



TOWN OF TOLLAND

REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER

Brian J. Foley
Town Manager

April 9, 2024

Town Manager's Office – 860-871-3600

Human Resources

We are pleased to announce that the chosen finalist for the position of Director of Library Services started April 1st. The chosen candidate is Ms. MaryAnne Pelletier who has been the Library Director for the Town of West Brookfield, MA, since 2017. She also has previous experience in the education field serving as a principal and teacher at a Pre-K through 8th grade private school. Also, previously she worked at several libraries as a Library Assistant.

Electronic Recycling

The Town of Tolland in cooperation with Take 2, Inc. will be hosting a **FREE** Residential Electronics Recycling Collection event at **Tolland High School** located at **1 Eagle Hill**. Residents are encouraged to bring their unwanted electronics to the drive up/drive through electronics collection event on **Saturday, April 27, 2024** between **8:00 am and 12:00 noon**. More information can be found at: www.take2recycle.com.

Town-Wide Shredding Event

The Town of Tolland will host a **free** paper shredding event on **Saturday, April 27, 2024**. The event will take place from **9:00am – 12:00pm** at Tolland High School in the **rear** parking lot. (This event is in conjunction with our Electronics Recycling Event which will be held in the **front** parking lot.) This event allows residents to bring paper documents for a free and safe paper shredding with proof of residency. Accepted documents will be personal, residential documents only. Commercial or business documents will not be accepted.

Questions can be directed to the Town Manager's Office at (860) 871-3680.

Assessor's Office – 860-871-3656

- The office has sent and is receiving applications for the Tolland low income & elderly tax relief program through May 15th.

- The Board of Assessment Appeals met on the 18th and the 28th to hear appeals to the 2023 grand list, 13 appeals were filed and 3 did not appear. The board made reductions to 6 accounts totaling 111,340 in assessment reductions. Appellants have 60 days to appeal to superior court if they wish.
- The Assessor has begun preliminary tasks associated with the 2024 in-house revaluation, sales questionnaires were sent to recent sale properties.
- The Assessor is attempting to fill the last BOAA seat as the other three have been filled.

Board of Education – 860-870-6850

For a Board of Education update, please visit the link below:

http://www.tolland.k12.ct.us/DistrictOffices/superintendent/superintendent_willett_s_page. See attached Board of Education Secretary's report.

Building Department – 860-871-3601

Town Projects:

- Building Official assists Town Manager in advisory role as needed
- The Building Department is busy with issuing permits and performing inspections
 - The department has been extraordinarily busy, compared to past years
 - Daily interaction with various departments to better the Town as a whole
 - Answered counter and phone questions from residents, contractors and realtors
 - Every effort is made to provide the highest level of customer service
 - Much time is spent on crumbling concrete foundation concerns
- Crumbling foundation replacement permits issued this month: 2
- Calls from Fire Department/Emergency: 2 after hours; 2 total
- Work without permits: 0 cited; full compliance achieved
- Participated in Development and staff meetings
- Participated in numerous discussions regarding blighted properties and junk cars
 - Building Official is the Blight Enforcement Officer
 - Received 0 blight complaints
 - Made 0 site visits
- Attended continuing education classes, as required by state statute
 - Permit Technician attended two-day ICC training in Berlin, CT
- Building Department is the primary contact for all Special Event Permits
 - 1 Special Event permit processed – Wedding at Hicks-Stearns Museum
- Assisted the Zoning Enforcement Officer with field inspections
- Assisted the Wetlands Agent with field inspections
- Building Official and his staff spend significant time with potentially crumbling foundations
 - Building Official continues to work with CRCOG to pre-vet vendors and contractors and refine best-practices to repair crumbling foundations

- Building Department Permit Technician assists other departments on an as-needed basis
- Multiple conversations and meetings regarding the reconstruction of Fire Station #340
- Department budget presented to Town Council
- Building Official attended one Historic District Commission meeting after regular hours
 - Significant Building Official, Permit Technician and Development office time and effort spent on processing two applications for roof-mounted solar panels on the Tolland Green; one of which has resulted in a suit filed in Rockville court for a denial and also an appeal of the approval with substantial restrictions.

Commercial

- Consultation, plan review and inspection with the Fire Marshal regarding:
 - All commercial new construction and remodeling
 - Commercial Certificate of Occupancies
 - Change of use requests
 - Special Event permits
- Conducted numerous inspections with Fire Marshal DaBica, utilizing a “team approach” to better obtain compliance and enforce life-safety codes and regulations
- Full building permits issued for the Girl Scout Camp on Plains Road
- Building permit issued for the maintenance garage at the Santini development off Fieldstone Commons
- Building permit issued for a 15,000 s.f. gymnastics facility on Tolland Stage Road
- Certificate of Occupancy issued to a retail cannabis facility at Fieldstone Commons

The *Summary Building Report* is included

Human Services – 860-871-3648

The following assistance programs are available through the Human Services Department:

- **CT Energy Assistance Program (CEAP)**

Eligibility for the CEAP is based on annual gross income and household size. Renters and homeowners may apply. Renters whose heating costs are included in their rent may also apply. The last day that a household can apply to establish its eligibility for benefits is May 31st.

*Residents who **have not** applied for fuel assistance this season (11/1/23 – 03/31/24) may be eligible for an assistance benefit on a previous fuel delivery invoice (including oil, electricity, and propane). Contact Human Services at 860-871-3648 to determine eligibility for this benefit.

Maximum Household Income: 2023/2024 Program Guidelines*						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
\$41,553	\$54,338	\$67,124	\$79,910	\$92,695	105,481	\$107,878

Any household with an individual who receives Cash Assistance, SNAP or Supplemental Security Income will be automatically eligible for CEAP Benefit.

Residents can apply:

- Online at <https://portal.ct.gov/heatinghelp/ctenergy>
- Through **Access Agency** in Willimantic 860-450-7400
- Through **Tolland Human Services** 860-871-3648. Please call in advance to set up an appointment if you would like to meet with someone from Human Services.
- **Renters Rebate** – Tolland Human Services will be accepting applications for the Renter's Rebate Program starting **April 1st**. To qualify for this program you must be a renter, aged 65+ and your income must be less than \$43,800 (single) or \$53,400 (married). Renters must produce a statement of all rent paid during 2023 and submit the 1099 form(s) to document all sources of income. If you filed taxes in 2023, a copy will be needed. For additional information please contact Jillian Fiddler at (860) 871-3615.
- **Tolland Food Pantry** –If you are a Tolland resident and your household would benefit from using the Food Pantry, please contact 860-871-3648. Distribution is by appointment only and participation is strictly confidential.
- **Food Share Mobile Food Pantry** – Located at the parking lot of the United Congregational Church, 45 Tolland Green, 10-10:30AM. Distribution dates are April 18 and May 2, 16 and 30. Please bring your own bags.

The following information and ongoing programs/services are also available through the Human Services Department:

- Crisis Counseling - Town contact is Teresa Kristoff, MA, Assistant Director Human Services (860)871-3612 or tkristoff@tollandct.gov
- Case Management – Town contact is Jillian Fiddler, BSW (860)871-3615 or jfiddler@tollandct.gov
- Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program & Fair Housing – Town contact is Beverly Bellody, MS (860)871-3611 or bbellody@tollandct.gov

Tolland Youth Services Bureau (YSB)

- Preparation is underway for the **Tolland Youth Services Community Theater** summer production of the **Little Mermaid!**
 - **Registration is open** for participants! Registration forms can be found on the Youth Services' Page.
 - **Auditions:** Children in grades 6-12 interested in auditioning for a speaking/singing role can do so on April 23rd beginning at 3:00pm in the THS Chorus Room. **Audition sign-up information** is available on the Youth Services' Page.
 - **Performances** will be July 26th and July 27th at 7:00pm at Tolland High School.
- **Youth Services Bureau (YSB) Day at the Capitol: April 24th**
 - Tolland YSB is proud to participate in **YSB Day at the Capitol** to showcase the important work done by Youth Services Bureaus in promoting the well-being of Connecticut's youth and families. This day will include a formal program, capitol tours, and opportunities to engage with our state's legislators.
- **National Prevention Week: May 12th- May 18th**
 - The **Local Prevention Council** and **Youth Advisory Board** are preparing for **National Prevention Week** on **May 12-May 18th**, sponsored by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Educational opportunities will take place daily this week at Tolland High School including giveaways for students.
 - **We are looking for local businesses, professionals or community partners to be Substance Free Sponsors** to this important week dedicated to raising awareness about the importance of substance misuse prevention and positive mental health. This year's National Prevention Week tagline, "***A Celebration of Possibility,***" is about communities coming together to celebrate the possibilities and brighter futures that exist thanks to the ongoing work of prevention happening across the country.
 - If you are interested in making a contribution to this event, please contact Teresa Kristoff at 860-871-3612 or tkristoff@tollandct.gov.
- The Tolland YSB manages a **Juvenile Review Board (JRB)** for young people who might otherwise be referred to the Juvenile Court for low level offenses. The JRB is comprised of volunteers from local and state agencies who are committed to trauma informed, culturally sensitive, restorative justice practices. Tolland's Restorative Justice approach holds youth

accountable for their behavior, while also creating opportunities for the youth to repair any harm done. The JRB has been actively meeting and providing support and mentorship to Tolland's youth referred to the program.

Don't forget to follow us on the Tolland Youth Services' Facebook and Instagram accounts!

Senior Center

- The Senior Center continues to be a safe, friendly place for our older Tolland residents to come have fun, meet new people, visit with old friends, or learn something new.
- For more information please check out the Senior Scoop Newsletter at the following link: [Senior Center Newsletters | Town of Tolland CT](#)
- This month's Senior Scoop newsletter includes information on **2023 Tolland Tax Relief Programs** for Senior or Disabled Residents. The next available application period for these programs is February 1, 2024- May 15, 2024. For more information, please call the Tolland Assessor's Office at 860-871-3650.

Water Commission Liaison Report

The Human Services Director is the staff liaison to the Water Commission. CT Water Company is the operator for the Town's Municipal System. Two commercial projects have been approved that will need to access the Municipal Water System. The Director of Human Services is working with CT Water to assure compliance and coordinate the future installation of the water mains.

Library – 860-871-3620

National Library Week - April 7th – 13th - Passport to CT Libraries

During the month of April, visit Tolland Public Library and ask for your passport, then take your library card and passport to at least five participating libraries across the state. Return your stamped passport to a library by April 30th to be eligible to win one of four prizes.

Adult Groups and Programs

Tech Help Appointments: Do you have questions about your laptop, smartphone or tablet? Take advantage of the Tolland Public Library's one-on-one tech help appointments. Call (860) 871-3620 to book your personalized session for **Wednesday, April 10th** beginning at 10 am.

Writers Group: The Tolland Writer's Group will meet on **Tuesday, April 16th** at 6 pm in the audiovisual room.

Book Discussion: The Tolland Public Library Book Group is reading The Lions of Fifth Avenue by Fiona Davis and will be discussing the book on **Wednesday, April 17th** at 2 pm in the library's program room.

Intro to *UniversalClass*: Learn how to register and use *UniversalClass*, an online continuing education service offering over 500 courses for certificates and CEU credits. Note: Patrons must bring their own device (Android, Apple or Windows) and an active Tolland library card. Taught by Kelly Marchand. Thursday, **April 25th** at 2 pm in the library's program room. Please sign up at tollandct.gov/library and look for the Online Library Events Calendar.

Featherweight Quilting: Saturday, **April 27th** from 10 am – 4:30 pm in the library's story room.

A Country Music Sampler: Jeff Mainville Acoustic Duo presents: A Country Music Sampler, which will offer popular country songs that you know by heart, from the 1940s to present day, **Saturday, April 27th**, at 1 pm. Connecticut vocalist and guitarist Jeff Mainville and pianist extraordinaire Erik Haeger have performed over 1,000 shows together in the past 25 years. This program is generously sponsored by the Friends of the Tolland Library. Please register at tollandct.gov/library and look for the Online Library Events Calendar.

Nookless Knitters: Join a friendly group of crafter that meet **every Friday** at 10 am in the library's program room. They are eager to share their talents and wisdom. Just drop in!

Nookless Knitters II: Here is another opportunity to join a group of crafters that meet the **second and fourth Wednesday** from 6:30 pm until 7:45 pm in the library's audiovisual room. They are eager to share their talents and wisdom. Newcomers are welcome.

Children's Programs

In addition to regular story times, Baby Bookworms, Dungeons & Dragons, Lego Club and Reading with Millie throughout the month, the Children's Department will host special programs for April break:

Bruce John will perform a music and movement program on **Friday, April 12th** at 11 am. Thank you to the Friends of Tolland Public Library for sponsoring this program. All are welcome to join for songs, dancing, and fun. Register online as spaces are limited. Note: Only register the child(ren)'s names attending.

On **Saturday, April 13th** from 11am – noon, an interactive STEM program will be hosted by *Buildwave* for grades K-6. Kids will rotate through stations and complete challenges using a variety of materials. This program was generously funded by the Tolland Public Library Foundation. Register for either of these programs online as spaces are limited.

All 500 of the solar eclipse glasses were passed out in the span of two weeks, just in time for the eclipse which occurred on Monday, April 8th.

Planning and Development

- Planning and Zoning continues to discuss affordable housing and is in the process of updating its Affordable Housing Plan.
- Planning and Zoning is developing a permitting process for larger buildings on large pieces of land.
- The Starbucks development has received its OSTA approval from the State and we hope to see ground broken on the property in the next few months.
- The Budr Cannabis Dispensary will be opening on April 17th.
- The Agriculture Commission has launched a website for the Green Farmers Market and is working to expand the Tolland Fresh program to be usable at the Green Farmers Market.
- The Economic Development Commission is exploring options to enhance the EDC webpage on the Town's website, to make it more user-friendly and useful for businesses.
- The EDC is going to be beginning business outreach to create a community currency or, at minimum, a local gift certificate program.
- Inland Wetlands and Watercourses approved the Senior Center pickleball court.
- The Conservation Commission is hosting a Bigfoot Tracking Event on April 6, 2024.
- The Conservation Commission conducted a site walk at 257 Torry Rd adjacent to the Luce Conservation Area as a potential acquisition.
- The Parciak Conservation Area timber harvest is complete, with the Town profiting \$5,311.96 from the effort in addition to having created a healthier forest environment. The Conservation Corps is working to get the trails re-opened.
- Connecticut's Countryside is entering into an agreement with Civic Lift for one year to create a CT Countryside website and launch social media channels.
- Staff continues work on a comprehensive inventory of Town-owned properties.

Projects and Grants - 860-871-3605

Grant Research

Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (US DOT)

Active transportation is defined as mobility options powered by human energy. An active transportation network can include a sidewalk network, bike lane network, or shared use path network within a community and must connect between destinations within a community or metropolitan region, such as by connecting neighborhoods and residences to high-demand destinations like schools, workplaces, commercial centers, recreation areas, medical centers, or other community areas.

Planning Grants and Construction Grants available under this funding. Planning and Design Grants must be for projects that have planning and design costs of not less than \$100,000. Construction Grants must have a total project cost of at least \$15,000,000. Match amounts are a minimum of 20% of the total cost. Applications are due June 17, 2024. The Town is looking to determine if there are any potential projects that would meet these minimum thresholds.

Safe Streets For All (SS4A) (U.S. DOT)

The SS4A program supports the development of a comprehensive safety action plan (referred to as an “Action Plan”) that identifies the most significant roadway safety concerns in a community and the implementation of projects and strategies to address roadway safety issues. Action Plans are comprehensive safety plans aimed at reducing and eliminating serious-injury and fatal crashes affecting all roadway users.

Action Plans use data analysis to characterize roadway safety problems and strengthen a community’s approach through projects and strategies that address the most significant safety risks. A project needs to be included in a Transportation Safety Action Plan in order to apply for an implementation grant through this program. CRCOG has a Regional Transportation Safety Action Plan, and there are several small areas in Tolland identified in this plan as needing improvement. The sidewalks on Rt.195 from the Town Green to Interstate 84 are not identified as a need in CRCOG’s plan. On March 26, 2024, the Town Manager, Projects/Grants Manager and Town Planner met with Eric Jackson from UCONN to discuss the grant requirements. The Town would likely need to hire a consultant to prepare a Supplemental Transportation Safety Action Plan in order to participate in this funding. Applications are due May 16, 2024.

Grant Applications

CDBG/Small Cities (DOH)(\$3,000,000 approximately)

The Town is working with a consultant and Elderly Housing Management Inc., to prepare an application to the Department of Housing’s Community Development Block Grant, Small Cities program, for grant funding for renovations at Old Post Village. Some of the proposed improvements include a new roof, parking lot repairs/expansion, new windows and exterior doors, HVAC replacements, ADA improvements, bathroom upgrades in resident units and renovations to the community room. A public hearing will be held in April regarding the application and proposed improvements. Applications are due May 31, 2024.

PEGPETIA (PURA) (\$80,683.00)

In February, The Tolland Public Library submitted an application for grant funding for audio and video upgrades in the Library Program Room. The Town received “A Notice of Potential Decision”, meaning the application has been recommended for final consideration, with a potential grant award of \$22,263.00. Grant awards were capped at \$22,263.00 based on available funds and number of eligible applications. If awarded, the project scope may need to be reduced and/or other funding identified to complete the project objectives. The Town is hopeful to receive a final determination on the grand award, soon.

Grant Awards

Emergency Management Performance Grant (DESPP) (\$7,981.05)

The Town of Tolland was awarded \$ by the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security under the Emergency Management Performance Grant. The Town relies on this grant every year to provide a stipend for the Emergency Management Director and to partially cover the costs of PPE for Public Safety staff and volunteers.

Project Management

Replacement of Fire Station 340 (\$3,027,278)

In March, the framing, windows and doors, rough electrical, plymovent systems (venting vehicle emissions) in garage bays, and exterior signage were completed. Drywall work will continue into April. The contractor is on target for a May 31, 2024 completion date.

The Firehouse Subcommittee Meeting scheduled for March 14, 2024 was cancelled and a Special Meeting was held March 27, 2024. The subcommittee reviewed the budget, schedule, request to add an alternate member and a request to modify the kitchen plans. The next regular meeting is scheduled for April 11, 2024.



2023 State ARPA Funding – Statewide Senior Centers (ARPA) (\$32,440.00)

Tolland is pursuing the use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds allocated specifically for senior centers towards the construction of a single outdoor pickleball court at the Senior Center at 674 Tolland Stage Road.

The Inland Wetlands Commission approved the Town's application at their March 14, 2024 meeting. The Planning and Zoning Commission approved the 8-24 review at their February 24, 2024 meeting. With these approvals in place, the Town can submit to the State to finalize the grant funding.

Meetings

- Daily meetings with the Town Manager
- Staff and Development Meetings
- March 6, 2024 – Senior Center Pickleball Site Walk with Wetlands Agent
- March 12, 2024 – Town Council Meeting
- March 14, 2024 – Wetlands Commission Meeting - Town application for pickleball at the Senior Center, with Director of Human Services and Town Manager
- March 19, 2024 – CRCOG MSC meeting
- March 20, 2024 – Site visit at Fire Station 340 with CHA – review progress
- March 20, 2024 – CDBG Application/Old Post Village Meeting
- March 25, 2024 – Site visit at Fire Station 340 with IT Department and CHA regarding information technology services in apparatus bays
- March 25, 2024 – Fire Station 340 - Soffit Coordination Meeting with CHA and Lawrence Brunoli, Inc.
- March 26, 2024 – CDBG Application Required Workshop (half-day training)
- March 26, 2024 – SS4A/Traffic Safety Meeting with Eric Jackson from UCONN, Town Planner, and Town Manager
- March 27, 2024 - CTDOT - CRCOG ADA Municipality Program
- March 27, 2024 – Firehouse Subcommittee Special Meeting

Public Safety:

- Public Safety Officers participated in school fire and lockdown drills throughout the month
- Annual D.O.T. inspections of our apparatus continued this month
- Annual Flow Testing of SCBAs was completed this month
- On March 26th career staff participated in a commercial building walk-through in order to review pre-plans and provide an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the location. Different strategies and tactics that could be utilized during an emergency response were discussed.

Animal Control:

In the month of March 2024, the Animal Control Department answered 42 calls/complaints during regular & after work hours.

- The Town of Tolland Animal Control Facebook Page has 4,900 followers.
- Officers continue to patrol parks and trail systems for off leash dogs.
- Officers continue to assist with several sick/injured/trapped wildlife calls.
- Officers received donations of pet food and treats from town residents and businesses.
- Officers continue to assist the Town of Hebron/CT Department of Agriculture with the care of 3 dogs that were seized during an animal cruelty case in their town.

- Officers continue to assist various other agencies (CT State Police/CT Environmental Conservation Officers/CT State Marshal's/Tolland Fire Department) with cases/scenes they have in which animals are involved.
- Officers continue to complete continued education trainings as required by the State to maintain their Animal Control Officer certification.
- Officers received confirmation from Fenton River Veterinary Hospital that they will be providing the staff for our 2024 Annual Low Cost Rabies Vaccination Clinic. The date and location for the event is June 8th, 2024 at the Tolland High School.
- Officers are making preparations for this year's Annual Door-to-Door Unlicensed Dog Survey. This survey is randomly conducted in an effort to locate unlicensed dogs. Officers utilize this opportunity to educate the public, as well as to educate owners who may not be aware of the requirement to license their dog(s) each year. Additionally upon successful completion of this survey, the town is eligible to retain an extra ten percent of dog licensing fees.
- Officer Calchera was able to utilize several spare sections of chain-link fence to expand the outdoor run area behind the animal shelter. After clearing some brush and raising the grade of the ground, the outdoor run was expanded by approximately 150 square feet. This new section allows the dogs to have access to more sunlight as well as additional room to stretch their legs.

Activity	This Month	Last Month	Year to Date	This Month Last Year	Last Year To Date
Complaints Received	42	35	387	44	336
Animals Impounded	3	4	22	1	13
Animals Redeemed	1	3	17	0	8
Ads Placed	1	0	4	0	7
Animals Sold/ Adopted	0	1	6	0	3
Animals Euthanized	0	0	2	0	0
Notices to License	24	4	193	8	53
Infractions/Summons Issued	25	0	6	0	3
Animals on Hand End of Month	5	3	35	3	32
Animal Bites Reported (Human)	0	0	10	0	10
Animal Bites Reported (Animal)	3	0	1	0	5
Deceased Animals on Roadways	1	0	2	0	1

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

- Emergency Management Director John Littell closely monitors all State WebEOC communications, information and advisories during the month that are received from state resources. Pertinent bulletins are redistributed to appropriate personnel.
- CERT received CPR/AED training conducted by Tolland Fire Department's Lt. Don Corne
- CERT team members were issued several on-line training classes assignments to be completed during the upcoming months.
- On March 30th, CERT supported activities for the Penguin Plunge held at Crandall Pond.

FIRE MARSHAL:

- Review and approval of permits.
- Information sharing with insurance companies and realty companies referencing fire suppression capabilities and underground water supply capabilities.
- Investigated fires, gas leaks, and complaints; prepared reports as required
- Completed assignments as directed by management
- Assist FD while short on staff
- Investigated fires and alarms as required
- Answered several overnight off-hour phone calls for various problems including, Fire Alarms, CO detection, Smoke detection, Fire Alarm issues for residents etc.
- Assisted Director of Public Safety as requested
- Approved change of use occupancies
- Inspecting business occupancies
- Reviewing prints for fire code compliance new and renovated buildings and projects
- Inspected day care facilities
- Attended training to ensure certification hours are available, currently certified fully
- Working with project managers to ensure full code compliance for construction projects
- Routine inspections of construction sites
- Currently reviewing Camp Yankee Trails Girl Scout Camp improvements
- Working with the Fieldstone Plaza project Santini Homes Inc.
- Approved CO at 9 Fieldstone Commons

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

- The safety of our patients and personnel remains our top priority. As such, our Infection Control Officers have updated the Department's protocols to mimic the CDC guidelines specific to Emergency Services/First Responders.
- The Department's PEER team continues to promote EAP information and resources, as well as offering one-on-one support to anyone in the department.

- Chief Littell continues to closely monitor the order status of the new ambulances. Initially ordered in 2021 and 2022, there has been significant industrywide delays. In February 2024 Chief Littell received notification that a VIN number had been assigned to one of our orders. However there is still no word on the status of the second order. The Chief will continue to remain vigilant in following the status of both the ambulance in production and the ambulance on order.
- Training throughout the month included; SCBA Fit testing, CPR recertification, and a commercial building walk-through. Several virtual CMEs were offered.
- On March 10th a few members attended a Swift-Water Rescue drill held in Broad Brook.
- On March 25th members participated in a commercial building walk-through in order to review pre-plans and provide firefighters an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the location. Different strategies and tactics that could be utilized during an emergency response were discussed.
- The department's annual CPR recertification took place this month. Held over several nights, this recertification includes in-person classroom training, hand-on skills checks as well as a written exam.
- On March 30th members of our Dive team along with other Department members stood by the Penguin Plunge charity event at Crandall Pond to monitor the safety of participants. Our attendance at this event was used as a training drill and provided the opportunity to practice our skills. The event was hosted by the CT State Police to benefit Special Olympics.
- The replacement of Station 340 is progressing.



Station 340 – 247 Gehring Road March 2024

- We are pleased to report our former aerial truck a 1990 Pierce, has been sold. The new owner took possession on March 20th. Money (\$13,100) from the sale has been deposited into the Ambulance Reserve Fund. Special thanks to all who contributed in getting this truck marketed and ultimately sold.

March 2024

Fire Department Dispatch Data	Day-time Career Calls	Nights & Weekends Volunteer Calls
Fire	11	8
Medical	52	71
Hazardous Materials	5	8
Vehicle Accidents	5	6
Other Emergency/Service Calls	4	2
Interstate 84 (all call types)	1	2

FIRE DEPARTMENT SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS:

- “X” (formerly known as Twitter)@TollandAlert account has more than 2,900 followers.
- The Tolland Fire Department Instagram account more than 1,800 followers.
- The Tolland Fire Department Facebook page has more than 5,400 followers.

Public Works – 860-871-3696

Road Resurfacing Program – With most of our winter weather behind us, we are now preparing to get rolling into our construction season and begin working on the designated roads to be resurfaced. We plan to resurface all of the roads within the Vineyards neighborhood. The process that we intend to use is called Cold In Place which is an operation that grinds up and recycles the existing pavement, puts the ground-up material back in place and then rolls the material out for the base course. Following that, we repair or replace the catch basins and the tops, apply a new two inch wear course and then install the new curbing. Once that portion is completed, we then backfill the curbing, apply grass seed and mulch straw and ask that residents to water these areas to help promote the growth of the new grass seed.

Parks & Facilities - The crews have now removed the ice rink and put it away for safe storage. We are now focused on preparing the athletic fields for play for the upcoming season. Along with our normal daily tasks, we are now getting Crandall Park ready for the summertime. We are once again putting the dock back in the water, repairing the paver walkway down to the pond, removing the weeds from the swimming area and adding some sand to the beach area. The newest addition that we are planning for is a floating fountain that will help to aerate the water which will help increase the oxygen levels, helping to prevent algae blooms and promote the aquatic life.

Highway Division - Our staff is beginning to prepare for the upcoming paving season as well as repairing damaged curbing, driveway aprons and lawns. The equipment is in a holding pattern as Mother Nature can be tricky and drop some more snow or cause some icing areas for which we have to be prepared to address. Hopefully by early April, we will be safe from the winter weather and can get right into the pavement program.

Cemetery Division - As of this writing, there have been thirteen burials this year. The Wreaths Across America program that was spearheaded by Mr. Mark Schmidt was a great success. A total of 576 wreaths were laid within our four cemeteries. Mark had a great group of volunteers that assisted him in recovering and disposing of all of the wreaths. This is planned to be an annual event so if you can, please be sure to volunteer your time or donate to this worthy cause.

WPCA - All of our pump stations are currently working as designed. There will be some preventive maintenance work being done this summer as the temperatures cooperate. The WPCA is seeking new members for their Commission if anyone is interested, thank you.

Once again, as the Director of Public Works, I would like to thank all of the Public Works employees for their continued dedication to helping us achieve our goals, thank you.

Recreation Department – 860-871-3610

The Recreation Department has been actively working on scheduling activities and special events for the spring and summer. Registration for spring/summer classes opened on Monday April 1, 2024. Our department took over 1,100 registrations on the first day.

Our Preschool Program (Tolland Tykes) registration for the 2024-2025 continues. Our four year old class is almost full and our 3 year old class registration increased to the point that we have added an afternoon class. Information in regards to the program is out and we are anticipating more registrations as we near the summer.

The Lodge continues to be busy. We have many weekends booked a year in advance.

Tolland Youth Sports groups have submitted their field usage forms. Our Department has been collaborating with Public Works in regards to the schedules.

Our Men's Softball meeting was held on Thursday, April 4, 2024. This year's Men's Friday night league (Over 35 League) has 5 teams, which is up from last year.

Revenue 860-871-3654

Total Revenue Collections for the current year from July 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024 are \$49,426,437.19 or 94.88% of the actual Total Collectible amount. This is slightly down from last year's collection rate of 97.2%. I believe the decrease is due to collection tools not being enforced during the interim between appointed collectors.

Delinquent Statements for Real Estate and Personal Property and Demands for Motor Vehicle accounts were sent out this month. Warrants have been issued and given to Tim Polostki – the State Marshal. Tim will add his own fee to the outstanding balancing and he will have the authority to collect on our behalf. He can garnish wages, attach to bank accounts, etc. This should help pull in a good amount of revenue.

I had SaraBeth send out and e-blast and post on social media about Ordinance 60 and our Tax Relief programs that are available. The Assessor's Office and I will work on getting an insert ready with this information so that it can go out with our tax bills.

This month we will be sending out Intent to Liens for any Real Estate Account that has an open balance. Demands will be sent for Personal Property accounts. Liens and UCC Liens will be applied in May.

Town Clerk

The statistical report for the month of March is attached.

Troop C Activity for Tolland

Monthly Police Services – attached is the report for March 2024. The report represents statistics on accidents, criminal investigations, burglaries, larcenies, DUIs, traffic citations, etc.

OTHER BUSINESS TO BE ANNOUNCED AS WARRANTED

BJF/af
Attachments

SUMMARY BUILDING REPORT - FISCAL YEAR

March-2024

Permits Issued (highlighted permits are for informational purposes only)	This Month	Last Month	Year to Date	Last Year to Date
Addition	2	1	10	7
Deck/Porch	3	0	20	14
Foundation - New	0	0	0	0
Foundation - Repair/Replace	2	5	18	15
Interior Renovation	6	3	35	34
Misc/Repair	2	2	38	20
Municipal	0	2	8	4
Roofing/Siding/Windows	15	7	150	139
Barns/Garage/Shed	0	1	19	23
Single Family Dwelling	1	1	7	16
Solar	1	8	85	90
Swimming Pool	4	0	9	5
Wood/Pellet Stove	0	1	11	25

Building	42	33	401	433
Electric	26	28	252	269
Gas	4	3	40	33
Mechanical	20	17	156	194
Plumbing	10	0	42	57
Total	102	81	891	986
Zoning	11	6	74	87
Grand Total Permits	113	87	965	1073

Submitted Building Fees	\$49,658.80	\$20,542.88	\$269,451.12	\$263,066.92
Submitted Zoning Fees	\$1,175.00	\$325.00	\$4,575.00	\$5,100.00
Submitted Fire Marshal Fees	\$10,210.00	\$460.00	\$25,542.00	\$9,007.00
Construction Value	\$3,578,509.33	\$2,056,338.68	\$19,577,534.23	\$27,123,959.01
Certs of Occup (New Structure)	2	2	19	25
Inspections	91	79	940	944

TOWN CLERK'S MONTHLY REPORT 2023-2024

NUMBER OF EVENTS	DESCRIPTION	March 2024	March 2023	TOTALS YEAR-TO-DATE FY 2023/2024	TOTALS PRIOR YR-TO-DATE FY 2022/2023
RECORDINGS	Land Records	132	110	1302	1614
	Maps	0	3	7	12
EVENTS RECORDED	Births	6	16	89	96
	Marriages	0	0	48	50
	Deaths	15	11	93	117
	Liquor Licenses	3	2	10	2
	Veteran's Discharges	6	1	16	13
	Notaries Filed	5	3	29	30
	Trade Names	5	3	27	32
LICENSES ISSUED	Peddler Permits	1	1	1	1
	Dogs/Kennels/Transfers	25/0/0	30/0/1	667/1/3	732/7/8
	Marriages	0	0	23	1/22/1900
	Sports	16	24	61	69

TOWN CLERK'S MONTHLY REPORT 2023-2024

REVENUE	March 2024	March 2023	YEAR-TO-DATE FY 2023/2024	YEAR-TO-DATE FY 2022/2023
RECORDING FEES	3,713	2,757	40,595	49,522
CONVEYANCE TAX	11,520	8,946	134,670	193,255
TC PRESERVATION	397	402	4,290	5,591
TOWN PRESERVATION	327	176	3,060	3,533
COPIES	582	312	5,764	6,519
MISCELLANEOUS/FEES	1,668	774	16,701	28,219
(Sports, Dogs, Notary Vitals)				
TOTALS	18,207	13,367	205,080	286,639

Monthly Report:

March 2024

Tolland

* For December numbers use "December Monthly Report"

Total Calls for Service	Total Calls This Year
751	2,340

	March 2024	YTD
Accidents	24	75
Criminal Investigations	25	77
Burglaries	2	3
Larcenies	1	2
Non Reportable Matters	571	1,756
Total Arrests	12	41

Calls For Service:

City	Month	YTD
Ashford	82	307
Coventry	32	76
ELLINGTON	712	2,150
MANSFIELD	1,178	2,338
Somers	1,070	2,704
Stafford	727	2,193
Tolland	751	2,340
Union	222	730
VERNON	175	603
WILLINGTON	313	947
Total	5,262	14,388

Motor Vehicle Enforcement*:

Total Traffic Stops	119	382
Onsite DUI's	4	9
Arrests	3	8
Misdemeanor Summons	2	3
Infractions	43	167
Written Warnings	12	58
Verbal Warnings	57	146

* Non-Commercial Traffic Stops (Total Traffic Stops is taken from Initial call type and dispositions are from RP intervention disposition)