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SIMSBURY CONNECTICUT

2008-2009 *Annual Report*

www.simsbury-ct.gov

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Our Town



A Message from the Chairman of the Board of Finance

This is the 147th Annual Report of the Town of Simsbury. The goal of this report is to convey to our citizens, business owners and other stakeholders a description of the significant events and activities that have occurred during the year. By town charter it is the responsibility of the Board of Finance to produce this report, and as Chairman, I am pleased to deliver this report for your review.

Our report includes financial information for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009; as well as a description of significant events, activities and accomplishments that occurred in our community during calendar year 2009. The year 2009 was a challenging year as you will read from First Selectman, Mary Glassman, Diane Ullman, Superintendent of Schools, and Jack Sennott, Chairman of the Board of Education. The national and state economies have certainly had an impact on our community. Our residents feel the financial strains and this means our town and school budgets have been reviewed and modified accordingly.

The Boards of Finance, Education and Selectman have acted prudently and proactively throughout this economic crisis to effectively manage the Town's Finances.

While carefully monitoring the revenue side of the budget, the Boards have taken action to control and reduce budget expenditures. This prudence has continued throughout the budget making process. At the same time, we recognize the needs of our citizens and strive to deliver the basic services that contribute to making Simsbury a great place to live and work.

Simsbury has continued to prepare for the future by proactively investing in our infrastructure, open space, and educational programs. When you read this report, you will learn about these actions and how they enhance our Town.

Again, it continues to be my pleasure and honor to serve as Chairman of the Board of Finance. I continue to be grateful for the fine support of the town staff in preparing this 147th Annual Report.

Sincerely,
Paul Henault

Paul Henault
Chairman, Board of Finance

Our Town

A Message from the First Selectman

Dear Simsbury Resident:

Our community continues to be a wonderful place to live, work and play, but tough economic challenges in 2009 required town officials to find creative and collaborative ways to reduce costs and provide quality services to our residents.

Faced with a financially difficult time for our nation, our state and our town, the Board of Selectmen worked hard to propose a budget that would not require a tax increase to our residents for town expenditures. After months of discussions with town staff, elected officials and town residents, the Board of Selectmen adopted a budget approved by taxpayers for a total of \$17,775,739 – a 3.04 percent decrease over the previous year budget.

A budget decrease is a very unusual recommendation and would not have been possible without the support and cooperation of the town's employees – including police officers, dispatchers, managers, highway crews, secretaries, clerks and library workers.

All of the town employees understood the extreme financial situation that the Town of Simsbury was under and agreed to wage freezes, with non-union employees agreeing to voluntary furlough days and increased co-pays. As a result, the Town of Simsbury realized more than \$400,000 in cost savings which enabled our community to save jobs and continue to provide vital services.

We are fortunate to live in a community of men and women who have a commitment to public service and to our town. We will

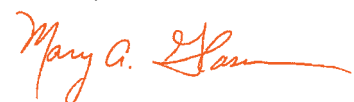
always be grateful to the men and women who stepped up to serve our town in this very difficult time.

During 2009, we continued to work on important projects that will benefit our town for years to come. We worked in partnership with elected officials, commissions, staff, and consultants to complete the renovation and addition to the Tariffville School, to undertake a facilities' needs assessment for buildings at Simsbury Farms, and to incorporate energy savings and alternates into the Tootin' Hill school roof replacement, the Simsbury Farms study and the Eno Memorial Improvements projects.

We also completed extension of the Center Area Streetscape's lighting, landscaping and walks in conjunction with the State DOT's Hopmeadow/ Drake Hill West Street intersection improvements. Those improvements include greenway, crosswalk and travel lane improvements.

On behalf of the Board of Selectmen, I would like to thank all of the elected officials, town staff and dedicated volunteers for providing valuable leadership and guidance in helping the town provide efficient services. It is because of these efforts that Simsbury was selected as among the "Top 100 Best Places to Live" by Money Magazine.

Sincerely,



Mary A. Glassman, First Selectman



A Message from the Chairman of the Board of Education and Superintendent

Open a door to a classroom in one of Simsbury's seven public schools on any given day, and you will see teachers working closely with students to help them reach educational goals and achieve personal growth. What you may not see is the degree to which every member of the Board of Education is a stakeholder in the education of every child enrolled in the Simsbury public schools. We are proud of every student's triumph—and we feel personal responsibility when a student struggles.

It is often said that Simsbury's attractiveness as a community is due in large part to the quality of the school system. Protecting this quality was a top priority of the Board of Education in 2008-2009, even as economic factors made it more difficult for teachers and administrators to perform their work. But continuously improving in the face of challenges is what sets Simsbury's education system apart from those of many other communities.

Each year, Central Office administrators develop Strategic Objectives to guide their work in relation to Board of Education goals, which address both student achievement and organizational quality. Once these goals are set, we continuously assess our progress, just as a teacher periodically evaluates a student's work. Standardized tests are one barometer that shows how well we are doing as a district. Simsbury continues to be among the top districts in the state on the Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT). Our results on the Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT) were also strong.

But test results do not provide the entire picture of a Simsbury Public Schools education. An increased emphasis in 2008-2009 on teacher "teams," or Professional Learning



Communities (PLCs), has helped increase teachers' knowledge and skills, and teachers have learned new strategies to address the varying learning needs of students. Our teachers work with students in appropriate class sizes to maximize learning. An 11-trait Character Education framework has been implemented to help provide social, emotional, and physical development of the whole child. An excellent athletics program—one of the largest and most successful in New England—helps further our physical development goals for students. We have also made great strides in infusing our classrooms with technology district-wide so that we can better teach 21st century skills, skills that students need to succeed in an ever-changing global society.

Thank you for entrusting your children and grandchildren to our care and for your continued support of our efforts to provide each child with an exceptional education. Visit our web site at www.simsbury.k12.ct.us to find out what's happening in our schools or drop us an email (JSennott@simsbury.k12.ct.us, DULLman@simsbury.k12.ct.us) if you have a question or want to give us your feedback. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Jack Sennott, Chairman, Board of Education



Dr. Diane Ullman, Superintendent

Board of Selectmen

The Board of Selectmen is the legislative body of the Town of Simsbury. The Board consists of six members, including the First Selectman, and members are elected to two year terms. The Board of Selectmen derives its authority through the Town Charter and Connecticut General Statutes.

Board of Finance

Boards of Finance in Connecticut perform a significant role as an elected citizen oversight board whose charge is to balance the municipal expenditure requests with the available revenue. The task of Simsbury's six member Board of Finance, as outlined in the Connecticut General Statutes and our Town Charter, is two fold: act as the budget making authority and be responsible for financial and taxation matters.

The Board of Finance works on an annual basis with the Board of Selectmen and Board of Education in order to put both operating and capital budgets before the voters. During that process, the Board is responsible for holding public hearings for the presentation of operating and capital budgets by the First Selectman and the Chairman of the Board of Education. These meetings provide an open forum for public comment before further action, either at Town Meeting or Referendum.

The Board of Finance is also responsible for gathering all relevant financial data pertinent to local, state and national economic health, in order to establish budget guidelines and establish the mill rate on an annual basis. Finally, the Board works with the Finance Director to oversee the Town's accounting systems, provide for the annual budget audit, and assist the First Selectman's Office in preparing the Annual Town Report. The work of the Board of Finance provides essential checks and balances that ensure the long-term financial stability of the Town.

Our Town/Town Government

Board of Education

Board of Education

The Board of Education is the governing and policy making body of the Simsbury School District. The Board derives its power from the Constitution and General Statutes of the State of Connecticut as well as from the State Board of Education and the Charter of the Town of Simsbury.

The Board of Education is responsible for establishing policy and educational goals and objectives that guide the school system toward the continuous improvement of the educational program for Simsbury’s children. The Board of Education is also responsible for the ongoing evaluation of the school program against its goals and objectives and for the evaluation of the Superintendent.

The Board consists of eight elected members who meet twice a month at the Board of Education offices or at one of the seven Simsbury schools. Agendas and minutes of the meetings are posted on the Board of Education page of the district web site <http://www.simsbury.k12.ct.us/page.cfm?p=1675>.

The Board has adopted 5-year goals (2009-2014) to provide direction and focus to the improvement work of the district. The goals, which address both student achievement and organizational quality, are as follows:

1. Integrate and align content area curriculum with the higher-order, 21st Century critical thinking skills needed for success in learning, work, and life.
2. Ensure that every student is engaged in a rigorous and engaging learning experience that recognizes and challenges him/her to balance their academic progress with expressive, personal, physical, civic and social development.
3. Attract and retain the highest quality staff by providing a vital, challenging, and consistently focused professional environment.
4. Continuously improve the systems that promote effective communication among and between the administration, staff and community and ensure that the deployment



Courtesy of Curt Henderson Photography.

of resources efficiently supports the district’s Mission and priorities.

Continuous Improvement

Each year the schools, as well as the Central Office, establish improvement plans that guide the system toward achievement of the Board of Education 5-year goals. Both the 2008-2009 Annual Reports and the 2009-2010 Continuous Improvement Plans can be found on the District’s web site at <http://www.simsbury.k12.ct.us/page.cfm?p=1104>.

Honors and recognition earned by a school system signify that our continuous improvement plans are being implemented successfully. In 2008-2009 the district received a number of state and national honors and awards for all aspects of our work. Following are some of the highlights.

Academic Achievements

- CAPT Math, Reading, and Writing scores are all in top three districts in DRG B and top 10 districts in entire state.
- SAT scores have remained strong and steady over a 10-year period with a 90% or greater yearly student participation rate. Compared to national scores, Simsbury students scored 71 points higher in Math, 81 points higher in Reading, and 88 points higher in Writing. Compared to state scores, Simsbury students scored 73 points higher in Math, 73 points higher in Reading; and 69 points higher in Writing.
- AP Course enrollment is up and at an all-time high, with 52% of graduating seniors completing at least one AP course; 116 SHS students were named AP Scholars by the College Board.

- SHS had 7 National Merit Semi-Finalists and 23 National Merit Commended Scholars.
- 129 students were inducted into the Massaco Chapter of the National Honor Society.
- SHS had 24 National Latin Exam Awards winners.
- HJMS had 91 Presidential Award Recipients (A- average for all 7 consecutive quarters + goal or better on the CMT).

Continuous Improvement Initiatives

- Implemented Honor Code at SHS and formed Honor Council – 250 freshmen students signed off on the Honor Code pledge
- Launched SHS Connect program to match each 9th grade student with an advisor
- Eliminated Level III classes for 9th grade in science, English, and social studies
- Completed new 9th grade curriculum
- Developed eight well-defined Student Learning clusters to shape high school elective course selection
- Received grant for SHS to establish a new pathway for Biomedical Sciences

Honors, Recognitions and Awards

- For the third year, SHS was named in the silver category of schools in the U.S. News and World Report list of top high schools in the country
- HJMS Knowledge Masters team placed 1st in Connecticut, 15th in nation
- Central School named official Lincoln Legacy School
- Eight students competed in FBLA National Leadership Conference.
- Annual Home Builder’s Association of Hartford County 2008 Design Award gave first prize for Unique Model Presentation to Rebecca Soja



Courtesy of Curt Henderson Photography.

- SHS student Joseph Amarante designed Simsbury Housing Authority logo
- Advanced Multimedia Design and Animation class, taught by Cindy Parsons, won award for Outstanding Public Service Announcement at CT Innovation Expo
- Superintendent Diane Ullman received an Excellence in Educational Leadership award from the University Council for Educational Administration (UCEA)
- Fifth grade teacher Megan Leonard earned a CCSU Graduate Academic Award

Visual Art and Performing Arts

- 36 students chosen for Northern Regional Music Competition
- 2 students earned Gold Key awards at Connecticut Scholastic Art Award Program competition
- 16 students received honors in CT Scholastic Art Award Program
- SHS senior Andrew Tang placed third place in the 35th Annual Young Artists Competition presented by the Hartford Symphony Orchestra for viola
- NAMM Foundation designated Simsbury one of the “Best Communities for Music Education” for its commitment and support of music education in schools
- Superintendent Dr. Diane Ullman named Connecticut Arts Administrators Association “Outstanding Arts Advocate”
- Music director Chris Tranberg published in National Music Journal and Teaching Music
- Music teacher Sue Mollica – CT Music Educator’s Association’s Elementary Music Educator of the Year
- Art teacher Stephanie Lauretano – Regents’ Honor Award by the Hartford Art School

- Art teacher Shannon Gagne –first place for her sculpture “Nest” at the Art League of New Britain’s Spring Juried Show and made cover of Hartford Courant iTowns

Citizenship and Activism Awards

- SHS Environmental Club – “People’s Choice” award winner in the CL&P “Live Green-Win Green” contest
- SHS student Nancy Weidner received CT DAR Good Citizen Award
- HJMS math teacher Paul Smith – Local Hero Award by Ronald McDonald House Charities
- Fifth grade teacher Terry Henault – Local Hero Award by Ronald McDonald House Charities
- Math tutor Jill Paterson – CT DEP Green Circle Award recognizing environmental efforts (SCTV “Greenbean Magazine”) and DAR’s Conservation Committee Award
- Special services teacher Gretchen Nelson – Simsbury “Person of the Year” by the Aging and Disability Commission
- Custodian Blair Pavlik appointed to the CT Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission

Academic Snapshot

- On April 9, 2009, 116 students from Simsbury High School were inducted into the Massaco Chapter of the National Honor Society.
- There were 119 Advanced Placement Scholars for 2008-09.
- For the graduating class of 2009, 67% of students completed at least one Advanced Placement course prior to graduation (up from 47% in 2008).
- For the graduating class of 2009, 69% of students earned at least 4 credits in Science. The 2008-09 school year continued the

upward trend of students completing Algebra I at the end of 8th grade (45%, up from 41% in 2007-08). For the graduating class of 2009, 93% of students completed Algebra II prior to graduation, up from 86% in 2007-08. (Note that these percentages are based on the number of graduating seniors that attended Simsbury High School for 4 years.)

- The percentage of students that scored above 600 in Math on the SAT was 52% in 2008-09. The percentage of students that scored above 600 in Writing on the SAT was 49% in 2008-09.

Administrative Services

The Director of Administrative Services recommends management policy to the First Selectman and to the Personnel Sub-Committee. Under the direction of the First Selectman, who serves as the Town’s Personnel Director, the Director of Administrative Services administers and evaluates the staffing program for approximately 146 full time and up to 50 regular part time employees. In addition, the Director of Administrative Services provides management support to the First Selectman and Board of Selectmen in the administration of Town operations.

Animal Control Officer

Animal Control is a service provided by the Police Department. It is comprised of responding to domestic and non-domestic animal related needs, insuring animal related compliance with public health and safety concerns, quality of life issues and education. The Animal Control Officer is licensed and certified by the Department of Environmental Protection for nuisance wildlife control.

Accomplishments of 2008 – 2009 Public Health and Safety

- Completed Annual Dog License Survey to promote vaccination and licensing compliance.
- Hosted annual rabies vaccination clinic to provide convenience and reduced fees.
- Facilitated the adoption of pets.

Public Awareness and Education

- Educational presentations for the public at
- (continued on page 8)

Departments & Services

(continued from page 7)

- Eno Hall, to all residents via SCTV and the Department web site, to civic organizations, residential care facilities and other groups in town.
- Participation in Department wide Community Relations programs.
 - Distribution of Bear Brochure.
 - Addition of links to the Department web site.
 - Advisor to the Dog Park Committee.

Service Development

- Extended information and specialized services to the Patrol Division for a more prepared and comprehensive departmental response to animal related needs within town.
- Participation in Regional Animal Response Team exercise for emergency preparedness.
- Completion of FEMA courses and numerous professional development classes.

Goals for 2009– 2010

- Continue annual participation in Dog License Survey and hosting of rabies vaccination clinic.
- Provide broad based educational presentations and information concerning wildlife safety as well as domestic animals, such as “Preventing Dog Bites”, “Aggressive Dogs” and “Keeping Your Pets Safe”.
- Host training for patrol officers and area Animal Control Officers.
- Enhance professional growth and service.

Incident Statistics 2008 – 2009	
Animal Bites	15
Animal Complaints	1,175
Animal Related Arrests	5
Dog Licenses Issued	2,339
Impounded Animals	43

Assessor

The assessor’s office is responsible for discovering, listing, and valuing property and administering exemption and tax relief programs as required by applicable state and federal law or local ordinance. The list of October 1, 2008 was completed on time,

The top ten taxpayers on the October 1, 2007 grand list were, as of July 1, 2008:		
Name	Nature of Business	Net Taxable Valuation
E and A/ I and G Simsbury Commons LP	Shopping Center	\$36,496,980
Simsbury Associates Limited Partnership	Real Estate Holdings	\$29,865,500
Hartford Life & Accident Ins Co	Insurance Company	\$28,662,010
Executive Risk Indemnity Inc.	Real Estate Holdings	\$21,036,020
Simsbury Hopmeadow Street LLC	Real Estate Holdings	\$16,300,479
Connecticut Light and Power Co.	Public Utility	\$15,415,300
Simsbury Commons North E and A LLC	Supermarket Property	\$10,012,980
Powder Forest Homes LLC	Residential Development	\$9,072,437
McLean George P Estate	Real Estate Holdings	\$8,468,690
Ensign-Bickford Realty Corporation	Real Estate Holdings	\$7,889,930

January 30, 2009. The net taxable grand list as reported to the State of Connecticut on April 30, 2009 was \$2,597,586,326.

In the six months ending December 31, 2009, field work and much of the real estate valuation for the October 1, 2009 list was completed; personal property declarations and quadrennial tax exempt returns had been sent out, received and processed and nearly all of the values estimated.

Under the current provisions of state law, the next revaluation must be completed for the list of October 1, 2012, and must include the reinspection of residential and commercial/ industrial buildings. Work on this should begin in late 2010 and continue into early 2011.

Building Department

The Connecticut Building Codes is really a number of model codes including the electric, fire, safety, mechanical, plumbing, energy and existing building codes, as well as a number of reference standards including those for accessibility. The bottom line is that we enforce a tremendous amount of very technical requirements in a way that we hope is understandable and attainable by the people who need to follow them. We do thorough plan reviews, do thousands of site inspections, respond to inquiries, provide information and, when needed, issue orders to get compliance with all of the code requirements. We

coordinate our efforts with other departments including zoning, wetlands, historic, health, water pollutions control, tax collector and assessor so that a permit to construct can be issued by the Building Official. We also interact and support the enforcement of State Traffic Commission, DOT, Department of Consumer Protection licensing, OSHA and State and Federal Environmental Protection regulations. The process can be daunting but our goal has been to make the permit process as simple and seamless as possible for each applicant while protecting the public interest and assuring the safety of our built environment. We support the Fire Marshal in responding to fires, are the liaison with public utilities for service approvals and connections, and we have the authority to condemn a building or structure.

Accomplishments of 2008 – 2009

In an effort to streamline the permit process and administration of the department, we have been working with our IT department, eight other town Building and IT departments in the region and representatives from the regional council of government to obtain and fine tune permit software to enhance our service capability. In short we hope to offer better service to homeowners and contractors while becoming more efficient and effective in our own offices. The software should be in place and tested by mid summer of 2010. Several thousand old permits have been followed up on and in most

cases closed. There are several thousand to go to bring the department fully up to date. Files have been consolidated into a single address file. Duplicates in those files have been disposed of and old plans have been either returned to the owners or disposed of when approved. The vast majority of commercial property files have been brought up to date by contacting the owners, performing site inspections and final closeouts of outstanding permits.

As one of two Building Official members of the Connecticut Codes and Standards Committee, I have heard over twenty appeals to the State Building And Fire Codes, participated in the production and hearings for the 2009 amendments to the state codes, commented on the proposed State Fire Prevention Code and begun work on the State Energy Code to meet the requirements of the State Statutes for sustainability and the Federal Stimulus funding as well as State initiatives for high performance buildings and electric vehicles. Time constraints have forced me to adjust my responsibilities as director for several regional and state code associations and committees, but I am still available to those organizations as needed, almost entirely on my own time.

Goals for 2009– 2010

We have entered into a contract with the Town of Canton to provide inspection services following the retirement of their Building Official. This contract can be modified or terminated after July 1, 2010. Associated with but separate from this contract, we have worked with multiple towns to modify and update a mutual aid agreement for building departments that would enhance regional cooperation and provide for emergency and practical utilization of inspectors. We hope to have the new permit software in place and actively utilized. Our plan is to close out and file the remainder of all the permit files and actively pursue a long term solution that is consistent with our new permit tracking software to address the organization and access of documents and information in our files.

Departments & Services

This would include the potential integration of new and legacy land use files. The ability to accomplish these goals will be related to staffing levels and budget constraints.

Computer Department

The Simsbury Computer department supports technologies throughout all municipal departments, including the offices of the Board of Education and Law Enforcement. The department oversees the daily IT operations and maintenance of these departments as well as, Simsbury’s satellite locations; Senior Center, Water Pollution Control Facility, Public Works, Building and Maintenance Facilities (educational & municipal), Simsbury Farms Recreational Complex, and Simsbury Public Library. With the continued growth in government usage of technologies and its’ demand for providing and utilizing various information streams, the department is focused on researching innovative ways to develop existing and researching new technologies to provide informational benefits to Town departments and the citizens of Simsbury.

Accomplishments of 2008 – 2009

Coordinate Simsbury’s participation within CROC’s (Capital Regional Counsel of Government) Regional Permitting Program as a pilot town in the regional sharing arena. Program allows Simsbury to acquire a web-based Building application with various modules; permits and inspections, planning and code enforcement etc. that will serve municipal departments on a cost-effective IT platform.

STEP Program - Participation in the STEP (Supported Training and Employment Program) at Simsbury High School that provides work experiences for students with disabilities within the field of technology. Student(s) assist in the digitalizing of 1984 assessment information for historical archiving and retrieval.

Completion of the Town of Simsbury web site redesign that utilized the newly formed Employee Web Group to research, develop,

and implement new features and navigational updates while promoting cost savings standards. During this period, the Town’s web site experienced 438,000 total hits with a average daily hit count of 1,200 and a cumulative file download amount of 19GB of municipal information, forms and data by its’ constituents.

Involvement in the planning, development and implementation of public address system with Eno Memorial Hall and Simsbury Public Library.

Provided internal web site training for town personnel which allowed expansion of web site services and redesign.

Successful incorporation of Simsbury’s Performing Arts Center web site within the Town of Simsbury’s web site providing greater web presence without an increase in web expenditures.

Goals for 2009– 2010

Research and identify new and alternative methods in the delivery and presentation of municipal information for Internet and Intranet-based publication.

Continue the extension of telecommunications, including telephony, among municipal locations as well as, providing secure and cost effective network segments to support and enhance municipal services.

Continued participation and completion of pilot phase of CROC’s (Capital Regional Counsel of Government) Regional Permitting Program. Allowing the Building department to utilize a web-based Building permitting application with various modules.

Incorporate the supervision of Simsbury’s municipal cell phone inventory and usage within the Computer department providing centralized management and cost savings initiatives.

Implementation and participation in the IT sharing initiative program with the Town of Canton.

Departments & Services

Culture, Parks and Recreation

The Culture, Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for the administration of the town’s parks, recreational facilities and recreational programs. The Department attempts to provide a wide range of programs and recreational opportunities which contribute to the environment, needs, and interests of the community.

The Simsbury Culture, Parks and Recreation Commission provides direction and oversight to the Department, as well as recommending policy to the Board of Selectmen. The Commission is assisted by the Simsbury Farms Complex Committee, a sub-committee that advises on the operation and programming at the Simsbury Farms Recreation Complex.

Accomplishments of 2008 – 2009

- 1. Acquired approvals and completed construction of a new access road at Simsbury Farms.
- 2. Received funding for a new combined parks/golf maintenance facility. The facility will be open in March, 2010.
- 3. Continued to increase the volume of programs offered. Continued marketing initiatives and on-line registration accommodated a growing number of program participants.
- 4. Worked with architect on needs assessment and preliminary design of Simsbury Farms Main Building Renovation.
- 5. Worked with Simsbury Little League and the Simsbury Soccer Club on the completion of new athletic fields.

Goals for 2009– 2010

- 1. Complete construction of the new maintenance facility.
- 2. Pave the existing access road at Simsbury Farms and replace the existing cart barn/ maintenance facility.
- 3. Continue marketing initiative to increase play at the Simsbury Farms Golf Course.
- 4. Secure funding for improvements to the Simsbury Farms Golf Course, as well as the renovation of the main building at the Complex.

Department of Engineering/ Capital Projects

The Department provides design and management services for a full range of community projects; and, administrative and design support for Capital Projects. During the past year, we worked closely with the Board of Selectmen, Public Building Committee, Simsbury Public Schools and several Town agencies in order to advance several projects to the bidding and construction phase.

The Tariffville School, completed for the 2009 fall opening, included new 6th grade classrooms, a modern, multi-use, kitchen and cafeteria, special education suite, and health/main offices; as well as energy efficient heating system and windows, life safety code improvements, including fire sprinklers, and an improved bus drop off.

With the installation of fire sprinklers, code improvements and a new entry plaza, Eno Memorial Hall offers the opportunity for expanded uses for the senior and community center. A \$200,000 grant from the State’s Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) assisted in funding this project.

Project Professional Services

The Engineering Department staff of design professionals provided survey, engineering, and contract management and inspection services for 11 projects, valued at \$2.0 million.

Plans were developed for resurfacing the Iron Horse Boulevard, and repairing the pavement on the RT. 315/Wolcott Road sections of the Farmington Valley Greenway. This work, completed in 2009, will provide important functional and safety improvements to the popular trail.

In order to remedy drainage concerns on roads and adjacent properties, a new culvert was installed on Deer Park Road, and the fire water pond and dam was repaired on Woodchuck Hill Road.

Addressing the need for neighborhood sanitary sewers, the department worked closely with the Water Pollution Control Authority to install sewers in Wolcott Road; and to design sewers on High Hill Circle and parts of Bushy Hill Road.

Several improvements at the Wolcott Road recycling and bulky waste transfer facility were completed to provide expanded and more convenient use.

These projects, which addressed residents’ travel, environment and recreation needs, included the use of grants, donations, and inter-town Agreements. These efforts allowed Simsbury to realize important program savings, and benefited Simsbury and the surrounding communities.

Development Services

Development Services comprise plan review, periodic observation of work, performance bond administration and data base management for the land uses commissions. Eleven projects, with site improvements valued at \$16 million, were managed during the year.

While overall site construction declined, several projects, such as Phonon Corp, Dorset Crossing, Hoffman Auto Center, and the Powder Forest housing, saw completion of, or continuing, construction in the past year.

Special Services

Special Services encompass support activities for various Town departments. Major initiatives included the following:

Simsbury Airport Study

In cooperation with, and funding from, the Federal Aviation Administration and the Connected Department of Transportation, the Town selected Clough-Harbour Consultants to undertake a feasibility study to determine the potential for municipal ownership of the Simsbury Airport. The study involved creating a study committee, comprised of Board and Commission members, airport users, and town staff; and, conducting several public involvement meetings.

While preserving small airports for general aviation purposes is a high priority for aviation agencies, and is in accord with the Town Plan of Conservation and Development, the study was not authorized to proceed to phase 2 because agreement, to sell with the property owner, and to expand the runway into East Granby could not be reached at this time.

Grant Applications, with a value in excess of \$2.5 million, were administered for design and construction of the Clubhouse Drive, Greenway Crossings at Routes 10, Simsbury Airport Study, Simsbury Library expansion/ addition, the pavement management program (LOCIP), the Firetown Culvert (FEMA), improvement of the Greenway at Hopmeadow

Departments & Services

Street & Drake Hill Road, and Eno Memorial Sprinkler & Code Improvements; and, for acquisition of Ethel Walker and Laurel Hill Open Space.

Open Space Grant Applications were prepared to financially assist with the previous agreements to preserve over 380 acres of forest, meadows and wetlands at the Ethel Walker School and Laurel Hill in Tariffville.

Graphic Design, Studies, and Mapping Services were provided to numerous Town departments to assist in their presentations, data management, and community activities. A continuing commitment to the Town’s Geographic Information System allowed the production of assessor maps based on the regional aerial photography. Graphic designs were provided for Police community events, Simsbury Celebrates, and the Women’s Club Sculpture Garden. Maps were updated for the Assessor, public work’s utilities and School District boundaries. Data bases and map files were maintained for subdivision and site developments, surety bonding, excavation permits, and state aid road maps and mileage records.

Looking Back and Ahead

With the completion of renovations and additions to the Tariffville School, Simsbury’s commitment to its neighborhood Schools continued. This school is now a modern educational facility, which also supports community activities and preserves its historic facade. The life safety improvements at Eno Memorial Hall allow this facility to offer more programs to seniors and community groups.

On a regional basis, the Department staff actively participated on the Board of Directors of the Farmington Valley Health District, the Call Before You Dig system, the Capitol Region Council of Governments’ Transportation Committee, and the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection’s stormwater management program. We continue to realize greater efficiencies & savings from these regional and state alliances.

In the coming year, we will work with elected officials, commissions, staff and consultants to prepare plans that will emphasize cost effective maintenance of our facilities. Projects will include a new roof for Tootin’ Hills School, an emergency generator for Squadron Line School, and a combined maintenance facility for Parks & Golf.

We will be improving the oldest sections of the Farmington Valley Greenway multi-use trail in order to provide a safe, functional facility for the many users of this recreation and transportation route. The Greenway is fast approaching completion of its planned 72 mile route connecting New Haven and Northampton.

Infrastructure improvements associated with the successful Center Area Charrette will be examined, in coordination with a Hopmeadow Street corridor study, to determine the needs to support development growth and accessibility in Simsbury’s downtown

While the current economic environment demands ever more efficient use and management of resources, we also believe that the prudent selection of projects will result in construction cost savings.



Departments & Services

Department of Finance

The Finance Department has three distinct divisions – Assessor’s Office, Computers and Tax Collector.

In addition to the administration/accounting/ payroll functions, the Finance Department, in cooperation with the Board of Finance, has responsibility for all aspects of the Town’s financial affairs. This includes risk management; purchasing preparation and monitoring of the annual operating and capital budgets; establishment and monitoring of internal control procedures; investment of Town funds; and coordination of debt financing.

Simsbury Public Library

In its first full year of operations since its expansion and renovations, the Simsbury Library has truly proved the old adage: “Build it and they will come.” The Library has become a hub for the community, attracting more than 250,000 visitors of all ages to participate in its programs and enjoy its services.

In FY 2009, the 42,000 sq. ft. building housed a collection of 150,000 books, magazines, CD and DVD collections, offered access to an additional 5,400 full-text, on-line journals and newspapers, 3,000 downloadable audio books and 150 electronic book titles. The building was open an average of 64 hours per week, and staffed by 14 full time and 28 part time employees.

A sampling of what we offered in 2009 For Children

- Targeted English as a second language for collection development.
- Expanded theme packs on subjects such as potty training, going to school, new baby.
- Purchased DVDs in science, American History and holidays.
- Expanded science and math programming.
- Opened the salt water aquarium funded by the Friends of the Library.

Programs

Age Group	# of Programs	# of attendees
0-2	97	2,460
3-5	132	7,437
6-11	121	6,133

For Teens

- Bi-weekly reading and writing groups
- 12-week summer improvisational theater
- Daily Wii Sports games during the summer
- Weekly Simsbury Union of Slam Poets

For Adults

- Weekly conversational French group
- Weekly Scrabble group
- A second session of Great Decisions – an 8 week- foreign policy discussion group
- Bi-weekly Writer’s Group
- 25 Technology one-on-one consult sessions with “The Computer Professor”
- 180 technology classes held in the 20-seat Tech Lab on subjects such as digital photography, blogging, email. 3000 attendees.

For Job Seekers

Helped with job hunting, resumes, cover letters and practice interviews. Workshops included:

- Job Finding in a Tough Economy
- Word Formatting for Resumes
- LinkedIn for Job Seekers
- Job Hunting In The Library

Launched and promoted JobNow an on-line, interactive job support program.

For Entrepreneurs and Business

- 84 Business Programs, 3,360 attendees
- Wednesday Night is Business Night – aired by Simsbury Community Television



- Hands-on Social networking classes (LinkedIn, Twitter & Facebook)
- Answered 4,000 business reference questions.
- Provided 384 in-depth consultations.

Accomplishments of 2008 – 2009

In our first year, we:

- Booked 1,000 meetings in our meeting rooms for community groups and organizations.
- Added 15,000 books, cd’s and dvd’s to our collection
- Issued 1,300 new library cards
- Increased overall circulation to almost half a million, one of the highest per capita circulations in the state.
- Regularly reached 3,000 library users through our email newsletters.
- Opened the Technology Learning Center, Friends Café and Friends Bookstore.
- Added on-line databases: Consumer Reports and the Historical Hartford Courant 1764-1922.
- Hosted 30 art exhibits in our galleries and program room.
- Obtained two part-time, grant-funded positions through Hartford Foundation for Public Giving – a Reference Librarian and a Technology Center Aide.
- Nominated Karilyn Hollebhone, Children’s Circulation Assistant, as Connecticut Support Staff of the year – and won!!
- Resolved all but two outstanding punch list issues with the building.
- Captured the knowledge, skills and energy of Baby Boomers for the improvement of the Library and the community. 85 volunteers donated an average of 280 hours/week.
- Partnered with the Simsbury Chamber of Commerce, the High School Guidance Department, the Special Ed PTO, the Senior Center, Girl Scouts of America and other civic and Town organizations to provide programs and services for student, seniors and businesses.
- Selected 3M as our vendor for patron-initiated check-in and check-out. When implemented, patrons will be able to check

Statistics	2008	2009	Difference	% Change
Circulation	332,226	459,260	127,034	38%
Questions answered	47,054	52,161	5,107	11%
Attendance	225,000	245,000	20,000	9%
Interlibrary Loan	5,518	6,352	834	15%
Programs	457	670	213	47%
Program Attendance	19,203	24,640	5,437	28%
Print Collection	126,879	132,789	5,910	+4.7%
Non-print Collection	12,265	17,719	5,454	+ 45%
Staff Size	20.5	20.9	0.4	+ 2%
Volunteers	77	85	8	+ 10%
Volunteer hours/wk	254	280	26	+ 10%
Library Budget	\$1,271,569	1,321,686	50,117	+ 4%

their books in and out themselves and pay fines and bills without staff mediation.

Goals for 2009– 2010

Self-Service

- Introduce the public to express self-check in and out with a bill paying option.
- Mobilize volunteers to tag library materials with Radio Frequency Identification tags.
- Utilize the Technology Learning Center to teach patrons how to check their library accounts, pay bills, place reserves, look up information, and check their materials in and out.

Interactive web-site

- Expand access to library services through a completely revised and interactive library web-site.

Increase positive interactions with the public

- Give staff mobility by equipping them with mobile phones and laptops so they can provide help wherever the patrons may be in the building.



Departments & Services

- Explore partnerships with other organizations to bring quality environmental programs to children at reduced costs
- Utilize environmentally sound cleaning products and fertilizers in our buildings and grounds

Planning and Land Use Department

During the fiscal year 2008-2009 the Department of Community Planning and Development continued to provide assistance to the Planning Commission, Zoning Commission, Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commission, Economic Development Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Design Review Board and the Historic District Commission. In this role the Department’s staff reviews development applications and advises these boards and commissions as they review them. Staff also provides guidance on a wide variety of specific matters, land use policy issues, plans and applicable regulations and ordinances

The Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) as required by CGS 8-23 was completed and adopted on October 9, 2007 and became effective on November 3, 2007. The Zoning Commission has restarted a significant reorganization and revision of the Zoning Regulations which was begun in 2003 and placed on hold in 2005. This work is now scheduled for completion in 2010. This work was placed on hold until the POCD was completed. The Zoning Commission is also working on an Incentive Housing Zone study for possible adoption of a workforce housing regulation. It is also working on a Planned Area Development (PAD) zoning regulation to allow mixed use development as an overlay zone as well. It is also working on a Town Center charrette for the fall of 2009.

The Department staff also continues to meet with applicants or potential applicants to advise and assist them regarding the process and

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Departments & Services

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procedures for their contemplated projects. The Department staff also provides advice to all other departments as well as to the general public. The review and administrative processing of all land use applications by the staff provides coordination necessary for the efficient processing of all land use applications.

The Department staff will continue to coordinate efforts with surrounding town’s land use agencies, regional planning organizations and state agencies. The Department staff continues to strive to further improve the necessary coordination and communication between the land use commissions and all other departments in order to optimize the land use application process.

Police Department

The Simsbury Police Department is a State of Connecticut accredited agency providing law enforcement and public safety services to Simsbury residents 24 hours a day, seven days a week, including operation of the E-911 Public Safety Answering Point. The department employs 36 sworn officers, ten full-time and three part-time civilian employees. The department provides a full range of services with 32 first responders and four Emergency Medical Technicians. During FY 08-09 there were 28,055 calls for service with an average response time of under five minutes for medical calls. The department is staffed by highly qualified and extensively trained personnel. Department personnel received 3,639 hours of training during FY 08-09.

Ensuring the safety of residents and visitors is the department’s first priority. We are committed to responding to resident’s concerns and working together with the community to solve problems. It is our involvement with the community from our youngest citizens to our seniors that sets the department apart.

The department and its members have served the community for over 50 years. It is our mission to continue to increase the quality and level of service whenever possible and to ensure the residents of

Simsbury have a police department to be proud of and one they can rely upon when the need arises.

Accomplishments of 2008 – 2009

The most significant highlight of Fiscal Year 2008 – 2009 is the continuation of the dedicated traffic officer in response to citizen concerns regarding motor vehicle speeding. Since this position was put into place, we have experienced a marked decrease in motor vehicle speeding in Town.

Added one additional crossing guard position in Tariffville.

The department applied for and received two grants totaling \$95,000. Some of the equipment purchased with these funds included mobile video cameras, RAFS radio system and car radios.

Other highlights include:

- All Public Safety Telecommunicators recertified in Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) protocol
- Participated in Regional Incident Dispatch Team
- Hosted NIMS Training – Four received NIMS 300 & 400 certification
- Participated in regional traffic safety program
- Specialized DWI Training
- Accident Reconstruction Training
- Basic Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Training
- Career Development Initiatives
- Crime tips and information that continually update police department web site
- Youth Driver Education Program/SIDNE

Simulated Drunk Driving Experience vehicle

- Met CJIS requirements for computer network security
- Animal Control Officer regular on SCTV education segment
- Bear Sighting Tips – SCTV and Bear Aware pamphlets
- Held 3rd Annual CT Five-O on Snow Law Enforcement Ski Race benefiting Connecticut Children’s Medical Center
- Held 8th Annual Junior Police Academy
- Held 9th Annual Simsbury Citizens’ Police Academy
- Held 2nd Annual Simsbury Citizens’ Police Academy Alumni Class
- Women’s self defense tactics program (RAD Rape Aggression Defense)
- “Stuff-A-Cruiser” – Toy collection for Salvation Army
- Continued to support established Simsbury Police Explorer Program
- Presented “Officer Phil” Safety Program in both public and private schools
- Continued increased effort in bike patrols
- In an effort to address residents’ concerns increased selective enforcement focusing on traffic issues, traffic studies, and traffic calming solutions
- Participated in State of Connecticut seat belt educational/enforcement waves
- Participated in Multiple Sclerosis “MS Walk for the Cure”
- Co-sponsored the 11th Annual “Skate and Share” Christmas Party with the Social Services and Recreation Departments to benefit the Simsbury Food Closet



Courtesy of Simsbury Police Department.

Departments & Services

Probate Court

The Simsbury Probate Court is staffed by Paul J. Knierim, Judge of Probate, Julie Lavissiere, Clerk, and Deborah Trovato and Pamela Baldini, both Assistant Clerks.

In addition to serving as probate judge for Simsbury, Judge Knierim serves as Probate Court Administrator. In that capacity, he is responsible for the administration of the probate courts throughout the state and for implementing measures to strengthen and improve the system.

Our mission is to assist the individuals and families who require the services of the court in an efficient and compassionate manner. Knowing that families become involved in the probate courts during times that are emotionally difficult, we strive to ease the process as much as possible.

Jurisdiction of the Court

Connecticut’s probate courts are charged with responsibility for several different types of legal matters. In general, the court is involved in circumstances in which an individual is unable to manage his or her own affairs. The court appoints and supervises fiduciaries to take responsibility for the affairs of such individuals, or, in the case of a deceased individual, to settle his or her estate.

Most people associate the probate court with decedents’ estates, and this area represents approximately 35% of our overall workload. The court also has jurisdiction over certain types of trusts, which cases make up another 15% of the court’s workload.

The probate court also has jurisdiction over several different types of legal matters involving children. These cases include the appointment of guardians for parents who may be unable to care for their children, or for minors receiving property, termination of parental rights in abuse and neglect situations, and adoptions. Children’s matters represent only 30% of our workload by number of cases, but are some of the most sensitive and time-consuming responsibilities of the court.

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INCIDENT STATISTICS	'04-'05	'05-'06	'06-'07	'07-'08	'08-'09
Part I Crimes	240	234	272	236	214
Motor Vehicle Accidents	853	744	714	756	724
Medical Calls	1,044	1,088	1,025	1,129	1216
Motor Vehicle Enforcement	4,168	3,635	4,235	4,949	5242
Alarm Responses	873	862	812	797	866
Total Incidents	24,451	23,518	24,158	25,703	28,055

- Sponsored Senior Picnic with more than 200 seniors in attendance
- Participation in 2008 Food Share Program (Turkey Trot)
- Bicycle Safety Program in schools
- Halloween Safety presentation
- Participated in “Tip-a-Cop” for Special Olympics
- Participated in Special Olympics “Torch Run”
- Assist and organize 10th Annual David Vidal Road Race for St. Jude’s
- Certified child car seat inspections (4 Certified Technicians)
- Held 8th Annual Top Dog Contest in cooperation with Town Clerk’s office
- TIPS – Training for alcohol servers (2 Certified Instructors)
- Senior Citizens/Community Groups informational talks and presentations
- Advocacy for elderly program
- Updated Nexgen Software (Information Management System)
- Received CJIS Certification
- AED Training – All Officers
- Project Safe Childhood-Online Predators – 2 Officers
- Driving Simulator Training – 2 Officers

- Field Training Officer (FTO) Training – 2 Officers
- Effective Police Interactions with Youth – School Resource Officer
- First Line Supervisor Training – 1 Sergeant
- Crisis Intervention Team Training – 4 Officers
- Personal Safety and Awareness Program for Women
- Job Shadow program participant
- Northwestern Connecticut Community College Criminal Justice Practicum Placement
- University of Hartford Internship program

Goals for 2009– 2010

- Expand Community Oriented Policing/ Problem Solving initiatives
- Achieve National Police Accreditation through CALEA
- Achieve State reaccreditation
- Continue to address traffic concerns through a sustained departmental effort
- CAPTAIN/NEXGEN Mobile Data interface to allow report writing in mobile environment
- Complete installation and implementation of Reverse 911 System (Everbridge system)



Courtesy of Simsbury Police Department.

Departments & Services

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Conservatorship and guardianship for individuals with developmental disabilities both involve the appointment and supervision of fiduciaries for adults who are unable to manage their finances or care for themselves. These cases represent 20% of our overall workload.

Information about Probate

Involvement with the probate court, like any element of the legal system, can be intimidating, and we strive to make the process as understandable as possible. Although we cannot provide legal advice, we welcome the opportunity to answer questions. We also have informational pamphlets on hand at the court that are an excellent source of information on a variety of probate topics. Please feel free to call or stop by the court at town hall if you would like any of these pamphlets. In addition, Paul Knierim, in his capacity as Judge of Probate, is available to speak to community groups about probate matters.

Passports

Although not mandated by statute, the Simsbury Probate Court has elected, as a courtesy to the public, to serve as a local passport acceptance agency. We suggest that you submit your application at least six weeks prior to your travel departure date. We also ask that you call ahead to schedule an appointment so that we can set aside time to assist you with your passport application. You may reach the court at (860) 658-3277.

New Developments

The General Assembly passed legislation in 2009 that will substantially restructure the probate courts of our state. The legislation, which is the product of collaboration among probate judges, legislators, and the governor, will improve the efficiency of the probate system. The new structure seeks to preserve the best qualities of the system, including the close connection between our courts and the communities that we serve and the strong commitment to assisting those who need the services of the courts.

As a result of the legislation, the following changes will become effective on January 5, 2011:

- The number of probate courts will be reduced from 117 to 54
- All courts will be open 40 hours per week
- Newly elected probate judges must be attorneys
- A newly established Probate Court Budget Committee will establish a system wide compensation and benefits plan for court staff and will determine the staffing level and office budget for each court
- Administrative functions such as accounting and payroll will be handled centrally to reduce costs

The Simsbury Probate Court will merge with the courts serving Avon, Canton, and Granby to form the Farmington Valley Probate Court. The new court will be located in the Simsbury Town Hall. The arrangement is ideal for Simsbury residents, who will have the benefit of convenient access to the regional court while the cost to operate the court is reduced.

Probate Court Web site

On-line information about the courts is available on our web site, located at www.jud.ct.gov, click on “probate”. Many of the forms used by the probate courts are now available through the web site.

Public Works Department

The Public Works Department is comprised of four divisions: Administrative, Highway,

Building and Grounds Maintenance, and Landfill and Recycling. The Department has a combined staff of 28 and has a \$3.7M combined operating budget. The Administrative Division has responsibility for budget preparation, administration, operational planning, contracting, purchasing, and personnel.

Highway Department

The Highway Division maintains 164 miles of Town accepted roadways including 3,850 catch basins, the storm drainage system, roadside mowing, sign and guide-rail maintenance and trees within the right of way. The Highway Division also performs fleet maintenance for all vehicles utilized by the Public Works Division as well as the Engineering, Building, and Police Departments.

Some fleet maintenance has also been performed for the Board of Education in an attempt to help control costs for that department.

Beginning in the winter of 2009/2010 the Town began to using treated salt for our winter road maintenance in place of the traditional sand salt mixture. The new approach provided cleaner roads during the winter months and will lead to substantial savings in our spring street sweeping. The Department also began a popular “Snow Plow Ride Along” program that allowed interested residents to get a first hand look at the Town’s snow plow operations.



Several drainage improvement projects were completed by the Department’s staff this past year, including the lining of a 42” culvert on Shingle Mill Road. This work was completed using a new process of inserting a high density polyethylene pipe into the existing culvert and grouting the new liner pipe in place. Using this process allowed the work to be completed in one week, did not require excavating the roadway and saved several thousand dollars when compared with traditional construction methods. Additionally, the Department was able to correct a longstanding flooding problem on Quad Hill Road.

The department is in the process of replacing two underground 10,000 gallon fuel tanks with two above ground tanks. This project also includes an upgrade to the Town’s fuel management system that will allow for better tracking of fuel usage by vehicle and departments.

As part of the DEP’s Municipal Small Storm Sewer System (MS4) Program, 1,300 catch basins and 10 sediment chambers were cleaned, along with the sweeping of all streets. In addition, 100 catch basins were reconstructed to keep them in good working order.

The Department resurfaced approximately 5.6 miles of Town roadways. Approximately, 3 miles of the resurfacing on local roads used a process of hot in place asphalt recycling. Approximately, 3 miles of roadway were crack sealed and 71 miles of centerline painting was accomplished.

Landfill and Recycling Center

The Simsbury Landfill at 66 Wolcott Road was closed in 1998, and an application has been approved by the Department of Environmental Protection for continued operation as a bulky waste and recycling materials Transfer Station. The Town conducts annual monitoring of ground water and storm water at this site and the site is also used as a composting area. A new swap shack was installed this year and will be open for operation in the spring of 2010.

Departments & Services

The Town participated in the Household Hazardous Waste Collection program with the cooperation of Avon, Granby, and Bloomfield. This year 454 residents participated in this program run thru the MDC.

Building Maintenance Department

Building Maintenance is responsible for 4 Town Buildings (Town Hall, the Library, Eno Memorial Hall, and Scout Hall), 5 rental properties, a service facility, a commuter bus shelter, and the Old Tariffville Cemetery. Extensive work was done on the Towns low income residential rentals to prepare them for new tenants. The Department was instrumental in preparing the Town Farm on Wolcott Hill Road for the new Community Farm of Simsbury.

Eno Memorial saw significant renovation work with the installation of a new fire sprinkler system and the remodeling of the Old Court Room. Renovation work on the first floor bathrooms has been started, and will be completed this spring.

Department staff has conducted energy efficiency studies on Town Hall and Eno Memorial Hall to assess their overall energy efficiency and determine where improvements can be made. Similar efforts will be made in the spring of 2010 on the Library. The Department staff has made extensive efforts to improve the energy efficiency of all town owned buildings.

Registrars of Voters

The operations of the office of the Registrars of Voters are governed by the Secretary of the State’s office and state statute. The Registrars of Voters are jointly responsible for the administration of State Election Laws.

They direct all local, state and federal elections and primaries, and the town’s budget referendum, including staffing, equipment testing and operation, and absentee voter counting, reporting of results, and records retention. Registrars supervise voter registration, maintain the list of qualified electors, and conduct the annual canvass of registered voters.

Young voters were made part of the election process in 2009. Advanced placement students from Simsbury High School joined official election workers at training sessions to learn about the election process. Registrars conducted the annual registration drive at Simsbury High School in May, and enrolled over 60 new voters.

In 2009, the Registrars began working with the Government and Elections Administration committee of the Connecticut General Assembly to reduce statute-driven mandates, including the reduction in number of polling places used for primaries, and streamlining the audit process. Should these initiatives pass, it would result in cost savings for all 169 towns in Connecticut.

Voter Registration Summary, Town of Simsbury - January 29, 2010	
Democratic:	4817
Republican:	5295
Unaffiliated:	6082
Other:	57
TOTAL:	16,251

Social Services Department

The Social Services Department provides assistance to individuals, families, and elderly residents in a professional and confidential manner.

This has been a difficult year for Simsbury families, and we have seen a tremendous increase in requests for assistance. We have been able to meet this increase in need thanks to the wonderfully generous residents of Simsbury.

The Department offers a variety of services to Simsbury residents, which include: Financial Assistance, Medical Assistance, Cheese Day, Bread Day, the Food Closet, the Holiday Program, Energy Assistance, Emergency Shelter, Counseling, Eviction Assistance, Medical Transportation, Renter’s Rebate,

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Departments & Services

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Family Therapy, Youth Services, Notary services, Trigger Locks, Cell Phones, and Emergency Beacon Lights.

The Department also provides vital outreach services to the senior population through the Senior Outreach Program; we provide transportation to seniors and persons with disabilities five days per week through our Dial-A-Ride Program, and operate a very active and diverse Senior Center for our residents over 50 years of age.

Our Youth Service Bureau continues to offer after-school events for Middle school students on early release days. In addition, we have sponsored drug and alcohol awareness programs, character development and mentoring programs, Teen Center programs, graduation celebrations, Family Day, Skate and Share, and the Senior Center/Teen Center dance.

The Department’s work continues to be generously supported by the donations of time, money, food, gifts, and products from various civic organizations, businesses, churches, schools, families, and individuals. A special thank you to Fitzgerald’s Foods, Panera Bread, Brookside Bagels, Dunkin Donuts, and Starbucks for their weekly donations to our Bread Day Program, and to Stop & Shop for their annual Food For Friends donation.

Senior Center

The mission of the Simsbury Senior Center is to provide a community focal point where older adults come together for programs that reflect their experience and skills, respond to their diverse needs and interests, enhance their dignity, support their independence, and encourage their involvement in and with the Center and their community.

The Center offers opportunities for health and wellness with the use of a Fitness Center and exercise classes for varied fitness levels. Health screenings and clinics are offered for blood pressure, hearing, vision, flu and pneumonia vaccines.

A variety of educational and informational programs are offered, including a writing group, book club an investment group, and guest lecturers. Opportunities to participate in artistic and creative programs are available with such activities as painting, choral singing, knitting and writing. A variety of ongoing recreational and social activities are offered as well as special events to celebrate holidays and occasions. The center also offers opportunities to travel with a variety of day and overnight trips. Souper Tuesday Lunches are provided six times a year sponsored by the Aging and Disability Commission.

The Senior Center initiated a weekly congregate meal program in January 2009 called Lunch @ Eno. It provides guests with seasonal menus that include a hot entrée, bread/rolls, coffee, milk and dessert. A wide variety of computer/technology classes are offered, including: computer for the beginner, using the internet, email, digital camera, social networking, using webcams, and computer safety.

The Senior Center partners with St Mary’s School, Hopmeadow Nursery School, Westminster School, The Master’s School, The Junior Women’s League, UCONN, and The University of Hartford to offer intergenerational opportunities that link preschoolers and students with older adults to help dispel inaccurate stereotypes, increase cooperation, and encourage interaction between generations.



The Senior Center offers assistance and support with Income Tax, Social Security Benefits, bereavement and care-giving.

The Center, located in Eno Memorial Hall, 754 Hopmeadow Street, is open year round, Monday, 8:30 AM – 7:00 PM and Tuesday through Friday, 8:30 AM– 4:30 PM. For further information, call us at 860 658-3273 or click on www.townofsimsbury-ct.gov/seniorcenter

The Simsbury Senior Center welcomes all members of the diverse and growing older adult population (age 50 and over), their families and friends.

Dial-A-Ride Program

The Social Services Department has operated the Dial-A-Ride Program for Simsbury’s elderly and disabled residents since 1980. During the 2008-2009 Fiscal Year 8,625 passengers requested 7,669 trips, and traveled 45,101 miles. Two buses run daily, Monday through Friday providing door-to-door transportation within Simsbury for such things as shopping, hairdresser, and medical appointments, the Senior Center, the Library and local functions. Further, the buses provide rides to doctor’s appointments in Simsbury and Avon, shopping trips to the Simsbury Commons, and stores along Route 44. On Mondays transportation is provided to Buckland Hills Mall, Enfield Square Mall, The Shoppes at Farmington Valley, or WestFarms Mall. In addition, the Program provides service for Simsbury residents to local medical



appointments, physical therapy, and transports several disabled residents to and from their place of employment.

During 2008-2009 the Social Services Department received a grant from the Connecticut Department of Transportation to provide additional services to the elderly and disabled residents. With these grant funds, the Enhanced Dial-A-Ride Program was able to provide 155 out-of-town medical trips; 8 trips to the casinos; 7 joint trips with the Canton Senior Center; and 20 Senior Center trips, serving 737 passengers.

Reservations can be made by calling 693-6876 between 8:00 A.M. and 12:00 Noon at least 24 hours in advance.

Elderly Outreach Program

The Elderly Outreach Program provides outreach services to Simsbury’s homebound elderly and disabled residents. Since its inception in 1981, the Program uses volunteers to make weekly visits to those homebound who might need socialization, comfort, and friendship. The Program lets our homebound residents know that they are cared about. Successful matches have been made throughout the year resulting in 25 volunteers who made 848 visits.

In addition, our Elderly Outreach Program provides information and guidance to residents and their families regarding local, state, and federal resources they may benefit from. All emergency 911 medical incident reports provided by the Simsbury Police Department are followed up on. Home visits are made and information given regarding services including homecare, alternate housing, medical and financial assistance. Assistance is provided with Energy Assistance, ConnPace, and Medicaid applications. Finally, we maintain a current list of frail elderly and persons with disabilities, which is activated each time we experience severe weather conditions. We will continue to strive to better serve our seniors and disabled residents, and with the continued assistance from our wonderful and committed volunteers our program will continue to thrive.

Departments & Services

Tax Collector

Taxes, a compulsory governmental charge for the purpose of defraying the cost of services provided for common benefit, is the major source of revenue for Town Government. As such, the Tax Collector is responsible for collection of both current and delinquent taxes (real estate and motor vehicle, sewer use and assessment and some water assessments.)

We are also responsible for the collections and balancing of all Fire District taxes. Concern and understanding continue to be the departments driving force. We also strive for quality of personal contact with the taxpayer. If at any time there is a problem or concern please feel free to contact us at (860) 658-3238.

These duties, when performed in an efficient manner, should reflect the financial well being of the Town which is the backbone of any municipality in regard to the fiscal debt and bonding capacity.

2008 Grand List Mill Rate	
Town	30.10
Fire District	1.05
Total	31.15

Statistics for 2008 Grand List Number of Accounts to be collected	
Real Estate	8,557
Personal Property	1,096
Motor Vehicle	20,814
Motor Vehicle Supp.	2,822
Total amount to be collected	\$78,443,794.84

Town Clerk

The Town Clerk’s Office is responsible for receiving and maintaining extensive records concerning real estate transactions; births, deaths, marriages and civil unions; elections, primaries and referenda; meeting minutes for Town boards and commissions; military discharges; hunting and fishing sport licenses; dog licenses; liquor licenses; notaries public; justices of the peace; trade name certificates; and other historical documents that date back

to the seventeenth century. State statutes, the Town Charter, and local ordinances govern the implementation of duties for this office.

On August 12, 2008, a Republican Party Primary was held for the office of State Senator. At the November 4, 2008, State Election, which included the offices of president and vice president, voter turnout was 88 percent. The Town Clerk’s staff issued a record number of absentee ballots (2,040), which was an increase of 19 percent over the amount issued at the 2004 presidential election. On November 3, 2009, 42 percent of Simsbury voters participated in the Municipal Election.

Annual budget and special town meetings were held on May 5, 2009. Operating budgets for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, were presented. At the special town meeting, capital projects were approved to construct a combined, parks and golf maintenance facility; to renovate portions of Central School; to replace a generator at Squadron Line School; and to replace core switches that service the schools and the Town. At the budget referendum held on May 19, 2009, voter turnout was 13 percent. All operating budgets were approved.

In cooperation with Chief Peter Ingvertsen, Animal Control Officer Mark Rudewicz, and the Simsbury Police Department, we conducted our eighth Top Dog Contest during May 2008. The four happy winners received dog treats, and their owners received a 2008 dog license at no charge.

Statistics for Fiscal Year 2008-2009	
Total Revenues*	\$692,053
Birth Certificates	192
Death Certificates	169
Marriage Licenses	223
Military Discharges	56
Trade Names	69
Dog Licenses	2,360
Land Record Pages	21,026

* The Town of Simsbury forwarded a portion of these revenues to various state agencies in accordance with the General Statutes of Connecticut.

Departments & Services

Water Pollution Control

Simsbury Water Pollution Control is responsible for the operation and maintenance of over 70 miles of collection system, five pumping stations and the treatment facility. Wastewater from Granby and portions of Avon are also received for treatment. The department is staffed by a superintendent, five operators, two maintainers, an administrative secretary, and engineering technician.

The facility expansion and upgrade that was completed in 2007 is performing as designed. During the reporting interval permit limits were achieved, with insignificant exceptions. As an energy and budget conservation effort, one-half of the biological nutrient removal capacity (requiring 230 horsepower) has not been operated. As flows increase, this practice will not be possible. The current expectation is that this additional capacity will be required during winter operation starting the winter of 2010/11. The biological treatment process depends upon bacteria and their activity slows down in the cold water. Thus, it becomes necessary to have more of them in the winter.

During the reporting period, wastewater treatment for a population equivalent of 25,765 was provided. In addition to clean water, the other end result of treatment is sludge. An average of 60 dry tons of dewatered sludge per month was transported to the Metropolitan District Commission’s Hartford facility for incineration.

Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is in the process of developing phosphorus limits for wastewater treatment facilities that discharge to receiving streams with impoundments (Rainbow reservoir). DEP also administers Simsbury’s National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, which expires in February 2010. When the permit is reissued it will provide a compliance schedule for design and construction of the structures/equipment required to achieve the permitted level of phosphorus removal.

Parameter	Influent	Effluent	
		Permit Limit	7/08 to 6/09
ADF, mgd	--	3.8	2.20
CBOD, mg/L	238	25	3
TSS, mg/L	276	30	3
TN, lb TN/day	613	107	80

ADF, Average Daily Flow
CBOD, Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand

TSS, Total Suspended Solids
TN, Total Nitrogen

Sewer easement maintenance continues to be a priority. Most of the overgrown easements have been cleared. The easements need to be kept open to allow access for inspection and maintenance.

Accomplishments of 2008 – 2009

- Sewer easement maintenance continued.
- The U.S. EPA DMRQA27 evaluation was passed. This is an annual evaluation of our laboratory procedures.
- Performed an emergency repair to one of the pressure vessels at the Tunxis pumping station. This repair was a temporary measure to keep the pumping station operational.
- Purchased a Trimble GPS unit to begin logging the location of approximately 3000 sewer manholes. Ultimately they will be the basis for the sewer layer of the Town’s Geographic Information System.
- Developed a bill stuffer titled “Flush Responsibly” for the June 30, 2009 sewer use bill.
- The dumpster pads were redesigned to minimize odor generation.
- Received \$17,739 for sale of nitrogen credits in 2008.
- The superintendent presented a paper, “How to Survive a Treatment Facility Upgrade,” at the New England Water Environment Federation Annual Conference in Boston.
- The Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures Plan was revised to incorporate all of the changes required by the facility construction.
- A number of tours were provided to school groups throughout the year.

Goals for 2009– 2010

- Complete the rehabilitation of South Pump Station. Receive reimbursement from CL&P for energy conservation measures incorporated in the design.
- Complete designs and specifications for the rehabilitation of Wolcott Pump Station and replacement of Tunxis Pump Station.
- Continue documenting the location and condition of manholes and sewers. Obtain budget to fund needed repairs.
- Document need and obtain funding to stabilize the Farmington River stream bank in the Hazel Meadow area.
- Enhance and expand safety training efforts.

Tours of the Water Pollution Control Facility can be scheduled. Public information presentations are also available to groups. Information on connections, permits, or sewer line locations can be obtained by visiting the facility or calling (860) 658-1380.



Aging and Disability Commission

The Aging and Disability Commission is an advisory group whose purpose is to study the needs of and evaluate services and events designed to enhance the quality of life for Simsbury’s older adults and individuals who are disabled. Its focus is to be an advocate for the elderly and disabled by promoting sources that provide appropriate information, assistance and support services.

- To that end, the Aging and Disability Commission was involved with numerous activities and events during the 2008–09 fiscal year. They include:
- The Commission conducted a Senior Survey in the fall of 2009 to determine if the town should expand the current Senior Center or consider the construction of a new center. Two hundred and thirty surveys were completed.
 - The Commission met with the Registrar of Voters to discuss ways of making the polling stations in town more accessible. The recommendations were in place for the November municipal election.
 - The Commission conducted a Picnic in the Park event, which is a community event for persons with disabilities, their friends and families. The event took place at St. Catherine of Siena Church in West Simsbury and had over one hundred and fifteen individuals participating.
 - Commission members participated in an initial meeting, and subsequent planning meeting, with consultants regarding the Town Center Charrette.
 - The Commission provided support to a local businessman who is considering developing a residential building, in which a major portion would be handicapped accessible, in town.
 - The Commission, in concert with the Deputy First Selectman, began investigating the possibility of the town implementing an Elderly Work Tax Credit.
 - The Commission presented their Ability Awareness Award to Ms. Gretchen Nelson at a Board of Selectman meeting in May of 2009.
 - The Chairman of the Commission and the Chairman of the Public Relations sub-

- committee met with the Executive Director of the Simsbury Chamber of Commerce to establish a partnership between the Chamber and the Commission.
- Joe Loewy, Executive Director of the Simsbury Housing Authority, was appointed as an ex-officio member of the Commission and was assigned to the Housing sub-committee.
- The Commission conducted an “Open Forum” the intent of which was to offer seniors and persons with disabilities an opportunity to have a discussion regarding issues and concerns they had about town programs and services. The forum was conducted twice in April. It was held in the afternoon for seniors and at night for persons with disabilities and their families.
- The Commission sponsored Souper Tuesday luncheons held six times a year at the Senior Center. The luncheon consists of a special soup, sandwich and dessert and is rounded out by local entertainment. Over 600 seniors attended the Souper Tuesday luncheons.
- The Commission paid to have an outside company develop a Disability Needs Assessment Survey. The survey will be distributed to the Simsbury community in the near future.
- The Commission received \$1,500 from the town to provide additional Souper Tuesday luncheons as well as to offset the costs of the Picnic in the Park event.
- The Commission provided consultation and support to the Coordinator of the Simsbury Senior Center.
- The Commission, in an effort to keep abreast of current happenings in the field of seniors and persons with disabilities, had as its guest several community speakers who are acknowledged as experts in their field.

- The Aging and Disability Commission would like to thank the following community organizations for their financial support of “Souper Tuesday” and Picnic in the Park.
- Simsbury Lion’s Club
 - Civitan Club of Simsbury
 - First Church of Christ Simsbury
 - Simsbury Woman’s Club

- The Aging and Disability Commission has as its action plan for FY 09–10 the following:
- To provide programs to benefit seniors and the disabled
 - To conduct “Community Forums” for seniors and persons with disabilities to express their ideas and concerns. Minimum two times per year.
 - To work with the town to discuss, and if appropriate, implement program and facility related options as a result of the Senior Center Survey.
 - To determine the needs of individuals with disabilities in the Town of Simsbury through the development and distribution of a disability needs assessment survey.
 - To inform residents of Simsbury, other interested parties and media outlets of the Commissions endeavors and results.
 - To investigate existing housing opportunities, as well as to recommend creation of new opportunities, in order to provide efficient, affordable and safe housing for seniors and persons with disabilities.
 - To assess town buildings to ensure compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.
 - To inform town residents about existing tax relief options currently available through the town and to investigate new tax relief options.
 - To work in concert with the town’s emergency management team in developing a workable emergency preparedness plan for seniors and persons with disabilities.
 - To develop and distribute information to residents, businesses, and organizations regarding programs and services for seniors and persons with disabilities.



Boards & Commissions

Beautification Commission

The more than 80 Simsbury Beautification Committee (SBC) volunteers plant and maintain nearly 100 public spaces throughout our town, including planter boxes, traffic triangles, Simsbury Farms Golf Course, and Schultz Park. Every spring volunteers plant annuals in their chosen plots and maintain them – often hauling buckets of water to the sites – into the fall season.

The SBC will continue to recruitment still more volunteers to replace members who have moved away and to pair up current volunteers who enjoy working with another person. Several volunteers have involved their young children in the planting and watering, instilling in them at an early age the importance of working for the good of our community.

Board of Assessment Appeals

The Board of Assessment Appeals is an elected board of three individuals which hears appeals of property tax valuations. The board meets twice a year, hearing homeowner, other real estate, and personal property and automobile appeals in March, and automobiles only in September. The board works closely with the town Assessor’s office.

During the March 2009 meetings, the board (Mark Wigmore, Dennis Farrell and Will Fiske) heard 37 homeowner appeals, 27 appeals from commercial property holders (including 21 personal property appeals) and 8 automobile appeals. In September 2009, the board heard 29 automobile appeals. In November 2009, Mr. Fiske was elected to a four year term.

For 2010, the board has set hearing days for March 23–25 for real estate, personal property and motor vehicle appeals. The September motor vehicle hearing date will be set later in the spring.

Board of Ethics

The duty of the Board of Ethics is to administer the Code of Ethics (Chapter 13) for the Town of Simsbury. The purpose of this Code of Ethics is to set forth standards of ethical conduct to guide officials and employees of the Town of Simsbury in the conduct of their public responsibilities and to develop and maintain a tradition of responsible and effective public service.

Accomplishments of 2008 – 2009

The Board had four meetings in 2008 and seven meetings in 2009. Five advisory opinions were issued during this time, but the bulk of its productivity and accomplishments are listed below:

- Revised the original Code of Ethics to address issues that were not covered in the previous version as well as correct some of the legal language.
- Reworked and streamlined the Compliant Procedures document.
- Initiated a Compliant Form document designed to aid our understanding of the nature of the complaint and address complaints in a uniform manner. This also complies with that suggested by the State of Connecticut Code of Ethics.

- Added an instruction section to the Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form to help employees better understand of what was required of them.
- Started biennial “workshop format” presentations about the Code of Ethics for newly elected town officials and new town employees.
- Instituted a periodic auditing request of Conflict of Interest Disclosure Forms as a check on employee compliance.
- Placed four scheduled meetings on the Town’s board meeting calendar to enable the Board of Ethics to have a flexible agenda when needed, as opposed to only having an ad hoc agenda that cannot be added to or modified once posted.
- Assigned Simsbury-ct.gov addresses to all the members of the Board. This enabled us to communicate on some sensitive issues via e-mail without the legal threat of compromising work and/or person computers.
- Have gotten our Board of Selectmen liaison more involved with the Board’s work and needs.

These accomplishments were a collective effort reflecting the creativity and diligence of the members of the board (Democrats, Independents and Republicans) both present and in the immediate past. On 14 December Dr. Norton stepped down as chair and Richard Order assumed the Chairmanship of the Board of Ethics with Peter Kellogg as the Vice Chair/Secretary.

Goals of Future Plans

In the future the board shall continue in its mission of administering the Code of Ethics for the Town of Simsbury and will consider future revisions of the Code, its various documents and procedures if needed.

Building Code Board of Appeals

The Connecticut General Statutes mandate that each municipality offer a means to review and evaluate an appeal of an aggrieved party to a decision rendered by the local Building Official. The Simsbury Building Code Board of Appeals fulfills that requirement.

There are five regular members and two alternates appointed by the Board of Selectmen including four with a minimum of five years experience in either building design, building construction, or supervision of building construction, and a fifth member serving from the general public. Membership appointments are for a period of five years and staggered for continuity. A quorum consists of not less than three members.

Appeals must be heard in the jurisdiction in which the Building Official serves and are subject to the FOIA requirements of public notification in Town Hall stipulating dates, time and location for the meeting.

Procedurally, a written appeal must be filed by the aggrieved party stipulating the specific sections of the Connecticut State Building Code being challenged citing reasons and must be delivered to the Simsbury Building Official for action. Upon notification by the Building Official the Chairman of the Building Code Board of Appeals must convene a meeting within five working days to act on the specific appeal.

A simple majority vote by Board members at the conclusion of the meeting will affirm, modify, or reverse the decision of the Building Official and a formal Notice of Decision is filed with the Town with copies to the Appellant and the Building Official.

The Building Code Board of Appeals meets at a minimum annually to elect a Chairman and Deputy Chairman from its membership and review any changes to the applicable codes; otherwise the panel meets on an as-needed basis.

Clean Energy Task Force

The Clean Energy Task Force (“CETF”), created by the Board of Selectmen in 2008, is charged with overseeing the town’s commitment to new, sustainable, green initiatives and clean, alternate energy sources. The CETF is currently comprised of five acting members: Patrick Boeshans, Lori Fernand, James Ray, Susan Van Kleef and Alfred Weisbrich.

In 2009, the CETF successfully obtained a corporate underwriting grant of \$15,000 from Aquarion Water Company, which will provide funds for the implementation of three unique environmental education initiatives that were created in preparation for implementation in 2010.

Description of Programs

1. Green Business Certification
The Green Business Certification (“GBC”) rating system provides standards for environmentally sustainable Simsbury business operations and services. Businesses recognized for their utilization level of the rating system are permitted to display and use the Simsbury GBC decal and mark, indicating they have passed the accreditation review as determined by the Town of Simsbury’s Clean Energy Task Force. Participating merchants will be listed and promoted on the “Shop Green” Simsbury merchant web-site. The GBC program assists Simsbury business owners and managers with the process of improving performance on the triple bottom line, encompassing environmental, economic and community health benefits.

2. Simsbury School District Energy Education Kits
The CETF has confirmed interest from the elementary science coordinator for Simsbury public schools for infusing alternative energy education into the established science curriculum. There are currently opportunities in the state curriculum standards to present these ideas to 5th grade students. Alternate energy education teaching kits have been designed and sourced. Each kit includes materials and equipment for 6 small groups

within a single, average sized classroom. Students work cooperatively in these groups, assembling small, functional photovoltaic cells and experiencing other hands-on learning methods. The budget for this initiative includes 15 kits, (3 kits per elementary school, for 5 schools in the Simsbury system). Additionally, a half day training class is required for fifth grade teachers, providing an orientation to the contents of the energy kits and applicable curriculum teaching points.

3. Clean Energy Options Program
The Clean Energy Option Program (“CEOP”) provides the opportunity for Simsbury residents to choose to bring clean, renewable energy into the power grid. Electrical power is currently generated in New England, through natural gas, nuclear power, oil, coal and other sources. Through CEOP, Simsbury residents can instead choose wind, solar or small hydro electric power through several energy products available in a partnership with local utility providers. The minimal associated costs and significant personal carbon reductions are benefits of this program in addition to the state’s municipal reward program, which provides participating municipalities with photovoltaic solar installations on public buildings, The CETF was created in conjunction with Simsbury’s commitment to become a clean energy community, which included pledging to participate in the 20% by 2010 clean energy program and the EPA Community Challenge. Without funding, the CETF mounted a grassroots campaign in support of this commitment to increasing clean, renewable energy levels in excess of 20%. Through library and town hall display opportunities, newsletters, and various media hits the CETF has managed to push CEOP membership to 50% of the first level goal.

With new access to funding, the CETF can ramp up participation in and get the word out at more local Simsbury events and trade shows such as the Simsbury Home Show, Simsbury Celebrates, Simsbury Farmers Market, Talcott

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Boards & Commissions

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Music Festival, etc. In 2009 we were unable to participate in events that required entrance or space rental fees. Additionally, the task force is creating updated informational hand-outs explaining the clean energy options. These hand-outs will be utilized at all events and as source material/talking points for presentations and available media hits. A PowerPoint presentation is also being refined for member utilization while presenting to local organizations.

Conservation Commission

The Conservation Commission is comprised of nine appointed members including seven regular members and two alternates. Formed under the auspices of and controlled primarily by CGS Sec. 7-131a through CGS Sec 7-131e, it is responsible for preserving the natural resources of the Town of Simsbury and for keeping a town wide inventory of open spaces. Under CGS Sec. 22a-42 through 44, the Commission also acts as the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency (IWWA) for Simsbury and administers state and local regulations regarding the use and protection of designated wetlands. The Commission endeavors to protect designated wetlands, watercourses, vernal pools and associated upland review areas, as well as the natural habitats and species that they support. During the 2009–2010 fiscal year, the Commission received 33 applications. Of these 13 were approved by the Commission, 14 received administrative approval as authorized by CGS Sec. 22a-42a(2) and Sec. 12 of the Simsbury IWWA regulations. Two map amendments were also approved by the Commission and 4 applications were withdrawn. None were denied.

The Commission may also comment on applications made to the Planning and Zoning Commissions that involve conservation issues. The Commission also assisted the Planning Commission with the update of the 2004 Plan of Conservation and Development to develop policies concerning the preservation of the environment and environmentally

sensitive areas. The new POCD was adopted in November 2007. The Commission based its input, in part, on information derived from the Farmington Valley Biodiversity Study. This study includes a mapped, verified data-base of the intact natural communities in Simsbury and the management tools necessary to assure the preservation of this diverse population of both plant and animal species. The Commission remains active in commenting on the conservation aspects of proposals for regulation changes from the Zoning Commission at this time.

Design Review Board

The Simsbury Design Review Board (DRB) serves as an advisory body to the Planning and Zoning Commissions on matters of planning, site and building design. The DRB is responsible for reviewing details of land use applications and making constructive recommendations consistent with its publication, Guidelines for Community Design.

The DRB recommends to property owners, developers and other commissions ways and methods to preserve Simsbury’s visual resources, improve community development, protect significant architectural heritage, conserve value in the built and natural environment, and assist when appropriate to formulate and implement sound planning and design policies.

There are seven regular and three alternate members appointed and qualified to serve by reason of training and/or experience in Architecture, Site Planning, Landscape Architecture, Historic Preservation, Professional Engineering, Graphic Design or other disciplines as determined appropriate by the Board of Selectmen. Members are appointed on a two-year basis.

- Current projects under development by the Design Review Board include:
- Amendments to the Guidelines for Community Design
 - Guidelines for the Incentive Housing Zone Report and Regulation

- Assisting the Simsbury Center Charrette and code process
- Participation in the preparation of the Planned Area Development Regulation
- Coordinating with other quality of life organizations within Simsbury such as the Simsbury Main Street Partnership

The Design Review Board is slated to play an even larger role in the approval process for all Simsbury Center applications following the Form-Based Codes currently under draft for eventual adoption by the Zoning Commission.

The Design Review Board functions as part of Simsbury’s informed decision-making to revitalize its centers, celebrate its heritage, maintain the natural environment, provide for recreation, build on established landscape patterns, and, most importantly preserve community identity.

Economic Development Commission

The EDC was created by municipal ordinance for the promotion and development of the economic development resources of the Town of Simsbury. Its powers are defined by Charter and as established by CGS Section 7-136. Its mission is to advise the Town of Simsbury and act as its liaison in order to facilitate expansion of the tax base, consistent with the character of the Town, through maintenance and growth of existing businesses and attraction of comparable new businesses. The EDC’s current efforts have been in the areas of marketing the Town consistent with the EDC’s business attraction plan: developing a town-wide infrastructure more supportive of business; and as appropriate, advocating approval of commercial development projects that will augment the Town’s commercial tax base and help maintain the overall character and quality of life within Simsbury.

- Accomplishments of 2008 – 2009**
- Supported the Town Center charrette effort which took place in September 2009 and on which work continues at this time.



- Continued to provide input to the Zoning Commission as they continue to work on Zoning Regulation revisions for a new mixed use Planned Area Development zoning regulation and Form Based Code for the Town Center.
- Supported, when appropriate, the expansion and development of local businesses.
- Attended the Developers Showcase trade show and conferences such as the Community Builder’s Institute sponsored by NU, to promote the town and learn more about new trends and opportunities in economic development.
- Continued to support economic development efforts through membership to CERC and the EDDI programs which provide information to those looking for various development alternatives, or looking to locate in Simsbury.
- Continued to support Simsbury Main Street organization.

Goals for 2010– 2011

In keeping with our mission to facilitate the expansion of the tax base, we will continue to work collaboratively with applicants, organizations, town staff, boards and commissions and other entities whose common objectives are to foster the economic vitality of Simsbury.

- Work to help implement policies and regulations which increase the vibrancy of

Boards & Commissions

Rent Commission seeks to control or eliminate excessive rental charges on such accommodations and to carry out the provisions of Chapter 15 of the Town Code and applicable State Law.

As the Commission looks to the future, with improving economic conditions, both locally and nationally, there is an increased sensitivity to the historical pattern of increased pressures on rents. The Fair Rent Commission’s goal is to retain and encourage the development of a reasonable diversity in rental housing in Simsbury.

Fire District

Simsbury is especially fortunate to have a group of dedicated fire volunteers that devote untold hours to training and protecting its citizens resulting in one of the best protected communities in the state. Fortunately, the regular department membership and the cadet program are at strong levels.

Simsbury Fire’s volunteers also include the members of the Ladies’ Auxiliary and the commissioners and officers of the Simsbury Fire District. The extraordinary efforts of these special fellow residents save taxpayers untold costs each year. Their professionalism and commitment to continuing their education and expertise is a great source of community pride and results in a high level of security as we go about our everyday lives.

The commitment and work of our paid employees is much appreciated also. The Fire Marshal’s office, the building and fleet maintenance staff and the dispatch office staff contributed greatly this year, as in the past, to maintaining the excellence of this department. The community outreach activities of the Fire Marshal’s office and the District, with public fire education, have helped the community better understand fire department operations.

- The Simsbury Fire District operated within budget. The District adhered to its long-term goal of meeting both operating and capital requirements without resorting

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Boards & Commissions

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- to borrowing. It is especially important to note that the Main Station replacement is proceeding without a change in the tax rate or any borrowing. The Fire District has been planning for this project for the last 10 years and had accumulated sufficient capital reserves.
- Last year’s mill rate was set at 1.05 mills which represented no increase from the prior year.
 - The Fire District engaged an architect, Kenyon & Cutler, and a contract was awarded to CS Margison & Co. to act as construction manager for the new Main Fire Station. Fire District, Dispatch, and the Fire Marshall offices have been temporarily relocated to the Firetown Station while the new Main Station is under construction.
 - A special note of thanks to Ensign Bickford as well as the Town of Simsbury for making facilities available to temporarily house a pumper to help protect the town center during construction.
 - The new Main Station is expected to be complete and in service by the summer of 2010.
 - The Fire District hosted the Annual Lt. Richard Kelleher Awards Dinner the evening of February 12, 2009. (Lt. Kelleher, aged 37, died in the line of duty fighting a fire at the Knights of Columbus Hall, next to St Mary’s Church, on November 6, 1981.)

A total of eighteen Firefighter service awards were presented representing a remarkable 285 cumulative years of volunteer service for the honored recipients. Further, two Ladies’ Auxiliary service awards was also presented representing an additional 20 years of volunteer service. Simsbury can be proud to have volunteers that make this kind of commitment to the safety and protection of the community.

Awards were presented as follows:
Chief’s Award – Bob Rust
Carl Banks Engineer Award – Hugh Caldwell
Lea Hutchinson Service Award – Jeff Holmes

35 Year Award	30 Year Award
Kevin Kowalski	Milton McDonald



John Coons	Hugh Caldwell
25 Year Award	20 Year Award
William Brown	Kitty Vangunten
Dave Harris	Steve Behrens
15 Year Award	10 Year Award
Geoffrey Giddings	Joseph Barrett
John Starr	Jason Gilbert
	Kenneth Boudreau
5 Year Award	Cliff Williams
Andrew Work	Todd Kelley
Nate Testerman	
Tim Zelman	

The following service awards were also presented to members of the Ladies Auxiliary.

15 Year Award	5 Year Award
Tracey Saperstein	Stephanie Lilley

- Goals for 2009– 2010**
- Continued enhancements of the department web site which citizens are encouraged to explore at www.simsburyfd.org.
 - Completing and reopening the new Main Fire Station on Hopmeadow Street. The Fire District looks forward to welcoming all Simsbury residents to an open house sometime in the summer of 2010. Watch for an announcement!
 - Specifying and replacing Engine S-13 which is approaching the end of it useful service life.
 - Continued commitment to emergency readiness through ongoing training, live exercises, and review of past practices.
 - Continued commitment to the Town of Simsbury safety focus as an active member of the public safety subcommittee.

Historic District Commission

The East Weatogue Historic District Commission has the responsibility to perpetuate, preserve and retain the historic features of Simsbury and to promote the educational, cultural, economic, and general welfare of the public through the preservation and protection of the distinctive characteristics of buildings and places within the East Weatogue Historic District.

Fiscal year 2008–2009 was an active year as the Commission received five applications for Certificate of Appropriateness. The applications consisted of a window replacement, a creation of a patio and window replacement, a deck, roof replacement and reconstruction of a front stoop. Of the five applications, four were granted and one was denied without prejudice due to lack of information.

In an effort to highlight the historic beauty of Simsbury, the East Weatogue Historic District has partnered with the Department of Public Works to create and place Scenic Road signs on the existing street identification signs on town designated scenic roads which are:

- Terry’s Plain Road
- Ferry Lane
- Goodrich Road
- Barndoor Hill Road

The Historic District Commission and the Town of Simsbury received a Supplemental Certified Local Government Grant from the Connecticut Commission of Culture and Tourism in the amount of \$30,000. A consultant will be hired to conduct a Historic Resources Inventory (HRI) of historic structures. The HRI will contain information for the homeowner as to who designed, built, and lived in their homes and any other historic events that may have taken place in or near the homes. This grant award assists in continuing the goal of the Historic District Commission which is to document all of the historic structures in Simsbury. An additional Historic Preservation Enhancement Grant was also awarded to the Commission in the

amount of \$2,800 this grant will be used to hire a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) consultant to create a data layer on the town GIS map using the research information from the Historic Resources Inventory.

Objectives for FY 2009–2010 include the addition of handmade wooden Scenic Road signs placed on top of the existing Historic District signs highlighting East Weatogue Street as a town designated Scenic Road. The Commission will also continue their efforts to be a resource to the residents of the Town of Simsbury to help answer any questions regarding historic building renovations. The Historic District Commission looks forward to partnering with other historic and business organizations in town to promote Simsbury as a heritage tourism destination.

Housing Authority

The Simsbury Housing Authority, located on 13 beautifully wooded acres at 1600 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury is a non–profit organization responsible for operating the Dr. Owen L. Murphy Apartments and the Virginia Connolly Residence.

We are dedicated to providing affordable, safe, decent, sanitary and drug free housing for our residents. Our facilities provide subsidized housing for the elderly and persons over 18 with disabilities meeting certain income limitations. The Authority consists of five (5) commissioners appointed by the Board of Selectmen (as required by the State of Connecticut General Statutes) that oversee operations and provide strategic direction to the Authority’s staff. The Authority employs



five (5) full time, permanent staff and a number of part time workers.

The Authority receives no funding from the Town of Simsbury. Revenues are derived from rents, subsidy from the Department of Economic and Community Development and grants and donations from individuals, commercial, private and civic organizations.

Dr. Owen L. Murphy Apartments
The Dr. Owen L. Murphy Apartments provides housing for elderly persons, age 62 and over, and persons with disabilities receiving Social Security Disability Income. There are seventy garden–style wood frame construction units (49 efficiency units and 21 one–bedroom units) designed for independent living. The first phase consisting of forty (40) units was constructed in 1970 and the second phase consisting of thirty (30) units was constructed in 1974. There is also a Community Building for social functions and two gazebos on the property where residents gather to socialize in nice weather. Currently, all seventy units are occupied.

Virginia Connolly Residence
The Virginia Connolly Residence provides Congregate housing for persons aged 62 and over. Constructed in 1990, it is a two story brick building consisting of forty (40) efficiency units designed for independent living with services. Services include one main meal each day which is prepared on–site and wait staff served in a central dining room, weekly housekeeping service and 24–hour security. There are also many activities for the residents including a weekly Armchair Exercise



Program, Tai Chi, Bingo, Book Group, Men’s Coffee Hour, and a Coffee & Donut Social. Currently, all 40 units are occupied.

An Assisted Living Program is available for residents who require assistance beyond the basic Congregate Program. The services are provided through the State Department of Social Services Home Care Program for the Elderly and are designed to help elderly residents age in place.

Construction Projects
The Housing Authority received a Small Cities Grant which was augmented with donations from commercial and private individuals and foundations that provided approximately \$1 million of renovations to the entire property. Some of the projects completed included new windows, flooring, entrance doors, and boilers/hot water heater upgrades for the Virginia Connolly Residence, new energy efficient heat/air pumps and new roofs, kitchen fans and storm doors at the Dr. Owen L. Murphy Apartments. All work was completed by October, 2009.

Property
None of our housing was sold, leased or transferred during the past year and all units remain as rental housing for low and moderate income residents.

Goals and Legislative Activity
We are continuing to develop a long term strategy for maintaining and expanding both properties in order to be competitive in the housing market.

We are reviewing our overall marketing strategy including advertising, brochures, news articles, local public television, etc.

We are actively participating in supporting current legislative matters that relate to public housing, assisted living concerns and most importantly, funding for rental assistance, congregate subsidy and resident services.

Boards & Commissions

Human Relations Commission

The Human Relations Commission is an advisory group whose goal is to eliminate discrimination based upon race, color, religion, age, sex, disability, sexual orientation, or national ancestry.

The Commission seeks to foster mutual respect and understanding, offers community-wide education and awareness and encourage equality of treatment.

It seeks compliance with federal, state, and other governmental laws and regulations, and assists public and private agencies in the implementation of those goals.

The Human Relations Commission was involved with a number of activities during the 2008-2009 fiscal year. These activities include:

- Providing input to the Town’s Affirmative Action Plan
- Met with Library staff to develop diversity programs
- Held a Celebrate Diversity Day at Simsbury High School
- Distributed diversity bracelets, pencils, key chains, and booklets at Simsbury High School Names Program
- Created “Make A Difference In Simsbury” stamp for diversity materials

Juvenile Review Board

The Juvenile Review Board was established in 1982 by the Simsbury Police Department to provide an alternative and early means of identifying and assisting Simsbury youths, age 15 and under, who come in contact with the police for being involved with minor violations of criminal statutes.

The function of the Board is to divert Simsbury youth from the Juvenile Justice system. A referral to the Juvenile Review Board provides an opportunity for professionals, who work with children, to ensure that the child understands that he/she will be held accountable by the community for minor violations of the law.

Historically, the Board has had a high rate of success. The vast majority of children who are referred to the Juvenile Review Board are not again involved with the police.

In fiscal year 2008-2009, the Board met with 6 Simsbury youths and their families. A total of 72 community service hours were assigned.

Library Board of Directors

The Simsbury Public Library seeks to provide free and equal access to reading and electronic materials and reference information for all residents and businesses of Simsbury. The Library Board of Trustees is responsible for establishing the philosophy of Library Services, setting policies to implement this philosophy and monitoring funds appropriated by Simsbury for the Library.

During the 2008/2009 Financial Year the Library Board together with the Public Building Committee and the Decorating and Landscaping Committees, completed the renovation of the Library. This was a time consuming project that could only have been accomplished with the aid of many hardworking volunteers and our wonderful staff. Various building issues were dealt with including new doors, nuisance leaks and heating and cooling problems. Our First Anniversary celebration was a great success thanks to the generosity of the Friends of the Library.

The Library Board extensively revised and updated all Policy, Meeting Room and By-Law documents to better serve our community. We made the difficult decision to close the



Library an extra 4 hours a week in order to remain open 7 days a week for most of the year. Our goals for 2009/2010 are to revise our five year plan and to work within the budget constraints during these difficult financial times to continue to deliver excellent service to our patrons.

Open Space Committee

The Open Space Committee was established to assist and advise the Board of Selectmen in identifying land suitable for acquisition or preservation. The Committee is comprised of the First Selectman, and the chairmen of the Planning, Zoning and Conservation Commissions and one other member as may be appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The Committee acts on requests made to it by the Board of Selectmen. The Committee has been active in discussing the Hopmeadow Streetscape effort and the use of the Town Farm property. It has also met with and discussed the Simsbury Tree Committee and the use of the Meadowood open space triangle of land on Firetown Road.

Pension Committee

The Pension Sub Committee (PSC) met on a quarterly basis in 2009 as scheduled to coincide with quarterly reports from Russell Investors. The primary focus of the committee has been to review the Russell selected fund managers’ performance relative to accepted benchmarks. The committee has also made an effort to review actuarial assumptions at the Board of Selectmen’s request, but this has not been a primary responsibility of the PSC.

In the 2008-9 period of market distress, the committee met on an as needed basis to ensure that our policy guidance of asset allocation and rebalancing steps were appropriate. These meetings include the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance members along with senior staff from Russell. This was a strained period in the markets and the combined presence of BOS and BOF representatives ensured a full court presence of key decision makers and a further assessment of the Town’s Investment Policy.

In 2009 and continuing into the first half of 2010, the committee is proceeding with a rewrite of the Investment Policy (IP). The PSC plans to present the IP to the BOS by the end of the second quarter, 2010. The Town Finance Director is intimately involved with the Pension Committee’s work plan and the current red-lined document, (Investment Policy) that is to be reviewed by Sub Committee members prior to the February, 2010 meeting.

Russell Investment’s report of November 30, 2009 stated that the total assets of the Funds under their management had a year to date return of 22.9% vs. benchmarks of 18.2% and 15.7%.

The committee membership has been quite stable over the past decade as 4 of the 6 members have served over this period along with the Town Finance Director and our advisory member who pre-dates the year 2000.

Performing Arts Center Board

The Performing Arts Center at Simsbury Meadows (“PAC at SM”) is an entertainment facility built to enhance the quality of life in Simsbury.

PAC Board

The Performing Arts Center Board (“PAC Board”) was established by resolution of the Board of Selectmen in May of 2008. The duties and responsibilities of the PAC Board are to set policies and annual objectives, to plan future growth, to motivate the management to meet the objectives and to report annually on performance. All income and expenses of the facility are managed through a Town of Simsbury Special Revenue Fund, which means that the PAC at SM is a self-funding operation.

PAC Season 2009

The Talcott Mountain Music Festival (“TMMF”) is the major feature of the PAC at SM entertainment season. In February 2009, with the PAC Board’s recommendation, the Town of Simsbury and the Hartford Symphony



Orchestra signed an agreement to keep Simsbury the home of the Talcott Mountain Music Festival through at least 2013. This five year agreement will enable both parties to plan more efficiently and to invest more effectively to take the TMMF to even greater heights.

The 2009 Season included six Talcott Mountain Music Festival performances, a concert featuring Cirque de la Symphonie, and the Reach Music Festival with Earth, Wind and Fire. The season’s paid attendance exceeded 25,000. While the rainy weather negatively affected the attendance of nearly every TMMF concert, the Hartford Symphony Orchestra management team expressed great appreciation for the facilities and the Town’s personnel support.

A Performing Arts Center at Simsbury Meadows Annual Report was published in November 2009, and it is posted on the web site – www.SimsburyMeadows.com.

In December 2009, the PAC Board recommended, and the BOS approved, hiring Academic Theater Consultants as the PAC Manager. ATC’s principal, David C. Bell, is a Simsbury resident and was highly recommended. Mr. Bell has extensive experience in managing all University of Hartford performing arts venues, including the Lincoln Theater. The Hartford Symphony Orchestra is planning a five performance

season. The PAC Board is anticipating booking other diverse and attractive entertainment events to fill out the 2010 season.

Planning Commission

The Planning Commission is an elected body of nine members which includes six members and three alternates. In accordance with the Connecticut General Statutes the Commission prepares, adopts and amends the Plan of Conservation and Development every ten years. It also makes findings and sends recommendations to the Zoning Commission and the Board of Selectmen under CGS 8-24 with regard to municipal improvements including the construction of facilities, acquisition and disposition of real property and acts upon application for the subdivision of land.

The Commission which meets regularly on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month also makes recommendations to the Zoning Commission on proposed zone changes and text amendments to the Simsbury Zoning Regulations as required by the Connecticut General Statutes under CGS 8-3.

During this fiscal year the Commission received 2 subdivision applications. Of these both were approved, none were denied. In addition, the Commission received and acted on 5 zoning referrals during this time as well.

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Boards & Commissions

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The Commission has begun to discuss the implementation of the 2007 Plan of Conservation and Development. In addition the Commission has continued to play an active role in the implementation of the Town Center charrette activity with the goal being to recommend adoption of the new Town Center form based code in the near future. The Commission will also begin work on revisions to the subdivision regulations in the next fiscal year as well.

Police Commission

By Connecticut State Statute and Simsbury Town Charter provisions, the Simsbury Police Commission has the requirement of general management and supervision of the Police Department (through the auspices of the Chief of Police). In pursuit of that requirement, the Commission reviews citizen matters involving the Police Department and submission of annual budget to the Board of Selectmen. It further participates in the collective bargaining process; and is the final authority for all personnel and disciplinary matters within the Police Department.

Accomplishments of 2008 – 2009

- Supported National Accreditation activities
- Participated in department leadership through the Administration of the department.
- Reviewed monthly activity reports wherein criminal events and officer activities are summarized. Make recommendations for actions to enhance positive trends.
- Made recommendations as to desired direction of the department in order to achieve goals in safety, performance and reduction in criminal activity.
- Reviewed and supported department Community Policing initiatives.
- Reviewed communications from citizens.
- Attended various functions established by the Police Department such as Citizens’ Police Academy Graduation, inductions of new officers and promotions.

Goals for 2009– 2010

- Achieve National Accreditation
- Achieve State Recertification

- Continue activities to further support department goals.
- Provide additional support for Police
- Department involvement in the community.
- Support Community Policing initiatives.

Public Building Committee

The Public Building Committee, which is made up of nine appointed members, met at least once a month throughout the year to oversee the design and construction of all major school projects. The Board of Selectmen also assigns major addition and/or renovation projects of town-owned buildings to the Public Building Committee for oversight.

Activities of the committee are listed below:

- Completed construction of the \$6.2 million Tariffville School addition and renovation. The project provides a fire sprinkler system, new instructional, kitchen, cafeteria and administrative space, and an energy efficient heating system. A ribbon cutting was held in November.
- Completed a Needs Assessment Study for Simsbury Farm’s main building, Apple Barn, and Golf Clubhouse. This document will be used to provide guidance for future improvements.
- Completed plans and bidding for a new combined Parks and Golf Service Facility, valued at \$0.55 million.
- Completed the Eno Memorial Hall fire suppression system and code improvements, valued at \$0.3 million. These improvements allow the opportunity for expanded programs for seniors and community groups.
- Completed the design and bid phases for a \$0.35 million roof replacement at Tootin’ Hills School.

We foresee a very busy schedule next fiscal year, with the completion of construction for the Parks and Golf Service Facility; design of energy efficient lighting for the Town Offices; replacement of the Tootin’ Hills School roof; and beginning a needs assessment study for the Eno Memorial Hall senior and community center.

Recycling Committee

The management and operation of our recycling Swap Center at the Transfer Station on Wolcott Road has been a primary activity of the Committee for the past 8 years. In March 2009 funds from CRRA became available to allow purchase of a new building from Klotter Farms. An early closing of the older Swap Center this season allowed the Committee to assist the Town Engineer in completing the process of selection, purchase, location and transition to this new swap center, renamed the Simsbury Swap Shoppe. This handsome building has been delivered and awaits final fitting-out for the anticipated dedication and opening in the spring, 2010. The new Swap Shoppe will continue to accept donations of items no longer needed by their owners which will be offered free without limit to all residents, but with special benefit to the financially disadvantaged in our community. During the past 8 years of operation the Swap Center has had over 4,500 visitors, recycled 3,900 useful items through donation to appreciative residents while also removing those items from the CRRA waste-stream account. On-site supervision of the Swap Center this year was again provided by members of the Civitan Club of Simsbury and the Farmington Valley, to whom we owe our gratitude for their selfless community service.

Our Nike Reuse-A-Shoe Program completed it’s sports shoe drive this past Spring, the 7th consecutive year for this successful effort. This program collects sneakers to be shipped to the Nike Company where they are reconstituted for use in making new sports surfaces, including soccer and football fields, basketball and tennis courts, tracks and playground surfacing. The Recycling Committee coordinated with preschools, private and public schools, local gyms and the Simsbury Library and Town Hall to collect and deliver discarded sneakers to our designated pick-up site at the Transfer Station. Adding considerably to success in 2009, where we collected well over 1,000 sneakers, was the much appreciated participation of Battiston’s Cleaners of Simsbury.

The Recycling Committee, in partnership with the Simsbury Library, will soon announce a new service to residents in 2010 – a magazine exchange at the public library. Residents may come to the library’s cafe area and, at a specially marked displayer, take or leave current issues of magazines donated for this purpose by Library patrons and residents. A volunteer from the Recycling Committee will attend the displayer twice a week. This project resulted from a suggestion by a resident in 2009 and has come to fruition with the assistance of Charmaine Glew of the Library Board.

The Recycling Committee saw the resignation of 3 of its members in 2009 – Jill Patterson, Lori Fernand and Dane Woodberry and we express our sincere appreciation for their dedicated service.

- The Recycling Committee’s Goals for the coming year include:
1. Opening and re-dedicating the new Simsbury Swap Shoppe at the Transfer Station.
 2. Continuing the Nike Reuse-A-Shoe Program and adding additional schools and private sector venues to this effort.
 3. Continuing our Educational Program with the Simsbury school system. In 2008 the Committee sponsored a visit to the CRRA Trash Museum for members of the Henry James Enviro-Club. The school was unable to organize participation in 2009.
 4. Revising the Simsbury Bulky Waste & Recycling Center informational handout for residents and businesses which is made available to residents at the Town Hall.
 5. Managing the new Magazine Exchange at the Simsbury Library.
 6. Recruiting 3 new members from our community to serve on the Recycling Committee as replacement for resignations in 2009.
 7. Continuing to provide guidance to and carrying out the goals of the Board of Selectmen in regards to public and private recycling efforts and environmental issues within the town of Simsbury.

Boards & Commissions

Simsbury Farms Complex Committee

The Simsbury Farms Complex Committee was commissioned in 1998. The Committee was established to evaluate existing facilities at Simsbury Farms and provide specific recommendations to meet the present needs and future expectations of the community.

Accomplishments of 2008 – 2009

Financial:

- Total revenues at Simsbury Farms were \$1,806,149. Total expenses were \$1,760,730 resulting in a FY 08-09 fund surplus of \$46,419.

Projects:

- Construction of the new centralized maintenance facility was initiated in the fall of 2009. This centralized facility combines parks and golf maintenance under one roof. The new building is located off Hopbrook Road, adjacent to the present golf maintenance facility. Budgeted cost is \$550k. Completion is scheduled for the spring of 2010.
- Construction of a new gravel access/exit road from the golf parking lot was completed in the spring of 2009.
- Architectural study for the main building (pool/ice) and apple barn was completed. This report contains detailed construction plans and cost estimates for the proposed projects.



- Two “on line” surveys for the pool and golf/ restaurant were conducted to obtain direct feedback from the “users” to guide future projects proposed in FY 09-10.

Revenues/Fee Rates:

- The committee reviews annually all fee rates for golf, pool, and ice programs and makes specific recommendations based on competitive rates and projected expenses.

Goals for 2009– 2010

The Simsbury Farms Complex Committee will focus on the following:

1. Completing the construction of the centralized maintenance facility within budgeted cost and the established schedule.
2. Removal/demolition of the existing golf cart barn and attached maintenance facility
3. Paving the existing gravel access/exit road from the golf parking lot.
4. Constructing a replacement golf storage facility with electric cart compatibility.
5. Preparing a master plan for the future role of Memorial Pool
6. Finalizing a three year golf course improvement plan focused on continue drainage improvements, leveling tees and reconstruction of specific sand bunkers.
7. Reviewing the Architects revised plans to renovate the main building and apple barn consistent with the six year capital plan submitted.

Tourism Committee

Established in 1994, the Tourism Committee’s mission is to “help facilitate efforts towards enhancing the vitality and broadening the economic base of Simsbury through the development and promotion of tourism.” Through this effort, employment opportunities and local revenues will be increased while the integrity and character of Simsbury as a traditional New England town is maintained.

Accomplishments of 2008 – 2009

- Visitor Center agreement in place to keep the center at Sew Inspired Quilt Shop for

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Boards & Commissions

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- the next year. Quarterly reports and records of visitors, calls etc. to be kept. There is a display window with Tourism materials and the shopkeepers are responsible for answering the phone at 658-4000. Still working on new ways to publicize the site in directories, printed material and signage.
- Helped in the planning and staffing of Simsbury Celebrates.
- Held a December open house holiday celebration to attract new members.
- Continued to market our postcards with 9 scenes of Simsbury in circulation. Coloring books, crayons and Simsbury prints continue to be sold around town.
- Ongoing discussion regarding the Town’s web site to enhance tourism. Terry Boulton continues to update and improve the content. It is now easier to go directly to the tourism page and there are many links to the various organizations and events.
- Continued involvement in the Farmington Valley Film Commission which is working on a production guide, a locations gallery and a uniform town permit. The intention is to have a functional, attractive web site up and running.
- Discussion began on making the existing Town Hall Kiosk attractive to visitors as well as creating a tourism/information site at Simsbury Meadows through the Rotary.
- The first Volunteer Expo was held at Eno March 11 from 6-9 pm to invite people to sign up to join various committees, commissions and interest groups. There was a large turnout of potential “volunteers” and a great response from organizations wanting to be represented. It is hoped it will become an annual event.
- Worked to revise our Farm brochures based on a grant to the Farmers’ Mkt. Lent support to the market and to Farm Day June 6
- Reworked our annual “See Simsbury First” ad in the annual CT Vacation Guide which continues to generate tourism inquiries
- Attended the May 6 Tourism Conference held at Foxwoods
- Participated in many group meetings such as those of SCOC, MainStreet Partnership,

- The Bridge of Flowers, the Tariffville Village Assoc. and the EDC.
- Continued our support of plantings on the FlowerB ridge.
- In addition we attended meetings of FVVA and Liz Banco was appointed the representative to the newly constituted River Valley Tourism District

Goals for 2009– 2010

- To increase marketing of the Town of Simsbury souvenir coloring book, prints and postcards in new locations including the SHS and Town Hall
- To maintain an active presence in the planning and execution of Town events and in the publicizing of outside groups coming to town for various activities.
- To develop an information kiosk at the Meadows
- To further our relationship with TVA and the Simsbury Historical Society
- To plan another Volunteer Fair at Eno with tables represented by organizations in town
- To continue expanding our tourism web site
- To actively seek new committee members interested in tourism
- To contribute in any way to the economic development of Simsbury through the avenue of tourism and to serve as a link to all the groups who have that as a common goal

Volunteer Ambulance Association

Simsbury Volunteer Ambulance Association has served the emergency medical needs of the community for more than fifty years. Over the years, our history demonstrates a continuum of increased levels of service provided to our community. The volunteers of SVAA proudly continue the tradition of service to the community begun a half century ago by our founding members.

The Simsbury Volunteer Ambulance Association was founded in 1957 and the first ambulance was provided by the Kiwanis Club whose members went door to door to solicit contributions. The first ambulance was housed

in a barn on property adjacent to the Holly Hill Convalescent Home, presently known as Governor’s House, and members held only an American Red Cross first aid certification. In 1965 a facility on Old Mill Lane was built as a one bay structure on land owned by the VNA. By 1967, as the Association celebrated its tenth anniversary, members had responded to a total of 1,600 calls. By comparison, we currently respond to approximately 1,600 calls per year.

SVAA is comprised of over fifty active volunteer members whose dedication to our community is demonstrated by an aggregate of more than 30,000 hours per year of scheduled duty, training, recertification, stand-bys and meetings. The volunteer EMT staff is augmented by a paid staff of Paramedics. SVAA has provided Paramedic level service 24 hours per day since 1997, dramatically reducing the time it takes to get advanced lifesaving measures to the patient.

During 2009, we developed a new membership recruitment and retention program. This program resulted in twenty one new members, which is one of the largest additions to our membership we have ever seen in one year. This new program also formalizes and facilitates the transition from probationary member to full crew member.

Beyond providing emergency medical responses to 911 calls, the Association has several other public functions. Throughout the year, SVAA conducts CPR and First Aid classes as well as an annual EMT course. You may also see the ambulance on stand-by at major public functions like the St. Mary’s Carnival, and First Night. Annually, SVAA provides on site tours and demonstrations for sixth grade students at the towns elementary schools.

As Simsbury Volunteer Ambulance Association serves the town’s emergency medical needs, we continue to rely on, and appreciate, the ongoing financial support of local citizens, businesses, and organizations.

Please visit us at our web site: www.simsburyems.com

Water Pollution Control Authority

The Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) is a body of seven members, appointed by the Board of Selectman, responsible for establishing and reviewing the policies and fees that are applied by Simsbury Water Pollution Control for the operation and maintenance of Simsbury’s sanitary sewer system and wastewater treatment facility. The treatment facility also receives wastewater from Avon and Granby. Each of these towns are financial partners in the Water Pollution Control Facility. Intermunicipal agreements have been established to administer these relationships.

Regular WPCA meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the Water Pollution Control Facility on Drake Hill Road, unless otherwise posted.

Accomplishments of 2008 – 2009

The WPCA conducted 7 meetings, including 2 public hearings, during which they:

- Reviewed, approved and accepted sewer extension projects and assessments on Bushy Hill Road, Elaine Drive, Cornfield Road, and Wolcott Road.
- Approved a modification of the sewer service area to comply with the Meadowood settlement.
- Began revision of the Simsbury Sewer Use Ordinance.
- Revised the Permit Agreement for Private Sewers by Developers.
- Did not increase the annual sewer use fee for FY 2009-10, given the current economic climate.
- Authorized renovations for the South Pump Station.
- Authorized an arc flash study for the wastewater treatment facility.

The closing for financing the Water Pollution Control Facility Upgrade was accomplished in the spring of 2008. The completion of Phase I of the upgrade in 2006 resulted in the facility being in compliance with the nitrogen discharge limits set by the Connecticut

Boards & Commissions

Department of Environmental Protection for the year 2015. Accomplishing this goal enabled Simsbury WPCA participation in the state nitrogen credit trading program and reduced the environmental impact on the Farmington River and ultimately Long Island Sound.

Goals for 2009– 2010

- Complete the revision of the Simsbury Sewer Use Ordinance and present to the Board of Selectmen for adoption.
- Evaluate and possibly establish a non-residential sewer customer billing policy that is based on water use.
- Prepare the Water Pollution Control Plan and gain consensus from other Town committees. Submit the final version to CT Department of Environmental Regulation.

Zoning Board of Appeals

The Simsbury Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) is an elected body of nine members including six regular members and three alternates. The powers and duties of the board are established under CGS Chapter 124. The Zoning Board of Appeals hears and decides on requests for variances from the Zoning Regulations in harmony with their general purpose and intent with due consideration for conserving the public health, welfare and safety, convenience, and property values



solely with respect to a parcel of land where, owing to conditions especially affecting such parcels but not affecting generally the district in which it is situated, a literal enforcement of such regulations would result in exceptional difficulty or unusual hardship so that substantial justice will be done and public safety and welfare secured. The ZBA also hears and decides on appeals of zoning enforcement decisions as well as decisions made by the Building Official. It also decides on Special Exceptions under CGS §8-2g as specified in Article Twelve of the Zoning Regulations.

During FY 2008-2009 the Zoning Board of Appeals received:

- 28 Variance Applications
- 18 Approved
- 7 Failed to Approve
- 2 Withdrawn
- 1 Application partially approved/ partially denied

The Board always welcomes any member of the public contemplating a Variance to attend a meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals. The Board meets every 4th Wednesday of the month at 7:00PM in the Main Meeting Room of the Simsbury Town Hall.

Zoning Commission

The Simsbury Zoning Commission is an elected body of nine members including six regular members and three alternates. Among the powers and duties of the Commission which is established under the Simsbury Town Charter and with the powers and authority granted by CGS Chapter 124 has the additional duty of Aquifer Protection Agency. The Zoning Commission regulates land and buildings within the Town based on the adopted Zoning Regulations. It also adopts, amends and repeals regulations, hears and decides applications to change regulations and decides on site plan and special permit applications. The Zoning Regulations also provide for the manner in which the

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regulations are to be enforced. The Zoning Commission also makes recommendations on other matters that may come before it.

The Zoning Commission is the designated Aquifer Protection Agency in accordance with Chapter 4 of the Town Code. In this regard the Commission and Commission staff performs the required overview, inventory and regulation of land uses located on the mapped aquifer areas. These aquifer areas are given due consideration during review of any application which proposes to use or change a land use in a mapped aquifer area.

During the 2008–2009 fiscal year the Commission received 41 applications. As part of these applications, the Commission reviewed 16 site plans, 18 special permits, 3 zone changes, and 4 zoning amendments. Of these 41 applications, all were finally approved.

The Commission has also been working on a Planned Area Development zoning regulation. The PAD regulation would encourage mixed use development of appropriate size and scale in various non-residential zones in Town. In addition a Form Based Code regulation which will implement the work resulting from the charrette in September 2009 is under way and expected to be adopted in the first half of 2010.

In addition to its other business, the Commission continues to work on a complete reorganization and revision of the Simsbury Zoning Regulations. This process will result in new Zoning Regulations which previously have not been comprehensively revised since 1964. The present regulations do not meet current standards or the needs of the community. This task is an important one in that the regulations are enacted in order to meet the needs of the Town and to allow for expansion of the local economic base while maintaining the character of the community. This work is now scheduled to be completed in 2010.

Fiscal Year 2008-2009

The annual fiscal report of the Town of Simsbury for the year ended June 30, 2009 is submitted and on file in the Town Clerk’s Office.

I believe the data presented is accurate and is presented in a manner designed to fairly set forth the financial position and results of operations for the various funds of the Town.

The Board of Finance established a tax rate of 29.6 mills, which was levied on the Grand List of 2007. The General Fund budget is prepared on a modified accrual basis of accounting.

Encumbrances are recognized as a valid and proper charge against a budget appropriation in the year in which the purchase order, contract or other commitment is issued, and accordingly encumbrances outstanding at year-end are reflected in budgetary reports as expenditures in the current fiscal year.

The Town’s amended budget was \$85,588,101. Total expenditures were \$85,133,331. Operation for the year resulted in a change to Undesignated Fund Balance to \$8,000,965 for the period ending June 30, 2009.

General Fund

A comparative tabulation of General Fund (budgetary basis) expenditures classified by main function is presented below:

	Year Ended June 30, 2008	%	Year Ended June 30, 2009	%
General Government	\$17,323,528	20.5%	\$17,715,224	20.8%
Education	58,562,224	69.3%	60,608,232	71.2%
Debt Service Transfers	5,860,785	6.9%	6,258,285	7.4%
Other Transfers	2,817,794	3.2%	551,590	0.5%
Total	\$84,564,331	100.0%	\$85,133,331	100.0%

Debt

As of June 30, 2009, the Town had bonds outstanding which mature serially to the year 2018, as follows:

Schools	\$22,341,000
Public Improvement	10,954,000
Total	\$33,295,000

A summary of statutory debt limits in excess of outstanding and authorized debt is presented below:

General Purpose	\$164,434,225	Sewers	271,688,822
Schools	317,073,621	Urban Renewal	252,217,947

Schedule of Debt Principle and Interest Maturities by Year – June 30, 2009

Year Ending June 30	Principal	Interest	Total Principal & Interest
2010	4,815,000	1,299,025	6,114,025
2011	4,360,000	1,120,588	5,480,588
2012	3,960,000	952,700	4,912,700
2013	3,950,000	803,275	4,753,275
2014	3,945,000	649,550	4,594,550
2015-2018	12,265,000	1,120,275	13,385,275
Total:	\$33,295,000	\$5,945,413	\$39,240,413

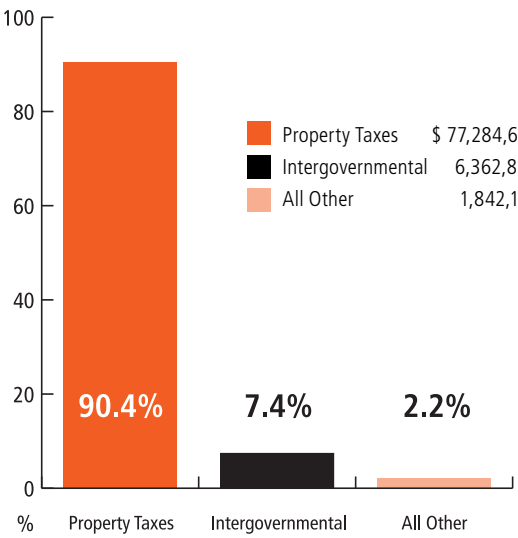
Town Finances

Net Grand Lists and Tax Rates – 2000-2009

Per statutory debt limitations, total indebtedness shall not exceed seven times annual receipts from taxation which is \$543,238,564.

Year End June 30	Grand List	Mill Rate	General Town	Board of Education	Debt Retirement	Totals
2000	1,419,110,606	32.40	14,463,516	36,638,070	1,846,206	52,947,792
2001	1,456,028,736	34.40	14,322,754	40,610,016	2,519,429	57,452,199
2002	1,481,996,519	36.30	14,869,912	42,768,525	2,911,891	60,550,328
2003	1,500,146,075	39.10	14,823,992	46,072,296	2,928,111	63,824,399
2004	1,911,380,612	32.60	14,818,826	48,290,928	5,025,232	68,134,986
2005	1,911,949,429	34.00	14,740,952	50,176,680	5,158,210	70,075,842
2006	1,935,322,272	35.20	16,872,390	52,429,310	5,522,357	74,824,057
2007	1,985,359,901	35.90	20,365,589	55,724,738	5,370,670	81,460,997
2008	2,010,867,186	36.90	20,141,322	58,562,224	5,860,785	84,564,331
2009	2,584,781,826	29.60	18,266,814	60,608,232	6,258,285	85,133,331

Revenues and Expenditures for the Year Ended June 30, 2009



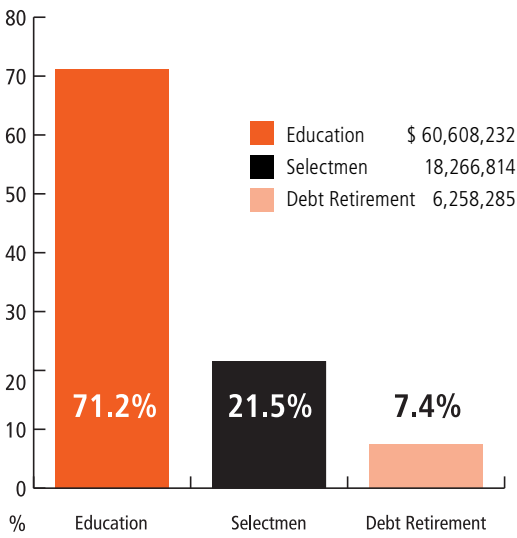
Revenues

Property Taxes	\$77,284,675
Investments	270,672
Licenses/Permits	346,713
Charges For Services	824,400
Intergovernmental	6,362,806
Other	400,370
Total	85,489,636

Reconciliation

Revenue surplus (Actual vs. Budgeted)	277,581
Expenditure surplus (Budget vs. Actual)	454,770
Supplemental appropriations from Reserves	(376,046)
	356,305

(1) During fiscal year ended June 30, 2009, supplemental appropriations from RESERVES totaling \$376,046 was approved.



Expenditures

Education	\$60,608,232
Debt Retirement	6,258,285
Health & Welfare	540,097
General Government	2,025,264
Planning & Development	814,543
Public Safety	3,973,451
Facility Management	3,664,198
Library	1,527,578
Culture & Recreation	755,838
Insurance & Benefits	4,399,255
Special Projects	15,000
Other	551,590
Total	85,133,331

Excess Revenues Over Expenditures (1) 356,305

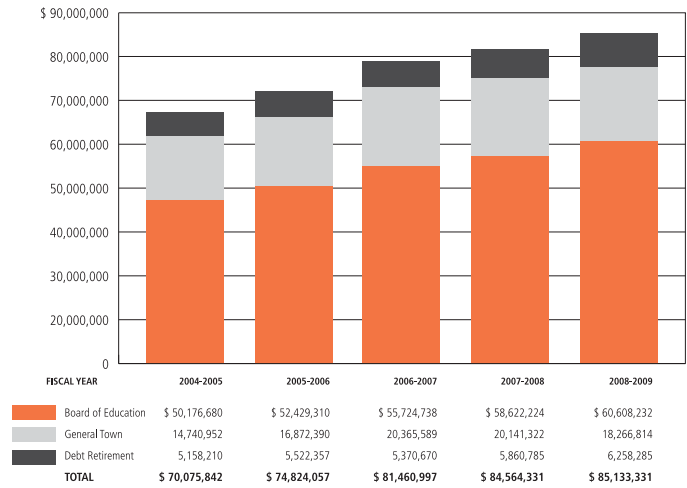
Town Finances

Capital Projects Funds

A summary of expenditures and encumbrances compared with appropriations for the Town’s various Capital Projects Fund is presented below:

Projects	Appropriations	Expenditures	Balances
Capital and nonrecurring	\$2,385,939	\$1,750,972	\$634,967
Sewer extension projects:			
Project 2008	260,000	93,046	166,954
Town projects:			
Townwide computer technology	330,000	311,428	18,572
Economic Development Fund 5/02	250,000	151,893	98,107
Sewer Rehab - Church & Elm Street 5/04	100,000	82,500	17,500
Library Expansion Design Services 3/05	200,000	195,063	4,937
Greenway 5/05	750,000	749,599	401
Park Improvements 5/06	450,000	416,738	33,262
Library Expansion 5/06	6,100,000	5,797,691	302,309
Gertsen Land Purchase 5/08	720,000	26,010	693,990
Triangle Land Purchase 5/08	2,750,000	513,228	2,236,772
Streetscape 10/167 5/08	325,000	17,029	307,971
Eno Hall Improvements 5/08	1,000,000	464,836	535,164
Water Extensions 5/08	170,000	-	170,000
South Pump Station Rehab 5/08	450,000	45,102	404,898
Golf/Recreation Maint Bldg 5/09	550,000	-	550,000
Education projects:			
Simsbury High School Addition & Alteration 5/02	43,178,567	36,084,751	7,093,816
Modular Classrooms 5/02	340,000	299,339	40,661
System Window Treatment Project 5/02	220,000	174,976	45,024
SHS Auditorium Improvements 5/04	712,500	691,048	21,452
System HVAC / Boiler Replacement	500,000	498,006	1,994
Computer technology improv 5/06	450,000	285,766	164,234
Tariffville Expansion 5/06	6,200,000	4,765,021	1,434,979
System Telecommunications, Security Upgrade 5/06	420,000	415,023	4,977
HVAC Boiler Replacement 5/08	700,000	-	700,000
Tootin Hills Roof Replacement	1,257,500	26,719	1,230,781
Squadron Line Generator 5/09	150,000	1,478	148,522
Central School Brownstone 5/09	120,000	1,425	118,575
District Core Switches 5/09	100,000	-	100,000
	\$71,139,506	\$53,858,687	\$17,280,819

Total Expenditures – 2004-2009



Board and Commission Members

Elected Boards and Commissions

(as of December 31, 2009)

Board of Selectmen

John K. Hampton –
Deputy First Selectman
Lisa L. Heavner
Robert S. Hensley
Tom Herlihy
Moiria K. Wertheimer

Board of Assessment Appeals

Dennis J. Fallon
William Fiske
W. Mark Wigmore

Board of Education

Robert Michael Goman
Chris M. Kelly
Charles Moret
Susan B. Salina
John L. Sennott, Jr.
Lydia A. Tedone
Michael T. Wade
Tara Willerup

Board of Finance

Peter K. Askham
Candace V. Fitzpatrick
Paul W. Henault
Nicholas B. Mason
Anita L. Mielert
Kevin A. North

Library Board of Directors

Jeffrey Blumenthal
Ann D. Erickson
Charmaine E. Glew
Joy Himmelfarb
Bertram Kaplan
Diane Madigan
Marianne O’Neil
Gail K. Ryan

Planning Commission

Tina Hallenbeck
Charles D. Houlihan, Jr.
Ferguson R. Jansen, Jr.
John M. Loomis
Michael Paine
Gerald Post

Alternates

Sean Askham
Carol A. Cole
Mark S. Drake

Zoning Board of Appeals

Carol Bingham
Nancy Haase
Thomas F. Horan
Katie S. Martin
John McCann
Peter A. Stempien
Alternates
Tegan Blackburn
Edward M. Cosgrove
Craig K. MacCormac

Zoning Commission

Scott S. Barnett
Bruce H. Elliott
James W. Gallagher
Edward Pabich
Amy Salls
John F. Vaughn
Alternates
Madeleine Gilkey
Robert Pomeroy
David Ryan

Additional Boards and Commissions

(as of December 31, 2009)

Aging and Disability

Grace Comeau
Kathleen Fallon
Mona Herman
Michael Jennings
Marvin Koff
Carrie Jan Kramer
Edward LaMontagne
Mary Ellen Long
Mona Martinik
Charlotte Steptoe
Ann Walters Thompson
Lynn Veith

Board of Ethics

Todd Burrick
Peter Kellogg
Louis A. Norton
Richard Order
Barbara Petijean

Building Code

Board of Appeals

Emil Dahlquist
William Eagan
Harvey Goodfriend
Paul Holland
Charles A. Warren, Jr.

Clean Energy Task Force

Robert Beinstein
Patrick Boeshans
Lori Fernand
James Ray
Susan Van Kleef
Alfred Weisbrich

Conservation Commission

Andrew Bucknam
Darren Cunningham
Ryan Mihalic
Richard A. Miller Jr.
Margaret Sexton
Margery Winters
Dominick Zackeo
Alternate
Patrick Kottas
Donald Reiger, Jr.

Culture, Parks and Recreation Commission

David Bush

Karen Cortes

Joseph Grace
Linda Johnson
Kelly Kearney
Barbara Koff
Mary Liljedahl
John Pendergast
Harry Ryan

Economic Development Commission

Kevin Crimmins
Mark Deming
Thomas Frank
Louis George

Water Pollution Control Authority

Nancy Haase
Alan Levesque
Charles Minor
Alan Needham
Derek Peterson

Fair Rent Commission

Ruben Acosta
Madeline P. Gilkey
Geraldine Muench
John F. Paddock
David A. Richman

Historic District Commission

Kenneth Feder
David Freitas
Dianne Mead
Elizabeth Woollacott
Evan Woollacott
Alternate
J. Paul Lanza
Marc Lubetkin
James W. Oliver

Housing Authority

Kathleen Coffey
Melvin Cote
Oliver Dickins
Woodrow Eddins
Patricia Howland

Police Commission

Edward Cosgrove
Carl Eisenmann
Harvey Goodfriend

Michael T. Long

Brendan Walsh

Public Building Committee

Richard Cortes
Richard Derr
Lucian M. Dragulski
Francis Kelly

Economic Development

Michael Laureno
Richard Ostop
Mary Lou Patrina
Alice Rowland
John Salvatore

Water Pollution Control Authority

Philip Burton
Warren Coe
Gary Faraci
Paul Gilmore
Edward J. Kelly
Michael Park
Philip Richardson

Design Review Board

Emil Dahlquist
William Gardner
Kevin Gray
Mark Naccarato
Richard Schoenhardt
Charles Stephenson
John Stewart
Alternates
Rita Bond
John Carroll
Anthony Drapelick

Insurance Committee

Stanley Cataldo
Nicholas Mason
Paul Mikkelson Jr.
Peter Peterson
Edward Sparkowski
Raymond Wahl
Jonathan Yeisley

Open Space Committee

Mary Glassman
John Loomis
Helen Peterson
Margery Winters

Pension Committee

Nicholas Mason
Paul McAlenney
Donna Parker
Susan Royles
Kevin Schultz
Phil Schulz

Performing Arts Center Board

Leo Collins
Janet Goman
Ken Mason
John Paddock
Greg Piecuch
David Ryan
Adam Sharaf

Recycling Committee

Lori Fernand
Gwendolyn Moraski
Andrew Rose
Lonni Schulz
Mary Turner

Simsbury Farms Complex Committee

Antonio Braz
David Dell
Dennis Fallon
Marc Lubetkin
Erwin Marques
Maribeth Mortillaro
Ronald Patterson
Gerald Post
Jeffrey Seltzer
Tom West

Tourism Committee

Dominique Avery
Elizabeth Banco
Terry Boulton
Patricia Carbone
Paulette Clark
Joyce Howard
Laurie Matczak
Steven Mitchell
Sarah Neighbors
Katherine Oakes

Our Town Today

Important Phone Numbers

Area Code	860
Emergency Phone Numbers	
Fire Department	911
Routine Information	
658-1971	
Police Department/Ambulance	911
Routine Information	
658-3100	
933 Hopmeadow Street	
Simsbury Volunteer Ambulance Assoc.	
64 West Street	658-7213

Department/Service	Phone Number
Assessor	658-3251
Board of Education	651-3361
Building	658-3234
Chamber of Commerce	651-7307
Continuing Education	658-3870
Engineering	658-3260
Eno Hall, Basement Pay Phone	658-7073
Farmington Valley Health District	676-1953
Finance	658-3244
Fire Marshal	658-1973
Historical Society	658-2500
Housing Authority	658-1147
Judge of Probate	658-3277
Landfill	658-9481
Library, Simsbury Public	658-7663
Planning	658-3245
Police	658-3100
Public Works	658-3222
Recreation	658-3255
Simsbury Farms Complex office	658-3836
Simsbury Farms Golf Club	658-6246
Recorded Information	658-2512
Registrar of Voters	658-3267
First Selectman	658-3230
SCTV-Simsbury Community Television	658-1720
Sewer Treatment	658-1380
Social Services	658-3283
Tax	658-3238
Town Clerk	658-3243
Town Hall	658-3200
Aquarion Water Company	658-6707
Visitors Center	651-8994

Town Management (As of 12/31/09)

First Selectman	Mary A. Glassman
Police Chief	Peter Ingvertsen
Director of Finance	Kevin Kane
Town Engineer	Richard Sawitzke
Dir. of Administrative Services	Vacant
Dir. of Culture, Parks and Recreation	Gerry Toner
Dir. of Planning	Hiram Peck III
Dir. of Public Works	Thomas Roy
Dir. of Simsbury Public Library	Susan Bullock
Dir. of Social Services	Mickey Lecours-Beck
Town Clerk	Carolyn Keily

Town Meeting Dates (As of 12/31/09)

Board of Selectmen
The second and fourth Monday of each month

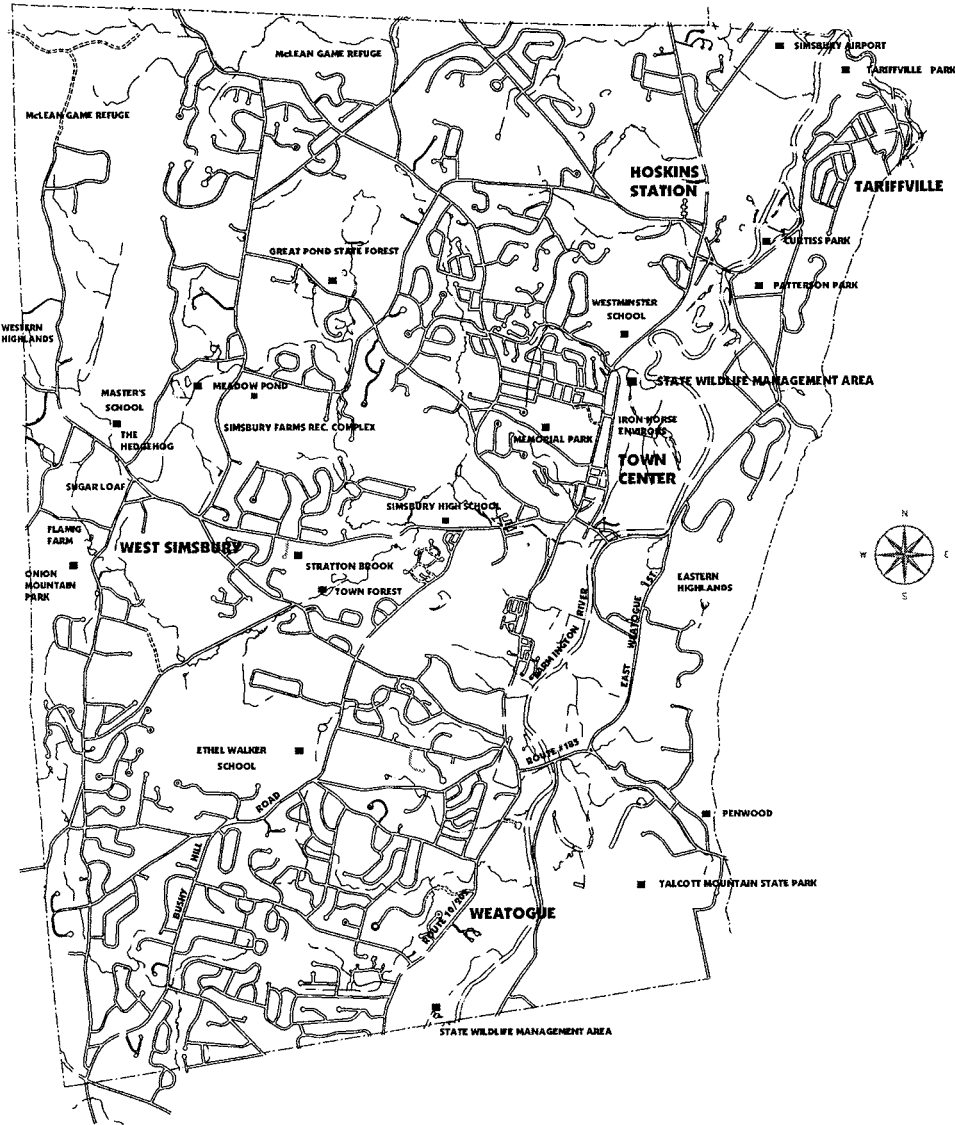
Board of Education
The second and fourth Tuesday of each month

Board of Finance
The third Tuesday of each month

Planning Commission
The second and fourth Tuesday of each month

Zoning Commission
The first and third Monday of each month

* Subject to change - verify meeting dates and times by calling the Town Hall



Our Town Today

History of Simsbury

Simsbury was incorporated as Connecticut’s twenty-first Town in May 1670 and is one of the State’s oldest communities. Centrally located in the heart of the New York – Boston corridor twelve miles northwest of Hartford, Simsbury is conveniently located 20 minutes southwest of Bradley International Airport and is bisected by the Farmington River. The Town is bound on the north by Granby, on the east by Bloomfield, on the south by Avon, and on the west by Canton. The population in Simsbury has grown from 5,000 in 1950 to today’s population of over 23,000. The Town covers an area of approximately 34.5 square miles. While Simsbury has experienced development in the past few decades, the Town government has been sensitive to maintaining the rural environment and historic charm that makes Simsbury the quintessential New England Community.

Simsbury is governed by the Town Meeting and Referendum form of government. The Board of Selectmen consists of six members. The First Selectman is the full-time Chief Executive Officer of the Town Government.



The Town is traversed by State Route 10/US 202, US 44, and State Routes 167, 185, 309 and 315. A former rail bed has been converted to a “Rails-to-Trails” active recreation facility connecting from Plainville in the south through Granby to the Massachusetts border in the north. Freight service is available from various motor common carriers. Intrastate and local commuter buses provide passenger transportation and the Simsbury Airport caters to general private aviation.

The Town is located in the Hartford labor market and many of its residents work



either locally or commute to Hartford and surrounding communities where they are engaged primarily in professional, technical, managerial, sales and similar occupations.

In 2010, the National Trust for Historic Preservation named Simsbury the first and only town in Connecticut to make the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s list of Dozen Distinctive Destinations in the Country. Simsbury was also designated as one of the “Top 100 Best Places to Live” by Money Magazine, and is a federally designated Preserve America community.

2009 Simsbury Hometown Heroes

The Hometown Hero Program was initiated in 1986 by Governor William O’Neil as part of the 350th Anniversary of the founding of Connecticut. Any municipality could designate residents as “Hometown Heroes” for any deed or service that made the community a better place in which to live. State certificates were presented to the 42 individuals and 4 organizations on May 12, 1986. The following year, the First Selectman, Margaret Shanks, continued the program with certificates developed for Simsbury, naming 48 designates. It has been continued since, with Hometown Heroes recognized at a ceremony on or near the date of May 12, the date of Simsbury’s birth. The Hometown Hero Selection Committee, which is appointed by the Board of Selectmen, selected the following recipients for the 2009 Hometown Hero Award:

Linda Johnson, Barbara Rosen (deceased) and William Ketchabaw

The following criterion for selection applies:

- A person(s) who is a resident, or who is active in the Simsbury community, or who lived in Simsbury during the time period that is under consideration;
- Person(s) who has demonstrated selfless and altruistic behavior which contributes significantly to the betterment of our Town;
- That such deed or action performed inures primarily to the Town of Simsbury, although not necessarily exclusively; and that;
- Any individual or group that has been nominated to the Hometown Hero Award Committee (henceforth “Committee”) shall be duly considered with the following exceptions:
 - The hero shall not be a member of Town staff, nor a sitting elected official. Nor shall the hero have benefited economically from his/her endeavors on behalf of the Town.
 - There will be no quotas or automatic selections by the Committee. Recognizing the premise that an abundance of awards will dilute the significance of the award, the Committee is duly charged to use its discretion in the number to be awarded.



heritage



charm



adventure

SIMSBURY
CONNECTICUT

933 Hopmeadow Street / P.O. Box 495 / Simsbury, CT 06070
860-658-3200 / www.simsbury-ct.gov