

**Town of Plainfield
Annual Report**

June 30, 2022

The Board of Finance held 21 meetings this past year with regular meetings being held the third Wednesday of the month. All meetings were conducted in person and were open to the public.

The Charter Revision Committee recommended that the Board of Finance be expanded to 7 regular members. This was voted upon and approved by the town residents during the 2022 election. The position will be filled during the next election cycle.

New officers were voted upon by the board. They are as follows: Chairman-Dean Gorman, Vice Chairman-Gary Stalaboin, Secretary-Ted Dumaine.

The new budget for 2021-2022 is \$48,766,810. This represents a .49% increase over the previous year. The Mill Rate remained at 28.03.

The Board is currently in the process of establishing by-laws.

The audit was completed by Marcum LLP and the town was deemed to be in a strong financial position.

Submitted Respectfully by:

Dean Gorman
Chairman, Board of Finance
Plainfield, CT

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

The Board of Selectmen consists of three (3) members, A First selectman, and two (2) Selectmen, all whom are elected for a term of two years.

The Board of Selectmen meets on the second (2nd) and fourth (4th) Monday of the month. Special meetings may be called by any selectman on a 24 hour notice.

The duties and responsibilities of the Board of Selectmen shall direct and supervise the affairs of the town and be responsible for coordinating the activities of the officers, boards, commissioners and other agencies of the town.

The Board of Selectmen shall have all powers, duties, and responsibilities conferred upon it by the Town Charter or the General Statutes and all powers proper, incidental, or convenient to their exercise.

Annually, the Board of Selectmen shall review all town ordinances and recommend as appropriate, their revision or repeal to the Town Meeting.

After entering into an agreement with a local relator to help sell the remaining I-Park lots which have been difficult to market and sell, all have been sold with one in the final stages of the sales agreement.

We interviewed for and replaced our town clerk and appointed a part time building official.

We've completed negotiations for a new Highway Union and Police Union Contracts. which has saved the town monies.

On Aug 11 we had a referendum to purchase acreage for the Kate Downing Open Space project. We've been engaged in an open space project that will bring in about 162 acres of passive recreational open space for walking trails, horse trails and nature trails, by creating an Open Space Committee for Kate Downing Road Open Space.

I continue to support our local events like "Bike Night", the town run fireworks, Celebrate Plainfield Day, the VJ Parade, and DKH Triathlon.

The Board of Selectmen participated in ribbon cutting ceremonies to welcome in local businesses like Equilibrium Therapeutic Massage, Board & Brush Creative Studio, The Olde Pineapple, A & H [Artisan & Home, Crystal Vision New Age Shop, LandMark Restaurant, Signature Properties of New England, Granite City Electric Supply, Dollar Tree, and Villa Maria Nursing and Rehabilitation: A Wachusett Healthcare Facility. Additionally, the Board participated in a groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of the new Amazon delivery station.

We have been working on multiple municipal projects with our town engineers, like Cemetery Road to fix water drainage issues, Pond Hill Road for bridge concerns, Lathrop Road sidewalks, Wauregan sidewalks and Rail Road Ave parking lot lights.

Purchased holiday decorations for recreation, U.S. flags for flagpoles, video cameras for municipal buildings, and fireworks.

We've been approved for an assessment grant for InterRoyal to provide a more detailed report of the type and amount of chemicals on site to then assess the ability to perform tax lien sale or types of environmental cleanups needed.

We're working to continue the Quinaboug Valley Trail.

We've prepared data and conducted public hearings on what to do with the Old Plainfield High School building.

We've supported our local food pantry and held 2 food drives at the town hall for Project PIN.

The town referendum in July 2021 approved the expenditure from the Fund Balance of \$350,000.00 to do work on the Dow Road Bridge Project.

Charter revision questions were put for the November ballot.

The town received \$4,476,000.00 from ARPA funding which was voted to disperse with \$3,250,000 to the WPCA projects, \$50,000 to upgrade Lion's park, to allocate \$250,000 for Economic Development, \$100,000 Housing hardship programming, and two non-profits (\$50,000 – United Services and \$25,000 Project PIN), and purchase of a highway backhoe for \$111,505.63.

Modified Town Ordinances 28, 29, 34, 67, 77, 106, 107, 115, and 119.

Approved the HVAC system upgrades in the town hall office areas.

Approved the purchase of a new Police Records Management System, and a new backup generator for the Police Station.

Created a new charter revision commission.

Approved a new Affordable Housing Plan.

Approved a new contract with "Permalink" to use their cloud-based software to track permits and the permit process for both the town and for the resident or contractor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin M. Cunningham
First Selectman

Pension Committee

The Pension Board consists of five (5) members, A First selectman, and two (2) Selectmen, the chair of the Board of Finance and the Chair of the Board of Education.

The duties and responsibilities of the Pension Board shall direct and supervise the affairs of the town and be responsible for coordinating the activities of the officers, boards, commissioners and other agencies of the town.

The Pension Board shall have all powers, duties, and responsibilities conferred upon it by the Town Charter or the General Statutes and all powers proper, incidental, or convenient to their exercise.

During the fiscal year 2021-2022 there were 21 employees of the town that retired and filed for pensions rights or payouts as prescribed in the Pension by-laws.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin M. Cunningham
Pension Board Chair

Water Pollution Control Authority

The Board of Selectmen, by way of the town charter also acts as the Water Pollution Control Authority board.

The Plainfield Water Pollution Control has 9 full time employees that operate two wastewater plants in Plainfield; the North Plant and the Village Plant as well as 13 pump stations.

The WPCA's annual budget is approximately \$2.45 million. The majority of the revenue comes from sewer user fees along with industrial treatment fees.

The North Plant can process up to 1,000,000 gallons of wastewater a day. The treatment plant is currently undergoing a primary tank upgrade.

The Village Plant can process up to 700,000 gallons of wastewater a day.

A new generator was bought and installed at the Headworks Station.

Approved a new system GIS upgrade.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin M. Cunningham
Board Chair for WPCA

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

The Finance Department oversees and administers the town's financial and accounting systems, including the collection and disbursement of all monies for the Town. The Finance Department is comprised of a Finance Director, an Assistant Finance Director, a Bookkeeper and an Accounts Payable clerk.

Two unrestricted fund balance projects were approved by the residents of Plainfield in Fiscal Year 2022. A police generator, \$80,000 and a police record management system, \$195,000.

The Board of Finance set the 2022 fiscal year mill rate at 28.33.

The audit of June 2022 was completed and presented to the Board of Finance in December 2022. The auditing firm is Marcum.

Kelly Vachon
Finance Director

TAX COLLECTOR'S OFFICE -ANNUAL REPORT FY 2021-2022

The Tax Collector's Office is responsible for collecting, processing, and balancing property taxes on all real estate, motor vehicles, and personal property. In addition to property taxes, this office also collects sewer use and sewer assessment. Approximately 38,000 bills and delinquent statements are mailed and processed each year. Liens are recorded in the land records for all unpaid real estate and sewer accounts each year. All motor vehicle accounts that are not paid when due are reported to the Department of Motor Vehicle as delinquent and registrations cannot be obtained or renewed until all bills are paid in full. Various reports are filed with the State Office of Policy and Management for reimbursement on programs that benefit elderly and disabled taxpayers. The office provides a great deal of information to attorneys, title searchers, banks, and the public.

Taxes- During the fiscal year, the collection was 28,650,700.82 in current property taxes, \$540,385.22 in delinquent taxes. Interest & liens \$324,317.12.

Suspense- collected taxes \$15,864.76 interest and liens \$16,960.47.

The figures represent a 99% collection rate on the current levy and 101% when back taxes are included. The office has met and exceeded the expectations of the Board of Finance.

Sewer Use Collected- \$2,205,188.71 in current sewer use, \$33,439.02 in back sewer use. Interest and & Liens \$11,453.71.

Sewer Assessment \$40,364.59 Int and liens \$1,271.54.

Dealing with delinquent accounts is always a difficult task. We have made great headway with these accounts over the past years. The process would include tax sales or the use of the Ct State Marshals office on properties that are severely delinquent.

The office obtained the services of a credit card company, Point and Pay, that works with the Tax Collector's program to make on-line payments user friendly. Online payment this year was \$2,093,351.89.

Breakdown Calendar for Tax Collector

July 1: First- half Real Estate and Personal Property tax bills due; Motor Vehicle tax bill due in full.

August 1: last day to pay to avoid penalty (if this day falls on a weekend or holiday, you have until the next business day). Delinquency notices mailed.

September: List is generated for Marsh or Tax Sale/Mail out Sewer assessment bills

October 1: Sewer Assessment collection due October 1st

January 1: Second-half Real Estate and Personal Property tax bills due; Supplemental Motor Vehicle tax bill due in full.

February 1st last day to pay to avoid penalty (if this day falls on a weekend or holiday, you have until the next business day). Delinquency notices mailed.

May: Intent to Lien Notices mailed; coding all accounts for banks for the next collection year.

June: Place lines on all delinquent Real Estate and Sewer Use that have not been paid prepare bills for tax collection. M_1 state report- June 30th.

Efforts will continue in the upcoming year to meet the needs of the Town of Plainfield

Karen Vincent, CCMC

Tax Collector, Town of Plainfield

Assessor's Office

The primary objective of the Assessor's Office is to ensure that all taxable property located within the Town of Plainfield is assessed in accordance with applicable law so that every property owner bears an appropriate share of the total tax burden. To accomplish this objective, the Assessor must discover, list and equitably value all property within the jurisdiction. The results of these efforts are the Grand List: a record of all the taxable and tax-exempt property within the Town of Plainfield. The Grand List is used in the budget process to establish the mill rate and for tax billing.

The following is a comparison of the 2020 and 2021 Net Grand List:

Type	2020 Grand List	2021 Grand List	Increase/(decrease)
Real Estate	804,301,380	811,757,221	7,455,841
Personal Property	119,321,852	120,771,875	1,450,023
Motor Vehicle	107,934,734	135,959,020	28,024,286
Total	1,031,557,966	1,068,488,116	36,930,150

On the 2021 Grand List the Town of Plainfield had the following number of accounts:

Real Estate- 6,311

Personal Property- 909

Motor Vehicles- 14,623

The following is the net top 10 Taxpayers for the Town of Plainfield on the 2021 Grand List

Combination of Real Estate, Personal Property & Motor Vehicle

(assessments can include more than one account)

Taxpayer	Net Assessment
Lowes Home Center Inc.	52,129,260
Greenleaf Power	29,695,620
Connecticut Light and Power Company	26,887,790
Plainfield Renewable Energy	14,173,190
PPF WE 85 Moosup Pond Rd	11,154,270
Connecticut Water Company LLC, The	9,288,420
ORI, Plainfield LLC	8,227,228
Yankee Gas Services Company	6,352,320
Plainfield Parkade Inc	4,762,830
KAGR Lathrop LLC	4,261,720

Maintaining accounts within the Town of Plainfield takes a great deal of time for the Assessor's Office. The office is continually processing transfers of real property, applying credits to motor vehicles, prorating real estate due to new construction, inspecting properties with permits that have been issued by the Building Inspectors Office, maintaining the town tax maps, etc.

The Assessor's Office is responsible for processing applications for the Elderly Homeowners and Rental Rebate Programs. We also approve and apply tax exemptions for the veterans, blind and totally disabled programs. PA490 (Public Act 490) applications are also processed in the Assessor's Office.

The following are important annual dates for the Assessor's Office:

February 1	Start date for the Elderly Homeowner Program and Additional Veteran Program.
April 1	Start date for Rental Rebate.
May 15	Deadline to file for the Elderly Homeowner program.
June 1	Deadline for commercial property owners to file the annual income and expense forms.
September 1	Filing period starts for PA490, Farm and Forest
September 30	Deadline to file DD214, honorable discharge to be filed in the Town Clerk's Office to receive exemption.
October 1	Deadline for Rental Rebate, Local Blind, Social Security Disabled applications, Additional Veterans Applications are due to the Assessor.
October 31	Deadline to file PA490, Farm and Forest
November 1	All Personal Property Declarations must be filed or postmarked by November 1 st to avoid the 25% penalty.

For additional information regarding programs offered by the Assessor's Office please visit www.plainfieldct.org under the Assessor's page.

Questions concerning assessments, adjustments, exemptions, tax relief or motor vehicle tax credits should be directed to the Assessor's Office.

Respectfully,

MaryEllen Hall, CCMA I

Assessor



PLAINFIELD TOWN HALL

PLAINFIELD-CENTRAL VILLAGE-MOOSUP-WAUREGAN

PLANNING & ZONING DEPARTMENT

8 COMMUNITY AVE., PLAINFIELD, CT 06374

PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT
REPORT

The Department serves as Staff, and provides technical assistance, to the Town's Planning and Zoning Commission and Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission. The Department reviewed and made recommendations on submitted applications to ensure they were in compliance with the pertinent Regulations. Staff also processed land use applications and kept members informed of any upcoming professional development workshops and seminars, and any updates to the Connecticut General Statutes as they pertain to each Commission

The Department provided a multitude of support services for the community, and is responsible for administering the Zoning, Inland Wetland and Watercourses, Aquifer Protection and Subdivision Regulations and enforcing those Regulations and applicable local ordinances. It also organized a very successful Job Fair for area residents which was attended by 23 businesses that were hiring, and by many job seekers.

Some of the Department's duties included:

- Met with residents, developers and engineers to discuss planned developments, modifications to existing development and any issues/questions regarding the land use process/permitted uses/requirements/etc.;
- Responsible for ensuring that proposed development is consistent with the Town's Plan of Conservation and Development, which was updated in 2018;
- Worked with the Town's Engineer and relevant departments to address issues/requirements of, and ensure compliance with, the Town's MS-4 Permit (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System);
- Ensuring its boards and commissions were kept informed regarding pending/newly adopted legislation as it affected land use; and
- Wrote applications for, and administered approved, grants for projects benefiting the Town.

Over 70 Zoning Permits were issued during the fiscal year, including new construction, additions/accessory structures, home occupations and Use and Compliance. There were 16 Inland Wetland approvals for work within the 100' upland review area of a wetland/watercourse for new construction and for additions/accessory structures. One (1) determination of no jurisdiction was issued for work on a property containing regulated area(s) but the work proposed was outside of those areas. 1 determinations of non-regulated activity was issued for a timber harvest.

Planning and Zoning Department Staff for FY2021-2022 included:

Mary Ann Chinatti, Town Planner
Ryan Brais, Asst. Town Planner/Zoning and Wetlands Enforcement Officer
Katie O'Neill, Land Use Clerk

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Chinatti, Town Planner



PLAINFIELD TOWN HALL

PLAINFIELD-CENTRAL VILLAGE-MOOSUP-WAUREGAN

PLANNING & ZONING DEPARTMENT

8 COMMUNITY AVE., PLAINFIELD, CT 06374

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
REPORT

The Economic Development Department works to promote the preservation and development of the Town's economic base by assisting in the retention and expansion of existing businesses, encouraging new businesses to locate in Plainfield and coordinate efforts to expand the Town's non-residential tax base.

The Department also serves as the Town's Eastern Connecticut Enterprise Corridor (ECZ) Coordinator and participated in quarterly meetings, attends meetings of the Northeastern Connecticut Chamber of Commerce and the Plainfield Business Association. It also continued its efforts to assist businesses within/proposed to locate in the Town's Enterprise Corridor Zones with applying for CT DECD ECZ benefits.

The Department assisted the Town by applying for, and being awarded, a number of grants during the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year, including but not limited to the CT DECD for brownfield assessment work on the long-abandoned InterRoyal site, CT DOT for the first phase of pedestrian safety improvements to Shepard Hill Elementary School, for a van for the Seniors and for installation of sidewalks on Lathrop Rd. from Eastern Bank to the new Amazon facility, as well as a number of other grant programs. The Department also continued its work on the CDBG Small Cities Housing Rehab Program, which provides no- or low-interest loans to income-eligible residential property owners for necessary repairs. In addition, a business directory and list of available properties has been uploaded to the Department's webpage.

The Department was also pleased to welcome a number of new businesses to town with ribbon cutting ceremonies.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Chinatti, Town Planner



PLAINFIELD TOWN HALL

PLAINFIELD-CENTRAL VILLAGE-MOOSUP-WAUREGAN

PLANNING & ZONING DEPARTMENT

8 COMMUNITY AVE., PLAINFIELD, CT 06374

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION

The purposes and objectives of the Economic Development Commission shall be those set forth in Section 7-136 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, and in the Town's Economic Development Plan, as amended.

The Commission initiated research to determine the number of active business enterprises in town and, upon completion of that research, will use the results to begin formal recognition of those businesses for their continued commitment to maintaining their business in Plainfield.

In addition, the Commission also recognized K&H Construction as its 2021 Business of the Year, with an award presented at the August 7, 2021 Plainfield Business Association's Celebrate Plainfield Day.

It is also responsible, per Section 10.2 of the Town of Plainfield Zoning Regulations, for approving proposed uses in the Town's Industrial Park District prior to action by the Planning and Zoning Commission.

The Commission is pleased to have participated in ribbon cutting ceremonies for a number of newly established businesses during FY22, including but not limited to Crystal Visions, Dollar Tree and Signature Properties, and it looks forward to welcoming more businesses in the future.

Members of the FY22 Commission included:

Mary Ann Chinatti, Chairman
Jodi Clark
Jennifer Greene
Paul Smith
Ava Colona
June Gagne
Adrian Paulsen

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Chinatti, Chairman

ANIMAL CONTROL DEPARTMENT

The Plainfield Animal Control Officer and Assistant Animal Control Officer are responsible for enforcement of all animal related issues in the town of Plainfield including the villages of Moosup, Wauregan and Central Village as well as Plainfield. The Animal Control department investigates on average approximately 400 animal related complaints per year and receives many more calls from residents for advice on many subjects. We assist law enforcement in any animal related call such as assistance with evictions where there are animals on premises, untimely deaths with animals on the premises and any other calls we are asked to go on. The number of impounded and quarantined animals varies depending on the year but averages approximately 50-75 animals, mostly dogs, however other impounded animals have included cats, rats, poultry, domestic birds, pigs, snakes, ferrets and more. We also assist the public in keeping animals in their homes by providing pet food to families in need when we have excess. The Animal Control department takes in owner surrendered animals on occasion and adopts animals to the public. We pride ourselves on a 98 % adoption rate. We also work hand in hand with local and breed specific rescues for harder to place animals or those with exceedingly high veterinary issues. We work hard at maintaining a healthy environment for impounded animals until they are ready for their forever homes. The Animal Control Officer is also responsible for issuing disposal and restraining orders on vicious and dangerous dogs to ensure public safety. Infractions and written warnings are also issued by the Animal Control Officers for violations of state statutes. The Animal Control Department's duties include but are not limited to the following:

- Responding to hit by car domestic animals when an owner is not present and cannot be located and transporting said animals to a veterinarian for medical treatment.
- Pick up and impounding of any stray roaming dogs.
- Cruelty investigation and seeking justice for abused, neglected and abandoned animals.
- Educating the public on varied animal related topics and teaching residents to better care for their animals.
- Enforcing dog licensing laws.
- Investigating and impoundment of any biting domestic animals according to state statutes, both bites to human, domestic animal verses domestic animal and domestic animal verses wildlife.
- Dispatching potential rabid wild animals that have had contact with people and preparing and delivering said animal to the state health department for rabies testing.
- Issuing strict confinement and close observation rules for animals who have encountered a potential rabid animal.
- Patrol town street and public areas.
- Catching loose livestock such as horses, cows, goats etc. and returning them to their owners.

- Answering calls for dogs locked in hot cars in the summer months.
- Nuisance barking calls.
- Cleaning, feeding and general care of any animals impounded at the animal control facility.
- Helping residents locate and possibly trap missing pets.
- Assist law enforcement in any animal related issues.
- Data entry for all calls for service on a daily basis.
- Taking in owner surrenders if the space allows.
- Issuing disposal and restraining orders.

It is the continuing goal of the Animal Control Department to provide timely professional animal control services to the residents of the Town of Plainfield.

TOWN CLERK

The Town Clerk's Office is known as the direct link for the Residence of Plainfield and our local government. Staff in the Clerks office is working hard to preserve today's history for our future generation. Often when residences are seeking information they contact us first, if we are unable to assist we direct them to the appropriate department or organization.

From July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022, the Town Clerk's Office recorded 3,365 Land Records, including but not limited to, Warranty Deeds, Quit Claim Deeds, Mortgages, Liens, Releases, Survey and Subdivision Maps; this includes 33 Trade Name certificates. This is a slight increase from last fiscal year. Documents are submitted for recording in person, by mail as well as online, our online totals for this fiscal year were 1,103.

For each recording the Town Clerk retains a portion of the recording for *preservation and management of historic documents*. These funds cannot be made part of the operating budget of our municipality. In addition to the two dollar funds the State Library offers a preservation grant each year. Plainfield has been using this yearly grant to scan our land records into our online system. We currently now have all documents dating back to 1994 (with the 2023 grant already underway) on our online system.

The Clerk's office issues many different licenses and permits each year. Some of the licenses we issued are 1,056 dog licenses, 700 fishing and hunting licenses/tags, as well as 55 marriage licenses. Our office is also the stop to file your liquor and vendor permits, we also notarize your pistol permit (along with many other documents). Our office provides our residence with a new sticker each year to utilize our transfer station, over 1,700 passes were issued during this fiscal year.

During the last fiscal year, the following vital statistics were filed in Plainfield, 129 birth, 219 death, and 194 marriage certificates. These documents are held with a high level of confidentiality. Our staff attends many trainings throughout the year to stay up to date with the rules, regulations, and changes. As well as how to handle and preserve each document.

If you visit the Clerk's office, you will always find the staff busy. Other duties of the Clerk's office that is not listed above is receiving all meeting agendas and minutes. Housing all contracts with town employees, swearing in all members of our local boards, commissions, Justices of the Peace, Elected Officials, as well as our Local Police Officers.

The Clerk's office is where you go to register to vote as well as receive your absentee ballot. You can also file your permanent absentee ballot application with the Clerk who works closely with the Registrar of Voters and passes along information such as that to them when they are in the office.

Staffing - Plainfield had a new clerk join halfway through the fiscal year. I am Dianne Talbot; I left the teaching field to work for you here in Plainfield. As I worked on my Bachelor's degree in History as well as my Master's degree in Education I found myself spending countless hours in the Clerks office doing research. I completed a 20-page research paper for my undergraduate senior project on how the farmers of Plainfield adapted to the influx of immigrants and business during the Industrial Revolution and Plainfield changed from a farm town to a mill town. Then for my Masters project I created an entire unit on how to teach the big history lessons through local history to middle schoolers. Again, I focused on Plainfield. What began as one assignment turned into a hobby, any free time I had I would come in, research, and explore. I am excited and honored to be your next clerk.

Dianne S. Talbot
Plainfield Town Clerk

Annual Report 2022

Highway Department

This department consists of 10 (ten) full time employees. Directed by the Crew Chief Ron Berube, 26 years service. Kevin Henault, Payloader operator, 26 years service. Henry Dexter Backhoe Operator, 9 years service. Jason Corrao, Vac-con Operator, 4 years service. James Allyn Mower Operator, 8 years service. Michael Hawkins, Sweeper Operator, 8 years service. Keith Whipple, Sweeper Operator, 3 years service. Dan Bernier, Mason/carpenter, 3 years service. Kevin Reen, Mechanic, 3 years service. Tom Talbot, driver laborer, 9 months service. Employees may operate other equipment providing they are qualified. That is determined by the Crew Chief. If someone is out sick or on Vacation, whatever the case may be, the Crew chief will appoint someone to Operate that piece of equipment, as long as they are qualified.

Equipment

3 Freightliner Plow Trucks.

4 International Plow Trucks.

2 F-450 Mason dump Trucks.

1 GMC Mason dump truck, 1 ton.

1 Payloader.

1 Backhoe.

2 Sweepers.

4 Pick-ups.

1 Boom mower

1 vac-con catch basin cleaner

Responsibilities of the Highway Dept.

The Highway Department is responsible for the maintenance of approximately 100 Miles of road, (please keep in mind there are two sides to every road). Here is an example of some of the duties performed within the Dept. Snow plowing and sanding slippery roads, pot hole repair, roadside mowing from May – mid Oct. Repairing and Replacing Box culverts and catch basins. During rain storms crews are out cleaning catch basin tops and making waterways to get the water off the road. In the Spring, the sweeping begins early April and depending on the weather goes on until early July. We also replace guide posts and delenials. We pick up Christmas trees after Christmas. We rake the town beach weekly during the summer. We clean beaver dams. We do evictions. Street signs are either knocked down or stolen and we have to replace them. Tree trimming is a year-round task due to the gypsy moths that have killed trees all around town. We share a bucket Truck with Canterbury and Brooklyn. One month in Plainfield, the next in Canterbury and the next in Brooklyn, then it starts all over again. We also chip brush after any storms with rain and heavy wind. Other duties include picking road side litter, trash and mattresses are often thrown on the sides of our roads. Sight line trimming at many intersections using a weed whacker or zero turn mower. Traffic duty for outside contractors, such as tree service companies. Removal of dead deer and other dead animals in the road. Service and maintain 26 pieces of equipment. In November we pick-up bagged leaves that are in paper bags only. We also assist the schools with a lot of different tasks when asked, the sewer dept. and that goes both ways, Fire Departments, Town hall grounds and maintenance.

Roads The Highway Dept. Paved in 2022

Lori DR– 1100 ft. long x 28 ft. wide

Hemlock DR– 1300 ft. long x 30ft. wide

Pinecrest DR – 960 ft. long x 28 ft. wide

Jackson RD – 3500 ft. long x 22 ft. wide

Lovers Lane – 3050 ft. long x 20 ft. wide

Moosup Pond RD – 1700 ft. long x 24 ft. wide

BUILDING OFFICIAL

The Building Official administers the Connecticut State Building Code. Permits for all new buildings, additions, alterations, demolition, etc., are issued from this office. During the year, a total of 754 permits were issued to Plainfield property owners bringing in \$562,447.63 to the General Fund.

The Permits issued in Plainfield included:

New Homes	31	New Commercial	5
Accessory Apartment	1	Additions/Residential	15
Decks	22	Demo	13
Electrical	108	Fuel tanks	3
Garages	13	Gas Piping	40
Heating	62	Mechanical	53
Miscellaneous	1	Mobile Homes	1
Pellet Stoves	8	Plumbing	19
Pools/hot tubs	15	Renovations/Residential	81
Renovations/Commercial	21	Roofs	115
Sheds	6	Siding	11
Signs	9	Solar Panels	95
Woodstoves	6		

Residential Projects:

Subdivision at Moosup Pond/Smith Rd for 11 new homes
55+ elderly housing at Moosup River Estates for 39 new homes

Commercial Projects:

Commercial renovation for United Ag & Turf at 20 Excalibur Blvd
Amazon facility at 137 Lathrop Rd
Renovations for new businesses at 653-661 Norwich Rd
2 Mini storage buildings at 144-146 Norwich Rd
Two storage buildings at 141 & 143 Ward Avenue



The Town of Plainfield
8 Community Avenue
Plainfield, CT 06374

Costantino Galasso
Fire Marshal

PH. (860) 230-3013

FAX (860) 230-3033

Email: cgalasso@plainfieldct.org

PLAINFIELD - CENTRAL VILLAGE - MOOSUP - WAUREGAN

Office of The Fire Marshal

The Fire Marshal for the Town of Plainfield is required by State Statutes to conduct an investigation into the origin and cause of all fires and explosions within the town, conduct inspections of all occupancies except one" and two family dwellings as required, perform plan reviews on all new construction except one" and two-family dwellings, issue blasting and special effects permits and conduct inspections of those operations. The Fire Marshal also responds to and investigates fire safety complaints from the public. We have received an increasing number of complaints over the past year typically involving landlord - tenant conflicts and eviction/nonpayment of rent situations.

The total number of investigations continues to increase each year and the respective dollar loss increases as well. Investigations include fatal fires, grass and woodland fires, vehicle fires, hazardous material incidents, room and content fires, appliance fires, carbon monoxide incidents, major structure fires and multiple building fires. There are many causes for these incidents including accidental causes, weather related incidents, mechanical failures, discarded smoking materials, candle mishaps, and intentionally set fires. We also conduct fire safety training for schools, businesses, nursing homes and other housing facilities and assist the fire departments at emergency scenes with hazardous materials incidents and major fire events. The Fire Marshal also witnesses any underground storage tank removals. The Fire Marshal is responsible for the issuing of blasting permits, which are regulated by the State of CT.

The Fire Marshal serves as Burning Official for Plainfield enforcing the State of Connecticut DEEP air quality regulations. All proposed sites of open burning are inspected prior to the issuance of a written permit. Complaints of open burning are investigated and penalties for violations can range from verbal warnings, written warnings, no burn orders, and criminal fines and or arrest.

The Fire Marshal is the Enhanced 9-1-1 coordinator for the Town of Plainfield. He issues all new building numbers for new construction, investigates incorrect building numbering, and works with the regional dispatch center to correct failed 9-1-1 emergency response address numbers. There are still many cases in Town where residents do not have their house numbers displayed. This causes delays in the response of the fire, police, and ambulance to your properties in the event of an emergency.

This office works closely with our four fire departments, our police department, ambulance corps, highway department and the school department to help ensure the safety of all residents and visitors to our community.

We have responded to over 50 emergency call outs. We issued 45 permits to burn brush and investigated 25 Burn complaints for illegal or non-permitted burns, which all were resolved with education on the state's burning regulations. We have issued 15 blasting permits. We have conducted over 170 apartment and business inspections including complaints, routine inspections, witnessing of fire drills, sprinkler system acceptances testing, follow-up inspections, liquor permit renewals.

Respectfully,
Costantino Galasso
Fire Marshal



Town of Plainfield
Emergency Operations Center (EOC)



Office of Emergency Management

The Emergency Management Department consists of the Emergency Management Director and a staff of highly trained volunteer workers available during times of emergency. This office is responsible for developing and maintaining the Town of Plainfield Emergency Operations Plan, supervising the staffing and operations of the Emergency Operations Center (located at 51 Black Hill Road), advising the First Selectman on response plans and actions during emergencies, coordinating State and Federal assistance during state and nationally declared emergencies, assists in coordinating the responses of the Town fire departments, police department highway department, school department and utilities during major weather, hazardous material and security events.

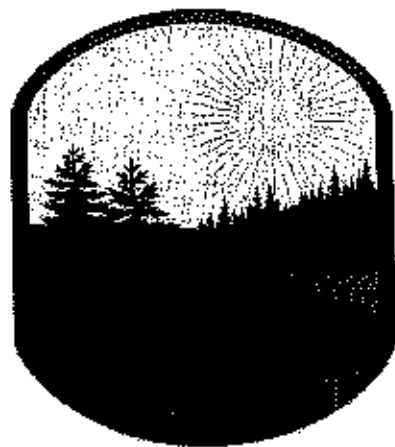
The Town of Plainfield is subject to many types of emergencies including earthquakes and major winter snowstorms, ice storms, cold weather events, power system outages, hurricanes, tornadoes, school and business security events, electrical storms, terrorist, or active shooter events as well as other unplanned and planned emergencies. These events may disrupt the normal operations of Town government and the lives of our citizens for a short or long duration. The Emergency Management Department works to minimize the disruptions and restore utilities and other services as soon as possible. State and Federal assistance may not be available for up to 72 hours after an event occurs, so our residents need to plan for these possibilities.

We work closely with the Red Cross, the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security and the Federal Government to open shelters as needed in Plainfield to provide for the emergency needs of our residents. We have two formally designated shelters in Plainfield; the Plainfield Town Hall and the Plainfield High School. These can be opened as needed using staffing from the Red Cross and locally trained volunteers. We are working to have our shelters approved as "multi-jurisdictional shelters" where we would host residents from 5 surrounding communities in the event of a major emergency.

Our Emergency Operations Center is fully equipped to maintain communications with all local, state and federal agencies during an emergency using a variety of technologies on a 24-hour basis as needed.

The EOC has undergone much needed updates to the computer system along with radios used in the time of need. The office is always in search of new people to volunteer, to work in the EOC during emergency activations and scheduled emergency management drills and training.

Respectfully,
Costantino Galasso
Emergency Management Director



Parks & Recreation

PLAINFIELD
CONNECTICUT

Town of Plainfield Parks and Recreation Department

The Plainfield Recreation Department is located at the Plainfield Community Center 482 Norwich Road. The facility is home to the Senior Center and Recreation Department. The department is responsible for the planning and supervision of all Recreation, Aquatic, and Senior Programs in addition to assisting with the maintenance of the three Town Parks and Playgrounds.

The department continues to use our plainfieldrecreation.com website as a one stop shop for users to browse program offerings and to register for all programs right online. Additionally, the new website allows the department to better track program registrations, finances, and members. To date there are 1,595 Household accounts and 3,045 members that have registered on our website. Much like our new website our Facebook page has had equal success. To date our Facebook page has 1,100 "likes" and 1,400 followers.

The Plainfield Senior Center is a multi-use facility serving the needs of the elderly in Plainfield and surrounding communities. The Center is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 am-4:30 pm. Volunteers plan activities and functions at the center. Weekly activities include crafts, cards, chorus, billiards, bingo, knitting, movies, social activities, educational programs and trips. At the center is a well-maintained library of current books, videos and education materials about elderly and health related issues. We have a Social Services Coordinator that is available every Monday and Friday from 9:00am -12:00pm to assist with accessing resources and an Activities Coordinator that plans several crafts and activities throughout the week. Senior transportation is available through support from Title III the Older Americans act. Riders must be 60 or older, and live in Plainfield, Sterling or Canterbury. A seven passenger handicapped accessible van and a car are operated for the elderly enrolled in the program. Annually, the transportation service provides over 1,000 trips to more than 30 individuals. In total the Senior Center welcomes approximately 300 users weekly. The Recreation department is continuously exploring new ideas and programs to add to the Senior Center and is excited about the possibility of adding additional health and fitness classes for our senior's.

Also in April of 2021 the Recreation Department resumed offering recreation and aquatic programs for the first time since March 2020. Since reopening the department has offered over 36 programs including adult fitness classes, line dancing, youth arts and crafts, swim lessons, and adult water aerobics just to name a few. The department was also very excited to welcome back Summer Camp which had 187 enrollees. To date the department has had 1,800 registrations across all recreation, aquatic, and senior programs and has generated roughly \$125,000 in revenue. The department has also continued the tradition of offering community focused events. Since April of 2021 the department hosted an educational talk about Earth Day, eight summer concerts, three movies in the park, and a drive through trunk or treat. The department will also continue the "Toys for Kids" program and will look to add more community focused initiatives.

The Department and the Town has continued to prioritize park improvements throughout the Town. Recent efforts include ballfield improvements at Moosup and Plainfield Little League complexes, brush cutting, new mulch at Moosup Playground, and repainting the concession building and dugouts at the Moosup Little League complex to make all buildings a matching orange.

Lastly, with significant assistance from the Town Grant Writer Jordan Lumpkins, the department has been awarded the following grants:

- AARP Livable Communities - \$5,000 for new senior center patio furniture

- NRPA Healthy Living – To cover the cost of instructor training for future Senior Center Programming
- Senior Resources - \$3,261.22 to purchase equipment that will enable us to provide virtual programming
- Senior Resources- \$26,080.00 to offset expenses related to the Senior Transportation Program
- Senior Resources- \$9,959.04 to offset expenses related to the monthly Podiatry Clinic
- Senior Resources- \$10,287.36 to offset expenses related to new physical activity programs
- Senior Resources- \$5,037.12 to offset expenses related to new recreation programs
- Beagary Charitable Trust- \$50,000 to offset summer camp expenses for 2023 and 2024
- Foundation of Eastern CT- \$15,000 to assist with planning and development of Kate Downing Rd Forest
- State of CT Summer Innovation Grant- \$110,683.00 to off set expenses related to 2022 Summer Camp
- State of CT STEAP Grant- \$484,000.00 to install a new playground, fitness court, restrooms, and basketball courts at Lions Park.

In total since January 1 2022 the department has been awarded over \$719,807.74 and is activity applying for other grants.

The Plainfield Recreation Department will continue to serve the Plainfield Community by offering programs and services that support healthy lifestyles and will continue to invest in community facilities that support that goal.

Mark Simmons
Recreation Director



THE TOWN OF PLAINFIELD
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
PLAINFIELD-CENTRAL VILLAGE-MOOSUP-WAUREGAN

8 Community Avenue
Plainfield, CT 06374

Admin Ph. (860) 230-3015
Fax (860) 230-3033
North Plant Ph. (860) 564-3335
Fax (860) 564-3336

Annual WPCA Summary: July 2021 to June 2022

December 5, 2022

The main purpose of this department is to transport and treat the wastewater from Plainfield and Sterling using physical, chemical, and biological processes. Our goal is to put out the best quality of water possible and to maintain permit compliance with the State Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Agency (CT DEEP). Both Treatments plants are undergoing permit renewals with the CT DEEP and new permits are expected in 2023.

The WPCA annual budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year was \$2.475 million with the majority of the revenue coming from sewer use fees and industrial discharge fees. The Plainfield Water Pollution Control has 8 full time employees that operate two wastewater plants in Plainfield; the Plainfield North Plant and Plainfield Village Plant as well as 13 pump stations and miles of sewer mains. The department is made up of mainly state licensed wastewater operators and mechanics who ensure the proper operation and maintenance of all the equipment. One mechanic retired in January 2022.

The WPCA with the help of the highway department, uses a jet truck to clean trouble areas in the sewer mains. This helps prevent sewer backups and blockages which are often caused from grease and root buildup. Some roads covered this fiscal year were: Black Hill Rd, Community Ave, Beechwood Dr, Lathrop Rd, & River St.

Planned improvements and upgrades were:

- A new flat roof with insulation was installed on the North plant Lab/Administration building for \$61,683
- Two new Generac generators were installed one at our Headworks Pump Station and one at our Union St pump station both were replacing original generators. Total cost for both: \$61,994
- Security cameras were installed at the North Plant for \$5,113 to be able to monitor the plant after hours and during storm events.
- We worked with the engineering firm, Tighe & Bond to create a sewer GIS layer that is available on the town website under online town maps. This layer shows where most of our sewer mains and manholes are located and will help us more accurately locate our structures throughout town. The cost was \$15,000 and this layer will get more accurate every year as structures are field verified and maps uploaded.
- Two new primary drives were purchases for the North Plant for \$14,372. These will replace the original dual drive that is starting to deteriorate. With expected install date of Spring 2023.
- At the Main St pump station, a new pump and motor were purchased for \$16,678. This will replace one of the three aging pumps at that station.

The WPCA is also working with the engineering firm, Fuss & O'Neill, Inc on various capital improvement projects including; pump station upgrades, a new generator for the North Plant to replace our original 1971 generator, a monitoring system for all pump stations, and rehabbing the secondary clarifies at the North Plant. We are funding these Projects using the American Rescue Plan Act and Clean Water Funds.



Annual Report 2021-2022

Plainfield Public Schools

Enrollment and Overview

Plainfield Public Schools is proud to serve the residents, families and students of Plainfield Connecticut. Currently, Plainfield Public Schools operates six school location; Early Childhood Center, which serves students 3-5 years old and in Pre-School programming; Moosup Elementary, which serves students in the eastern section of Plainfield and in grades Kindergarten through Third Grade; Shepard Hill Elementary School, which serves students in the western section of Plainfield and in grades Kindergarten and Third Grade.

In our upper elementary and secondary levels, we have: Plainfield Memorial School, which serves students in grades Fourth and Fifth Grade. At our secondary level we have our middle school, Plainfield Central Middle and at our high school we have Plainfield High. Our current, October 1, 2021 enrollment numbers are as follows:

Plainfield School Programs 10/1/21	Number of Students
Early Childhood Center	114
Moosup Elementary	274
Shepard Hill Elementary	284
Plainfield Memorial School	311
Plainfield Central Middle School	463
Plainfield High School	530
TOTAL	1,976

	9	10	11	12	TOTAL
CAREER AND TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLMENTS ("VOCATIONAL/AGRICULTURAL")	53	42	31	31	157

Additional Resident Students 10/1/2021	Number of Students
Homeschooled Students K-12	94
Charter or Magnet K-12	54
Special Education Outplaced	15



Board of Education: Plainfield Public Schools is overseen and supported by the Board of Education. The following members currently serve on Plainfield Board of Education:

Christi Haskell-Chair	Mike Broughton-Vice Chair
Andrey Lemieux-Secretary	Kathleen Barry
Roxanne Boisse	Peggy Bourey
Arrianna Landry	Heather Smith
Diane Summa	Tammy St. Amour-Board Liaison

Currently Plainfield Public Schools are engaged in a strategic process of transforming itself. The Board of Education (BOE) adopted a mission and six core strategies to improve our schools: *To prepare all students to lead safe and healthy lives with the skills to become productive members of the community and the workforce.*

- Ensuring all students meet **rigorous standards;**
- Ensuring the **highest quality staff;**
- Improving personalization and **response to diversity;**
- Increasing **parental and community engagement;**
- Promoting **safe, healthy and effective learning environments;** and,
- **Optimizing resources to promote student achievement.**

Each school establishes annual goals for student growth and school improvement aligned to the district's strategic plan. As a result of the strategic plan, Plainfield is improving teaching and learning at every grade level by providing universal Pre-K, Full-Day Kindergarten, increased access to technology (1:1) in Grades PK-12 and free PSAT and SAT testing for all Grade 9-12 students at Plainfield High. PHS has also initiated more career strands for students including a CNA program and a Manufacturing program both funded in part by state grants and donations. Plainfield Public Schools has engaged in a multi-year commitment to ensure Computer science education is embedded in program K-12.

Our Schools

Moosup Elementary School educates students Kindergarten through grade 3 with the mission to develop an enriched community of caring and creative life-long learners who strive to excel in the ABC's: Academic Achievement, Behavior, Character.

Shepard Hill Elementary School proudly serves kindergarten through grade three students. Our mission is to develop lifelong learners, who value themselves, contribute to their community, and are productive in a changing world.



Early Childhood Center houses our NAEYC Accredited Preschool and Readiness Programs as well as the Plainfield Family Resource Center. The Plainfield Public School District prides itself on providing quality educational experiences. We feel that enriched early childhood environments not only provide extraordinary opportunities for young children, but also form the foundation for a successful educational career. Our Early Childhood Centers provide

Plainfield High School is a four-year, comprehensive secondary school that is fully accredited through the New England Association of Schools and Colleges and the Connecticut State Department of Education, serving students in grades 9-12. Plainfield High School strives to foster the intellectual curiosity, creativity, and positive attitudes required for lifelong learning through varied and rigorous course offerings. The academics, arts, athletics, and various extracurricular activities at Plainfield High School deliver everything one would expect from a comprehensive high school and more! Combined with a dedicated staff, these programs bring together students whose talents, growth potential, individualism, and dedication benefit and enrich the Plainfield High School community.

Plainfield Central Middle School offers our students in grades 6 through 8 a rigorous, standards-based curriculum focused on our mission of inspiring lifelong learning in a supportive and creative environment. We promote excellence in academics and social endeavors, foster open communication and shared responsibility, and encourage the full potential of each unique student to meet the challenges of the future.

Plainfield Memorial School serves our grades 4 and 5 students with the goal to provide a safe and successful learning environment for them to grow intellectually, physically, emotionally, and socially. We are committed to educational excellence and believe quality education is achieved through strong partnerships among school, family and community.

Central Office

Our schools and district are supported by a central office and school front office staff at every location. Currently our central office administration is:

Paul Brenton	Superintendent
Scott Sugarman	Assistant Superintendent-Director of Talent and Instruction
Jessica Fitch	Director of Pupil Services
Courtney Langlois	Supervisor of Pupil Services and Early Childhood
Ronald Lussier	Business Manager



Our Goals

After returning to full-time in person instruction in 2021, we are shifting our focus to ensure we ENGAGE, INSPIRE and EMPOWER our students to be effective and contributing members of an active community after graduation. We accomplish this by driving towards high-leverage learning standards that are both rigorous and enriching. We offer multiple pathways for our students to explore interests both personally and academically.

We strive for our graduating students to be (1) Responsible Citizens (2) Informed Thinkers (3) Creative Communicators (4) Problem Solvers and (5) Prepared Professionals. These targets establish our Portrait of a Graduate indicators are markers our entire district strives to build in our student body.

In support of these efforts, the district implemented wireless technology access at all schools; initiated a new student information system (SIS) which includes a parent portal to follow student progress, a home messaging system and new district website; strengthening parent support through a family support specialist and adopting a collaborative self-insurance program (ECHIP) for cost efficiencies. Curriculum upgrades follow a schedule in a five-year cycle. A teaching and learning council (TLC) monitors the progress of the curriculum renewal cycle as well as teacher evaluation, professional development and assessment. The educator evaluation system is fully operational based on student-growth. Project 2026, a long-range facilities study guides capital improvements and is now under revision for a new five-year plan.

Our 2022-2026 Continuous Improvement Plan includes the following Theories of Action which guide our programs:

Vision and Focus: If we utilize a *purpose* driven plan of continual improvement to communicate the district vision then stakeholders will understand their role in supporting all learners.

Academics and Assessment: If we understand assessment and collect appropriate data on student performance and gather powerful instructional data, then we can utilize this data to monitor our student achievement goals, and adjust curriculum, professional development and resources as needed.

Supporting Student Climate If we, build a foundational SEL support and plan, strengthen adult SEL competencies and capacity, promote SEL for students and reflect on



data for continuous improvement then we can establish conditions where all learners can be supported and successful.

Student Efficacy and Voice: If we design meaningful opportunities for students to design and shape their own learning experiences, then students will become increasingly self-directed, independent, and resourceful.

Talent Acquisition: If we ensure that the structures and systems are in place to recruit individuals with the knowledge, skill and talent to support student learning in the classroom then we will positively impact administrator, teacher and staff collective capacity to increase student achievement.

Operations: If we manage our resources and processes around a shared district vision supported by all stakeholders (Board of Education members, district leadership, educators, staff, and members of the community), then we will be able to support our strategic goals and ensure a positive culture and a Future Ready learning experience for all students.

Capacity Building: If we ensure that the structures and systems are in place to develop individual and collective leadership knowledge, skill and will to advance instruction, then we will positively impact administrator and teacher practice to increase student achievement.

One of the most important strategies used by the district for improvement is clear and open communication and engagement. Every school has a governance or school improvement council to advise on ways to improve. An annual climate survey engages parents in reviewing school programs and services.

Over the past decade student poverty as defined by free and reduced lunch counts has risen from 28% to 58%. The increase of families with financial concerns prompted Plainfield to host a subsidized breakfast and lunch program. To meet a changing population, Plainfield Schools expanded its preschool and Kindergarten programs and instituted free SAT & PSAT testing at Plainfield High. Plainfield offers access to a free regional adult education program to increase learning and career opportunities for residents. Plainfield also established a mobile library "*The Discovery Bus*" which provides summer reading and storytelling opportunities for children.



Plainfield sends students to four area full-time magnet schools, Charles H Barrows, ACT – Arts at the Capitol Theater, the Science, Technology and Engineering Magnet School, and the Quinebaug Valley Middle College High School as well as Ellis and Norwich Technical Vocational Schools. These magnet schools address the needs of many of our students who are looking for alternative educational experiences.

Plainfield is a district that serves a wide range of needs for our community and students. We currently service over 400 students with special education needs. We have over 900 students with a Free or Reduced Lunch and we have over 400 students identified from culturally diverse backgrounds. We serve over 30 students who speak English as a second language. This diversity makes Plainfield Public Schools a required element for student response in the community, as our students and families' needs have changes so has our focus and allocation of necessary resources and attention.

Strategic Planning: Plainfield Public Schools operates under a BOE adopted strategic plan. The 2021-2025 Strategic Operating Plan, the BOE approved Capital Improvement Plan, and the Plainfield Schools Technology Plan can all be found under the Strategic Planning Section of our Website, www.plainfieldschools.org.

Alliance Status: Plainfield Public Schools was awarded Alliance Status by the CT State Department of Education in 2021. The Alliance Districts are unique, diverse, and complex districts. These districts include: *Ansonia, Bloomfield, Bridgeport, Bristol, Danbury, Derby, East Hartford, East Haven, East Windsor, Enfield, Groton, Hamden, Hartford, Killingly, Manchester, Meriden, Middletown, Naugatuck, New Britain, New Haven, New London, Norwalk, Norwich, Plainfield, Putnam, Stamford, Stratford, Thompson, Torrington, Vernon, Waterbury, West Haven, Winchester, Windham, Windsor, and Windsor Locks*

Alliance districts are predominantly situated in the Connecticut communities in need of support as reflected by nearly all economic indicators including: per capita income; adjusted equalized net grand list per capita; equalized mill rate; per capita aid to children receiving Temporary Family Assistance program benefits; and unemployment rate. Alliance districts are serving 44% of Connecticut's children (226,365) including; More than 64% of CT's 260,703 Students of Color, 66% of Connecticut's 208,375 low-income students, and 77% of CT's 45,184 English Learners (EL) students.



Plainfield Police Department

**July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022
Annual Report**



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF



Director of the FBI, Christopher A. Wray & Chief of Police, Mario A. Arriaga
FBI National Academy Session #281

February 1, 2022, marked the first full year that I have served as your Chief of Police. This has been an absolute honor, but a challenging year, to say the least! Last year, the nation, once again, faced pandemic difficulties with COVID. As we once again faced pandemic complexities, we also faced a major hit to our internal infrastructure. The Department suffered a ransomware breach in which we lost all digital records, servers, computer workstations, and even our telephone lines. This was an overwhelming task, but we all worked together to accomplish the goal of getting back up and running. The process was long, but our team remained dedicated. By June 30, 2022, we were nearly back to normal. The breach proved to be costly but has helped to ensure that we are protected now and into the future.

In January of 2022, I attended the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia, where I resided for approximately three (3) months. I was fortunate to be selected from hundreds of thousands of police executive officers from around the world. Less than one percent (1%) of police officers receive this training. The academy is reserved for executive officers who possess exceptional leadership qualities. During this elite academy, I undertook training in Advanced Psychology of Leadership, Advanced Concepts of Wellness and Vitality, Emerging Technologies for Leaders, Executive Writing, and Fitness in Law Enforcement.

During my training absence, Deputy Chief William Wolfburg took over operations at the department. He effortlessly moved into the role as Acting Chief of Police and immediately made a positive impact. Without him, my training would not have been as successful as it was.

I am looking forward to serving our community for years to come. I am going to use my training and experience, along with the great men and women, to ensure the Plainfield Police Department continues to thrive and be one of the most respected law enforcement agencies in the State of Connecticut.

HONORABLE SERVICE RETIREES

After approximately twenty-four (24) years of Honorable Service, Sergeant Todd Shaw retired from the department. Sergeant Shaw was a dedicated officer who helped train many of our finest. He served as the day shift supervisor and led our field training unit prior to retirement.

After approximately twenty-two (22) years of Honorable Service, Sergeant Gerry Geyer retired from the department. Prior to coming to Plainfield, Sergeant Geyer served with the Connecticut State Police and Mohegan Tribal Police Department. Prior to retiring, Sergeant Geyer was the department's training officer and firearms instructor.

After approximately twenty-two (22) years of Honorable Service, Detective Sergeant Paul Gadue retired from the department. Prior to retiring, Detective Sergeant Gadue led the Special Investigations Unit overseeing all major cases to include sexual assaults, robberies, serious injury assaults, etc.



Sergeant Todd Shaw #142



Sergeant Gerry Geyer #147



Det. Sergeant Paul Gadue #148

NEW HIRES

With retirements and departures from the force, the Plainfield Police Department was actively recruiting new officers over the year. Unfortunately, this proved to be harder than usual as many agencies were struggling to find qualified candidates. However, on January 10, 2022, the department hired Ian Fischer of Plainfield as a police recruit. Officer Fischer completed training and is now patrolling the community.

As with police officers, it has been very difficult to fill vacant Dispatcher positions. In fact, NBC Connecticut News ran a news story concerning the need for hiring Dispatchers and how difficult it has been across the state. Due to the loss of many part-time Dispatchers, the full-time Dispatchers had to pick up the extra shifts, nearly working seven (7) days a week. They have been resilient as they continue to play a major role in the department. On May 30, 2022, the department welcomed Part-Time Dispatcher Conner Abram to the team.

STATISTICAL DATA

Unfortunately, due to the ransomware breach, the department was unable to provide accurate statistical data to include call volume, arrests, and/or specific calls for service. All records had to be manually recorded and documented as if it were the early 1980's. In July 2022, the department moved to a state-of-the-art records management system used by nearly every law enforcement agency in the State of Connecticut.

GRANTS

The department obtained a JAG Grant in the amount of thirty-four thousand dollars (\$34,000). The grant monies were used to purchase ballistic helmets for each officer. In addition, the grant allowed us to partner with Daigle Law Group to revamp all policies and procedures, which were not standard and/or out of date. This partnership is crucial as we move forward with State Accreditation as required by the new Police Accountability Bill.

FUTURE

The department is currently slated to have twenty (20) Police Officers including the Chief of Police and Deputy Chief of Police. The amount of Police Officers ranks the Town of Plainfield nearly last in the State of Connecticut for the number of officers the department should have. The Town of Plainfield has a rate of approximately 1.25 officers per 1,000 residents. The national and state average is between 2.25-2.5 officers per 1,000 residents. It is the department's goal to increase the number of Police Officers to a total of twenty-three (23) over the next few years. This will allow the department to effectively and efficiently police the town, while not overloading employees on a daily basis. It is important to ensure our employees are healthy and receive the necessary support to ensure they are delivering the best possible service to the community. We want to ensure that the Town of Plainfield is one of the safest communities to live in and raise your family.

Mario A. Ariaga

Mario A. Ariaga
Chief of Police



PLAINFIELD TOWN HALL

PLAINFIELD-CENTRAL VILLAGE-MOOSUP-WAUREGAN

PLANNING & ZONING DEPARTMENT

8 COMMUNITY AVE., PLAINFIELD, CT 06374

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
REPORT

The purposes and objectives of the Planning and Zoning Commission shall be those set forth in Chapters 124 and 126 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, and in the Plan of Conservation and Development, the Zoning and Subdivision Regulations and other documents approved by the Commission, provided those purposes and objectives accord with Chapters 124 and 126 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended.

In FY22, the Planning and Zoning Commission acted on 28 applications, including 1 subdivision application, creating 2 lots, 1 resubdivision application creating 2 additional lots, 9 Special Permit applications, 11 Site Development Plan applications, 4 Zoning Map amendments and 2 Zoning Regulation text amendments.

All Planning and Zoning Commission meetings are open to the public and Regular Meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of each month. We encourage your participation.

Members of the FY22 Commission included:

Regular Members

Karla Desjardins, Chairman
John Meyer, Vice-Chairman
Seann Peterson (thru 11-16-21)
Lindsay Joslyn (thru 11-16-21)
June Gagne (as of 11-16-21)
Rosamond Chviek
Frank Mills (as of 11-16-21)

Alternate Members

Jared Fournier
William Martell
Catherine Joan Mestemaker-Harris (thru 11-16 -21)
Kevin Poppie (as of 11-16-21)

Respectfully submitted,
Karla Desjardins, Chairman

TOWN OF PLAINFIELD, CONNECTICUT



Board of Police Commissioners

Plainfield Town Hall
8 Community Avenue
Plainfield, CT 06374

Email: commission@plainfieldctpolice.com

Police Commission Annual Report

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

The Town Charter and ordinances provide for a five (5) member Commission, each serving a four (4) year term, with elections occurring biennially. The Board of Police Commissioners (BOPC) is vested through State Statute and Town Charter with the authority to oversee the operations of the Police Department. However, the Chief of Police and the BOPC have shared responsibilities for the complete operation of the Police Department to ensure the best services are being delivered. The BOPC members are as follows:

Commissioner Daniel Hutchinson (Chairman)
Commissioner Joseph Sangermano (Vice Chairman)
Commissioner Colleen Lugauskas (Secretary)
Commissioner Kenneth Sheldon
Commissioner Bruce Dawley

The BOPC regularly meets on the fourth (4th) Tuesday of every month. During the meeting, the Chief of Police reports to the BOPC the following information but not limited to, department's finances, training, traffic related issues, appointment, employment, performance, discipline, and commendations of all employees. The concerns of the BOPC are reflective of the community-at-large, and their priorities, which include, implementing recommended reforms, improving service to the public, reducing crime and the fear of crime, and initiating, implementing, and supporting community policing programs.

The BOPC approved the hiring of four (4) new police officers. All officers were replacements due to departures and/or retirements throughout the year. There were five (5) retirements within this fiscal year. One Dispatcher, with twenty (20) years of service, three (3) Sergeants, with a combined total of approximately seventy-five (75) years of service, and Vail, the narcotics K 9,

Over the past year, the BOPC has discussed a multitude of topics to include the Police Accountability Bill. Additional topics include the hiring of additional officers, BOPC bylaws, and the appointment of a Lieutenant, which is anticipated to be filled in 2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel M. Hutchinson', written over a horizontal line.

Daniel M. Hutchinson
Chairman, Board of Police Commissioners

INLAND WETLANDS AND WATERCOURSES COMMISSION

July 2021-June 2022

Members of the Commission Include:

William Randy Stilwell, Chair
Joseph Campbell, Vice Chair
Ralph J. Wells, Secretary
Ava Colona

Ron Desjardins
Seann Peterson
Tom Sinkewicz

Staff:

Ryan Brais, Wetlands Agent
Katherine O'Neill, Wetlands Clerk
Dodie Mineau, Recording Secretary

The Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission is responsible for regulating the disturbance of soils within the wetlands and within 100 feet of any wetlands or watercourses as defined by CT General Statutes. They regularly meet on the third Tuesday of every month.

During the fiscal year of 2021/2022, the Commission approved 17 permits.

Respectfully submitted,



William Randy Stilwell, Chairman

Zoning Board of Appeals

July 2021-June 2022

Members of the Board Include:

Frank A. Zak, Chair

Steven Walsh, Vice Chair

Michael Morrisette, Secretary

Catherine Howard

Wess Hopkins

Dan Rizer

Madeline Garner

April Wojcik

Staff:

Ryan Brais, Zoning Officer


Katherine O'Neill, ZBA Clerk

Mary Poitras, Recording Secretary

The Zoning Board of Appeals is responsible for issuing relief from the Zoning Regulations via granting Variances, granting Location Approvals for motor vehicle dealerships, repair garages and gas stations, and for acting on appeals pertaining to decisions made by the Zoning Enforcement Officer. They regularly meet on the first Tuesday of every month.

During the fiscal year of 2021/2022, the Board granted 1 Appeal, 2 Location Approvals and 4 Variances.

Respectfully submitted,

 11/16/22
Frank A. Zak, Chairman



AGRICULTURE COMMISSION

The mission of the Plainfield Agriculture Commission is to encourage, support, promote and preserve agricultural enterprises in the town of Plainfield.

The eight appointed members of the Agriculture Commission serve Plainfield in an advisory role. The commission meets eleven times yearly on the 4th Monday of each month, excluding July. The commission currently has six small groups to focus their priorities (1) Community Outreach, (2) Scholarship and Fundraising, (3) Winter Market, (4) Right to Farm, (5) Farmers Market and (6) Plainfield Farming History Project.

2022 Commission Achievements:

- Awarded \$500.00 to Ms. Bailey Hirschboeck, the 2021 recipient of the Commission's scholarship. She marks the sixth recipient for a total of \$3,000 of scholarships awarded.
- 6th Annual Winter Market was held on March 5th, 2022 at the Plainfield Town Hall with 39 vendors in attendance.
- The Scholarship Raffle, held at the Winter Market, raised \$2,396 for the scholarship fund making the total funds raised to date \$9,057.
- The Community Outreach series held the information presentation, Monarchs and Milkweed by Sherry Harmon, wildlife rehabilitator of Nutmeg Acres Wildlife Rehabilitation on June 22, 2022.

Members of the 2022 Commission include:

Regular Members

Jennie Kapszukiewicz, Chairman
Mike Desjardins, Vice-Chairman
Sherry Harmon, Secretary
Jo-Ann Desrochers
Vern Gray, Jr.

Alternate Members

Chris Barber
Lu-Ann Cunningham
Jenn Sangermano

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennie Kapszukiewicz, Chairman

