

TOWN OF VERNON

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Vernon's Finance Department Recognized for Excellence in Financial Reporting for 32nd Straight Year

VERNON, Connecticut – The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada has awarded the Town of Vernon its Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. It is the 32nd straight year Vernon has received such recognition.

Vernon Mayor Dan Champagne said the award is continuing evidence of Vernon's commitment to transparency and to carefully managing taxpayers' money.

"The public rightly expects government to be open and accountable," Mayor Champagne said. "Central to that is ensuring the town's financial reports are in order and accessible to all who want to review them."

The town's annual comprehensive financial report, prepared by the town's Finance Department for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, was judged by an impartial panel to meet the program's high standards, which include demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure," clearly communicating the town's financial story and motivating people to read the report.

"This significant achievement demonstrates the town's ongoing commitment to full disclosure and accountability to the public," Vernon Finance Officer and Treasurer Jeffrey O'Neill said. "Meeting the high standards set by GFOA is increasingly difficult each year and the award is the result of the hard work and effort of the financial teams from the town and Vernon Public Schools. I would like to recognize and thank our town controller, Frank Zitkus, for his tireless efforts in ensuring completeness and accuracy of financial reporting."

Town Administrator Michael Purcaro said O'Neill and the Finance Department play a central role in the daily operation of the town by carefully managing revenue and expenditures and guiding how tax dollars are best used.

"These annual financial reports are just part of what our town and school finance departments do for the Town of Vernon," Purcaro said. "It is our duty to be transparent and responsible in using taxpayer dollars. Our finance teams ensure that happens."

About the Town of Vernon

The Town of Vernon is a celebrated place to live, work and visit. From its beautiful parks and lakes, to its vast trails and historic homes and buildings, Vernon is a resilient and thriving community that promotes the health and wellbeing of its residents and values the natural environment. With a resident population of more than 30,000 and occupying 18.03 square miles, Vernon combines a balanced appreciation of history, and a strong economic base for growth, both residential and commercial. Located 15 minutes east of the Connecticut capital of Hartford, and 25 miles from the City of Springfield, Massachusetts, the Town of Vernon is strategically located in “New England's Knowledge Corridor” with close proximity to some of the top colleges and universities in the country.

Designated a certified Sustainable Community, the Town of Vernon offers a wide range of benefits and services to its residents. The Town of Vernon is a full-service municipality that practices a management philosophy of continuous quality improvement. To learn more about the Town of Vernon, please call (860) 870-3670 or visit www.vernon-ct.gov.