Town of North Stonington
Annual Report
For
Fiscal Year 2006-2007
# Town of North Stonington 2006-2007 Annual Report

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Board of Finance

The Board of Finance is comprised of six elected officials. The office term is six years; two seats are up for election every two years. Meetings of the Board are scheduled for 8:00 pm in the New Town Hall Conference Room on the first and third Wednesday of each month and weekly during the budget preparations season through May, and on other times as needed. During the year, the Board met more than thirty (30) times. The following are the Board’s major responsibilities and how the Board executed these responsibilities in the past year:

- Monitor revenues and expenditures of the current budget – the year ended with a surplus from the $17,566,600 budget. The audited budget is part of this Town Report.
- Make adjustments to the current budget – Transfers and Additional Appropriations were made as required.
- Develop the next fiscal year budget – a $16,984,984 budget (a 3.3% Decrease) providing adequate services to the town was developed.
- Present and endorse the next year’s budget and ensure approval by the town – the budget was presented to the town and passed a Town Meeting/Referendum.
- Oversee the publication of this Town report. This Town Report was prepared and reviewed by the Board of Finance. It is on file with the State and the Town Clerk.
- Select the Auditor for the current fiscal year – the firm of Marien + Company (Norwich, CT) was selected by the Board to continue as Town Auditor.
- *Review and accept the Audit for the past fiscal year ending June 30, 2006, reviewed and accepted by the Board and available for inspection from the Town Clerk.
- Monitor and stimulate state grants/lobby elected officials for the financial well being of the town – Done.
- Set the taxation mill rate for the next fiscal year – set at 18.6 mills.
- Monitor the investment of the town’s funds – Done.
- Monitor bonding and other town borrowing – Done.
- Advise boards, agencies and the town of the financial condition of the town – Done.
- Monitor the five-year capital plans – the Board of Selectmen, Local Capital Improvement, and the Board of Education five-year plans were reviewed by the Board.
- Oversee the Assessor’s performance.

The primary goal of the North Stonington Board of Finance is to provide a budget that will provide adequate services to the town and minimize taxation. We always invite public input to help us achieve that goal.

Respectfully,

Nick Gumprecht. Chairman
Larry Southwick, Vice Chairman
Brent Woodward, Secretary
Charles Marsh
Emil Pavlovics
Brad Borden
Board of Selectmen

The North Stonington Board of Selectmen meet every Tuesday evening at 7:00 PM in the New Town Hall Conference Room to conduct the routine business of the Town and items that came before them during the year. The Board was responsible for overseeing a $4,157,476 operating budget along with $947,062 in capital and $910,225 in Redemption of Debt.

The Board spent a considerable amount of time this year on Route 2 modifications which impacted the intersection at Wintechog Hill Road and Milltown Road proposed by the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe and approved by the State DOT. The Board worked with the State to attempt a compromise on the proposed changes which included adding four more lanes and an eighteen foot overpasses at the Milltown/Wintechog intersection. An appeal was submitted to the courts but withdrawn because of a difficult budget process.

The Board oversaw the installation of a walkway bridge over the Assekonk Swamp near the school facilities to connect the school and recreation grounds. The Town also used grant funding through Homeland Security to install a radio antenna tower on Wyassup Road for emergency services including the update of emergency radios. The Board also authorized the purchase of a twenty-two passenger senior bus and new roof for our Probate Court condominium at the Holly Green complex on Route 2.

The Board worked with the Bicentennial Committee throughout the year on several projects and the May ceremony. The Town Hall had a facelift with some painting, new sidewalks, rebuilding of the stonewall behind the Old Town Hall, removal of two underground oil tanks, paving and striping of our parking areas, new central air conditioning in the New Town Hall, and the addition of the bicentennial memorial brick garden. We also worked with the Garden Club to replant the Rotary greens at Route 2 and 184.

The Selectmen signed a co-op purchasing agreement with CCM to purchase electricity. The Board took the Code of Ordinances to a Town Meeting for adoption, adopted an Ordinance to help farmers in Town by exempting taxes on farm buildings and equipment, and implemented a new website for the Town residents and guests to use.

The Board of Selectmen received word that the Dark Eyes tax litigation had been defeated and would not be heard by the Supreme Court. This decision would have had a huge impact on not only North Stonington but all States with Indian Tribes.

The Board has been working with our Preston neighbors on locating and marking the Northern boundary of the Town and although not complete significant progress has been made.

The Board of Selectmen and staff completed the conversion of the financial software data and successfully completed the annual audit.

The Selectmen’s budget process was very difficult this year and failed at referendum vote the first time by a two to one margin, the second time by 34 votes and did not pass until the third referendum at the beginning of the next fiscal year when it
was reduced to less spending than last year. The Board of Education portion of the budget did not pass until the fourth referendum.

Nicholas Mullane, II
First Selectman
Public Schools

Board of Education Members
Dr. Darren Robert -Chair
David McCord- Vice Chair
Robert Testa- Secretary
Bill Briscoe
Eleanor Banker
John Keene
Shawn Murphy
Mary Ann Ricker

Administration
Central Office
Dr. Natalie J. Pukas- Superintendent
Sue Costa- Special Services Director
Wheeler Middle/High School
Stephen Bickford- Principal
Carol Keller- Assistant Principal
Marcia Benvenuti- Dean of Students
North Stonington Elementary School-
Veronica O. Wilkison- Principal

The 2006-2007 school year was one of accomplishment for our students and staff.

In June, two long-time high school educators, Larry Guia and William Zigarov, informed us of their plans to retire. Together, they gave almost 73 years of service to the children of Wheeler. We wish them happiness and good health in their retirement.

No Child Left Behind
The No Child Left Behind Act continues to play a significant role in education. NCLB carries with it many mandates that impact North Stonington as well as the rest of the state and the nation. NCLB is divided into seven categories:

A. Assessment
B. Highly Qualified Teachers
C. Paraprofessionals
D. General Description of Title Programs
E. Linguistic Assessment of Limited English Proficient Students
F. Graduation Rates
G. Unsafe Schools Choice Options

Assessment (Section A) is nothing new to us or the state. Connecticut has had a statewide testing program in place for many years. Testing is now administered by the state to students in grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 10. Students in grades 3-8 participate in the Connecticut Mastery Testing Program (CMT) and those in grade 10 in the Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT). In March of 2007, the fourth generation of the CMT and the third generation of the CAPT were administered. Analyses of the results from the required CMT and CAPT continue to help our district in the areas of curriculum and professional development.

Sections B and C-Highly Qualified Teachers and Paraprofessionals-have placed higher standards on certification and hiring practices. North Stonington supports these practices.

North Stonington currently meets all of the criteria for highly qualified teachers and paraprofessionals under the provisions of the law.

Compliance with new title regulations (Section D) mandate that we provide copies of our Strategic School Profile (SSP) to all parents and place copies on file in the Town Hall and Wheeler Library. These reports can be obtained online at www.northstonington.k12.ct.us. We must also notify parents of teachers who do not meet specific certification criteria if they are
assigned to work with a class for more than 40 days such as in the case of a substitute. North Stonington is also required to administer an English Language Assessment under NCLB (Section E) to students whose first language is other than English.

We have made gains in our graduation rate (Section F) and continue to work in this area.

Fortunately, North Stonington is not on the list of schools within the state that are considered "unsafe" (Section G).

State Testing

The Spring 2007 administration of the CMT marked the second year of the fourth generation of these tests. The mathematics portion includes a combination of multiple-choice, grid-in (excluding grades 3 and 4) and open-ended, constructed response, and extended response items. The items are aligned with the state's mathematics content standards.

The reading section of the test is comprised of two subtests: the Degrees of Reading Power (DRP) and Reading Comprehension that assess the two critical components of reading: the process of reading and the product of reading. The DRP requires students to read several informational passages from which some words are deleted. Students must select the words that have been deleted from the passage. Students are attempting to make sense of the passage or construct meaning as they read.

On the Reading Comprehension test, students read authentic/devised passages and answer related multiple-choice and open-ended questions to assess their comprehension. The types of reading passages for the CMT 4 include a new category. In addition to Reading for Literary Experience and Reading for Information, Reading to Perform a Task has been included in grades 5-8. Each of the items is designed to measure one of four (4) reading content strands: 1) Forming an Initial Understanding; 2) Developing an Interpretation; 3) Making Reader/Text Connections; or 4) Examining the Content and Structure. Students' performance on each of these content strands is compared to a mastery standard. The strands have been revised to reflect recent changes to the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) reading framework.

Editing and revising are also now included with each passage. They will no longer be separated.

Finally, the writing component of the test has two subtests: Direct Writing Assessment and Editing and Raising. For the Direct Writing portion, students are required to respond to a prompt within a 45-minute period. Grades 3 and 4 students are given a narrative prompt, grades 5 and 6, expository and grades 7 and 8, persuasive.

The results of the CMT's and the CAPT were returned to the school district in early August. The Superintendent and the administrators analyzed the overall results, reviewed plans already in place and forwarded information to teachers.

Based on these analyses, the district goal for the 2007-2008 school year will once again focus on reading and writing in all grade levels. We will also be looking carefully at the "gender gap in literacy."

Each school is required to develop a goal that is aligned with that of the district. In turn, each grade level/team department must align their goals with the two.
Each of our schools as well as the district made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). However, there were subgroups to note. A sub-group is defined as a group of students over 40 in number. Every two years the targets for making AYP are raised making it more difficult as we approach 2014 which is the year when ALL students (100%) must demonstrate mastery in all areas.

Our students performed better than or equal to students throughout the state in some cases. Scores are also compared with those of our District Reference Group (DRG). Districts in this group have similar median family incomes, percentages of families below the poverty level, percentages of single-parent families, percentages of families with a non-English home language, percentages of families in which one or both parents have a bachelors degree, and percentages of families with parents in white collar or managerial occupations. The districts' student enrollments are also considered.

The scores were reported in five levels. As a result of the requirements of NCLB the categories that are reported were changed to:

**Advanced**-Students have performed above the statewide goal.

**Goal**-Students have demonstrated mastery of the skills identified by the state.

**Proficient**-Students have demonstrated proficiency but are slightly below mastery.

**Basic**-Students have demonstrated a minimal, functional level of the skills tests.

**Below Basic**-Students have shown little grasp of the skills tested.

Students who score at the top two levels are reported in the tables that follow. These are not how they are measured for NCLB; NCLB uses the top three levels. North Stonington strives for goal.

As indicated earlier, after the schools receive the results of the CMT, an analysis of the scores is done. Each individual student’s score is also reviewed for areas of strength and weakness. A further analysis of the overall scoring is done to pinpoint specific areas in need of improvement. This year our areas of greatest concern at the district level continue to be reading and writing.

### Percentage of Students At/Above Goal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>North Stonington</th>
<th>State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gr. 3 Reading</td>
<td>52.7</td>
<td>57.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr. 3 Writing</td>
<td>64.8</td>
<td>65.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr. 3 Math</td>
<td>67.3</td>
<td>62.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr. 4 Reading</td>
<td>68.3</td>
<td>52.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr. 4 Writing</td>
<td>71.4</td>
<td>60.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr. 4 Math</td>
<td>74.6</td>
<td>59.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr. 5 Reading</td>
<td>69.8</td>
<td>61.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr. 5 Writing</td>
<td>65.1</td>
<td>64.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 5 Math</td>
<td>77.8</td>
<td>66.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr. 6 Reading</td>
<td>64.3</td>
<td>64.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr. 6 Writing</td>
<td>62.5</td>
<td>63.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr. 6 Math</td>
<td>69.6</td>
<td>63.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr. 7 Reading</td>
<td>61.8</td>
<td>65.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr. 7 Writing</td>
<td>52.9</td>
<td>60.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 7 Math</td>
<td>57.4</td>
<td>60.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr. 8 Reading</td>
<td>68.7</td>
<td>66.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr. 8 Writing</td>
<td>59.7</td>
<td>64.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr. 8 Math</td>
<td>55.9</td>
<td>60.8</td>
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The CAPT is also given each spring to 10th graders. Four major content areas are assessed on the CAPT: Mathematics, Reading, Writing and Science.

The Mathematics test assesses how well students compute and estimate, solve problems, and communicate their understanding. The strands of the test include Number & Quantity; Measurement & Geometry; Statistics, Probability & Discrete Mathematics; and Algebra & Functions. The test focuses on how well students apply important mathematics concepts to problems that are relevant to their everyday lives. The test consists of 27 grid-in and eight open-ended questions. Students must typically show their work, explain their reasoning, and justify the procedure they used.

Like the CMT’s, scores for the CAPT were changed to comply with NCLB and are
reported in five levels. Students who reach
the state goal receive a Certificate of
Mastery in Mathematics.

Students’ reading skills are
measured with two tests. The Response to
Literature test requires students to read a
short story and respond to four essay-type
questions. This test measures how well
students demonstrate their understanding of
the story, interpret the meaning of the story,
make connections to the story and evaluate.
The Reading for Information test requires
students to read three, short, non-fiction
articles and answer multiple-choice and
short-answer questions. The test measures
how well students interpret the articles and
evaluates the way the authors wrote the
articles.

Students who reach the state goal
receive a Certificate of Mastery in Reading.

The Writing Section is comprised of
two sections:

1) Interdisciplinary Writing; and
2) Editing and Revising.

The Interdisciplinary Writing section
requires students to apply knowledge and
skills that they have gained through many
disciplines. For each Interdisciplinary
Writing Test, the students must read three
articles representing different perspectives
on a controversial issue and use the
information to write a persuasive letter.
Students are assessed on how well they
organize their ideas in a logical effective
manner so that their audience understands
and follows their thinking, and express their
ideas clearly and fluently using their own
words. Students are provided with three
pages on which to write their responses.

Five areas are considered when
evaluating a student’s response:

• taking a clear position on the issue;
• using information from each of the three
  sources that are provided;
• supporting the position with accurate
  and relevant information from the source
  materials;
• organizing ideas logically and
effectively; and

• expressing ideas in their own words with
  clarity and fluency.

The Editing & Revising Test emphasizes
editing, composing, and revising skills.
Students are required to read samples of
student writing and answer 24 multiple-
choice questions to correct common errors
in organization, word choice, syntax,
capitalization, punctuation, usage and
spelling.

Scores are reported at five levels.
Students who reach the state goal receive a
Certificate of Mastery in Writing.

The Science test assesses students’
understanding of important scientific
concepts in the areas of life, physical and
earth science as well as their ability to apply
these concepts to realistic problems. In
addition, there is a major focus on
experimentation skills and using scientific
reasoning to solve problems.

The following areas of scientific
knowledge are assessed:

• Life Science- ecosystems, cells;
genetics and evolution, and human
biology;
• Physical Science- structure of
  matter; reactions and interactions;
  forces and motion; energy sources
  and transformation; and
• Earth/Space Science- astronomy;
  earth’s natural resources;
  meteorology; earth history and
  dynamics.

Several weeks prior to the test, students
participate in a “hands-on” laboratory
experiment. Students are required to design
and carry out an experiment to solve a
problem and write about the results in an
authentic format. On the written test, there
are follow-up questions to the performance
task. Students are given a strand score on
experimentation.

The test includes a combination of
multiple-choice and short-answer questions,
which may require students to create
diagrams or graphs.

The scores are reported at five levels.
Students who reach the state goal receive a
Certificate of Mastery in Science.
As with the CMT, a careful analysis of the results is conducted for individual students as well as the grade. An improvement plan will ensue from this review.

**BY LAW** - all local and regional Boards of Education have graduation requirements that apply beginning with the class of 2006 and thereafter. While the CAPT is not a graduation test, results from the CAPT must be included when districts are assessing whether students have met the basic skills necessary for graduation. Wheeler includes the CAPT scores in their graduation requirements, which are available in the Student Handbook.

**Other Assessments**

At the elementary school, students are given a bi-monthly writing prompt which was scored by two trained readers. Also, various reading assessments such as the Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA), DIBLES in grades K and 1, Lexia Software in grades 1-3 and Blue Ribbon Software in grades 3-5 are used.

At the high school, a “writing initiative” continued and students were required to do significant writing every two weeks in each class. Mid-year and final exams are administered to students in grades 9-12 in January and in June.

The middle school students also used the Blue Ribbon Software program as well as quarterly writing prompts scored by trained scorers.

All schools in the district have increased the use of “rubrics” for scoring student responses. A rubric is a standard of measuring how well students performed. Based on the content and other predetermined factors, points are awarded. Most rubrics are based on a 4- or 5-point system. Students are given the standards before doing the work. In this way they know what they will receive for the type of work done.

Students are encouraged to take the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) and the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). Wheeler is a testing site for the PSAT’s.

We continue to offer Advanced Placement (AP) testing for those students enrolled in our AP classes. We offer classes in AP Calculus, English, and Biology, and Modern European History as well as other student-selected AP classes through the Virtual High School and North Dakota University Programs.

Students enrolled in Latin take the National Latin Exam.

**Districtwide Curriculum Taskforce**

Throughout the year, various Districtwide Curriculum Committees convened to review and revise/rewrite current curriculum documents. All guides must be aligned with state and national standards, must include resources, methods of assessment and rubrics for scoring student work.

During the 2007-2008 school year, we will continue the work of these important committees during full days of staff development.

**School Health**

There is one nurse assigned to the elementary school and one assigned to the middle/high school due to an increased number of students requiring skilled nursing intervention.

The school nurses complete an annual survey of the immunization status of all students.

Both nurses conduct screenings as mandated by statute such as scoliosis.

The nursing staff also provides in-service training in such things as blood-borne pathogens.

The nurses continue to attend an increasing number of special meetings. In
many cases, the nurse was responsible for writing an accommodation plan for those students who qualified under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

Residents who wish to inquire about the services available through the school nurses may contact Stephanie Patrick at the elementary school (535-2805) or Christine Sylvia at the middle/high school (535-0377).

The North Stonington School District is required by law to provide a part-time nurse at the North Stonington Christian Academy.

Summer School Program

With money provided through a federal grant, our summer school program for students continued for grades K through 8. The program focuses on language arts and math and runs for four weeks each summer at no cost to the student or to the town.

Most of our special education students attend summer school at either the elementary or middle schools instead of in other districts as had been done for many years.

Building Project Studies

For the past few years, the district has been reviewing its facilities needs. The High School Accreditation Report submitted by New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) as well as our own in-house studies have shown that there is a need for expansion and renovation of our existing facilities.

Kastle Boos and Associates of New Britain completed a thorough study of our facilities, developed and submitted a comprehensive report including several recommendations and options.

Copies of the complete Master Plan report are on file in the Office of the Superintendent.

Last spring, members of the Board of Education's Facilities Committee and the Superintendent attended a workshop on school building construction. Over the summer, the committee met with the Board of Selectmen to begin talking about the process and the formation of a School Building Committee for the project.

A Year of Improvement and Accomplishment

It is difficult to sum up in a few short paragraphs the many accomplishments of our students and teachers.

For more complete information about the schools and the district as well as links to websites created by our students and teachers and other websites of importance, visit us at: http://www.northstonington.k12.ct.us

Many of our teachers post information on schoolnotes.com. Check there to read about assignments, projects, and upcoming activities.

Some of the highlights include the following:

District

- All students participated in the kick-off celebration of North Stonington's Bicentennial. Our high school band and chorus took part in the opening ceremonies. Our elementary students, under the direction of art teacher, Sue Starr, made individual town seals that were displayed throughout the town as well as a replica of the town seal which hangs in the school's foyer.
- All schools held lockdown drills and reviewed the safety and security procedures.
- The North Stonington Education Foundation awarded several grants to our schools.
- The North Stonington PTO continued to provide for cultural performances and to support all of our students and teachers. This year they contributed funds to sponsor breakfasts to honor our middle school students who achieved high honors, to support Earth Day
activities, a program in math culminating with students building a geodesic and the return of Dr. Mama, a renowned storyteller.

- Superintendent, Dr. Natalie J. Pukas, was elected to serve a second term as chairperson of the southeast area regional superintendents' group and was also elected to serve on the Board of Directors for the CT Association of Public School Superintendents.

**Middle/High School**

- Middle School Social Studies teacher, Jennifer Johnson, was selected as a Fulbright Scholar and spent much of the summer of 2007 in Africa.

- Middle School Science Teacher, Michelle Fogarty, was sponsored by Pfizer to attend the UCONN daVinci Program.

- The middle school students participated in a very successful and interesting Earth Day coordinated by Kristi Williams.

- Our sixth grade students, directed by their science teacher Kristi Williams, participated in raising trout to eventually be returned to state lakes and ponds. Boondocks very generously supplied the required equipment.

- Our seventh grade students, under the direction of their science teacher Rebecca Graves, fostered a cat and her kittens and cared for them until they were adopted.

- The middle school participated in the Geography Bee with one participant going on to the state level.

- Grade six students participated in an environmental poster contest and two students' posters were chosen as finalists.

- Linda Farinha, our high school Business teacher, was recognized for winning grants to benefit our school. One was from the state of Connecticut for $22,500.00 to create a mandatory personal finance course for all students.

Another was a matching grant from Wal-Mart for $1,000.

- The seventh grade held a very successful Medieval Fair to conclude their unit of study.

- Our Athletic Booster Club provided food and labor in holding three receptions and dinners to honor our athletes.

- Spirit Week was successful with the return of the bonfire and the introduction of a Powder-puff Football game.

- Parents once again organized an auction to benefit our high school classes and cut down on fundraisers.

- Various committees continued to be active such as the Parent Advisory Committee, the Faculty Advisory Committee, the Academic Rigor Committee and the Senior Project Committee.

- Two middle school students were honored at the Aqua Turf in Southington as Scholar Leaders.

- Two high school students were honored at the Aqua Turf in Southington as Scholar Athletes.

- Two students were recognized as National Merit Scholars.

- A Financial Aid Workshop was held for parents who will soon have students entering college.

- Students from the seventh grade participated in SAMJAM sponsored by Pfizer and designed to foster interest in science and math.

- The intramural program at the middle school continues to be extremely successful and is expanding with more activities and clubs.

- Transition activities, fifth to sixth grade and eighth to ninth, continue to be helpful to students and parents.

- Students continued to provide service to our community--there were two blood drives, multiple food drives, drives for clothing and toys. Chickumbuso which raises funds for orphans in Africa with education and
medical care continued and one student and two faculty members traveled to Africa during April recess.

- We hosted and one of our students participated in a L.U.N.C.H. choral concert to benefit those who are homeless and hungry.
- We hosted the American Civil Liberties Union on Constitution Day.
- The first combined Junior-Senior Prom was held last spring. This reduced expenses for parents and students. A great time was had by all.
- The Mystic MarineLife Aquarium and Institute for Exploration generously once again donated its facilities for our Underclass Awards Ceremony in the spring.
- Ten new students were inducted into the National Honor Society.
- Sixteen of our students experienced a wonderful trip to Paris and Madrid last spring.
- The Senior Project has been approved and will begin with the class of 2008.
- Senior Week was well received by seniors. A variety of activities took place culminating in their graduation and all-night graduation party.
- Our middle and high school students staged very successful plays again this past year.
- The middle school held a successful Career Day and the high school once again sponsored job-shadowing.
- Business and Family Consumer Science students planned and staged a wonderful event called “Chocolate Festival” at Jonathan Edwards Winery.
- Our marketing class worked with the Mystic YMCA to assist them in increasing membership.
- Our business department continued their work with Chelsea-Groton Bank and held a personal finance conference for all seniors at Connecticut College.
- Our band and chorus concerts as well as art shows were huge successes and were very impressive for both the quality and for the high number of students participating.
- We continue to work on the recommendations from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges.
- Several high school students and middle school students were honored as All-Region and/or All-State in both band and chorus.
- We had many students recognized as All Eastern Conference Athletes in soccer, cross country, softball, golf, basketball, and cheerleading.
- We continue to upgrade curriculum documents for all of our courses and have added Civics, AP Government and Politics, Current Issues in Science and Forensics.
- Our Virtual High School and North Dakota online courses are used for enrichment and summer school opportunities. We have more seats available to us with VHS as Cathy DeNoia from the science department teaches an online course.

**Elementary School**

- This year the pre-school program was initiated with 3 and 4 year old students attending half-day sessions.
- The Extended Kindergarten Program continued which provides additional support to our young learners and students from kindergarten spend more time on skill development.
- A revised report card was piloted this year which was based on standards and provided improved communication with students’ progress.
- Data-driven instruction was implemented by all staff members ending the year with a demonstration from each grade level on the progress of students on a “data-wall.”
- The Everyday Mathematics Program was used in grades K-5 and
increased class time was scheduled for math in fourth and fifth grade. Increased consistent practice in word problems continued and literature was used to create "real world" applications of math.

- The Student Assistance Team (SAT) process was revised to utilize the Response to Intervention Model which provided students with support at the first indication of difficulties academically or behaviorally. Regular education and special education staff worked together to better support instruction, modification of expectations and student learning.

- The Art Show held each year in March was once again a huge success. This year on March 22nd, the multi-purpose room was transformed into the Brazilian Rainforest with the students’ creations.

- Our 4th and 5th grade Talent Show was very successfully directed by Joan Quinn.

- The students and their families participated in a Read-at-Home program and donated $4,138.76 for playground areas at the Chikumbuso School in Zambia.

- The school held its annual Fourth Grade Poetry Reading, Author’s Day, Grade 4 Museum of Family History, 100th Day Celebration, Read Across America Day, Family Math Day, Earth Day and Technology Week.

- The Drama Club presented “1001 Arabian Nights” directed by Theresa Broach.

- There were two successful chorus and band concerts held during the year lead and directed by Peter Williams and Michael Noonan.

- This year the entire NSES community participated in Flag Day ceremonies held on June 14th.

- NSES joined students from across the state by reciting the Preamble to the Constitution on Connecticut’s Constitution Day.

- 63 Grade 5 students participated in the DARE program once again.

- One hundred and thirty (130) students participated in the Governor’s Summer Reading Challenge program over the summer of 2006 and were rewarded with a recognition breakfast and a new book.

- A reception for the NSES Pen and Ink Club was held during December at Watermark Café displaying student art work.

- An after school Homework Club was continued.

- Students in grade 3 participated once again in the Violence is Preventable program given by the Women’s Resource Center of Southeastern CT.

- Monthly newsletters were published and sent home to parents.

- Parent training sessions were held by our schools’ social worker and early literacy workshops were presented by our reading specialist. There was also a presentation on Everyday Math for parents.

- Field Day at all levels was once again a huge success.

- Teacher professional development focused on technology, reading, math, team building and writing.

- The PTO continued to sponsor several cultural programs for our students such as Author in Residence, PTO Movie Night, a family dance, fall and spring student pictures, two book fairs and teacher grants. Parents, guardians, grandparents and other family members continue to volunteer in the classroom.

- The Garden Club helped us to celebrate Arbor Day.

- Based on CMT results, plans for appropriate instruction for students at proficiency level and below were implemented.
Standards-based instruction to ensure students can read and comprehend at higher levels was a focus with teachers providing examples of student work to demonstrate achievement bi-weekly to administration.

Resources from Dr. Nancy Boyles were implemented for instruction and provided consistency within the grade levels in reading instruction.

Faculty goals to improve reading achievement of students used data to determine success.

DIBLES assessment was implemented in grades K and 1 to improve instruction based on individual needs.

Continued use of the Blue Ribbon technology program provided students with experience with CMT's sample questions afforded teachers with student data for continued growth and preparation for CMT's.

Staff training in *Empowering Writers* was updated and led to direct instruction of writing based on student needs.

One teacher at each grade level was trained in holistic prompt scoring and in turn, trained the entire faculty.

Bi-monthly timed prompts were scored by trained readers.

Writing instruction and expectations for K-5 were unified by creating common rubrics.

A Writing Support program worked with small groups for leveled support in writing.

In Summary

As indicated within the body of this report, the 2006-2007 school year has been one of continued growth, improvement and filled with accomplishments.

Based on the review of assessment data, work of the improvement plans and taskforces, new programs and increased opportunities for students were introduced. Although we noted areas of weakness in our CMT scores and are working on improving them, we have continued to make AYP as required under NCLB.

Our students have been recognized for their accomplishments academically, artistically and athletically.

It is indeed very difficult to summarize an entire school year in a few short pages. There is much more that could be said. You are urged to visit our schools, in person or via the Internet. We have much to be proud of!

Our thanks to the citizens of North Stonington for their continued support of our children and especially to the PTO and the NSEF (North Stonington Education Foundation) for their dedication and generosity.

Our Board of Education, students, administrators, teachers, and staff work very diligently to insure that our mission statement is fulfilled:

**ALL STUDENTS WILL LEARN AT THEIR HIGHEST POTENTIAL**

*Dr. Natalie J. Pukas, Superintendent*

*Fall, 2007*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHOOL</th>
<th>Pre-K</th>
<th>K</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>11</th>
<th>12</th>
<th>SPECIAL EDUCATION</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elementary School (2)</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>61</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>386</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle School (2)</td>
<td></td>
<td>58</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>65</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out-of-District</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3 (3)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTALS</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>3 (3)</td>
<td>812</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Based on October 1, 2006, enrollment data
2. Includes tuition students
3. Includes students in the North Stonington - Stonington Special Education Collaborative
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POSITION</th>
<th>ELEMENTARY SCHOOL</th>
<th>MIDDLE SCHOOL (1)</th>
<th>HIGH SCHOOL (1)</th>
<th>CENTRAL OFFICE</th>
<th>TOTALS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Classroom Teachers</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>14.7</td>
<td></td>
<td>44.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Area Teachers (2)</td>
<td>13.6</td>
<td>11.85</td>
<td>13.85</td>
<td></td>
<td>39.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrators</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Manager</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretaries (12 Months)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance Secretary (12 Months)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurses</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Aide</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paraprofessionals/ Assistants (3)</td>
<td>18.8</td>
<td>5.25</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td></td>
<td>29.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Custodians</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>140.35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. The middle and the high school share administration and staff.
2. Special Area Teachers include art, music, physical education, media, remedial reading, health, world language, family and consumer sciences, business, technology, special education, social worker, school psychologist, speech-language pathologist, and guidance counselors.
3. The numbers include full-time and part-time assistants.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE 2006-2007 SCHOOL YEAR
The total Board of Education (non-grant) expenditures for the 2006-2007 School year were $11,362,040. These funds were allocated across three categories as follows: Salaries - $7,071,853, Fixed Costs - $3,154,699, and Non-fixed Costs - $1,135,488.

The approved 2006-2007 budget was $11,551,837, leaving an unexpended balance of $189,797. An additional $100,163 in unbudgeted income was turned over to the general fund by the Board of Education for a total of $289,960.

**BUDGET DISTRIBUTION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Salaries</th>
<th>Fixed Costs</th>
<th>Non-fixed Costs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>Textbooks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teachers</td>
<td>Heat-Utilities</td>
<td>Library books</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guidance</td>
<td>Social Security</td>
<td>Instructional Supplies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher Assistants</td>
<td>Employee Insurance</td>
<td>Other Expenses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Employee Retirement</td>
<td>Health Supplies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Tuition</td>
<td>Custodial Supplies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Custodial</td>
<td>Special Ed. Contracted Svc</td>
<td>Maintenance Services</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

19
Assessor's Office

The major real estate projects in North Stonington which contributed to the increase in the October 1, 2007 Grand List include the A & Z Electric Corporation Headquarters on Norwich Westerly Road, The Bellisimo Grande Hotel on Norwich Westerly Road, and The Tinaco Plaza truck stop on Clarks Falls Road. A new subdivision was approved on Babcock Road and the first house completed. Completing the major construction projects, there were twenty new homes approved for construction.

The Town of North Stonington instituted an exemption in 2007 of up to $100,000 on farm outbuildings for farmers who meet income or expense standards. This resulted in a reduction off over $600,000 on the assessments on farm outbuildings given to qualified farmers.

Veterans are reminded that a property tax exemption is available if they meet eligibility under Connecticut General Statute §12-81(19). This includes all active duty veterans having served at least 90 days. The dates of service (90 days active duty) are as follows:

Present active duty servicemen or servicewomen in any of the armed services.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conflict</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Role</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Persian Gulf War</td>
<td>After August 2, 1990</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invasion of Panama</td>
<td>December 20, 1989 to January 31, 1990</td>
<td>Combat role</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operation Earnest Will</td>
<td>February 1, 1987 to July 23, 1987</td>
<td>Combat role</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invasion of Grenada</td>
<td>October 25, 1983 to December 23, 1983</td>
<td>Combat role</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>July 1, 1958 to November 1, 1958 or</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>September 29, 1982 to March 30, 1984</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam Era</td>
<td>February 28, 1961 to July 1, 1975</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korean Era</td>
<td>June 27, 1950 to January 31, 1955</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World War II</td>
<td>December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1947</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World War I – Russia</td>
<td>April 6, 1917 to April 1, 1920</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World War I</td>
<td>April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See the Assessor’s office for dates of service prior to the start of World War I.

The Assessor’s Office is open to the public Monday though Friday, 9:00 a.m. though 4:00 p.m. Questions pertaining to property revaluation, mapping assessments, exemptions or related property information issues are welcome and should be directed to this office. The phone number is 860.535.2877 X 24.

Respectfully submitted,

Darryl L. Del Grosso, CCMA II
Assessor
Zoning Board of Appeals

Chairman: Charlie Burger
Vice-Chairman: Candy Palmer
Winifred Pattison
Helen Quallich
Allana York

Alternates: Richard Bennardo
William Ricker
Wayne Wilkinson

The Board meets on a monthly basis the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Senior Center, Holly Green Plaza, 391 Norwich-Westerly Road, North Stonington, CT 06359.

The Zoning Board of Appeals had five (5) applications for the fiscal year.

The Board had an operating budget of $2,500. Secretarial duties of the Zoning Board of Appeals are staffed by the Administrative Assistant of the Land Use Office who also provides this service for the Inland Wetlands Commission and Planning & Zoning.

This is a five-member board with three alternates.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlie Burger, Chairman
BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

The Board of Assessment Appeals held five sessions during the fiscal year 2006 – 2007.

One session was held in September for motor vehicles.

Four sessions were held during the month of April for real estate and personal property. Nine petitions were heard.

The sessions are advertised in the Legal Ad Section of The Westerly Sun. Agendas are posted with the Town Clerk.

William Holub resigned effective March 1, 2007. Appointed to replace him was Paula Woodward. Other members are Kathleen Trammel and Chairperson Jeffrey Nelson.
Planning & Zoning Commission

Planning & Zoning Commission Members:

Chairman                      G. Russell Stewart, III
Vice-Chairman                 Vilma J. Gregoropoulos
Secretary                     Louis E. Steinbrecher
Regular Members               Elaine Boissevain
                                Anne H. Nalwalk
Alternate Members             Susan Grufstedt
                                Duncan Schweitzer
                                Joseph Siner
Senior Planner & Zoning Official Craig Grimord
Administrative Assistant      Cheryl Konsavitch

Meetings of the Planning & Zoning Commission are held twice a month on the first and second Thursday of each month at 7:00 P.M. at the New Town Hall. Special Meetings are held, when necessary, on the third and fourth Thursdays of each month or when scheduled.

For fiscal year 2006/2007 the Commission held twenty-four (24) Regular Meetings, sixteen (16) Workshops, six (6) Special Meetings, and one (1) Site Walk.

Commission Public Hearings and Application reviews consisted of nine (9) Regulation Change requests, one (1) Zone Change requests, two (2) Home Occupation Special Permits, four (4) Special Permits/Site Plan reviews, three (3) Subdivisions/Re-subdivisions, four (4) Site Plan Review/Modifications and zero (0) 8-24 reviews.

A total of one hundred forty-nine (149) Zoning Permits were issued during the year by the Senior Planner & Zoning Official. These Permits included: sixty-eight (68) Accessory Use Permits, twenty-two (22) Single-Family Residence requests, two (2) Change of Use requests, thirteen (13) Lot Line Adjustments, ten (10) Sign Permit requests, and four (4) Lot Split, thirteen (13) additions, seven (7) Excavation Permits, one (1) Accessory Apartment Permit, four (4) Renewal Permits, and five (5) miscellaneous permits.
The Senior Planner & Zoning Official addressed thirty-one (31) new Zoning complaints during the fiscal year, issued twenty-six (26) Notices of Violation and twelve (12) Abatement Orders for zoning violations. Thirty (30) enforcement cases were closed for compliance; three (3) cases remain open, one (1) case is pending with the DEP enforcement, one (1) case involving an appeal of the ZBA decision upholding the ZEO's decision was won in court and one (1) case is currently pending a court hearing date. There were four (4) new cases appealing the ZEO's decision to the Zoning Board of Appeals. The ZEO's decision was upheld in all four (4) of these cases.

The Planning & Zoning Commission had an operating budget of $146,218.00.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Grimord, CAZEO
Senior Planner & Zoning Official
Holly Green Plaza  
391 Norwich-Westerly Road

Court Hours:  Monday & Wednesday 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM  
Tuesday & Thursday 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
Friday by Appointment

**Probate Court Statistics for the Fiscal Year 2006-2007**

- Decedent Estates: 51
- Trust Proceedings: 5
- Adoption & Termination: 4
- Children Matters: 20
- Conservator Matters: 27
- Mentally Challenged Persons: 8

**Other Matters**

- Passports: 61
- Name Changes: 1

The North Stonington Probate Court has been busy this year. The Court has seen a nearly 50 percent increase in conservator and children's matters.

With the help of Selectman Nicholas Mullane, the Court continues to oppose consolidation. New legislation was passed this year on minimum standards, education requirements, and the enforcement authority of the Probate Administrator. Unfortunately, because the legislation concerning hours of operation was broad in its wording, it has been interpreted differently by individuals. This has caused many difficulties between the Courts and Probate Administration. These problems will hopefully be rectified in the next legislative session.

On a lighter note, The Court received a favorable “Annual Review”, from Attorney Thomas Gaffey, Chief Counsel, Probate Administration. This review covered all aspects of court procedure including: maintenance of records, compliance of statutory requirements, preservation of confidentiality in certain matters, and the processing of applications in a timely manner.

It has been a pleasure to serve the residents of North Stonington this past year.

Sincerely,

Judge Teresa A. P
Resident State Trooper Program

During the fiscal year 2006/2007, the Connecticut State Police, through the Resident State Trooper Program with the current assigned resident troopers- Tfc. Wm. Bowyer, Tfc. Sonny Soler and Tfc. Vic Lenda who was selected in November 2006 to replace Sgt. Gilman on a full time basis have continued to provide services to the Town of North Stonington during this rating period.

The resident troopers continue their commitment to serving the citizens of North Stonington and for the past year several community programs have been offered from the summer four-day Safety Camp whereas the troopers coordinate efforts with both the North Stonington Fire Department and Ambulance teaching children bicycle safety, fire safety, first aid as well as respecting wandering dogs. The State Police resources used consist of a canine demonstration, along with the arrival of Trooper 1 Helicopter. The culmination of safety camp ends with a field trip to Rocky Neck State Park where they meet conservation officers from the State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection to learn about Connecticut's marine and wildlife. This program seems to receive positive feed back from parents who bring their children year after year.

Tfc. Lenda continues to offer assistance and programs to the Stonington Institute's staff to curb the calls from the institute for police services. A change in management at the institute has implemented new protocols as did the Department of Children and Families (DCF), which appear to be working. During this period the calls for police services have been reduced dramatically.

The resident trooper program continues to sponsor a two day basketball clinic coordinated by the town’s athletic director John Hines. This offers the children in the community a chance to meet and interact with the resident troopers. This program also receives positive feedback from the parents whose children attend. The D.A.R.E (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program was taught by Tpr. Meg Smith a certified Dare Officer and School Resource Officer from Troop-E ending the Dare Program with a baseball game to Dodd Stadium to conclude another successful year for the children.

The resident troopers continue to be active in seeking federal and state grants to increase motor vehicle enforcement in the town. The resident troopers took part in the Department of TransPortations Expanded D.W.I Enforcement Program and Holiday D.W.I Enforcement Program. However, the funding for the Holiday D.W.I Enforcement for the July 4th Holiday weekend was cut by the Department of Transportation. Other grants were sought after to reduce the number of accidents, but they too were denied. These enforcement efforts are conducted to reduce speeding, drunk driving along with other moving violations that attribute to motor vehicle accidents within the Town of North Stonington. The Resident State Troopers are also very committed to preventing criminal activity in the town with continued high visibility patrols with rapid response to calls for assistance or crimes in progress. The Resident Troopers continue to have a high solvability rate for the crimes committed to the town of North Stonington as well as the citizens protected.
During the past fiscal year, the resident troopers and troopers from Troop-E in Montville responded to and investigated various incidents resulting in the following town statistics:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incident Description</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Traffic Accidents</td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatalities</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DWI Arrests</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic Disturbances</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car V Deer</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alarms Responded</td>
<td>186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assist Citizens</td>
<td>423</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assisted other Agencies</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assaults investigated</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglaries investigated</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vandalisms investigated</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disturbances</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reported Fires</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larcenies investigated</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Assists</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narcotic investigations</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patrol Checks</td>
<td>1195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suspicious Incidents</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic Services</td>
<td>345</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trespass investigations</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Untimely Deaths</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tickets issued</td>
<td>3226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warnings Issued</td>
<td>529</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Finally we appreciate everyone’s concerns and comments regarding motor vehicle problems and encourage people to continue to keep us apprised of these problems to rectify them.

Respectfully Submitted by your Resident Troopers

Tfc. Wm. Bowyer
Tfc. Sonny Soler (Prepared Document)
Tfc. Vic Lenda
TOWN CLERK

The Town Clerk's office handles a wide variety of tasks including the recording and indexing of land records, filing of maps, trade names and military discharges (DD214). The Clerk's office also issues marriage licenses, liquor permits and voter ID cards. Registering Justices of the Peace and Notaries, issuing and also filing birth, death and marriage certificates is also a responsibility of this office. Hunting, fishing and trapping licenses, may be purchased throughout the year. Pheasant Tags and Duck Stamps are also sold in this office. Pheasant Season starts October 2006 and continues through January 2007. Migratory Bird Hunting is September 2006 through February 2007. Dog licenses expire June 30th, new license must be procured on or before June 30 or a penalty of 1.00 per month will be imposed. A low-cost rabies clinic was offered by Dr. Stephen Morrone in June at the Highway Garage on Wyassup Rd.

A Democratic Primary was held on August 8, 2006 between the hours of 6am to 8pm. Those who ran are as follows:

Governor: Dan Malloy - 202    John DeStefano - 149
Lieutenant Governor: Mary Messina Glassman - 193    Scott Slifka - 95
United States Senator: Joseph Lieberman - 152    Ned Lamont - 231

The State Election was held on November 7, 2006 between the hours of 6am to 8 pm those who ran are as follows:

Governor and Lieutenant Governor:
Republicans:    Concerned Citizens:
    M. Jodi Rell & Michael Fedele -    Joseph A. Zdonczyk & Jose E. Garcia - 7
    1455    Green:    Clifford W. Thomton, Jr. & Jean de Smet - 25
Democrats:    Green: Ralph A. Ferrucci - 9
    John DeStefano & Mary Messina    CT for Lieberman: Joe Lieberman - 1144
    Glassman - 636

United State Senator:
Republican: Alan Schlesinger - 196    Green: Ralph A. Ferrucci - 9
Democrat: Ned Lamont - 796    CT for Lieberman: Joe Lieberman - 1144
Concerned Citizen: Timothy A. Knibbs - 3

Representative in Congress 2nd District:
Republican: Rob Simmons - 1231    Democrat: Joe Courtney - 885

State Senator 18th District:
Republican: Lenny T. Winkler - 1102    Democrat: Andrew M. Maynard - 881

State Representative 43rd District:
Republican: Diana S. Urban - 1444
Secretary of the State:
Republican: Richard J. Abbate – 598
Democrat: Susan Bysiewicz – 1285
Concerned Citizen: Jean Marie Burness – 15
Green: S. Michael Derosa - 30

Treasurer:
Republican: Linda Roberts -724
Democrat: Denise L. Napier – 1067
Concerned Citizens: Mimi M. Knibbs
Libertarian: Steven Edelman – 32
Green: S. David Bue – 32

Comptroller:
Republican: Cathy Cook -1065
Democratic: Nancy Wyman – 887
Libertarian: Richard C. Connelly, Jr. – 32
Green: Colin Daniel Bennett – 27

Attorney General:
Republican: Robert Farr – 499
Democrat: Richard Blumenthal – 1455
Green: Nancy Burton – 29

Judge of Probate:
Republican: Teresa A. Pensis – 1188
Democrat: No Nomination

Registrar of Voters:
Republican: Gladys I. Chase – 938
Democrat: Marilyn Mackay - 880

The June 12, 2007 Annual Town/Annual Budget Meeting adjourned to a referendum held on June 19, 2007; the results were as follows:

#1 "Shall the Town of North Stonington approve the estimates and recommendations of the Board of Finance with respect to the annual budget for fiscal year July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008, in the amount of $5,572,341 for the general government, and make specific appropriations and authorize expenditures in connection therewith as appear advisable?"

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#2 "Shall the Town of North Stonington approve the estimates and recommendations of the Board of Finance with respect to the annual budget for fiscal year July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008, in the amount of $12,121,502 Board of Education, and make specific appropriations and authorize expenditures in connection therewith as appear advisable?"

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Totals 216 406

The Town Clerk’s Office hours are 9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M., Monday-Friday excluding holiday’s. Next years report will include the final results.

Norma J Holliday

North Stonington Town Clerk
TAX COLLECTOR

The total amount collected in taxes for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007, was $10,894,014.994 on the current list. Of that amount, $51,296.09 was collected in interest and $243.00 was collected in Lien Fees. $191,007.13 remained in uncollected taxes.

In June the Tax Collector upgraded collection software to a windows program which should produce more detailed reporting and more efficient collection.

Uncollected or Delinquent taxes are a persistent problem for whatever reason. I encourage folks to try to pay monthly to avoid large payments and large interest penalties and many of the town’s people pay their taxes that way. After a certain point, taxpayer’s accounts are sent to the Town Attorney for collection at the taxpayers expense.

Delinquent motor vehicles are reported to the DMV twice a year. The State of Connecticut now requires a fee of $850.00 to “PUT ON” delinquent Motor Vehicle bills. Pursuant to State Statute, all motor vehicle bills, which are delinquent, must be paid to receive a clearance.

The Tax Collector attends conferences and seminars to keep current with procedures and legislation.

The Tax Collector now has shorter hours during off-peak collection times (Sep, Oct, Nov, Mar, Apr, May). Regular office hours during the peak months are Mon-Fri 9:00-4:00 excluding holidays.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to call 535-2877 x20

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra M. Steinhart, CCMC
Tax Collector
Inland Wetlands Commission

Chairman: George Brown/Duane White 6/07
Vice-Chairman: Duane White/Mark Grigg 6/07
Members: Ron Lewis
          Kevin Geary
          Robert Miner
          Arthur Dobley
          D'ArCY Cleveland
          Mac Gray
Inland Wetlands Enforcement Officer: Wayne Berardi

Meetings of the Inland Wetlands Commission are held on a monthly basis on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the New Town Hall, Conference Room, 40 Main Street, North Stonington, CT 06359.

In 2006-2007, the Commission received 122 applications. The applications consisted of:

    22 Single Family Homes
    81 Accessory Permits
    17 Wetlands Permits
    02 Subdivisions

The IWC has an operating budget of $2,000.00. The office is staffed with one part-time paid Inland Wetlands Enforcement Officer and by the Administrative Assistant of the Land Use Office who also provides this service for Planning & Zoning and Zoning Board of Appeals.

This is a nine-member commission, with no alternates.

Respectfully submitted,

Duane White, Chairman
RECREATION COMMISSION

MEMBERS:
Dennis Walley
Kip Taylor
Jo Toth
Steven Aiello
Rusty Rusich

RECREATION DIRECTOR
John Hines

The North Stonington Recreation Commission convenes their monthly meetings at 6:15 PM on the first Thursday of the month during the calendar year. The Recreation Office shares space at the Holly Green Complex, at 391 Norwich Westerly Road, 2nd floor with the Probate Court. The public is welcome to attend any of our monthly meetings. An agenda of items to be discussed is posted at the Town Hall in the Town Clerk’s office.

Located off of Rocky Hollow Road you will find the “Rec Shack” surrounded by the Town’s recreation, picnic area, pavilion and playing fields. At this site you will find two soccer fields, a softball diamond, and lighted basketball and tennis courts. Our pavilion is equipped with picnic tables, grills, and an electrical outlet. A large part of this area includes updated playground apparatus for our young children to enjoy; including swings, a special needs swing, and various different rocking figures. You will also find slides, climbing apparatus, a cemented area for hopscotch, four square games and benches for parents to enjoy. This entire area is available to all residents who would like to reserve it for family picnics, birthday parties or small company gatherings. No alcoholic beverages are allowed on the premises. Please call the Recreation Department to reserve the site. An insurance rider is required with each rental for groups over twenty. For public health and safety remember that there are no dogs allowed at the Recreation Area.

During the 2006-07 Fiscal Year the Recreation Commission graciously received a generous donation from the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation for use in our recreation programs. With this donation we were able to further enhance our Recreation Area with an additional play scape apparatus that will enable children with physical disabilities the chance to use the areas of this play piece for their enjoyment. New swings were also added.

Improvements to our town’s Recreation Area this year were substantial. Continued improvements to the town’s area were completed. The Rec Shack had new windows and screens added plus updated electrical wiring. Additional wiring to the tennis and basketball courts were completed on an as need basis. Parking lines were repainted.

The Recreation Commission’s goal is a commitment to present our residents with a well-balanced program of activities for adults and children throughout the year. This is
made possible because of the generosity and time spent by the many volunteer coaches, program presenters, and volunteer citizens support.

The Recreation Commission would like to thank the Board of Selectmen; especially Nick Mullane, First Selectman, the Resident State Troopers, the Superintendent of Schools, fire and ambulance personnel, the Senior Center, Wheeler Library, the Town Hall Staff and the Highway Department, Brochure Designer, and the students from Wheeler High School who staff our winter and summer programs.

In closing, if any of our residents have a special skill that you could introduce to the youngsters or adults of our town, the Recreation Commission wants to hear from you. Also we are always looking for volunteers for coaching or just lending a hand during special activities that are presented during the year. Give us a call at 535-2162, or nsrecreplay@sbcglobal.net.

Thank you again to the residents of North Stonington for your support and suggestions, they are always appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

John Hines
Recreation Director

North Stonington Recreation Programs
2006-2007

Computer Internet Basics
Basketball Camp (3rd, 4th, 5th grades)
Summer MLS Soccer Camp
Pilates (2 classes) Year round
Kiddie Camp Summer Program (Ages 4 & 5)
Summer Babysitting Safety Program
Mystic Valley Soccer (136 youngsters)
Troopers' Basketball Clinic
Golf Instruction (Children & Adults)
Saturday Winter Basketball (140 participants)
"Ooey Gooey" (Ages 3 & 4)
Mad Science Programs
Halloween Party at the "Rec Area"
"Icky Sticky" Arts and Crafts (Winter & Spring
Pre-school Rec Basketball Instruction (22 children)
Adult Co-Ed Volleyball
Power Yoga
Competitive Basketball Summer Camp 6, 7, 8 grades

Summer Playground Camp (Ages 6-12)
Kripalu Yoga-Year Round
Tennis Instruction (Children & Adults)
MVLSP Pizza Party
Lacrosse Camp
Winter MLS Indoor Soccer
Adult Photography
Easter Egg Hunt
Troopers' Summer Safety Camp
Dance School 18mo to 12 yrs
Martial Arts (Okinawan Go Ju-Ryu Karate)
Yoga for Strength and Endurance
Multi Sports Camp
Indoor Soccer U-10 Winter Premier
Fun and Games
Basketball Skills Clinic Co-Ed (Summer)
Public Works Department

The Town of North Stonington covers fifty-five square miles with sixty-four miles of roadway to maintain. The Public Works Department also operates the Transfer Station and Bulky Waste Area located on Wintechog Hill Road.

Some of the projects the Highway Department preformed this year are:

- Install new walking track North Stonington Elementary School
- Prepared course for the annual Bike race in May
- Grading of unimproved roads
- Chip sealed following roads:
  - Boombridge (north & south of Rt. 184)
  - Putker
  - Denison Hill from Rt. 216 to Putker
- Clean-up five snow and ice storms.
- Install access ramps for new Walk Bridge.
- New catch basin and drainage on Old Colony Rd.
- Town Hall Work
  - New sidewalk
  - Rebuild stone wall
  - Remove heating oil tanks
  - Repave parking lot
  - Install Bicentennial bricks

The Department's routine annual projects include road sweeping, basin cleaning, roadside mowing, painting of stop-bars and center lines, cutting and trimming trees and brush, maintenance of many of the town's cemeteries, burning and chipping brush at the Transfer Station.

The Public Works Department Garage is located at 11 Wyassup Road. The staff works routinely between the hours of 7:00 AM and 3:00 PM, Monday through Friday. If you need to contact us, please feel free to do so at 535-0924.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Holliday
Public Works Highway Foreman

Karl Sommers
Public Works Assistant Highway Foreman
Registrars of Voters

Weekly Registrars Schedule: Mondays & Thursdays, 9 AM-Noon

2006
August 8: Democratic Primary, 11 AM-9:30 PM
September: Attended Conference in Farmington, CT
            Training on IVS machine
October: Mandatory general election voter registration, 9 AM–8 PM
November: Set up and poll worker training for general election
November 7: General election, 5 AM–10 PM

2007
January–April: Canvas to update voter list - deletions and corrections
February 23-25: ROVAC Training sessions
May: Delivery of new Optical Scan Tabulating machines
     Registrars training, 10:30 AM–2:00 PM
June:
     1st 2007-2008 budget town meetings
     1st 2007-2008 budget referendum machine set up and poll worker training
     1st Budget Referendum, 11 AM-9:30 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Gladys I. Chase, Marilyn Mackay
Registrars of Voters
Ambulance Association

This year the North Stonington Ambulance Association was requested to respond to 492 emergency calls. We responded with an average response time of 7 minutes. Only 9 calls were responded to by outside agencies, and most of these occurred during large events such as the Mashantucket Pequot Schemitzun Event.

During the past year, North Stonington Ambulance participated in many community events by providing emergency medical services. These events include the North Stonington Agricultural Fair, 4-H Club, Wheeler High School sporting events, and the Mashantucket Pequot Schemitzun Event. We also worked alongside the Connecticut State Police and the North Stonington Fire Department to educate Safety Camp participants in basic emergency information. All donations received from these events are used to offset the cost of emergency care to the taxpayers of North Stonington.

During this fiscal year, North Stonington Ambulance completed the transition from paper to fully electronic patient care records. Our ambulances are now equipped with rugged laptop computers that are used to collect and securely store response information. This information is used to improve patient care by storing vital medical information that can be retrieved in an emergency and increases revenue by ensuring rapid billing to the insurance carrier. North Stonington Ambulance was the first ambulance service in the southeastern Connecticut area to use such a system; it will be mandated by the State of Connecticut by the end of 2007.

In the summer of 2006, North Stonington Ambulance coordinated the first area-wide Emergency Medical Services meeting. The group participants included ambulance chiefs from North Stonington, Groton, Mystic River and Stonington as well as a representative from our regional dispatch center. This group focused on creating unified policies for emergency incidents and improving interoperability between services. Included in these policies is the "Priority Ambulance Call Designation". This policy allows for the closest staffed ambulance, regardless of service affiliation, to respond to the most life-threatening ambulance calls. With the implementation of this policy, political borders no longer dictate responses to critical medical emergencies.

This past year also saw improvements to the 9-1-1 system. North Stonington Ambulance coordinated with our regional dispatch center to update Town road information, access routes and cellular and landline emergency call routing. Although North Stonington provides many challenges with unpaved and non-Town approved roads, our maps continue to improve on a near-daily basis. These same maps that are used in the dispatch center are available to our ambulance crew via onboard computers.

Volunteers continue to serve as an integral part of the Association. Serving on the Board of Directors, working ambulance shifts and functioning as first responders, their services are the foundation of North Stonington Ambulance. The Association continues to search for new members and EMTs.
The Association would like to thank the residents of the Town of North Stonington for their overwhelming support of the ambulance association, as well as the members and employees for their continuing dedication to a job well done.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Elias
Brian Elias
President
Permanent School Building and Planning Committee

Overview

The North Stonington Permanent School Building and Planning Committee is empowered by the general town government to carry out directives to provide students with updated and efficient facilities necessary for a safe and effective educational environment. Its primary task is to manage construction projects identified by the Board of Education for the Elementary, Middle, and High Schools. Committee members are appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The Committee met regularly one or two times each month at the Town's Probate Office.

Members

Steven Aiello
Wayne Coats
Mark Donahue - Chairman
Everett Fontanella
Jeff Pearson
Robert Shabunia
Robert Testa – Board of Education liaison

Projects Completed with School Capital Non-recurring Funds

- A bathroom for Pre-K students in the Elementary School was installed, which included the development of a bid specification and architectural drawings.
- A gate and fencing were installed adjacent to the Elementary School restricting access to the Elementary School playground.
- The Middle and High School parking areas were re-sealed and re-striped.
- A bid specification for upgrading the fire alarm panel in the Elementary School was developed.
- Floor plans documenting the location of fire/smoke detectors in the Elementary School were developed.
- Land adjacent to the walking path behind the Elementary School was cleared to provide better line of sight for supervising students during outdoor activities.

Upcoming Priorities/Long Range Plans

Input from the Superintendent of Schools, Maintenance Supervisor and Board of Education regarding the priority of projects for 2007-8 has not yet been received. Consequently, the Committee has carried over the past year's list of projects for evaluation, which includes:
• Installing fences behind the Elementary School for improved student safety and security.
• Renovation of the High School Machine Shop to a Computer/Technical Lab.
• Re-sealing and Re-stripping 1/3 of School Parking Lots.

• Replace Fascia and Soffit at Middle/High School (Exterior).
• Replace Flashing on Gymatorium.
• Repair Exterior Masonry/Brick at Elementary/Middle School.
• Improve Drainage at High School Gym Entrance/HS Gym Walkway/HS Main Entrance.
• School Grounds Maintenance Building/Athletic Storage (to replace POD).
• Relocate Elementary School Office - Create Reception Area in Current Music Room.
• Expand/Improve Practice Fields.
• Irrigation System for Athletic Fields.
• Upgrading/replacing the fire alarm panel in the Elementary School.

In addition, the Committee will coordinate with the Board of Education regarding possible assistance to plan expansion of school buildings with the possible integration of an energy conservation package into the Board of Education’s master plan.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark S. Donahue
Chairman
Building and Sanitation Departments

This fiscal year we note the retirement of two of the Town of North Stonington’s longest employed people, Timothy York, Building Official and Robert Shabunia, Town Sanitarian.

During the fiscal year, before their retirement, the following permits were issued:

- 169 Building Permits
- 41 Heating/Plumbing Permits
- 32 Electrical Permits
- 27 Septic Permits
- 22 Well Permits

Nineteen of the Building Permits were issued for single family dwellings and three large commercial projects were included. The Tinaco Plaza, AZ Corporation, and Kids & Company, totaling over four and one half million dollars.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicholas H. Mullane, II
First Selectman
Senior Center

A total of 80 new, padded and stain-resistant chairs were purchased for the center. Everyone, including all Town Committees, Recreational Department, people renting the building, seniors who come to daily or weekly classes, The Boy Scout’s and Antique Car Club have all said how much they appreciate these new, comfortable chairs!

A 2006 Mini Bus was purchased for senior transportation from the center. This has a seating capacity for 20 seniors, if no wheelchairs are needed. Otherwise, we have (2) two, wheelchair, handicap- accessible seats available for handicap seniors to use, bringing the seating to 18. This includes a side door lift, to assist handicap seniors into the bus. Upon seniors request and my own coordinated trips, many seniors can now afford to go on several trips throughout the year and we also can bring seniors to doctors appointments, shopping and prescription pick-ups at their pharmacies, go on monthly, “Breakfast Club” outings, “Mystery” lunches, Theaters, Movies, Museums, restaurants and more! The savings passed on to each senior cost of past trips, using larger travel busses has been at least, $25.00 per trip. This is a huge savings to most seniors and makes these trips more affordable for them to go on. We have transported more than 8 handicap seniors who cannot drive and over 27 having no family members to drive them, to doctor appointments, either using the Mini Bus or our regular, 7- passenger van. This was a vital purchase the center needed to supply our seniors with transportation. The seniors even enjoyed using the new bus to participate in this years N.S. Fourth of July Parade.

A new shed was erected outside, on the left-hand side of the center. It has become a much needed storage unit for many recreational, Craft and over-run items, that was over crowding the inside use of the facility. This shed was donated mainly, by a donation from The Pearl Farnum Family with additional costs paid by the Town.

The center has purchased a new, large magnifying glass. This is a table-top, folding model, for senior use who have trouble seeing small items. They use this on Thursdays, at the Sewing and Quilting classes held by Susan Stedman. Susan has been at the center for many years helping to teach her techniques and to assist seniors with all their sewing and quilting needs, as they create their beautiful masterpieces! Seniors have used this magnifying glass to help with their embroidery and hard to see projects.

For the past 6 years, most every Monday mornings, 10 a.m. to noon, our Craft Class continues to be one of the most enjoyable classes throughout the week. Senior women come and let their hair down, enjoying making a different craft each week. A few trips are made per year, to A.C.Moore, to gather up new ideas and purchase new craft pieces. As always, all the Craft women here at the center have loving, giving hearts and always want to keep giving back to our community, local tri-town communities and the homeless in our area. They hand-make blankets, hats and more to the needy, make adult-size cotton bibs, decorated beautifully, to hand deliver to seniors in nursing
facilities and hand-made centerpieces are made to donate once a month to the N.S. Golden Agers to use for their monthly meetings which are held here at the center.

A delicious lunch is always served at the center on Wednesdays, where any senior may join in on the delicious food and fun conversation. Kim prepares and serves a home-cooked lunch or, every other month a "Pot-Luck" or Pizza and Salad day is included! Seniors enjoy their favorite "Bingo", with volunteer caller, Jerry Ward to assist immediately after lunch has been served.

The Thursday afternoon, 45 minute, Arthritis Tai Chi classes have continued to be most enjoyable and physically helpful to the many seniors who participate in this class. Gary Donovan has continued to be the Instructor, which he adds different levels and techniques, for the more advanced students. Anyone can do Tai Chi. Even sit-downs are welcomed! All senior students have claimed a better physical and healthier way of life for them since starting Gary’s Tai Chi classes!

Joy Fidrych, Dance and Exercise Teacher, has included many new steps, with different music selection to exercise to on Thursday mornings. Included, are also some dance steps to enjoy and unwind at the end of each session! She also holds a children’s dance class here at the center through the Recreational Department. Seniors and children love spending their time with her!

Scheduled special speakers have been called upon to grace our center with their expertise on many health-related topics, Financial Planning, Medicare Issues, Two, AARP 55-Alive Driving Programs, hosted by our local host, Frank Costa, Two Flu Clinics and Free preparation of Tax Returns were done with professional IRS-certified Volunteers.

A combined job as Director, Coordinator and Municipal Agent For the Elderly, Kim Varas, has continued to cook, serve, clean the center and coordinate trips and events at the center each year. Some of these include, a New Years Eve and Christmas Party, a Valentine Day Luncheon, an Irish Comed-Beef and Cabbage Luncheon, an Easter Community Brunch, held at the center, a Victorian Tea Party, Halloween Party and special event's with entertainers or entertainment coming in for the seniors enjoyment. She also held a special free concert at the Community Grange as part of the Bi-Centennial and for any senior, performing a 3- ½ hr. long concert. Kim organized and planned with two other seniors on the committee, Anita Robertson and Kathy Nichols, in creating a North Stonington Senior Center Recipe Cookbook. She did this so that the senior club would continue getting some donations coming in. Some of the seniors are getting too elderly to continue in doing fundraising for their club.

When possible, she drives seniors who need transportation to doctor appointments. Kim assists with many trips, using her 25 years P.D. Certified Nursing Assistant knowledge to help with any health-related problems that may and have risen on these trips. Her 20+ years business experience has also helped tremendously in the daily operations of running a Senior Center. Kim has continued to create a monthly newsletter, which gets mailed out to several interested seniors. Seniors who cannot make it to the center each
week and tri-town seniors who are interested in joining us at our center for certain special events or for lunch, also request getting a newsletter. This newsletter was Kim’s idea, so many seniors who live in or around our vicinity, would love to hear what’s going on at the center and to be prepared for any special “news” that may be of interest to them. Also included in the newsletters, is information going out to any N.S. Golden Agers Club member, who don’t come on a regular basis. Kim has been there to assist the senior club in many of their different functions, which they plan. She works her usual 30 hour work week, along with at least an additional 10-40 hours extra per week, depending on what special events she has planned and the many trips that have been scheduled.
Economic Development Commission

Chair; Robert Boissevain, Vice Chair; Bradford Currier, Treasurer; Robert Kimball, Secretary; Linda Pershaec; Members: Marilyn Mackay, Peter Bogoian, Erik Caster, Brent Woodward, Recording Secretary; Gladys Chase.

Market Analysis of the town was completed.

A meeting was held at the Elementary School to give presentation of the Shapiro report.

Second welcome sign was installed at the Route 2 entrance to town near Foxwoods. Third welcome sign was installed on Route 184 near United Rentals.

EDC member Paul Knapp passed away.

Marilyn Mackay was appointed to fill the vacancy of Paul Knapp.

Marilyn, Peter, Brent and Robert B. attended NEMO workshop on Economic Development role of EDC.

Budget was worked on and submitted to Board of Finance.

EDC and Planning and Zoning Commission had a workshop to see if a mutual agreement could be reached on what development would fit in town and where the best location would be.

The starting time of EDC meetings was changed from 7:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Garden Court LLC gave presentation to EDC.

Marilyn and Peter attended Advisory meeting on Transfer Development Rights- Border Land projects at Hilltop Inn & Suites.

Joe Siner resigned from EDC to serve as Planning and Zoning Alternate.

Erik Caster was appointed to fill the vacancy.

Peter Bogoian is working with Marc Tate the GIS coordinator to develop graphic 3d map of the town. This would be helpful to see where business can be located. The maps are a much needed tool for the EDC.
North Stonington Volunteer Fire Co., Inc.

The 2006/2007 Fiscal Year was very busy for the North Stonington Volunteer Fire Company, Inc., responding to 273 alarms. The breakdown is as follows:

- Structural Responses: 79
- Rescue MVA's: 89
- Vehicle Fires: 13
- Brush Fires: 19
- Mutual Aid Responses to surrounding departments: 12
- Hazardous Materials: 14
- Other type responses: 47

These incidents accounted for 203.47 hours of "on-air" time, were attended by an average of 11 emergency personnel, and accumulated 2623.10 man/hours of service to the community.

We also held 22 scheduled training sessions during the same period. They accounted for 38.45 hours of time, were attended by an average of 9 personnel, accounting for an additional 589.5 man/hours of time. The training also includes sessions to comply with the following OSHA standards:

- 1910.120 Hazardous Materials First Responder Operational
- 1910.134 Self Contained Breathing Apparatus
- 1910.1030 Infection Disease Control

Not included is time expended for certification in other areas.

It was also another good/productive year administratively for the North Stonington Vol. Fire, Co., Inc. We continued to submit the various Federal, State, and local reports required to maintain our tax exempt status as a non-profit organization under IRS Tax Code 501 (c) (3).

Our financial records are audited annually by an outside professional accounting firm. As a civic commitment, we continue to support Troop # 71, Boy scouts of America. We provide the Troop with a meeting place, as well as an annual donation to help off-set their re-charter costs with the National Council. We also sponsor a North Stonington Little League Team.

We also provide water for the Town's Recreational Complex.

We fund the repair and maintenance of the Fire Station. The funds for these expenses come from the lease of a small portion of our property to SBA Towers. This income also funds our annual banquet, gifts and flowers for members, food after the annual Memorial Day Parade, member uniforms, and miscellaneous donations to other worthy nonprofit organizations.

The eleven (11) members of the Board of Trustees (Directors) meet monthly to approve payment of all invoices, and monitor the financial status of the Fire Company.
We would like to thank all the Town residents for their continued support of the North Stonington Vol. Fire Co., Inc.

Respectfully submitted,

William W. Fitzgerald, Sr.  
President and Chairman of the Board (2006-2007)

Timothy O. Main, II  
Fire Chief
Management and Financial Statements
North Stonington Board of Finance
Special Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 30, 2008, 8:00 PM
40 Main Street, North Stonington, CT

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman M. Donahue called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM. Vice Chair L. Southwick, Secretary T. Oswald, E. Pavlovics, G. Herbert, and E. Bresette were present.

2. **Public Comments and Questions:** Mr. Mullane spoke about:
   a. a bill for Sanitary Landfill water testing;
   b. borrowing for, rather than leasing, a new truck in order to save about $9,000 (it appears the dealer and the manufacturer are more interested in getting their cash up front rather than managing a lease arrangement);

3. **Previous Minutes:** L. Southwick motioned the BOF accept the meeting minutes from the 7-15-08 Special meeting as written. E. Pavlovics seconded, discussion followed, and the motion passed 6-0-0.

4. **BOS: Financial Reports:**
   a. **Additional Appropriation – Town Building Maintenance Capital:**
   b. **Purchase of Mystic Seaport Property:** A valuation analysis and several other documents related to the purchase of the parcel were presented by Mr. Mullane.
   c. L. Southwick motioned the BOF approve the following resolution exactly as appears on the draft:

   RESOLVED, that the Board of Finance recommends that the Town of North Stonington appropriate $314,390 for costs relating to: (a) acquisition by the Town for recreation and park purposes of parcels of land aggregating approximately 104.1 acres, and any buildings and improvements thereon and appurtenances thereto, located off of State Route 2 and Hewitt Road in North Stonington and identified on the Town Assessor's Map #101 as Parcels #2286, 9641 and 9642, now or formerly owned by Mystic Seaport Museum, Inc., all or portions of which are commonly known as the Hewitt Property, (b) improvements and repairs to the buildings and facilities, including without limitation the damn, located on such property, and (c) the financing thereof; and for other costs relating to the project; and that the Town authorize the issue of bonds, notes and temporary notes in an amount not to exceed $500,000 to finance in part the appropriation. The appropriation shall be funded $110,000 from the Town's Open Space Land Fund; $37,715 from the Open Space Fund as established by ordinance adopted April 10, 2006 and funded from fees in lieu of open space as determined by the Planning and Zoning Commission; $50,000 from the Inland Wetlands Commission's Wetlands Mitigation Fund; $116,675 from the Town's undesignated fund balance in the Town's Reserve Fund for Capital and Nonrecurring Expenditures; and the balance from borrowings as described above.

   • G. Herbert seconded the motion.
   • Chairman Donahue called for discussion.
   • Discussion followed.
   • E. Pavlovics chose to abstain from voting based on an unresolved issue concerning a legal issue.
   • Motion carried: 5-0-1 with E. Pavlovics abstaining.

5. **BOE: Financial Reports:** Discussion about the continued absence of any BOE Financial Reports received, no action.

6. **Tax Collector:** L. Southwick noted the report does not include tax collection delinquencies and will ask the Tax Collector about that fact.
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7. **Budget/Budget Spreadsheet:** Discussion, no action.
8. **Appointment of Assessor:** Chair asks again for input from BoF members.
9. **Management Reports/Board of Finance as Audit Committee/GASB 45 OPEB:**
   a. **Audit Engagement Letter – Marien & Company:** L. Southwick motioned for the BoF to authorize BOF Chairman M. Donahue to sign the Audit Engagement Letter from Marien & Co dated 1July 2008. G. Herbert seconded. Discussion followed. E. Bresee suggested that in out years the BOF ask the auditor prepare an estimate of the hours needed by the auditor to prepare the audit and their average hourly fee. M. Donahue will talk with Marien & Co about the estimate issue. The motion passed 6-0-0.

10. **Town Report**
   a. **June 2007:** Completed in May 2008 but not yet distributed.
   b. **June 2008:** Letter will be issued by Chair Donahue to the various Town entities that they will need to reply by 1 December 2008.

11. **Audit Status – 6/30/08:** Discussion, no action.

12. **Board of Finance Goals/Long Range Plans/Resources:** Discussion, no action.

13. **Budget Website/Communications:** The corrected REV D is up on the site.

14. **Results Based Accountability:** Potential 'Pilot' discussion target issue was discussed.

15. **Correspondence:** One item from the N. Stonington Ambulance Association, Budget vs. Actual for period ending 30 June 2008.

16. **Future Agenda Items Identification:**
   - Management letter items from Auditor to be discussed

17. **Adjournment:** L. Southwick moved for adjournment and G. Herbert seconded. The motion carried 6-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 10:33 PM. The next BOF meeting will be held 8 PM Wednesday 13 August 2008 at the Senior Center.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Oswald  
Secretary, Board of Finance