federal and state governments to the threat of terrorist activities has brought new training and organizational responsibilities to our fire companies and town government. Mortlake organized and hosted a major regional drill at the Brooklyn Fairgrounds involving many Eastern Connecticut emergency response agencies. These training activities are aimed at sharpening skills in multiple disciplines and in improving coordination and communications between agencies that might not work together regularly. The potential to respond to multiple hazard events requires that our fire companies develop a broader range of skills and capabilities than have theretofore been required.

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In small towns such as Brooklyn the volunteer fire departments are the only large trained and disciplined force available to respond to immediate emergency needs of residents. The Town of Brooklyn is fortunate to have an effective supply of volunteer firefighters and mutual aid responders from adjacent communities to handle emergencies that occur at any time, day or night. These firefighters give their time unselfishly to help others and provide the only effective alternative to the very high cost of having to employ emergency responders. However, as the time demands of modern family life increase, it becomes more difficult for each company to retain and recruit new members. One consequence of this situation is that the Mortlake Fire Company now employs one paid ambulance crew, twelve hours a day, seven days a week and will in the future expand the paid manning to eighteen hours a day. The cost of the paid crew is largely covered by receipts from state-regulated ambulance billing.

The skills learned as well as experience and satisfaction received in serving the Town as a volunteer fire fighter or ambulance technician are beneficial, personally rewarding and make it affordable for the Town to provide competent emergency services. Each fire company is eager to explain the responsibilities and rewards of membership and will bend over backwards to make it easy for you to participate. If you think you might be able to serve in one of Brooklyn's fire companies, please contact any firefighter or the Selectman's office.

Ambulance Service

The Mortlake Fire Company provides ambulance service for the Town of Brooklyn. They operate a volunteer ambulance service and maintain a staff of over 30 Connecticut certified

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Emergency Medical Responders. In addition to responding to emergencies, ambulance volunteers train on a monthly basis and also participate in State of Connecticut mandated training to maintain their certification. Other training activities such as a defibrillator, mass casualty, helicopter familiarity and other specialized training are available for members. Increasing call volume (1042 responses during 2015) has placed pressure on the volunteer responders that is beyond their capacity. Following regional trends, starting on January 1, 2007, volunteer response was supplemented with a paid daytime crew.

The ambulance service is operated on a user payment system. All residents who utilize the service bill their respective insurance companies to provide payment for the service. Experience to date has shown that third party payers contribute most of the funds required to operate the service.

The ambulance service is part of a mutual aid network that allows access to neighboring ambulances, or, if needed, other resources such as medical helicopters. A regional paramedic program has been established at Day Kimball Hospital and is partially supported, in proportion to their use of the service, by the towns that operate out of the hospital. This service is dispatched through Quinebaug Valley Emergency Communications located in East Killingly and is available for any life-threatening emergency. The paramedic responds from the hospital and usually intercepts with the ambulance en route to the hospital. Operating under the medical control of the Hospital's Emergency Physician the paramedic is able to administer drugs and provide a wider range of interventions than are EMT's.

Serving as an ambulance volunteer is very rewarding way to develop valuable skills while contributing to the community.

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Interested residents are encouraged to discuss participating in this worthwhile activity with members of the Mortlake Fire Company.

Northeast District Department of Health

As one of the state's longest serving regional health districts, NDDH is a shining example of how to deliver quality services in an efficient and cost-effective manner. Accomplishing this requires that we embrace change—including changing environments and opportunities. FY 2016 was a year of many changes that will improve our ability to deliver great public health services.

An important goal this year was improving service availability through our online presence. Those who visit our newly revised website will note that customers can now apply for permits and access property-related documents on a 24/7 basis from the convenience of their homes or phones. We are now accepting credit card payments in the office and online. We recognized the changing demographics of our community and took advantage of technology to secure telephone-based translation services to ensure that we are able to meet the language needs of our customers.

In FY 2016 we changed the way we thought about responding to the threat of epidemic disease. For the first time ever, NDDH conducted a “Drive-Thru” Flu Clinic. This event was a small-scale practice drill of all the activities that would need to take place if a serious disease (that could be prevented with medication or a vaccine) threatened the community. We were encouraged to learn that this strategy works really well. Participants simply stayed in their car and received a free flu shot in record time. They found it quick, easy and convenient.

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As one person pointed out, it took less time to drive through the flu clinic than it usually takes to find a parking space and walk into a building.

We hope that all who live in or visit northeast CT find it easy to access public health services and information of importance to their personal, business and community health.

One thing that will never change is our commitment to providing excellent public health services at a great price. Our per Capita charge remains the lowest in the State.

I remain grateful to the hard working and dedicated staff, the Board of Directors, Murray Buttner, MD—our Medical Advisor, town officials, the many community partners and all residents of northeast CT who strive to make this a healthy and happy community.

Susan Starkey, MS, RD, MPH

SERVICES

Subsurface Sewage Disposal	
As-Built	24
B100	78
Plan Review – Comm	1
Plan Review- New	9
Plan Review-Repair	18
Plan review-Revised	3
Plan Review-Subdivision	0
Permit to Construct-Comm	1
Permit to Construct-New	10
Permit to Construct - Repair	18
Sieve Analysis	4
Soil Test-Additional	9
Soil Test – New	4
Soil Test - Repair	11
Tank or Sewer Line	5
Water Treatment Permit	0
Property Doc Search	149
Portable Water	
Well Permit	41
Well Cap	24
Other Water Services	27
Food Service Sanitation	
Restaurant Inspections	81
Restaurant Re-inspection	2
Restaurant Plan Review	1
Temporary Food Event	106
Health Inspections	
Campgrounds	1
Daycare	1
Group Homes	5
Hair Salons	5
Hotel/Motel	1
Medical	0
Nail Salon	1
Pool Inspections	1
Complaints	
Animal or Animal Waste	2
Bed Bugs	5
Food Service	0

Garbage	4
Heat/Water	3
Housing	0
Lead Complaint	0
Insects, Vermin	4
Mold	1
Odor	5
Other	5
Outdoor Wood Furnace/Smoke	1
Septic	5
Other Health Services	
High Blood Lead Level	1
Lead Poisoning Services	2
Rabies Prevention Services	3
Number of Animals Tested Positive for Rabies	0
Environmental Services	682
Reportable 2015 Communicable Diseases	
Babesiosis	13
Campylobacteriosis	1
Chlamydia	13
Gonorrhea	0
Group B Streptococcus	1
Hepatitis B	0
Hepatitis C	9
Influenza	18
Legionellosis	1
Listeriosis	0
Lyme Disease	9
Rotavirus	1
Salmonellosis	0
Streptococcus pneumoniae	1
Total	67
NDDH Oral Health Screening & Educational Program	
Total Seen	NA
Number with Caries	NA
Number with other dental care needs	NA

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NDDH District Wide Services

- Community Health Education covering a broad range of topics that prevent illness, promote wellness and protect health
- Qualified Food Operator & Food Awareness Safety Training
- Emergency Planning, Preparedness & Response
- Flu Immunizations

Grants (Federal, State & Private Funds):

- **State of CT – Department of Public Health (DPH) – State Per Capita Allocation** – for support of local and district departments of health
- **State of CT DPH Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant** – for environmental and policy strategies to decrease chronic disease.
- **CT DPH Lead Poisoning Prevention & Control Program**– for lead poisoning surveillance, environmental investigation and case management
- **CT DPH/Bureau of Community Health/Environmental Protection Agency** - Putting on Airs In-Home Asthma Trigger Assessment Program
- **U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration and Center for Disease Prevention & Control (CDC) Bioterrorism Grant** for Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program & Pandemic Flu Response Initiatives
- **National Association of County & City Health Officials** – Funding for the Northeast CT Medical Reserve Corps to build voluntary medical and ancillary care capacity

SERVICES

- **CT Collaboration for Fall Prevention at Yale School of Medicine** to reduce falls and fall-related injury among the elderly by addressing the multi-factorial risk factors through outreach, education, personal empowerment and efforts to expand comprehensive health services

FINANCIAL

Independent Auditor's Report

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Brooklyn, Connecticut (the "Town") as of and for the year ended June 30, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

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

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

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation

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and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town as of June 30, 2016, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the USA.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require the Management's Discussion and Analysis and the budgetary comparison information be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic or historical context. We applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the USA, which consisted of inquires of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquires, the basic

FINANCIAL

financial statements and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

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

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

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated March 15, 2017 on our consideration of the Town's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to

FINANCIAL

describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integrate part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering the Town's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

O'CONNELL, PACE, & COMPANY, P.C.
Certified Public Accountants

FINANCIAL

Expenditures

General Government	Final Budget	Actual	Variances
Board Finance	26,400	25,117	1,283
Board of Selectmen	35,376	35,376	0
Engineering	24,840	24,840	0
Administration	269,288	269,288	0
Treasurer	0	0	0
Revenue Collector	94,553	94,553	0
Assessor	130,132	130,132	0
Board of Assessment	400	271	129
Recording	116,709	116,709	0
Elections	33,752	31,997	1,755
Legal	12,000	11,767	233
Probate	9,332	9,287	45
Town Hall	51,988	51,988	0
Central Supplies	77,520	77,520	0
Ethics	2,700	1,350	1,350
Total	884,990	880,195	4,795

Public Safety	Final Budget	Actual	Variances
Canine Control	24,840	24,840	0
Patrol Services	353,318	315,186	38,132
Fire Marshal	56,734	56,734	0
Fire Facilities	440,365	439,421	944
Emergency Communications	38,172	38,172	0
Homeland Security	4,600	1,875	2,725
Total	918,569	876,768	41,801

FINANCIAL

Public Works	Final Budget	Actual	Variances
Roads & Drainage	523,692	523,692	0
Maintenance & Equipment	99,407	99,407	0
Snow Removal	64,000	54,461	9,539
Garage Maintenance	24,807	23,291	1,516
Resource Recovery	222,669	222,669	0
Building Official	76,060	76,060	0
Total	1,010,635	999,580	11,055

Human Services	Final Budget	Actual	Variances
Health	81,315	81,315	0
Cemeteries	5,000	5,000	0
Total	86,315	86,315	0

Civic & Cultural	Final Budget	Actual	Variances
Library	139,641	139,641	0
Transit District	13,662	13,662	0
Special Programs	5,750	4,290	1,460
Recreation	338,936	338,936	0
Park Maintenance	115,453	107,703	7,750
Community Center	21,650	20,792	858
Clifford B. Green Bldg	26,414	26,414	0
Total	661,506	651,438	10,068

FINANCIAL

Development & Planning	Final Budget	Actual	Variances
Planning & Zoning	22,424	19,550	2,874
Zoning Board of Appeal	1,000	100	900
Agriculture Commission	2,400	1,552	848
Conservation Commission	2,725	1,290	1,435
Inland/Wetland Commission	6,220	1,546	4,674
Land Use Admin/Planner	100,030	94,771	5,259
Economic Development Commission	6,500	1,794	4,706
Open Space	8,280	8,280	0
Total	149,579	128,883	20,696

Sundry	Final Budget	Actual	Variances
Contingency	0	0	0
Fringe Benefits	596,361	561,607	34,754
Municipal Insurance	127,464	125,664	1,800
Long Term Debt Service	64,740	64,740	0
Short Term Debt Service	1,058,184	1,057,546	638
Capital Equipment	124,578	124,578	0
Total	1,971,327	1,934,135	37,192

Total Government	5,682,921	5,557,314	125,607
Total Board of Education	17,418,021	17,417,870	151
Total Expenditures	23,100,942	22,975,184	125,758
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures – Budgetary Basis	0	(1,091,154)	(1,091,154)

TOWN OFFICES TELEPHONE NUMBERS

		Option
First Selectman's Office	860-779-3411	# 2
Financial Department	860-779-3411	# 8
Town Clerk	860-779-3411	# 4
Assessor	860-779-3411	# 6
Tax Collector	860-779-3411	# 5
Recreation	860-779-3411	# 7
Land Use Administrator	860-779-3411	# 9
Water Pollution Control Authority	860-779-3411	# 8
Fire Marshal	860-779-3411	# 9
Building Official	860-779-3411	# 9
Director of Highway Department	860-779-3411	# 3
Animal Control Officer	860-774-1253	
Landfill Attendant	860-779-1105	
Housing Authority	860-779-3339	
Resident Trooper	860-779-9008	

Other Frequently Requested Numbers

UConn Extension Center	860-774-9600
Quinebaug Valley Senior Center	860-774-1243
NE District Department of Health	860-774-7350
Brooklyn Fair Grounds	860-779-0012
Brooklyn Post Office	860-774-4449
Brooklyn Library	860-774-0649
Judge of Probate	860-928-4844
NE Children's Probate Court	860-928-4833
Casella Waste – Recycling	888-485-1469
NE CT Council of Government	860-774-1253
Mortlake Fire Department	860-774-2032
East Brooklyn Fire Department	860-774-1192
First Student Bus Garage	860-779-1256
Troop D – non-emergencies	860-779-4900

EMERGENCIES 911

SCHOOL & HISTORICAL SITES

School Officials & Telephone Numbers

Brooklyn Schools

Louise Berry, Superintendent 860-774-9153

Alan Yanku, Middle School Principal 860-774-9153

Frances Rotella, Elementary Principal 860-774-7577

Killingly High School 860-779-6620

Woodstock Academy 860-928-6575

H.H. Ellis Tech 860-774-8511

Historical Sites

Old Trinity Church – Located on Church Street, Built in 1771 by Col. Godfrey Malbone, a Tory, after a disagreement with Brooklyn Church.

Old Court House – Located in Brooklyn Center, Presently the Brooklyn Town Hall, built when Brooklyn became the County Seat in 1820.

Old Unitarian Church – Located in Brooklyn Center, Built as Congregational Church in 1771, Isreal Putnam was Sexton after completion of Church.

Isreal Putnam Monument – Located in Brooklyn Center, At his burial place.

CHURCH SERVICES

Federated Church of Christ

Sundays.....10:00am

www.federatedchurchbrooklynct.org

Our Lady of LaSalette Church

Sundays.....8:00am & 11:00am

(Roman Catholic)

Trinity-Episcopal Church

Sundays.....10:00am

Wednesdays.....Bible Study 7pm

www.trinitychurchbrooklyn.org

Old Trinity Church

July & August.....5:00pm & All Saints Day.....11:00am

Unitarian Universalist Society

April-December @ Brooklyn Green Rte 6&169.....10:30am

Jan-April @ Brooklyn Community Center.....10:30am

(Semi-monthly Sunday)

Facebook: Unitarian Universalist Society in Brooklyn

Community Bible Chapel

Sundays.....11:00am

Wednesdays.....7:00pm

Family Bible Hour and Sunday School

EDUCATION

BROOKLYN SCHOOLS

Superintendent's Annual Report
2015-2016

SCHOOL OFFICIALS

Louise Berry, Superintendent, 860-774-9153
Alan Yanku, Middle School Principal, 860-774-9153
Shelly Michaud, Elementary Principal, 860-774-7577

The school system is governed by a six-member Board of Education through a committee structure and when appropriate involves members of the school staff and the community. Board members serve on a variety of committees such as: Budget, Curriculum, Negotiations, High School and Policy. The Board of Education also has representatives on the Woodstock Academy Board of Trustees and EASTCONN Regional Education Center.

2015 – 2016 BOARD OF EDUCATION

Chair – Aimee Genna
Vice Chair – Kelly Coddling
Secretary – Keith Atchinson

Members

Eric Anderson
Mae Lyons
Joan Trivella

EDUCATION

SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2016

This annual report provides a review of the operation of The Brooklyn School for 2015-2016. The Board of Education budget for the 2015 – 2016 school year was \$17,418,021 which was a 2.28% increase over the prior year. Below is a breakdown by category.

Object	Account	2015-2016 Budget
100	Salaries	\$7,214,833
200	Employee Benefits	\$2,283,759
300	Purchased Services	\$316,347
400	Purchased Property	\$167,000
500	Services	\$6,707,091
600	Supplies & Materials	\$641,991
700	Property	\$47,000
800	Dues and Fees	\$40,000
	TOTALS	\$17,418,021

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT – Pre K – Grade 12

The Brooklyn Public School district is comprised of 2 schools, Brooklyn Elementary School, which also houses the Louise S. Berry Early Childhood Center, and the Brooklyn Middle School. During 2015-2016 the Brooklyn Schools provided an educational program for students in grades Pre-K to Grade 8. As Brooklyn does not have a high school, it sends its students in grades 9, 10, 11 and 12 to Killingly High School (114) in Danielson and Woodstock Academy (168) in Woodstock, our designated high schools. High school students may also choose to apply to Ellis Technical High School (60) in Danielson, Quinebaug Middle College, or the Killingly Agricultural Science Education Program. Under our

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freedom of choice policy, some students selected other high schools: Plainfield High School, Putnam High School, Norwich Free Academy.

The number of students enrolled on October 1, 2015 at the Elementary School was 521 and 372 students were enrolled at the Middle School. The number of high school students as listed on the October 2015 Enrollment Report was 398. Thus, the total number of Brooklyn students in grades PK through 12 during the fall of 2015 was 1,291.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS AND ACTIVITIES

During the 2015 – 2016 school year, the Brooklyn Elementary School focused on strengthening instruction, so that all children show vertical growth in both mathematics and literacy. The school strives to include parents as partners in their child's education through many informal opportunities such as parent forums, open house and curriculum nights, and surveys, as well as formal opportunities, among them: Parent Advisory Committee, Safe School Climate Committee, and School Readiness Council.

The Brooklyn Middle School worked diligently to review, revise and write curriculum in all content areas and to improve the use and application of technology for increased student learning. Middle school students engaged in the Healthy Minds Healthy Bodies and Community Builders interdistrict grant programs and grade 8 students participated in the annual class trip to Washington D.C. and Philadelphia. Grades 7 and 8 developed Wiki homework pages and the principal communicated with families via School Messenger on a weekly basis strengthening the home-school connection.

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Graduation

On June 21, 2016 at the 63nd Annual Graduation Ceremonies at The Brooklyn School, 107 students received their diplomas from members of the Board of Education. Thirty-two members of the eighth-grade class were recognized as members of the National Junior Honor Society.

In addition, a number of students were presented awards for academic achievement, leadership qualities, service to others and/or athletic ability. Many of these awards were sponsored by generous residents and businesses.

Class Officers

President:	Linda St. Laurent
Vice President:	Caroline Frost
Secretary:	Emma Turner
Treasurer:	Riley Hardacker

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Honors Recognition

The 40th Annual Honors Recognition Night was held on May 19, 2016. Not only were students inducted into the Gwladys M. Dorman Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society, but those students who had maintained high honors or honors for three marking periods were also recognized.

The Gwladys M. Dorman Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society was founded in 1966, with the first induction ceremony held the same year. The Chapter was named for

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Mrs. Gwladys M. Dorman, who was a highly respected 6th Grade teacher at The Brooklyn School.

Members of the National Junior Honor Society during the 2015-2016 school year were:

Present Members:

Alyssa Arenda	Carissa Kelly
Emily Arters	Hali Korsu
Mackenzie Barrows	Jacob Longe
Isaac Bean	Jacob Nurse
Russell Beausoleil	Alexander Orbegoza
Stephanie Bellows	Michael Page
Dylan Bonneau	Nadia Ponciano
Alexia Bourbeau	Isabella Precourt
Lexie Brunet	Alexandra Purcell
Panagiotis Chrisovechotis	Natatia Reali
Makenzie Czmyr	Morgan Schmidt
Rebecca DiBenedetto	Thomas Sherman
Caroline Frost	Linda St. Laurent
Anthony Girard	Benjamin Torre
Riley Hardacker	Emma Turner
Zada Jones	

Inductees:

Grade 8

Diana Gonzalez

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Grade 7

Kathleen Ben
Savannah Buisson
Janelle Charron
Aidan Curboy
Stella Dipippo
Gabriella Garbutt
Garret Hippert
Shaylin Juhola
Cole Lavigne
Caitlin LeSage
Harriet Majek
Joey Mink

Alissa O'Connor
Isabella Price
Emma Prindle
Julia Purcell
Sydney Rosen
Jordan Rukstela
Ida Sanders
Mason Sorel
Hunter St. Jean
Aidan Stewart
Bo Yaworski

Teacher of the Year

Lori-Ann Gibb was selected as 2016 Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Gibb has been a member of the staff of the Brooklyn Public Schools since 1989. The Brooklyn School has a long history of outstanding and dedicated teachers. Listed below are Brooklyn staff member who have received this honor since the Connecticut teacher of the Year Program began in 1985:

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Mary T. Fatsi	Grade 1	1985-1986
Jim Schaffer	Grade 8	1986-1987
Sharon Loughlin	Grade 6	1987-1988
Kathryn Stellitano	Library	1988-1989
Pamela Gagnon	Elem. Math	1989-1990
Mary Beth Sweet	Grade 8 History	1990-1991
Paul Berthiaume	Grade 7&8 French	1991-1992
Jane Krecedlo	Grade 7 Social Studies	1992-1993
Dianne Socquet	Grade 6	1993-1994
Judith Ternowchek	Grade 3	1994-1995
Lynne Goodfellow	Elem. Language Arts	1995-1996
James Bejma	Grade 8 Science	1996-1997
Christine Ferreira	Grade 5-8 Art	1997-1998
Mary Martin	Elem. Remedial Reading	1998-1999
Kathi Dumaine-Savage	Grade 5	1999-2000
Kevin Collins	Speech Therapy	2000-2001
Carol Randall	Elem. Special Education	2001-2002
Patricia O'Rourke	Elem. Music	2002-2003
Robin Joly	Grade 5	2003-2004
Jeffrey Kelleher	Middle School Instrumental Music	2004-2005
Marla Rufo-Pellegrino	Grade 1	2005-2006
Cristine Waldron	Grade 5	2006-2007
Glen Lessig	Computer Technology	2007-2008
Kathleen Green	Grade 6	2008-2009
David Partyka	Social Worker	2009-2010
Diane Wimmer	Grade 5	2010-2011
Sara Guimont	Grade 4	2011-2012
Gena Laplante	M.S. Remedial Reading	2012-2013
Denise Nault	Grade 4	2013-2014
Lisa McCormack	Grade 5	2014-2015

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PTO

Our sincere thanks for the leadership and efforts of the officers and members of The Brooklyn School PTO. They have worked tirelessly to make The Brooklyn School PTO a valuable part of the school program. Through the hard work of many parents, and specifically the dedication and efforts of the officers and committee chairpersons, we have a number of programs which have become major events at The Brooklyn School. The PTO continues to support projects at the school through its various fundraising activities. We are indebted to the leadership of this organization for their ongoing support and their many hours of service to the Brooklyn School.

Appreciation

The staff at The Brooklyn School should be recognized for their dedication and commitment to students and this system; teachers, paraprofessionals, secretaries, custodians, bus drivers, cafeteria workers, and administrators, as well as the many volunteers who have worked together on behalf of the school and its students. The Brooklyn community should be grateful and encouraged by the desire of the staff to work toward the goal of an effective and efficient school system making the needs of students their top priority.

The members of the Board of Education have been generous with their time, interested in education and devoted to the cause of seeking the best possible education for the students in Brooklyn.

Brooklyn students continue to receive honors, awards and recognition for their academic and extracurricular achievements while at The Brooklyn School, in their chosen high school, and beyond. Staff at our designated high schools

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comment favorably on the performance of many Brooklyn students; parents share with us their satisfaction with the curricular and co-curricular programs; and state program compliance consultants comment favorably on the program offerings and compliance with state and federal mandates.

With the continuing support and assistance of parents and community members, The Brooklyn School will continue its tradition of a strong and caring educational institution.