

BETHANY BULLETIN

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May 2024

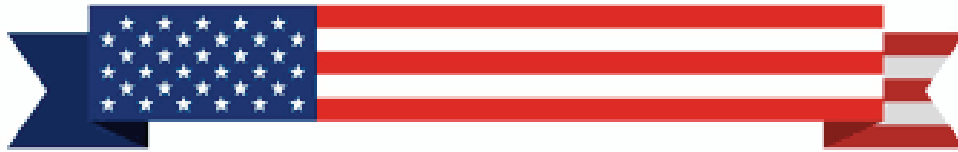
BUDGET EDITION

FY25 BUDGET INFORMATION ENCLOSED

Town Hall, Public Works, and Park & Rec will be **CLOSED**

Monday, May 27th in observance of the Memorial Day Holiday.

No Trash pick up Monday, May 27th and delayed 1 day for the remainder of the week.



Mark Your Calendars!

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING: Monday, May 20th @ 7PM in the Bethany Community School Gym

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE: Monday, May 27th @ 10AM

From the First Selectman's Desk April Highlights and May Updates

Dear Bethany Residents,

Welcome Spring, finally! It's a good thing we enjoy the four seasons in New England, because we certainly had our fair share of fluctuating weather patterns during March and April. It snowed on April 4th and then, of course, we had a little rattling and shaking on Friday, April 5th from the earthquake whose epicenter was in New Jersey. And let's not forget the eclipse on Monday, April 8th.

Early voting in Connecticut happened March 26th, 27th, 28th and 30th from 10:00a.m. to 6:00p.m. each day for the Presidential Preference Primary (PPP). The actual PPP was held on Tuesday, April 2nd. RESULTS: A total of 78 people voted early – 24 Republicans and 54 Democrats. A grand total (including absentee, early and in-person votes) of 194 voted in the Democratic Primary for a 15.6% turnout and 129 voted in the Republican Primary for an 11.6% turnout.

The Bethany Athletic Association held their annual Easter Egg Hunt at the Bethany Town Hall on Saturday, March 30th as Mother Nature caused it to be postponed from the 23rd. It was a chilly, blustery day, but that did not deter families from coming and participating. This is always a well-attended and fun event for toddlers to students in Grade 6. Each age group (T-Gr1, Grs2&3 and Grs4-6) had their own designated area where special wooden Easter eggs were strategically hidden. When found, they were traded in for a large chocolate bunny. The smiles on the faces of the kids and parents alike are priceless. This is always a wonderful community event. Thank you, BAA!



The Annual Fishing Derby followed on Saturday, April 20th at Veteran's Memorial Park.

We started April with a Public Hearing to present the proposed FY24-25 Town Budget, on Thursday, April 4th. The Hearing was in-person in the Bethany Community School gym. Board of Finance Chair, Sharon Huxley gave a very thorough PowerPoint presentation to highlight the financial results of the 2023FY, present estimates/results for the 2024FY, and present the draft budget for the 2025FY recommended by the Board of Finance. She and I, along with Department Heads, and our Finance Director, Leslie Bacigalupi, were there to field any questions on the various aspects of the budget. Topics that took center stage: Recycling and the Round Hill Road project. A number of residents asked questions and communicated their thoughts. The hearing was an opportunity for the public to share their input and request increases or decreases in line items. Eco-

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Submit stories, events, calendar dates, press releases, inquiries, advertisements, etc. to Jennifer Cafasso at BethanyBulletin@bethany-ct.com
Please hand deliver or mail all advertisements' payments and make checks payable to the Town Clerk's office located at 40 Peck Road, Bethany, CT 06524.

Deadline is the 15th of the previous month.

First Selectman's Desk

continued from front page

conomic factors at the federal, state and local levels also create challenges in bringing forward a fiscally sound budget while trying to maintain the needed services of the Town. The final version of the budget will go to the Town for a vote at the Annual Town Meeting to be held on Monday, May 20, 2024, at 7p.m. in the Bethany Community School gym. Applicable notices are mailed to residents with all necessary information.

The Board of Finance met on Tuesday, April 9th for their regular monthly meeting to review and discuss input from residents that was shared at the Public Hearing the week before. The final proposed Board of Finance Budget for FY25 is enclosed in this month's Bulletin.

The Bethany Lions Club held their 38th Annual Goods & Services Auction virtually from March 27th – April 5th. Many donated goods and services were available for bidding. The funds netted from the Lions Club auction will help with college scholarships for Bethany students. They will award their scholarships in May. Thanks to all the donors and bidders who contributed to make this event a success!

On Saturday, April 6th State Representative Lezlye Zupkus and I had the pleasure of attending the Eagle Scout Court of Honor Ceremony where Liam Connors and Evan Whitman were honored for earning the rank of Eagle Scout. As noted in the invitation from Scoutmaster Eric Unger, this is a multiyear journey to attain this rank and is one of the most involved and transformative experiences a young person can have. Scouts try new things through the merit badge program. They develop confidence in the outdoors, practice leadership tactics, and plan, develop and give leadership to a service project that benefits their community. It's not just about their respective projects. They also learn many survival life skills and the value of public service that they can apply to other parts of their lives. Liam's project focused on placing a boulder with a plaque at the Old Schoolhouse on the grounds of the Bethany Community School. The plaque outlines the history of the schoolhouse which was built over 100 years ago. Liam took the time to meet with the Chair of the Historical Society to research information to be included on the plaque. He completed his project with landscaping in the area. Evan's project entailed creating several outdoor classroom garden areas as part of the Connecticut Pollinator Pathway initiative to help students at the Bethany Community School learn about native plants, attract local pollinators to those plants and learn about their symbiotic relationship. Their efforts help Bethany be the best it can be. Representative Zupkus and I presented them with our respective certificates of recognition for their hard work and earning the rank of Eagle Scout. Thank you, Liam and Evan, and congratulations. Well deserved.

As this was a historical moment, it is worth noting some additional information about the eclipse. On April 8th, the moon came between the Earth and Sun "totally" blocking the sun, leaving the sun's outermost layer, the corona, visible to the naked eye — like a glowing ring in the sky. But not all solar eclipses are the same. Unlike the total solar eclipse from August 21, 2017, the moon's shadow from this year's eclipse is larger because the moon is closer

to the Earth.

This total solar eclipse, known also as the "Great North American Eclipse," traced a narrow path of totality across 13 U.S. States. It entered in Texas and exited continental North America on the Atlantic coast of Canada. For the U.S., the total Solar Eclipse 2024 commenced at 2:27p.m. EDT in Texas and concluded at 3:35p.m. EDT in Maine. The eclipse actually began in Mexico at about 11:07a.m. PDT before crossing into Texas at 1:27p.m. CDT. It ended in Maine at 3:35p.m. EDT. There is no standard length for a total eclipse, though there is always one place where totality lasts the longest. For the eclipse on the 8th, the maximum duration of totality was four minutes, 28 seconds near Torreón, Mexico. At its peak, more than 90% of the sun was covered when viewed from Connecticut. In the New Haven area, it began around 2:12p.m., with the peak at 3:27p.m., ending 4:37 p.m. There won't be another coast-to-coast eclipse in the U.S. until 2045 and 2079 in Connecticut.

The 13th was a busy day as the Bethany Lions Club sponsored a Document Shred Day, along with a Spring Food Drive. Always a good turnout. Thank you to the Bethany Lions Club for their continued support to the Town of Bethany.

Following the Shred It Day/Spring Food Drive event, members of the community and Bethany Lions Club gathered at the viewing stand by the horse rings on the old airport property to commemorate the occasion. It was a special day as we dedicated the stand in the name of George McDonnell in recognition of his years of service to the Town and the Bethany Lions Club. George has been a valued member of the Town, and a beautiful plaque was unveiled on the stand. In addition, I presented George with a framed certificate duplicating the wording that was on the plaque.

April 20th was a busy day in Bethany. It was Bethany Rid Litter Day. Residents sign up individually, as a family or in small groups to enjoy the fresh air and help make Bethany beautiful by picking up trash along the roadside throughout town. Thank you to all who participated, John Pellicano for organizing the event and our Public Works crew for assisting.

National Volunteer Week is celebrated annually during the third week of April, and this year it was observed from April 21st to 27th. This week-long celebration is about placing a spotlight on inspiring individuals whose invaluable seeds of kindness through volunteering are bettering the community and our world in general. This significant celebration, which was established by Presidential Proclamation in 1974, provides the perfect opportunity to say thank you. It also challenges us to do better and look for ways to be active participants to positively impact our local communities. National Volunteer Week is a chance to recognize volunteers for the impact they have in their town in keeping the community safe, helping to keep organizations running, and providing services that might not otherwise exist without volunteers. Let's recognize and celebrate every volunteer and each contribution they're making to strengthen community spirit and well-being in Bethany. What is the theme for 2024? The theme for National Volunteer Week 2024 is Every Moment Matters! Thank you to all our volunteers for giving so generously of your time and talents. You truly make a difference in our community.

It's that time of year again for the Town of Bethany

First Selectman's Youth Award. This award is open to any Bethany youth, 18 and under, who is in school, and who, either individually, or as part of group, has demonstrated positive actions to improve Bethany or assist Bethany residents.

I am extremely happy to announce this year's recipient of the Town of Bethany First Selectman's Youth Award: Michael Crisci. Michael is a Senior at Amity Regional High School and the eldest of three boys of MaryGrace and Michael Crisci. He was nominated by a family friend, Angela Mordecai. She described Michael as someone with a truly altruistic spirit.

Michael began his community service efforts with his enthusiastic involvement with school events starting with Leadership Council at Bethany Community School (BCS). Michael has become a positive role model for the younger students as he has faithfully volunteered with seniors and different charities. Michael is also active in the local church community by serving as an altar servicer and helping with events at Our Lady of Assumption Church in Woodbridge, which serves residents of both Bethany and Woodbridge. During his years at BCS and Amity, Michael has been involved in many school fundraising and volunteer events. Sports and theater are also interests that keep him active in school and the community.

Michael should take great pride in his service as he exhibits great dedication and commitment to our community. Congratulations to Michael on this recognition. We wish you all the best and continued success.

The Bethany Memorial Day Parade is a long-time tradition in town, stretching back to the late 1950's. This year's parade will be held on Monday, May 27th. Memorial Day was originally called "Decoration Day" and started in the 1860's following the Civil War. Bethany's practice of annual services began during World War II. The Town erected an Honor Roll of those serving overseas and held observances every year at the Old Town Hall on Amity Road. Initially there was a separate committee in charge of arrangements, but later other groups became involved, such as the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Volunteer Fire Department and Boy Scouts.

There are few records of early Bethany parades, but the Town did conduct a large parade for its centennial celebration in 1932. The first Memorial Day parade was held in 1958 with additional groups participating including 4-H, Grange, Bethany Athletic Association, churches, and schools. The parade began at the Bethany Airport (still in operation at the time) and ran south to the Old Town Hall at 512 Amity Road. The route was extended in the 1970's when the Town Hall moved to Peck Road. In the 1960's, the Bethany Lions Club took over organization of the annual event, a task they still perform to this day.

If you have a group or organization that is interested in marching in the Parade, please reach out to Janet Brunwin at 203-393-0598.

As a reminder: So that we can assist residents as needed, it would be very helpful if residents would fill out and provide the Human Services Office with an Emergency Services Profile. This information will enable Human Services and Emergency Services personnel to provide the best assistance if the need arises. Go to the Bethany-ct.com website: Click on Human Services; then Emergency Services Profile. Send your completed form to Human Services at the Town Hall, 40 Peck Road, or email it to Robin Glowa at

rglowa@bethany-ct.com. If you have any questions or trouble accessing the form, please call Robin at 203-393-2100, x1124.

An important reminder from the Bethany Volunteer Fire Department: In an emergency, every second counts. Help first responders by making sure you have your address number properly displayed on both sides of your mailbox and on your house. Numbers on the house should be at least four (4") inches tall; numbers on the mailbox should be at least three (3") inches tall and reflective; if it is a shared driveway with clustered mailboxes, use arrows to distinguish each address; and be sure that any tall plants or shrubbery, or snow, around the mailbox does not block the visibility of the numbers. Help them in order to help you if an emergency occurs.

If you haven't done so already, don't forget to sign up to receive CODE-RED announcements on any important information impacting the Town. You can register right on the main page of the Town website: www.Bethany-ct.com

Always a good reminder: since the warmer weather is finally here, we find more people out and about on the roads, whether walking, biking or riding horses. Both drivers and pedestrians need to be aware of each other. Walkers, bike/horse riders should move over to single file and make way for the vehicle(s) to pass. Drivers should slow down and pass with caution.

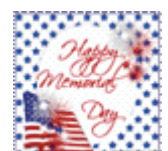
Remember bike/horse riders always go with the traffic. Walkers should be going against the traffic so that you can easily see oncoming vehicles. We want everyone to be safe!

If you are out walking your dog, whether it is on our roads, down at the lake at Veterans Park, or up at the old airport property, PLEASE be diligent in cleaning up after your pet. We have had some complaints regarding this issue. We need everyone to be respectful of public areas. Thank you.

Reminder: the Bethany Lions Club is holding its Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 27th, followed by a Memorial Day Service in front of the Bethany Town Hall.

Mark your calendars: On Thursday, Friday and Saturday (May 30, 31 and June 1) the Bethany Athletic Association's Carnival will be held. The Firemen's Parade will be Friday, May 31st. Thank you to these organizations for their commitment to the Town of Bethany.

I wish everyone good health and a happy



*****Mark Your Calendars*****

Annual Town Meeting
Monday, May 20, 2024 – 7p.m.
Bethany Community School – Gym

Hard copies of the full budget will be available
in the Town Clerk's Office or
accessible on the Town website:
www.bethany-ct.com

From the Superintendent of School's Desk

Dear Community Members,

As we find ourselves nearing the end of the 2023-2024 school year, it's incredible to see how far we've come as a community at Bethany Community School (BCS). With each passing day, our students and staff are embracing the opportunities to thrive, both inside and outside the classroom. As the days grow longer and warmer, we're excited to utilize the BCS pavilion for various class activities, offering a refreshing change of scenery and a chance to soak in the beauty of spring.

As May unfolds, we have much to celebrate. First and foremost, we honor our exceptional staff during Teacher Appreciation Week. While the focus tends to be on our teachers, we recognize the collective efforts of all individuals who contribute to making BCS great. Whether it's our outstanding teachers, paraprofessionals, administrators, or support staff, each member plays a vital role in shaping our school into an amazing place for our children to learn and grow. Their unwavering commitment to our students is the core of our school's success, and we encourage everyone to express their gratitude for their tireless efforts.

This month also brings opportunities to showcase the remarkable talents of our students. The BCS Drama Club will delight audiences with performances of "The Pirate Princess" on May 10th and 11th. Then, mark your calendars for May 14th as we celebrate the BCS Night of the Arts, featuring an array of visual arts, musical performances, poetry, and more. It's sure to be an evening filled with creativity and inspiration for all.

Behind every successful school is a dedicated support system, and ours is no exception. Our Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) plays a pivotal role in enriching the BCS experience, organizing events and initiatives that strengthen our sense of community and foster family engagement. On May 24th, BCS will celebrate the annual Spring Fling, a delightful occasion filled with entertainment, games, and outdoor fun for the families to enjoy.

As we express gratitude to our teachers and families for their unwavering support, we also extend an open invitation for collaboration and feedback. Your insights are invaluable as we strive to propel our district forward and ensure the continued success of Bethany Community School.

For any suggestions or inquiries, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at (203) 393-1170 or via email at kbyrd@bethany-ed.org. Together, we will continue to inspire excellence and cultivate a thriving learning environment.

In continued partnership,

Kai Byrd

Superintendent



PROPOSED TOWN CODES CHANGES FOR THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING ON MAY 20, 2024.

The following explanatory text has been prepared by the Town Clerk pursuant to § 9-369b(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes and is not intended to advocate the approval or disapproval of any Town Meeting resolutions.

The Board of Selectmen appointed a seven-member Town Code Review Committee to examine existing ordinances and make suggestions on any changes. The Committee voted to refer five proposed amendments to the Annual Town Meeting:

1. Code of Conduct for Annual and Special Town Meetings.

Towns are allowed to adopt rules of order for the conduct of their meetings by ordinance. The committee approved the proposed language to forward to the Town Meeting for their consideration. The suggested Code of Conduct is available for public inspection on the town website or in the Town Clerk's office.

2. Change Tax Collector from two to four-year term. Most municipal elected officials are already four-year terms. The committee voted to send this proposed change to the Town Meeting.

3. Change Town Treasurer from two to four-year term and have the new term start in January. Most municipal elected officials are already four-year terms. A January start date could provide an overlap between an outgoing Treasurer and incoming Board of Selectmen or Finance members. The committee voted to send these proposed changes to the Town Meeting.

4. Eliminate restricted voting for Elementary Board of Education. Under current law, when the number of members to be elected is even, no elector can vote for more than half that number, and when the number of members to be elected is odd, no elector can vote for more than a bare majority of that number. With the recent change to 4-year terms, every other election cycle there will be an even number of seats open. For those elections, each party can only put up two candidates, electors can vote for two and all four win. The statutes provide an alternative for towns with 4-year board of education terms. Towns may pass an ordinance eliminating restricted voting and then electors can vote for all open seats and political parties can nominate as many persons as there are vacancies. This amendment does not affect minority representation provisions in other statutes that cap the number of members that can be from one political party. The committee voted to send this proposed change to the Town Meeting.

5. Technical corrections to change all references to May elections and July 1 and June 30 term dates for elected officials. Due to actions made on the state level, Bethany's municipal election changed from May to November. These modifications would correct references to the obsolete dates.

The Annual Town Meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 20, 2024, at 7:00p.m. to consider these and other resolutions. All Bethany electors, plus taxpayers who are U.S. citizens, at least 18 years of age, and assessed not less than one thousand dollars on the last-completed grand list, are eligible to vote.

Bethany Seniority

By Robin Glowa

May 2024



"May, the month of sunshine, blooming flowers and endless possibilities" -Unknown

Bethany Town Hall will be closed Monday, May 27th for Memorial Day.

No Bus Service on Monday, May 27th



SENIOR LUNCH!

Senior Lunch is held every *Wednesday at Noon* at *Bethany Town Hall*. Reservations must be made by the Wednesday prior at 203-393-2100 x1124.

\$7.00 per person.

(Please pay in exact cash when you arrive.)

Includes salad or soup, entrée, starch, vegetable, rolls, dessert, coffee and tea.

MAY ENTREES:

May 1: Kentucky Derby Party
(Hot Browns & Hummingbird Cake)

May 8: Tomato Alphabet Soup,
Roast Beef with gravy

May 15: Spring Concert at Lakeview Lodge
(Sandwiches/Sweets) Reserve by May 3rd

May 22: Brunch for Lunch (Blueberry pancakes)

FREE FRIDAY FILM FESTIVAL

"SECRETARIAT"

Friday, May 10th at 11 AM
Bethany Senior Center

In honor of the 150th running of the Kentucky Derby! Come experience the spectacular journey of an incredible horse and the moving story of his unlikely owner, a housewife who risked everything to make him a champion.

Please call to reserve a seat: 203-393-2100 x1124

Spring Senior Lunch and Concert!

Hosted by Bethany Human Services

Wednesday, May 15th
11:00AM-1:00 PM
Lakeview Lodge

Entertainment by the incredibly talented Amity Middle School Choir

Don't miss this exciting event!

Sandwiches and Sweet Treats will be served

Seats May Still Be Available!

Call to Reserve 203-393-2100 x1124

SENIOR CRAFT CORNER

Sponsored by Bethany Human Services
& Hamden Rehabilitation

Monday, May 20th at 11 AM
Bethany Senior Center

PAPER BEAD BRACELETS

Come and enjoy learning to create these unique and beautiful accessories

Call 203-393-2100 x1124 by **May 13th**
to reserve your seat. *Space is Limited.*

SAVE THE DATE!

Wednesday, June 26th from Noon-2PM

Veteran's Park Pavilion

(Event will be held at Lakeview Lodge if there is inclement weather or extreme heat)

START OF SUMMER PARTY

Hot Dogs-Potato Salad, Coleslaw -Baked Beans

And for Dessert-

Make Your Own Sundaes aboard
The Ice Cream Emergency Truck!!!

\$10.00 Pay in exact cash at the event
Reserve Your Seat by Wednesday, June 12th
Call: 203-393-2100 x1124

FOOD ASSISTANCE FOR **BETHANY RESIDENTS**

Christ Church Bethany and Woodbridge is offering Bethany residents contactless, front-door delivery of non-perishable goods. **Contact Christ Church at 203-393-3399. Leave your name and phone number.**

SENIOR BUS TRANSPORTATION
IS AVAILABLE MON-WED-FRI
from 8:30AM to 3:30PM.

To reserve call 203-393-2100 x1324

Medical appointments take priority.

First time riders please call 203-393-2100 x 1124
before making reservations.

BETHANY LAND TRUST



THE GREAT GIVE 2024

The Bethany Land Trust is participating in the Great Give® 2024, a community-wide giving event benefiting Greater New Haven's nonprofits. It runs over two days from 8:00 a.m. on May 1 to 8:00 p.m. on May 2.

Last year, we were able to expand the Van Epps Preserve and we entered into an agreement to purchase a 38.5 -acre property off Russell Road with the help of many contributors throughout the Town and grants from supporting foundations.

In 2024, we plan to continue to identify and explore the possibility of preserving new open space in Town. When an opportunity arises, we want to be ready to act swiftly with access to the funds needed for an acquisition. The generous support of our members and donors helps make this possible. In addition, we continue our stewardship activities, trail maintenance, monthly trail hikes and community outreach with our educational programs.

How about you? Can you support our preservation and stewardship activities? This is a perfect opportunity for you to support some of our new, exciting plans.

As a private, charitable, non-profit corporation (not a local or state government agency), we rely nearly entirely on charitable donations to fund the acquisition of properties for preservation and stewardship activities. Help us fund our plans for 2024 by giving generously.

You can access the Land Trust's Great Give® page here: <https://www.thegreatgive.org/organizations/bethany-land-trust-inc>.

Monthly Land Trust Trail Hikes - Sunday, May 5, 1 – 3 PM: Kids & Family BioBlitz

Join us for a fun-filled BioBlitz at Whispering Pines Preserve on Sunday, May 5th from 1-3! A BioBlitz is an exciting event where teams of scientists, students, and community members come together to identify as many species as possible in a specific area over a set period of time. It's a hands-on way to engage with nature and learn about local biodiversity.

This event is kid-friendly, but please note that it involves a short 0.3-mile hike to the survey site. During our BioBlitz, we will be surveying plants and animals that inhabit both the stream and nearby forest. If you're planning to explore the stream and look for critters, be sure to bring waterproof boots or shoes.

Explore this beautiful spot with us and help identify its inhabitants! Your discoveries will be shared with the scientific community via iNaturalist. We look forward to seeing you there! No dogs allowed please and inclement weather will cancel.

Our Guides:

- Ali Beres-Nork is an Environmental Science teacher at Amity High School holding an MS in Environmental Science from Montana State University and is a certified Con-

necticut Master Naturalist.

- Grace Kenney is an environmental educator at Slate School in North Haven where every day she is able to connect children's learning with the natural world. She has experience working as a beekeeper and as an educator with the Connecticut Audubon Society, which has allowed her to explore the landscapes of Connecticut from a naturalist's point of view.

To register: contact Bob Harrison by May 3rd via cell at 203-506-5888 or bjh51box@gmail.com

Parking at the trail entrance to Whispering Pines at 30 Briar Rd; look for the green Land Trust banner.

Bob Harrison

Bethany Land Trust, Trails Chair

FREE EVENT

The Monarch Butterfly

Presented by Kelsey Fisher

Entomologist and monarch expert

Thursday, May 23rd @ 7p.m.

Lakeview Lodge

Made Possible by the Bethany Land Trust

BETHANY FIRST CHURCH STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE

Pre-order through May 24th to reserve your fresh, homemade strawberry shortcake by calling or emailing the church office
\$8 EACH - REGULAR OR SUGAR FREE

SATURDAY JUNE 1ST PICK UP OR WALK IN ORDERS

11 AM - 3 PM
IN THE CHURCH HALL

511 AMITY ROAD
BETHANY, CT
CALL (203) 393-3116 OR
EMAIL INFO@BETHANYFIRSTCHURCH.ORG

Pickleball Instructional Clinics

Sponsored by Bethany Parks and Recreation

Preregistration is Required. No Same-Day Drop-Ins, please.

Friday, May 10th

Veteran's Memorial Park

New Beginner/Beginner Clinic

11a.m. – 12:30p.m.

Cost:\$40 per Player

Advanced Beginner/Low Intermediate Clinic

1p.m. – 2:30p.m.

Cost:\$40 per Player

For more information, please refer to our website at: Bethany-ct.com. Or phone the Parks and Recreation

Department at: 203-393-2100, ext. 1127.

It Happened In Bethany

Bethany Wanderers

By Jane Garry

Bethany has much to offer its residents, not least its relatively low-traffic roads for walking, and numerous trails in woods and around lakes. And if one wants a hike, it's easy to ascend to the top of West Rock Ridge and other high spots.

In 1983, two friends who shared a love of these activities, Ann Childs and Barrie Collins, founded the Bethany Wanderers. Their model was The Cambridge Ramblers, a group Ann had joined in England when her Yale professor husband spent two sabbaticals at Cambridge University. The Ramblers had an impressive 250 members and walked far afield to places such as the Lake District and Dartmoor. They even travelled to Bethany when Ann invited them to see this area during the U.S. Bicentennial (1976). Twenty-eight members accepted the invitation to explore New England on foot. They had a wonderful couple of weeks here, staying in Bethany homes. Several groups and churches held dinners for the Ramblers. And of course, the Wanderers and the Ramblers spent plenty of time walking and hiking. Barrie's friend Jim Lonergan, an experienced hiker, led walks and hikes locally as well as organizing an overnight trip to the Berkshires.

The formal incorporation of the Bethany Wanderers occurred in 1983. Ann, chairman pro-tem, wrote the constitution and by-laws based on those of the Ramblers. The lovely and distinctive name was suggested by Marion Disbrow. The group's stated purpose was to explore local and area trail and help others gain greater awareness of Bethany's outdoor resources and the need to protect trails and open space. About 25 interested people came to the first meeting held at Town Hall on January 25, 1983.

Jim led the inaugural hike up to Beacon Cap. He was to lead two hikes a month for the next fifteen years. About 45 hikes, walks, and events were planned each year. Hikes settled into a pattern of four a month, usually on Saturdays, May through October, with fewer in the late fall, winter, and early spring.

There were special walks to celebrate the seasons, such as the summer solstice evening walk at Lake Bethany in June. Fall weekends in late September featured trips to various locales in New England with stays at B&Bs or inns. Besides walking there were social occasions, including potluck suppers and dining at local restaurants.

When the Wanderers first ventured outside Bethany, they stayed fairly close to home in the neighboring towns, but then ventured farther afield – Durham, Guilford, Stratford, North Branford, Madison, Litchfield, Morris, Torrington, Roxbury, Kent, to name a few. They even began hiking the Appalachian Trail in Connecticut under Jim's guidance.

The Wanderers endured for 30 years. These days, the Land Trust Trails Committee maintains and tramps the trails that the Wanderers did. Anyone interested in joining them can contact Bob Harrison, Trails Chair, at webmaster@bethanylandtrust.org.

Information originally provided by Barrie Tait Collins

Humongous Tag Sale

Christ Episcopal Church

526 Amity Rd. Bethany (at the blinking light)

Saturday, May 11th

from 9a.m.-2p.m.

You'll find bargains on housewares, home decor, books, plants, Twice as Nice Boutique, jewelry, fabulous home baked goods and more. And stop by our grill to have lunch! It's two months away but not too early to mark your calendars!

Residential Waste Systems Trash Pick Up Reminder

Memorial Day 2024: All Pickups delayed one day

Independence Day 2024: Thursday Pickups will be Friday

Labor Day 2024: All Pickups delayed one day

Thanksgiving Day 2024: Thursday Pickup delayed one day

Christmas Day 2024: Wednesday/Thursday Pickup delayed one day

New Year's Day 2025: All Pick Ups delayed one day.

BETHANY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FAMILY FUN DAY

AT RUSSELL HOMESTEAD

SUNDAY MAY 19TH - 10AM TO 3PM



-PIGS

-USE WASHBOARDS

-CANDLE MAKING!

**HAY RIDES,
ANIMALS,
GAMES,
TOURS,
AND MORE!**



20 ROUND HILL ROAD, BETHANY, CT 06524

Sustainable Bethany

No. 41. Letter from Sustainable Bethany. Single-stream recycling, book commentary on “The heat will kill you first.”

Single-stream-recycling: is a waste management system where recyclables (paper, plastic, glass, metal) are collected into one container (big blue bin), for sorting at a recycling facility. Single-stream-recycling gained popularity in the late 1990s-early 2000s due to perceived convenience and an increase in recycling rates. However, over time, concerns about contamination, decreased material quality, and challenges in the recycling market led to a reassessment of single-stream-recycling's effectiveness and sustainability. Today, communities that once embraced single-stream-recycling are looking for better ways to increase their recycling rates while decreasing costs. The issues with single-stream-recycling include:

- Contamination:** Single-stream-recycling systems have higher contamination rates compared to dual-stream or source-separated recycling. Contamination lowers the quality of recycled materials and increases processing costs.

- Market Challenges:** Global shifts in recycling markets, particularly China's National Sword policy of 2018, restricted imports of certain recyclables which exposed vulnerabilities in single-stream-recycling. Fluctuations in commodity prices and reduced demand for recycled materials have made it more challenging for communities to sustain single-stream-recycling programs economically

- Environmental Concerns:** Environmental advocates have raised concerns about the impact of single-stream-recycling when contaminated materials end up dumped or incinerated instead of recycled. It's led some communities to explore alternative recycling methods that prioritize material quality and environmental sustainability.

- Lack of Education:** Education about correct recycling practices and importance of contamination reduction is a key component for a successful program. Most communities don't do this.

There has been a shift towards reevaluating effectiveness and exploring alternative approaches to recycling that prioritize material quality, environmental sustainability, and cost-effectiveness. Consequently, single-stream-recycling has become less favored, prompting communities to adopt tailored and innovative solutions to their recycling needs.

Book: We recommend, “The Heat Will Kill You First: Life and Death on a Scorched Planet,” by Jeff Goodell. .” The Heat Will Kill You First is available at Clark Memorial Library. If you have recommendations about books, please let us know at the email address below.

Best wishes,

Gale Ridge

sustainablebethany@gmail.com or at the state level,

Sustainable CT

Check It Out !

May 2024
Clark Memorial Library

Help us shape the future of Clark Memorial Library!

The Bethany Library Association is creating a new strategic plan and would like your input. Whether you use the Library or not, please take a few minutes to share your thoughts. The survey is available at this link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5KTDNL2>

Great Give May 1 and 2

The Library will be participating in the annual Great Give event on May 1 and 2. This 36-hour event raises money and awareness for many causes important to our region, with valuable matching funds and prizes from The Community Foundation, the Valley Community Foundation and other generous sponsors <https://www.thegreatgive.org/>

We are focusing this Great Give campaign on expanding arts programs that support local artists and reach Bethany citizens of all ages. From Arts@Clark! exhibitions that are available year round in the Community Room, to our Annual Summer Outdoor Exhibit, our goal is to showcase the vibrant arts community in Bethany. We hope to continue to offer these free events and bring in local artists for additional workshops and presentations to build on our ongoing commitment to library programming that reaches adults, children and families.

Arts@Clark!

Fifth Annual Public Art Exhibit

Sunday, July 28th 1-5 PM

This event is our gift to the community – free to all participants --- artists, would-be artists and those who are simply looking to enjoy, renew and relax on a beautiful summer afternoon. The Call for Artists Application Forms are available at <http://bethanylibrary.org> by clicking on Arts@Clark! -- due June 15, 2024.

Library Hours

Tues/Wed 10 AM - 6 PM

Thurs 10 AM - 7 PM

Friday 1 PM - 5 PM

Saturday 10 AM - 5 PM



Need a new card or to renew an existing card?

Contact us at 203-393-2103

or ClarkMain@bethanylibrary.org

LAND USE NOTIFICATIONS

LAND USE DEPARTMENT INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION

If you are thinking about doing any site work involving grading, filling, cutting and/or stumping of trees or bushy vegetation that is within 150 of a designated wetlands area, i.e., land consisting of wetland soils, a river, stream, brook, lake, pond, marsh, swamp, bog, or any other body of water, natural or artificial, vernal, or intermittent, you may need to obtain an Inland Wetlands Permit prior to having that work done.

The permitting process takes a minimum of two months

Please plan ahead and call for more information on the permitting process application at (203) 393- 2100 ext. 1115 or email LFrazer@bethany-ct.com. Prior to initiating any Land Use or Building Department permitting application process with the Town, we advise you to consult with the Quinnipiac Valley Health District at (203) 248-6671 in the event that their approval would also be required.

LAND USE COMMISSIONS PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION IN- LAND WETLANDS COMMISSION ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The commissions certify and require, when deemed appropriate, that a site plan be filed to aid in determining conformity of a proposed building, structure, or use within the town's regulations, and to approve, modify, or deny such a site plan. The commissions also regulate and restrict proposed locations and variances; hears, considers, and decides upon special applications and special exceptions permits when deemed necessary.

Call the Land Use Department at (203) 393- 2100 ext. 1115 or Email to LFrazer@bethany-ct.com if you need any further assistance and details on applications' procedures and processes.

Town of Bethany Monthly Meeting Schedule

May 1st	Planning & Zoning Commission	7:00PM
May 7th	Board of Selectman	6:30PM
May 8th	Economic Development Commission	6:30PM
May 8th	Bethany Board of Education	6:30PM
May 9th	Conservation Commission	7:30PM
May 13th	Amity Board of Education	6:30PM
May 13th	Zoning Board of Appeals	7:00PM
May 14th	Board of Finance	6:30PM
May 16th	Cemetery Commission	7:00PM
May 20th	Inland Wetlands Commission	7:30PM

NOTICE OF DECISION AT THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION WEDNESDAY, 3rd DAY OF APRIL 2024

Notice of Decision is hereby given at Regular Meeting held, Wednesday, April 3, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the commission room located at the Town of Bethany - Town Hall

- 1.APPROVED - Edward Randis: 328 Wooding Hill Road - Appl# 2024-004 – Approval to construct a 30' x 40' barn.
- 2.APPROVED - Mark and Mary Ellen Unger: 82 Russell Road - Appl# 2024-006 – consideration for the installation of a 34-kw dc ground mounted solar system.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS TOWN OF BETHANY NOTICE OF DECISION REGULAR AND PUBLIC HEARING MEETING OF APRIL 8, 2024.

Approved – Application submitted by Christian and Aleshia Stahl (owner) of property at 34 Brookwood Road in an existing R-65 zone for a 28 foot variance to allow a 25.4 foot side yard setback to construct a one story handicap accessible accessory apartment onto the existing single family residence, and in accordance with section 4.4, section 5.4.K, and under the authority granted to the Zoning Board of Appeals under Section 11 of the Bethany Zoning Regulations.

SAVE THE DATE

Bethany Economic Development Commission

Meet and Greet -- May 16, 2024

Hosted by Green Light Auto Sales
"BUY BETHANY"

BVFD Auxiliary Presents

LIVE MUSIC

Nashville Drive

Kick Off to Summer!

Saturday, May 18th, 2024

Doors Open: 5:30PM Band Starts: 6PM-10PM

Location: 765 Amity Road Bethany, CT

Cost: \$10.00 per person

Tickets Available Online or Cash Only at Door

(Limited 300 Tickets)

BYOB, Snacks & Chairs

Silent Raffle



From the Assessor's Office

Applications for tax credits for homeowners over 65 years of age and those totally disabled will be taken in the Assessor's office between 8:30 am and 4:00 pm beginning February 1, 2024, thru May 15, 2024.

ELDERLY HOMEOWNERS & DISABILITY PROGRAM- This is a real estate tax credit program for homeowners who are at least 65 years of age as of December 31, 2023 and meet certain income guidelines. Those guidelines require that annual income for single people, including Social Security benefits, should not exceed \$43,800. Married couples can be eligible if their income, including Social Security benefits, does not exceed \$53,400. Applicants should bring all proof of their 2023 income including a copy of their 2023 Income Tax Return, if filing, and proof of Social Security income (Form 1099). Also, applicant must own and reside at the property for which tax relief is sought or must hold tenancy for life use of the property and be liable for the tax bill. This must be the applicant's principal or legal residence.

Those Homeowners who are disabled, and don't qualify for the elderly homeowner's program because they are under the age of 65 can apply. One must provide proof of their disability award letter from the Social Security Administration. Also, the same income guidelines must be met.

Previous participants in either of these two programs will be required to re-file their applications bi-annually and will be notified by mail of this refiling requirement. New applicants who think they qualify for this tax relief should inquire at the Assessor's Office. In addition to this State property tax relief program, the Town of Bethany has adopted a local option property tax relief program at the February 7, 2000, Special Town Meeting. Those applicants who qualify for the State of Connecticut property tax relief program will also receive the Town of Bethany benefit. Those taxpayers who are already on the program and are required to refile, will be notified by mail.

ADDITIONAL VETERANS AND LOCAL VETERANS EXEMPTION- The additional veteran's and local veteran's exemptions are available to qualified veterans who meet certain income requirements. These two programs provide an increase in assessment reduction beyond the standard veteran exemption. The deadline for filing applications is September 30, 2024. Applicants must meet an income requirement of not more than \$43,800 if single, and \$53,400 if married to qualify for the State of Connecticut Additional Veteran's Program. The income limit for the Town of Bethany Local Option Additional Veterans Exemption

is \$68,800 for single applicants and \$78,400. Income includes adjusted gross income plus any other income, including Social Security benefits. Income is based upon the 2023 calendar year. Federal Income Tax return and/or proof of all income must be presented to the Assessor's office which is open Monday through Friday 8:30 am and 4:00 pm. Please remember that all proof of income, including Social Security benefits (Form SSA-1099) for the 2023 calendar year must be submitted by September 30, 2024, or the application cannot be processed.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Assessor's Office with any questions or concerns regarding these programs.

Dated this 12th day of December 2023.

Betsy Quist – Assessor for the Town of Bethany



RENTERS PROGRAM

Applications for the Renters Program may be filed with the Town's Assessor between April 1, 2024 and September 30, 2024.

Those residents of Bethany who:

1. Have attained the age of 65 on or before 12/31/2023.
2. Hold full-time residence in Bethany.
3. Total income does not exceed \$43,800 for a single person or \$53,400 for a married couple.

Those on social security disability are exempt from the age requirement.

Applications can be mailed to the Assessor's Office, Town Hall, 40 Peck Rd, Bethany, CT 06524 by September 30, 2024.

Proof of 2023 income and social security earnings (SSA-1099) is REQUIRED ALONG WITH RECEIPTS OF ALL 2023 RENT AND 2023 UTILITIES (exclusive of phone & cable).

Those persons who had applied for this program last year will be mailed an application in April 2024.

If you have any questions concerning this program, please call the Assessor's Office at 203-393-2100 ext. 1112.

Betsy Quist, Assessor
bquist@bethany-ct.com



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 Five Star Real Estate Agent Award.



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TOWN OF BETHANY
FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025
CONSOLIDATED OPERATING BUDGET (\$)

TOTALS	24,928,788	26,280,614	25,979,898	26,841,298
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DEPT NAME	FY 2022-2023 ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	FY 2023-2024 BUDGET	FY 2023-2024 ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES	FY 2024-2025 BOF BUDGET
Selectman	195,607	203,531	205,031	210,582
Board of Finance	66,718	58,275	63,169	59,950
Finance	189,404	244,208	216,453	238,281
Town Treasurer	2,580	2,828	2,578	2,886
Assessor	86,776	109,248	104,777	115,735
Bd of Assess Appeals	142	900	300	900
Tax Collector	106,452	111,091	109,412	115,144
Town Clerk	164,061	172,634	172,209	177,373
Land Use	176,016	218,805	219,032	230,007
Town Counsel	60,485	67,200	64,000	67,200
Registrar of Voters	37,065	46,744	46,744	66,348
Zoning Appeals	2,415	2,450	1,950	2,450
Town Hall IT	98,484	107,975	111,096	119,550
Memberships	7,816	7,816	8,216	8,316
Misc Boards	714	6,000	1,000	6,000
BOE Fuel	91,099	146,770	140,000	139,040
General Insurance	175,939	210,852	182,161	196,421
Employee Benefits	899,261	1,239,851	1,049,047	1,269,500
Gen. Government	2,361,034	2,957,178	2,697,174	3,025,683
Police	225,450	232,237	221,237	234,390
Fire	459,929	473,500	472,366	498,925
Fire Marshal	46,521	49,690	49,652	52,038
Emergency Mang.		33,390	29,219	34,162
Animal Control	59,496	62,629	58,152	62,629
Public Safety	791,395	851,446	830,626	882,144
QVHD	36,529	38,074	38,074	39,660
TEAM	5,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
Other	776	776	776	791
Public Health	42,305	44,850	44,850	46,451

DEPT NAME	FY 2022-2023 ACTUAL EXPENDITURE	FY 2023-2024 BUDGET	FY 2023-2024 ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES	FY 2024-2025 BOF BUDGET
Seniors	113,990	130,632	130,632	139,780
Cemeteries		12,000	12,000	10,000
Library	306,648	314,529	314,529	324,748
Park & Recreation	355,233	479,101	473,958	505,990
Veterans Park	53,692	58,732	66,500	70,000
Harvest Festival	16,748	17,000	22,291	25,000
Youth Services	19,558	25,260	25,260	25,940
Other	3,586	8,000	7,500	18,500
Community Act.	869,455	1,045,254	1,052,670	1,119,958
Town Hall Facilities	180,513	244,500	226,460	251,460
Solid Waste	488,093	556,911	550,500	765,691
PW-Garage	1,919,715	1,801,742	1,792,253	1,939,208
Public Works	2,588,320	2,603,153	2,569,213	2,956,359
Contingency	101,833	150,000	150,000	150,000
Refunds	25,176	37,500	40,000	40,000
Other	127,009	187,500	190,000	190,000
Total Operating	6,779,519	7,689,381	7,384,533	8,220,595
Capital	760,626	747,910	747,910	712,284
LOCIP	143,615		50,000	-
Land Acquisition	50,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Debt	1,048,805	1,084,346	1,083,846	1,089,632
Total Reserves & Debt	2,003,046	1,932,256	1,981,756	1,901,916
Total Municipal	8,782,565	9,621,637	9,366,289	10,122,511
Bethany BOE	7,157,885	7,538,595	7,538,595	7,949,018
Amity Region 5	8,988,339	9,120,382	9,075,014	8,769,769
Total	24,928,788	26,280,614	25,979,898	26,841,298

EXPENDITURES	FY23 ACTUAL	FY24 BUDGET	FY24 ESTIMATE	FY25 PROPOSED
Selectmen - 1st Selectman	92,465.25	94,875.00	94,875.00	97,247.00
Selectmen - 2nd Selectman	2,260.00	2,328.00	2,328.00	2,386.00
Selectmen - 3rd Selectman	2,260.00	2,328.00	2,328.00	2,386.00
Selectmen - Secretary	-	-	-	-
Selectmen - Office Expenses	6,422.87	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Selectmen - Legals	6,357.86	5,500.00	6,500.00	6,000.00
Selectmen - Conferences/Meetings/School	937.74	2,600.00	2,600.00	2,600.00
Bethany Bulletin	27,824.09	26,400.00	26,400.00	26,400.00
Selectmen - Miscellaneous	2,021.91	3,000.00	2,750.00	3,000.00
Selectmen - Meetings Clerk	2,985.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Selectmen - Assistant	52,072.02	60,000.00	60,750.00	64,063.00
Selectman	195,606.74	203,531.00	205,031.00	210,582.00
Board of Finance - Clerk	225.00	1,950.00	1,950.00	1,950.00
Board of Finance - Annual Report	3,011.70	2,000.00	1,850.00	2,000.00
Board of Finance - Hearing	923.10	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Town Audit	62,558.25	53,325.00	58,369.00	55,000.00
Board of Finance	66,718.05	58,275.00	63,169.00	59,950.00
Finance - Manager	98,226.31	100,786.00	100,786.00	103,306.00
Finance - Bookkeeper	48,233.28	50,213.00	47,500.00	49,725.00
Finance - Accounting Clerk	28,321.25	49,209.00	35,000.00	48,750.00
Finance - Operating Expense	1,595.66	1,500.00	750.00	1,500.00
Finance - Accountant	-	-	-	-
License Fee - Accounting Software	13,027.98	42,500.00	32,417.00	35,000.00
Finance	189,404.48	244,208.00	216,453.00	238,281.00
Town Treasurer - Salary	2,260.00	2,328.00	2,328.00	2,386.00
Town Treasurer - Miscellaneous	319.65	500.00	250.00	500.00
Town Treasurer	2,579.65	2,828.00	2,578.00	2,886.00
Assessor - Assessor Salary	31,457.55	32,277.00	32,277.00	33,084.00
Assessor - Secretary Salary	35,948.48	45,971.00	44,500.00	45,651.00
Assessor - Office Supplies	1,269.48	2,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00
Assessor - Online Access	13,428.10	16,600.00	16,600.00	22,000.00
Assessor - Training	966.73	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,400.00
Assessor - Manuals/Pricing	3,706.00	10,000.00	8,000.00	10,000.00
Assessor - Vehicle Allowance	-	-	N/A	600.00
Assessor	86,776.34	109,248.00	104,777.00	115,735.00
Bd of Assmt Appeals - Payroll	142.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
Bd of Assmt Appeals - Legal	-	300.00	-	300.00
Bd of Assmt Appeals - Expenses	-	300.00	-	300.00
Board of Assessment Appeals	142.00	900.00	300.00	900.00
Tax Collector - Tax Coll Salary	64,043.40	65,712.00	65,712.00	67,355.00
Tax Collector - Asst Salary	14,491.30	18,479.00	17,300.00	18,389.00
Tax Collector - Office Supplies	1,598.83	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Tax Collector - Service Contracts	19,952.91	19,500.00	19,000.00	20,000.00
Tax Collector - Legals	1,613.80	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,400.00
Tax Collector - Miscellaneous	1,478.38	1,500.00	500.00	3,500.00
Tax Collector - Collection fees	3,273.32	2,000.00	3,000.00	2,000.00
Tax Collector	106,451.94	111,091.00	109,412.00	115,144.00
Town Clerk - Town Clerk Salary	73,117.06	75,022.00	75,022.00	76,898.00
Town Clerk - Assistant Salary	40,128.79	44,070.00	44,070.00	45,172.00
Town Clerk - P/T Assistant Salary	24,077.26	26,442.00	26,442.00	27,103.00
Town Clerk - Overtime	20.50	-	-	-
Town Clerk - Office Supplies	1,982.54	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,100.00
Town Clerk - Cott Land Records	16,735.55	16,300.00	16,300.00	17,650.00
Town Clerk - Service Contracts	1,195.00	1,500.00	1,200.00	1,500.00
Town Clerk - Conferences/School/Dues	2,237.97	3,500.00	2,500.00	3,250.00
Town Clerk - Legals	4,566.35	3,800.00	4,675.00	3,700.00
Town Clerk - Book Restoration	-	-	-	-
Town Clerk	164,061.02	172,634.00	172,209.00	177,373.00

Land Use - Clerk : Veronica	21,880.00	43,875.00	43,875.00	44,972.00
Land Use Administrator : Lina	62,455.05	64,502.00	64,506.00	66,115.00
Land Use - Administrative Assistant : Lauren	2,880.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,600.00
Land Use - Building Inspector	30,341.96	30,120.00	30,341.96	31,000.00
Land Use - Asst Building Inspector	17,205.15	19,508.00	19,508.58	20,000.00
Land Use - Consultant/Planner	16,500.00	24,000.00	24,000.00	25,200.00
Land Use - Engineering	390.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	8,000.00
Land Use - Hearings	5,179.63	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Land Use - Office Expense/Supplies	8,267.73	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
Land Use - Conf/School/Dues	2,657.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
Land Use - Legals	4,331.59	6,600.00	6,600.00	7,920.00
Land Use - Mileage	503.19	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
Land Use - GIS Support	3,300.00	9,000.00	9,000.00	9,000.00
Land Use - Miscellaneous	125.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Land Use - POCD Update	-	-	-	-
Land Use	176,016.30	218,805.00	219,031.54	230,007.00
Town Counsel - Retainer	37,200.00	37,200.00	37,200.00	37,200.00
Town Counsel - Legal Expense	21,555.49	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00
Claims and Judgments	1,730.00	5,000.00	1,800.00	5,000.00
Town Counsel	60,485.49	67,200.00	64,000.00	67,200.00
Registrar - Salaries & wages	21,512.23	23,000.00	23,000.00	34,500.00
Registrar - Seasonal	6,521.22	9,900.00	9,900.00	14,850.00
Registrar - Election & Office Supplies	5,643.11	7,180.00	7,180.00	9,334.00
Registrar - Miscellaneous	3,387.96	6,664.00	6,664.00	7,664.00
Registrar of Voters	37,064.52	46,744.00	46,744.00	66,348.00
ZBA - Office Expense	-	200.00		200.00
ZBA - Legals	2,280.00	2,000.00	1,750.00	2,000.00
ZBA - Miscellaneous	135.00	250.00	200.00	250.00
Zoning Board of Appeals	2,415.00	2,450.00	1,950.00	2,450.00
Oper Town Hall - Telephone/Fax	13,242.99	11,500.00	14,320.00	15,000.00
Oper Town Hall - Copier	4,961.58	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00
Oper Town Hall - Postage	7,354.76	12,000.00	10,000.00	12,000.00
TH Computers - Network Support	47,740.37	45,000.00	52,000.00	55,000.00
TH Computers - Equip Replacement	11,956.97	15,000.00	12,000.00	13,000.00
TH Computers - Internet Fee	1,713.21	1,675.00	1,476.00	1,550.00
TH Computers - Payroll Processing	10,313.69	13,500.00	12,000.00	13,500.00
TH Computers - Staff Support	1,200.00	1,300.00	1,300.00	1,500.00
Town Hall Information Technology	98,483.57	107,975.00	111,096.00	119,550.00
Council of Small Towns	1,075.00	1,075.00	1,075.00	1,075.00
SCROG	1,800.00	1,800.00	2,200.00	2,300.00
Regional Growth Partnership	1,668.90	1,669.00	1,668.90	1,669.00
CCM	3,272.00	3,272.00	3,272.00	3,272.00
Memberships	7,815.90	7,816.00	8,215.90	8,316.00
Probate Court	-	500.00	500.00	500.00
Conservation Commission	170.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
Economic Development	544.40	5,000.00	-	5,000.00
Miscellaneous Boards	714.40	6,000.00	1,000.00	6,000.00
Board of Educ - Fuel Oil	63,917.40	106,750.00	100,000.00	101,840.00
Board of Educ - Gasoline	27,181.19	40,020.00	40,000.00	37,200.00
BOE Fuel	91,098.59	146,770.00	140,000.00	139,040.00
General Insurance	175,939.00	210,852.00	182,161.00	196,421.00
General Insurance	175,939.00	210,852.00	182,161.00	196,421.00
Unemployment	-	25,000.00	9,672.00	25,000.00
Medical Insurance	533,249.07	789,059.00	647,375.00	735,000.00
Town Employees' Inv Account	150,918.99	185,792.00	155,000.00	213,000.00
Firemen's Retirement	48,000.00	57,000.00	57,000.00	67,000.00
Social Security	167,093.08	173,000.00	170,000.00	173,000.00
Pension Administration	-	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00

Firemen's Pension Actuarial Services	-	-	-	6,500.00
Part-Time Admin	-	-	-	25,000.00
Certified Increases	-	-	-	15,000.00
Labor Related Benefits & Expenses	899,261.14	1,239,851.00	1,049,047.00	1,269,500.00
GENERAL GOVERNMENT TOTAL	2,361,034.13	2,957,178.00	2,697,174.44	3,025,683.00
Resident Trooper	79,901.17	96,000.00	85,000.00	85,000.00
Resident Trooper - OT	9,229.87	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
Police Administrative Lieutenant	70,263.55	70,683.00	70,683.00	72,450.00
Police - Salaries	32,040.45	34,254.00	34,254.00	37,040.00
Constables Training	4,861.62	5,000.00	5,000.00	9,000.00
DARE Program	3,647.28	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Police - Office Expense	15,151.08	2,800.00	2,800.00	2,800.00
Police - Telephone	1,202.19	2,500.00	2,500.00	3,000.00
Police - Equipment	9,152.96	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
Police - Gas	-	-	-	4,100.00
Police	225,450.17	232,237.00	221,237.00	234,390.00
Fire Protection	247,500.00	247,500.00	247,500.00	247,425.00
Hydro/Air Packs Testing	6,400.00	-	-	-
Firemen's Physicals	9,261.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,500.00
Fire Dept. - Gas & Diesel	9,510.50	14,000.00	14,000.00	14,000.00
Fire Dept. - Fuel Oil	19,005.07	25,000.00	20,000.00	25,000.00
C-Med	46,000.98	43,000.00	43,000.00	43,000.00
Ambulance Corps	85,000.00	95,000.00	95,000.00	120,000.00
Fire Hydrant	5,298.86	5,000.00	3,500.00	5,000.00
Fire Tower Electric	15,146.89	20,000.00	16,000.00	20,000.00
EMS Council	-	-	-	-
Fire Dept - Bldg Repairs	1,448.80	12,000.00	10,000.00	12,000.00
Fire Dept - Vehicle Repairs	-	-	11,366.00	-
Disaster Recovery	15,356.70	-	-	-
Fire	459,928.80	473,500.00	472,366.00	498,925.00
Fire Marshal - Salary	28,107.61	37,440.00	37,440.00	38,376.00
Fire Marshal Assistant - Salary	-	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Communication	1,856.24	1,500.00	1,000.00	1,500.00
Office and miscellaneous	995.61	300.00	300.00	300.00
Software Support	5,920.60	700.00	2,112.00	2,112.00
Books/Subscriptions	1,888.96	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Training Seminars	1,722.56	1,200.00	1,000.00	1,200.00
Vehicle/Gas Used	3,140.82	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Public Education	237.57	300.00	300.00	300.00
Uniform and Gear	530.53	500.00	500.00	500.00
Tools/Equipment	1,717.50	2,000.00	1,500.00	2,000.00
Dues / Certifications	402.94	750.00	500.00	750.00
COVID-19 Related Expenses	-	-	-	-
Fire Marshal (Previously in Emergency Management)	46,520.94	49,690.00	49,652.00	52,038.00
Emergency Management Director Salary	-	18,540.00	18,540.00	19,004.00
Communication	-	1,000.00	1,179.00	2,358.00
Office and miscellaneous	-	2,000.00	1,200.00	1,000.00
Software Support	-	6,000.00	5,600.00	6,400.00
Books/Subscriptions	-	500.00	350.00	500.00
Training Seminars	-	1,200.00	600.00	2,250.00
Vehicle/Gas Used	-	300.00	-	-
Public Education	-	300.00	200.00	300.00
Uniform and Gear	-	250.00	250.00	300.00
Tools/Equipment	-	2,000.00	500.00	500.00
Dues / Certifications	-	300.00	300.00	550.00
CERT	-	1,000.00	500.00	1,000.00
Emergency Management	-	33,390.00	29,219.00	34,162.00
Woodbridge Animal Control	56,740.00	59,629.00	58,152.00	59,629.00
Dog License Fees -- CT	2,755.50	3,000.00	-	3,000.00

Animal Control	59,495.50	62,629.00	58,152.00	62,629.00
PUBLIC SAFETY TOTAL	791,395.41	818,056.00	801,407.00	882,144.00
QVHD	36,528.60	38,074.00	38,074.00	39,660.00
QVHD	36,528.60	38,074.00	38,074.00	39,660.00
TEAM	5,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
TEAM	5,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
Domestic Violence	500.00	500.00	500.00	515.00
Regional Mental Health	276.00	276.00	276.00	276.00
Other Health	776.00	776.00	776.00	791.00
PUBLIC HEALTH TOTAL	42,304.60	44,850.00	44,850.00	46,451.00
Senior Services - Director Salary	55,385.24	56,829.00	56,829.00	58,250.00
Senior Services - Assistant	12,940.00	21,424.00	21,424.00	24,705.00
Senior Services - Bus Driver	11,531.95	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,375.00
Senior Services - Cook	9,947.25	13,448.00	13,448.00	17,500.00
Senior Services - Office Exp	694.48	800.00	800.00	800.00
Senior Services - Conferences/Dues	588.89	500.00	500.00	500.00
Senior Services - Senior Programs	11,541.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00
Senior Services - Senior bus	5,461.94	7,000.00	7,000.00	7,000.00
Senior Services - Greater NH Transit	3,630.59	3,631.00	3,631.00	3,650.00
Bethany Seniority (Bulletin-Moved to Selectman 2023)	2,268.50	-	-	-
Senior Services	113,989.84	130,632.00	130,632.00	139,780.00
Care of Cemeteries	-	12,000.00	12,000.00	10,000.00
Cemeteries	-	12,000.00	12,000.00	10,000.00
Library - Annual Appropriation	306,648.00	314,529.00	314,529.00	324,748.00
Library	306,648.00	314,529.00	314,529.00	324,748.00
Park & Rec - Directors Salaries	114,949.62	117,945.00	117,945.00	120,894.00
Park & Rec - Salaries	186,518.87	296,663.00	291,520.00	288,668.00
Park & Rec - Office Expense	1,791.51	2,177.00	2,177.00	2,177.00
Park & Rec - Waterfront	178.19	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Park & Rec - Program Exp	20,597.72	26,060.00	26,060.00	26,060.00
Park & Rec - Summer Camp	27,120.28	30,156.00	30,156.00	30,156.00
Park & Rec - Maintenance	897.09	1,100.00	1,100.00	1,100.00
Park & Rec - Annex repairs	2,249.53	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
Park & Rec - Equipment Replacement	930.31	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Park & Rec - Software	-	-	-	5,900.00
Park & Rec - Grant related payroll	-	-	-	26,035.00
Parks and Recreation	355,233.12	479,101.00	473,958.00	505,990.00
Veterans Park - Payroll	19,038.00	19,532.00	28,000.00	30,000.00
Veterans Park - Bldg Maintenance	9,770.85	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
Veterans Park - Pest Control	340.00	-	-	-
Veterans Park - Cleaning Supplies	1,995.24	1,200.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Veterans Park - Electric	9,098.30	13,000.00	12,000.00	13,000.00
Veterans Park - Heat (Propane)	5,251.98	7,500.00	7,500.00	7,500.00
Veterans Park - Telephone & Cable	4,249.34	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
Veterans Park - Alarm Monitoring	792.00	-	-	-
Veterans Park - Fire Extinguisher	-	-	-	-
Veterans Park - Sand	1,656.26	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Veterans Park - Coordinator Stipend	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	2,000.00
Veterans Park	53,691.97	58,732.00	66,500.00	70,000.00
Harvest Fest/Family Day Exp	16,747.59	17,000.00	22,291.00	25,000.00
Harvest Festival	16,747.59	17,000.00	22,291.00	25,000.00
Youth Services	19,558.00	25,260.00	25,260.00	25,940.00
Youth Services	19,558.00	25,260.00	25,260.00	25,940.00
Airport	3,586.46	3,500.00	3,500.00	4,000.00
Bethany Summer League	-	4,500.00	4,000.00	4,500.00
Bethany Historical Society	-	-	-	10,000.00
Other Community Services	3,586.46	8,000.00	7,500.00	18,500.00

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES	869,454.98	1,045,254.00	1,052,670.00	1,119,958.00
Oper Town Hall - Facilities Manager	28,000.00	-	-	-
Oper Town Hall - Custodian Salaries	29,197.30	37,000.00	37,000.00	40,000.00
Oper Town Hall - Supplies	5,591.20	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
Oper Town Hall - Electric	33,725.99	30,000.00	30,000.00	45,000.00
Oper Town Hall - Fuel Oil	29,879.72	61,000.00	61,000.00	46,000.00
Oper Town Hall - Mileage	600.00	-	-	-
Oper Town Hall - Bldg Repairs	46,003.68	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00
Architectural & Engineering Services	-	50,000.00	28,000.00	50,000.00
Oper Center Station - Bldg Repairs	7,514.98	7,500.00	7,500.00	7,500.00
Oper Center Station - Electric	-	-	2,400.00	2,400.00
Oper Center Station - Tel/Cable	-	-	1,560.00	1,560.00
Repair of Airport Hangar	-	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Town Hall Facilities	180,512.87	244,500.00	226,460.00	251,460.00
Solid Waste - Salaries	62,645.51	81,411.00	75,000.00	15,000.00
Solid Waste - Curbside Pickup	223,559.64	228,000.00	228,000.00	531,427.00
Solid Waste - Disposal Tipping Fees	116,508.85	140,000.00	140,000.00	140,000.00
Solid Waste - Bulky Waste	22,193.60	35,000.00	35,000.00	38,500.00
Solid Waste - Recyclables	44,160.99	45,000.00	45,000.00	10,000.00
Solid Waste - Trailer Rental	1,080.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
Solid Waste - Tires/Oil	2,649.94	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
Solid Waste - Miscellaneous	15,293.99	19,000.00	19,000.00	19,000.00
Solid Waste - Blue Earth Compost bins	-	-	-	3,264.00
Solid Waste	488,092.52	556,911.00	550,500.00	765,691.00
Director of Public Works - Salary	54,817.12	89,767.00	89,767.00	92,011.00
Road Foreman & Labor	476,847.23	560,100.00	560,100.00	481,556.00
Road Foreman & Labor - Overtime	-	-	-	100,000.00
Major Road Resurfacing	507,504.56	150,000.00	150,000.00	250,000.00
Road Maintenance	-	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00
Snow and Ice Removal	193,324.29	200,000.00	200,000.00	200,000.00
Road Materials	165,283.90	154,500.00	154,500.00	175,000.00
Street Lights	14,225.05	11,000.00	11,000.00	11,000.00
Garage Expense -- Equipment Parts	46,560.75	64,000.00	64,000.00	64,000.00
Equipment Tires	-	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00
Tree Removal	92,302.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00
Debris Dumping Fees	6,968.28	5,000.00	3,500.00	5,000.00
Other Contracted Services	147,157.65	32,000.00	32,000.00	45,000.00
Garage Expense -- Equipment Service	16,406.00	-	-	-
Road Signs	10,191.38	10,300.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
Garage Expense -- Vehicle Parts	41,310.15	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00
Consulting Engineer	12,664.00	7,500.00	7,500.00	7,500.00
PW Employee Clothing Stipend	5,082.00	5,075.00	5,075.00	5,075.00
Garage Expense -- Vehicle Service	33,960.41	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00
Vacuum catch basins	-	40,000.00	32,245.00	40,000.00
Guard Rails	-	12,500.00	12,500.00	25,000.00
Garage Expense - General	11,056.41	30,000.00	30,000.00	32,000.00
Garage Expense - Telephone/Internet	6,790.86	4,500.00	4,566.00	4,566.00
Garage Expense - Electric	6,704.72	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00
Garage Expense - Fuel	11,646.26	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
Garage Expense - Bldg Repairs	19,154.70	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
Repairs & Supplies - General	6,142.31	-	-	-
Repairs & Supplies - Gas	21,228.68	30,000.00	30,000.00	20,000.00
Repairs & Supplies - Diesel	12,386.37	61,500.00	61,500.00	37,500.00
Highway & Public Works	1,919,715.08	1,801,742.00	1,792,253.00	1,939,208.00
PUBLIC WORKS TOTAL	2,588,320.47	2,603,153.00	2,569,213.00	2,956,359.00
Contingency	101,832.95	150,000.00	150,000.00	150,000.00
Miscellaneous & Tax Refunds	25,176.00	37,500.00	40,000.00	40,000.00
OTHER TOTAL	127,008.95	187,500.00	190,000.00	190,000.00
TOTAL OPERATING	6,779,518.54	7,655,991.00	7,355,314.44	8,220,595.00

Bond Principal	735,000.00	795,000.00	795,000.00	830,000.00
Bond Interest	312,755.03	286,846.00	286,846.00	257,132.00
Bond fees	1,050.00	2,500.00	2,000.00	2,500.00
Debt Service	1,048,805.03	1,084,346.00	1,083,846.00	1,089,632.00
Non-recurring				
XFR - Capital Reserve	760,626.00	747,910.00	747,910.00	712,284.00
XFR - Land Acquisition	50,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00
LOCIP Expense	143,615.00		50,000.00	
Other Financial	954,241.00	847,910.00	897,910.00	812,284.00
TOTAL DEBT & RESERVES	2,003,046.03	1,932,256.00	1,981,756.00	1,901,916.00
TOTAL MUNICIPAL	8,782,564.57	9,588,247.00	9,337,070.44	10,122,511.00
Bethany BOE	7,157,884.77	7,538,595.00	7,538,595.00	7,949,018.00
Amity Region 5	8,988,339.00	9,120,382.44	9,075,014.00	8,769,769.00
GRAND TOTAL	24,928,788.34	26,247,224.44	25,950,679.44	26,841,298.00

Revenue

	Actual 2023	Budgeted 2024	Estimated 2024	Proposed 2025
Intergovernmental				
ECS	1,767,103	1,650,527	1,650,527	1,764,574
Municipal Revenue Sharing	110,411	26,746	26,746	26,746
Regional Water Authority	326,809	320,000	342,968	275,428
Pilot Grants	52,693	52,792	58,272	50,298
Town Aid Road	209,375	209,375	209,349	209,349
LOCIP	80,097	46,231	88,489	68,585
MRSF Motor Vehicle	124,508	297,108	297,108	429,092
Miscellaneous	292,466	98,760	164,713	80,162
	2,963,462	2,701,539	2,838,172	2,904,234
Departmental				
Permits & Fees	191,810	140,500	146,200	138,100
Park & Recreation	247,311	327,879	325,000	378,220
Veterans Park	26,538	20,000	24,000	26,500
Senior/Social Service	7,506	8,901	8,901	8,901
Town Clerk	20,647	23,400	20,000	20,500
	493,812	520,680	524,101	572,221
Other Revenues				
Investment Interest	114,273	80,000	160,000	325,000
Conyenance	87,558	85,000	95,000	90,000
Ordinance Copies	9,900	8,500	10,000	10,000
Miscellaneous	137,512	121,600	111,840	145,130
Non current Tax Revenue	441,429	405,000	368,500	375,000
	790,672	700,100	745,340	945,130
Total Non tax Revenue	4,247,946	3,922,319	4,107,613	4,421,585
Balance from Taxes prior to subsidies	21,109,505	22,358,294	21,967,000	22,419,713

Mill Rate Calculation : Fiscal Year: 2025

Expenditures per Budget	26,841,298
Non-Tax Revenues	4,421,585
Revenue from taxation before adjustments	22,419,713
Plus Exemptions	108,022
Total required tax collections	22,527,735
Estimated Collection Rate	99.00%
Tax levy adjusted for collection rate	22,755,288
Total Taxable Grand List	793,612,323
Less Abatements	527,840
	793,084,483
Estimated Mill Rate	28.69

Dept/Project	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029
Public Works						
Pickup Truck with Plow	70,000					
6 Yard Dump - 3 yr financing	80,626					
#flat bed truck body		11,000				
#72" lawn mower		17,500				
#Debris blower for roadside mower		7,350				
Paving/Town Garage	603,716					
Road Paving	350,000	350,000	350,000	350,000	350,000	350,000
**Round Hill Road	430,062	-				
# 104" Mower	35,000					
# Skid Steer Trailer	15,000					
12 Yard Dump with Plow - 3yr financing	112,284	112,284				
#12 Yard Dump with Plow - 3yr cash out		83,064	-			
Subtotal	1,696,688	581,198	350,000	350,000	350,000	350,000
Fire Department						
Tire Replacement	10,000		10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Brush Truck Replacement	125,000					
*4 gas meters		2,500				
#4 TIC cameras		35,000				
2 Lima 7 Ambulance Replacement		125,000	375,000			
Tanker 82 Refurbish				135,000		
Tanker 87 Refurbish				-	135,000	-
Subtotal	135,000	162,500	385,000	145,000	145,000	10,000
Town Hall						
*TH Building renovations		1,000,000				
#New Phone System		15,000				
Senior Bus		125,000				
^Police Cruiser		61,000				
*Police Body & Dash Cams		35,000				
*Front Windows Replacement	175,000					
*Annex Window Replacement	175,000					
*Wall Unit Heat Pumps	70,000					
*Center Station Generator		20,000				
#Center Station Renovation	85,000	-				
*Gymnasium Renovation	350,000					
Subtotal	855,000	1,256,000	-	-	-	-
IT						
*Accounting Software Upgrade	75,000					
Subtotal	75,000					
TOTAL NON-RECURRING EXPENSES	2,761,688	1,999,698	735,000	495,000	495,000	360,000
Sinking Funds						
<i>Equipment & Vehicle Replacement</i>			275,000	275,000	275,000	275,000
<i>Infrastructure</i>			25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Land Acquisition	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Subtotal	100,000	100,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000
SUMMARY TOTAL	2,861,688	2,099,698	1,135,000	895,000	895,000	760,000
** Grant Funding not awarded						
*Less Grant Funded Projects	(1,775,062)	(1,057,500)				
# Reserve Funding	(135,000)	(168,914)	(250,000)			
^ Police Special Duty Fund		(61,000)				
APPROPRIATION REQUIREMENTS	951,626	812,284	885,000	895,000	895,000	760,000

Town of Bethany
40 Peck Road
Bethany, CT 06524

PRSRRT STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

LOCAL
POSTAL CUSTOMER
BETHANY, CT 06524