



SHELTON*Life*

City of Shelton
2017-2018 Biennial Report

Shelton 
Going Green

Table of Contents

A Balanced Plan	1
Greetings from the Mayor	2
Shelton's Government	3
Finance	4
Annual Budget	5
Governance and Administration	6
Education	8
Shelton Schools	10
Educational Partnerships	12
Safeguarding Growth	14
Economic Development	16
Board and Commission Member Recognition	18
Recreation and Culture	20
Security, Safety and Health	22
Infrastructure	24
Conservation in Shelton	26
Shelton Going Green	28
Shelton's History	29
Chromium Process	30
Canal Street and Riverfront	31
Civil War Monument	32
Acknowledgements	36
City Directory	37
Schedule of Meetings	37

All copy in this Biennial Report was provided by department heads and has been proofread for grammar, not content. When necessary, copy was edited and cut to fit space allotted.

SHELTON*Life*



Cover
Our beautiful Housatonic River
Photo by KM Aerial Views



Back Cover
Pine Lake is part of the Shelton Lakes
Recreation Path.
Photo by Trails Committee



Shelton

CONNECTICUT

Balancing Growth with a Commitment to the Environment

“Vision to See, Faith to Believe, Courage to Do”

~ Michael Connelly, “The Closers”

The Shelton Life publications, which include the *Shelton Life Newsletter* and the *Biennial Report*, have provided various articles and information regarding the City’s commitment to balanced growth and development. Significant economic progress has been made since our last Biennial Report, especially in the City’s downtown. Environmental remediation along Canal Street continues to pay huge dividends to the long-term strength and resurgence of the City’s downtown. This two-decade long endeavor has been recognized by the State of Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development. On May 3, 2017 Mayor Mark A. Lauretti, on behalf of the City of Shelton, was recognized with a Lifetime Achievement Award by the United States Environmental Protection Agency for the tremendous progress and commitment to providing a safe and healthy environment.

As a result of the successful remediation efforts and reuse of formerly contaminated riverfront sites, the City continues to create landmark spaces along Canal Street. The Veterans’ Memorial Park is a prime example of investment in new public spaces that will serve our community for many years to come, in a strategic location, and with a design incorporating the rich history of Shelton. The newly installed Civil War Monument, joins the original War Memorial and the Veterans’ Memorial honoring those who served. The Shelton Farm and Public Market also has many attractive offerings from the local farming community twice weekly and is conveniently located in downtown.

As a result of the recent residential and commercial investments, the City has begun to receive tax revenues that benefit and support every single resident. Clean streets and parks do not just help the environment, they look better and increase property values. We welcome our entire community to join in the conversation and processes in place or in the creation of new approaches that will reinforce and ensure that Shelton’s legacy will always be considered environmentally-wise and people-friendly.



Greetings From the Mayor



July 2017

Welcome to the *City of Shelton's Biennial Report* for 2017 and 2018. This report represents the twelfth report prepared by the City of Shelton since it was reinstituted in 1995 by the city's Economic Development Commission. Our Biennial Report combines a detailed departmental summary of the city's progress over the past two years with a clear sense of the vision for the future and with many examples of the successful efforts our community makes in the delivery of cost effective and responsive services. We also work hard to share the vision which reflects the input of our local residents and businesses – the important stakeholders who have chosen Shelton and who invest their personal and financial resources in making our city the best choice in Connecticut for their families and establishments.

This Biennial Report also documents the incredibly generous and appreciated efforts of our local and regional volunteers. Shelton's volunteer boards and commissions are a distinct Shelton advantage that unifies the city in the spirit of community and volunteer philanthropy. We truly applaud their efforts and commend their many success stories to our readers. The city's Economic Development Commission, led by their Chairman Fred Ruggio, are a glowing example of what can be achieved by our talented and motivated volunteers as evidenced by this Biennial Report.

The administration of municipal government has evolved into a highly regulated and technical undertaking. Elected and appointed officials continue to demonstrate the high level of professional competency as exemplified by our City of Shelton's public employees in support of the delivery of high quality services which you expect. We commend their diligent efforts and commitment to effective customer service. Their departmental updates are always included in our Biennial Report and will guide you to the services which are at your disposal.

The City of Shelton has also worked diligently to engender an environment conducive to a meaningful public/private partnership with the business community. As you know, our Shelton Economic Development Corporation is an example of how community leadership combined with business leader's genuine interest in community economic development can achieve significant milestones, particularly in downtown revitalization and regional economic development, fulfilled through inclusive citizen participation.

Our city's future remains promising for many years to come.

On behalf of the City of Shelton team, we thank you all for your successful efforts and investments making Shelton the community of smart growth!

Sincerely,

Mark A. Lauretti
Mayor
City of Shelton



Shelton's Government

THE ELECTED OFFICIALS WHO OPERATE & ADMINISTER SHELTON

Our local government is responsible for operating, managing and administering the business and affairs of the City. Our Mayor-Aldermanic form of government operates under a City Charter, revised in 2012. It consists of an executive branch: the Office of the Mayor, and a legislative branch: the Board of Aldermen. The Board of Apportionment and Taxation is also elected to help prepare the city's annual budget and to award bids.



The Board of Aldermen (left to right): Seated: Lynne S. Farrell, John F. Anglace, Jr., President; Stan Kudej; James Capra
Standing: Eric McPherson, Vice President; John "Jack" Finn; Anthony Simonetti; Missing: Noreen McGorty

Office of the Mayor

The Mayor is the Chief Executive Officer of the City and is elected for a term of two years. He is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day administration and operation of all city departments as well as planning for Shelton's future needs.

All administrative and department heads report directly to the Mayor. He is also responsible for preparing an Annual Fiscal Report and Annual Budget.

The Board of Aldermen

The Board of Aldermen is the city's legislative branch. It consists of eight members elected for two year terms – two from each of the city's four wards.

The current Board of Aldermen has governed the city on a bipartisan basis over the last two years. There has been close communication, cooperation and agreement on major issues. Cooperation with the Mayor and city departments has been a cornerstone of this Board. Permanent and Ad Hoc Committees have functioned well and achieved

consensus, moving the city ahead on a number of important issues. They have focused on land preservation, economic development (especially downtown), maintaining low and stable taxes, streets and services, public health, safety and emergency service improvements, an expansion of recreation facilities and an improved education system. A hallmark of this Board has been its ability to study issues of primary importance and to implement those studies in a cost-effective manner.

Our present Board of Aldermen are proud to continue to provide the leadership and enlist the community support that will improve the quality of life for future generations of Shelton citizens.

The Board of Apportionment and Taxation

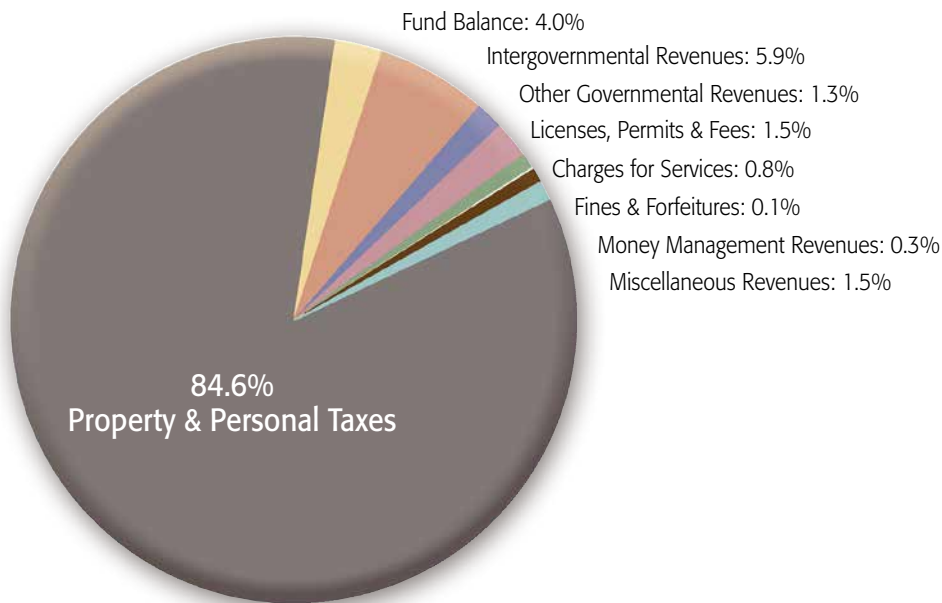
The Shelton Board of Apportionment and Taxation is an elected board composed of six members with no more than three members from the same political party. They are responsible for establishing, reviewing and monitoring Shelton's city budget. The role of the Board of Apportionment and Taxation is crucial to maintaining effective city government. 🌊

Finance

WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM

Each year the city handles a great deal of money. Determining how much money the city needs to provide our residents with comprehensive services and then spending this money wisely, is a process that concerns and affects us all.

Over the years, city departments have gained a great deal of experience in the preparation of their budgets. As a result, Shelton's budget process has become highly efficient. As we hear of budget and tax battles that occur in cities and towns across the state, we come to realize the effectiveness of our system in Shelton.



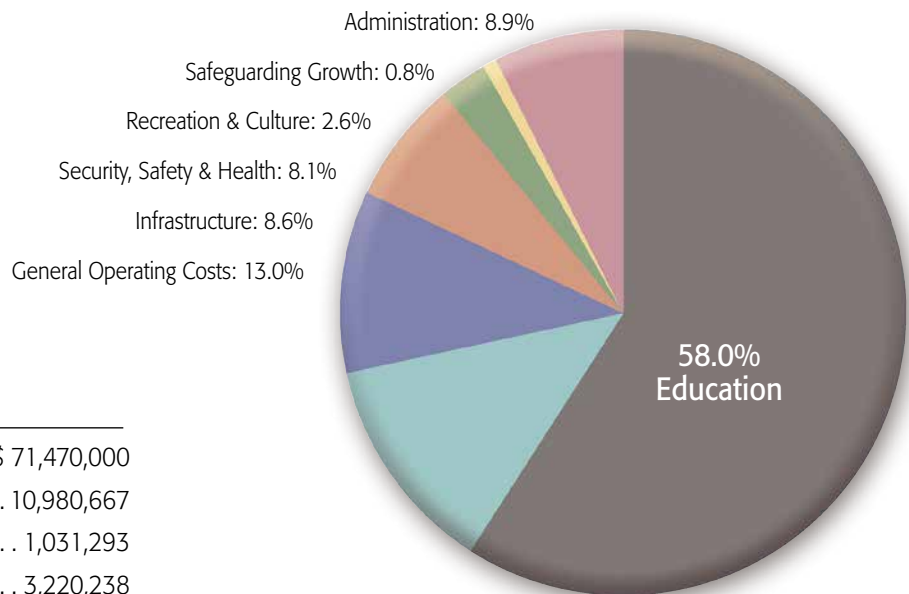
2017/2018 Income

Property & Personal Taxes	\$ 104,318,984
Fund Balance	4,893,096
Intergovernmental Revenues	7,373,149
Other Governmental Revenues	1,609,583
Licenses, Permits & Fees	1,808,580
Charges for Services.	1,007,270
Fines & Forfeitures.	4,000
Money Management Revenues	421,000
Miscellaneous Revenues	1,873,043
	\$123,308,705

Annual Budget

WHERE THE MONEY GOES

The city's fiscal year runs from July 1st to June 30th. Adopting an annual budget is a five month process that involves the Director of Finance, all city department heads, the Mayor, the Board of Aldermen, the Board of Apportionment and Taxation and the residents of Shelton.



2017/2018 Expenses

Education	\$ 71,470,000
Administration	10,980,667
Safeguarding Growth	1,031,293
Recreation & Culture	3,220,238
Security, Safety & Health	9,938,846
Infrastructure	10,647,045
General Operating Costs	16,020,616
	\$123,308,705

General Operating Costs

General Operating Costs cover a variety of City expenses and deserve further explanation. The following is a more detailed look at the elements that make up this line item.

General Operating Costs: 13.0%

Debt Services*	\$ 11,791,254
Management Information Service	448,407
Miscellaneous Expenses	1,251,300
Contributions to Outside Agencies	367,095
Public Risk Management	2,162,560
	\$16,020,616

*Includes Interest and principle reduction

Governance & Administration

PRESERVING THE INTEGRITY AND QUALITY OF OUR CITY'S FUTURE

One of the most important functions of Shelton's administration is managing the City and its money. Since most of the City's revenues come from local taxes, residents are especially concerned that their tax dollars are being used wisely. This responsibility rests with Shelton's Finance Organization.

The Finance Organization is made up of several departments and headed by the Director of Finance. Its main goals are to provide a strong system of internal controls to safeguard the City's assets and to promote an economical and efficient administration of city funds.

Treasurer

The City Treasurer invests the city's money and makes sure funds are available to meet City expenses.

An aggressive cash management and investment program was developed in a cooperative effort by the Director of Finance and the City Treasurer. Investments from this program have earned millions of additional dollars over the years, greatly benefiting the residents and taxpayers of the city. Monies are invested with the Connecticut State Treasurer's Short Term Investment Fund, a very safe, liquid and effective investment.

the city's bank accounts and prepares the yearly audit report in conjunction with the outside auditors. The department is also charged with collecting the yearly budget requests from all other departments and entering them into the City's computerized accounting system, Superion. The department then continues to update the coming year's budget as it passes from the Department Request to the Mayor's recommendation to the Board of A & T's recommendation until it finally reaches the Board of Aldermen. The Board of Aldermen vote and pass the upcoming budget by May 31st.

Tax Collector

The Tax Collector's office is governed by the CT State Statutes. The tax office collects real estate, personal property and motor vehicle taxes. Real Estate taxes over \$100 are collected in two installments as well as personal property taxes over \$5,000. These installments are due on July 1st and January 1st. Motor vehicle taxes are due on July 1st with supplemental taxes due on January 1st. Sewer usage fees, water main assessments and sewer assessments are also handled through this office.

Recent upgrades in the office consist of changing over to a new software program streamlining tasks. Also, the Tax Collector's office is now online. By accessing www.cityofshelton.org "City Departments - Tax Collector" residents can view and pay taxes.

It should be noted unpaid taxes are collectible for 15 years and delinquent collections are pursued on an active basis throughout the year. Efforts are made to collect these taxes, and the office is always willing to work out payment arrangements with residents. However, a collection agency and a State Marshal presently assist in collections of those the office has exhausted efforts on. The Tax Collector's office is open five days a week.

Assessor

The Assessor is responsible for the valuation and transfer of all Real Property, Motor Vehicles and Personal Property in the City of Shelton. CT State Statutes require the Assessor be fair and equitable in the valuation of property to all taxpayers

Director of Finance

The Director of Finance supervises and administers the functions of the various departments that make up the city's Finance Organization. Duties include overseeing information technology budgets, accounting and payroll for all city departments and agencies, assessments, collection of taxes, purchasing, and custody and disbursement of city funds.

Accounting Department

The Accounting and Control Department is in charge of the books of record for the city's finances. It accounts for the city's roughly 60 different funds, the largest being the General Fund. The department handles Accounts Payable as well as the Payroll for the city's employees.

The department performs monthly analysis work, reconciles



Governance & Administration: 8.9%

General Administration	\$2,012,951
Employee Resources	5,983,411
Legislative & Ethics	164,655
Elections	160,396
Assessor's Office	572,551
Probate Court	12,900
Elected/Appointed Officials	18,450
City/Town Clerk	442,196
Public Employees Appeal Board	0
Legal Service/Corp Counsel	200,971
Tax Collector's Office	353,035
Purchasing	355,446
Accounting & Fiscal Control	578,705
Board of Aldermen	125,000
Total	\$10,980,667

in the City. The Assessor files the Grand List for all properties every October 1st. Additionally, it is the department's responsibility to administer all programs mandated under State Law including state and local programs for veterans, totally disabled, blind, and elderly homeowners.

The City conducts the Revaluation for real property every five years per State Statute. Revaluation is the appraisal of all real property. The revaluation ensures that each property owner bears his/her appropriate share of the tax burden. To accomplish this objective the assessor must discover, list and equitably value all properties within the City. The 2016 revaluation reflects the fair market value as of October 1, 2016. The result of these efforts is the Grand List: a record of all taxable and tax-exempt property in the City.

In addition, the Assessor's Office conducts field inspections on building permit work, i.e., new commercial, industrial, or residential construction, additions, garages, porches, decks, etc. for revaluation.

Purchasing Department

All City departments must purchase supplies and services through the Purchasing Department. The Purchasing Department is responsible for the process of bidding and securing quotations for the broad range of products and services used by the City.

The objective of the Purchasing Department is to support the purchasing needs of the functional departments while being compliant with the guidelines of the City Charter and state and federal statutes.

While supporting the City's operations, the Purchasing Agent has budget responsibilities for utilities, office supplies, office equipment, mailing services, stationery printing, bid advertising, telephone and telephone maintenance. The primary consideration for the Purchasing Department is to do what makes economic sense for the taxpayers of the City of Shelton.

City/Town Clerk

The Office of the City/Town Clerk is the repository of all land records and survey maps for the City of Shelton and provides a valuable service to attorneys, title companies, lenders and the City's residents ensuring proper encumbrances of property. The vault in the town clerk's office is home to land records from the late 1700's to the present.

The office is the custodian of Vital records (Birth, Marriage and Death) issuing certified copies of all vital statistics to residents and burial permits to funeral directors.

Vital Statistic records as far back in history to the late 1700's are maintained and preserved through Preservation Grants from the Connecticut State Library annually.

The Town Clerk is the State's agent for not only vital statistics but also for maintaining liquor permits, notary public certificates, hunting and fishing licenses, Trade Name certificates and dog licenses. Also collecting special state and local taxes on properties sold in the city.

The Town Clerk's office maintains a calendar and a schedule of all public meetings, list of residents serving on all Boards and Commissions and publishes on the city website agendas and minutes of all meetings as well as the maintenance and the publication of all City Ordinances.

In cooperation with the Registrar of Voters, the Town Clerk administers election law by retaining voting statistics for general and special

elections. All ballots and primary petitions are prepared and ordered by the office of the City/Town Clerk. Absentee ballots are issued and returned to the office by residents and all statistics on the number of Absentee Ballots issued and returned are recorded and maintained by the office of the Town Clerk as well as maintaining election results as per State election retention regulations.

All Lawsuits, Loss claims and Workman's Compensation claims are also recorded, filed and maintained with the office of the Town Clerk.

The City/Town Clerk performs duties and has responsibilities determined by the City Charter and CT State Statutes.


Registrar of Voters

The mission of the Registrar's Office is to record and process all voter registration records for the City of Shelton. They organize, staff and direct the entire election process for all referendums, primaries and elections. They process election results and report them to the Secretary of State's Office in Hartford. The office also conducts voter registration sessions throughout the year and performs a yearly canvass of Shelton voters to keep voting records accurate and current.

The 2016 Election was the ultimate test of the Registrar's Office policies, procedures and best management practices. Nearly 82% (21,170) of the 25,866 registered voters participated in the election process.

The office staff also processed 10,642 additions, deletions and changes to voter records during the sixteen months leading up to the November 2016 election. The 2016 Election will long be remembered as "the Big One" by the Registrar's Office. We can only hope this will be the new norm for future elections and primaries.

Anyone wishing to work at the polls during an election or primary, can contact the Registrar of Voters office.

Registration requirements, registration and election forms, office hours and absentee ballots are available on the City's website at cityofshelton.org. Voting locations and sample ballots for upcoming elections can also be found here. 



Registrar of Voters Staff

Seated (l to r): Bob Lally; Marilyn Forbes

Standing (l to r): John "Jack" Finn; Peter R. Pavone



Education

PREPARING OUR STUDENTS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

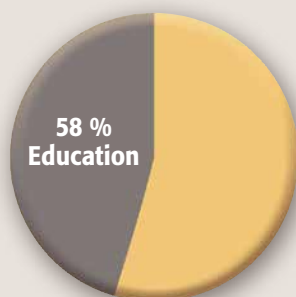
As a growing community populated by many young families, Shelton strives to provide a forward-thinking, stimulating learning environment for students at all levels. Shelton's educational resources and strong community spirit make this city a wonderful environment in which to live, work, and learn.

In order to prepare our students for the challenges and opportunities of the mid-to-late 21st Century, Shelton Public Schools are committed to aligning our work with the skills and ability to be true life-long learners. To this end, the Board of Education seeks exemplary administrators and teachers who are highly competent, creative, and willing to grow as professional educators.

Board of Education

The Shelton Board of Education (BOE), a nine member elected group, is responsible for establishing policies and procedures that support educational programs, which benefit students from Pre-K to high school.

The Board functions well because of its efficient use of three standing committees, which also meet monthly: Finance, Teaching and Learning, and Policy. The Teaching and Learning Committee provides monitoring and oversight to all matters pertaining to curriculum, instruction, assessment, and professional learning of staff and faculty. The Finance Committee provides monitoring and oversight to the school budget and all matters related to finance such as Board Capital Improvement Projects and maintenance and repairs. The Policy Committee is responsible to keep all BOE policies current based on Education statutes, law and new legislation. The BOE Policy Book has been completely revised, updated, and republished on the district website. The Policy Book reflects all existing policies, by-laws and regulations set forth by the Connecticut Department of Education. Additionally, the Shelton Board of Education conducts one regularly scheduled meeting on the 4th Wednesday of each month. All district BOE activities and information is available to the public on the district website which can be found at www.sheltonpublicschools.org.



Education: 58%

Total Personnel & Benefits	\$59,124,735
Transportation	4,096,695
Maintenance & Utilities	3,705,034
Outgoing Tuition.	2,981,000
Instructional Materials	554,600
Improvement & Development	175,000
Expenses & Equipment	832,936
	\$71,470,000

Superintendent of Schools – PTO/PTA Representative Meetings

The Superintendent of Schools meets with the PTO Alliance, consisting of members from all of the schools' PTOs. These meetings include collaborative agenda building with the membership and cover areas such as curriculum, budget, school site needs and requests, student safety, school security, and other matters of importance. These meetings are above and beyond each school's monthly parent meetings which commit an immeasurable amount of hours working to ensure that the children in Shelton get the best support educationally, financially, socially, and culturally. The Superintendent Parent meetings work to provide parents a direct and open communication with the superintendent to discuss district efforts to provide quality education for all children and youth, as well as the opportunity to participate in the decision making process in establishing district and school policies and discussing school site or district issues and needs. 🐣



Superintendent of Schools Dr. Chris Clouet with a box of cookies from Royal Bakery iced with the "Word of the Week."

Board of Education Budget

I. Compensation: All Departments: 82.9%

A. Teachers & Administrators: 54.3%

Teacher & Administrator Salaries . . .	\$36,101,194
Other Payments, Certified	425,300
Temporary, Certified Substitutes	915,000
Temporary, Certified Tutors	1,391,786
	\$38,833,280

B. Classified Staff: 12.9%

Support Staff Salaries	\$8,555,764
Other Payments, Support Staff	263,040
Support Staff, Temporary	207,555
Summer Help	55,000
Part Time Custodians	160,000
	\$9,241,359

C. Employee Benefits: 15.5%

Medical Insurance	\$8,195,373
Social Security, Medicare	1,406,210
Pension, Retirement	988,513
Unemployment Compensation	120,000
Workers Compensation	300,000
Other Benefits	40,000
	\$11,050,096

Total: Compensation & Benefits . . . \$59,124,735

II. Program Improvement & Staff Dev.: 0.2%

Program Improvement & Staff Dev.	\$150,000
Conference & Travel	25,000
	\$175,000

III. Instructional Materials: 0.8%

Wide Area Network	\$107,000
Instructional Software	200,000
Teaching Supplies	175,000
Textbooks/Workbooks	0
Library Books	28,600
Periodicals	8,000
Testing Materials	36,000
	\$554,600

IV. Outgoing Tuition: 4.2%

Outgoing Tuition, Public Schools	\$696,000
Outgoing Tuition, Private Schools	2,285,000
Adult Education	0
	\$2,981,000

V. Maintenance & Utilities: 5.2%

Electricity	\$1,340,000
Gas	690,000
Water	107,000
Heating Fuel	10,000
Equipment Repairs	110,000
Building Repair/Maintenance	200,000
Service Contracts	702,770
Equipment Rental	180,264
Gasoline	20,000
Custodial Supplies	175,000
Maintenance Supplies	170,000
	\$3,705,034

VI. Student Transportation: 5.7%

Regular Student Transportation	\$2,405,000
Special Education Transportation	1,446,000
Athletic Transportation	104,000
Student Field Trips	21,695
School Bus Fuel	120,000
	\$4,096,695

VII. Expenses & Equipment: 1.2%

Telephone	\$87,000
Postage	29,000
Advertising	2,000
Printing	33,000
Other Services	12,436
Non-Instructional Supplies	148,000
Dues & Memberships	60,500
Pupil Services	9,000
Other Professional/Technical Services	347,000
Liability Insurance	55,000
Replacement of Equipment	20,000
New Equipment	30,000
	\$832,936

Total: Non-Salary Expenditures: 17.1%
\$12,170,265

Total Board of Ed Budget. . . . \$71,470,000



Board of Education

Seated (l to r): Dr. Darlisa Ritter; Arlene Liscinsky; Faith Hack; Kate Kutash; Standing (l to r): Win Oppel; Diane Luther, Clerk; Tom Minotti; Mark Holden, Chairman; Kathy Yolish; David Gioiello, Jr.



Shelton Schools

PROVIDING THE MEANS TO A QUALITY EDUCATION

The Shelton School System is intensively committed to providing all of its nearly 5,000 students with educational programs and services that will enhance their ability to become responsible citizens, lifelong learners, and productive members of the emerging global society. Shelton is home to five K-4 elementary schools, one upper elementary school for grades 5 and 6, an intermediate school for grades 7 and 8, and a high school serving 1,500 students. Shelton employs over 400 certified staff, which includes teachers and administrators, along with a support staff of more than 200 employees. Opportunities are provided to participate in professional development activities and enhanced learning experiences.

Elementary Education

Each of Shelton's five elementary schools provide an enriched hands-on curriculum using a balanced approach to reading and writing, which stresses both skill development and the use of real literature and nonfiction text. In addition, our elementary schools offer fully integrated art, music, physical education, and technology instruction. Support services are available in reading, special education, enrichment, social services and English as a Second Language. Our current K-4 elementary schools include Booth Hill, Elizabeth Shelton, Long Hill, Mohegan and Sunnyside. A peer partner oriented Pre-K program also exists at Mohegan Elementary School.

Exciting and challenging new curriculum initiatives in mathematics and science have been introduced at the elementary level in an effort to make learning more meaningful and relevant to real-life experiences. Language Arts instruction is delivered in 90-minute literacy blocks using the workshop model of instruction. The mathematics curriculum uses the Everyday Mathematics program for core instruction and is aligned with the Common Core



State Standards. Starting in 2010, Engineering is Elementary (EIE) was integrated into our FOSS Science inquiry based, hands-on learning curriculum to enhance students' exposure to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) related curricula.

Our instructional staff serves as facilitators and motivators, inspiring students to raise questions and share findings in a receptive, collaborative, nurturing learning environment.

We are continually seeking partnerships with parents and community organizations in an effort to expand the richness of varied learning experiences.

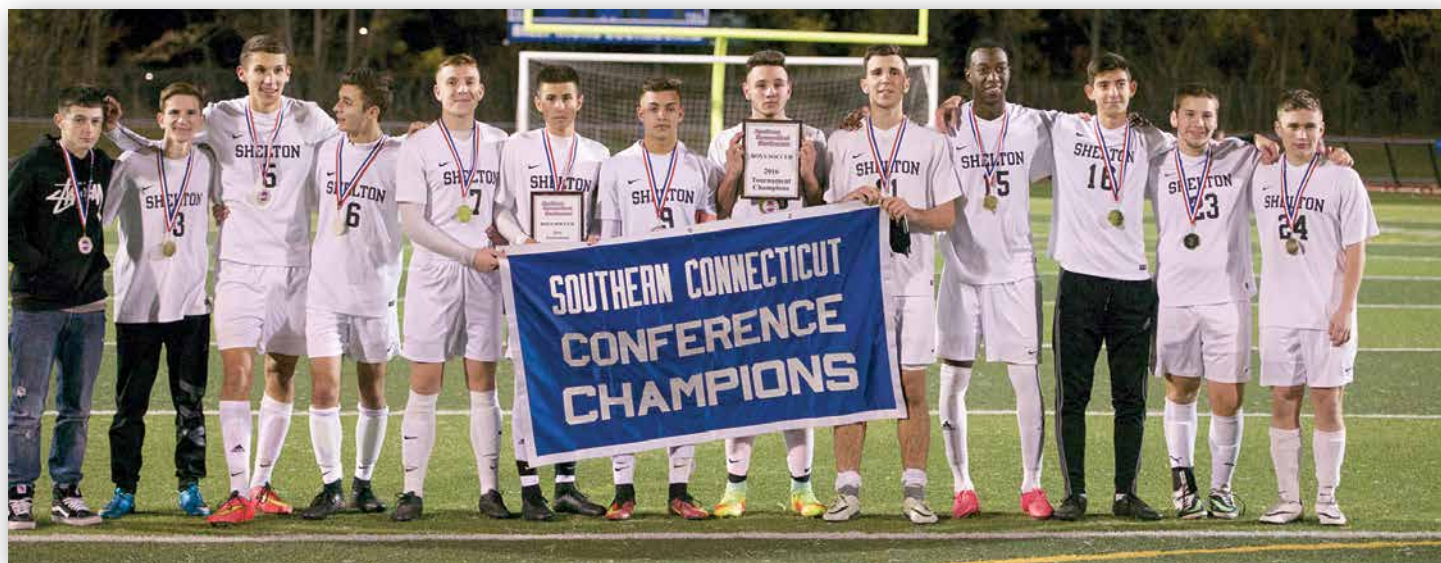
Our mission is to assist every student to become a successful learner in a complex, technological information-based, rapidly changing 21st century world.



Perry Hill School

Perry Hill opened in September of 2010. The grades 5-6 program design was developed to prepare students to enter grades 7-8 based on the Carnegie Foundation's Turning Points 2000 study. The 5-6 program of study is a comprehensive education reform model with an emphasis on improving student learning. The design is to present our 5-6 students with an academically rigorous curriculum while ensuring a caring, supportive environment that values all students and is based on positive relationships established between students and staff. Perry Hill School addresses this by creating teaching dyads (2-person teacher teams) and full implementation of Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) to ensure all students have access to the most effective and precise instructional and behavioral practices and interventions possible which promote positive student choice, decision-making, and academic growth. The school professional staff oper-





ates in a cooperative and collaborative environment that provides academic intervention through an Academic Support Center and Enrichment Units of Study, which reflect an emphasis on STEM, Journalism and the Arts and Media. Talented and Gifted students are also identified and enrichment programming is provided.

Shelton Intermediate School

In September 2017 the vibrant SIS will open an exciting new program, the **Shelton Innovation School**. It will provide hundreds of students with innovative, project-based learning including pre-engineering courses (the national acclaimed Project Lead the Way model). It integrates hydroponics, a Minecraft lab and more. The traditionally organized set of middle school courses will be available to students, as well. The spectacular SIS musical offerings continue to be a highlight of the school.

Shelton High School

The mission of Shelton High School is to be a learning community where students are expected to meet academic and behavioral standards while developing to their full potential. It is committed to providing a diverse student body with a safe environment characterized by respect. The staff, students, parents and community work collaboratively to encourage lifelong learning and responsible citizenship. Students learn in an educational environment, which supports each individual in the achievement of his or her goals.

In recent school years, over 300 SHS students annually take rigorous exams in 17 different academic disciplines. 79% of those students participating in AP program exams, attained a 3 or higher out of a possible 5. This was a 10% increase from the 2014-15 school year. Over the time spent at SHS during their high school career, 30.5 % of SHS graduates earned a 3 or higher out of a possible 5 on at least one AP exam during their high school tenure. It is important to note that last year 88 students were named AP scholars – 5 National AP Scholars, 24 AP Scholars with Distinction, 15 AP Scholars with Honor and 49 AP Scholars.

Shelton High School continues to develop Career Pathways in STEM and

Journalism, Arts and Media (JAM) which was implemented as Programs of Study with the freshman class of 2015-16.

Shelton High School offers courses to students through the Virtual High School platform that are not currently available within the SHS program of studies or will not fit into a student's schedule. Virtual High School is a non-profit accredited provider "for credit-Net Courses." In September 2017 the high school will open a newly designed STEM Lab to add to the opportunities available for our students.

Beginning with the Senior Class of 2015, all students are required to complete a Capstone Project upon graduating from Shelton High School. The Capstone Project is a culminating opportunity to demonstrate SHS's Core Value, Beliefs, and Learning Expectations and apply the knowledge they have gained over the course of his/her four years of schooling to real world experiences.

In addition to academic expectations, students attending SHS are expected to contribute civically and socially as they are encouraged to be responsible to the school and community as well as to value and promote understanding of the diversity of the student and world population. 🌈





Educational Partnerships

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS ENCOURAGE STUDENT GROWTH

The Shelton Public Schools are committed to developing and promoting a partnership-driven system of education and skill development between the Shelton Public Schools and the local business community that prepares students to be successful and productive lifelong learners and workers. Recognizing that organizational skills, decision making ability, responsibility, and interpersonal skills are essential for future personal and professional success, the district has worked with a variety of community and business partners to encourage student growth and career awareness.

Special Education Services

The special education department is responsible for designing and implementing programming for students identified with special needs, ages 3-21. Students who are suspected of having a disability are evaluated, and if found eligible, are entitled to an Individualized Education Program that includes special education and possibly related services. Related services staff include: school psychologists, speech-language pathologists, social workers, occupational therapists, counselors, and physical therapists. Each of Shelton's eight schools include certified staff that provide services to students with disabilities. A continuum of service delivery models for special education and related services exists across the district, including services in the following settings: Pre-Kindergarten half-day programming, general education classrooms, adjusted curriculum classrooms, Life Skills and Behavior Management specialized programs, 18-21 year old transition programming, and out of district special education schools.

Shelton Intermediate and Shelton High Schools house the Best Buddies program. This program provides a forum for disabled and non-disabled students to participate together in extracurricular and social activities, as well as to develop social skills. Shelton High School students have the opportunity to participate in work experience programming to support and develop the

skills necessary for community employment and life skills after graduation. This program places students at job sites throughout the community, as well as providing support of job coaches on site for supervision and skill acquisition assistance.

The Special Education and Guidance Departments also oversee the provision of supports for students with impairments who have been found eligible under Section 504. Section 504 plans, similar to Individualized Education Plans, provide accommodations and related services for students who qualify. The goal for both Section 504 and Individualized Education Plans is to assist students in accessing and participating in general education curriculum, instruction, and activities.

Mentoring Programs

The Shelton School System is fortunate to have a group of dedicated, caring men and women throughout the greater Shelton area who volunteer weekly to meet with their mentees during the school day. Their gifts of time, self and positive influence make the difference for a child that can last a lifetime. Over 100 students are given such support by these dedicated individuals who are the heart and soul of the Shelton Mentor Program. Now in its 15th year, the program continues to grow with the inclusion of teachers, administrators and support staff. Ongoing recruiting sessions are occurring at businesses and civic organizations throughout the valley, and those who have time and desire to volunteer are encouraged to do so.

Junior Achievement

The Shelton Public Schools have successfully partnered with Junior Achievement of Western Connecticut to provide over 3,000 students with meaningful career development and contextual learning experiences. Junior Achievement programs at each elementary school provide all students the opportunity to learn firsthand about what the "world of work" is really like.

Shelton High School Robotics Program

Shelton High School's highly regarded Robotics Team - the Gaelhawks - recently finished their 17th year of participation in the FIRST Robotics Competition. This team has traveled to District competitions in Waterbury and Hartford, CT and Dartmouth, MA and also participated in the New England District Championship held in Worcester, MA. They have also competed in the FIRST World Championship event held each year in St. Louis, MO. Over 25 students, seven engineer mentors and several teachers and parents



Board of Education Chairman Mark Holden reads to a kindergarten class.



A Junior Achievement volunteer working in Kindergarten at Long Hill School

were a part of this year's team. The Shelton Board of Education, Boeing, ATT Connecticut, UTC Sikorsky, Intuitive Surgical, Ametek/Hayden Kirk, and OEM Controls were once again the major corporate sponsors of the program, and the relationship with these partners continues to grow.

During the off-season, the team participates in many community events including Pitney Bowes Diversity Day, Relay for Life, Sikorsky Family Day, SHS Adopt a Family, and the SHS Food Bank. The High School students also mentor the Intermediate and Perry Hill School FLL Robotics Team, which is involved in the FIRST Lego League Competition and played host to the Shelton Qualifying event and the Connecticut State Championship.

Students have multiple opportunities to participate in several different areas on the team including robot construction, electrical work, computer programming, website design, public relations and community service. Each year the program continues to grow and is one of the premier Robotics Teams in the Northeast.

Many Gaelhawks graduate SHS and go on to attend top engineering programs around the country.

Technology

The Shelton Public Schools continues to integrate technology into the classroom, delivering an immersive educational experience. In 2017, the Shelton Public Schools system worked with City Hall to purchase hundreds of Chromebooks. These Chromebooks (laptop computers) integrate seamlessly with Google Apps for Education and are more lightweight and durable than a traditional model. They are a very useful resource for our students.

The district has also become a "Google School" utilizing the free product Google Apps for Education. This suite of productivity tools are specifically designed for classroom collaboration. Students are able to work together in a digital environment on documents, spreadsheets, or presentations to create discussion threads and communicate with their peers.




Grade 1 at the Senior Center

Next Steps

The Shelton Public Schools are working on an innovative strategic plan, which incorporates the work of five energetic focus groups: Humanities, STEAM, Career Pathways, Innovation and Community. The purpose is to slowly, but surely, redesign the district to better prepare our students for the lives they will lead in the mid-to-late 21st Century.

In 2016 we received a five-year grant, Project ExcEL, to support our teachers with instructional strategies as they work with a growing number of local students who speak languages other than English in their homes. We want them to master English and to bring their many talents to their studies and their future work.

Our well-received Vocabulary Project, with its Word of the Week component, will continue next year with a focus on words associated with careers.

In his second year in Shelton, Superintendent of Schools Christopher Clouet says, "Shelton is an exciting place to be. It's a vibrant community, the staff and students are wonderful, and the families are very supportive of our efforts. I am proud to be serving as your superintendent." 



Robotics Drive team 2017



Safeguarding Growth

PRESERVING THE INTEGRITY & QUALITY OF OUR CITY'S FUTURE

The responsibility for long-term growth and sensible, orderly patterns of development lies with several city departments. They provide the necessary checks and balances needed to ensure that all factors are carefully examined before facilities or residences are constructed or altered. Additionally, they report to regional, state and federal agencies.

Planning and Zoning Commission

The six regular and two alternate members elected to this Commission are the custodians and designers of Shelton's future plans and development. They ensure that all new development is in the city's best interest, consistent with the Plan of Development and makes the best use of available land.

The Commission continued to see a positive change for economic development. Most of the commercial/industrial development continued to take place within the Route 8 Corridor area with additional development primarily along River Road (Route 110). The Commission continued to implement the many recommendations of the city's 2006 Plan of Conservation and Development. This will ensure that the protection of important resources, guide appropriate development, address community needs, protect community character and enhance the quality of life of current and future residents. The Redevel-



Hawks Ridge

opment of Downtown Shelton continued during this period with the assistance of the Downtown Subcommittee. The Canal Street area is now home to both the Birmingham Condominiums and Avalon Apartments. The Zoning Subcommittee also assisted in the preparation of Zoning Regulation Amendments dealing with the keeping and raising of chickens and the complete re-write of the parking regulations.

Planning and Zoning Activities for 2016:

- 16 New Residential Lots
- 28 Units of Multi-family Units
- Permits Issued:
 - 51 Single family
 - 3 Pre-Manufactured Homes
- Commercial Approved:
 - 8,891 s.f. Grand total from 5 applicants
 - 96 Rooms for a Hotel on 905 Bridgeport Avenue
 - Payment in lieu of open space, \$11,000 – Nichols Avenue

Planning and Zoning Office

Applications for new construction, whether a garage or an office building, must be submitted to the Planning and Zoning Department (P&Z). Overseen by the City's P & Z Administrator, the office examines plans, offers advice to builders and approves applications for construction that must conform to Shelton's zoning codes. The office serves over 2,500 people on a yearly basis with the support of an Assistant Planning and Zoning Administrator/Zoning Enforcement Officer and an Assistant Zoning Enforcement Officer.

Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission

It is the objective/goal of this Commission to protect the residents of the city by making provisions for the protection, preservation, maintenance and use of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses. This is done by minimizing the disturbance and pollution; maintaining and improving water quality in accordance with the highest standards set by federal, state or local authority. It works to prevent damage from erosion, turbidity or siltation; and preventing loss of fish or other beneficial aquatic organisms, wildlife and vegetation and the destruction of the natural habitats. Also, the Commission looks to deter and inhibit the danger of flood and pollution, protect the quality of wetlands and watercourses for the public and private uses and values, and protect the city's notable fresh-water supplies from the damages of droughts, overdraft, pollution, misuse and mismanagement.



Safeguarding Growth: 0.8%

Inland Wetland Commission.....	\$89,840
Economic Development.....	146,801
Planning & Zoning.....	320,453
Conservation Commission.....	64,771
Zoning Board of Appeals.....	20,465
Community Development.....	78,883
Building Department.....	310,080
	\$1,031,293



Inland Wetlands Commission

(l to r): Gary Zahornasky, Chair; Michelle Kawalautzki; Charles Wilson, Jr.; Jack Goncalves; Missing: Robert Dunford; Kenneth Nappi; Joseph A. Reilly, III, Alternate

The Commission provides an orderly process to balance the need for the economic growth of the City and the use of its land whereby protecting the environment and ecology. To guarantee the safety of such natural resources for Shelton's residents to benefit and enjoy (as well as generations yet to come) remains a priority.

The City of Shelton established the Inland Wetlands Commission to protect and preserve inland wetlands and watercourses for all their assorted functions and values. The agency strives to achieve these goals by having applicants ideally avoid first then minimize disturbance to regulated areas to prevent pollution and erosion, and protect the City's potable fresh water supply. At the same time, the Commission works to balance the protection with growth as qualified in the CT State Statutes Legislative Finding.

The Shelton Inland Wetlands Commission's full roster is comprised of seven regular and two alternate members.



John Cook, Wetlands Administrator/
Enforcement Coordinator

As the land base of the community diminishes, the Wetlands Administrator/Enforcement Coordinator assists the Commission towards providing an orderly process to protect the wetland and watercourse resources of Shelton with the balancing for economic growth. The Agency's goal is to accomplish this difficult balancing act by diligent review and analysis of applications and data research and field evaluations and encouraging alternative design approaches. The balancing

of growth over protection and analysis of addressing cumulative impacts to the resources proves to be the most challenging aspects of the program.

In the past year, the department has made use of a part-time staffer to assist with field monitoring of construction activities. Wetland activity continues to be lively in Shelton with the issuance of nearly 500 wetland certificates in 2016. Permit actions have been lighter in recent years

though are not considered a limit on Shelton's economic vigor but rather an indicator that development designs have taken a positive approach to avoid wetland activities that trigger the necessity to process applications for permits. Development proposals include but are not limited to the following examples: residential subdivisions, retail, multi-family, industrial, commercial site plans, residential site plans and homeowner projects.

Community Development

The Community Development Office is responsible for identifying, securing, and administering funding resources to assist the City of Shelton in the provision of certain programs and services. The Community Development Director applies for funding on the City's behalf, under the direction of the Mayor and often in collaboration with other city departments. The department's efforts have resulted in obtaining several successful competitive grants, which include equipment and training for Police, Fire and Emergency Management, improvements to municipal parks and facilities, literacy programs, youth and parenting programs, and Capital Improvements.



Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program

Through the Community Development Office, the City of Shelton offers a Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program to qualified low-and moderate-income residents. The funds for this program come from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and are administered through the State of Connecticut Department of Community and Economic Development (DECD). Homeowners qualify if they are within HUD income limits (call the Shelton Community Development Office for current limits), have sufficient equity in the property, and City taxes are current.

The program is designed to eliminate housing code violations and unsafe conditions, increase energy efficiency, and improve the appearance of property. Code violations (fire codes, building codes, and unsafe conditions) are attended to first; aesthetics are attended to only if there are remaining funds.

The maximum lending amount is \$25,000 per unit. The loaned funds are 0% interest loans, and are "deferred" loans, meaning that homeowners

continued on page 34

Economic Development

FOR PROGRESS AND CONTINUED GROWTH

Shelton's growth and pattern of success continue and increase because of strong citizen involvement and support in the affairs of our city. As we face the future years, we will concentrate on what can best be done to assure a healthy, steady growth while maintaining the quality of life and the integrity of our efforts. Our city is unique. We are able to continue the beauty of over 1,000 acres of primeval forests and almost 1,500 acres of working farms together with a city bustling with commercial and industrial activity plus beautiful and comfortable homes for more than 39,000 people.

Economic Development Commission

The Economic Development Commission is incorporated in accordance with Shelton's duly adopted City Charter. The organization of the Commission includes a five-member board of Shelton electors appointed by the Mayor. The Commission's powers and authority conforms to those described by state statute. The Commission historically has taken on the responsibility for the development of advertisements and related marketing materials used to recruit new businesses. In 1992, the Mayor formally charged the Commission with the function to develop an aggressive marketing campaign to promote Shelton's positive image and retain current businesses as well as attract new ones. The Mayor rated the Commission's performance as "solid, successful and imaginative."

The Economic Development Commission has been active in the following areas:

- *Shelton Life Community & Business News*: A communication piece for the residents of Shelton. Over 16,000 copies are mailed and distributed two to three times a year. Thematic influence continues to relate to "Shelton Going Green".
- *Shelton Life City of Shelton Biennial Report*: A biennial report of the City of Shelton, the state of its finances, commissions that serve the city and various activities.
- Flag Day Activities: A business networking event to honor the U.S. Flag.
- School Art Contest: A collaboration with the Board of Education focusing on stimulating students' artistic talents and providing recognition for top achievers.

Shelton Economic Development Corporation

Organized in 1983, the Shelton Economic Development Corporation (SEDC) is a non-profit corporation that focuses on the balanced development of Shelton. The SEDC acts as a catalyst for growth within the City by providing direct links to all local government and business leaders, as well as coordinating between city and civic organizations. The SEDC has relationships with finance and development agencies, and provides a leadership role in emerging public/private and statewide partnerships.

The SEDC provides access to professional staff with extensive experience in economic development, real estate, construction, finance and government.

Paul Grimmer was hired in April 2016 replacing incumbent James E. Ryan who served as Executive Director/President since 1984.

A Dynamic Board of Directors

The business of the SEDC is managed by a diverse board of directors. The board which is elected at the annual meeting, consists of between 15 and 60 members who



represent a cross section of the Shelton community. The board's members include representatives from municipal government, private lending institutions, manufacturing trade associations, retail businesses and utilities, among others.

Providing a Competitive Edge

The SEDC has developed many services to facilitate Shelton's growth including:

- Technical support to businesses and



Paul Grimmer, the new SEDC President

- industry with expansion, relocation and financing aid
- Economic, housing and community development
- Facilitators of public and private partnerships
- Site location assistance
- Brownfields Redevelopment Management
- Regional Economic Development Management, in particular, of a US EDA approved Comprehensive Development Strategy
- Real estate acquisition and development
- Planning and zoning consultation
- Liaison to city and state agencies
- Grant preparation, writing and administration
- Property management
- Business promotion
- Events Management
- Implementation agency for city projects.

Economic development in Shelton is a combined effort of the City government, the Shelton Economic Development Corporation and local business leaders. With a goal to maintain balanced growth between commercial, industrial and residential development, Shelton owes its success to the extraordinary planning efforts over the last 30 years, Shelton's leaders, the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen, work closely with all city departments



Shelton Economic Development Corporation's Executive Board

Seated (l to r): Patrick Carey; Ruth Parkins; William C. Partington, Chairman; Michelle Kawalautzki; Fred Ruggio; Standing (l to r): Robert Caponi; Alberto Martins; Anthony S. Pogoda, Jr.; Paul Grimmer, President; Aleta Miner, staff; Martin Coughlin

to execute their plan and ensure their goal of a balanced community stays a reality. The City values its relationship with the business community. High priority work programs for the SEDC include: (1) Phase 3 of the City of Shelton Downtown Revitalization program which is in its tenth year of administration for site improvements that will support a renewed downtown and new public and private investment, (2) the final design of the Housatonic Riverwalk Extension, and (3) the

significant Brownfields remediation which is ongoing as evidenced with the recent demolition of the former Chromium Process site. The SEDC also assists local economic development and administers a 20-town federally approved Economic Development District (Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy) which is also State approved. The SEDC partners with the local Economic Development Commission on the production of the Shelton Life publications. 🌊



Judging the Economic Development Commission's sponsored student art contest



Downtown's popular riverwalk

Shelton Recognizes its Volunteers



Planning & Zoning Commission

Seated (l to r): Nancy Dickal, Alternate; Elaine Matto, Ruth Parkins, Chair; Virginia Harger; Standing (l to r): Jimmy Tickey; Anthony S. Pogoda, Jr.; Charles Kelly; Missing: Ned Miller, Alternate



Economic Development Commission

Seated (l to r): Aleta Miner, Clerk; Fred Ruggio, Chair; Karen Tomko-McGovern, Vice-Chairman; Standing (l to r): Pat Carey; Doug Dempsey; Missing: Kate Marks



Emergency Medical Services Commission

(l to r): Nancy Minotti; Beth Riberio; Karen Minopoli; Noreen McGorty, Chair; Terri Gannon, Clerk; Missing: Thomas DeMarco



Conservation Commission

(l to r): Joe Welsh; Bill Dyer, Vice Chair; Jim Tate; Tom Harbinson, Chair; Teresa Gallagher, staff; Sheri Dutkanicz; Pat Gajdoski; Missing: Edward McCreery, III



Citizens Advisory Board

Seated (l to r): Regis Dognin; Jim Oram, Chair; Elizabeth Kingersky, Clerk; Rebecca Twombly; Judith Augusta; Standing (l to r): Joe DeFilippo; Guy Beardsley; Joseph Bienkowski; David Zamba; Missing: Cheryl Dziubina; Robert Novak



Housing Authority

(l to r): Howard Gura; Madlyn McGowan, Executive Director; John Fitzgerald
Missing: Margaret Domorod, Marie Plato; John Simonetti, Chair

for their Dedication and Service



Water Pollution Control Authority

Seated (l to r): Stephen Morse, Vice-Chair; Brittany Gannon, Clerk; Ed Hellauer; Standing (l to r): Peter Pavone, Staff; Michael DeAngelis, Chair; Todd Dowty; Donald Ramia; Joe Frolish; Missing: Steve Chuckta, Jr.



Parks & Recreation Commission

Seated (l to r): Anne Gaydus; Michelle Pagliaro Haywood; Joseph DeFilippo; John Papa, Chair; Debra McGlone; Standing (l to r): Lorenzo Durante; Terrance Gumbs; David Zamba; Robert Zuraw; Jeffery Van Scoy; Missing: Gary Cahill; Stanley Kudej; Nick Twigg, Clerk



Board of Fire Commissioners

(l to r): Tony DeSarli; Ben McGorty; Michael Maglione, Chair; Justin Sabatino Missing: Michael Ullrich



Zoning Board of Appeals

Seated (l to r): Linda Adanti; Edmund Conklin, Chair; Tina Kelly, Clerk; Standing (l to r): Brian Vasser; Philip Jamison Jones; Phillip Cavallaro, Sr., Vice Chair; James Oraziotti, Alternate



Board of Apportionment & Taxation

(l to r): Joseph Knapik; Cris Balamaci, Chair; John Belden, Jr.; Karen Battistelli Missing: Louis J Dagostine, III; Adam M. Heller



Board of Library Directors

Seated (l to r): Joan R. Stokes, Library Director; Jim Geissler, Chair; Standing (l to r): Julie Blakeman; Aleta Miner; Stephen Bellis; Jean A. Cayer; Joan Feeley



Recreation & Culture

FOR A STIMULATING, MORE REWARDING COMMUNITY

A large network of parks, playgrounds and recreational facilities, plus a diverse offering of cultural and athletic activities, help enrich the lives of Shelton residents. We need look no farther than our own community to satisfy our leisure-time needs.

A variety of athletic programs are available for both children and adults. Our modern library system offers a valuable source of information, entertainment and culture. A Senior Citizens Center provides a meeting place, with special activities and events, for our older adult residents. In addition, many citywide events are held annually to help build a sense of pride and community.

Parks and Recreation Department

Shelton's Department of Parks and Recreation, overseen by a 12-member commission, fulfills recreational needs of Shelton residents with many types of athletic and cultural programs.

Overseen by the City's Parks and Recreation Director and a four person staff, the Department organizes and runs sports programs, league activities, arts and craft classes, a year-round swimming program, a summer playground program and various recreational activities throughout the year for ages infant to 90. Over 8,000 weekly participants take part in spring outdoor recreation programs, while 3,500 adults and children play weekly in fall programs. Sports such as baseball, softball, soccer, basketball, football, lacrosse, and cheerleading are available at several age levels. Winter months find over 2,000 residents participating in an indoor gym program that includes volleyball and basketball.



The playground program is entering its 68th season with six locations.

A Dog Park was constructed in 2010 at the corner of Nells Rock Road and Shelton Avenue (Rt. 108). There is a fenced in area for large dogs and another for small

dogs. The Dog Park is adjacent to the 11 mile network of hiking trails, including the multi-use Shelton Lakes Recreation Path. Funds are still being raised for improvements and a Friends of the Dog Park Committee has been formed to help with upkeep.

The Parks and Recreation Department also sponsors a summer concert series held on the Huntington Green and downtown at the Riverwalk/Veterans Park. The well attended events are held Wednesday evenings from late June through August. Commission members are responsible for organizing this program along with the Independence Day festivities.

The Fourth of July concert and fireworks display is held each year at the Riverwalk/Veterans Park and is undoubtedly the largest activity each year in Shelton. Over 12,000 people attend the event which can be viewed from throughout the downtown area.

With over 170 acres of developed parks to look after, the Parks and Recreation Director, along with the Parks Superintendent and a staff of six, direct the maintenance and care of all public recreation areas, including 27 athletic fields and the Board of Education properties.. An additional staff of 75



Recreation & Culture: 2.6%

Recreation	\$1,671,030
Recreation Capital Equipment	0
Senior Center	348,040
Library	1,201,168
	\$ 3,220,238



part-time employees are hired throughout the year as attendants for playgrounds, gyms and the pool.

In the recent past the following additions or improvements were made to Shelton's recreational areas:

- The skateboard park (closed through 2018 due to State road & bridge construction).
- The Commodore Hull 5K road race is fast becoming a holiday tradition. Approximately 625 runners enter the annual race which is held Thanksgiving morning with the start and finish being at the Farm & Public Market.
- In August, the Annual Run for the Warriors 10K road race takes place beginning at the Huntington Green.

The Shelton Community Center

After sitting idle for a number of years, the former Huntington Elementary School was renovated, expanded and reopened in 1991 as the Shelton Community Center.

The 60,000 sq. ft. center contains a 25 yard, 8-lane swimming pool, an indoor basketball court, 2 weight rooms with 35 pieces of exercise equipment, seven craft rooms, a mid-size banquet room with kitchen facilities, and a branch library. It also houses the offices of the Parks and Recreation Department, a private daycare center and a U.S. Post Office.

Many of the city's recreation programs are run at the Community Center. Exercise, craft, and swimming classes are among the offerings. Rooms are also used for a variety of meetings, seminars and get-togethers. Over 6,000 people per week visit the center for one or more of the various activities held there.



Community Center swimming pool

The Plumb Memorial Library and the Huntington Branch

Given the advances in technology, it has never been a more interesting time to visit public libraries, and the Shelton Library system consisting of the Plumb Memorial Library and the Huntington Branch Library are two



Joan R. Stokes, the City's new library director

outstanding examples of why this is so. Today, along with books, information and entertainment are available at all times, and public libraries are leading the way to provide it.

The Plumb Memorial Library, on the National Registry of Historic Places, combines exquisite oak wood moldings and architecture that simply could not be duplicated today. The Plumb Reading Room's original 1895 wood floors were recently repaired. After decades hidden under linoleum tile, they are now restored and refinished.

The room is the home for two restored cathedral glass panels from the original library building. Done in the Tiffany style, each features a woman, one representing Art and the other Literature. The Friends of the Shelton Libraries and the Library Board of Directors worked together to complete this restoration project.

A two-story addition was added in the 1970's to give the Plumb Memorial Library additional space to increase its book collection and provide a separate children's department on the lower level. The Huntington Branch Library, now in its third decade, is located in its own wing of the thriving Shelton Community Center.

Whether it is at the Plumb Memorial Library or the Huntington Branch, there are books, audiobooks, DVDs, magazines, music, public computers and more for all ages. The Shelton Libraries have extensive book and DVD collections that include the best sellers, romance, mystery, history, language, ESL, travel, large print books and foreign films and more for all ages.

From the Shelton Library website (<http://sheltonlibrarysystem.org>) you can access free online subscriptions for thousands of free downloadable ebooks and audiobooks as well as over 30 databases. All of these are available from any computer or mobile device via the library's website with a Shelton Library card.

Programs for all ages are offered continually and encompass early literacy and school readiness, STEM based workshops, book discussions for all ages and film groups for teens and older adults. A grant from UCLA ExCEL will provide English as a Second Language (ESL) events throughout the next five years. Shelton's libraries are cultural centers that offer welcoming environments that provide a source of personal enrichment. Both libraries look forward to providing more diverse and educational programs in the year to come.

Additional library services include homebound deliveries courtesy of the van that was donated by the Friends of the Library.

The Shelton Library Board and the Friends of the Shelton Libraries continue to expand their support of Shelton's library system with policy development, funding, advocacy and volunteerism. Using proceeds from regularly scheduled book sales run by community volunteers, the Friends underwrite summer programs for children, teens and adults as well as

continued on page 33

Security, Safety & Health

ASSURING YOUR WELL-BEING

The security, safety and well-being of Shelton's citizens rests with several city departments. Police and fire protection, medical and health services, youth services and public assistance ensure that our residents are properly protected and cared for. During 1998, the City created an Office of Public Safety and Emergency Services. One of the major initiatives of the new effort in Public Safety was to provide for the coordination of our Police, Fire, Emergency Medical Services, and Emergency Management. The City of Shelton has taken the forefront in providing for a coordinated effort of Public Safety agencies with an eye toward creating a more efficient and effective delivery of services.

Department of Police Services

The Shelton Police Department currently consists of 52 sworn police officers. Each year the department reviews the work ethic, accommodations, and performance of its officers to select one who exemplifies the values in the department in providing services to the community in an ethical, moral and professional manner at all times. Officer Daniel Loris was chosen for 2016 and received this recognition at the Exchange Club awards ceremony in May of 2017.

Officer David Eldridge took on the position of Crime Prevention Officer. In the past year he has taken an active role in educating Shelton's youth in drug awareness to help combat the national opioid epidemic. He has also held many meetings with senior citizens to educate them on scams against the elderly and promote overall safety tips.

The Shelton Police Department became one of three accredited police departments in Fairfield County in November of 2016. This Tier 1 status reflects how organized the department is and confirms the city's police officers are following the strict policies and procedures in place



Shelton's new Police Chief Shawn Sequeira

to provide the best services to the city's citizens. The department is currently working towards the next tier of accreditation.

The Traffic Division continues to assess the city's streets for proper signage and speed enforcement in an attempt to decrease avoidable vehicle crashes. The Detective Bureau investigated approximately 200 cases that resulted in much property recovery and arrests. With Shelton's size of 32.1 square miles, the city's low crime statistics continue to prove Shelton as a safe community. Officer Chris Robak was selected to be the new Youth Officer.

Shawn Sequeira had served as the Acting Chief of the Department for the past year and in May the Board of Aldermen unanimously approved the Mayor's selection and appointed Shawn Sequeira as Chief of Police effective July 1, 2017.



Security, Safety & Health: 8.1%

Drug & Alcohol Commission.....	\$1
Public Safety & Emergency Service.....	124,548
EMS Commission	125,327
Fire Marshal	287,764
Fire Department.....	990,552
Animal Control	233,394
Police Department.....	7,658,400
Youth Service Bureau	225,982
Public Health	292,878
	\$9,938,846



Fire Department

The goal of the Shelton Fire Department is to provide the highest level of safety and property conservation to the city through fire education, fire prevention, suppression, and rescue services. Their mission is to perform life safety incident stabilization, and property conservation. The "all volunteer" membership of the Shelton Fire Department is committed to upholding a standard of excellence by building on a solid foundation of community spirit by dedicated neighbors helping neighbors.



Battling a fire at the Sunnyside Mobile Park

The department is comprised of four companies operating from four stations located throughout the community: Echo Hose Hook & Ladder Company #1; Huntington Fire Company #3; Shelton Volunteer Fire Co. #4 – Pine Rock Park; and White Hills Voluntary Fire Company #5. It is staffed by 270 volunteer members which responded to 970 calls for assistance in 2016. The department has a fleet of 20 pieces of specialized fire rescue equipment including marine units for water rescues. The department is administered by a Board of Fire Commissioners consisting of a Chairman appointed by the Mayor and four fire commissioners, elected by each fire company. Supervision of the Department is currently entrusted to a Fire Chief, a Deputy Chief and Assistant Chiefs from Company #1, Company #3, Company #4 and Company #5.

The Shelton Fire Department is always seeking new candidates interested in serving their community as a volunteer firefighter. The City of Shelton provides the training and equipment required to succeed as a recruit firefighter. If serving your community interests you, please consider applying to the Shelton Fire Department to become one of your neighborhood's bravest.

Office of Public Safety and Emergency Service Management

The primary mission of the Office of Public Safety and Emergency Management Services is to coordinate all activities necessary to build, sustain, and improve the capability to mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from threatened or actual natural disasters, acts of terrorism or other man-made disasters. This mission is carried out by closely working with police, fire, emergency medical services, health, public assistance, highways and bridges, state and federal agencies to ensure that Shelton's citizens are properly cared for and protected. The City of Shelton has taken the forefront in providing a coordinated effort of Public safety agencies with an eye to create more efficient and effective delivery of services.

During the last two years city agencies have attended and participated in drills related to hurricane preparedness, flood inundation, hazardous material release, winter storm preparedness, power outages, communicable disease, long-term care facilities, and active shooter training.

When an emergency occurs or a large-scale event takes place, the time to begin planning is not at this point. Assessment of strengths and weaknesses must be considered and plans of action created and exercised. This process is a continuing act of preparedness. Their site is located at www.sheltonemergency.com.

The Shelton Youth Service Bureau

The Shelton Youth Service Bureau (YSB) was established in 1988 by the City of Shelton for the purpose of developing, planning and coordinating services for the youths of the city. It provides educational and recreational programs that encourage youth and families to make healthy choices. Located in Shelton High School, the YSB works cooperatively with city personnel, school, police, youth, parents and other community resources to provide programs that promote positive youth development and strengthen family ties.

Under the umbrella of the YSB, the Community Alert Program (CAP) maintains and updates resource centers at key locations within the community providing materials concerning issues of importance to

continued on page 34



The Shelton Youth Service Bureau



Infrastructure

KEEPING OUR STREETS AND BUILDINGS SAFE AND CLEAN

Many of the services we take for granted are some of the most important the City provides. Maintaining roads and bridges, snow plowing, garbage and recycling collection, sewer construction, and wastewater treatment are just a few of the services provided to our residents. Developing and maintaining public property, facilities and resources are critical to ensuring that Shelton remains a vital community. The Director of Public Works supervises the departments charged with this all-important task.

Department of Highways & Bridges

A total of 35 dedicated and skilled employees work for Shelton Public Works Department, providing essential services that sustain infrastructure, establish safe living and working conditions, and contribute to a high quality of life for our residents while keeping costs low.

The Department maintains and repairs over 216 miles of city streets which includes street sweeping, mowing, pothole repair and paving. They also install, clean, repair or replace over 4,000 catch basins, storm sewers as well as the 60 plus miles of sanitary sewers. They oversee the preservation of the city's roadways through various methods that may include paving, micro surfacing, chip and fog sealing.

During the winter season the department's main function is the plowing and snow removal from streets, parking lots, and schools. The application of ice control and storm cleanup are all provided by this department.

In addition, they install street and traffic control signs, maintain the City's 205 pieces of equipment and vehicles.

The Spring and Fall Leaf curb-

side collection, which supports the popular composting program is also provided by the Highway Department.

Sanitation

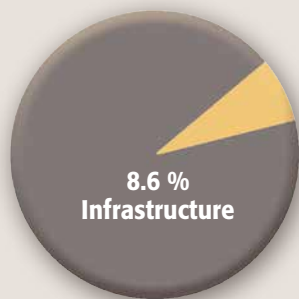
In 2012 the City implemented Single-Stream Recycling along with the weekly trash collection. Both collections use fully-automated equipment and have been extremely successful in improving the task of collection while the city-issued carts have improved the appearance of the City on Collection Day.

Recycling

The City's Recycling Program offers a yearly **Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day** which is held at the Highway and Bridges city yard.

City Engineer

The Office of the City Engineer prepares plans and specifications for infrastructure improvement projects. Under the supervision of the City Engineer, a registered professional engineer, the office also has the responsibility of monitoring the construction of those improvement projects and oversees the design of projects prepared by the consultants.



Infrastructure: 8.6%

Highways & Bridges	\$3,615,359
Road Repairs	50,000
Public Works Director	51,330
Engineering	283,377
Tree Warden	110,000
Recycling Program	36,702
Sanitation	2,223,933
Utilities	2,822,349
Municipal Prop. Maintenance	1,453,995
	\$10,647,045



The Office of the City Engineer is also responsible for issuing street opening permits and coordinates the permanent pavement restoration of the excavations made in City streets. Engineering issues over 200 excavation permits to utility companies and contractors on an annual basis. Other responsibilities include reviewing subdivision and site plans for city commissions, coordinating the extension of water mains requested by residents, issuing street addresses and updating the digital tax maps for the Assessor's Office.

New infrastructure improvement projects on the horizon include the replacement of both the Lane Street and Waverly Road bridges, improvements to the Huntington Street intersection with Buddington Road and the reconstruction of another section of Canal Street.

Building Maintenance

The Building Maintenance Department is responsible for the repair, modification, maintenance and continued renovations of 23 city buildings totaling approximately 350,000 square feet. The Maintenance Department also performs work for the four firehouses in the city. Maintenance trade workers address breakdowns and perform repairs on all mechanical equipment and physical aspects of the city buildings including electrical, plumbing, carpentry and HVAC.

There is a staff of 31 full and part time workers consisting of a supervisor, administrative aide, maintenance trade workers, a senior custodian and custodians. Custodial duties include cleaning and maintaining a safe environment in all buildings for the public. Some jobs include the Community Center pool area, floor upkeep and general housekeeping.

Building Department

The Building Department oversees all building construction to ensure public safety, health and welfare. Compliance to the State Building Code is enforced to ensure safety to life and property. The Building Department is staffed by a Building Official, a Part-Time Assistant Building Official, an Office Administrator and two part-time Office Clerks.



Joseph L. Ballaro, Building Official

buildings and housing code inspections.

In 2016 2,149 building permits were issued along with 475 building Certificates of Occupancy.

Shelton always has many commercial buildings, renovations and municipal projects under construction, as well as, new single-family homes, additions and residential pools. The public is encouraged to call for information on upcoming construction projects.



New sidewalks and curbs along Ripton Road make for a safe and pleasant walk into Huntington Center.

Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA)

The Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) is an eight member board charged with overseeing sanitary sewer projects and the operations of the Water Pollution Control Plant.

The Sewer Administrator reports and makes recommendations to the board which meets on a monthly basis.

The Sewer department is responsible for reviewing applications for new development, determining sewer usage fees, providing information to contractors and homeowners about the vicinity for sewer hook-ups, and inspecting all sewer construction.

The Sewer department continues with the upgrading and rehabilitating of sewer lines of which there are over 100 miles within the city.

The ongoing rehabilitation program has resulted in the cured-in-place piping of over 7,000 feet of sewer within the last two years.

The office schedules contractors for manhole rehabilitation, cleaning and televising of sewer lines, chemical root treatment and cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) contracts.

The office has an Infonet system which is used to track and address any inefficiencies in sewers by viewing videos of the cleaning and televising contracts.

The office is also responsible for overseeing the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's (DEEP) mandated implementation of a Fats, Oils & Grease (FOG) Program which calls for the removal of grease from the sewer discharge pipe of all class III and IV food establishments.

The WPCA continues with the removal of infiltration & inflow (I/I) of rainwater from the sanitary sewer system and asks all residents to adhere to the ordinances which prohibit any roof leader drains or sump pumps from entering the sanitary sewer lines.

Water Pollution Control Plant

The Water Pollution Control Plant was placed on line in 1966 as a primary treatment facility on the site of the old coal docks on Riverdale

continued on page 35



Conservation in Shelton

PRESERVING SHELTON'S OPEN SPACES FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

The Conservation Commission is an advisory board whose purpose under state statutes is "the development, conservation, supervision and regulation of natural resources." The seven members of the commission are led by a Chairman with support from the City's Natural Resources Manager.

Open Space Preservation

"Open space" refers to any type of undeveloped land, including natural areas, farmland, ballfields, and golf courses. These open areas add to the quality of life and reduce city expenditures (reducing the tax rate), but can be vulnerable to development. The City of Shelton has therefore permanently preserved close to 2,000 acres of land as "Shelton Public Open Space".

These public lands consist mostly of natural areas crossed with hiking trails, but also include ballfields, a dog park, community gardens, fishing areas, picnic areas, and community areas such as the Huntington Green.

The City has preserved an additional 411 acres of private working forest and farmland through the use of land preservation agreements, including large portions of Jones Family Farms and Shelton Family Farm. These agreements help to sustain working farms and often include limited public access, such as the Pearmain Path located off of Pearmain Road, or "pick-your-own" activities at Jones Farms.

In Shelton, open space properties are preserved strategically to create greenway corridors that allow wildlife and hikers to travel through neighborhoods. The best known greenway is the Shelton Lakes Greenway, through which the popular Shelton Lakes Recreation Path passes.

The 2009 Open Space Plan defines the conceptual greenway corridors within which land is prioritized for open space preservation. In addition to land preserved by the City, corridor properties may be preserved by the State of Connecticut, the Shelton Land Conservation Trust, or the Aquarion Water Company.




Trails Committee

(l to r): Bill Dyer, Chair; Sheri Dutkanicz; Bob Wood; Val Gosset; Sandie Skudlarek; Richard Skudlarek; Terrance Gallagher; Jim Taradine; Missing: Teresa Gallagher, Staff

Trails Committee

In addition to their monthly meetings, members of the Shelton Trails Committee roll up their sleeves twice a month to work on the City's extensive network of hiking trails. With 20 miles of marked trails to maintain, the Committee relies on help from volunteers to get the job done. The trail system was designed to have something for all abilities. The 4-mile Shelton Lakes Recreation Path is handicapped friendly and easy to use with strollers and bikes. The Paugussett "Blue Dot" Trail on the other hand, is very rugged in some locations, especially where hikers must climb over boulders along the steep bank of the Housatonic River. Most other trails are relatively easy but with uneven footing, and are marked with colored blazes on trees.

Trail events are held throughout the year, such as the annual Trails Day hike the first Saturday in June, or the Turkey Trot Trek that takes place the Sunday after Thanksgiving. Annual challenges such as the 2016 Shelton Trails Marathon encourage residents to explore new trails around town. The Committee is led by a Chairman with support from the Natural Resources Manager. Work parties and events are posted at sheltontrailscom.blogspot.com. 



One of Shelton's popular community gardens



Trap Falls Reservoir is beautiful any time of the day.



Shelton Land Conservation Trust

The Shelton Land Conservation Trust (SLCT) is a private, non-profit organization devoted to preserving Shelton open space in its natural state to the extent possible. Presently the SLCT owns about 370 acres of forest, meadowlands, streams and swamps. These parcels are as small as one acre and some are large enough to boast mile-long forest trails and scout camps.

The SLCT is managed by a small group of volunteers who make up the Board of Directors. In addition, there is a large active membership which provides land monitoring and other services to the trust.

Land acquisition is almost totally from property donations either directly or via wills. Some current land owners recognize the tax advantages of land donations and the trust is the obvious choice. Funds in the trust come from membership dues, donations and also from private estates. Although the trust cannot support the outright purchase of large land tracts, the SLCT has used its limited funds wisely. As an example, recently the trust donated money to the successful City purchase of development rights of a large farm; thus helping to preserve Shelton's extremely valuable rustic venue.

For more information call Joe Welsh, President, SLCT at (203) 402-0768.



Going Green

KEEPING SHELTON CLEAN

The Anti-Litter Committee

The Anti-Litter Committee strives to keep Shelton's roads, parks and waterways free from litter through two initiatives: Clean Sweep and Adopt-a-Street. The Committee is led by a Chairman and supported by the city's Natural Resources Manager.



Anti-Litter Committee

(l to r): Sheri Dutkanicz; Gil Pastore, Chair; Ron Pilkowicz; Kim Anglace, Clerk; Teresa Gallagher, Staff; Missing: Teresa Cassone-Glick; Michael Clay; David Edgeworth; Lorie Evans; Ingrid Waters

Shelton Clean Sweep

Clean Sweep is held each spring during the week of Earth Day, April 22, when hundreds of volunteers remove litter from parks, schools, roadsides, and waterways. The City provides free garbage bags and gloves and will remove bags of collected litter. Participants are also eligible for free custom iron-on patches. Details can be found at DontTrashShelton.org.



Adopt-A-Street

Under Shelton's Adopt-a-Street Program, local businesses and civic groups agree to clean a stretch of roadway at least four times a year. The adopted roadways are marked with Adopt-a-Street signs and the name of the participant. The sign, traffic vests, bags, and gloves are provided free of charge, and the City will also cart away the collected litter. This program is designed for thru roads that have an existing litter problem. Details of the programs are at DontTrashShelton.org.



Wills Electrical Services adopted a section of East Village Road.

Shelton
Going Green





Shelton's History

POOTATUCK, CORAM, RIPTON, HUNTINGTON AND SHELTON

The area now known as the City of Shelton was originally settled by members of the Paugussett tribe. They were hunter-gatherers who were also involved in agriculture. They referred to the area along the banks of the Housatonic River as Pootatuck. English settlers from Stratford moved into the Long Hill section of Shelton by 1680. The settlement was known as Coram but was still under the jurisdiction of Stratford. By 1717 there were approximately fifty families in Coram and they petitioned for the formation of a separate parish, to be known as Ripton. The parish was a prosperous agricultural community with farming in the hills and a modest shipyard along the river. The architecture of the community reflected this prosperity and several examples of 18th century architecture were extant in the center district by the turn of the 20th century.

In 1789 Ripton Parish separated from Stratford and became the Town of Huntington. As is common in New England rural towns, when the town began to settle the population began to decline from high of 2,770 in 1810 to a low of 1,301 in 1850. This was not necessarily due to the depletion of the soil or other negative factors, merely that the local economy had reached the limits of its growth and leveled off.

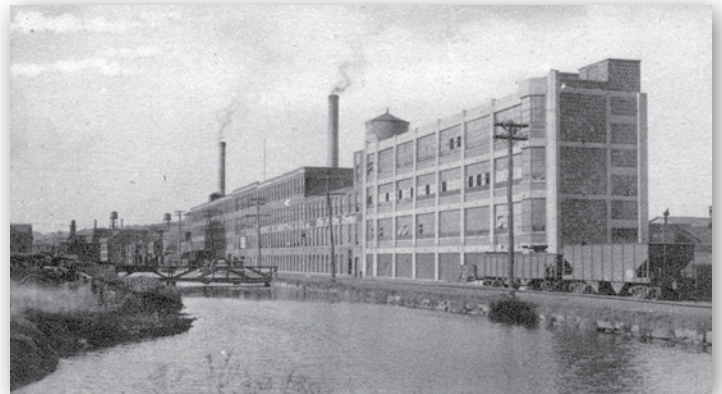
By 1870, across the banks of the Housatonic River a dam was constructed, a canal dug and factories were established to draw off the hydroelectric power. The Borough of Shelton was formally established in 1882 and separate census records were kept from 1880 on. It wasn't until 1919 that the borough officially became the city of Shelton and the Town of Huntington voted to become incorporated with it. An 1890 article in New York Times entitled "A Connecticut Sunday" describes a visit to the town of Huntington as follows:

The few curiosities of Huntington are soon seen and digested. Here runs the New York and Boston Telephone line, cutting across country as straight as a die, its forest-tree poles carrying more than fifty wires. Here is the little town hall that in former times, I am told, was often the scene of revelry by night, the sort of revelry that embraces dancing and oysters and ice cream. And here is the village store, in which are also the telephone office and the Post Office. There is no frantic crowd of customers pressing up to the counter, but I am told that a former owner of this little store made a fortune of \$80,000 in it, and retired on

his laurels and his cash. Huntington lies in so deep a valley that from all around the neighborhood you look down upon it and see only a great collection of trees, with some roofs and a church spire peeping through.

While no similar account has come to light concerning the Borough of Shelton, it can be inferred from photographs, city directories, and other period sources that along the river was a bustling industrial center that was counterpart to the more agrarian life found just a few miles up into the hills. These were close connections between the two communities but they were fundamentally different on many levels.


By the turn of the 20th century, according to the 1910 "Connecticut State Register and Manual", Huntington was a well-established agricultural economy and Shelton was largely concerned with the manufacturing of paper, paper boxes, wooden yarn and knit goods, cotton goods, pins, tacks, hooks and eyes, carriage and other hardware, pianos, rubber goods printing presses, metal bedsteads, button brass hardware, combs, razor straps, bicycle forgings, silk goods, etc.



The Shelton Looms on Canal Street

The factories of Shelton relied on the labor of immigrants or the children of immigrants. According to the 1910 census over 62% of Shelton's population fell into this category. The population of the Shelton Borough had exceeded the Town of Huntington in 1890 with the totals being 2,837 and 2,735 respectively. Most of this growth was undoubtedly due to rising trends in immigration across the entire nation and the availability of unskilled or semi-skilled jobs in the factories.

Even in rural Huntington there were a surprising number of immigrants. In 1910, 905 or 52% of the total population were immigrants or the children were immigrants. While there were many families who had been settled here for multiple generations, those considered traditional Yankees, there was also a steady supply of new blood.

The economic and social ties of Huntington were based on an extensive network of kinship, neighborliness, and other community ties. While these factors undoubtedly existed in the Borough of Shelton as well, the larger size of the community and the dynamic flow of its population would have made such connections less common. This type of industrial society was more likely to be based on wages, goods available for purchase, and services for hire. 



Huntington Center



Chromium Process

DEMOLITION IMPROVES OUR HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE

The City of Shelton continues to make significant progress in its program of brownfields remediation on a number of sites in the downtown revitalization area, making note in this Biennial Report, the recent demolition of the former Chromium Process building.

Following the completion of an U. S. EPA All Appropriate Inquiries Study, the City of Shelton, working in tandem with its implementation agency, the Shelton Economic Development Corporation, applied for and received a grant from the CT Department of Economic and Community Development for \$1,019,470 to tackle the issues which the former manufacturing processes created. The State of Connecticut authorized the demolition, and the City retained the services of an environmental consultancy (AECOM) and their CT Licensed Environmental Professionals, to develop the remediation and demolition plans which are closely regulated by the CT Health Department and the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

This building was the last active manufacturing and production company representing Shelton's bygone "industrial revolution" era. The building built in 1910 was also the last vestige of a time when the river systems and soil was used as refuse collectors. As part of the remediation of the site, prior to demolition, over 80 tons of contaminated materials consisting of chromium, arsenic, lead and cyanide were removed.

The process of environmental remediation can be laborious, lengthy



and costly. The actual demolition began on October 15, 2016. As the project progressed, it was apparent that the property held many surprises such as finding an unrecorded tunnel and working around the historic canal system. None of these issues were necessarily game changing or problematic but they did require time to resolve. As the weeks passed by, the project progressed methodically.

Due to the enormity of the task at hand the State of Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development extended the grant by an additional \$500,000. The state's contribution now totaled \$1,519,470. The city also received a grant in the amount of \$200,000 from the U. S. EPA for post remediation work. Taking down an old factory and cleaning up a contaminated site can become fiscally draining for a municipality to tackle alone, thus having stalwart partners such as the State of Connecticut and federal government is critical.

By the end of May 2017, the demolition was complete and the last of the contaminated materials were removed from the property. Clean portions of the building such as the brick and concrete that formed the building exterior have been crushed up and placed within the building foundation. As of July 2017, the site has been filled with clean soil and is waiting for the installation of a protective cover, prior to being a new municipal parking lot designed to support the increasing private development occurring in the City's downtown. 🌿





Canal Street and the Riverfront

CONTINUED EFFORTS TO RECLAIM OUR RIVERFRONT

The Canal Street Property Remediation and Riverfront Recapture Program is steadily moving forward. Since 1996, the City of Shelton has invested over \$23,224,000 received from federal, local, and state resources. While several years' worth of work remains, the City of Shelton has completed a remarkable amount of work, all to the benefit of the citizens of Shelton.

The most recent projects include the installation of the new Civil War Monument along the Riverwalk, the completed remediation of the Chromium Process Land and the Axton Cross land, which are slated to become a new business development site; the demolition of the former Chromium Process plant and the former Griffin Button Company at 223 Canal Street, as well as further reconstruction of Canal Street all the way to Wooster Street. In addition to the above, by the time the next Biennial Report is prepared, Shelton will have also witnessed the construction of a 14,000-square foot mixed-used commercial building at the former Rolfite Property, the renovation of the former Spongex facility into 72 rental housing units, as well as the new construction of 68 apartments known as the River Breeze Commons located at the formerly mentioned 223 Canal Street.

While we wait for the above-mentioned projects to conclude, the City of Shelton, through the Shelton Economic Development Corporation, have set their eyes on the final phase (Phase 4) of the Canal Street Remediation Program. This effort will include the site assessments of the final four properties located at the most northern portion of Canal Street. These properties include 235 Canal Street (former APEX Tool), 255 Canal Street (former Better Packages), 267 Canal Street known as the Star Pin Building and the former Wilkinson Paper Mill at 279 Canal Street. Each of these properties present unique challenges and upon completion will provide benefit to the City for decades to come. 🌊



267 Canal Street, the Star Pin Building



Proposed design for the former Rolfite site



223 Canal Street during demolition

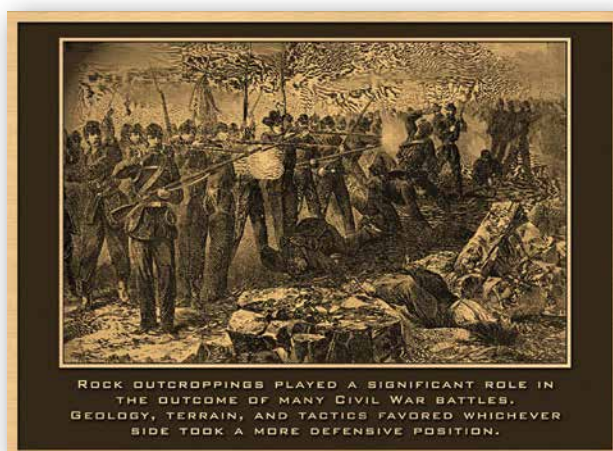
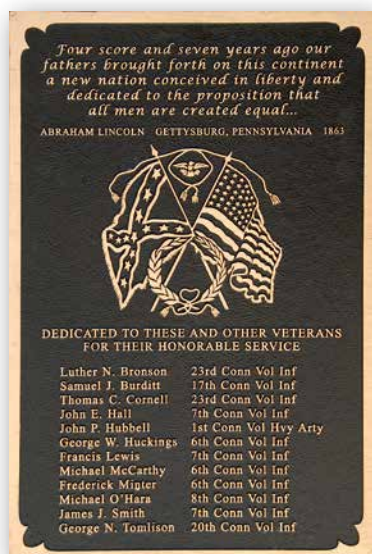


River Breeze Commons, Approved Rendering for 223 Canal Street



Civil War Monument

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO SERVED



The Civil War was a struggle for the soul of America: would the political idea that all men were created equal and that the right "to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" apply to all Americans or to just a few? The internal conflict throughout the country was so severe and ingrained in the people that it had to be resolved forever. Those brave men honored on this site embraced the idea that Jefferson's words articulated in *The Declaration of Independence* applies to all Americans – white, black, and

native American – and were willing to sacrifice their lives for those beliefs. The Monument also honors the hundreds of other men from Huntington and the Valley who fought to make those ideas a reality. This bucolic setting allows all of us today to stop and reflect on their sacrifice. And to recognize that the effort "to form a more perfect union" is still ongoing. To think how we the living can ensure that our country remains a beacon of freedom and justice on which the world can gaze and emulate. 🌊



Recreation, continued from page 23

provide passes to select museums and parks at the Huntington Branch.

The Shelton Library system began a new chapter in May of 2017 hiring Joan R. Stokes as the Shelton's new Library Director.

Shelton Senior Center

As you enter the front door of the Center, you are greeted with a warm smile and a friendly atmosphere. The facility is overseen by a Director and a committed staff along with many caring volunteers who so willingly give of their free time and abilities to maintain the quality of day to day happenings at the Center.



Senior Citizen's Committee

Seated (l to r): Corie Blanck, Clerk; Margaret Keane; William Smarz; Doreen Laucella, Director; Standing (l to r): Judson Crawford; Cheryl Dziubina; Roberta Zutkowski; Jill Bruno; Walter Oko, Chair; Missing: Marilyn Terlaga

The Center provide a wide range of social, educational, health, financial, and recreational programs for residents 55 years of age and older. The Center's goal is to keep members active and involved through various programs. Programs range from Ballroom Cardio and Aerobic to Computer Classes. The Center sponsors parties, BBQ's, special events, day/overnight trips and casino trips. Live music is provided by Sentimental Journey Band every Tuesday afternoon. Special programs and workshops are held regularly on topics including health, safety, legal and financial issues. Senior outreach & Assistance Programs (Griffin & Bridgeport Hospitals) are available monthly. An Elder Law Attorney and a Judge of Probate speak regularly on legal issues relating to Seniors. The Renter's Rebate Program is available from April 1 - October 1 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM for the elderly and those totally disabled. AARP Safe Driving Classes are offered (by pre-registration) at the Center. Emergency Light Flashers (with proof of Shelton residency) are also available. Evening Caregivers Workshops are scheduled monthly.

Lunch is prepared on premises and offered daily for \$3.00. Transportation to the Center is provided for Shelton residents Monday, Wednesday and Friday (must call ahead) including free shopping bus to local stores for members each Wednesday.

The Center hosts and helps train students from the SHS Internship Program and CASH Program. They also welcome students from SHS to complete their volunteer hours requirements for graduation.

Residents from local assisted living facilities come to the Center for a "day-out" to enjoy lunch and social programs.

The Center hosts "Dancing Under the Stars" during the months of June and August at the Downtown Riverwalk Pavilion. This is a FREE event for everyone to enjoy, just bring a lawn chair. Local businesses sponsor various programs and events throughout the year. Businesses interested in becoming a sponsor may contact the Director.

A monthly Newsletter is published and mailed to all current member residences. The Membership is currently over 4,000 members – with daily attendance at 300-400 members. The Shelton Senior Center Committee meets once a month on the second Tuesday (4:00 PM) of each month at the Center. The Membership Board meeting is held the second Friday of each month. All members are encouraged to attend; suggestions and input are always welcome. 🌿

Special Events

The City of Shelton, various community groups and local businesses sponsor several citywide events throughout the year. These include:

- Shelton Day
- Downtown Concerts
- 4th of July Fireworks
- Christmas Tree Lighting
- Concerts on the Green.
- "Drive-in" Movies 🌿



"Music Under the Stars" brings big crowds to Huntington Green.

Security *continued from page 23*

youth and families. CAP also sponsors awareness programs, including the Youth Speaks Out contest and reception, an annual team building weekend at Camp Jewell, and the annual Teen Safe Driving Awareness Program for valley high school juniors and seniors and their parents. It also sponsors a Trick or Trunk Night on Halloween to provide fun and safe Halloween for youngsters.

In July and August, the SYSB offers free Family Outdoor Movies at the Riverwalk on Canal Street. Bring a chair or blanket and snacks and enjoy a night out with the family. The movies shown are "family friendly."

During the school year, many life skills classes are offered to youth either during the school day or after school. Class topics cover: Internet Safety, Bullying; Alcohol and Other Drug Facts; Decision Making and Responsible Behavior; Meditation Sills and Conflict Resolution.. Also, Safe Sitter Classes for youth ages 11-15 are offered four times a year. Two SYSB staff have been certified to teach these Safe Sitter classes. The SYSB's Spotlight on Youth program recognizes youth between the ages of 12 and 18 who have "given back" to their school or community through volunteer hours or acts of kindness. The SYSB accepts nominations of youth throughout the year.

The Youth2Youth Peer Advocates are an energetic group of high school and middle school students who are trained to be peer educators and mentors. They meet weekly to plan programs, youth conferences, as well as explore youth issues. They also volunteer countless hours on community service projects helping others.

The Juvenile Review Board helps to divert first-time offenders under the age of 18 from the juvenile court system. The board is made up of volunteers from the Shelton community. The program helps to teach youth about making responsible choices and encourages their participation in positive community-oriented activities.

The Shelton Youth Service Bureau Advisory Board is comprised of 22 members. Membership includes youth, school administrators, police department personnel and community representatives. They are appointed by the mayor and serve for a 2-year renewable term. Vacancies are filled by appointment by the mayor. "Ex-Officio" members of the Advisory Board are the mayor, police chief and superintendent of schools or their designee.

Medical and Health Services

Ambulance service is provided by Echo Hook & Ladder Volunteer Ambulance Corps, a non-profit volunteer organization. The organization has 85 volunteer members and operates two "on-duty" ambulances on a 24-hour basis. Echo Hose Ambulance Corps is committed to leadership as an organization whose excitement, magnetism, and values attract highly skilled emergency care providers who deliver excellent clinical care in a sensitive environment, aware of each patient's dignity and needs.

The Echo Hose Ambulance Corps Training Center offers learning paths in several areas including but not limited to: CPR/AED/First Aid for the layperson; CPR/AED First Aid for the Healthcare provider; Emergency Medical Responder (EMR); Emergency Medical Technician Basic (EMT-B) and Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT). 🌊

Safeguarding Growth, *continued from page 15*

ers are not required to pay back the loan until the following conditions occur: the homeowner no longer lives in the house, the house is sold, the title to the home is transferred, or the homeowner dies. All loans are secured with a mortgage deed, promissory note, and memorandum of agreement. All homes built before 1978 will be tested for lead-based paint. If lead-based paint is found, mitigation will be performed.

Applications are handled on a first-come, first-served basis and until funds are exhausted.

Anti-Blight Program

This office also oversees the city's Anti-Blight Program. Each year, and often in conjunction with other city departments, the office responds to several dozen complaints from concerned residents regarding neglected properties in the community. If you are concerned that a particular property in Shelton is blighted, please visit our website first at www.cityofshelton.org/community-development for a list of qualifying factors and an Anti-Blight Complaint Form.



A before and after photo of a downtown building that was cleaned up under the City's Anti-Blight Program.

Conservation Commission

The Conservation Commission is an advisory board whose purpose under state statutes is "the development, conservation, supervision and regulation of natural resources." The Commission makes recommendations to the Board of Aldermen regarding Open Space purchases and use of those lands. The Commission also reviews proposed developments and makes recommendations to the Planning and Zoning and Inland Wetlands departments. There are seven members on the commission who are supported by the city's Natural Resources Manager.

Zoning Board of Appeals

The Zoning Board of Appeals has the ability to hold hearings and grant relief to property owners for land hardships in the City of Shelton. The two areas of relief are: (1) grant variances on the City of Shelton Planning and Zoning land and use regulations, and (2) to hear appeals on decisions and actions of the City of Shelton Zoning Enforcement Officer. The Zoning Board of Appeals is governed by Section 8 of the Connecticut General Statutes and they meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at City Hall. 🌊

Infrastructure, continued from page 25

Ave. It was designed to remove solids from the incoming wastewater through a settling process and chlorine disinfection was applied. It was a great step in cleaning up the Housatonic River.

A plant upgrade was completed in 1976 with a secondary treatment added to the process, a biological process to remove even more incoming solids through settling and aeration. This creates an environment to produce a quality effluent of clean disinfected water.

A major upgrade in 2008 introduced the Sequencing Batch Reactor treatment process. Four large holding tanks, each capable of treating one million gallons of wastewater a day. Each tank is capable of completing all the steps necessary for efficient removal of solids from the wastewater and delivering it to the disinfection process of the plant. This process also provides nitrogen removal from the wastewater. This helps reduce algae blooms in the discharged effluent.

In 2012 an additional system of control was added to the process. A complex system of ORP, ammonia and nitrate metering was installed in the treatment process. This allows for the monitoring of different phases of treatment and for the adjustment of parameters accordingly.

In 2013 aeration was added to the sludge holding tank to provide aerobic conditions to reduce odor and ammonia impact on the plant.

In 2017 the system control and data acquisition (SCADA) analog computer processing system was upgraded to a state-of-the-art digital processor. This expands the capability and reliability and allows for easy procurement of spare parts.

Two state of the art turbo blowers are currently installed for the SBR treatment system. In the near future three more high capacity turbo blowers will be integrated into the treatment process to further enhance the critical process of aerating the wastewater. These units are energy efficient and extremely quiet. A fine bubble de-fuser grid to the SBR tanks will be added as well. This will help immensely in keeping the bacteria alive and healthy in the treatment process.

New flow meters have been installed to better optimize the blower operations. This allows to better regulate where and how much air is going to each tank.

Plant Statistics

- Plant Capacity: 4,000,000 gallons a day
- S.B.R. 4 tanks, each with a capacity of 1,000,000 gallons per day
- Air Blowers: 1,800 scfm per unit/ 2 available (3 additional on future)
- Chlorination tank: Approximately 250,000 gallons
- Septage holding: 30,000 gallons
- Emergency Generation (Kw): 1,000 V-12 Cummins Generator
- Fuel capacity: 4,000 gallons
- Pumping stations: 5 throughout the city

Monitoring

24 hour samplers and computerized alarm systems and controls allow the staff to make adjustments to the process operations as well as the five pumping stations. 🌊

Public Improvement Building Committee

The Public Improvement Building Committee (PIBC) consists of a cross-functional team with experience in building projects, fire safety, state filings, contract review, project management and operations. They are scheduled to meet every second Monday (during the school year). If necessary, special meetings are held to ensure projects are kept on track. The committee is comprised of nine members which include a Chairman and Vice Chairman. A project manager has been retained to oversee these projects.

Some projects administered by the PIBC have been:

- Elizabeth Shelton and Long Hill Elementary Schools' Roof Replacement Projects (Project Completed 12/09)
- Elementary Schools' Boiler Replacement Project (Project Completed 9/09)
- Shelton High School Chiller (Project Completed 9/13)
- Community Center Coating Project (Completed 9/13)
- Elementary School Surveillance Camera Upgrade (Completed 9/14)
- Elementary School Entrance Fortification and Door Replacement (Completed 9/16)
- Sunnyside Roof Replacement (On track for completion 8/17)

The process is as follows: a project is given to the PIBC by the Mayor/Board of Aldermen, and the PIBC goes out to bid for an architect. After bids are received and reviewed by the PIBC, a recommendation is made to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen. Once an award is made by the Mayor/Board of Aldermen, plans/drawings go back to the PIBC for their review, editing and approval. Next step is to involve the city's Purchasing Department which assembles and advertises a bid package of these plans/drawings. Once bids are received the PIBC, along with the architect retained, review and recommend a contractor. This recommendation again goes before the Mayor/Board of Aldermen. Once an award has been approved the project manager tracks the progress and addresses issues that may arise. Minutes are retained providing reports on the status of projects. 🌊



Public Improvement Building Committee

Seated (l to r): Tina Coppola, Clerk; Bernie Simons, Chair; Francis Macilvain
Standing (l to r): James Oraziotti, Gary DeFilippo, Staff; Brian Lampart; William Banfe; Missing: Beth Gabriel; Gene Kierce

Acknowledgments

SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL OF THOSE WHO AIDED IN THE PRODUCTION OF THIS PUBLICATION

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We hope you've found this twelfth edition of Shelton Life both informative and useful. As we present our new biennial report, we look forward to producing future editions. We encourage you to become involved in your community and invite you to contribute to future reports. Please send us your comments and suggestions about how to improve future reports to better serve and inform you. Send your comments to:

Shelton Economic Development Commission
c/o City Hall
54 Hill Street
Shelton, Connecticut 06484



Fred Ruggio
Chairman
Economic Development Commission
City of Shelton

City Directory

WEB SITE www.cityofshelton.org

EMERGENCY (FIRE/POLICE/EMS) 911
Huntington Fire Company 203 929-1414
Pine Rock Park Fire Company 203 929-1239
Echo Hose Hook & Ladder Company 203 924-4241
Echo Hose Ambulance 203 924-9211
White Hills Fire Company 203 929-1749
Shelton Police Department 203 924-1544

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENTS

City Hall (Main Number) 203 924-1555
Dial the Department you need:
Mayor's Office 1504
Purchasing Department 1506
Tax Collector 1501
Tax Assessor 1500
Finance Department/City Treasurer 1508
City/Town Clerk 1503
Engineering 1509
Planning and Zoning Commission 1510
Community Development 1374
Sewer Department 1511
Inland/Wetlands Commission 1512
Fire Department 1515
Human Resources 1516
Building Department 1517
Economic Development 1387
Fax Number 203 924-0185
Building Maintenance Supervisor 203 925-8576
Animal Shelter 203 924-2501
Highways and Bridges 203 924-9277
Housing Authority 203 924-2736
Probate Court 203 924-8462
Public Works Director 203 924-9277
Registrar of Voters 203 924-2533
Shelton Senior Citizens Center 203 924-9324
Water Pollution Control 203 924-8288
Youth Service Bureau 203 924-7614

SHELTON SCHOOLS

Superintendent of Schools/Board of Education 203 924-1023
Booth Hill School 203 929-5625
Elizabeth Shelton School 203 929-1330
Perry Hill School 203 924-4002
Long Hill School 203 929-4077
Mohegan School 203 929-4121
Sunnyside School 203 922-3021
Intermediate School 203 926-2000
Shelton High School 203 922-3004
Adult Education Office 203 924-6651

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Community Center 203 925-8422

PLUMB MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Main Number 203 924-1580
Children's Department 203 924-9461
Huntington Branch 203 926-0111

Schedule of Meetings

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

Full Meeting
2nd Thursday of Month (7:00 pm)

Street Committee

1st Tuesday of Month (6:00 pm)

Public Health and Safety

1st Wednesday of Month (7:00 pm)

Finance Committee

4th Tuesday of Month (6:00 pm)

BOARD OF APPORTIONMENT

AND TAXATION

2nd & 4th Thursday of Month (6:00 pm)

BOARD OF EDUCATION

at 382 Long Hill Avenue

4th Wednesday of Month (7:00 pm)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

COMMISSION

at SEDC offices

3rd Tuesday of Month (6:00 pm)

INLAND WETLANDS

COMMISSION

2nd Thursday of Month (7:00 pm)

PARKS & RECREATION

COMMISSION

at Community Center

3rd Thursday of Month (7:30 pm)

PLANNING AND

ZONING COMMISSION

2nd Tuesday of Month (7:00 pm)

PUBLIC HEARING

ON ORDINANCES

4th Tuesday of Month (7:00 pm)

WATER POLLUTION

CONTROL AUTHORITY

2nd Wednesday of Month (7:00 pm)

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

3rd Tuesday of Month (7:30 pm)

For additional information on other commissions and boards, please contact the Shelton City/Town Clerk's office at 203 924-1555, extension 1503. Please note that meeting dates are subject to change to accommodate holidays.

Shelton Economic
Development Commission
c/o City Hall
54 Hill Street
Shelton, Connecticut 06484

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Shelton
Going Green

City of Shelton, Connecticut

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