

# ANNUAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

FY 2016-2017





# TOWN COUNCIL



# HIGHLIGHTS

- **FUNDED NEW BOILERS OR CONVERSION FOR SCHOOLS AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS TO GAIN EFFECTIVENESS FROM NEW NATURAL GAS AVAILABILITY**
- **DEALT WITH LACK OF A STATE BUDGET AND GREAT FISCAL UNCERTAINTY**
- **REFINED LIBRARY EXPANSION PROJECT SCOPE TO READY FOR REFERENDUM**
- **MODERNIZED FIRE DEPARTMENT FLEET BY OBTAINING THE TOWN'S FIRST TANKER AND AERIAL APPARATUS (USED)**
- **STARTED MANAGING AMBULANCE SERVICE AND PROVIDED DAYTIME STAFFING**



TOWN MANAGER

# HIGHLIGHTS

- **INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS:**
  - **MAIN STREET CURVE REALIGNMENT PROJECT NEARLY COMPLETE AFTER 20 YEARS OF PLANNING**
  - **MAIN STREET SIDEWALKS COMPLETED FROM HIGH SCHOOL TO HEMLOCK POINT**
  - **NATURAL GAS CONVERSION OF BOILERS AT SCHOOL COMPLEX, TOWN HALL, POLICE AND COVENTRY FIRE**
  - **LAKE GATE REPLACEMENT PROJECT COMPLETED**
  - **ADAPTIVE REUSE OF TRACY SHODDY MILL NEARING COMPLETION**
  - **LAKE & CROSS STREET SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS**
- **GFOA CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE AWARD FOR 9<sup>TH</sup> YEAR**
- **SUCCESSFUL FARMERS' MARKET 2017 SEASON**
- **TREATED INVASIVE AQUATIC PLANTS IN COVENTRY & EAGLEVILLE LAKES**

# TOWN CLERK



“#1 DOG TAG” LICENSING CONTEST WINNER

# HIGHLIGHTS

- **ANNUAL RABIES CLINIC VACCINATES 58 PETS - 1,488 DOG LICENSES ISSUED**
- **NEW LAW RAISING MINIMUM AGE TO RECEIVE MARRIAGE LICENSE BECAME EFFECTIVE**
- **84% COVENTRY TURNOUT IN 2016 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION**
- **LOCAL TAX DEFERRAL/ALTERNATE TAX ORDINANCE ADOPTED 12/2016**
- **ORDINANCE ALLOWING WAIVER OF BUILDING PERMIT FEES FOR HOMEOWNERS WITH CRUMBLING CONCRETE FOUNDATIONS ADOPTED 3/2017**
- **SUMMARY OF TOWN MEETINGS:**
  - **No Annual Meeting or Adjourned Town Meeting was held during the fiscal year**



**POLICE**



# HIGHLIGHTS

- DEPARTMENT ACHIEVES GOLD STANDARD DESIGNATION IN ON-SITE CALEA RE-ACCREDITATION PROCESS
- RESPONDED TO 7282 CASE REPORTS – DECREASE OF 9%
- PERSONNEL:
  - OFFICERS BEAUSOLEIL AND CARPENTER COMPLETE FIELD TRAINING
  - OFFICER ANDERSEN HIRED, ENTERS ACADEMY
  - RETIRMENT OF OFFICER McDONNELL AFTER 20 YEARS OF SERVICE
- ONLINE TRAINING INITIATED AT LOCALGOV UNIVERSITY
- BEGAN REAL-TIME REPORTING OF ARREST INFORMATION TO CT CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION SYSTEM
- AWARDED FIRST PLACE IN CT LAW ENFORCEMENT CHALLENGE FOR TRAFFIC SAFETY, 7<sup>TH</sup> CONSECUTIVE YEAR



**FIRE**

# HIGHLIGHTS

- **2013 AERIAL APPARATUS PUT INTO SERVICE - IMPROVES FIRE-FIGHTING CAPABILITIES FOR MULTI-STORY AND COMMERCIAL STRUCTURES**
- **2016 3000-GALLON TANKER TRUCK PUT INTO SERVICE – INCREASES WATER CAPACITY AT SCENE**
- **AMBULANCE SERVICES LICENSE AND PSAP CERTIFICATION PROCESSES COMPLETED**
- **STAFFING AGENCY CONTINUES TO PROVIDE EMS PERSONNEL FOR DAYTIME STAFFING MONDAY-FRIDAY**
- **CALLS FOR SERVICE: MEDICAL/EMS: 1230**



# PUBLIC WORKS

# HIGHLIGHTS

- **WINTER OF 2017 SLIGHTLY ABOVE AVERAGE WITH THREE SNOW STORMS OVER 8 INCHES AND SEVERAL OTHERS REQUIRING DE-ICING**
- **COMPLETED FINAL PHASE OF ROAD BOND WITH SHIMMING & CHIP SEAL & CRACK SEALING & HARD SERVICE COURTS**
- **COMPLETED MAINTENANCE OF ONE MILE OF RAILS TO TRAILS SYSTEM**
- **IRRIGATION SYSTEM COMES ONLINE AT LAIDLAW PARK SOCCER FIELD**
- **SUPPORT FOR STATE-FUNDED CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS:**
  - **RT. 31 CURVE REALIGNMENT**
  - **LAKE/CROSS STREET INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS**
  - **LAKE GATE/DAM REPLACEMENT**
  - **STEAP SIDEWALKS**



**WPCA**

# HIGHLIGHTS

- **DISCUSSIONS CONTINUE WITH TOWN OF BOLTON TO PURSUE SEWER EXTENSION ON RT. 44 AT BOLTON LINE**
- **INFLOW & INFILTRATION INSPECTIONS CONTINUED WITH TWO GROUNDWATER LEAKS IDENTIFIED AND REPAIRED**
- **NEW MANHOLES AND SEWER LATERALS COMPLETED IN COORDINATION WITH MAIN STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT**
- **SEWER MAINS COMPLETED FOR PHASE TWO OF BIDWELL VILLAGE**
- **REHAB TO MANHOLES AND NEW SEWER EXTENSION INITIATED AS PART OF LAKE/CROSS ST. IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**
- **REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT OF EQUIPMENT IS AN ONGOING NEED AT 32-YEAR OLD TREATMENT PLANT**



**BUILDING  
DEPT.**

# HIGHLIGHTS

- **INSPECTIONS CONDUCTED: 1662 - PERMITS ISSUED: 810**
- **CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY PERMITS FOR NEW SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES: 26**
- **TOWN ENACTS ORDINANCE TO WAVE BUILDING PERMIT FEES FOR CRUMBLING CONCRETE FOUNDATION WORK**
- **NOTABLE PROJECTS:**
  - **CONVERSION OF SCHOOL COMPLEX TO NATURAL GAS**
  - **NEW BUSINESSES: WICKED SLICE PIZZA, THE CLEANING GUY, ELM HUMAN PERFORMANCE, H & R BLOCK**
  - **ADAPTIVE REUSE PROJECTS FOR TRACY SHODDY MILL**
  - **CH. 3 KIDS CAMP NEW CABINS**
  - **BARN RENOVATION AND CATERING KITCHEN AT NATHAN HALE HOMESTEAD**
  - **RENOVATION OF MIDDLE SCHOOL CLASSROOM FOR HALE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CENTER**
  - **ACOUSTIC CEILING TILES AT COVENTRY SENIOR CENTER**



# PLANNING & ZONING

# HIGHLIGHTS

- **SUBCOMMITTEE FORMED TO WORK ON REVISIONS TO PLAN OF CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT FOR 2020**
- **COVENTRY FARMERS' MARKET SUCCESSFUL FIRST SEASON UNDER TOWN OVERSIGHT – SECOND SEASON BEGINS JUNE 2017**
- **GRANT AWARD PROJECTS:**
  - **FARM VIABILITY GRANT**
  - **AQUATIC INVASIVES TREATMENT FOR EAGLEVILLE & COVENTRY LAKES**
  - **AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL TREE PLANTINGS – NATHAN HALE HOMESTEAD**
  - **“TELLING STORIES THAT MATTER” HISTORICAL PHOTO PROJECT**
  - **MAIN STREET INVESTMENT FUND GRANT: SIDEWALKS TO LIBRARY & ENHANCEMENTS**
  - **MILLBROOK GREENWAY – DECEW PROPERTY DESIGN PLANS & SITE WORK**
- **CONTINUED IMPROVEMENTS TO GIS PLATFORM, GPS DATA POINTS FOR RECREATIONAL TRAIL MAPS**
- **PURCHASE OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS FINALIZED FOR REYNOLDS FARM**



# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

# HIGHLIGHTS

- **CONTINUED IMPROVEMENTS AND REVISIONS TO “NEW BUSINESS PRIMER” EDUCATION RESOURCE FOR BUSINESS COMMUNITY**
- **SUPPORT FOR OPERATION OF COVENTRY VISITORS’ CENTER, COVENTRY FARMERS’ MARKET, LAST GREEN VALLEY**
- **DEVELOPMENT & MAINTENANCE OF COMMERCIAL PROPERTY TARGET DEVELOPMENT LIST**
- **CONTINUED INITIATIVES WITH WPCA / CT DEEP & TOWN OF BOLTON TO EXTEND BOLTON SEWERS INTO COVENTRY AT TOWN LINE ON RT. 44 & DEVELOPMENT OF BOLTON GATEWAY DEVELOPMENT NODE CONCEPTS**
- **CONTINUED SUPPORT TO BUSINESSES IN ONE-ON-ONE MEETINGS / ADVOCACY FOR BUSINESSES SEEKING PZC APPLICATION APPROVALS / EDUCATIONAL FORUMS**



# CONSERVATION COMMISSION

# HIGHLIGHTS

- **STARTED IMPROVEMENTS TO PATRIOTS PARK WOODS PROPERTY ON CROSS ST. BASED ON MANAGEMENT PLAN**
- **WORKED WITH VOLUNTEERS & STAFF TO CONTINUE ADOPT-A-ROAD, EARTH DAY CLEAN-UP AND STONE WALL CLEAN-UP INITIATIVES**
- **CONTINUED WORK ON DEVELOPMENT OF A BIKE PLAN FOR THE COMMUNITY**



# BOARD OF EDUCATION

# HIGHLIGHTS

- **CHS RANKED AS TOP HIGH SCHOOL IN CT BY WASHINGTON POST, PLACING 8<sup>TH</sup> IN STATE, TOP 3% IN NATION**
- **PRESCHOOL BECOMES PART OF CPS AT HALE EARLY EDUCATION CENTER**
- **PREPARED STUDENTS FOR NEW VERSION OF SCHOLASTIC APTITUDE TEST MANDATED BY STATE OF CT**
- **CURRICULUM WORK CONTINUED TO ALIGN WITH CT CORE STANDARDS**
- **STUDENTS EARNED 374 CREDITS AT UCONN & 575 CREDITS TO MANCHESTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE; MUSIC THEORY & RESEARCH ADDED TO AP COURSE CATALOG**
- **PHONES MIGRATED TO VOIP SYSTEM: ENHANCED FEATURES & CAPABILITIES**
- **HEATING SYSTEMS AT CNHMS/CHS COMPLEX, ADMIN. BUILDING CONVERTED TO NATURAL GAS**



# HUMAN SERVICES

# HIGHLIGHTS

- **DIRECT SERVICES: 230 CASES**
- **ENERGY ASSISTANCE ACCESS APPLICATIONS: 97**
- **OPERATION FUEL PROGRAM: 4 FAMILIES; CLERGY FUEL: 19 FAMILIES**
- **FOOD BANK: 272 REQUESTS, 79 HOUSEHOLDS**
- **SPECIAL NEEDS PROGRAM: 17 FAMILIES**
- **YOUTH & FAMILY CASES: 68**
- **HOLIDAY DISTRIBUTION: THANKSGIVING: 64 FAMILIES; CHRISTMAS: 77 FAMILIES, 64 HOT MEALS TO ORCHARD HILLS**
  
- **BELL RINGERS PROGRAM FUNDS RAISED: \$7,686. VOLUNTEER HOURS: 130**
  
- **SENIOR CENTER: 5565 VISITS; 13 HOLIDAY/SPECIAL EVENTS; 8 EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS; 104 CHOICES APPTS.; 57 ELDERLY SERVICES APPTS.**
  
- **COVENTRY RIDES PROGRAM: SARAH LEETE HIRED AS TRANSP. COORDINATOR**
  - **TOTAL MILES: 9689**
  - **DAYS OF VEHICLE USAGE: 265**
  - **# PEOPLE RIDING: 126**
  - **# ONE-WAY TRIPS: 1545**
  - **# VOLUNTEER HOURS: 766**

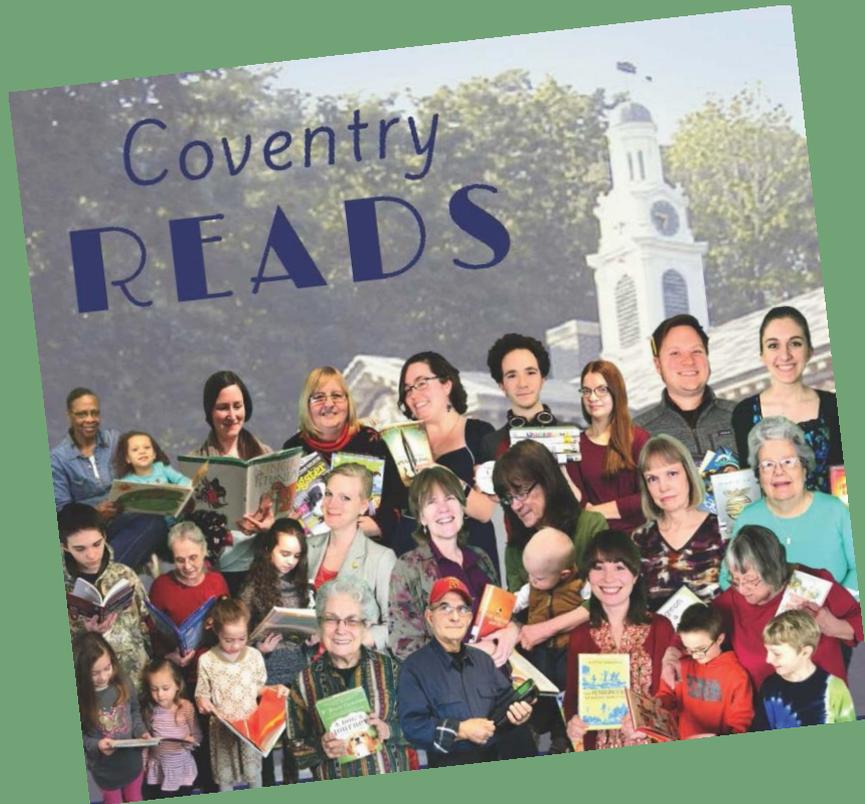


# PARKS & RECREATION



# HIGHLIGHTS

- **AWARDED PLAYFUL CITY USA STATUS FOR 6<sup>TH</sup> YEAR IN A ROW**
- **WORKED WITH COVENTRY ARTS GUILD TO DEVELOP STRATEGIC ARTS PLAN FOR COMMUNITY**
- **SECOND YEAR OF COMMUNITY GARDENS AT CREASER PARK; PLOTS SOLD OUT**
- **PHASE ONE OF PLAYSCAPE AT LAIDLAW PARK INSTALLED**
- **SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATIONS ACHIEVE RECORD ENROLLMENT**
- **EXPANSION OF RECREATION DAZE, BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS WITH MOVE TO COMMUNITY CENTER**
- **LAUNCH OF 06238 COMMUNITY CALENDAR IN COLLABORATION WITH LIBRARY, HUMAN SERVICES, SENIOR CENTER & EDC COMMISSION**
- **COLLABORATIVE PURCHASE OF QUICKSCORES LEAGUE SCHEDULING SOFTWARE FOR YOUTH BASKETBALL WITH REGIONAL TOWNS**



# BOOTH & DIMOCK MEMORIAL LIBRARY



# HIGHLIGHTS

- **COMMUNITY MEETINGS CONTINUE TO SHARE CONCEPTUAL PLANS FOR LIBRARY BUILDING EXPANSION**
- **CT STATE LIBRARY eRATE GRANT CONNECTS LIBRARY TO TOWN HALL VIA FIBER INTERNET & HIGH-SPEED WiFi INSTALLED**
- **7,740 PEOPLE ATTENDED 499 LIBRARY-SPONSORED EVENTS.  
23% INCREASE IN SUMMER READING**
- **8,448 COVENTRY RESIDENTS WITH LIBRARY CARDS – 355 NEW PATRON REGISTRATIONS**
- **NEW COLLECTIONS/DIGITAL LIBRARY: BOARD GAMES, SEED LIBRARY, BRAIN HQ, MANGO LANGUAGES, ZINIO RB DIGITAL**
- **STATISTICS:**
  - **ITEMS BORROWED: 86,376**
  - **LIBRARY VISITS: 54,140**
  - **COMPUTER ½ HOUR SESSIONS: 24,692**
  - **WIFI USES: 2,077**
  - **REFERENCE QUESTIONS/ ASSISTANCE: 6,388**
  - **HOMEBOUND VISITS: 32**
  - **SCHOOL EVENT VISITS: 92**



FINANCIAL

# HIGHLIGHTS

- **CONTINUED FISCAL STRENGTH:**
  - **GFOA CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE AWARD**
  - **UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE INCREASED TO 13.2%**
  - **PENSION PLAN FUNDED LIABILITY INCREASED TO 85.48% WITH 13.2% EARNINGS**
- **REDUCED COSTS THROUGH COLLABORATION: HEALTH INSURANCE COLLABORATIVE, WELLNESS PROGRAMS, ALLOWING A 7% PREMIUM REDUCTION**
- **PERCENTAGE OF PROPERTY TAX COLLECTED REMAINS OVER 98.8% FOR 2<sup>ND</sup> YEAR**
- **2016 ADJUSTED GRAND LIST: \$951,967,368**
- **ABLE TO AVOID DEFICIT BUDGET EVEN WITH \$380,000 IN MID-YEAR STATE AID CUTS**



For a complete  
copy of the  
2016/2017

Annual Report,  
visit the Town  
website at

[www.coventryct.org](http://www.coventryct.org)

or contact:

Town Manager's  
Office,

860-742-6324.