

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:	8,208

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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

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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 manpower. 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.

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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 investigated 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
Joseph Voccio, Wayne Jolley

Selectman's Office

Richard Ives – First Selectman
Melissa Bradley – Administrative Assistant

Finance Department

Kathy Erickson – 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

Jeffery Otto – Chairperson

Board of Education

Aimee Genna – Chairperson

Board of Assessment Appeals

Buddy Conroy – Chairperson

Judge of Probate

Leah Schad

Town Counsel

Suisman Shapiro

Animal Control Officer

Kristian Hernandez – NECCOG

Fire Marshal

Doug Kramer

Tree Warden

Richard Regis

Road Foreman

Thomas Rukstela

Agent for Elderly

Tamsen Harris

Water Pollution Control Authority

Robert Kiley, Jr. – Chairperson

Planning & Zoning Commission

Michelle Sigfridson – 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

Jeff Arends – Chairperson

Economic Development Commission

Robert Simons – Chairperson

Justices of the Peace

Valerie Bruzzi-Krsulic, Cara Coraccio-Bellantone, Marie
Dusseault, Roger Engle, David Fuss, Elizabeth A. Hall-
hecker, Richard Ives, Henry Jeffs, Robert Kelleher, Jessica A.
Maclean, Leona Mainville, William Morrone, James Paquin,
Lisa Roberts-Sangillo, Carolyn Teed-Ives

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

www.brooklynct.org

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

First Selectman's Report

The Town receives intergovernmental revenues from the State of Connecticut. Connecticut's economy moves in the same general cycle as the national economy, which from time to time will affect the amount of governmental revenues the Town will receive.

The Town's general fund unreserved balance is \$1,469,730 at year end June 30, 2018.

The Town's revenue is comprised of 54% property taxes, 38% grants and contributions, 4% charged services, and 4% investments. The Town's expenditure is comprised of 80% education, 7% general government, 6% public works, and 7% remainder of government expenses.

Major capital asset events during the current fiscal year are: school roofing replacement, new technology equipment and key system at the School, new recreation truck, and new generator.

Long term debt outstanding is \$6,384,364. A decrease due to the pay down of the Bond Anticipation Note.

Housing stats for single family dwellings decreased from 14 fiscal year end June 30, 2017 to 12 fiscal year end June 30, 2018. 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

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of duties. Together the Town employees and Town citizens make Brooklyn a better place to live.

Richard Ives, First Selectman

Veterans

Brooklyn held the annual Memorial Day parade on Monday, May 28, 2018. 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, Alex Levesque and Linsey Arrends 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, 2018 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, 2017 to June 30, 2018, three hundred eleven (311) building permits were issued valued at \$5,237,000. 3 permits were renewed and 11 were new homes.

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Total receipts to the Town were \$51,870 in permit fees. There were also 16 apartment inspections done with receipts equaling \$240. 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.

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 1370 land records in 2018 and maintains over 620 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. Forty-eight maps were recorded and reproduced in 2018. Over 2600 maps are on file. A total of \$265,099 in fees were collected with 35% 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 2018, 73 births, 62 marriages and 81 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.

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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.

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

As the Town Treasurer, the Treasurer promotes transparency, efficiency, and accountability to the Brooklyn residents and tax payers.

The Treasurer is part to the Finance Department. This department's duties are budget, banking, revenue collection, purchasing, payroll, and financial reporting. Also, enforcing accounting oversight, Town must abide by generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) set forth by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). Finance department policies help the town do this.

Kelly Vachon
Treasurer

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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 July 1st. Sewer usage taxes are due twice a year July 1st and January 1st. Bills are mailed each year in July. Motor Vehicle Supplemental taxes are due January 1st. 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, 2016 Grand list totaled \$15,322,257.33. Collections resulted as follows:

Type of Tax Bill	Amount Collected	Percent Collected
Real Estate	\$11,985,581.92	99.00%
Personal Property	\$1,220,772.79	99.00%
Motor Vehicle	\$1,464,414.77	97.00%
Motor Vehicle Supplemental	\$229,823.94	92.00%
Sewer Usage	\$285,286.46	97.00%
CML Sewer	\$85,051.00	50.00%
East Brooklyn Fire District	\$51,326.45	99.00%

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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 5.

Jocelyne Ruffo – Revenue Collector, CCMC

April Lamothe – Assistant Revenue Collector, CCMC

Assessor

October 1, 2016 Taxable Grand List

Real Estate	\$ 448,090,900
Personal Property	\$ 45,455,515
Motor Vehicles	<u>\$ 55,534,530</u>
Total	\$ 549,080,945

The total grand list represented an overall increase of 1.04% from the October 1, 2015 Grand List.

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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
- Farm Building Exemption – November 1st
- Farm Machinery & Equipment – November 1st
- Manufacturing Machinery & Equipment – November 1st
- New Commercial Trucks – November 1st
- Totally Disabled Exemption – January 31st

*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

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,

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and motor vehicles.

The Board meets twice a year in the months of September and March.

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 22nd 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.

Buddy Conroy, Chairperson
Loni Wright, Member
Robert Simons, Member

Registrars of Voters

Annual Canvass and Voting History:

The annual canvass of voters was conducted from February throughout May 2019; in compliance with Connecticut General Statutes. The canvass of electors was completed by the 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 as

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well as ROAST. 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 the town and/or state.

Bi-Annual ERIC Reports and Maintenance:

The ERIC reports were provided to Registrars by the Secretary of State's office this year. These reports identify those voters who have not voted in over 4 years, have changed their address locally, or have moved out of state without notifying the Registrars. It requires a great deal of effort to complete this process each time it is done but is necessary to ensure that the official voter list is as accurate and up to date as possible. We use these reports in addition to the ones provided for our canvass at the beginning of the year.

Mandated Voter Enrollment Sessions:

The Registrars held the state mandated (Sec. 9-17) enrollment sessions at Woodstock Academy and Killingly High School during March and April. We held it with the surrounding towns at the Academy and expected to encounter at least 50 students registering to vote in these sessions and estimate that 10-12 of these students will come from the Town of Brooklyn. We held one at KHS and got a few additions to our list. Perhaps during the Spring of 2019, we can give voter registration cards to the Social Studies teachers at Killingly High School and have the students fill them out during class.

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

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In addition, during the day of the November election, the Registrars conducted an 'Election Day Registration - EDR' process at the Registrar's Office which also attracted another 33 new voters to register and vote in the November Election.

Required Training:

The registrars attend 2 state-wide Registrars Conventions – April 16-18, 2019 and in September 20 & 21, 2018 as an on-going effort to comply with Secretary 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.

The registrars maintain 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.

Election Results:

Primaries: There was a State Primary held this year on August 14, 2018. There were a total of 1440 eligible Democratic voters with 297 actual votes. There were 1299 eligible Republican voters with 330 actual votes.

State Election: The November 6, 2018 state election saw a total of 5677 eligible voters registered for the election. 3149 eligible voters voted resulting in 55.47% of the eligible voters who chose to vote in the State Election.

Jo Ann Gerardi-Voccio
Registrars of Voters

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Recreation Commission

Parks & Recreation Commission Members:

Michael Gaudreau, Chairperson	Cliff Soucy
Harry Adams	Chris Toney
Stephen Danna	Scott Allen
Kim Conroy, liaison	David Wilterdink
Mae Lyons, liaison	Secretary: Christine Boyle

During this fiscal year, the department's programming once again included annual events and seasonal programming. The Before School Program (for grades K-6th) and After School Program (for grades K-6th) were offered again, with the grades being expanded to 6th from 4th for the Before school program, to accommodate parents affected by the school's change in hours. 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 also was offered again this fiscal year. During the 2017-18 school year, the Center offered after school activities such as homework help with computer lab, game room with pool, ping pong and more. Our TEEN members lent a hand at both Bunny Breakfast and Spooky Nights.

The Summer Day Camp Program – 2017 was attended by over 140 children during the six-week program. Campers enjoyed daily camp activities and weekly field trips that included Breezy Park Waterslides, Roger Williams Zoo and more. The TEEN Center offered Summer Camp also, with trips including Six Flags and PawSox. This camp is open to campers in grades 6th – 8th.

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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 children got creative and entered our Coloring Contest with entries displayed at the Brooklyn Post Office. 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, a less scary haunted house for the younger attendees, 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, as well as a Magic Show which was presented by an area magician.

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, Running Club offered many options for staying fit and active. Baton Twirling was well attended, and our participants were able to participate in our Memorial Day event. Adult Open Gym ran from November through February at the Middle School Gym.

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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, Yankee Stadium, New York City and a trip to see the Boston Bruins at the TD Garden. All the department's trips, programs and events are listed in our semi-annual brochures, mailed to all Brooklyn households in August and January. Information can also be accessed on the town website. You can also stay up to date with our department's programs and events by following us on Facebook at Town of Brooklyn Parks & Recreation. Flyer updates are handed out in the Brooklyn Schools to all students. Many registration forms are now available online, for the resident's convenience.

The Parks & Recreation Department maintains our town parks and many non-recreational areas in town also including monuments, school fields and snow removal on Route 6 sidewalks, town building entryways and parking lots. The 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 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 Street and South Main Street. The Parks & Recreation Departments Parks Maintenance employee, along with a seasonal part time employee, maintains these parks, many walking trails, and the

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other areas mentioned earlier. The Riverside Park is used for Little League play and by anyone interested in using the volleyball court or passive walking trails. This was also the location of our first season of Concerts at Riverside series. Davis Park's 18-hole Disc Golf Course was used almost year-round and has become a popular sport for our area.

The Recreation Department's & Commission's goal is to continue to maintain and improve the current facilities and programs to meet the needs of our residents. We work to provide the quality of life that our residents deserve while keeping in mind the economic conditions impacting our community. We continue to 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. Our town is fortunate to have many residents who share the same vision for our community and continue to assist and support our efforts. We look forward to the challenges and opportunities ahead as we continue to serve our residents.

Matthew "Bucky" Lohbusch,
Parks & Recreation Director

Economic Development Commission

A presentation was given February 6, 2018 by John Filchak and Hoween Flexor of NECOG. They addressed Commission members about a new community branding project that is underway in Thompson. Mr. Filchak and Ms. Flexor are available to facilitate the process for Brooklyn as well. During the presentation Mr. Filchak provided feedback on the EDC section of the Town website. He made suggestions for improvement and expansion that would help existing and potential business owners and new people choosing a town

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like Brooklyn. Commission members discussed challenges with trying to come up with a brand for Brooklyn.

The commission followed up with discussion with the town of Thompson officials. They provided some help coming up with a list of questions to discuss with town residents, interested business community members and members of town committees. There will be a major push to complete this study in 2019. Hopefully, the outcome can address some frustrations voiced by the Brooklyn business community about welcoming and friendly treatment within the town and suggest ways to make Brooklyn a better destination for visitors.

There was a discussion regarding the lack of accomplishment of the EDC within the last 5 years with members expressing frustration as to the role and future of the committee. Meetings were scheduled every other month this year until the commission can better define its mission and purpose in the town.

Robert Simons
Chairperson

Conservation Commission

The Brooklyn Conservation Commission proudly presents our annual report for the year 2018.

Activities\Projects\Grants

Diane Wimmer was elected as Chair. Michael Oatley resigned from the Commission in December. Treasurer duties remain with the Chair. The Commission is down to three members. The Commission continues to function within a reduced budget.

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The Commission maintains a Facebook page. It is updated regularly with events, photos, conservation topics and local information. The Commission also updates its page on the town's website. <https://www.brooklynct.org/conservation-commission>

At Family Fun Day, Diane Wimmer distributed 150 peat pots with seeds. The remaining peat pots and other materials were donated to Parks and Recreation for their summer programs. The town held an Earth Day event in which Commission members participated by picking up trash and planting flowers and bushes at Riverside Park. The Commission planted ox eye sunflowers, New England asters, wild columbine, common milkweed, false indigo, coneflowers, and potted bee balm which were purchased from the Eastern Connecticut Conservation District Spring Plant Sale.

Jeannine Noel attended the Sustainable CT workshop presented by Jessica LeClair in the spring. She reported that in order to join, the Board of Selectmen would have to pass a resolution to indicate the intent to participate in Sustainable CT and establish a Sustainability Team. The Town would gain points for different actions (example: provide education on water conservation), which would lead to recognition if enough points are gained. This is a free program to get towns involved in sustainability in the environment, housing, local economy, public services, etc. It would allow for more resources, funding, workshops, and interaction with other towns. Jessica LeClair attended a Board of Selectmen meeting and gave a presentation on Sustainable CT. The Board took the matter under advisement. <https://sustainablect.org/>

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The Disc Golf Course at Davis Forest continues to be enjoyed by residents. 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". The Commission has plans to re-do the signage at Creamery Brook and Davis Forest.

Diane Wimmer and Jeannine Noel attended a rain barrel workshop presented by the Eastern Connecticut Conservation District at the UCONN Extension Center in Brooklyn. A rain barrel will be installed at the town hall in the spring of 2019 for the garden club to use to water the town's flowers. UCONN also has information on their website concerning rain gardens. <https://nemo.uconn.edu/raingardens/> There is also an APP available for smart phones.

The Commission participated in a Last Green Valley Walktober event. Michael Oatley conducted a workshop at Riverside Park on disc golf. He explained the game and demonstrated throwing discs. Participants practiced handling and throwing discs. The event was well attended. The Commission participated in Spooky Nights by building a pumpkin tower and having a music/light show.

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

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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 2018, the Brooklyn Conservation Commission reviewed one subdivision plan and recommended a fee-in-lieu of open space.

Training

During 2018, Brooklyn Conservation Commission members attended local conservation and land use educational training events and free webinars at <http://clear.uconn.edu/>. These trainings and workshops are essential in developing the skills necessary to protect open space and the environment for future Brooklyn residents. The Commission continues to be a member of CACIWC and to receive copies of The Habitat newsletter quarterly. (CT Association of Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commissions). <http://www.caciwc.org/>

Sincerely,

/s/Jeannine Noel

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 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM, Tuesdays and Saturdays 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM and Thursdays and Fridays 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM. 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, chrome books 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, <http://www.brooklyntownlibrary.org> From this website, you can access Tumblebooks which has animated, talking picture books and read-alongs for children. Using Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome as your browser, you may access Consumer Reports Online with our 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

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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 1,500 ebooks and eaudiobooks. For Brooklyn residents only, the library has purchased the new online Zinio magazine collection and Artist Works 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. IntantFlix and Comics Plus are also available. The library has added Brain HQ which is scientifically proven to improve the cognitive health of Brooklyn Residents. It consists of progressive online brain exercises that may be used on computers, tablets and smart phones. The goal is to help people think fast, focus better and remember more information.

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 and eBooks for their computers, MP3 players and iPods. The Brooklyn Library is a member of the Connecticut Library database FindIT CT, 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

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requested items are received at the library, patrons are notified that their library materials are ready to be picked up. The Connecticut State Library also provides patrons with access to the state's online databases at research IT CT One Search found on the library homepage
<http://www.brooklyntownlibrary.org>

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

Mystic Seaport	CT Science Center
Mystic Aquarium	Roger Williams Park
Zoo	
DEEP No Child Left Inside Day Pass	Wadsworth
Atheneum Art Pass	
CT's Old State House	Florence Griswold
Museum	

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, books 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 that meets regularly at the library. 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 include Friendship Valley, the Israel Putnam Statue, the Town Pump, the Unitarian

SERVICES

Church, Old Trinity, the Brooklyn Library, Mortlake Firehouse, and the Copper Beech Tree. Also available are Cat's Meow Christmas Ornaments of the library and Mortlake Firehouse. These may be purchased at the library. Proceeds from Friends' projects support library programs that include, but are not limited to, funds for Library Passes and the Book Discussion Group.

Wendy Harrington, President
Brooklyn Town Library Association

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).

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Brooklyn 2018	
Impound Dogs	34
Adopted Dogs	11
Impounded Cats	12
Adopted Cats	6
Redeemed Animals	21
Investigations	99

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 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 twenty second 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.

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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.

Board of Fire Commissioners

The Brooklyn Board of Fire Commissioners is responsible for establishing polices 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 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 Boards of Fire Commissioners and Finance for approval and incorporation as approved 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, duty cycles anticipated and effecting a nominal 25% reduction in replacement capital cost.

SERVICES

Volunteer Fire Companies

Brooklyn's volunteer fire companies operate out of two 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 station on Canterbury Road in Brooklyn Center. 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 purchases for each company. The Town also supplies capital funds for the periodic replacement of smaller capital equipment such as hoses, 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 taxpayer-supported emergency services 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

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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 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 has 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.

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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.

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 adequate 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

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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 Emergency Medical Responders. In addition to responding to emergencies, ambulance volunteers train on a monthly basis and also participate in State of Connecticut mandated refresher 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 (1101 responses during 2018) 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,

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

Northeast District Department of Health

According to the CT Public Health Code, health departments must ensure the provision of Ten Essential Public Health Services. In Fiscal Year 2018, NDDH was recognized by the CT Department of Public Health for being among only 9% of health departments across the state to have delivered all ten services. This honor is a tribute to everyone who works for the District. I cannot thank them enough for all they do—and do so well.

This spring, NDDH hosted a reception for Board members and town officials where we showcased the great public health work—and great workers—in northeast Connecticut. Over the course of the year you too may have seen us at work in salons, hotels, restaurants and fairs where we do inspections. You might have seen us at festivals or community events, senior centers, schools, colleges or soup kitchens where we provide education and outreach activities,

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health screenings and immunizations. Or, you might not have seen us at all because we are working behind the scenes tracking down infectious disease and health threats such as food-borne illness or Tuberculosis.

Over the past year, we promoted handwashing and safe food practices, tobacco avoidance, timely immunizations, physical activity (while avoiding ticks, mosquitoes and stray animals of course), radon testing, and adequate sleep and so much more, because we are in the business of prevention. We work to prevent falls and injuries; chronic conditions such as asthma, obesity, heart disease, diabetes; infectious disease, such as the flu. We work to spread a message of hope to all those struggling with addiction because we know recovery is possible. We do it all to make this a healthy community—healthy in terms of physical, mental, social and economic well-being. We do it to keep kids in school and the frail out of hospitals. We do it to prevent the challenging impact that illness takes on individuals—and on those who care for them. We do this so we can see you out and about enjoying the beauty of northeast Connecticut and the company of good neighbors.

We do this work in cooperation with officials from the state and towns in the district, service providers and volunteers. We are so grateful to everyone who supports the goals of public health. Thank you for all you do!

We are dedicated to working collaboratively to keep northeast CT happy, healthy and safe!

Susan Starkey, MPH MS RD

Susan Starkey, MPH, MS, RD
Director of Health

SERVICES

Subsurface Sewage Disposal	
As-Built	30
B100	54
Plan Review – Comm	2
Plan Review- New	12
Plan Review-Repair	16
Plan review-Revised	1
Plan Review-Subdivision	0
Permit to Construct-Comm	3
Permit to Construct-New	12
Permit to Construct - Repair	16
Sieve Analysis	8
Soil Test-Additional	4
Soil Test – New	11
Soil Test - Repair	20
Tank or Sewer Line	6
Water Treatment Permit	2
Property Doc Search	155
Portable Water	
Well Permit	12
Well Cap	14
Other Water Services	22
Food Service Sanitation	
Restaurant Inspections	60
Restaurant Re-inspection	2
Restaurant Plan Review	1
Temporary Food Event	84
Health Inspections	
Campgrounds	1
Daycare	0
Group Homes	11
Hair Salons	4
Hotel/Motel	1
Medical	0
Nail Salon	1
Pool Inspections	1
Complaints	
Animal or Animal Waste	0
Bed Bugs	4
Food Service	8

Garbage	4
Heat/Water	6
Housing	0
Lead Complaint	1
Insects, Vermin	2
Mold	3
Odor	0
Other	0
Outdoor Wood Furnace/Smoke	1
Septic	2
Health Services	
High Blood Lead Level	2
Lead Poisoning Services	1
Rabies Prevention Services	1
Number of Animals Tested Positive for Rabies	0
Environmental Services	601
Reportable 2017 Communicable Diseases	
Babesiosis	1
Giardiasis	1
Chlamydia	10
Gonorrhea	2
Group B Streptococcus	2
Hepatitis B	0
Hepatitis C	9
Influenza	17
Legionellosis	3
Listeriosis	0
Lyme Disease	4
Rotavirus	0
Salmonellosis	0
Streptococcus pneumoniae	2
Total	51
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):

- **CT Collaboration for Fall Prevention at Yale School of Medicine** to reduce falls and fall-related injuries among older adults by addressing the multi-factorial risk factors through outreach, education, personal empowerment and efforts to expand comprehensive health services
- **CT Department of Public Health (DPH) Lead Poisoning Prevention & Control Program** for lead poisoning surveillance, environmental investigation and case management
- **CT DPH Per-Capita Allocation** for support of local and district departments of health
- **CT DPH Preventive Health and Human Services Block Grant** for environmental and policy strategies to decrease chronic disease
- **CT DPH Putting on AIRS** an In-Home Asthma Trigger Assessment Program to decrease asthma-related hospitalizations and emergency department visits
- **Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security Region 4** for the Northeast CT Medical Reserve Corps to build voluntary medical and ancillary care capacity
- **U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services and Centers for Disease Prevention & Control (CDC) Bioterrorism Grant** for Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response

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Independent Auditor's Report

We were engaged to audit the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Brooklyn, CT, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town of Brooklyn, CT's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this included 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. Because of the matter described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion paragraph, however, we were not able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion.

Because of inadequacies in the Town's general ledger accounting system, we were unable to form an opinion regarding the pooled cash balances allocated to each fund and

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interfund balances receivable or owed in the accompanying balance sheets.

Because of the significance of the matter described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion paragraph, we have not been able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis on pages 3-9, budgetary comparison information on pages 53-56, and Pension and OPEB schedules on pages 57-65 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with the 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 the management's responses to our 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 of Brooklyn, Ct's basic financial statements. The combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements and supplements and supplemental schedules are presented

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for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements and supplemental schedules are the responsibility of management and were derived from and related directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. As described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion paragraph, we do not express an opinion on the combining and individual nonmajor fund financial statements and supplemental schedules.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated June 21, 2019, on our consideration of the Town of Brooklyn, Ct's internal control over financial reporting and agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering the Town of Brooklyn, CT's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

King, King & Associates, P.C., CPA's
Winsted, CT

FINANCIAL

Expenditures

General Government	Final Budget	Actual	Variances
Board Finance	22,800	53,763	(3,963)
Board of Selectmen	32,108	33,256	(1,148)
Administration	283,926	276,259	7,667
Revenue Collector	101,557	102,885	(1,328)
Assessor	137,836	135,081	2,755
Board of Assessment	550	219	331
Recording	123,894	121,069	2,825
Elections	34,613	19,049	15,564
Legal	27,000	19,602	7,398
Probate	9,655	9,610	45
Town Hall	47,845	56,615	(8,770)
Central Supplies	65,119	76,591	(11,472)
Ethics	3,000	1,500	1,500
Total	889,903	905,499	(15,596)

Public Safety	Final Budget	Actual	Variances
Canine Control	26,016	26,016	0
Patrol Services	227,724	192,771	34,953
Fire Marshal	54,253	60,775	(6,522)
Fire Facilities	447,795	450,617	(2,822)
Emergency Services	29,239	32,582	(3,343)
Homeland Security	4,750	4,584	166
Total	789,777	767,345	22,432

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Public Works	Final Budget	Actual	Variances
Roads & Drainage	551,412	496,073	55,339
Maintenance & Equipment	87,000	82,670	4,330
Snow Removal	100,405	50,253	50,152
Garage Maintenance	22,800	26,439	(3,639)
Engineering	20,235	20,235	0
Storm Water Management	23,000	0	23,000
Resource Recovery	224,618	242,551	(17,933)
Building Official	76,597	76,030	567
Total	1,106,067	994,251	111,816

Human Services	Final Budget	Actual	Variances
Health	74,383	74,383	0
Cemeteries	5,000	5,000	0
Total	79,383	79,383	0

Civic & Cultural	Final Budget	Actual	Variances
Library	137,911	137,911	0
Transit District	14,453	14,453	0
Special Programs	5,750	5,778	(28)
Recreation	326,817	292,030	34,787
Park Maintenance	110,199	96,692	13,507
Community Center	20,557	22,317	(1,760)
Clifford B. Green Bldg	23,637	34,752	(11,115)
Total	639,324	603,933	35,391

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Development & Planning	Final Budget	Actual	Variances
Planning & Zoning	15,424	8,778	6,646
Zoning Board of Appeal	1,000	75	925
Agriculture Commission	2,300	1,000	1,300
Conservation Commission	2,600	618	1,982
Inland/Wetland Commission	5,850	1,031	4,819
Land Use Admin/Planner	109,499	106,714	2,785
Economic Development Commission	3,650	1,995	1,655
Open Space	8,259	8,259	0
Total	148,582	128,470	20,112

Sundry	Final Budget	Actual	Variances
Contingency	145,000	0	145,000
Fringe Benefits	607,213	527,422	79,791
Municipal Insurance	127,616	134,977	(7,361)
Long Term Debt Service	38,200	20,407	17,793
Short Term Debt Service	496,900	575,425	(78,525)
Total	1,414,929	1,258,231	156,698

Capital Outlay	109,065	109,065	0
Total Board of Education	17,994,035	17,657,532	336,503
Total Expenditures	23,171,065	22,503,709	667,356
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures – Budgetary Basis		268,947	268,947

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

Patricia Buell, Superintendent 860-774-9153

Heather Tamsin, Middle Sch Principal 860-774-9153

Paula Graef, Elementary Sch 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
2017-18

Mission Statement

The Brooklyn School will foster a drive for learning within each student that will allow that student to reach his/her greatest potential. To achieve this mission, the school will continually improve its education programs and services to meet the needs of all students and to meet this community's expectations for a quality education for all.

School Officials

Mrs. Patricia Buell, Superintendent, 860-774-9732
Mrs. Heather Tamsin, Middle School Principal, 860-774-9153
Mrs. Paula Graef, Elementary School 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 Brooklyn Board of Education also has representatives on the Killingly High School, Woodstock Academy Board of Trustees, CAFE and EASTCONN Regional Education Center.

2018-2019 Board of Education

Chair: Nate Richards
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The Brooklyn Public Schools is fortunate to have dedicated community members who serve as Board of Education members. They are dedicated to what is best for the students of Brooklyn and give of their time and talents to promote the highest quality of education possible. They take pride in the students of Brooklyn and work tirelessly to ensure all students receive a high-quality education.

School Improvement Plans and Activities

The Brooklyn Public Schools worked to articulate the goals and objectives through the creation of building and district advancement plans. These goals relate to student achievement and creating positive learning environments for all students and staff. The goals are tied to the work of the building administrators, teachers and was reported to the Board of Education three times. The areas for growth were identified and monitored. Goals included one and multi-year plans to support the achievement of students.

Enrollment

The Brooklyn Public Schools enrollment has increased slightly over the past 5 years. The following is the October 1st student count.

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	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	Change in 5 yrs
Brooklyn Elementary	548	536	521	512	545	548	12
Brooklyn Middle School	374	373	372	353	346	359	-14
Killingly High School	122	119*	114	112	121	116	-3
Woodstock Academy	183	183*	168	195	167	181	-2
Other High Schools	87	76	116	104	86	108	32
Out of District IEP					19	19	0
Total Students	1,314	1,287	1,291	1,276	1,314	1,331	44

*estimated number

Brooklyn has maintained a good class size PK-8. Students attending preschool are able to attend 2, 3 and 5 day a week half-day programs. Many families report moving to Brooklyn because of the school system, specifically the preschool opportunities. Brooklyn is able to offer preschool to every child. The preschool classes are located in the beautiful Louise Berry Early Childhood Center which is a modern preschool-kindergarten building attached to the Brooklyn Elementary School. Students are educated in an inclusive model of education and receive services required under 504 and IDEA.

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Budget

The Board Of Education budget for the 2018-19 school year was approved at \$18,257,435, a 1.57% increase for the 2018-19 school year.

Budget Summary by Account

Object	Account	2017-18	2018-19
100	Salaries	\$7,552,172	\$7,498,605
200	Employee Benefits	\$2,286,313	\$2,246,522,502
300	Purchased Services	\$313,804	\$264,204
400	Purchased Property	\$166,337	\$158,337
500	Services	\$6,884,679	\$7,374,103
600	Supplies & Materials	\$634,533	\$628,031
700	Property	\$50,849	\$26,920
800	Dues & Fees	\$59,673	\$58,713
900	Other-Contingency	\$44,993	\$20,000
Total		\$17,593,353	\$18,275,435

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The administration works carefully to ensure that students and staff have what they need to provide high quality programming for students. In addition to receiving funds from the Town of Brooklyn, the Brooklyn Public Schools receives grant funding to support education, services and teachers. Grant funds are received from Title I, II, IV, IDEA, School Readiness and Adult Education. These funds exceed \$800,000 and are used to offset the cost of preschool education, special education services, and intervention instruction such as reading and mathematics.

Curriculum and Programming:

The Brooklyn Public Schools is an exceptional school district for students in pre-kindergarten through eighth grade. Our Louise Berry Early Childhood Center houses our National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) accredited preschool and kindergarten. The success and popularity of our preschool programming has resulted in very full classes during the 2018-19 school year.

Our students are performing at or above the State of Connecticut on most areas of state testing. The administrators and teachers continue to find ways to improve our student performance but have selected areas of focus through the school improvement plans in 2017-18 and in the School and District Advancement plans for the 2018-19 school year.

Teacher of the Year

The Brooklyn Public Schools community is thrilled to have Sean Maloney represent the Brooklyn as Teacher of the Year! Sean is a fourth-grade teacher at Brooklyn Elementary School. He enjoys creating engaging and creative lessons that integrate science, technology and other content areas. His

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love of sports is evident in his classroom and in his lessons!
Students love Mr. Maloney!

Community Involvement

Brooklyn Public Schools collaborates with the Brooklyn Parks and Recreation to offer before and after school care at Brooklyn Elementary School. Students are also able to attend the summer recreation program housed at Brooklyn Elementary School. Brooklyn Public Schools supports the program by creating a location for the program and supporting some of the custodial needs for this program.

Brooklyn Parks and Recreation supports the schools through these offerings and maintaining the walkways in the snow and the ball fields during the sports seasons. There are many activities that are offered through Parks and Recreation that are held in the school's which students and families participate in.

The Department of Public Works collaborates with the Brooklyn Public Schools to remove snow from driveways and parking lots. They communicate with school administration to ensure school lots are cleared when staff and students begin arriving for school.

Brooklyn Parent Teacher Organization

The Brooklyn PTO is very active at Brooklyn Elementary School and supports students, teachers and families. The welcome families back to school at their annual BBQ! This is a huge community event that includes boy scouts and fire department members preparing and serving hamburgers and hotdogs. Students and their families have a wonderful time greeting each other and playing outside before entering the

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building to visit their child's new teacher. The PTO also sponsors a holiday event and showcases student works and talents. The PTO meets monthly to determine how to best meet the needs of the schools. We are very grateful to the PTO for their generous involvement and support.

Respectfully submitted by:

Patricia L. Buell, Superintendent