

Town of Suffield Annual Report*

SUFFIELD, CONNECTICUT

A photograph of Suffield High School, a large brick building with multiple gables and windows, set against a clear blue sky. In the foreground, a blue sign with white lettering reads "SUFFIELD HIGH SCHOOL". The sign is flanked by two small evergreen trees and some low-lying shrubs. The school is situated on a grassy lawn.

SUFFIELD
HIGH SCHOOL

July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008

*Summary Version
With Historical Highlights
of Suffield's Public Schools

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GOALS

- **Diversify economic base including industrial development near Bradley International Airport**
- **Preserve open space, farms and historical assets**
- **Support excellent educational opportunities**
- **Utilize fiscally responsible budgeting practices**
- **Deliver responsive town services**
- **Promote public safety and homeland security**
- **Support well-planned residential and recreational areas**
- **Maintain existing infrastructure needs and plan for future needs**
- **Manage financial resources responsibly**
- **Strengthen and nurture citizen participation**

SELECTMEN

Suffield continues to be a statewide leader in the preservation of open space and farmland. Our efforts ensure that residential development is slowed and that Suffield's farming heritage and culture are preserved indefinitely.

Simultaneously, we have developed a commitment to economic development. Our construction of Marketing Drive off Route 75 has already begun to pay off for the Town with planned expansion of the Windsor Marketing Group just north of the Marketing Drive.

The 2007-08 year was an eventful and emotionally charged one in Suffield.

Early this year, our Zoning and Planning Commission entertained an electrifying proposal from CT Biodiesel to build a biodiesel facility off of Firestone Drive in Suffield's Planned Development Industrial Park. I was a proponent of this proposal as it would generate significant tax revenue and ease the tax burden on homeowners. Residents and attorneys attended Z&P meetings to voice their questions, concerns, support and/or opposition to this proposal. Ultimately the Z&P Commission voted 3-3 on the application, which resulted in a denial of the project.

The Town then became engulfed in the "Library Debate." Should we, or should we not, build a new library in the place of the current library, with a price tag in excess of \$13 million? Several different committees devoted a great deal of planning and preparation for this proposal. Various factions debated this issue back and forth.

The debate was resolved at a July 22nd referendum where residents overwhelmingly rejected the proposal that was before the Town. This referendum resulted in one of the largest voter turn-outs for a referendum question in Suffield's history. It was an awe-inspiring show of democracy in action.

The upcoming year will present Suffield with some of the greatest challenges that we have ever faced as a community. The economic problems that are affecting the entire nation and world will impact Suffield. Efforts are being made to minimize those effects, but town leaders will need to work together to accomplish those goals.

It has been my pleasure to serve Suffield as First Selectman. As a community and as a government entity, we have met controversy and challenges and have made many significant accomplishments. I would like to thank all of the citizens of Suffield for their support.

On behalf of the Board of Selectmen, I thank all the boards, commissions, committees, Town employees and volunteers who have contributed significant time and energy to the Town of Suffield.

If you would like more information on the Town of Suffield or if you would like to read the complete text to each report contained in the annual report, please visit our website at www.suffieldtownhall.com or email me directly at SLingenfelter@SuffieldTownHall.com.

Scott R. Lingenfelter
First Selectman

TOWN MEETINGS

AUGUST 28, 2007

Industrial Roadway

The meeting approved the expenditure of \$656,000 to build a new roadway running about 1,000 feet west off South Street (Route 75) to service land zoned as Planned Development Industrial Park. The bulk of the cost was to be reimbursed by a state Local Capital Improvement Program (LoCIP) grant of \$641,000, the remainder coming from the Economic Development Business Infrastructure Fund.

DECEMBER 20, 2007

Farmland Preservation

In two separate votes the meeting approved the purchase of conservation easements on two properties, using Open Space Funds. The Miller Farm, 35.96+/- acres on Sheldon Street, \$144,400. The Zalewski Farm, 55.8+/- acres on Thrall Avenue, \$375,000.

Open Space Land Acquisition

The meeting voted to accept two parcels of open space, 10.11 acres and 8.24 acres, associated with the Stratton Farms residential subdivision on Copper Hill Road, and authorized the First Selectman to enter into a lease agreement for the larger parcel. [The smaller parcel, next to the road, has been dedicated as the Mark Cervione Soccer Complex of the Suffield Soccer Club.]

Industrial Land Acquisition

The meeting voted to accept a 37.435-acre parcel zoned as Planned Development Industrial Park off of Bennett Road, a short road off East Street South near the Windsor Locks line.

MAY 14 2008

Annual Town Budget Meeting

The proposed Town Budget for FY 2008-09 calling for a total expenditure of \$50,760,782 as recommended by the Board of Finance, was approved (by a standing vote of 88 in favor, 41 opposed).

JUNE 12, 2008

Library Construction

A resolution to appropriate \$13,607,646 for the design and construction of a new library on the existing site of the Kent Memorial Library, with \$13,010,000 from town bonds and \$597,646 from the library endowment, was discussed at some length. The resolution was approved by paper ballot, with 353 in favor and 133 opposed.

[A town-wide referendum on the same question was called by the Board of Selectmen several days later. The referendum, held on July 22, 2008, overturned the Town Meeting decision by a vote of 1,525 YES and 2,556 NO.]

These summaries are furnished for convenient reference. The official minutes can be viewed in the Town Clerk's office.



ADMINISTRATION

Town Clerk

The Town Clerk's office is the official records and licensing office for the Town of Suffield. All land records, minutes of boards and commissions, and vital records are maintained and kept on file here. Trade name certificates, state liquor permits, notary public certificates and veteran's discharge records are also filed here.

All records are open to the public, except birth and veteran's records which are confidential.

The following items are available at the Town Clerk's office:

- *Dog licenses* are due annually during the month of June. The fee is \$19 or \$8 if the animal is neutered. The dog must have a current rabies certificate.
- *Sport licenses* are for the calendar year and are available beginning in December.
- *Marriage licenses* are issued in either the town in which you live or the town where the ceremony will take place at a cost of \$30.
- *Voter registration and absentee ballots* are available here.

Information Technologies

The Information Technology (IT) Department is charged with evaluations of technology solutions to meet the needs of staff throughout the Town's offices. IT continued its effort to standardize the technology in all departments, improve organizational effectiveness and increase customer satisfaction. Particular importance was given to the implementation of a disaster recovery plan.

This year improvements were made in the standardization of network hardware and software. The Town's e-mail system was updated and a more efficient backup system was implemented. To accommodate the new air-conditioning system and the power back-up unit, new wiring was required in the server room. Long term goals yet to be reached include the continued implementation of the fiber optic network and its use to improve the capabilities and efficiencies of operations.

Registrars of Voters

Suffield's Registrars of Voters, Darlene Burrell and Lynn Joyal, reported that the municipal elections held in November had a 37% voter turnout. Voter turnout has ranged from 37% to 48% over the past six municipal elections.

Democratic and Republican primaries were held on February 5 with a 55% Democratic turnout and 38% Republican turnout. Approximately 200 unaffiliated electors came to the polls wishing to vote in the primaries but were turned away because Connecticut state law allows only electors who are enrolled in a political party to vote in that party's primary.

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*PHOTO:
The November 2007
Municipal Election was the
debut for Suffield's 41 new
HAV-approved voting booths.*

ACTIVE REGISTERED VOTERS

Year	Total	Republican	Democrat	Unaffiliated	Other
2008	7,905	2,358	2,159	3,370	18
2007	7,746	2,263	1,980	3,486	17
2006	7,601	2,247	1,880	3,462	12
2005	7,881	2,330	1,924	3,612	15
2004	7,597	2,276	1,927	3,377	17

Accompanying charts show the number of Suffield's registered voters at the end of the past five fiscal years and voter registration activity over the past three years.

The various voter registration changes are address, party, name, status, etc. Reasons for removal include death, moving out of town, or being an inactive voter for at least four years with no response to canvass.

Over 417 registered voters, who appeared on the US Postal Service's Change of Address system, were canvassed this year. At the request of the Secretary of the State, an extensive search of death records was conducted to insure that the names of the deceased did not remain on the active voter list.

Voter information packages were sent to 156 new Suffield households this year.

The Federal Help America Vote (HAV) Act required that all voting machines used in elections, primaries and referenda must provide a paper trail. The old lever voting machines did not fulfill that requirement; therefore, their use was discontinued. Nine of Suffield's thirteen lever voting machines were sold for scrap metal in September 2007. Four of the lever machines have been saved and are temporarily being stored.

New voting tabulators and paper ballots were used for the first time at the November 2007 Municipal Election. A recount was held and the results of this hand count showed that the tabulator count was accurate within four votes. The discrepancy was due to voter error as a few electors (approx. 30) incorrectly filled out their ballots by writing across the ballot or putting an "X" or "√" in the ovals instead of completely filling in the ovals as instructed. Fortunately, the majority of voters properly filled out their ballots and the tabulators read all of them and counted most of the incorrectly filled out ballots.

Accessible voting equipment was also used at the November election for the first time as required by the HAV Act. This equipment allows the visual impaired to vote privately and independently.

Demonstrations of the new voting process were given at the annual "Suffield On the Green" weekend in September.

Mock Presidential Preference Primaries were held at the Suffield Middle School and Suffield High School in January. Students were

allowed to select a political party and vote in that party's mock primary. The students filled out their ballots and inserted them into a voting tabulator just as it is done by registered voters on Election Day.

The Secretary of the State, Susan Bysiewicz spoke at a Voter Registration Session held at the High School in September. Approximately 200 High School students attended and over 100 of them registered to vote that day.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Industrial

The Economic Development Commission (EDC) secured Town Meeting approval for a new industrial roadway from Mach One Industrial Park to Marketing Research Park and the Bradley International Business Center. This 1,000-foot roadway will service approximately 50 acres of land and could result in over 500,000 s.f. in new light industrial space. Funding for the roadway comes from a State of Connecticut Local Capitol Improvement Program (LoCIP) grant in the amount of \$641,000 and \$15,000 in EDC funds. Milone & MacBroom of Cheshire

Voter List Activity

	New	Changes	Removal
FY 2007-08	650	787	392
FY 2006-07	462	799	347
FY 2005-06	431	749	834

Statistics from Town Clerk

	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Documents Recorded	4,143	3,678	3,674
Land Transfers	326	286	226
Local Conveyance Tax	\$258,923	\$234,585	\$197,580
Dog Licenses	1,359	1,290	1,255
Marriages	55	68	71
Births	81	69	90
Deaths	118	148	137

has been selected to provide the engineering for the new roadway.

The EDC endorsed a proposal by CT Biodiesel for a \$65-million dollar biodiesel processing facility with a 50-million-gallon capacity on Firestone Drive. The facility would have created approximately 38 jobs and significant new tax revenue. However, after lengthy public hearings, the Zoning and Planning Commission (Z&P) denied the application. CT Biodiesel is appealing its decision.

Marketing of undeveloped lots in Mach One and other commercial areas continues to be active on the EDC agenda. The Town accepted a donation of approximately 37 acres of Planned Development Industrial Park (PDIP)-zoned land off Bennett Road for development purposes. A new business opened at 1160 South Street called Teliris Telepresence.

Town Center

Town Center initiatives are a collaborative effort by the EDC, the Heritage Committee, the Historic District Committee, the Helena Bailey Spencer Tree Fund and Val Gallivan Fund Committee (HBSC), the Town Planner, and other Town boards and commissions as well as projects supported by Suffield Garden Club and other civic groups.

The Town Center Project was brought to a successful completion this fiscal year. The right of way improvements and traffic signal installed at the Mountain Road Marketplace were accepted by the Connecticut Department of Transportation (DOT). Landscaping improvements at the Marketplace were completed. "Residents

are now able to walk along new sidewalks, safely cross the street at improved sidewalks and enjoy ... the decorative planters, lights and benches," according to the Heritage Committee report.

HBSC Chair Anita Wardell contacted the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving to access funds for the reforestation of South Main Street. The Foundation approved the request and issued a grant of \$6,073 for this project. The trees will be planted in the 2008-09 fiscal year. The Committee continues to work with the Town Tree Warden on projects for future plantings.

The Heritage Committee concluded a review of the proposal for a new library and endorsed the project. In other areas, this committee oversaw the installation of new lighting and electrical boxes near the Civil War monument and a new concrete base for the canon on the Town Green. These improvements were made possible through an Amiel P. Zak Public Service Fund award. The Heritage Committee and the Historic District Commission applied for a National Parks Services Certified Local Governments' designation status which would open Suffield to historic preservation planning funds. In coordination with the EDC, the Heritage Committee used a UConn engineer to study the parking needs in the Town Center. Recommendations were presented to the Zoning and Planning Commission.

The Suffield Farmer's Market, sponsored by the EDC, began its eighth year of operation on the Town Green. A marketing study for the Farmer's Market was conducted.

Lake Area

In West Suffield, the EDC also worked with Citizens Restoring Congamond (CRC) on their \$100,000 Small Town Economic Assistance Program grant to renovate the historic skating rink. CRC has been conducting volunteer work days to demolish water-damaged sections of shed roofing and to begin restoration efforts. The Town and CRC secured the services of Tecton Architects to complete a restoration plan.

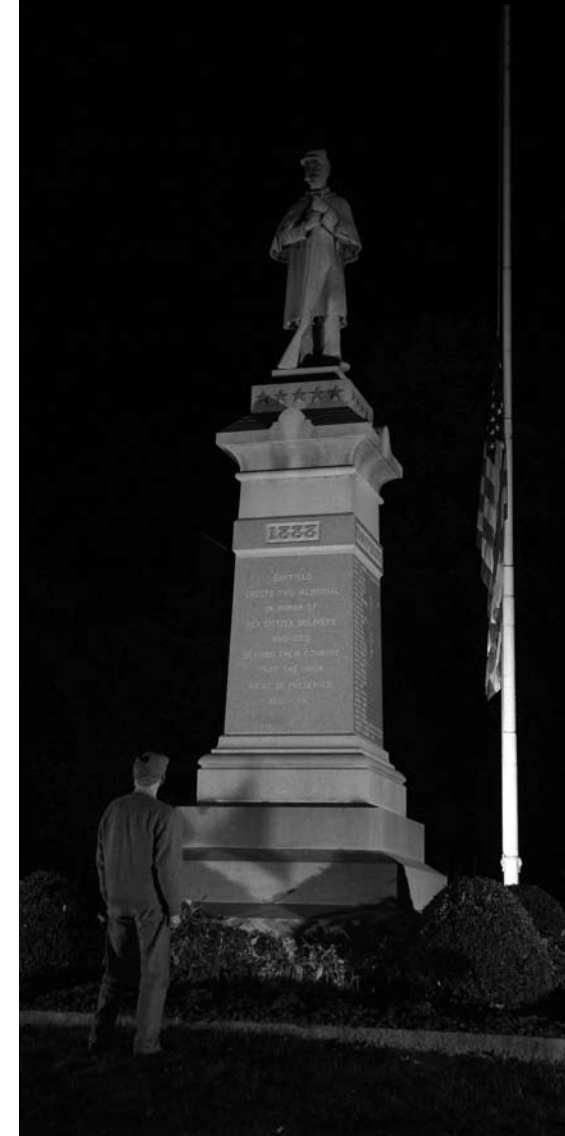
Agriculture and Open Space

A Suffield Ag Council was established to promote agriculture in the community. A Suffield Farms Map was produced through joint efforts by EDC, this new council and the Suffield Chamber of Commerce. It lists 20 farm operations in town that are open to the public. The EDC began to publish a monthly e-newsletter called *Suffield Ag News*.

The EDC coordinated with The Friends of the Farm at Hilltop (FOFAH) on their \$500,000 State grant to renovate the historic dairy barn. The non-profit group intends to reopen the farm as an agricultural and environmental learning center. The EDC also funded a study for a shared-use kitchen proposed for a portion of the barn.

In January, the Heritage Committee hosted a workshop for farmers interested in selling development rights on their properties. Applications were submitted to the State of Connecticut and to the US Department of Agriculture for the preservation of two farms. Both were approved. At year end, a funding package to purchase the 36-acre Miller-Billings Farm and the 56-acre Zalewski Farm was

New lighting illuminates the Civil War Monument and the American flag on the Town Green after dark.



completed, but the Town had not yet closed on the properties.

Since 2001, 775 acres of land have been preserved by the Town of Suffield. The total cost of these acquisitions is approximately \$7-million with a cost to Suffield taxpayers of \$1.9-million.

The Heritage Committee concluded its report expressing delight at its success in leveraging State and Federal resources to help preserve Suffield's rural character. The committee has begun a project to mark this protected acreage with signage delineating it as "Farmland Preserved."

Suffield has secured a Farm Viability Grant from the State Department of Agriculture to further its efforts in the farmland preservation program and to help support the Farmers Market. The Town also submitted an application to the Connecticut DEP Open Space Grant program for the purchase of development rights on a 40-acre farm. At year-end, the Town awaits a decision.

Town Planner Bill Hawkins reported that the Heritage Committee strongly advocated a \$400,000 contribution to the Open Space Account in the Town Budget to ensure the Town's ability to acquire development rights to additional farms.

Other Planning and Development

The EDC conducted due diligence for the possible acquisition of the Calvary Episcopal Church for a permanent Senior Center. The application for a \$750,000 Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) was denied, but the Town plans to reapply at the earliest opportunity.

Suffield received a \$60,000 grant through the Office of Policy and Management for the Small Town Economic Assistance Program for the establishment of a new soccer/lacrosse field at Sullivan Field. The Suffield's Department of Public Works crews have already cleared the site.

The Town joined a new Regional Housing Rehabilitation Program, managed by the Town of Ellington and funded through the Small Cities CDBG program.

To welcome visitors to Suffield, the EDC supports the upkeep and maintenance of Suffield's entryway signs and landscaping. "The EDC has partnered for several years with the Suffield Garden Club and its volunteers who do such a fantastic job of making the planting beds look great," noted EDC Director Patrick McMahon.

The Town continues to participate in the Bradley Development League (BDL), an economic development partnership with the towns of Windsor, Windsor Locks, and East Granby. The BDL had several articles with an adjoining advertisement published in the New England Real Estate Journal. George Hermann, President of The First National Bank of Suffield, was appointed Suffield's business representative to the BDL Board of Directors. The EDC also collaborated with the Suffield Chamber of Commerce on various initiatives. Tours of industrial areas around the airport including Route 75 in Suffield were provided to Joan McDonald, Commissioner of the Department of Economic and Community Development, and Ralph Carpenter, Commissioner of the Department of Transportation.

The EDC investigated the redevelopment of Ffyer Place into a mixed-use office, retail and residential development. The establishment of a Suffield Arts Center was also investigated. The EDC began publication of a monthly e-newsletter called *Suffield Town Center News*. In his report, EDC Chair Howard Orr pledged to continue efforts to diversify the tax base as well as enhance the quality of life in the community.

Zoning and Planning

"The FY 2007-08 was a slow year for development around Connecticut. Suffield was no different. Difficult economic times for homeowners due to increasing costs in energy, food, and other family budgetary staples have contributed to rising foreclosure rates," began Chair Frank Bauchiero in his Z&P report.

Two Flexible Residential Development subdivision approvals were granted this year. Sunset Point, a 23-lot subdivision located off of Route 75, was approved in November. Malec Farms, a 28-lot subdivision located off of Mapleton Avenue, was approved in March. The purpose of Flexible Residential Developments is to preserve open space by allowing smaller lot sizes than are normally required. The developer is required to allocate 50% of the land as open space. These two subdivisions combined were required to set aside 46 acres as open space to be left untouched in perpetuity. There were six other residential subdivisions approved this year which totaled ten lots, and one lot was approved in the PDIP zone.

A review and update of the Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) will begin in 2008-09, as



The Town of Suffield is considering the Calvary Episcopal Church complex as the site for the new Senior Center.

mandated by State statute. Suffield's last POCD was completed in 1999. The Town has some options to consider when deciding how to update the POCD. There are a number of firms that help towns re-write their POCD, or Suffield could handle the updates in-house with Town staff taking on the majority of the work, or the update could be a mix of the two. Z&P has decided to have staff send out a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to solicit different firms interested in working with the Town on its POCD. "The purpose of the RFQ will be to ensure we have a number of qualified applicants for this project. This will allow the Town to choose the candidate that understands our goals for this update, one of which is to work with the public very closely to develop a vision of where they would like Suffield's growth in the future," continued Bauchiero.

Suffield is participating in a regional grant administered by Capital Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) to acquire a new set of orthophotos of the capitol region. The Town currently uses photographs taken in 1999. The project to obtain the aerial

photographs is costly. The joint effort will save Suffield tax dollars. The new photos will provide up-to-date orthophotos for the Town's Geographic Information System (GIS). These photos help identify the percentage of cropland a certain piece of farmland has, which is an important component of the farmland preservation application process. These maps are also helpful in the building permit process. Because many older Suffield homes predate Town records, many Suffield lots do not have a plot plan showing the layout of the house on file with the Building Department. The GIS system allows Z&P staff to produce a plot plan for the necessary zoning compliance forms, which is part of building permit process.

Conservation Commission

Although growth in Suffield has slowed, continued home construction, commercial growth and infrastructure improvements are changes which require the Town's boards and commission to maintain an active role in applying both Town and State regulations. Keith Morris, an environmental consultant, will take over the daily duties of overseeing the application and

enforcement of inland wetland regulations in July.

Parks

Monitored by the Conservation Commission, Sunrise and Stony Brooke Parks continue to be a source of town pride and activity. The active and passive use of the parks with their walking/hiking trails, picnic areas, expanded swimming beaches, fishing sites, and constant bookings at the pavilion underline the value of these assets to the town. Remember, if you wish to use the pavilion, applications are available from the Park Superintendent, Thomas Drakeley, at Sunrise Park. Previous pavilion use does not guarantee future use, reminds Conservation Commission Chair Arthur Christian.

Christian continued his report with an acknowledgement of the contributions of the Boy Scouts in Town parks. "During the course of the year several scouts have stepped forward to donate time and effort to the improvement of our parks through building projects. We appreciate their efforts as they move towards their Eagle Scout Badges," he concluded.

Zoning Statistics

Z&P processed 20 applications during FY 2007-08. Application fees totaled \$26,092 for the year. After review, 300 building permits and certificates of occupancy were certified for zoning compliance. The Zoning Compliance Certification fee of \$50 per building totaled \$9,600 in fees for the fiscal year. A total of \$13,000 of fees-in-lieu of open space was added to the Town's Open Space Fund.

James Taylor, Zoning Enforcement Officer, investigated 218 complaints.

In April, the Zoning and Planning Commission began deliberations on a proposal for the construction of a biodiesel processing facility on Firestone Drive. A tie vote several months later defeated the development.





Suffield awaits receipt of an amended agreement that guarantees funding for the completion of the Farmington Valley Bike Path north from this bridge over Phelps Road to the Massachusetts line.

Town Engineer

Reconstruction of 1.33 miles of town roads along Valley View, Sunny View, River View and Pleasant View was completed this spring. The \$531,000 project replaced roads in poor condition and addressed related drainage problems. Preliminary work for bids on small drainage projects on Second Street, Conservation Road and Hill Street has begun. Drainage issues were also addressed in a new grading design for a high school softball field. Poor draining soils, particularly on the east side of Town, and significant storms result in an ongoing effort to address drainage problems.

Town Engineer Gerald Turbet joined forces with the Conservation Commission and the Department of Public Works to meet the regulatory require-

ments for the Town's wastewater management permit. He also worked with the Connecticut DEP and FEMA to update the Town's Flood Insurance Rate Maps and drafted revisions to Zoning and Planning regulations to meet new DEP and FEMA requirements.

Replacement of the Suffield Street bridge over the Stony Brook awaits Flood Management Permit reviews and bidding has been delayed into next year. The most recent estimate for this project is \$1.5 million with an 80% grant reimbursement under the Federal Local Bridge Program. Also planned for the next fiscal year is the construction of an industrial road off Route 75 south of Austin Street.

The Connecticut DOT indicated that grants funds were located to fund the original project along Suffield's section of the Farmington Valley Bikeway from Phelps Road north to the Massachusetts state line. Upon receipt of an amended agreement guaranteeing the additional funds, the project will go out for bid.

The Department developed grading plans for new multi-purpose athletic fields to be constructed by the DPW at Sullivan Field.

After many years serving as a consultant to the Conservation Commission, the Town Engineer will no longer serve in this capacity. Money was included in the 2008-09 Town Budget for the Commission to hire an outside contractor to serve as its consultant. He will continue to advise the Zoning and Planning Commission in engineering reviews of subdivisions, site plans, bond release requests, road acceptances and supervision of inspection of public facilities on all subdivision roads.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

"There is an enormous amount of work being done daily by the dedicated and committed staff of the Suffield Public Schools to address our mission. While safety and learning are the two central goals of our schools, we have a broad and diverse staff fulfilling the innumerable tasks required to run this school system. Our students span a huge gamut of skills and abilities and interests, and our mandated mission includes nearly every form of human endeavor. We can only address a few here," wrote Superintendent of Schools John F. Reynolds.

He continued that teachers work tirelessly to provide the best instruction they can every day, but they also are deeply involved in efforts to improve programs, improve opportunities for students and look to the future to determine what students will need for success beyond Suffield schools. Teachers, curriculum specialists and administrators analyze test scores and other less formal data to improve programs as well as assess each student's needs.

Each school has developed a "School Improvement Plan" to provide vision, common understanding of direction

Class of 2008 Statistics

Graduating Class Size	192
Percentage taking SAT's	74 %
Mean Score Verbal	531
Mean Score Math	545
Attending College:	89 %

**Percentage of
Students at State Goal (CMT)
Spring 2007**

	Reading	Writing	Math
Grade 3	57.3	71.9	61.2
Grade 4	74.5	80.5	77.0
Grade 5	73.7	76.3	79.0
Grade 6	84.1	80.9	87.7
Grade 7	85.1	83.0	85.1
Grade 8	80.5	79.0	81.4

**Connecticut Academic
Performance Test (CAPT)
Spring 2007 10th Grade**

Mathematics	69.8
Science	67.3
Writing	71.0
Reading	68.2

**Students Designated
At or Above Proficient under
No Child Left Behind (NCLB)**

	CMT	CAPT
Mathematics	94.5%	98%
Reading	89.9%	100%

and a foundation for relevant data assessment to determine progress.

Improvement initiatives keep curriculum development up-to-date with State guidelines, mandates and tests as well as the expectations of higher education, the business community and the Suffield community. Plans, progress reports and test scores are available at <http://www.suffield.org>.

"At all levels of our schools, our teachers are working increasingly

in teams," continued Reynolds. "These structures improve all of us as part of learning communities, foster inter-disciplinary instructional opportunities for our students, and expand authentic 'real world' teaching and learning. We must continue to establish comprehensive partnerships with those who affect the growth of our students to promote consistent excellence and to ensure broad and differentiated opportunities for all. The Suffield Public Schools advanced significantly this year in this area."

With improvements in technology, not only is internet access available to all students and staff, but technology is in place for an infinite variety of distance learning. Through technology, the school

system can access programs, experts and events around the world for use in the classroom. In this manner, for instance, Suffield Middle School connected to NASA to augment its science curriculum without additional cost to taxpayers.

In October 2007, connections between home and school were improved through the K-12 Alert System. This system allows parents and students to receive information regarding upcoming events, school cancellations, etc.

The staff continues to develop new and improved instructional opportunities and communication services. These services do and will provide a wide scope of information within the district – policies, budget, curriculum, agendas, minutes, instructional plans, homework assignments, etc.

Although there was no increase in administration staff, six new administrators were hired during the past two years. "As a school district, we have lost invaluable experience and ability, but we have also gained wonderful new leadership. The value of experience should never be underestimated, and only time can provide that experience, but the Suffield schools are increasingly positioned to move forward vigorously," wrote Board of Education Chair Michael Smith.

This fiscal year, an extraordinary Suffield graduate showed immeasurable love for this community, his high school, its staff, coaches and principal. Ted Beneski gave an athletic field valued at 1.6 million dollars to Suffield High School. Complete with artificial turf, lighting and stadium seating, this soccer/lacrosse field is a wonderful gift being enjoyed by students, staff and fans alike. The school system's annual report expressed its gratitude to Ted and Laurie Beneski and the entire Beneski family.

The report stated that the Suffield school system continues to be "research driven," "data driven," and

"The mission of the Suffield Public Schools is to meet the diverse academic, social and emotional needs of all students within a safe, challenging and caring educational environment. In partnership with the community and parents, we will prepare each student to demonstrate the academic competencies and personal character needed to be a productive contributor in an ever-changing world."

PHOTO:

Karen Carpenter and Jack Ferraro assumed their new positions as Principal and Vice Principal, respectively, at McAlister Intermediate School this year.





Selectman John G. Smith, IV, presents Robert Sullivan (center) with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Board of Selectmen following his 33 years of service as a volunteer firefighter in Suffield.

To the right is retiring Firefighter Philip Attanasio with 11 years of service.

Selectman Smith was also retiring as a lieutenant after 20 years of volunteer service with the Fire Department.

"student achievement oriented" in its planning and budgeting. It must respond directly and immediately to requirements and mandates from State and Federal sources.

Balancing mandates with the local commitment to focus on the 'whole child' and a broad curriculum including the arts, music, physical education and other life-enriching studies places enormous pressure on resource allocation.

"Within that pressured and frequently frustrating environment, the Suffield Public Schools continue to work hard to maintain a balanced and excellent program for our students," concluded Reynolds.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Fire Commission

During the past fiscal year, the Fire Department hired an additional fulltime firefighter and a second, fulltime staff member is scheduled to join the force in the upcoming September. This staffing increase was driven by the limited availability of volunteers during the first shift on weekdays and a dramatic decrease in the number of paid part-time firefighters who have traditionally provided coverage on weekends.

"Responding to incidents in a timely manner with adequate resource levels is, quite literally, a matter of life and death. This is particularly true in the case of structure fires, where a small fire can be quickly knocked down before it becomes a major conflagration," wrote Fred Hackenyos, Fire Commission Chair.

Federal regulations prohibit sending personnel into a burning building until

Fire Department Responses

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Structure Related Fires	39	51	57	55	71
Mobile Property Fires	6	4	8	9	3
Brush and Crop Fires	3	3	8	10	10
Other Outside Fires	9	8	9	13	8
Other Fires	4	10	7	2	0
Overheat, Explosion	2	1	0	1	4
Rescue and Medical Assist	27	18	15	11	17
Hazardous Conditions	95	119	103	104	118
Service	56	106	58	69	53
Good Intent	48	67	35	55	74
False Alarms	147	179	160	137	170
Severe Weather	0	3	0	2	1
Special Incidents	7	4	9	1	2
TOTAL	443	573	469	469	531
Mutual Aid Given	10	12	11	8	8
Personnel Responding	3,807	4,555	4,126	4,022	4,734
Average Personnel per Call	8.59	7.95	8.80	8.58	8.92

at least four firefighters are present. Two individuals are needed for the initial attack team with the second pair available to rescue the first team in case of emergency. On-duty, paid staff is able to respond to an alarm immediately and arrive at the scene more quickly than volunteers. However, the Department does not currently have enough paid personnel on any shift to send four firefighters from the station. Consequently, full operations often can not commence until additional firefighters arrive.

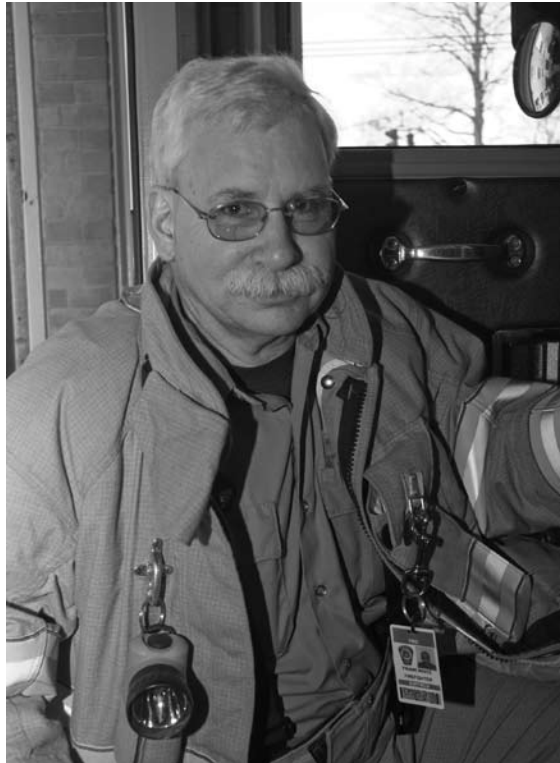
Typically off-duty, paid personnel – both fulltime and part-time – have arrived on scene to provide the additional resources needed on weekdays. However, the loss of part-time personnel has reduced the number of firefighters available to respond during those times when volunteers are in short supply. The addition of paid, fulltime staff was required to deal with this situation.

Hackenyos continued, "Despite the increase in salaried personnel, our volunteers are still a very essential part of our firefighting force! Serving as a volunteer firefighter is a very rewarding experience. In addition to working with a great group of people and helping to provide your neighbors with essential emergency services, there are numerous financial and non-monetary benefits including:

- property tax abatement;
- a training stipend for achieving and maintaining certifications;
- free periodic physical examinations;
- \$10.00 per call reimbursement;
- free training; and
- personal satisfaction from helping others in a time of need.

"Get involved in your community! Please contact Chief Bellmore for more information," concluded Chairman Hackenyos.

Frank White joined the Suffield Fire Department as a fulltime firefighter as the Department increased its fulltime staff to compensate for the limited availability of volunteers during the first shift on weekdays.



Police

"Although we have experienced a slight increase in crime this year which is consistent with national trends, I am pleased to report that Suffield still remains one of the safest communities in Connecticut. During this past year the men and women of this department handled over 19,756 calls for service.

"However, our achievements are not based on the quantitative volume of calls for service, but rather on the satisfaction of each and every member of our community," began Police Chief Michael Manzi in his report.

His report summarized crime, accidents, police programs and

a compilation of the outstanding efforts of the men and women who strive to meet the needs of the community on a daily basis.

The Suffield Police Department consists of 20 full-time police officers, seven supernumerary officers, four fulltime dispatchers, four part-time dispatchers, one administrative assistant, one animal control officer and one civilian employee.

In addition, Suffield is regionally involved with eight area police departments for emergency situations such as Accident Reconstructions, SWAT Team Responses, Hostage Negotiations and Dive Team Recoveries.

Manzi expressed gratitude to the Police Commission, the First Selectman's Office and to other town agencies for their contributions and continued support of policing efforts within the community.

He singled out Highway Foreman Mark Cervione and his crew, Director of Public Works Jack Muska and Facilities Manager John Cloonan for all their help over the last year.

Additionally Manzi noted the value of the mutual support and shared professional relationship between the Police Department and both the Suffield Fire Department and the Suffield Volunteer Ambulance Association.

Officers Justin Fuller and Justin Nelson were hired in March. Officer Fuller was a former major league pitcher with the Anaheim Angels, while Officer Nelson recently completed a lengthy military career. Following academy training and field officer training, each is expected to be fully ready by January 2009. In other personnel changes,

Manzi noted the retirement of Officer William Taylor and saluted him on behalf of the Department and the Police Commission for his 33 years of dedicated service.

Community service programs such as the Child Seat Belt applications, Rape Aggression Defense classes (RAD), Junk Car Removal Program and the Police Explorers Program continue to develop partnerships with individuals and groups within Suffield.

Officer Terrence Antrum serves as the Department's School Resource

"It is the mission of the Suffield Police Department to provide professional, high quality and effective police services through a policing philosophy that promotes community, government and police partnerships. With the cooperation of our community, we strive to provide excellent public service to our citizens, businesses and visitors of the Town of Suffield."



Officers Justin Nelson (left) and Justin Fuller (right) joined the Suffield Police Department in March 2008.

Officer and volunteers much of his time to advise the local Explorers Post.

The retirement of K9 "Phil" is anticipated within the next fiscal year. Officer Peter Osowiecki has taken on training a new K-9 "Z" and has already received certification.

At the end of FY 2006-07, Department representatives along with Suffield First Selectman and Emergency Management Director John Woods evaluated and selected the CodeRed emergency notification system. CodeRed will provide a high-volume, high-speed communication service for mass emergency notifications. CodeRed employs a one-of-a-kind Internet mapping system for geographic targeting of calls, coupled with a high speed telephone calling system capable of delivering pre-recorded emergency messages directly to homes and businesses at the rate of 60,000 calls per hour. Emergency broadcasts will be controlled via broadcasts are controlled via a secure Internet web site.

Police Highlights

- In August 2007, seventeen breaks occurred in the northeast section of Town. Officer Thomas Kieselback and Sergeant Thomas Van Tassel assumed the investigation and within several days, a sting operation netted the arrests of several teenagers out of Agawam, MA. During the arrest, a stolen off-duty policeman's handgun was recovered from one of the suspects.
- On August 30, the Suffield Town Hall building was burglarized. Detective Mark Sargent handled this lengthy investigation and was able to obtain an arrest warrant for two suspects out of Springfield, MA. These two suspects were responsible for over 30 town hall and church burglaries throughout New England.
- On November 13, Suffield police responded to an active burglary on East Street North. While in route, the suspect managed to flee into a wooded area. After an extensive two-hour search, Officers John Trovato, John Lacic, Terry Antrum, Detective Mark Sargent and Sergeant Rick Brown were able to locate and capture the suspect.

The suspect was an extremely large man with a violent criminal history. "The officer's commitment and determination with this incident was certainly praiseworthy," commented Manzi.

Chief Manzi concluded his report with a thank you to citizens of Suffield for their daily support.

"Together we can make a difference in our community. I cannot stress how important your feedback is to our department. We are always looking for new and innovative ways to develop our partnerships and to shape our department's approach to your concerns."

Police Department Statistics

	2006-07	2007-08
Calls for Service	19,669	19,756
Value of Property	\$109,652	\$124,698
Value Property Recovered	\$2,067	\$4,078
Criminal Arrests	274	282
Motor Vehicle Date:		
Summons Issued	366	432
Citations	2,065	1,853
Accidents	321	303
Fatal Accidents	0	3
DWI Arrests	63	64
Crime Data:		
Auto Theft	5	8
Value Loss	\$58,361	\$56,333
Value Recovered	\$54,082	\$38,634
Sexual Assaults	0	2
Robbery	2	0
Assaults (includes domestic)	150	88
Burglary	53	73
Larceny	95	98
Arson	0	0
Narcotics Arrests	36	54

Suffield Volunteer Ambulance Association

At the end of the first year in its new headquarters, Suffield Volunteer Ambulance Association (SVAA) continues to be grateful for the generosity of the people in this community who contributed to the construction of the new building and their support of the annual fund drive.

This larger, state-of-the-art facility offers more flexibility in training. In addition to Medical Response Technician (MRT) and Basic Response Technician (EMT-B) and Intermediate Response Technician (EMT-I) classes, the Association has been able to include police and fire personnel in incident management training. The training room is also available for Suffield civic group meetings.

A new computer-based system has replaced the manual ambulance run report. The standardized reports not only improve accuracy of reported information, but also facilitate the compilation of statistics to improve delivery of patient care.

The SVAA reported more than an average number of new members had been recruited this year.

The report specifically noted the recruitment efforts by Deputy Chief Lisa Shelanskas and Paramedics Marie Bliss and Todd Cushing. Currently there three active volunteer paramedics, and others are in training through the SVAA scholarship program.

Acting Chief Sonny Osowiecki encouraged prospective members, community leaders and those

interested in EMS to ride along with a crew during a shift. Check out the website at www.suffieldems.org or call Osowiecki at 668-3881.

"The SVAA is always looking for volunteers," he continued. "We can also have someone speak to your civic group about the different ways of volunteering with the SVAA."

This year the SVAA responded to over 1,400 calls, sometimes requiring the organization to field all three ambulances. In at least one instance, all three ambulances were on the street, staffed at the highest level: the paramedic level.

Building Department

The total value of all permitted construction for the FY 2007-08 was \$29,826,543. This total is slightly less than the previous year, showing that while national statistics have plummeted, Suffield's construction has remained steady.

Building Inspector Edward Flanders noted that there was a drop from 86 to 31 in the number of single-family construction starts, but this was offset by an increase in both commercial projects and residential additions/renovations during this fiscal year.

The Insurance Services Offices (ISO) evaluated the performance

of Suffield's effectiveness and commitment to enforcing the Building Codes. Suffield was graded substantially better than state or national averages for the administration of building codes, plan reviews and field inspections.

"Because insurers recognize that towns with well-enforced, up-to-date codes demonstrate better loss experience, their citizens' insurance rates will be lower," wrote Flanders in his year-end report.

The Building Department recognizes that the Town website is a tool being used more and more frequently by residents. The Department has a web-based, automated permitting system that will soon be available to the public. At year end only forms in a pdf format were available on the website.

Building Department Statistics

New Single Family Home Permits	31
New Commercial Buildings	1
Residential Renovations/Additions	189
Commercial Renovations/Additions	21
Total Permits	1,200
Inspections	2,867
Certificates of Occupancy	51
Certificates of Use	28

Total Value of all Construction	\$29,826,543
Fees Collected	\$37,096



The following pages have photos of Suffield schools ... past and present.

Above is McAlister Intermediate School, which opened in 1939 as Suffield's first high school. It was the first school to serve the entire community and not just a section of town. It was built during the tight budget times of the Great Depression to prepare youth for a changing world. Success of our school system would no longer be measured by how many 9th graders found employment, but in how many graduating seniors found employment or went on to further their education.

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) Chair Bruce Remington reported that the upgraded treatment plant was on line for this fiscal year. The WPCA operates and maintains this plant, 18 pumping stations, 64 miles of sewer lines and the Kent Farms community system.



The downsizing of the H. P. Hood plant caused a marked reduction in this past year's wastewater flow.

The annual report states that the plant continues to produce a high standard of effluent quality water, and the business office continues its successful effort to collect all delinquent accounts.

PUBLIC WORKS

Roofing Projects

Based on the roofing plan developed last year, the replacement of 53,000 sq. ft. at the Middle School will be completed in two phases.

Phase I began in June 2008 when school recessed. Phase II will begin in September 2008 with

Suffield schools traditionally have assumed new roles in the community as they become obsolete for schoolroom purposes. The one-room neighborhood schools (1) Copperhill School, (2) Sheldon Street School and (3) Spruce Street Rattlesnake School all now have been renovated and used as private homes. (4) West Suffield School was demolished two decades after its closing to make room for a new firehouse. (5) Bridge Street School is now vacant



the contractor working nights and weekends to avoid working around students when school is in session.

Bidding the project during the winter months provided very competitive bids from nine different companies. Funding of \$1.285 million was appropriated over two fiscal years; the total cost of both phases will be \$1.18 million.

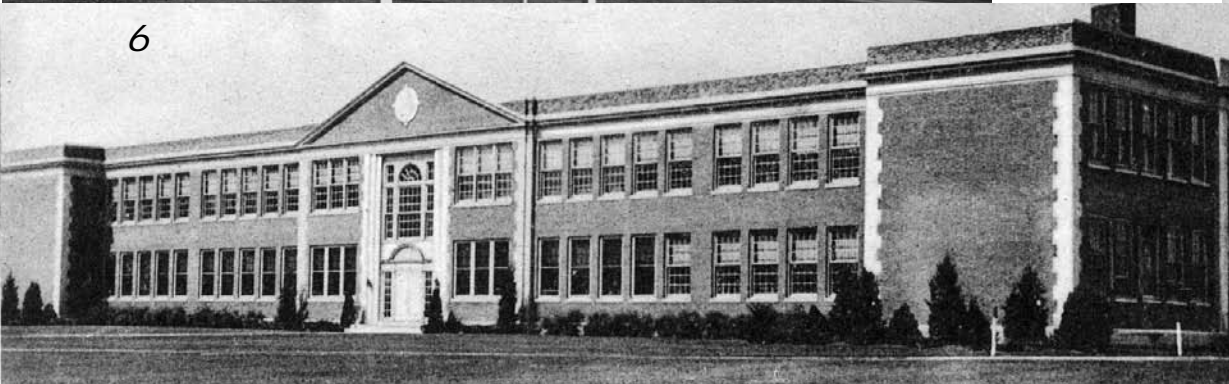
Building Maintenance

DPW Director John Muska has completed a Maintenance Plan for half of the 16 town-owned, non-school buildings. This plan focuses on HVAC, plumbing and electrical systems and site work. The heating system at the Bridge Street School has been identified as needing replacement. The cost of replacement has been included in ACCE budget requests.

The Inmate Program from the Willard/Cybulski Facility continued to provide significant cost savings this year. Inmates completed painting the front gymnasium at the Middle School, Spaulding School's second grade wing, and the upper half of the McAlister School Gymnasium. They also painted sections of both the Town Hall and Police Headquarters.

and its future use is being evaluated as this report is written.

(6) McAlister Intermediate built in 1939 as the first Suffield High School has been enlarged and renovated to house the Junior High, Middle School and now grades 3, 4 and 5. (7) First Center School became a youth and community center after its doors closed to school children. (8) Mapleton Avenue School, (9) North Street School and (10) Hill Street School are each now part of private homes.



LANDFILL STATISTICS

Waste Oil	3,215 gallons
Scrap Metal	230 tons
Newspaper, Mixed Paper & Cardboard	504 tons
Commingled Containers	35 tons
Auto Batteries	1 ton
Leaves	300 tons

Municipal Solid Waste taken to the C.R.R.A. Burn Plant

Residential Solid Waste	4,820 tons
Commercial & Municipal Waste	2,011 tons

Bulky Waste buried at the Landfill	896 tons
Tree stumps hauled for chipping	65 tons
Tires removed	1,050 tires
Freon-Containing Appliances	165 units
Propane tanks	101 units

Households receiving Curb Side Pickup	4,035
Households signed up for Transfer Station	200
Trash area add-on Stickers issued	771
Bulky Waste Pickup by Appointment	89
Fees collected for Bulky Waste Pickup	\$2,597
Christmas Tree Pickup	18 tons

April Hazardous Waste Collection Day

Households participating	152
Disposal Cost	\$7,866

Electrical code improvements and partial barn roof replacement were completed for the buildings at Sunrise Park.

Grounds and Road Maintenance

The Valley View, Sunny View, River View and Pleasant View roads project began in the Fall 2007 with the installation of additional roadside drainage. The pulverizing and repaving was completed in the Spring 2008.

In response to a Title IX Lawsuit concerning the High School softball field, the athletic field was re-graded and sod installed by the Highway Department crews. The DPW requested FY 2009-10 funding from ACCE for a sprinkler system for this same athletic field to complete the final component of the legal settlement.

The DPW installed a softball field at McAlister to meet the Parks and Recreation Department and

softball league needs. The Inmate Program was used to clear trees at Sullivan Field for a third soccer/lacrosse field. Final grading and seeding is planned for the upcoming fall with the surface ready for play by next spring. This project was fully funded by a State grant and administered by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

Landfill

The installation of the new higher capacity compactor was completed at the Landfill. This project included replacing the deteriorating retaining wall around the compactor, installing drainage and adding new fencing to meet OSHA requirements.

Fuss & O'Neill completed a plan to improve the drainage and redesign the entrance road at the Landfill. Since bids for the construction exceeded the funds available, construction has been delayed into FY 2009-10.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

The Social Services Commission works with and provides support for the Youth Services Director, the Minibus Coordinator, the Senior Center Director, and the Executive Director of the Emergency Aid Association to help coordinate services for their clients.

Emergency Aid Association

The memorandum of understanding between the Emergency Aid Association (EAA) and the Town of Suffield has been extended through June 30, 2012.

Incorporated in 1903, the EAA is a private, non-profit organization, providing health and social services that positively affect the well-being of Suffield residents during periods of family or personal need. Through this understanding, EAA has delivered social services to the residents of Suffield since 2003.

EAA Executive Director Janet Frechette led the EAA team in providing support through a number of programs to benefit Suffield residents:

- *Connecticut Energy Assistance Program:* EAA staff submitted 177 applications to the State of Connecticut to request money to assist with heating costs for low-income residents, resulting in \$66,003 in fuel aid to 147 eligible Suffield households.
- *Meals-On-Wheels:* Meals prepared at the Community Renewal Team kitchen in Hartford were delivered in Suffield five days a week. EAA volunteers distributed approximately 10,230 meals last year to an average of 25 homebound seniors a day.
- *Renter's Rebate Program:* EAA staff processed 79 applications and submitted claims for \$32,740 on behalf of eligible Suffield residents.
- *Friendly Visitor/Friendly Shopper Program:* EAA recruits volunteers to visit and/or grocery shop for homebound residents. This year 17 volunteers served as visitors and/or shoppers to 20 isolated and homebound residents.
- *Salvation Army:* Suffield and Windsor Locks are grouped together for purposes of the Salvation Army budget and service area. The two towns divide approximately \$6,000 a year with a significant portion being raised through the Kettle Drive.

Senior Center

Senior Center Director Paula Pascoe reported a continual increase in program participation. Now in its fifth year of operation at the Suffield Village, the Center is continually addressing the lack of space to accommodate its diverse programming.

To meet these growing demands, the Town entered into an agreement with the vestry of Calvary Episcopal Church

to purchase their complex on Bridge Street for a future Senior Center site. The Town then applied for a Small Cities CBDG Program Grant. It was not awarded to Suffield, but a decision to reapply at the next opportunity was made.

Olga Paganelli was hired this year as an administrative assistant. She comes with many years of executive assistant experience and quickly proved to be an invaluable asset, noted Director Pascoe.

The Center continues to strive to meet its mission to provide information, programs, and activities specifically designed to promote the health, independence, and well-being for seniors.

In addition to regularly scheduled events, free tax assistance through AARP's Tax Aide program. Trained volunteers offered counseling and tax preparation for low-to-middle income taxpayers with special attention given to those age 60 and older. This was the third successful year of this program at the Center.

Students from the UConn School of Pharmacy made a presentation on medication and some associated memory losses.

Youth Services

Under the guidance of Director Peter Black, the Suffield Youth Services Bureau provided a continuum of individual and group services for Suffield. There were 24 separate programs offered, ranging from a one-time training sessions to projects lasting the entire year. All programs were offered in collaboration with other Suffield Town and school departments with the

goal of emphasizing positive youth development by challenging individual growth.

The individual intervention services received 63 youth referrals. Forty-eight families participated in the offered counseling and personalized referral services.

Minibus

Director Denise Winiarski reported that a State of Connecticut Municipal Matching Grant allowed Suffield to continue its extended service to Suffield residents over 60 years of age and permanently disabled adults. Grant funds were allocated on the geographic area of towns, which gave Suffield \$31,585.

This funding helped support three handicapped-accessible minibuses, a car, one fulltime driver, four part-time drivers and a fulltime coordinator who is also scheduled to drive. The vehicles traveled 66,047 miles with 8,922 pick-ups for the year. Many passengers have more than one stop and need a return at the end of their appointment. Driver hours on the road totaled 5,092 hours for the year.

Transportation is provided daily to Adult Day Care programs in Enfield, the Allied Rehabilitation Center and Enfield Dialysis. The Minibus also provides service for Senior Center programs, medical and dental appointments, grocery shopping and hair appointments. Frequent stops at area banks, pharmacies, cleaners and the post office are part of a regular day.

Social Services Chair Ernie Petkovich concluded his report with a commendation of "Youth Services Director Black, EAA Executive Director

Frechette, Senior Center Director Pascoe and Minibus Coordinator Winiarski for their dedication and efforts on behalf of the Town of Suffield during a time where there has been a significantly increased need for the services provided by their agencies, especially in the areas supporting the needs of an aging population."

LIBRARY, PARKS AND RECREATION

Library

The Kent Memorial Library (KML) had a busy and productive year, serving 135,802 visitors. Circulation in almost every format is up from last year. Not only is the library being used for more meetings, but attendance at programs has also grown this year.

The library hosted a range of groups from Suffield Historical Society programs to condo association business meetings and Girl Scouts. KML programs included a film series, a life-coaching series, musical concerts, Spanish language instruction, "Times for Tots" and the successful Children's and Young Adult Summer Reading Program.

Altogether the Children's Department hosted 185 programs and saw attendance of 4,529. Its schedule included glass painting, the Polar Express, gingerbread house construction, pumpkin carving, an animal safari trip, and even a session on jokes!

The gallery was used to display the works of 11 local artists. "These showings always generate a great deal of interest and attract viewers



Kevin Pepka (left) from the staff at the Suffield Landfill and Ron Vidal (right) from the Department of Public Works installed forms for concrete in preparation for the arrival of the new compactor at the landfill.

LIBRARY STATISTICS

Patrons served	135,802
Meetings and Programs	524
Program attendance	5,419
Circulation	144,390



ABOVE: After many years as the West Suffield Grange Hall, the original school at West Suffield center is once again called Academy Hall and available for private and civic functions.

RIGHT: The pictures to the right are interior photographs of Bridge Street School just prior to its closing in 2004. The Town is now considering options for its reuse. The exterior is shown on page 14.

from many towns," wrote Library Director James McShane in his report.

The historical collection expanded this year to include three additional boxes of 17th- and 18th-century documents. It was also augmented by five large boxes of material from Verne Spear that he used in compiling his genealogy which traces through Suffield's history from the early settlement days.

At the other end of the evolution of the library system are website changes at www.suffield-library.org. One particular addition here is PREPME.com, an on-line SAT test preparation site. Slowly growing in popularity is the use of downloadable audio books. Interlibrary loan use rose dramatically with Suffield patrons requesting more than 1,000 items from other libraries and KML staff filling more than 1,200 requests from Suffield collections.

KML staff and Board of Trustee members worked closely with a building committee and an architect to design a new library building on the present site that would serve all the residents of Suffield and give the library room to grow. *[The proposal was defeated by referendum just after year end.]*

"The library combines traditional services with nascent available technologies in order to provide Suffield with the material and information it needs and the entertainment it demands. We look forward to serving the town of Suffield for years to come," concluded Director McShane.

Parks and Recreation

The Parks and Recreation Department (P&R) continues to strive to provide well-rounded programs that serve a wide cross section of the population.

Suffield youth benefit through a variety of activities offered by the P&R. Numerous programs focus on introductions to a new sport, craft or academic skill that participants can pursue throughout their lives. Sports continue to be the most popular past-time for children. Fall soccer and winter basketball lead in attendance. Soccer has become a family event with parents volunteering their time to coach, while siblings and other family members cheer on from the sidelines.

After four years of irregular hours and periodic closings, the skate park gates were opened this spring seven days a week for youth to come and go and skate as they please. The participants have been enjoying this type of freedom at the park.

The P&R Commission continued to take an active role in the community by reaching out to residents and evaluating programs and services. Based on parent feedback, changes were implemented to the popular youth basketball program. Ballet, modern dance, pre-school activities, pottery, nature and theater were among popular, new programs introduced this year.

The partnership between the Town and the Citizens Restoring Congamond (CRC) progresses with many improvements and renovations at the roller rink. In an effort to develop a comprehensive plan for the entire Babb's recreational area, the Commission requested funds for a professional design with architectural and site planning elements. Funding for the design is on hold, and the beach area remains closed. The intention of the Commission remains to improve the beach and construct a bath house and community structure.

The Town's park inventory expanded this year with two athletic fields at the Stratton Farms development location in West Suffield. The DPW constructed a new sand volleyball court at the Family Recreation Complex. The existing lights flow onto the volleyball courts allowing for night play at this popular new venue. The DPW also cleared trees and shrubs on the north side of Sullivan Field to open up land for athletic field expansions.

Volunteers continue to spearhead efforts along the Windsor Locks Canal Park Trail. Project funding was secured through a three-year grant from the Connecticut DEP. This year, tools and equipment for general maintenance were purchased and a number of attractive bushes were planted.

The Department received an \$8,000 Amiel P. Zak Grant for improvements to the Family Recreation Complex. This project, which includes a drinking fountain, sidewalk, landscaping and privacy screening, will begin in the late summer of 2008.

In their joint report, P&R Department and Commission noted special thanks to the Travel Soccer Club, The First National Bank of Suffield and other private donors. Similarly they thanked the numerous volunteer parents whose assistance remains an integral part of the growth and success of programs for youth. "These donations are greatly appreciated as our department budget is less than 1% of the Town budget and donations enhance the programs and services that we provide to the community ... The Commission and staff are extremely grateful to the many dedicated volunteers who share their time and talent," concluded Director Wendy LaMontagne.

GRAND LIST

	2006 GRAND LIST		2007 GRAND LIST	
	Number of Accounts	Net Assessments	Number of Accounts	Net Assessments
Motor Vehicles	13,721	96,185,850	13,847	101,004,882
Personal Property	647	49,732,568	653	43,696,741
Real Estate	5,960	963,970,543	5,968	980,776,332
TOTALS		\$ 1,109,888,961		1,125,477,955

2007-2008 TAX COLLECTIONS

	Total Tax Due	Total Tax Paid	Interest and Liens	Rebates	Transfer to Suspense	Uncollected
Current Year	29,554,270	29,225,385	99,685	19,855		348,741
Prior Years	497,897	317,741	69,742	19,186	33,150	166,281
	\$ 30,052,257	\$ 29,543,126	\$ 169,427	\$ 39,041	\$ 33,150	\$ 515,022

OUTSTANDING DEBT

For Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Notes	0	0	0	0
Bonds	30,462,335	26,806,049	24,252,544	20,128,691
TOTALS	\$ 30,462,335	\$ 26,806,049	\$ 24,252,544	20,128,691

DEBT SRVICE AS A PORTION OF TOTAL EXPENDITURES

For Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total Expenditures	35,477,427	37,128,266	39,742,063	42,506,695
Debt Service	4,308,133	4,985,461	3,226,909	3,142,126
Percentage	12.14%	13.43%	8.12%	7.39%



**Advisory Commission
on Capital Expenditures
ACCE)
FY 2007-08
MAJOR PROJECTS**

● Pavement Management Plan	\$400,000
● Middle School Roof Repair	\$660,000
● Town Hall Upgrades	\$115,251
● Open Space Funding	\$500,000

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENTS

Assessor

This year Suffield's Grand List increased by \$15,588,994. The town's grand list defines the total amount of taxable real estate, personal property, and motor vehicles. Distribution of the Assessments is Residential 92.0%, Commercial 4.2% and Industrial 3.8%. This increase of 1.4% is a reflection of today's market and results in an increase of \$425,579 tax dollars.

The Assessor's Office is responsible for the appraisal and assessment of all real estate, personal property, and motor vehicles within the town. The office keeps track of all sales within the town and follows market trends and construction costs. The Assessor's entire database is available at www.visionappraisal.com. This allows access to the assessment and sales information along with building data, total acreage and even the photo. Assessor Frances Keenan reminds residents of the value of this information when planning to buy or sell real estate in Suffield.

By Connecticut State Law, the Town of Suffield is required to revalue all real estate within the town as of October 2008. This revaluation is a complete physical revaluation. The data collection and market analysis is necessary to equalize the property values of all properties within the town for the purpose of a fair distribution of the tax burden. Once all the data is collected and reviewed for accuracy, the appraisers determine land values and set neighborhood site indexes

that rate the desirability of locations throughout the town. Valuation is done using three recognized methods: replacement cost, income approach and market value.

Over the past four years, real estate market values increased at a rapid pace. They are presently leveling out. Suffield is one of six towns in the State of Connecticut where values are not decreasing as rapidly as other Connecticut towns.

The Assessor's Office processed and approved 142 applications for elderly or disabled tax relief. State reimbursement totaled \$86,389. Additional Veteran's Exemptions shared by 77 veterans and/or their spouses were also processed. This brought an additional \$10,044 in State grants for reimbursement.

Tax Collector

The Tax Collector's office is responsible for the collection of real estate, personal property and motor vehicle taxes as well as prior year's taxes, sewer assessments, special assessments, sewer use and trash service fees. These responsibilities are all governed by the Connecticut General Statutes. The collection rate for the FY2007-08 was 98.8%.

During this fiscal year, technology upgrades in the Tax Collector's office were a priority. To remain efficient, our Admin Software programs were upgraded prior to July 1. In addition a new Quality Data software program was installed prior to April 1.

In the effort to collect back motor vehicle taxes and delinquent trash service accounts, the office utilized the services of the American National Recovery Group located in Nyack NY.

July tax payments were once again processed by Citizens Bank's Lockbox which allows the processing and check depositing in a timely fashion.

On July 20, the office sold Lot 40 and 41 on Ratley Road from the estate of Philip McGourn and Lot 11 Mountain Road from the estate of John Barnett at public auction for delinquent taxes.

On August 29, the Tax Collector's office was burglarized and ransacked in addition to other offices within the Town Hall. Numerous repairs had to be made. A new safe was purchased which is now securely bolted in place. Ultimately the suspects were apprehended and arrested in New Hampshire.

In her report, Tax Collector Christina Lucia thanked June Markowski and Robin Lutwinas for their dedication and hard work during another successful tax year. She also reminded residents in these trying economic times that her office strives to work for and with residents in meeting their tax obligations.

Finance Department

The Town purchased new financial management software to be used by the Town, Board of Education and Water Pollution Control Authority. This new system will be implemented beginning July 1, 2008.

To be ready at the beginning of the new fiscal year much was accomplished during the past year. The new program was added to the computers in the Town offices, school offices and WPCA. A new chart of accounts was completed.

While still processing and working with the old system, the intricacies of new system had to be mastered.

"This is a tremendous project and one that is not tackled lightly," reported Finance Director Deborah Cerrato. "This new program will give the end users more access to their financial information. I want to thank all the departments for their cooperation in this process and especially the Information Technology [IT] Department, without their assistance this project could not have been completed. I also want to thank the employees in the Town, Board of Education, and WPCA that were involved in the training for all their help in getting this program operational on time."

In addition to this system a new Tax Assessment, Utility Billing and Collection program was purchased as well. IT was also involved with that implementation.

Justin Donnelly was appointed Chair of the Board of Finance, a position vacated by Charlie Watras. Longtime Treasurer and a former Board of Finance Chair, Blair Childs, decided not to run for re-election. Cerrato thanked Childs for his many years of service to the Town.

Christine Davidson was elected Treasurer in November. Davidson has been working with the Boards of Finance and the Board of Selectmen to adopt a Cash and Deposit Policy and an Investment Policy.

The Board of Finance worked with the Board of Selectmen and Board of Education to present a budget to the public that would maintain services at an appropriate level.

Each year, this process begins in February and continues until the budget is passed. The Advisory Commission on Capital Expenditures (ACCE) reviews all of the requests for capital projects, prioritizes them and makes their recommendation to the Board of Finance for inclusion in the budget. The Annual Town Meeting on the budget is held by the second Wednesday in May with a Public Hearing held two weeks prior to that. Cerrato reminded residents that all are welcome to attend any of these meetings.

The town ended the year with revenues received \$1,675 in excess of budget. The Board of Finance is including \$1,200 from this amount as revenue in the FY 2008-09 budget. The primary sources included:

• Property Tax, Interest and Lien Fees	\$430,000
• Interest Income	\$121,000
• Intergovernmental Revenues	\$1,089,000

The Finance Director also reported \$245,000 of unspent budgeted appropriations. The undesignated fund balance at the end of the year is \$8,129,435 which is 16.8% of the FY 2008-09 budget of \$48,431,752.

Cerrato concluded her report with a thank you all who assisted her during the past year and named Christine Mills and Janell Wray, specifically.

ACCE

An outline of major 2007-08 projects funded through the Advisory Commission on Capital Expenditures (ACCE) is shown in the far left column.

FY 2008-09 projects approved by ACCE total \$2,600,860 and are shown in the far right column.

Auditors'

Recommendations

During the annual audit of the Town of Suffield by Blum, Shapiro & Company, P.C., it was noted that advanced tax collections were held and not deposited until the next budget year. Auditors recommended daily deposits of cash, with records in the general ledger to indicate these items as deferred revenue. They also noted that budgetary transfers approved by the Board of Finance need to be posted within the general ledger to properly account for appropriations made throughout the year.

Auditors recommended that the WPCA prepare purchase orders to verify the availability of funds and approval of purchases prior to ordering goods or services.

The Blum Shapiro report further recommended that the Board of Education take full responsibility for calculating the deferred revenue and intergovernmental receivable by grant, and that those accounts be established in the general ledger to account for revenues by grant. They also suggested that student activity funds remain separate from other governmental funds and that the Board reviews its internal policies related to student activity expenditures and communicate those policies to appropriate staff.

The report reiterated its FY 2006-07 advice to improve the reimbursement request process for school building construction. Active filing of the reimbursement requests would improve cash flow, improve investing opportunities and reduce temporary borrowings from the General Fund, which amount to \$4.6 million at June 30, 2008.

Advisory Commission on Capital Expenditures (ACCE)

FY 2008-09 PROJECTS

• Municipal Finance Software	\$150,000
• Additional Landfill Improvements	\$40,000
• Pavement Management	\$700,000
• Open Space	\$400,000
• Public Works vehicles & equipment	\$137,000
• Technology	\$20,000
• Fire Apparatus Replacement Fund	\$150,000
• Reconstruct Outdoor Basketball Courts	\$61,860
• Police Department equipment upgrades	\$27,000
• Boiler & Tank Replacement at the Middle School	\$220,000

Revenues



In early May, the DPW crews brought in topsoil for the decorative planting beds as the Mountain Road Marketplace, Mountain Road and Ffyer Place intersection changes neared completion.

	Adjusted Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Property Taxes			
Current list	28,734,985	28,926,189	191,204
Supplemental Motor Vehicle tax	300,000	306,257	6,257
Interest & Fees	65,000	171,344	106,344
Prior years	125,000	251,518	126,518
	\$ 29,224,985	\$ 29,655,308	\$ 430,323
Licenses, Permits & Fines			
Building Dept.	315,000	296,784	(17,216)
Zoning & Planning	25,000	48,697	23,697
Zoning Board of Appeals	3,360	3,410	50
Police Permits	3,000	3,810	810
Conservation	15,000	8,184	(6,816)
Historic District Fees	800	300	(500)
	\$ 362,160	\$ 362,185	\$ 25
Revenue from Use of Money & Property	\$ 500,000	\$ 620,581	\$ 120,581
Revenues from Other Agencies			
Telecommunications grant	45,000	52,550	7,550
Hood Share Secondary Treatment Plant	228,000	227,092	(908)
	\$ 273,000	\$ 279,642	6,642
State Grants			
PILOT, State Property (Payment in Lieu of Taxes)	2,564,798	2,805,987	241,189
Mashantucket Pequot	1,825,340	2,581,771	756,431
PILOT, Vessels (Payment in Lieu of Taxes)	5,656	5,656	0
PILOT, Mfg. Equipment (Payment in Lieu of Taxes)	75,000	38,214	(36,786)
PILOT, Disabled Tax Relief (Payment in Lieu of Taxes)	900	1,082	182
Veterans Exemption	9,000	9,265	265
Elderly Tax Relief	79,000	79,455	455
Property Tax Relief	8,000	8,000	0
Bridge Grant	0	34,500	34,500
LOCIP Reimb. (Local Capital Improvement Program)	89,811	0	(89,811)
Youth Services	14,000	14,000	0
Miscellaneous	31,585	42,390	10,805
Town Aid Road	103,911	142,287	38,376
	\$ 4,807,001	\$ 5,762,607	\$ 955,606
Federal Grants	\$ 16,923	\$ 10,000	(\$ 6,923)
Education Related Revenues			
Tuition, Vo-ag	728,000	757,012	29,012
Tuition, Other	100,000	140,211	40,211
Education Cost Sharing	5,838,664	5,855,748	17,084
Vo-Ag Grant	112,000	233,695	121,695
Other Educational Grants	7,427	16,908	9,481
Pupil Transportation	222,642	215,109	(7,533)
Misc. School Income	0	3,830	3,830
	\$ 7,008,733	\$ 7,222,513	\$ 213,780

	Adjusted Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Charges for Current Services			
Assessor's Map Sales	1,000	1,321	321
Bulky Waste	1,500	2,040	540
Real Estate Conveyance Tax	200,000	197,355	(2,645)
Social Service, Mini-Bus	4,000	4,770	770
Police Alarm Fees	2,500	1,350	(1,150)
Town Clerk Historic Document Fees	3,500	2,826	(674)
Town Clerk Recording Fees	174,000	112,201	(61,799)
	\$ 386,500	\$ 321,863	(\$ 64,637)
Landfill			
Landfill Operation	50,000	59,390	9,390
Landfill Residential Permits	684,080	678,591	(5,469)
Sale of Scrap Metal	20,000	27,365	7,365
Permits	16,000	14,940	(1,060)
	\$ 770,080	\$ 780,286	\$ 10,206
Recreation			
Recreation Summer Programs	43,545	35,434	(8,111)
Recreation Activity	81,800	88,864	7,064
	\$ 125,345	\$ 124,359	(\$ 1,047)
Miscellaneous			
Miscellaneous Town Income	385,000	364,522	(20,478)
Cell Tower	50,000	61,492	11,492
Resource Officer	30,000	32,000	2,000
Rental of Town Property	64,000	61,976	(2,024)
	\$ 529,000	\$ 519,990	(\$9,010)
Transfers In			
Capital Projects Fund	265,000	265,000	0
Sewer Assessment Payments	265,409	279,644	14,235
	\$ 530,409	\$ 544,644	\$ 14,235
TOTAL ALL REVENUES	\$ 44,534,136	\$ 46,203,917	\$ 1,669,781

5-YEAR REVENUE SUMMARY	Actual 2003-04	Actual 2004-05	Actual 2005-06	Actual 2006-07	Actual 2007-08	Budget 2008-09
Property Taxes	23,489,380	24,313,695	25,909,809	27,703,347	29,655,308	30,448,056
Licenses, Permits & Fines	368,092	342,570	349,590	360,980	362,185	360,160
Revenues from Use of Money & Property	136,134	262,103	488,138	718,743	620,581	450,000
Revenues from Other Agencies	329,282	317,565	286,973	278,968	279,642	269,000
State Grants	3,931,460	4,613,604	4,691,685	5,903,187	5,762,607	6,089,037
Federal Grants	37,247	43,144	41,067	185,639	10,000	0
Education Related Revenue	4,733,755	5,349,810	5,736,571	5,735,240	7,218,683	7,359,381
Charges for Current Services	414,884	379,972	409,591	358,972	321,863	327,000
Landfill	757,804	779,546	774,846	759,893	780,286	977,916
Recreation	98,135	110,956	123,770	124,359	124,298	126,195
Miscellaneous	286,279	432,246	234,858	192,229	491,820	554,375
Transfers in	492,900	570,900	809,300	527,350	576,644	270,632
Short Term Borrowing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fund Balance	0	0	0	0	0	1,200,000
	\$ 35,075,352	\$ 37,516,111	\$ 39,856,198	\$ 42,848,907	\$ 46,203,917	48,431,752

Expenditures

	Adjusted Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Administrative			
Selectmen	206,558	204,997	1,561
Human Resources	75,724	75,723	1
Probate Court	5,045	4,917	128
Election	36,462	35,969	493
Board of Finance	13,108	11,977	1,131
Assessor	327,065	323,777	3,288
Board of Assessment Appeals	1,404	266	1,138
Tax Collector	145,569	142,765	2,804
Tax Rebates	26,496	26,496	0
Finance	252,590	243,870	8,720
Information Technology	279,293	275,279	4,014
Town Counsel	40,554	40,554	0
Town Clerk	178,686	168,533	10,153
Town Hall	169,097	169,096	1
Insurance & Benefits	2,103,661	2,103,660	1
	\$ 3,861,312	\$ 3,827,897	\$ 33,433
Planning & Development			
Zoning & Planning	204,908	203,396	1,512
Zoning Board of Appeals	5,226	4,922	304
Economic Development	147,659	143,021	4,638
Historic District Commission	1,685	441	1,244
Conservation Commission	38,436	32,722	5,714
	\$ 397,914	\$ 384,502	\$ 13,412
Public Safety			
Fire	715,822	715,735	87
Police	2,022,969	2,022,804	165
Civil Preparedness	13,693	13,600	93
Building Department	191,868	189,546	2,322
Town Engineer	106,939	102,457	4,482
Animal Control	90,134	90,134	0
	\$ 3,141,425	\$ 3,134,276	\$ 7,149
Public Works			
Public Works	451,814	439,388	12,426
Highways	1,102,962	1,091,736	11,226
State Aid Road	106,608	106,608	0
Public Utilities	461,641	439,656	21,985
Landfill	867,626	796,661	70,965
	\$ 2,990,651	\$ 2,874,049	\$ 116,602
Health & Social Services			
Health & Social Services	111,634	108,606	3,028
Social Services Commission	1,860	1,299	561
Senior Center	112,777	112,228	549
Minibus	170,375	170,374	1
EMS / SVAA	180,251	180,251	0
Social Worker	47,600	47,600	0
	\$ 624,497	\$ 620,358	\$ 4,139

	Adjusted Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Library, Parks & Recreation			
Library	426,433	426,433	0
Recreation	229,028	227,636	1,392
Recreation Activity	110,443	89,025	21,418
Youth Services	60,656	55,977	4,679
Tree Warden	7,000	6,215	785
	\$ 833,560	\$ 805,286	\$ 28,274
Other			
Capital Expenditures	2,236,251	2,236,251	0
Cemeteries	30,000	30,000	0
Contingencies	40,700	0	40,700
Transfer to Gas/Diesel Fund	113,244	113,244	0
Transfer to OPEB (other post employment benefits)	450,000	450,000	0
	\$ 2,870,195	\$ 2,829,495	\$ 40,700
Debt Service	\$ 3,074,000	\$ 3,074,000	\$ 0
Board of Education	\$ 27,590,582	\$ 27,588,830	\$ 1,752
TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES	\$ 45,384,136	\$ 45,138,675	\$ 245,461

5-YEAR EXPENDITURE SUMMARY	Actual 2003-04	Actual 2004-05	Actual 2005-06	Actual 2006-07	Actual 2007-08	Budget 2008-09
Administrative	2,787,890	2,892,451	3,117,870	3,286,353	3,827,879	3,945,716
Planning & Development	330,863	347,167	339,173	321,266	384,502	387,037
Public Safety	2,312,516	2,435,919	2,637,887	2,815,791	3,134,276	3,401,801
Public Works	2,484,142	2,560,801	2,651,985	2,884,945	2,874,049	3,273,245
Health & Social Services	499,060	527,947	557,037	607,825	620,358	702,359
Library, Parks & Recreation	678,895	696,898	737,497	798,243	805,286	925,528
Other	1,686,403	494,254	2,785,500	3,124,297	2,829,495	3,409,860
Debt Service	4,308,133	4,985,461	3,226,909	3,142,126	3,074,000	3,005,874
Board of Education	20,389,525	22,187,368	23,688,205	25,525,849	27,588,830	29,380,332
	\$ 35,477,427	\$ 37,128,266	\$ 39,742,063	\$ 42,506,695	\$ 45,138,675	\$ 48,431,752
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	(402,075)	387,845	114,135	342,212	1,065,242	
Adjustments for Budget to GAAP Reporting	175,430	(485,684)	(1,221,859)	(12,804)	(3,426)	
Total Fund Balance (GAAP)	9,181,290	9,083,451	7,975,727	8,305,135	9,366,951	
Designated Fund Balance (GAAP)	2,466,961	1,531,277	1,059,418	896,754	1,237,516	
Undesignated Fund Balance (GAAP)	6,714,329	7,552,174	6,916,309	7,408,381	8,129,435	
Undesignated Fund Balance as % of Total Expenditures (GAAP)	18.9%	20.3%	17.4%	17.4%	18.0%	

GAAP - Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

TOWN OFFICIALS

ADMINISTRATION

Selectmen

Scott R. Lingenfelter, First Selectmen
Brian Fitzgerald
Timothy J. Reynolds
John G. Smith, IV
Victoria Spellman

Assessor

Frances Keenan

Town Clerk

Elaine C. O'Brien

Treasurer

Christine Davidson

Tax Collector

Christine A. Lucia

Town Counsel

Edward G. McAnaney

Judge of Probate

Edward G. McAnaney

Technology Committee

Ernest J. Begin
Thomas W. Frenaye
Samuel E. Johnston, Jr.
Steven C. McKeen
Henry E. Morelli, Jr.
Timothy M. O'Connor
Deborah Howe, Director

Registrars

Darlene Burrell
Lynn Fahey Joyal

Town Historian

Lester Smith

Ethics Commission

Arthur G. Mandirola, Chair
George R. Dalrymple, Jr.
Kathryn T. Leis
Phyllis Ryan
Ellen S. Taylor-Stearns
Carol B. Martin, Alt.

Board of Assessment Appeals

George J. Roebelen, Jr., Chair
Christopher W. Burke
James R. Woods

CATV Advisory Commission

Alexander J. Fraser, Chair
Nelson A. LaMonica
Michael K. Voisine

Charter Revision Commission

Rodney Dillman
Bobbie C. Kling
John P. Murphy
Elaine O'Brien
Ernest J. Petkovich
Eric B. Remington
Thomas J. Sheridan, Jr.
Douglas H. Viets

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Town Planner

William Hawkins

Conservation Commission

Arthur P. Christian, Chair
Glenn A. Neilson, Vice Chair
Barbara F. Chain
Thomas J. Heffernan
John M. Leahey
Robert R. Roberts
Raymond R. Wilcox
Keith E. Golembiewski, Alt.
Andrew Krar, Alt.
Thomas Drakely, Park Supt.

Town Forest Commission

Abigail F. Wolcott, Chair
Arthur M. Sikes

Economic Development Commission

Howard W. Orr, Jr., Chair
Charles T. Alfano, Jr.
Russell T. Cobb
Susan M. Thorner
Roger F. Tracy
Brian R. Banak, Alt.
Lynda G. Montefusco, Alt.
Patrick J. McMahon, Director

Zoning & Planning Commission

Frank E. Bauchiero, Jr., Chair
Chester A. Kuras, Vice Chair
John J. Conley, Jr.
John P. O'Malley
Francis Ravenola
Robert G. Vincent
Jeffrey B. Carboneau, Alt.
Charles P. Sheehan, Alt.
Mark D. Winne, Alt.

Zoning Board of Appeals

William Edward Arendt, Chair
Susan A. Hastings
Mark David O'Hara
Christine Rago
William F. Somerville, III
David E. Blackaby, Alt.
Matthew J. Hoberman, Alt.

Permanent Building Committee

Joesph J. Sangiovanni, Chair
Glenn Neilson, Vice Chair
Laurie Foster
Kevin W. Goff
Mark O'Hara
Eugene Torone, Jr.

Historic District Commission

William S. Moncrief, Chair
Gilbert P. Ahrens, Secretary
Milton M. Edmonds, Jr.
Margery C. Warren
Thomas R. Deupree, Alt.
Douglas Mayne, Alt.

Helena Bailey Spencer Tree and Val Gallivan Fund Committee

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Elaine Frasco, Secretary
Dale A. Baker
Christine Davidson
Warren C. Packard
Agnes M. Schulte
Horace T. Sikes
Elizabeth A. Stanley
Judith Edwards, Garden Club, Pres.
Scott R. Lingenfelter, First Selectman
Edward (Ron) Vidal, Tree Warden

Heritage Committee

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Janet M. Banks
Arnold S. Magid
Chester A. Kuras
William S. Moncrief
Joseph J. Quinn, Jr.
Raymond R. Wilcox
Mark D. Winne

Zoning Enforcement Officer

James R. Taylor

Town Engineer

Gerald J. Turbet

Connecticut River Assembly

Barbara F. Chain
Kevin M. Banak, Alt.

North Central Tourism Bureau

William E. Wood

EDUCATION

Board of Education

Michael J. Smith, Chair
David P. Beltramello
Susan Miller Clark
Robert W. Eccles
Lauren K. Life
Lori A. D'Ostuni
Robert A. Parks, Jr.
Mary K. Roy
Mary Ellen Tunskey
John F. Reynolds, Superintendent

PUBLIC SAFETY

Fire Commission

Frederick E. Hackenyos, Chair
Gerald R. Bland
Richard Gemme
Richard P. Leach
Robert F. Quagliaroli
Herbert K. Smith, Jr.
Thomas L. Bellmore, Fire Chief

Police Commission

Donald W. Miner, Chair
Peter Hill
Matthew Joyal
Joseph J. Quinn, Jr.
Linda Carol Stevenson
John H. Zavisza, Jr.
Michael Manzi, Police Chief

Suffield Volunteer Ambulance Association

Sonny Osowiecki,
Acting Chief

Alarm Review Board

Thomas L. Bellmore, Fire Chief
Michael Manzi, Police Chief

Animal Control Officer

Angelo DiMauro

Capitol Region Emergency Planning Committee Representatives

Arthur J. Boehm
Arthur P. Christian
Zygmunt F. Dembek
Sonny Osowecki
Stephen Sorrow
John Woods
Fred Ranck, Praxair
Chuck Weatherbee, HPHood
Thomas L. Bellmore, Fire Chief
Michael Manzi, Police Chief
John Muska,
Public Works Director
William Blitz, NCDHD
Scott R. Lingenfelter,
First Selectman

Building Inspector

Edward F. Flanders

Building Code Board of Appeals

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Kevin W. Goff
Joseph J. Sangiovanni
Eugene Torone, Jr.
Neilson A. LaMonica, Alt.

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Commission

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Louis Guy Boccasile, Vice Chair
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William W. Murty
George B. Rodgers
Anthony J. Roncaioli
John Muska, Director
John Cloonan, Facilities Manager
Mark Cervione, Highway Foreman

Public Works Appeals Board

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Scott R. Lingenfelter
Thomas J. Sheridan, Jr.

Water Pollution Control Authority

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Brendan M. Begley
John S. Gifford, III
Donald G. Leis, Jr.
Wallace Goodwin Rodger
William J. Steinka
Bernie Gooch, Supt.
Julie Nigro, Business Manager

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Social Services Commission

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Ruth E. Clark
Shirley Edmonds-VanAllen
Linda J. Formanek
Sarah M. Leahey
David Reed-Brown
Faith Roebelen

Municipal Agent for the Elderly

Patricia Beeman

Youth Services

Peter Black, Director

Housing Authority

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Anne J. Taylor, Treasurer
Jennie C. Gogulski
Kathleen Remington
Mary E. Steinka
Debra S. Krut
Executive Director

North Central District Board of Health

Audrey J. Kuras-Cushing
Zygmunt F. Dembek

LIBRARY, PARKS & RECREATION

Library Commission

Robert W. White, Chair
Tracy T. Eccles, Vice Chair
John Garber, Secretary
Thomas R. Burton, Treasurer
Michael Alexopoulos
Melvin M. Chafetz
Muriel P. Coatti
Caroline M. Kearins-Martin
Jeanne Long
Howard Starr
Ruth E. Zimmerman
James McShane, Director

Parks & Recreation

Louis J. Casinghino, Chair
Joseph B. Bombard
Leeayn F. G. Burke
Gerald B. Crane
Michael J. Roccanti
Robert Ravens-Seger
Jane B. Smith
Stephen S. Tobey
William J. Clark, Jr., Alt.
Wendy LaMontagne, Director

FINANCE

Board of Finance

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Dennis A. Kreps
Joseph Sangiovanni
Joanne M. Sullivan
David R. Tagliavini
James W. Lennon, Alt.
Thomas Frenaye, Alt.
Deborah J. Cerrato, Director

Advisory Commission on Capital Expenditures (ACCE)

Craig Horrigan, Chair
George A. Colli, IV
Thomas W. Frenaye
Eric J. Harrington
Raye Mandirola
Marilyn M. Conley, Alt.

Retirement Commission

Matthew P. Falkowski, Chair
Christine Davidson
Eric B. Remington
Joanne M. Sullivan
Scott R. Lingenfelter,
First Selectman
Daniel Sheridan, ad hoc



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