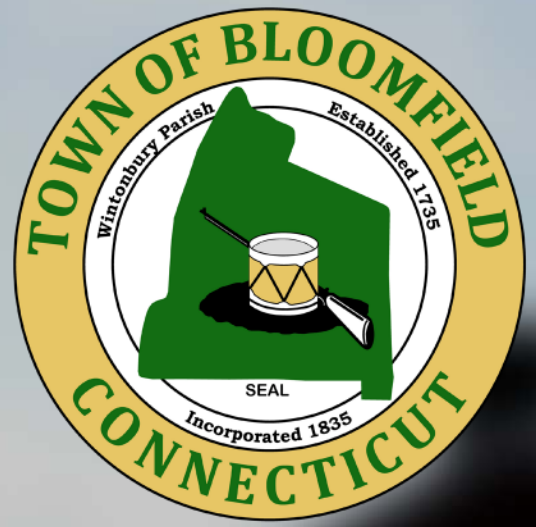




FY22-23

ANNUAL REPORT



TOWN HALL

Town of Bloomfield
800 Bloomfield Ave.
Bloomfield, CT 06002

Phone: 860-769-3500

Office Hours

Monday-Friday, 9am - 5pm

BLOOMFIELD POLICE

Police Department
785 Park Ave.
Bloomfield, CT 06002

Phone: 860-242-5501

IMPORTANT TOWN NUMBERS

Assessor's Office 860-769-3530
Building & Land Use 860-769-3515
Building Division 860-769-3516
Bloomfield Volunteer
Ambulance 860-243-3482
Engineering Department 860-769-3524
Finance Department 860-769-3533
Human Resources 860-769-3544
Information Technology 860-769-3539
Parks, Recreation,
& Leisure Services 860-243-2923
Emergency Services 911
Public Safety 860-242-5501
Tobacco Valley Probate Court 860-627-1450
Library 860-243-9721
Public Works 860-243-1487
Registrar of Voters 860-769-3540
Senior Services 860-243-8361
Social & Youth Services 860-242-1895
Tax Collector 860-769-3510
Town Clerk 860-769-3507
Town Manager 860-769-3504
Center Fire District 860-242-1779
Blue Hills Fire District 860-243-8949



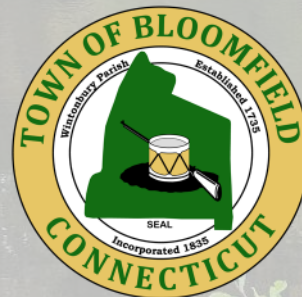
The Town of Bloomfield Annual Report was produced by the Office of Strategic Communications and Government Affairs. Any questions or concerns should be directed to the town at 860-769-3599.

The publication was written and designed by Brian Wolff, Community Engagement & Public Relations Coordinator, and edited by India Rodgers, Director of Strategic Communications & Government Affairs. Additional editorial assistance provided by Lynn Weisel, Recording Secretary.

All town images are the property of the Town of Bloomfield.

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TOWN OF BLOOMFIELD

Bloomfield is a picturesque Connecticut village, graced with rural beauty, abundant land, quality schools, dynamic commercial building projects, and a highly educated work force. Homeowners value Bloomfield as a quiet, friendly haven from the big cities. Bloomfield also offers an unmatched opportunity for businesses seeking a strategic location in New England, with the largest tract of undeveloped industrial land in the Capitol Region, making Bloomfield the perfect place to build a dream home or an international headquarters.

Originally part of Windsor, the town of Bloomfield is rooted in a 1640 settlement known as Messenger Farms, located at the eastern end of what is now Park Avenue. By the time it was formally incorporated in 1835, the settlement had grown to over 900 residents.

Traditionally an agricultural community, Bloomfield began to diversify its economic base following its incorporation. Tobacco was added to the agricultural list, as were numerous cider mills and a brandy distillery. The Prosser Inn on Simsbury Road housed the headquarters of the Hartford to Westfield stage line, and the Hartford to Tariffville stage line passed through the Town Center. Within thirty years of its incorporation, Bloomfield's new rail service included eight trains traveling roundtrip to Hartford daily and was serviced by four stations in town. In 1891, The Hartford Electric Light Company brought Bloomfield into the 20th century, and by 1920 the town's population had grown to over 2,000.

Bloomfield is located in Central Connecticut, just 10 minutes west of the state capitol, Hartford. It is easily accessible to Bradley International Airport and interstates 84 and 91. The Town encompasses 26.4 square miles and has a population of over 21,000 residents

MILESTONES & DATA STATISTICS

2023 TOWN PROFILE

- Current Population: 21,399
- Land Area (Square Miles): 26
- Number of Households: 8,802
- Median Age: 48
- Median Household Income: \$81,354
- Poverty Rate: 9%
- Median Home Value: \$220,900
- Median Rent: \$1,596
- Housing Units: 9,377



FEDERAL & STATE OFFICIALS



President
Joseph R. Biden



Vice President
Kamala D. Harris



U.S. Senator
Richard Blumenthal



U.S. Senator
Chris Murphy



U.S. Congressman
John B. Larson



Governor
Ned Lamont



Lt. Governor
Susan Bysiewicz



State Senator
Derek Slap

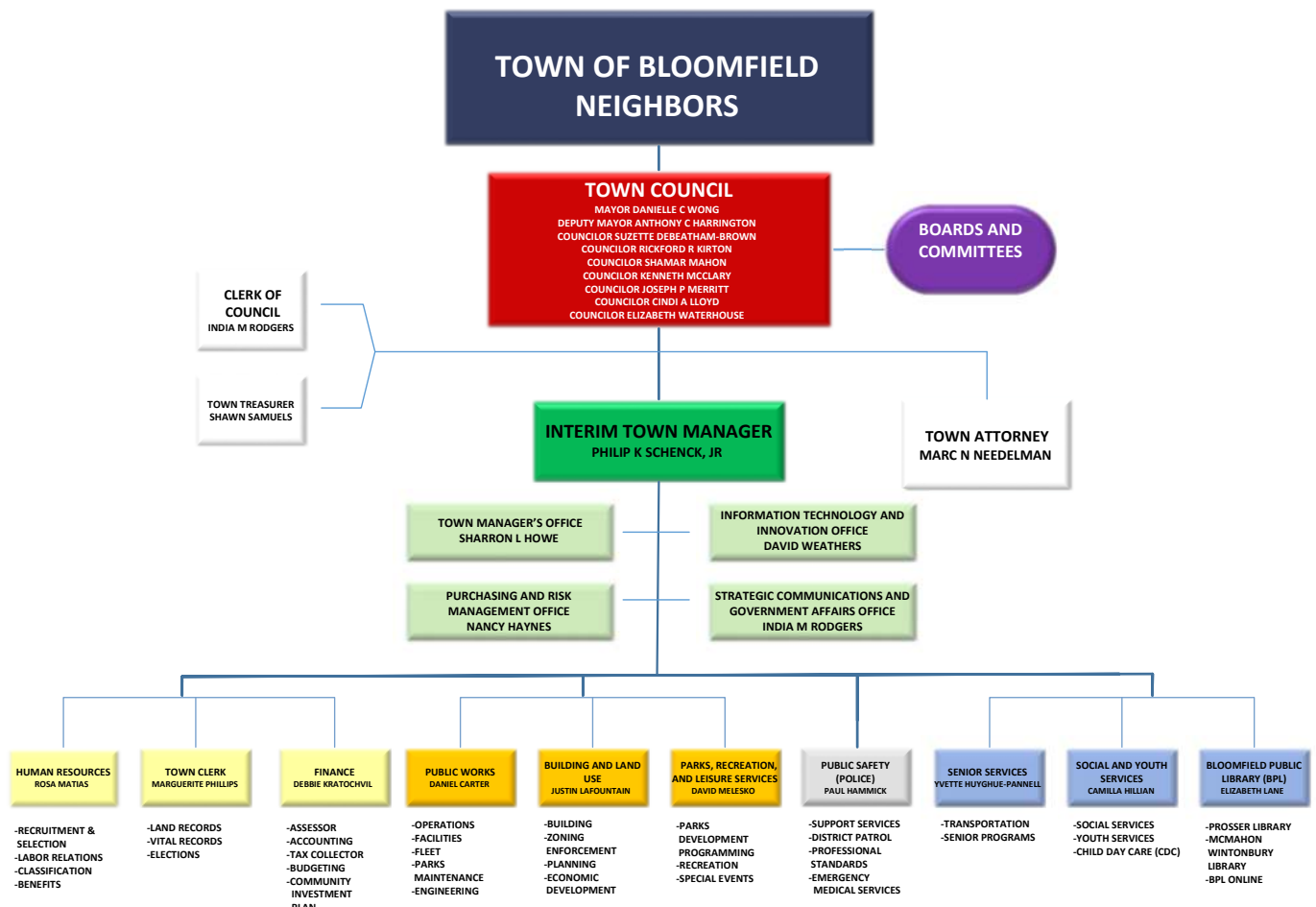


State Senator
Doug McCrory



State Representative
Bobby Gibson

TOWN ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





TOWN COUNCIL

Dear Bloomfield Residents,

On behalf of the Town Council, it is with great pleasure that we present the 2022-2023 Annual Town Report for the Town of Bloomfield. This report serves as a comprehensive overview of the progress, achievements, and initiatives undertaken by our dedicated team over the past year.

Despite challenges still posed post pandemic, our community has demonstrated resilience, unity, and a commitment to supporting one another. We are immensely proud of the collective efforts that have allowed us to navigate these uncertain times while continuing to move Bloomfield forward.

Throughout the year, our Town Council has remained steadfast in our mission to enhance the quality of life for all residents. We have focused on various key areas, including infrastructure development, fiscal management, environmental, and community engagement.

By prioritizing these aspects, we aim to create a vibrant and inclusive environment that fosters growth, prosperity, and a strong sense of belonging.

Below, is a list of our bi-partisan accomplishments over the past 12 months:

- Adopted a formal Affordable Housing Plan
- Developed Strategic Community Visioning
- Established an Economic Development Authority

- Revised Housing Code and Property Ordinances
- Community Investment Fund Grant for Bloomfield Public Libraries - \$5.6 million
- Community Investment Fund Grant for Bloomfield Town Center - \$250,000
- Urban Act Grant for Athletic Fields and Court Lights - \$650,000
- Grand List growth continued at a 2.23% increase, Unaudited Fund Balance as of June 30, 2023, is 17.3%
- Established the Office of Strategic Communications & Government Affairs
- Launched a newly and revised Town of Bloomfield website
- Launched the Organic Waste Pilot Program and Greenhouse Gases Emission Study
- Approved Commemorative Street Name for Coach Kevin Moses, Bloomfield High School
- Declared Juneteenth as a Permanent Town Holiday
- Authorized Project Labor Agreement (PLA) for Library Building Project.

As we reflect on the accomplishments of the past year, we are grateful for the unwavering support and cooperation of our residents, town employees, and community partners. Together, we have achieved remarkable milestones and overcame numerous challenges. We are confident that by continuing to work collaboratively, we will build an even brighter future for Bloomfield.

The Town Council sincerely thanks every Town employee, many of whom joined us this year, our police officers, and volunteer firefighters and EMS personnel, each of whom do an increasing amount of work under constrained budgets, for their professionalism, efficiency, and pride.

We also thank the legion of unpaid volunteers on Town boards, committees, and commissions. Bloomfield could not function without the dedication and commitment of each and every one of these individuals. We deeply appreciate their service.

And thank you to each of you, the residents of Bloomfield, whom we serve every day as we fulfill our responsibilities. We work to keep the best interests of the entire Town in mind, even when our personal views differ. We value your comments and suggestions, thank you for your support, and we encourage you to become more involved by volunteering, running for office, or continuing to stay informed on Town business.



MEET YOUR TOWN COUNCILORS



Mayor
Danielle C. Wong



Deputy Mayor
Anthony C. Harrington



Councilman
Joseph P. Merritt



Councilwoman
Suzette DeBeatham-Brown



Councilman
Rickford R. Kirton



Councilman
Kenneth L. McClary



Councilman
Shamar A. Mahon



Councilwoman
Cindi A. Lloyd



Councilwoman
Elizabeth A. Waterhouse



Former Deputy Mayor
Gregory C. Davis



Former Councilman
C. Francis Politis



TOWN MANAGER



It is my distinct pleasure to submit to you the Town of Bloomfield's 2022-2023 Annual Town Report. This report is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and collaboration of our town employees, community partners, and residents in making Bloomfield a thriving

and vibrant community. Each of the departments describes the work that they have accomplished for our residents over this past year. Our intent is to provide the very best local government possible.

Over the past year, we have faced some challenges within our internal operations and staffing. However, through adaptability and resilience, we have continued to provide essential services and support to our residents. Our town employees have gone above and beyond their duties to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of our community.

One of our primary focuses has been on fiscal responsibility and prudent management of resources. Despite the economic uncertainties with inflation, we have maintained a balanced budget and implemented cost-saving measures without compromising the quality of services provided. We have also actively

pursued grant opportunities and explored innovative funding sources to support our community's needs.

Infrastructure development has been a key priority for us. We have made significant investments in upgrading and maintaining our roads and public facilities. These improvements not only enhance the aesthetics of our town but also contribute to the overall quality of life for our residents. We remain committed to addressing infrastructure needs and ensuring that our community remains accessible and well-maintained.

In collaboration with various town departments, we have implemented initiatives to enhance public safety. Our police and fire departments have worked diligently to ensure the safety and security of our residents. We have also focused on emergency preparedness, community outreach programs, and traffic safety measures to create a secure environment for all.

Community engagement remains a vital aspect of our governance. We have actively sought input from residents through public meetings, surveys, and on line platforms to ensure that our decisions align with the needs and aspirations of our community. We value the diverse perspectives and ideas that our residents bring to the table and are committed to fostering an inclusive and participatory environment.

As we move forward, we recognize that there is still much work to be done. We remain dedicated to addressing the evolving needs of our community and finding innovative solutions to the challenges we face. We will continue to prioritize transparency, accountability, and open communication in our decision-making processes.

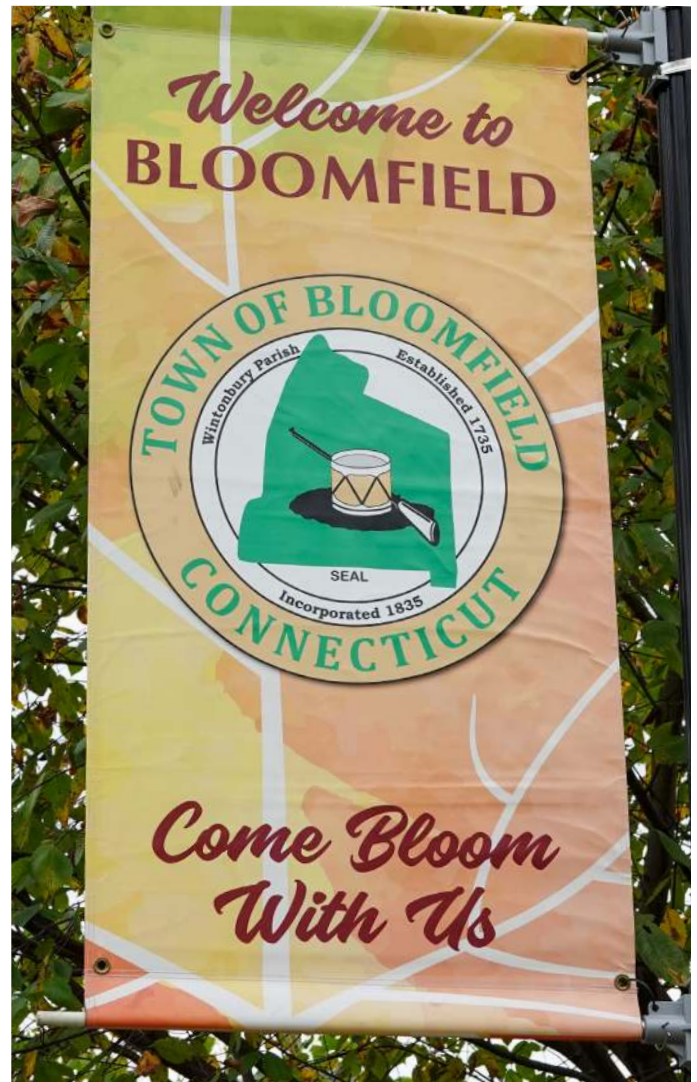
As the Interim Town Manager, I would like to express my sincere gratitude and thanks to the Bloomfield Town Council and former Town Manager Stanley D. Hawthorne for their guidance, leadership, and management during the FY 2022-2023 fiscal year. The Town Council initiated a search for a permanent successor Town Manager and is hopeful to identify a qualified leader for this dynamic community.

It is through our collective efforts that we have achieved progress and success outlined in this Annual Town Report.

I encourage you to explore this report, which provides a comprehensive overview of accomplishments and initiatives. Together, let us continue to build a stronger, more vibrant Bloomfield for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager



FILLEY PARK IN AUTUMN



PUBLIC WORKS

The mission of the Public Works Department is to provide quality operations and maintenance services to the Town of Bloomfield.

To be an industry leader and model for what it means to be a professional, capable and nationally certified public works department. To continually strive to provide services to our community, businesses and visitors as proof of our professionalism and community pride.

Only Connecticut Public Works Department accredited by the American Public Works Association



KEY OPERATIONAL INITIATIVES

- The department strives to continually provide services to our residents, businesses and visitors as proof of our professionalism and community pride.
- Continue to focus on Capital paving and road improvements.
- Secure additional personnel and resources in order to maintain current levels of service at Town buildings, grounds and parks.

MILESTONES & DATA STATISTICS

- Crack Sealed 9.45 miles of Town Roads
- Cleaned 2,783 catch basins
- Completed 124 pothole requests on Town Roads
- Responded to 137 tree requests
- Responded to 20 winter snowfall events
- Responded to 26 after hours emergencies
- Opened 1379 work orders and closed 1421 work orders

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

- Manages and coordinates the Town's public works functions.
- Prepares and manages the Department's operational and capital budgets.
- Manages the Department's personnel.
- Coordinates and assures compliance with environmental permits and regulations.
- Establishes policies and procedures for the Department.
- Recommends ordinance changes.
- Prepares written reports and other communications, as required.
- Ensures compliance with regulations, statutes and ordinances.
- Serves as Tree Warden in accordance with CT Gen. Statutes managing all trees within Town property and rights of way.



OPERATIONS DIVISION

- Manage and maintains regulatory roadway signage.
- Removes snow, sand, litter, and other debris from town streets.
- Maintains storm water system.
- Maintains streets, rights of way, and municipally owned sidewalks.
- Maintains and repairs guardrails and fencing.
- Manages and coordinates roadway resurfacing program.
- Manages road lane striping program.
- Manages property maintenance of town buildings and grounds.

FLEET DIVISION

- Maintains all heavy equipment and fleet vehicles to include purchase, re-assignment and disposal.
- Manages fleet utilization.
- Prepares specifications and makes recommendations for new vehicle purchases.
- Supplies fuel for all town owned vehicles.
- Manages fuel dispensing and storage system.
- Maintains vehicles and manages billing for repair service to non-BPWD and non-Town equipment.

13.32 MILES
RESURFACED TOWN ROADS

684
COMPLETED FLEET WORK
ORDERS

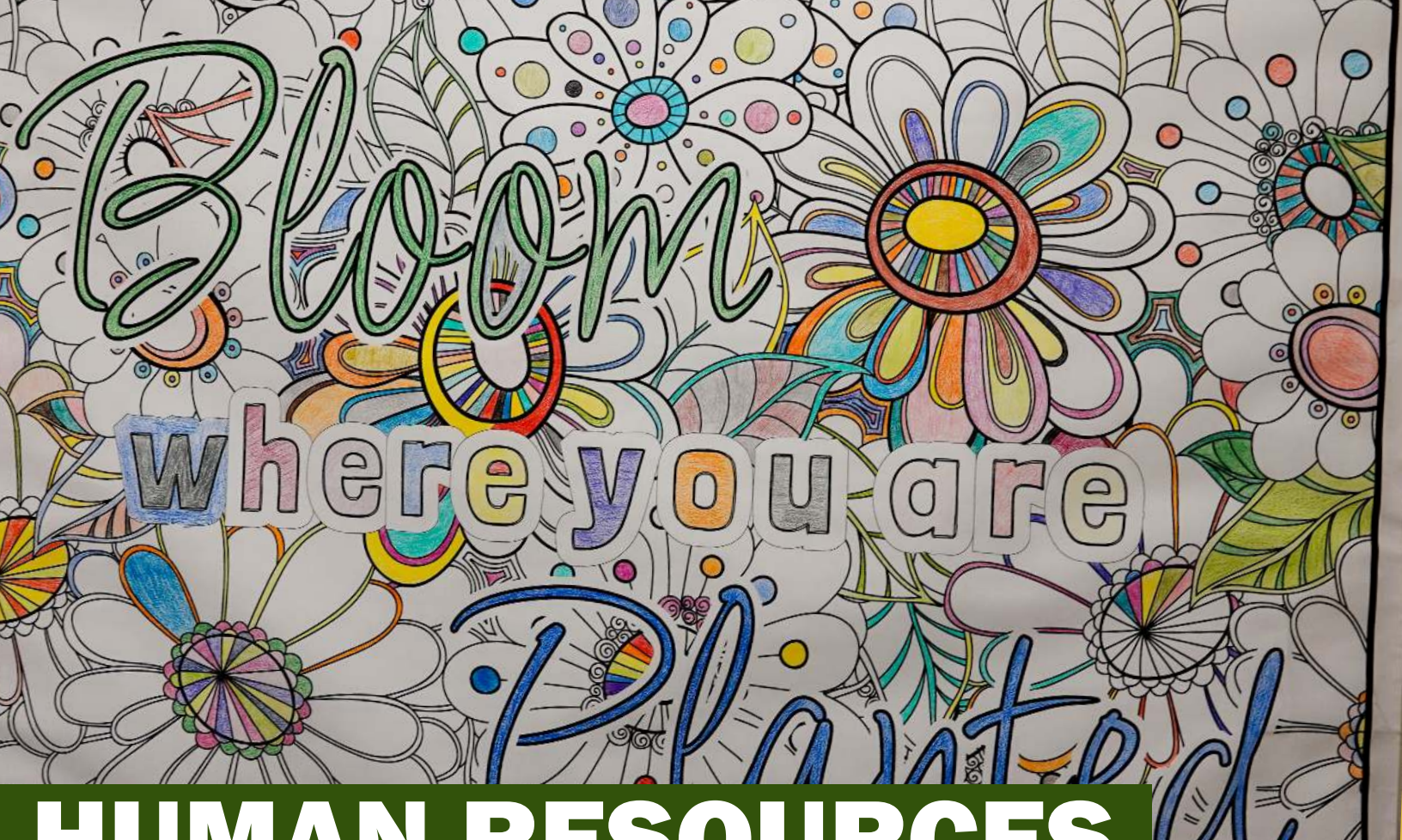
BY THE NUMBERS
127
REPAIRED CATCH BASINS

FACILITIES DIVISION

- Performs management and oversight for various projects.
- Performs building and equipment maintenance in (selected) town buildings.
- Conduct operational analysis for each facility within the managed portfolio.
- Determines space allocations to town departments in (selected) municipal buildings.
- Performs capital and preventative maintenance planning and oversight.
- Monitor energy consumption and provide recommendations to improve energy efficiencies.
- Operates and manages building systems.

ENGINEERING DIVISION

- Capital project planning and execution.
- Technical assistance to Town Land Use boards and commissions.
- Administer the Local Road Safety Committee.
- Administers street excavation and rights-of-way permitting.
- FEMA flood plain management; storm water management and administration.
- Development and administration of design and construction standards.
- Staff support to the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission.



HUMAN RESOURCES

It is the mission of the Human Resources Department to provide to our constituents a diverse range of Human Resources services to ensure that the Town of Bloomfield continues to be a desirable place to work, live and do business. Our constituents include current, former and potential Town employees, residents and business owners.

KEY OPERATIONAL INITIATIVES

The Human Resources Department is an essential component of the Town of Bloomfield. We serve the citizens and businesses of Bloomfield through the effective utilization of our Town employees to satisfy the goals, objectives and needs of all those who work, live and visit our Town. Our overall goal is to hire and retain the most talented and qualified individuals who will provide the services essential to meet the personal and business goals of all and to support the successful operation of the Town of Bloomfield.

MILESTONES & DATA STATISTICS

- 76 Job Postings
- 939 Applications Received and Processed
- 40 New Hires
- 15 Promotions
- 29 Retire/Resign/Termination
- 42 Oral Boards
- 64 Worker's Compensation
- 29 FMLA
- Implemented and Launched an Employee Benefits Portal
- Implemented and Launched an Applicant Recruiting Program-Neo-Gov
- Ratified UPSEU and TEAMSTERS Union Contracts

The department is tasked with maximizing employee productivity and protecting the Town from any issues that may arise with the workforce. In addition to recruitment, the Human Resources Department responsibilities include compensation and benefits, classification, training, policy development, random drug testing, workers' compensation, unemployment, wellness, labor relations and employee and retiree benefits. The department manages the life cycle of each employee-from recruitment and on-boarding to retirement and beyond.

The Human Resources Department is committed to our Affirmative Action Plan and Diversity goals in recruiting and retaining a diverse workforce comprised of highly qualified employees to serve the residents and businesses in our Town. Each year the Department compiles the statistics that are used to create the plan. Our goal is to hire the most qualified candidate for each vacant position.

EMPLOYEE INITIATIVES

- Coffee with a Cop
- Annual Flu Clinic
- Walking Challenge
- Employee Wellness Program
- Biometric Screening
- Lunch & Learn- Social Security Presentation
- Partnered with Health District -Lunch & Learn-Suicide Prevention
- Partnered with Health District - Lunch & Learn Narcan Training
- Employee Appreciation Day-Ice Cream Social
- Holiday Appreciation Luncheon
- Holiday Ugly Sweater Contest

939

**JOB APPLICATIONS
RECEIVED & PROCESSED**

76

JOB POSTINGS

BY THE NUMBERS

40

NEW HIRES



2022 UGLY SWEATER COMPETITION





POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Bloomfield Police Department is committed to improving the quality of life for all people in our community by developing community-oriented partnerships to prevent crime, uphold the law, and provide a safe and secure place to live, work, and visit.

CALEA®
THE GOLD STANDARD IN PUBLIC SAFETY

Department Values

**Public Service • Community Partnerships • Leadership • Integrity •
Quality through Continuous Improvement • Promoting a Professional Image**

KEY OPERATIONAL INITIATIVES

- Emphasis of building legitimacy and trust with the community.
- Continue to embrace Community Policing and Crime Prevention tactics.
- Commitment to Excellence through Effective Police Policies and Oversight.



MILESTONES & DATA STATISTICS

- Total BPD Mental Health Crisis Calls for Service : 269
- Live Calls Clinician Responded to : 56
- Police Request Emergency Evaluations (PREE): 42
- PREE Follow Ups : 92
- Non-PREE Referrals: 64
- Use of Force Incidents required by police: 4
- Roll Call Briefings: 93

The prevention of crime, and improvement in the quality of life for the community of Bloomfield is at the core of the Police Department's mission. The dedicated members of the Bloomfield Police Department take their responsibilities very seriously. Collectively, we are not content with what we have accomplished in the past and are always searching for opportunities to improve our performance and our ability to support the community of Bloomfield.

The Strategic Plan was developed in response to concerns within our community regarding the role and function of the police, as well as continuous turnover in Bloomfield Police Department staff. National and local incidents involving the police pushed police-community relationships to the forefront of our political dialogue, and many within our community continue to have questions about the core philosophy and mission of the police department. At the same time, we, as an organization, have witnessed an unprecedented turnover in personnel, with new employees seeking information about their role and responsibilities in policing our community.

The strategies and objectives contained in our most recent Strategic Plan were originally developed in connection with the core principles contained within the final report of The President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing. Completed by the Department of Justice in May of 2015, under then President Barack Obama, the task force report outlines strategies to

assist communities, law enforcement and government in identifying core areas to improve policing methods in the 21st century. By focusing on improvement in these areas, we can answer many of the questions from our community and continue to build our reputation as a professional police department tasked with serving the community.

The core philosophy of community policing has not changed, but other goals are meant to focus on redefining the police role in the community and recommitting to employee health and wellness. Although the goals of the Strategic Plan have changed over the past 12 years, the core mission, vision, and values of the police department remain consistent.



668
CRIMINAL COMPLAINTS

36,947
**CALLS DISPATCHED &
OFFICE INITIATED ACTIVITIES**

BY THE NUMBERS

667
ARRESTS MADE

CALEA

The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) is a credentialing authority (accreditation), based in the United States, whose primary mission is to accredit public safety agencies. The accreditation program establishes the process for a law enforcement agency to voluntarily demonstrate how they meet professionally recognized criteria for excellence in management and service delivery. Our initial accreditation was awarded on November 21, 2015.

STATE OF CT

In addition to CALEA accreditation, the Bloomfield Police Department is also accredited in the State of Connecticut. State accreditation is a process through which law enforcement agencies demonstrate excellence in management and service delivery by complying with state accreditation standards. The State Accreditation Standards for Local Police Agencies Program are run by the Connecticut Police Officer Standards and Training Council.



SOCIAL & YOUTH SERVICES

Bloomfield Social & Youth Services is committed to bettering the lives of our Bloomfield neighbors by empowering and supporting residents of all ages through activities, programs & services that enables all to achieve their highest potential. Our priorities include treating everyone with dignity and respect, enhancing self-reliance, protecting the vulnerable, and promoting healthy families, relationships, and choices.



KEY OPERATIONAL INITIATIVES

- **Food Insecurity:** Reduce food insecurity and hunger in our community through continued collaborations with our neighbors, faith community, civic organizations and businesses. We will work to improve providing healthy food options and connecting residents with resources.
- **Housing Insecurity:** Collaborate with community partners to support residents with challenges to overcome barriers to housing that has resulted in becoming unhoused.
- **Veteran Services:** Increase collaborations, outreach and services to Veterans, Reserves & Active Duty personnel, and military families that provide support, information, recognition and appreciation.
- **Community Educational Forums and Podcasts:** Continue to provide community forums and Podcasts that will enable residents of all ages to improve their knowledge and understanding of key issues.
- **Financial Literacy:** Provide education and resources to residents of all ages that teaches the importance of budgeting, saving, and planning for the future.
- **Police & Youth Activities:** Continue to coordinate programs that foster positive relationships between Bloomfield youth and Bloomfield Police Department. This includes the Annual National Night Out, the Police & Youth Group, CSI and additional recreational outings.

SOCIAL SERVICES DIVISION

Provides assistance and resources that assists vulnerable households with bridging the gaps in resources. Staff provides and coordinates case management and crisis services to residents of Bloomfield. Staff serve as advocates and provide social work services to families in crisis.

Social workers are asked to consult and offer assistance in such areas as applying for state benefits, mental health and substance abuse referrals, child & elderly protective services referrals, short term case management, fee waivers for summer programs, Eviction/Foreclosure Receivership & Processing, Relocation Assistance, applying for financial and medical assistance, Food Bank distribution, Holiday Giving Program. Social Workers also assists Bloomfield veterans and their families with accessing benefits, provides energy assistance programs through CRT, Operation Fuel and private donations.

The department also coordinates the Town's Uniform Relocation Plan, in conjunction with other departments and manages the Town's Emergency Shelter.



YOUTH SERVICES DIVISION

Works collaboratively with Bloomfield Public Schools, town departments and community organizations to provide a continuum of services for Bloomfield youth and their families.

The range of services includes: referrals to appropriate community resources; family, community and school events; recreational and cultural events; inter-generational programs; after-school groups & activities, Summer Youth Employment, Foster Care Support Network and Juvenile Review Board.

The Youth Adult Council and the Project 330-Youth Leaders in Training, serve as advisory support for programs that benefit Bloomfield's youth and families.

MILESTONES & DATA STATISTICS

- Served 260 Youth through Youth Services programs & activities
- Served over 700 residents through Family & Community Events
- Successfully implemented monthly Food Bank Personal Shopping Days to offer shoppers the opportunity for personal choice
- Assisted over 500 households with housing financial assistance and support services; including rent/ mortgage payments through local and community programs, Renters' Rebate, and other supports and services
- Manages the Child Daycare Contract through the Connecticut Office of Early Childhood.

2,520

HOURS OF EMPLOYMENT & CAREER DEVELOPMENT THROUGH YOUTH SERVICES

800

BLOOMFIELD HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING ENERGY ASSISTANCE

BY THE NUMBERS

1,000

HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FOOD ASSISTANCE



Accredited by
National Institute of
Senior Centers



SENIOR SERVICES

The Senior Services Department embraces Connecticut's Plan of Aging mission: "to empower older adults to live full, independent lives and to provide leadership on aging issues on behalf of older adults, families, caregivers and other stakeholders." This is in keeping with our own mission statement "to serve as a welcoming focal point for the delivery of services to older adults and their caregivers by responding to their diverse needs and interests in a manner that will enhance their dignity, support their independence, health and general well-being, and encourage their involvement in the Senior Center and Community

NATIONALLY ACCREDITED SINCE 2004

KEY OPERATIONAL INITIATIVES

- Begin offering electronic payment option for any fees or services.
- Expand intergenerational programming.
- Resume overnight/multi-day trips.



MILESTONES & DATA STATISTICS

- 66 Trips and excursions planned with 883 passengers total amongst those trips.
- 67,994 miles driven by our Mini Buses.
- 625 regularly scheduled and ongoing classes put on by the Senior Services Department.

Visitors to the center take part in activities designed to stimulate, educate and entertain. The department is particularly sensitive to the more vulnerable members of the community, and continuously strives to assist them in overcoming feelings of isolation and loneliness.

Senior Services is particularly proud of our longstanding collaboration with other town departments, community neighbors and local colleges and universities. These relationships allow us to offer many programs, events and screenings at low, or no cost to participants.

A newly-created interdepartmental program is Generations on the Move, which affords families with grandparents, grandchildren, and children the opportunity to spend time together traveling to various locations such as the Bronx Zoo and New England Aquarium.



20,023
MINI BUS RIDES

10,762
FOOD & MEALS PROGRAMS

BY THE NUMBERS

6,024
CLASS PARTICIPANTS

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

- Manages the overall operation of the department.
- Oversees regularly-scheduled and special educational programs, seminars and screenings.
- Plans and organizes special events.
- Plans and organizes trips, ranging from local excursions to more far-reaching venues.
- Coordinates intergenerational trips.

MINI-BUS DIVISION

- Schedules and dispatches for routine "activities of daily living" rides.
- Provide transportation for other trips and excursions
- Provides transportation for special events.
- Provides riders with a means of social interaction
- Drivers serve as unofficial safety net.
- Serves as backup for Meals-on-Wheels distribution
- Delivers day brighteners.

VOLUNTEER DIVISION

- Maintain "senior" volunteers records.
- Oversee volunteer programs offered by Senior Services.
- Develop outlines and instructions for new volunteer programs and services.



PARKS, RECREATION, & LEISURE SERVICES

Parks, Recreation, and Leisure Services is committed to providing quality recreational opportunities, preserving natural resources, and managing a comprehensive system of parks and facilities dedicated to enriching the lives of a diverse and changing community



KEY OPERATIONAL INITIATIVES

- **Facility Management** – Ensuring the effective management and maintenance of parks, recreational facilities, and leisure spaces.
- **Program Development** – Developing and managing a diverse range of recreational programs and activities for all age groups and interests. This may include sport leagues, fitness classes, arts and crafts, workshops, summer camps, and special events. The initiatives may involve identifying community needs, designing programs, recruiting, and training staff, and evaluating program effectiveness.
- **Park Planning and Development** – Planning and developing a plan to refresh existing parks, playgrounds, trails, and other recreational amenities to meet the needs of the community. This may involve conducting feasibility studies, securing funding, collaborating with architects and engineers, and engaging with the public to gather input and feedback.

MILESTONES & DATA STATISTICS

- Serviced over 1,500 youth and adult program participants
- Over 3,100 summer concert series goers
- 501 Learn to swim program participants
- 133 After-school program registrants throughout the 2022/2023 school year
- Served over 3,000 residents for department and town-wide special events
- **Financial Management** – Developing and managing budgets, securing funding through grants or sponsorships and ensuring efficient use of resources. This may involve revenue generation strategies, fee structures, and financial reporting.

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

- Responsible for customer service, planning, management, office operations, and general support for the delivery of parks, recreation, and leisure services to the community at large.
- Manages indoor and outdoor facility usage, and community rentals.
- Proposes policy and management of policy for town spaces, events, and parks.
- Manages two seasonal semesters of recreational programs: Indoor (October-May) and Outdoor (May-September). This includes promoting, managing, and maintaining outdoor recreational facilities and open spaces.
- Support is provided to non-profit recreation organizations that are involved in youth athletics and other community programs.
- Liaison to Wintonbury Hills Golf Course.

SCHOOL YEAR

- Provides balanced recreation programming for all ages.
- Instructional classes for adults are self-supporting and are not included in the budget.
- Instruction and supervision for athletic, craft, cultural and social programs are also included.
- Supervision and special services for special events, vacation programs, outdoor programming, and special uses of the facilities.
- This division is supported by the Public Works Department-Field Operations personnel.

PARKS

- This division has been created for program support within the parks and to incorporate identified projects for overall park improvements.
- Plan and oversee twenty-five parks.
- Manage two community garden's locations.
- Schedule park usage for community groups and athletic programs.
- The overall maintenance budget for parks is supported through the Public Works budget with special project funding managed through Parks, Recreation, & Leisure Services.

SUMMER PROGRAM

- This division includes instruction and supervision of well-balanced programs of recreation offering opportunities for residents of all ages.
- Programs include performing arts, basketball instruction, swimming lessons, camp experiences and field and court supervision.
- All staff are CPR and First Aid Certified; complete Bloodborne Pathogens training, & Med certification.
- Summer camps for children ages 5-15 are paid for by the user fees and partial subsidies.
- This division is also supported by the Public Works Department-Field Operations personnel.
- Summer Concerts and summer special events including concert series, West Indian celebration, Memorial Day celebration, and Celebrate Bloomfield.

SWIMMING POOL

- This division covers the operation of the 325,000 gallons' outdoor pool and new for the Summer 2023 season is the recently constructed splash pad.
- The pool is opened on a daily basis to residents and non-residents. The swimming pool is typically open for public swimming for ten weeks; opening in June through August.
- Swimming programs are offered June through August including a full range of American Red Cross learn to swim programs, recreational swimming, aquatic exercise classes, and specialized classes as needed.
- Special events – ice cream socials & Dive In Movies.

RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Municipal Pool splash pad opening during summer 2023.
- Completed request for proposal and project award for the Park School Complex Athletic Lighting Project. Contract has been awarded with work scheduled to begin in early 2024.
- Awarded funding through both the Lower Farmington River and Salmon Brook Wild & Scenic committee and the Hartford Audubon Society for benches and storybook signage along the River Trail at the Farmington River Park.
- Re-landscaping and new retaining wall at Wilcox Park.

743

**MUNICIPAL POOL
MEMBERSHIPS SOLD**

3,100

**INDIVIDUALS THAT ATTENDED
SUMMER CONCERT SERIES**

BY THE NUMBERS

899

SUMMER CAMP PARTICIPANTS



LAND USE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The mission of the Planning and Zoning Department is to enhance the orderly development of the Town and to maintain the quality of the residential neighborhoods and business districts. This mission is accomplished through proper short- and long-range planning and the effective development, administration and enforcement of regulations that encourage intelligent, quality growth and redevelopment, and protect the Town from over-development. The mission is carried out by a service-oriented staff that provides active and consistent enforcement in a fair and equitable manner in order to maintain property values.

KEY OPERATIONAL INITIATIVES

- Review and process land use applications.
- Update and implement the decennial Plan of Conservation and Development.
- Investigates and issues enforcement orders for violations of Zoning or Blight.
- Seek out grants that will provide economic assistance to the Town.



MILESTONES & DATA STATISTICS

- Worked to reform the Economic Development Commission into the Bloomfield Economic Development Commission/Development Agency.
- Applied for three grants through the Connecticut Community Investment Fund 2030 program (eventually receiving one of them).
- Worked to ensure the adoption of the Bloomfield Affordable Housing Plan in June of 2023.
- Began work on the Plan of Conservation and Development update with FHI Studios as a consultant.
- Created new Zoning Regulations which significantly simplify the process of allowing Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) on residential property.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

- Town Plan and Zoning Commission
- Zoning Board of Appeals
- Economic Development Commission/Development Agency
- Conservation, Energy, and Environment Committee
- Design Review Board
- Land Use & Economic Development Town Council Subcommittee

ZONING

- Reviews residential and commercial building permits to ensure compliance with the Zoning Regulations.
- Investigates violations of the Zoning Regulations and the Blight Ordinance, and issues enforcement orders accordingly.
- Reviews properties for compliance with Zoning Regulations and issues Certificates of Zoning Compliance.

PLANNING

- Responsible for the update and implementation of the Plan of Conservation and Development.
- Reviews Zoning and other regulations to ensure Town goals can be accomplished.
- Reviews TPZ applications for compliance with Town regulations and best planning practices.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Works with Economic Development Consultant (Goman+York) to attract new businesses to Bloomfield, and to retain existing businesses.
- Works with the Economic Development Commission/Development Agency to develop incentive programs for businesses.
- Seeks out and applies for grants to assist in economic development.

28
**SPECIAL PERMIT
APPLICATIONS REVIEWED**

7
**ZONING REGULATION
TEXT AMENDMENTS REVIEWED**

BY THE NUMBERS
10
ZBA APPLICATIONS REVIEWED

TRINITY HEALTH RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY





BUILDING DIVISION

The Building Division promotes the health, safety and welfare of the community by ensuring that existing and future buildings and structures are safe for use. This is accomplished through quality plan review, inspections and the application of state-of-the-art technology by administering the provisions of the State Building Code, which provide the minimum requirements for a reasonable level of safety. The Building Division is also committed to providing a personal level of service to all of our citizens, contractors and Business neighbors.

KEY OPERATIONAL INITIATIVES

- **Permitting and Inspections:** We manage the issuance of building permits, ensuring that all construction projects adhere to local building codes and regulations. Our inspectors conduct thorough inspections at various stages of construction to verify compliance.
- **Code Enforcement:** We enforce building codes, zoning ordinances, and land-use regulations to maintain the quality and aesthetics of our community. We work closely with property owners and developers to address any violations and bring properties into compliance.
- **Plan Review:** Our department reviews architectural and engineering plans to ensure they meet safety standards and are in alignment with local ordinances. We provide valuable feedback to applicants, helping them achieve their construction goals.
- **Public Education:** We engage in community outreach and education programs to raise awareness about

building codes, permit requirements, and safety measures. We aim to empower residents and builders with knowledge.

- **Emergency Response:** In times of natural disasters or emergencies, we play a critical role in assessing building safety and coordinating rapid responses to protect public safety.

Key Statistics	Total Construction Value	Building Permit Fees Collected	Total number of Permits
Totals	\$121,183,231.67	\$1,561,717.12	1940
Building	\$84,154,676.40	\$1,012,579.76	677
Electrical	\$10,555,626.88	\$145,387.90	429
Plumbing	\$5,157,954.92	\$90,621.08	224
HVAC	\$11,951,726.32	\$188,784.00	344
Solar	\$8,139,224.36	\$116,693.00	236

The Building Division is committed to fostering a safe, sustainable, and vibrant community. We strive to balance the needs of property owners and developers with the greater interests of our community. Through transparency, professionalism, and dedication, we aim to facilitate responsible growth and development while ensuring the highest standards of safety and compliance.

The Building Division is focused on enhancing the efficiency and safety of construction processes within our jurisdiction.

We aim to simplify permitting, improve digital services, enforce codes, and promote sustainability. Our commitment to professional development, public outreach, and collaboration with stakeholders ensures that we meet community needs effectively.

We also prioritize data-driven decision-making, emergency preparedness, and continuous improvement to provide transparent and responsive services to our constituents



\$121,183,231.67
**TOTAL CONSTRUCTION VALUE
OF BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED**

1940
**TOTAL NUMBER
OF PERMITS**

BY THE NUMBERS

\$1,561,717.12
**BUILDING PERMIT FEES
COLLECTED**

MILESTONES & DATA STATISTICS

- First full year as Bloomfield's Building Official
- Implement tracking of complaints, emergency responses, stop work orders
- Relocation of office staff for a more efficient workflow.
- Implemented dedicated workstations to help employees maintain a focused work environment and minimize potential distractions.
- Successfully filled two open positions, Administrative Clerk and Assistant Building Official to the team.
- Introduced the utilization of tablets during field inspections to enhance the efficiency of gathering information related to permits and property details while conducting inspections.

PROJECTS AROUND TOWN

- Lavender Fields 470 Cottage Grove Rd 38 Assisted living units
- Tellus 713 Bloomfield Ave. 41 Residential Rental Dwellings
- Tellus II 20 Jerome Ave 150 Residential Rental Dwellings
- Washbrook Apartments 65 Jolley Dr 111 Residential Dwellings
- Alexandria Manor 55 Tunxis 46 Residential Rental Dwellings
- ABB 45 Griffin Road South, New EV charging stations test lab
- 465K Sq/Ft New Warehouse located at 185 West Newbury Rd
- HomeGoods 1415 Blue Hills Ave, Automated conveyor project





BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY

Bloomfield Public Library aims to provide all members of our diverse community with access to comprehensive services, expansive print and electronic resources, technology, and expert assistance from a caring and responsive staff. By breaking down barriers to access and opening doors to opportunity, building community, and encouraging lifelong learning, BPL works to improve the quality of life for all of our residents and strives to be the heart of our town.



KEY OPERATIONAL INITIATIVES

- **ONE LIBRARY CARD, ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES:** Library cards are free! Bloomfield residents of all ages from birth are eligible for a library card.
- **A LIBRARY FOR EVERYONE:** Focus on excellence across all locations serving all ages.
- **WE'RE HERE FOR YOU:** Ensure positive patron experience through a responsive service model and empathetic staff, with access to collections, technology, and equipment.
- **COMMUNITY + LIBRARY = A BETTER BLOOMFIELD:** Be the place, virtually and in-person, for people to meet, learn, and connect.



ADULT DEPARTMENT

Our Adult Services team provided many informative programs this year with a focus on the literacies of Health, Financial Awareness, Legal Knowledge, Civic & Social Justice, and Digital Competencies. BPL staff also used these literacies as the framework when presenting at state and regional professional library conferences.

One community partner highlight was working with Interval House Hartford, whose staff educated adults as well as BHS Health and Physical Education classes about the issue of domestic violence. BPL staff participated in Purple Thursday to raise awareness of this issue and organized a gift card drive to benefit victims and survivors. The staff also participated in professional training provided by the West Hartford-Bloomfield Health District about naloxone administration and suicide prevention.

YOUTH DEPARTMENT

The core focus of our Youth Services team involved outreach in the community and our Bloomfield Schools, from daycare visits and story times to literacy and enrichment events, to research lessons at the high school. Some notable events in the 2022-23 year were the first BPLBookCon, where kids of all ages went home with bags of free books of their choosing, and a visit from internationally beloved graphic author/artist Nathan Hale. Our Summer Reading program had over 569 participants with 136 special programs and over 3,002 books read.

NEW LIBRARIES ARE COMING!

In June 2023, the library vacated its buildings on Tunxis Ave. and Blue Hills Ave. in anticipation of a major reconstruction project at both locations. Operations are temporarily housed at 330 Park Ave. (Human Services building) and 1300 Hall Blvd. (The Atrium at Gillette Ridge).

132,640
MATERIALS CIRCULATED

88,036
LIBRARY VISITORS

BY THE NUMBERS

8,092
LIBRARY CARD
HOLDERS





TOWN CLERK

Our mission is to provide efficient, transparent, and accessible services to the community, ensuring the integrity and preservation of official records, facilitating democratic processes, and promoting open government. We strive to be a trusted resource for residents, businesses, and government entities, delivering exceptional customer service, maintaining accurate land records, managing elections with integrity, and upholding the highest standards of professionalism and ethics.

KEY OPERATIONAL INITIATIVES

- **Records Management** – Maintain accurate and up-to-date records of town meetings, resolutions, ordinances, and other official documents. This includes organizing and preserving records, responding to public records requests, and ensuring compliance with record retention policies.
- **Licensing and Permits** – Manage the issuance of various licenses and permits, such as fish and game licenses/permits, marriage licenses, and dog licenses. This involved processing applications, collecting fees, and maintaining appropriate records.
- **Land Records** – Maintain up-to-date land records, including deeds, mortgages, liens, and other related documents. This includes receiving and recording new documents, indexing them appropriately, and ensuring their safekeeping.
- **Election Management** – Ensuring a smooth and efficient management of elections, tallies, certifies and records election results, ballot preparation, maintains election and campaign finance records.
- **Notary Services** – Offer notary services to the public, including verifying signatures, administering oaths, and certifying documents.
- **Vital Records Management** – Manage the issuance and maintenance of vital records, such as birth certificates, death certificates, and marriage certificates. This includes processing applications, maintaining records, and ensuring compliance with relevant laws and regulations.

The Town Clerk's Office faces new challenges every year with new laws passed by the legislature that has continuously required our office to add additional functions to our daily operation and seasonal duties. There are always additional amendments/changes to election laws that we must apply. There are always bills that the legislature is discussing that have a direct impact on the Town Clerks Office. One in particular that is being discussed presently is no excuse absentee ballots and or early voting. With over 15,000 voters this could make a huge impact on our office.

This past fiscal year the Town Clerk's Office was busy with a State Democratic primary in August for Secretary of the State, Treasurer, Judge of Probate and Registrar of Voters. The total number of Democratic voters were 9,444 and the number of Democrats that came out to vote was 2241. This was a 23.7% voter turnout. There was a State Republican primary in August for United States Senator and Secretary of the State. The total number of Republican voters were 1,225 and the number of Republicans that came out to vote was 247. This was a 20.2% voter turnout.

In the State Election electors were asked to cast their votes for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, United States Senator, Representative in Congress, State Senator, State Representative, Secretary of the State, Treasurer, Comptroller, Attorney General, Judge of Probate, and Registrar of Voters. The total number of voters was 15,870 and the number of voters that came out to vote was 8,684. This was a 54.7% voter turnout for the State Election. We issued 1,849 absentee ballots for the State Election. There were 88 EDR (Election Day Registration) ballots issued. Electors were also asked to vote on the following question: "Shall the Constitution of the State be amended to permit the General Assembly to provide for early voting?" This question passed in Bloomfield and the State of Connecticut.

Overall, this summary provides a snapshot of the Town Clerk's Office's activities and achievements throughout the year, showcasing its contributions to the Town of Bloomfield and its commitment to serving the community.





STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS & GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

The Office of Strategic Communications and Government Affairs is a division of the Town Manager's Office and directs the Town's communication efforts by increasing awareness of government services and activities. This office is responsible for handling administrative duties as well as public outreach of the Town Council, Town boards, commissions and committees, handling routine requests for information from the public and Town Council, and assisting the Council in responding to requests for information.

KEY OPERATIONAL INITIATIVES

- **Public Relations and Media Relations** – Develop and implement strategies to effectively communicate with the public and media outlets. This may involve creating press releases, responding to media inquiries, and managing relationships with journalists.
- **Government Affairs** – Building and maintaining relationships with government affairs, agencies, and stakeholders to advocate for the Town's interests and priorities.
- **Community Engagement** – Developing and implementing strategies to engage with the community and gather feedback on government policies, programs and initiatives. This may include organizing public forums, conducting surveys, and utilizing online platforms for community input.
- **Branding and Messaging** – Developing and maintaining a consistent brand identity and messaging for the Town. This would involve creating branding guidelines, developing key messages, and ensuring that all communication materials align with the Town's brand.

MILESTONES & DATA STATISTICS

- This office serves as an information resource center, including the Town's website and social media platforms for the public and all stakeholders, by developing a communications plan and implementing information strategies uniquely developed for Bloomfield.
- Since our inception on August 1, 2022, the Office of Strategic Communications and Government Affairs has completely transformed the way in how the Town communicates with its residents, businesses and other community stakeholders.
- Director India Rodgers and Community Engagement & Public Relations Coordinator Brian Wolff both completed the program to become Certified Connecticut Municipal Official through the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities.

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS

- Provided oversight for consistent communications, messaging, and branding across all departments, divisions, and programs.
- Provided overall strategic leadership, vision, guidance, structure, and direction to the Strategic Communications and Government Affairs Office.
- Produced the weekly Electronic Newsletter entitled, "This Week in Bloomfield".
- Production of newly formatted Quarterly Newsletters entitled "In Bloom." The department produces four quarterly newsletters a year, reaching 10,200 households and local businesses. The department also submitted this publication for the CCM Municipal Excellence Award.
- Reintroduction and creation of the Town's social media channels (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Twitter/X and YouTube), while working to protect the Town through a partnership with Archive Social.
- Developed and built the image of Bloomfield through both internal and external media channels.
- Streamlined other Publications and Information with the Neighbor's Guide to the Town Budget, Boards and Commissions Manual/Procedural Guidelines, brochures and flyers.
- Script writer and production of the CGI Community Video Tour of the Town of Bloomfield.
- Policy Development – Drafted Social Media/Media Relations Plan, Community Calendar Guidelines, Communications Plan & Strategy and Communications Inventory.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Promotes citizen and public outreach intended to inform and facilitate the Town's messaging and resident involvement.
- Serve as staff liaisons for ARPA Community Outreach Committee and Bloomfield Humanities Committee, while providing support for other boards and commissions as needed.
- Serve as key town contacts for Plan of Conservation & Development (POCD) Community Visioning Process and YWCA 50/50 Campaign.
- Directed and provided oversight with community surveys for three engagement projects.
- Supervised the coordination of communication opportunities designed to inform and build relationships with citizens, businesses and key community stakeholders such as: Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce and Goman & York Economic Development Consultants.
- Coordination of Ribbon Cutting and Groundbreaking ceremonial acts.

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

- All Clerk of Council Responsibilities
- Management of Council requests and inquiries for all Council meetings (24), Council Subcommittees (108), Council Retreat (2), Annual Budget workshops (6), not including Special Meetings, totaling (150+ meetings yearly).
- Administrative Management of 48 Town Boards and Commission
- Supervision of 2 part-time Recording Secretaries that clerk for eight different boards through out the town.

220,000
WEBSITE USERS FOR
BLOOMFIELDDCT.GOV

48
BOARDS & COMMISSIONS
MANAGED

BY THE NUMBERS
54,688
ESTIMATED REACH ON
BLOOMFIELD FACEBOOK
ACCOUNT



FINANCE DEPARTMENT

The Finance Department is dedicated to providing the highest quality service through a commitment to excellence and integrity. The Finance Department is committed to providing timely, accurate, clear, and complete information and support to other city departments, citizens, and the community at large. We use Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and the Government Finance Officers Association's Recommended Practices to assure that policymakers and the community are well-informed and the Town remains fiscally strong.

KEY OPERATIONAL INITIATIVES

- The Town's Finance Department recommended the transfer of \$9.25 million from three investments accounts to STIF for an estimated increase in interest earned of \$329k over a year period.
- Completed the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021.
- Department staff successfully finished the June 30, 2023 fiscal year with no special appropriations.
- The Finance Department, each year since its inception, completed the annual reporting required by the Affordable Care Act (IRS form 1095). Finance generated all of the forms for current and retired employees and filed electronically with the IRS.
- Accounts Payable processed 4,783 checks totaling \$28.3 million.
- Performed a 20 year analysis of unassigned fund balance.

20 YEAR COMPARATIVE REVIEW					
Fiscal Year	Unassigned Fund Balance	Percentage of Unassigned Fund Balance to Subsequent Year Budget	Millage Rate	Full Time Equivalent	Population
2002	\$ 5,510,428.00	10.58%	36.79	147.0**	19,134
2003	\$ 6,106,345.00	10.96%	38.48	149.0**	19,794
2004	\$ 3,307,562.00	5.71%	39.8	138.0**	19,803
2005	\$ 3,404,600.00	5.52%	42.33	169.5	19,769
2006	\$ 3,924,882.00	6.06%	31.03	171.5	20,414
2007	\$ 5,105,795.00	7.40%	32.5	173.0	20,581
2008	\$ 7,315,548.00	10.12%	34.33	178.5	20,643
2009	\$ 8,084,263.00	11.13%	35.29	178.5	20,727
2010	\$ 9,307,572.00	12.73%	35.53	169.0	20,696
2011	\$ 10,959,164.00	14.53%	32.72	168.0	20,486
2012	\$ 11,029,758.00	14.04%	33.7	167.0	20,486
2013	\$ 14,602,679.00	18.36%	34.55	167.5	20,486
2014	\$ 15,890,648.00	19.72%	34.85	166.0	20,626
2015	\$ 15,109,199.00	18.42%	34.84	166.0	20,626
2016	\$ 15,109,199.00	18.06%	36.00	169.8	20,626
2017	\$ 15,109,199.00	17.69%	36.65	168.3	20,679
2018	\$ 18,357,051.00	20.83%	37.56	170.8	21,406
2019	\$ 18,755,892.00	20.74%	37.52	171.2	21,301
2020	\$ 22,506,929.00	24.43%	37.46	173.2	21,211
2021	\$ 20,557,219.00	21.88%	35.01	173.3	21,460
2022*	\$ 17,943,608.00	17.67%	35.58	173.8	21,535
* Unaudited estimated total					
** Full Time Equivalent not available for 2002, 2003, & 2004 that have 120, 122, & 90 part-time positions, respectively, which are not included in the corresponding year above due to the unknown FTE conversion					



PURCHASING & RISK MANAGEMENT

The Purchasing Division procures products and services for the Town at the most cost-effective prices and ensures that the procurements are made in compliance with Town, State, and Federal guidelines. The Purchasing Division fosters fair competition for all purchases and conducts business without regard to political affiliation, race, color, age, religion, national origin, ancestry, physical ability, sex, familial relationships, or business associations of vendors, contractors, or consultants.

KEY OPERATIONAL INITIATIVES

- Issued 1,001 purchase orders valued at \$15,555,839 during the year for variety of goods and services to the Town.
- Issued bids and Requests for Proposal ("RFP") for various Town services including Filley Park Renovations and On Call Engineering.
- Worked with insurer to manage 19 new liability claims and 4 open prior year claims filed against the Town for various reasons.
- The Purchasing and Risk Manager took on ARPA reporting and filed reports with State and Federal agencies.
- The Purchasing and Risk Manager continued as gatekeeper for the major capital projects. During 2023, provided support to the Library Building Committee. This includes coordinating, attending, and posting the bi-weekly meetings of Building Committee as well as coordinating various aspects of the projects and spearheading presentations to Town Council, the public and regulatory bodies.



- Purchasing and Risk Manager took on Co-Interim Finance Director position during the budget process and stewarded the completion of the 2024 Adopted Budget.
- Assisted in implementing food waste recycling pilot program, in which food scraps were collected and sent to an anaerobic digester, diverting waste from municipal solid waste stream. Also, together with DPW, oversaw the greenhouse gas emission study.



TAX COLLECTOR

The Tax Collector's office is responsible for the billing and collecting of real estate, motor vehicle, and personal property taxes for current and prior grand list years using methods outlined in the Connecticut General Statutes. The office also provides collection services, on a contractual basis, to the Bloomfield Center and Blue Hills fire districts.

The office takes all necessary measures to collect outstanding taxes, including sending delinquent statements, issuing legal demands, and conducting tax sales with the help of an attorney. For the fiscal year 2024, we aim to reinforce our collection process by introducing new tools such as hiring a collection agency and utilizing a Connecticut State Marshal to enforce legal tax warrants.

KEY OPERATIONAL INITIATIVES

- Exceeded the budgeted collection rate of 98.4% by achieving a collection rate of 98.56%.
- Processed 2,426 certificates of corrections received from the Assessor's office.
- Processed a total of \$86.7 million in tax transactions, including \$82.2 million in Town Tax (42,159 transactions) and \$4.5 million (15,837 transactions) in Fire District transactions.
- Implemented the use of OpenGov, a software used in the Building Department, which enables the denial of building permits if delinquent taxes are owed. 1,827 building permits were approved and several permits for delinquent taxpayers were withheld until they submitted payment.
- A total of \$5.4 million in tax payments were made online, including \$5.2 million (6,040 transactions) for Town tax and \$227,000 (1,724 transactions) for Fire District tax.
- Sent out 16,264 delinquent notices for motor vehicles, 1,510 for real estate, and 462 for personal property. Additionally, 258 real estate intent-to-lien notices and 106 personal property UCC lien notices were mailed to delinquent taxpayers.

The Tax Office is always seeking ways to improve operational efficiency and is dedicated to providing the highest level of customer service to taxpayers in the Town of Bloomfield. This is achieved by continuously developing skills and knowledge. Staff frequently participate in educational seminars and other opportunities offered by the Hartford County Tax Collectors Association and the Connecticut Tax Collectors Association.



ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

The Assessor's Office is responsible for discovering, listing, and valuing all real estate, business personal property and motor vehicles as of October 1st of each year in accordance with Connecticut State Statutes. This office then prepares the Town's Annual Grand List which form the basis of the ad valorem tax. The Grand List is a complete listing of all taxable and non-taxable properties in Town, their ownership and assessed value as of October 1 of each year. All properties are assessed at 70% of its fair market value.

The Assessor's office is currently working on the 2023 Grand list assessment roll. The Net Grand List assessment for the year 2022 was \$2,533,452,329. The Town of Bloomfield is scheduled to undertake its next revaluation on October 1st of 2024. The Town of Bloomfield has selected Vision Government Solutions to assist with the town-wide 2024 revaluation project. Vision Government Solutions will work closely with the Assessor's office to achieve a successful 2024 revaluation. The Assessor's Office continues to administer Veterans, Blind and Disabled exemption programs as well as the state and town elderly tax relief programs.

2022 NET GRAND LIST

CATEGORY	2022	2021	\$ CHANGE	% CHANGE
REAL ESTATE	\$1,910,022,353	\$1,853,218,378	\$56,803,975	3.1 %
PERSONAL PROPERTY	\$382,988,396	\$357,351,470	\$25,636,926	7.2%
MOTOR VEHICLE	\$240,441,580	\$212,480,739	\$27,960,841	13.2%
TOTAL	\$2,533,452,329	\$2,423,050,587	\$110,401,742	4.6%

TOP 15 TAXPAYERS 2022 GRAND LIST

	Property Owner	Total
1	Connecticut Light & Power	\$131,052,760
2	Conn Gen Life Ins. Co.	\$69,013,280
3	Trader Joes East Inc.	\$43,671,530
4	Church Home of Hartford Inc.	\$41,883,390
5	Pepperidge Farm Inc.	\$40,652,050
6	AMCAP Copaco LLC	\$39,640,370
7	Bloomfield Owner LLC ET AL	\$36,575,000
8	HG Conn Realty Corporation	\$34,226,220
9	Niagara Bottling LLC	\$32,390,880
10	Duncaster Inc.	\$31,183,330
11	RV VI Heirloom LLC	\$39,996,400
12	CIGNA Health & Life Ins Co.	\$24,545,280
13	Bloomfield Properties LLC	\$24,384,850
14	Jacobs Vehicle Systems	\$21,602,800
15	CT Bloomfield Developers LLC	\$19,517,233



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

The Office of Technology and Innovation (OTI) Department supports Town operations through the application of effective and efficient technology. We strive to deliver quality and innovative information technology solutions to enhance efficiency, decrease costs, and streamline the flow of information to our community, business, and other government agencies, as well as Town departments. We are committed to applying the best of solutions, inspiring creative thinking and find ways to nurture creative thinking across all departments. We believe that technology, in the right hands and with the right design principles, can be an incredible force for change.

KEY OPERATIONAL INITIATIVES

- Ensure that all town facilities have reliable and effective communications.
- Provide high quality support in a collaborative environment.
- Provide reliable and secure technology foundation for the Town and its staff.
- Continue to follow and implement latest trends in Information Technology.

MILESTONES & DATA STATISTICS

- Began town-wide planning and implementation of Microsoft 365.
- Upgraded Town to cloud-based Financial system (ERP - Enterprise Resource Planning).
- Upgrades made to town-wide Geographic Information System (GIS).
- Updated Audio/Visual capabilities to work with town's hybrid format of meetings.

INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY

- Tech Workforce: Support and coordinate programs throughout the town to further drive technology workforce development.
- Upgrade distribution switches.
- Upgrade telecommunication systems.

ENHANCE TECHNOLOGY RESILIENCY

- Cybersecurity Enhancements: continue to strengthen the Town's cybersecurity capabilities and defense posture.
- Cybersecurity awareness training.
- Data Encryption.
- Disaster Recovery planning.

BUILDING A STRONGER FOUNDATION

- Upgrade edge routers and connectivity
- Upgrade distribution switches
- Upgrade wireless connectivity

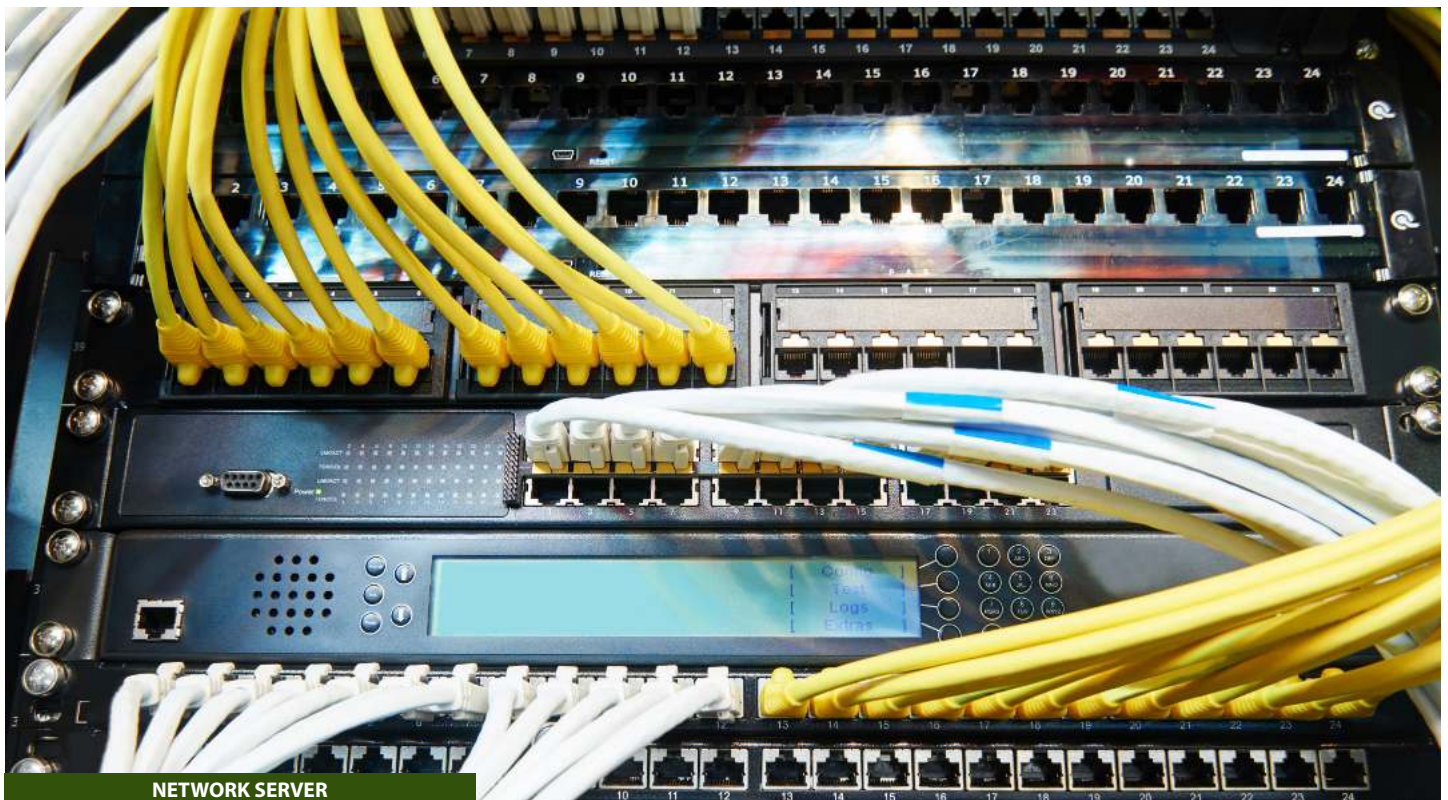
UNIFIED COMMUNICATIONS

- Office 365 - Easier email access from anywhere
- SharePoint, OneDrive, Microsoft Teams
- PBX Replacement to Cloud-based VoIP system
- Video communication within Zoom and Microsoft Teams

218
**COMPUTERS MAINTAINED
THROUGHOUT TOWN**

45
SERVERS MAINTAINED

BY THE NUMBERS
60
**NETWORK CONNECTED
DEVICES**



NETWORK SERVER



BLUE HILLS FIRE DISTRICT

Founded in 1926, we are a combination department consisting of over 30 volunteers and 5 career full-time firefighters. Our department also includes a Fire Marshal's office that provides fire prevention, suppression, and rescue services to the 20,000 residents. We are District 3 on the East Side of Bloomfield; the district has 3 fire houses. The main headquarters is located at 1021 Blue Hills Avenue with our substations located at 779 Blue Hills Avenue and 13 West Dudley Town Road. We are an independent municipality which sets tax rates and collects taxes for our daily operation. The district is governed by 3 Board of Fire Commissioners that is elected for a 3-year term.

Prepared by Chief Willie Jones

Mission: Our mission is to provide the protection of lives and property of the residents and those who work in or visit the Blue Hills Fire District in the town of Bloomfield from the dangers associated with fires, life threatening emergencies, and hazardous chemical releases from accidents and natural disasters

Fire Chief: The Fire Chief manages the overall operation of the fire department, and his responsibilities include developing policies, discipline, and training, establishing rules and regulations and budget for the Department. The Fire Chief also develops standards and methods to improve Fire Safety and works with the Board of Fire Commissions to ensure smooth operation of the Department.

Fleet: Our Apparatus Fleet includes 4 engine companies, 1 Tower ladder and 3 support vehicles. We have an automatic mutual aid agreement with Bloomfield Center Fire Department to respond and assist to emergencies across jurisdictional boundaries. The Department response to an average of 400 calls per year..

Public Education and Community Outreach: One of the fundamental missions of the Blue Hills Fire Community Outreach is to provide fire prevention and safety education to the residents of Bloomfield, education is the first step toward preventing emergencies and how to react appropriately if one occurred is vital to the protection of lives and property. The Community Outreach Department also offers lectures, site visits, tours and fire safety demonstrations to any school, business, community group or organization free of charge.

Volunteers: Being a volunteer is a rewarding experience and an extraordinary way to serve your community. It takes dedication, sacrifice, leadership, and mental/physical stamina. Approximately 20,000 residents depend on volunteer firefighters to help protect their community. Volunteers receive great incentives such as Free Gym Membership, Bloomfield Income Tax Credit, Pay Per Call Program and included in our Length of Service Awards Program.

Fire Marshal's Office: After 20+ years of service to the Blue Hills Fire Department, Fire Marshal William Lewis retired in August of 2022. The Blue Hills Fire District thanked FM William Lewis for his service and wished him well. The Blue Hills Fire District welcomed Jim Simone, our current Fire Marshal. The Fire Marshal's Office ensures that all buildings, facilities, businesses, medical centers, multi-family housing and other dwellings are in compliance with the State of Connecticut Fire Safety Codes. In addition, the Fire Marshal's Office performs fire Inspections, plan reviews, issues permits, respond to complaints concerning hazardous fire conditions, and attend schools and seminars to keep up to date with fire codes, regulations and technology. The duties of the Fire Marshal's office are listed in the Connecticut General Statutes, Chapter 541.

2022 Accomplishments: Organized a yearly Juneteenth Parade and Community Cookout, organized a yearly Thanksgiving Turkey giveaway to help feed our Bloomfield Neighbors, organized a yearly holiday Christmas Parade supported by The Town of Bloomfield, Bloomfield Center Fire and the Fraternal Order of Retired Police Officers. Organized a Holiday Children Christmas Pajama party for our firefighters and their children. Host a yearly Classic Car Show in partnership with the Game Over Car Club, also added a new electronic sign board in front of the building.



CENTER FIRE DISTRICT

Founded in 1926, we are a volunteer department consisting of 36 volunteers. Our department includes a Fire Marshall's office, with a full time and part-time Fire Marshall, that provides fire prevention, suppression, and rescue services to the town. The Bloomfield Center Fire District is a separate municipality of Government within the town of Bloomfield, which is primarily responsible for financing the fire protection system through the collection of taxes. The Fire District employs 3 full-time and 8 part-time fire dispatchers to cover our communications office. The district has 3 Fire Commissioners, all of whom volunteer their time to hold these positions. We have 3 firehouses, and the main headquarters is located at 18 Wintonbury Ave, Company 3 located at 360 Tunxis Ave and Company 2 located at 41 Duncaster Rd

Prepared by Chief Peter Barnard

Mission: To protect life, property, and business from the effects of fire and disasters within the Bloomfield Center Fire District. We will accomplish this mission through fire suppression, rescue, public education, fire investigation, and professional development training both within our Fire District and surrounding communities. It is our number one priority to provide the best fire service to all citizens and visitors of our great town.

Fire Chief: The Fire Chief manages and coordinates all aspects of the Department. Primary responsibilities include developing policies, discipline, training, establishing rules, regulations, and budgets for the Department. This office also develops standards and methods to improve Fire Safety. Works with the Fire Commissioners to ensure smooth operation of the Department.

Fleet: Our Apparatus Fleet includes 4 engines, 1 tower ladder and 4 support vehicles. We have an automatic mutual aid agreement with Blue Hills Fire District, Windsor Fire, East Granby and Simsbury for response to smoke in the building and structure fire calls.

Public Education and Community Outreach: Our community outreach department does fire prevention at several different schools and organizations within our district. We also partner with the Blue Hills Fire District to perform various other community activities.

Volunteers: The need for firefighters is as old as fire itself and is always ongoing. The work is physical, emotional, and demanding. Any person 18 years of age or older residing within the territorial limits of the Bloomfield Center Fire District, who is in good physical and mental health is eligible to make an application.

Budget Summary: Our annual operating budget is made up of 100% of fire tax to residents of the Bloomfield Center Fire District. The current mil rate for our residents for 2022 is 1.5.

Fire Marshal's Office: The Bloomfield Center Fire Marshal's Office performs many duties which includes fire inspections, plan reviews, issue permits, responds to complaints concerning hazardous fire conditions, responsible for the certification for state licensing for day cares, medical centers and other facilities; also, part of the approval process for site plans of new constructions to ensure that firefighting apparatus can access the structure in case of emergency. The duties of the Fire Marshal's office are listed in the Connecticut General Statutes, Chapter 541.

2022 Accomplishments: The Bloomfield Center Fire Department promotion ceremony was held in October 2022.



BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Bloomfield Public Schools is a school district intently focused on achieving excellence in academics, athletics, and the arts - and preparing students for college and meaningful careers. Ensuring equity and excellence for all students, our schools partner with families and the community to accelerate learning experiences.

Prepared by Dr. James Thompson, Jr., Superintendent of Schools

This year is a continuation of the transformative changes Bloomfield Public Schools made in pre-K to grade 12. We launched new academic initiatives to provide more rigor in the classrooms and better cohesion to the grade transitions. The district implemented:

- A new pre-K program at the former Laurel Elementary School, called The Nest
- The re-naming of Laurel Elementary School to The Laurel Literacy Academy to better reflect the intentional work going on there in reading, writing, speaking, comprehension and problem-solving
- A Gifted & Talented program for those in Grades 4 through 8
- New strategies to reaffirm and expand corporate partnerships that enhanced experiential learning and college/career readiness

These initiatives are connected to the robust community-conversations we hosted over the past few years that sharpened our vision of a Portrait of a Graduate.

We will continue to focus this year on that vision of resilient students who are avid readers, skilled writers, critical thinkers and problem-solvers. Goals set for this school year:

- Strengthen and streamline district communications: To better serve our families and stakeholders, we launched a new community App and redesigned the district's web site
- Create a Welcome Center within Central Office: Our district is sincere about its commitment to family and community engagement.
- Execute the District Plan of Excellence: This is a primary measuring tool to monitor academic progress and assure goals are achieved.

We are also cultivating new corporate and community partnerships that provide tangible learning experiences for students. A new School to Career Specialist has been hired to work with middle and high school students. Middle school children will create personal success plans that will guide them through senior year of high school and beyond.

This school district is known as one in which students aspire for excellence in academics, athletics and the arts. We regularly receive national recognition for our arts programs. In sports, Bloomfield High School is widely considered one of the state's most competitive and successful sports programs.

Over the last two decades, BHS has earned 70 Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference state championships – in eight sports. Last year, BHS won CIAC girls' and boys' state championships in track & field. Anne Burrows, BHS' head girls track & field coach, was awarded the 2023 Connecticut Girls High School Track & Field Coach of the Year by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross-Country Coaches Association.

BHS also, again, received the Fred Balsamo Sportsmanship Award by the Connecticut Association of Athletic Directors. It is given to schools that demonstrate outstanding sportsmanship and provide an enjoyable experience for students in athletics.

This will be my last year as Bloomfield's Superintendent of Schools. I am retiring after working 55 years in the education sector. Over the last 13 years as Superintendent, it has been my privilege to lead talented and passionate educators, engage with families and have the steadfast support of the board of education.

Together, we have:

- Created cultures of high expectations in our classrooms
- Promoted family & community engagement
- Valued diversity of thought and ethnicity in our work environment.
- Sustained a culture of excellence in our schools

I am confident that our district's agenda and progress will put us on an upward trajectory for years to come.



WEST HARTFORD-BLOOMFIELD HEALTH DISTRICT

The West Hartford-Bloomfield Health District is a regional health department servicing the towns of West Hartford and Bloomfield. It provides full-time professional public health services to residents in both towns. The District is governed by an eight member Board appointed by the elected bodies of the member towns (5-West Hartford, 3-Bloomfield).

The West Hartford-Bloomfield Health District provides:

- Immunizations
- Senior wellness clinics
- Communicable disease surveillance and follow-up
- Health education
- Restaurant inspection
- Lead and radon consultations
- Septic system plan and review
- Swimming pool inspections

What does the West Hartford-Bloomfield Health District do?

- Protects the environment, workplaces, housing, food and water. Enforces laws that safeguard our water, sewer and septic systems, landfills, food establishments, day care center, businesses and neighborhoods.
- Prevents epidemics by working to eliminate the spread of certain diseases like measles and TB.
- Encourages health behavior through health education efforts that stress prevention and individual responsibility.
- Watches over the health condition of the community gathering information that can be used for rapid response to emergencies and for planning programs.
- Assures public health through enforcement of state, federal and local laws.

How does the West Hartford-Bloomfield Health District operate?

The District is a separate government entity from the member towns. It is governed through a Board of Directors appointed by the elected legislative bodies of the member towns. The size of the board is population related. The District board consists of five representatives from West Hartford and three from Bloomfield.

How is the District staffed?

The District employs one full-time Director of Health, one full-time Assistant Director, five full-time Sanitarians, one full-time and one part-time Public Health Nurses, one full time Office Manager, one full-time Clerical Assistant.

How is the West Hartford-Bloomfield Health District funded?

- Each member town contributes a portion of local tax revenue
- The state of Connecticut provides \$1.85 per capital funding.
- In addition the WHBHD received Preventive Health Block Grant funds from the state.
- Fees and other revenue are generated by various program activities.

UNDERSTANDING THE MILL RATE AND TOWN REVENUES & EXPENSES

The grand list is the current fair-market valuation of all real estate, motor vehicles and certain personal business property as determined by the Town Assessor. Your taxes are assessed at 70% of appraised value (a procedure determined by Connecticut statute).

WHAT IS THE MILL RATE

The mill rate is a figure representing the amount per \$1,000 of the assessed value of property which is used to calculate the amount of property tax. The current millage rate as determined for Fiscal Year 2023 is 34.53

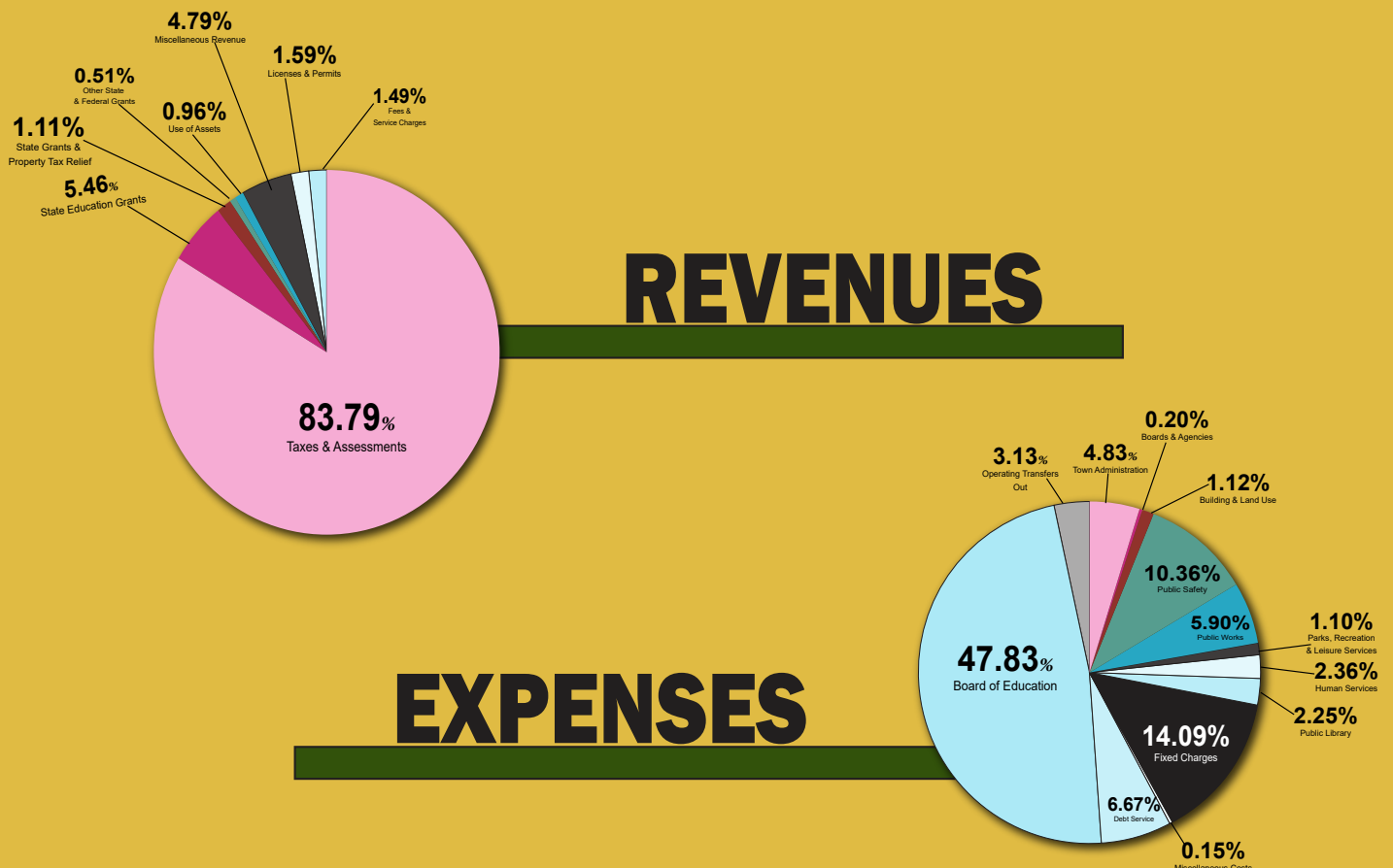
HOW IS THE MILL RATE CALCULATED?

One "mill" produces one dollar for each \$1,000 of your property assessment. The assessment rate is 70% of your property's current market value.

Therefore, a property with an assessed value of \$250,000 would generate \$6,043 in property tax.

Home Assessed Value	\$250,000
70% of value by State Statute	x 0.70
Taxable Assessment	\$175,000
Mill Rate (34.53)	x .03453
Property Tax Bill	\$6,043

The biggest challenge in preparing the budget is to stretch every dollar while adequately providing essential services that are necessary to us all.



TOWN OF BLOOMFIELD

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TOWN HALL

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