

## Supervisors January Report 2021

**COVID-19:** The number of cases has increased significantly over the last few weeks. Last week Washington County recorded 27 active cases in Greenwich. Second highest is Washington County. We must not let our guard down. It is important that we increase our vigilance and not expose ourselves to unsafe social situations. Remember to wear your mask, social distance and wash your hands.

The TOG will remain open but will only allow two people in the office at a time and they must wear a mask. The Highway Department is working on staggered days to limit exposure to each other. Our goal is to provide services to our residents and keep TOG employees safe.

**Greenwich Budget 2021:** In 2021 revenues will remain a major unknown. The impact of COVID-19 on revenues is hard to predict and we have tried to be conservative in our revenue projections for 2021. The other factor effecting revenues is NYS continued confiscation of County sales tax revenues. For example, NYS is taking \$50 billion sales tax revenue from counties [outside NYC] for Distressed Provider Assistance to support Hospitals and Nursing Homes. Another unfunded mandate from NYS. Also, NYS is taking 2 years of sales tax revenue in same fiscal year. All this factors effect revenues and taxes at the county and local level.

**Highway Department:** The Highway Department did an outstand job during the Great Snowstorm of 2020. There were a few hiccups along the way caused by the unprecedented storm, such as, every truck got stuck at some point during the storm. The crew started around 2:00 am and had plowed all the roads by mid-night. In approximately 22 hours all the roads were opened. We appreciated the patience of residents that waited for their roads to be plowed but 38 inches of snow is a major undertaking.

**Bouncelinx Discontinuing Service:** Bouncelinx sent an email to customers on Dec 16 that [they] are discontinuing service on Dec 31. Bouncelinx has not responded to Washington County officials regarding the closure but the county is estimating that less than 100 households are impacted by the closure. The county is working with other providers for service options, but it will be a difficult transition. This spring Slic network will be starting to put their infrastructure in place and start to provide services in their franchise area. This is a difficult time for those losing broadband services. Hopefully, service can be restored in a reasonable time frame.

**Washington County:** The County held it's organizational meeting on Jan 4. Sam Hall will continue to serve a Chairman and Bob Henke will serve as Vice-Chairman. Dan Boucher was appointed Director of Probation pending civil service certification.

**Chairman Sam Hall has assigned me to the following committees:** Chairman Public Safety, Finance, Health and Human Services, Personnel, and Information Technology.

County Treasurer Al Nolette advised that the County can not engage in a tax lien sale or tax foreclosure until at least May 1, 2021.

District Attorney Tony Jordan advised at the Public Safety Committee meeting in December that the growing backlog in court cases due to COVID-19 continues to delay court proceedings raising concerns that some cases may be dismissed because of speedy trial provisions.

The county has experienced a 2.7% increase in misdemeanor and felony cases. The growing backlog affects County and local courts. The backlog continues to grow, and speedy trial provisions have not been waived. The county currently has 8 assault cases; 34 domestic violence cases; 14 firearm offense; 20 sex crimes; 45 DWI case and 70 drug-related charges to be processed. Grand jury proceedings are limited to once a week, limiting grand jury consideration to approximately 35 cases per month.

The order to suspend courts in November came from the state's court system, not the Governor and no provision was made stopping the clock for speedy trial proceedings. Under state law trials must begin or have a conviction within 180 days for a felony, 90 days for a misdemeanor and 60 days for a violation.

DA Jordan stated, " We anticipate an explosion of motion practices where people are going to try and seek to have cases dismissed on speedy trial ground."

A Public Safety concern for all of us!

**County Sales Tax Confiscation by NYS:** Below is an article by the NYS Association of Counties outlining the difficulties counties face with NYS reducing funding and taking county sales tax revenues to cover NYS deficits and unfunded mandated programs.

## **State's Intercept of Local Sales Taxes Compounds County Fiscal Challenges**

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As counties struggle with mounting, unbudgeted COVID-related costs, they are simultaneously losing revenue due to the reduced economic activity that has come with fighting the virus. This unprecedented forced shutdown of our national economy has resulted in the 57 counties outside of New York City losing more than \$720 million from lower sales and hotel occupancy taxes, and lost gaming revenues.

As if those two factors weren't enough to challenge a county budget, the state is leveling a 20% cut to counties as it scrambles to close its own \$15 billion budget gap. These cuts translate to a loss of \$635 million in state reimbursement for programs the county already delivered and paid for.

Combined, counties are staring down more than \$1.3 billion in revenue losses. To put this in perspective, the entire county property tax levy for all 57 counties is about \$5.5 billion. The lost revenue represents 24 percent of the current county levy.

Why is the drop in sales tax revenue so significant? Counties use sales and hotel occupancy taxes to offset the need for higher property taxes and to pay for local quality of life services. The more they decline, the

greater the fiscal pressure on counties to raise property taxes. The only thing keeping counties afloat right now is years of prudent budgeting that allowed them to save for a rainy day. This was aided by the fact that preparations for the 2021 Fiscal Year began nine months ago when the pandemic first hit. As the pandemic swept across the country and the economy was placed in a medically induced coma, counties immediately began cutting expenses. They eliminated staff and ended service contracts that could not be completed during a public health emergency and deferred or even scrapped capital expenses and shored up revenues where they could. Through the end of 2021, counties will have effectively cut their budgets for 22 straight months to stay afloat and prepare for the eventual recovery.

These tough but fiscally prudent actions kept counties afloat during this historic public health and economic crisis. Yet despite this prudent fiscal stewardship, counties are bracing for further revenue cuts.

The next fiscal gut punch for county taxpayers will come from new state policies that essentially confiscate local sales tax revenues and diverts it to the state to fill self-inflicted holes in the state's financial plan. During the last two state budgets, the Governor and State Legislature have diverted \$500 million in local sales tax revenues to state-defined projects and programs.

This budgetary sleight of hand has effectively raised the state sales tax from 4 percent to 4.1 percent while reducing the local sales tax for a typical county from 4 percent to 3.9 percent. If state lawmakers continue to take county sales tax revenue to pay for state mandates and to bail out their overspending, on top of the billions in county property tax dollars that are swallowed up each year by the State to pay for state mandated programs and services, counties will have even less control over how their local revenues are spent.

The latest state sales tax diversion is \$250 million, for two years, and is intended to help health facilities that are fiscally distressed and burdened by the pandemic. Counties strongly support their local health facilities and providers, but we question the need to divert local sales tax to provide this temporary aid on top of the dramatic revenue losses, state cost shifts and higher pandemic response costs already being absorbed by counties.

Despite Congress's inability to provide aid to states and counties to replace lost revenues and higher costs from the pandemic, they have been vigilant in providing this aid to health facilities and providers to the tune of \$175 billion so far nationwide.

This is exactly what Congress should do in the midst of a national emergency. With about 60 percent of the federally authorized funding distributed, New York health facilities and providers have already received about \$11.5 billion in pandemic aid to help cover higher costs and lost revenues, and they will be receiving billions more. The most recent payments will make up for at least 87 percent of lost revenue at all hospitals and providers through the second quarter according to Senators Schumer and Gillibrand.

With health care facilities receiving significant federal help, and local governments left to fend for themselves, counties are asking state lawmakers to abandon this diversion of scarce sales tax dollars to hospitals who are receiving aid from the federal government, and let it remain with local governments who aren't receiving any such aid.

Looking past the current crisis, this trend of the state shifting costs to local taxpayers and confiscating local revenues is disturbing and unsustainable, and it must be reversed if we expect our residents and businesses to stay and thrive in New York. We operate in a global budget environment in New York State. Each decision the state makes to refine a program, make it more efficient, or cut state agency costs allows it to use those savings elsewhere or to cut state income taxes.

But when the state shifts costs to local governments, or takes local revenues to pay for state programs, they are simply transferring a new burden from the state taxpayer to the local taxpayer. It may look better on the state ledger, but New Yorkers are still paying, and they are getting fewer local services every time it happens.

With great respect to our state leaders, and meaning no offense, what gives here?

## Supervisors February Report 2021

**COVID-19:** Getting the vaccine has been frustrating and difficult for many of our citizens. Washington County BOH of health is making every effort to get the vaccine to first responders and those over 65 years old. The vaccine can only be distributed to those in the categories approved by NYS. On the Town website the latest information is posted. For future vaccine PODs the county will post a notice 24 hours in advance of the on-line appointment process. See below.

We are instituting a few changes to our open Point of Dispensing (POD) events and how the announcement and registration process will work, moving forward. For public POD events, we will announce the POD event and the eligible category the day prior to the registration opening on our Coronavirus Information site (at [washingtoncountyny.gov/coronavirus](http://washingtoncountyny.gov/coronavirus)), our Vaccine Information Hotline, in our daily e-newsletter (which is free and available for [sign-up](#) on our site above) and on our Public Health & Public Safety social media outlets – we'll also continue sending e-notifications to our local officials and media partners too! Announcing the POD event registration notice the day prior will allow those in the eligible groups for the event, more time to prepare to access the registration link, knowing when registration will open a bit ahead of time. Also, when registration for new events open, we will open the county's Vaccination Information Help Line (during business hours) to assist those without internet access to have the ability to register for open appointments as well (based on availability of accessible appointments).

**Greenwich Budget 2021:** TOG received a letter from NYS Comptrollers Office advising that OSC is confiscating [my word] \$126,990 from sales tax distribution to Washington County on February 4, 2022. The budget impact caused by NYS OCS is significant because NYS is confiscating two years of distressed hospital funding [2020 and 2021] in the same budget year for a total of \$253,980.00. Also, NYS is making the counties responsible for all AIM funding \$195,676.00 another sales tax hit! This confiscation will impact the sale tax distribution, thus impacting TOG budget. Hopefully, the confiscation will cease if NYS gets a federal bailout.

**Constituency Contact Information:** In January, The Town Office had In-person contacts **767**; Phone contacts **617**; Emails **862** = **2246 Contacts**

**Greenwich School House Ryan Road:** On December 30, 2020, the schoolhouse has been placed on the National Registry of Historic Places. Listing on the National Registry recognizes the importance of these properties to the history of our country and provides them with a measure of protection.

**Highway Department:** NYS announced funding for bridge and culvert replacement and repair. Ken McPhail identified two culverts that need work. The culverts are located on Spraguetown Road and Mill Roads. Several years ago, the Spraguetown culvert project was submitted but was not selected by NYS for funding. We are working on submitting the two projects to NYS for consideration.

**Dog Park:** TOG is forming a committee to look into the feasibility of a dog park at the HRP. Jeannie Pemrick and Lorraine Ballard are Co-Chairing the committee. Those interested can email [dog.park@greenwichny.org](mailto:dog.park@greenwichny.org)

**Washington County:** The Public Safety Committee held a public hearing concerning the Sheriff Murphy plan pursuant to EO 203. The presentation was detailed [over 100 slides]. Sheriff Murphy responded to several questions from the public. Sheriff held 5 stake holder meetings and conducted a survey to gather input from the public. The plan will be presented to the Board of Supervisor's for approval at the February 19 meeting.

**Post Star Teen Excellence Awards:** The **2021 Teen Excellence Awards** identify those young persons who demonstrate individual growth, leadership development, and serve as exceptional role models in their communities and beyond. Plus, these individuals embody a significant level of innovation, leadership and achievement that goes beyond academics and athletics.

Greenwich had two students receive this honor: David Gabriel and Elizabeth O'Konski. Congratulations on being chosen for this honor. Greenwich is proud of you!

## Supervisors March Report 2021

**COVID-19:** Washington County has had several vaccine PODS. All the PODS have operated efficiently and there have been no issues. The vaccine allocation is controlled by NYS. Washington County gets the distribution from NYS. NYS dictates the categories of people that can receive the vaccine. Washington County officials are working with NYS to increase the vaccine allocation for our residents. We anticipate an increase in the allotment in the next few weeks. In the near future Washington County officials would like to expand the vaccine PODS to other Towns in Washington County to reach more people and decrease the travel to PODS.

### WASHINGTON CO LAUNCHES VACCINE INTEREST REGISTRY

With this weekend's 65 & Older Vaccine Distribution Event we were able to complete the outstanding members of our county "stand-by" list for vaccine events! With the expansion and addition of eligible groups, Washington County is launching our new "Vaccine Interest Registry" which will allow county residents in any of the current eligibility groups to submit their information to receive information and updates related to vaccine distribution events they may be eligible for!

The form is quick and easy to complete and is available on our website here:

[bit.ly/WashCoNYVaxInterest](https://bit.ly/WashCoNYVaxInterest)

**Greenwich Budget 2021:** A recent conference call with NYS DOT revealed a cost overrun for the Ferguson and Christie Roads culvert projects. Below is the summary, I sent to Representatives Dan Stec and Carrie Woerner concerning the cost overrides and the negative impact on the TOG budget and future paving plans. We are working with DOT to review the cost overrides to mitigate some of the costs. But at this time the cost overruns that Town is Greenwich is responsible for is \$341,931.17. I will do a more detailed power point during the Board meeting.

### Summary

March 1, 2021

On November 9, 2018, the Town of Greenwich [TOG] was awarded funding for two projects from Bridge NY funds.

Ferguson Road Over Whittaker Brook PIN 1761.28 \$709,290.00.

Christie Road Over Whittaker Brook PIN 1761.29 \$993,640.

On 2/24/2021, I had a conference call with Kelley I. Kircher, DOT project manager. Kircher advised that both projects have costs that override the initial funding allocation. The cost override for both projects is **\$341,931.17**. Ferguson project **\$291,177.34** and Christie project **\$50,753.83**. See attachment.

I advised Kircher that the cost override is approximately 1/6th of our Town budget and TOG would have to pull out of the project. Kircher advised the TOG is responsible for the design costs of **\$244,772.23**.

Kircher advised the TOG signed a contract with DOT and TOG would be responsible for project costs that exceed the amount of the NY Bridge funding awarded to TOG.

On April 10, 2019, TOG passed a resolution agreeing to the terms of the contract for the Ferguson Road project. On April 24, 2019 passed a similar resolution for the Christie Road project. See attachment.

There is no question that the prior Supervisor and Town Board agreed to the terms of the project.

The only notification of the cost override was during the conference call on February 24, 2021. DOT should have known that the project was going significantly over budget and advised the TOG as the project moved forward. During the design and build phase of the project someone had to be aware of the cost problems. For DOT to expect a small town to pay for project cost overrides of this size escapes reality.

DOT needs to be more transparent as the project moves forward regarding costs. It makes no sense to have an agreement with an open-ended cost. Also, the costs of this project are not fully vetted. The numbers provided by DOT are only estimates, thus the final price could increase beyond the current projections.

Where does this leave TOG? TOG has several options, all of which impact our budget and road paving program. TOG best option at this time is to use all allocated CHIPS funding and \$80,000 from the Town budget allocated for road paving. Unfortunately, no roads will be paved in Greenwich this year. See attachment. Another option is for DOT to cover the cost overrides or simply cap the excessive costs at the current level. The projects are scheduled to be completed within 30 months. What will be the cost override projections during the 30-month period?

DOT must develop a better procedure to keep Municipalities advised of cost overrides and have a monetary or percentage caps on projects. Towns should have an opt out option built into the process with projected costs exceed a pre-determined amount. In my previous career, I learned that an opened ended cost agreement for a construction project is a foolish way to do business.

Don Ward  
Town of Greenwich Supervisor

**Constituency Contact Information:** In February, The Town Office had In-person contacts **244**; Phone contacts **505**; Emails **789 = 1538 Contacts**

**Total for 2021:** In-person contacts **1011** Phone contacts: **1122** Emails **1651. Total 3784**

**Youth Summer Camp:** The committee had an organizational meeting in March. Items discussed: Dates of operation, staffing, swimming program, coordination with Food for Kids, field trips and general activities.

**Dog Park:** The committee met to discuss the structure of the committee, press release, general dog park structure, budget, and future maintenance requirements. The village is working on a proposed dog park. Because many of the initial issues are similar, forming one committee between the Town and Village was proposed.

**Washington County:** The Executive Order 203 Police Reform Plan was passed by the Board of Supervisors on February 19, 2021. Sheriff Murphy had 5 sessions with stake holders and conducted a county wide survey. Sheriff Murphy is establishing an Office of Professional Responsibility to manage misconduct and training to ensure that the EO 203 plan is implemented as designed by Sheriff Murphy and approved by the Board of Supervisors.

The Board of Supervisors passed Resolution 46 on February 19, 2021 to conduct a Washington County Broadband Inventory Analysis. In order to increase access, it is necessary to know where deficiencies exist as well as where efficiencies can be achieved by narrowing or eliminating gaps in services. The Board recognizes the need to have 100% broadband coverage throughout Washington County and this study starts the pathway to meeting the goal of 100% access to broadband in Washington County.

Washington County Code Enforcement has assigned a new Code Enforcement Officer [CEO] to Greenwich. The new CEO is Elliot Granger. Theo Celani is going to be assigned to the Cambridge area. Theo thanks for your many years of outstanding service the TOG. Good Luck on your new assignment.

## Supervisors Report April 2021

**COVID-19:** The PODS are open to all 16 years and over. Only the Pfizer vaccine is approved for ages 16 and over. The Washington County EMS Vaccination Team, led by the Cambridge Valley Rescue Squad, Inc and their Community Paramedicine Program, is on the road administering vaccine to our homebound residents! THANK YOU to our partners at Cambridge Valley Rescue Squad, Inc and the other partnering EMS agencies who have joined forces with our Washington County, NY Public Health Department team to administer the COVID-19 Vaccine in our county and reach our homebound residents to continue to get #shotsinarms! **If you are homebound (or have a family member or friend who is) and have not signed up yet? Register here: [washingtoncountyny.gov/vaccineregistry](http://washingtoncountyny.gov/vaccineregistry)**

### Vaccine Ages by Type

- Moderna - 18 & Over
- Janssen (J&J) - 18 & Over
- Pfizer - 16 & Over

### Vaccination Eligibility Notes

- Beginning today (3/30), Age 30 + are eligible (our Washington County Vaccine Interest Registry was updated following the announcement)
- Beginning April 6th (next Tuesday), Age 16 + are eligible (also already included in the update to our Vaccine Interest Registry)

**Greenwich Budget 2021:** We have simplified the cash on hand report. The report is depicted in broad operating accounts. This is the Readers' Digest version of cash on hand. TOG has \$1,260,873.30 cash on hand in the operating accounts. A majority of one-time yearly payments has been made; Insurance, Retirement, Software and January BAN payment. The distribution and posting of the full financial report will not change.

**Christie / Ferguson Roads Culverts:** We have negotiated with DOT to re-bid the contracts, in hope of lowering the project costs. Also, the Christie Road project will not start until 2022. The re-bidding process will enable TOG to budget for any overage over 2 or 3 years. Thus, lessening the budget impact. This will allow TOG to use the CHIPS funding for 2-3 miles of paving this year. A detailed presentation will be made later in the meeting.

**Comptroller Audit Report on Purchasing:** The audit period was January 1, 2019 to February 29, 2020. All of the vouchers reviewed were from the budget year 2019. The audit period occurred during the term of the previous Supervisor and Highway Superintendent. 51% of the vouchers for 2019 did not comply with purchasing policy and diesel fuel was not purchased pursuant to policy and TOG paid \$2491 [7.55%] over state contract. A detailed presentation will be made later in the meeting.

**American Rescue Plan [COVID-19 Stimulus funding]:** The TOG will receive \$530,000 but a portion will be shared with the village. US Treasury will determine how the money is shared. Best guess from Association of Towns [AOT] is the split will be based on population. A very rough guesstimate because the village is located in 2 towns is: Village \$196,100; TOG \$333,900. The money will be distributed in 2 tranches. 50% of the money will be received approximately 60 days after the bill was signed. The remainder would be delivered no earlier than 12 months after the first tranche. After attending many ZOOM meetings regarding how the money can be used – The reply is wait for Treasury to offer further guidance. There are general categories, but specifics are not known at this time. All funds must be spent by Dec 31, 2024.

**Cannabis Legalization:** Many questions remain concerning retail and social gathering establishments. NYS will provide rules and regulations in 1 to 2 years. Currently, cannabis is legal to possess and can be smoked where cigarettes are allowed. All the Town properties are a smoke free zone.

#### **TOWN OF GREENWICH TOBACCO/SMOKE-FREE POLICY**

A. **PURPOSE:** A tobacco/smoke free policy has been developed to ensure compliance with current state laws on the use of tobacco products in places of employment, including public buildings, as well as to control smoking in areas immediately surrounding the workplace.

The New York State Clean Indoor Air (“Act”) prohibits smoking in all places of employment, which includes all Town buildings, property, and all Town vehicles. More specifically, the purpose of this policy and consistent with the Act is to protect Town employees and the general public visiting Town buildings from the dangers of secondhand smoke.

B. **DEFINITION:** Smoke and Tobacco Use: The use or presence of any tobacco product, which includes a lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe, hookah, smokeless tobacco (snuff, snus, dissolvables), and e-cigarettes. **Building: Any building, structure, etc. owned, leased, or maintained by the Town. Property: Any property, land, park, beach, parking lot, etc. owned, leased, or maintained by the Town. Town Vehicle: Any vehicle or equipment owned, leased, or maintained by the Town.**

**Summer Camp:** The Camp counselors for the upcoming camp have been identified. One counselor attended lifeguard training given by the county. Applications for the camp have been distributed by the school. The county will provide a Progressive Swim Instructor as required by BOH. The county youth bureau has offered to provide canoeing and other activities at Lauderdale Park.

**Suffrage Concert “Forward into Light”:** The Washington County Historical Society is sponsoring the concert. WCHS has requested to use “The Commons Park” area for the concert. I offered to Co-Sponsor the event with the approval of the Town Board. The concert is scheduled for Saturday June 12 at 3:00 pm. with a rain date of June 13. WCHS is hoping to offer concert attendees a tour of the Susan B. Anthony grounds and the Stoops Hotel in Battenville.

**Constituency Contact Information:** In March, The Town Office had In-person contacts **311**; Phone contacts **536**; Emails **769** = **1616 Contacts**

**Total for 2021:** In-person contacts **1322** Phone contacts: **1658** Emails: **2420**. Total: **5400**

**Washington County:** I met with Mike Gray, Washington County Alternative Sentencing, regarding clean-up of the park and painting of the bathroom building at the Battenkill Park. In May, the community service team will power wash and paint the building. In the fall they will stain the picnic tables. Park cleanup is scheduled for late April. Chairman Sam Hall has appointed me to Chair a marijuana working group for Washington County employees and grounds. The goal of the committee is formulating a policy that is consistent with the newly passed marijuana legislation and a policy that is clear to employees concerning the use of marijuana and workplace guidelines.

Washington County Code Enforcement completed their report for 2020.

Local Legislative Modifications of Uniform Code Standards

Building Permits

Write the number of building permits issued for each occupancy type listed.

New construction

Addition, alteration, or repair of existing

One-family dwellings, two-family dwellings, and townhouses

11 New Construction

12 Addition, alteration

Nonresidential buildings

2 New Construction

5 Additional, alteration

All other permits (pools, sheds, decks, plumbing,

Certificates of Occupancy or Compliance issued for

18 Other permits [pools, sheds, decks, plumbing HVAC, etc.]

26 Cert of Occupancy or Compliance issues for all occupancies.

## Supervisors May Report 2021

### **COVID-19: ANNOUNCEMENT: COVID-19 VACCINE COMMUNITY "POP-UP" CLINIC**

In furthering our community outreach and enhancing access to our COVID-19 vaccination efforts, our Public Health team has worked with our local officials, community leaders and school leadership to develop a community vaccination "pop-up" schedule for the next month, bringing access to the COVID-19 vaccine to many of our communities and age eligible school students as well. Appointments are encouraged for each of the clinics to help ensure the best possibility of receiving the vaccine the recipient would like, walk-ins will be accepted based on the availability of the vaccine. The complete schedule is post on the Town Facebook page.

**Greenwich "POP-UP" is scheduled for May 13 Thursday 3PM-7PM.  
At the Greenwich Fire Department 60 Hill Street.**

**Greenwich Budget 2021: "Our Goal: Getting the highest value for taxpayers' dollars"**  
Introduction: This is the first in a series of Supervisor's reports describing the current state of Greenwich's costs for conducting town business and providing town services. Subsequent reports will focus on the sources of income available to pay them.

Our purpose is to provide the town's citizens with the information they need to understand where their tax dollars are now being spent and to assess where and how their tax dollars might be distributed in future budgets, particularly the 2022 budget.

#### Part 1 Salaried Personnel Costs

Greenwich has six salaried employees and five fulltime hourly employees:

- Supervisor
- Town Clerk
- Supervisor's Clerk
- Highway Superintendent
- Highway Foreman
- Town Justice
- Motor Equipment Operators (4)

Their compensation is divided between salary and benefits which include Social Security, NYS & Local Retirement contributions and Health Insurance.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Supervisor has relinquished salary.

Planning Board and ZBA serve without compensation.

Retirement Cost were equally divided to account for the total cost.

Total Salaries	\$ 393,482.02
Total Benefit Package	\$ 210,736.12
Total	\$ 604,218.14

Details can be found online in the Town budget at the Town's Website.

**Part 2. Hourly & Contract \$ 152,846.60 [Includes Social Security]**

Includes Town Assessor, Town Attorney, Planning Board Clerk, ZBA Clerk, BAR Clerk, Code Enforcement Officer, Asst Town Clerks [2], Justice Clerks [2], Youth Program [15] These funds are appropriated annually and may only be exceeded with Town Council re-appropriation). Generally, excess spending in any account is first filled by transfer of unused funds in another account.

**Total Employee Cost \$ 757,064.74**

Summary: With the exception of salaries, the other costs are generally mandated, and TOG has no control of any cost increases. For example, NYS retirement cost are determined by NYS. When health care costs rise the only option, TOG has is to negotiate with other vendors to attempt to reduce costs and maintain our level of coverage. Social Security and disability are required payroll costs.

Any increase to personnel expenses has a significant impact on TOG budget and your tax dollars. In future years, the impact inflation could have on employee costs could weigh heavily on future budgets.

**Middle/Upper Greenwich Hydroelectric Public Hearing:** On May 4, 2021, a public hearing was conducted via ZOOM concerning the extending the licensing for both projects. The licensing process starts five years before the current license expires. There were not any major changes discussed at the hearing. There will be additional time for public comments.

**Procurement:** I spoke with the Auditor concerning the procurement changes. The following is how our procurement rules were applied in the Audit. Before 9/10/2019 the prior procurement rules applied.

On 9/10/19 Resolution 113-19 Procurement Policy Chapter 60-5 F was amended increasing the amount from 1K to 2K for highway equipment repair. The Auditor applied this procurement change to any vouchers after 9/10/19. This change only applied to non-emergency repair costs.

On 11/6/19 , the Board passed resolution 144-19 amending Procurement Policy 60-4 F. This revision was for all proposals or quotations and services subject to competitive bidding.

This procurement change was applied to all vouchers reviewed after 11/6/19.

After the 11/6 resolution, 11 vouchers were reviewed, and the new policy was applied. Most of the vouchers reviewed were prior to the 9/10 policy review. The audit period was 1/1/2019 to 2/29/20. As the TOG procurement policies were amended, the new policy was applied to the audit review of the vouchers.

The policy was amended on 9/10/2019 to increase the repairs from 1K to 2K. On 11/6/19 the policy was amended as presented. The amended change from 9/10/19 was not included in the 11/6/2019 policy change. In essence the change from 1K to 2K was reversed by the 11/6/2019 policy. The policy change was voted in on 9/10/2019 and voted out on 11/6/2019. The Auditor advised that the revised policy change made on 9/10/2019, from 1K to 2K was used to evaluate vouchers from 9/10/2019 to the completion of the audit.

**Cossayuna Lake Septic System Upgrades:** I attended a meeting with County Officials regarding the septic upgrade program. Inaccurate information was put out to the public about the program. County officials will conduct information sessions to clarify the program requirements. Because NYS has relegated the program to the County. The County must develop a grant formula to award grant money.

**Constituency Contact Information:** In April, The Town Office had In-person contacts **229**;

Phone contacts **424**; Emails **782** = **1435 Contacts**

**Total for 2021:** In-person contacts **1551** Phone contacts **2082**: Emails **3202**. **Total 6835**

**Washington County:** The Public Safety Committee was provided a presentation from the EMS Advisory Committee regarding Medicare/Medicaid travel reimbursement costs. The mileage rate has not been updated since 1988. The EMS advisory Board will prepare a request to NYS to increase the mileage. This increase will assist to bring down transportation costs for patient transfers.

**Summer Camp:** Applications are being accepted for the camp. Applications are available online and at the Town Clerk's Office. Summer camp counselors have first aid and CPR training [June 5] and their organizational meeting on June 19. The tent has been ordered and will be installed in June.

**Electric Vehicle Charger:** NYSERDA funding requires the TOG have the EVR operational for 4 years. The original contract had a warranty for 3 years. I renegotiated the contract with Potentia to extend the warranty to five years. Installation should be early summer. TOG is number 12 on the list for installation.

**Battenkill Park:** Washington County Community Service Team has raked leaves and picked up debris in the park. They are returning tomorrow to complete their work. The work crew found 3 tires under leaves near the water. The bathroom building was power washed and is ready for painting by the County Community Service Team. Picnic benches are power washed, and the floor was spot cleaned.

## Supervisors June Report 2021

**COVID-19:** The Greenwich May 13 “Pop Up” clinic served approximately 85 people. The second clinic was held on June 3 for those that required a second dose of the vaccine. As a reminder NYS has a walk-in clinic at the Aviation Mall and the J&J vaccine is available. The County is still conducting home bound vaccinations. If you are aware of a homebound person needing a COVID-19 vaccination contact Washington County Health Department.

**Greenwich Budget:** TOG received \$371,797.70 from NYS for road repair. This is a significant increase from last year. TOG will have two projects which will require TOG to “front” the expenses before getting reimbursed. Our cash flow projections and the reimbursement schedule will be reviewed and reported at the next Board Meeting. This could impact the pace of the projects. In July, I will provide a six-month review of the budget. TOG has not received a breakdown of the stimulus funding between the Town and Village. The allocation of stimulus funding is to the TOG with a percent [to be determined by Federal Gov] going to the Village. There are restrictions on how the funding can be spent. The clearest areas where funding can be spent are lost revenue and infrastructure. Use of stimulus funding will be discussed in the normal budget process. TOG has not received any funding at this time. MVP is proposing to raise health care premiums approximately 8.8%. We will review the increase with Yaeger and Flynn and discuss any options, that may reduce costs, and still maintain our current coverage.

**Board of Assessment Review:** I attended several of the presentations to the Board for reduction in property assessments. The petitioners were respectful in their presentations. BAR members were diligent in their questions and attentive to the petitioners. The BAR will meet this week to review the requests and make their decisions regarding the assessments.

**NYS Senator Dan Stec Visit:** Senator Stec visited Greenwich and spoke with several business owners regarding the current business challenges from COVID-19 and the effects on small businesses. I discussed the need for infrastructure to get more businesses and housing into Greenwich.

**Forward Into Light:** The TOG is co-sponsoring with the Washington County Historical Society “Forward Into Light” music of the Women’s Suffrage Movement this Saturday June 12, 3:00 pm at the “The Commons” Greenwich Town Hall. Information is available at the Historical Society’s website [www.wchs-ny.org](http://www.wchs-ny.org) or call 518-747-9108.

**Summer Camp:** I attended training with our camp counselors on Saturday. Julie Mosher, Greenwich Town Health Officer and Mal Lambert, GFD EMT, instructed the counselors in CPR, AED, Choking, Epi-Pen and Narcan. Also, NYS summer camp protocols were reviewed, and a plan was developed to meet NYS requirements. Washington County Youth Bureau is providing a Progressive Swim Instructor to evaluate swimmers as required by NYS BOH. TOG has one certified lifeguard and will have a second certified in June or July. Food for Kids will prepare lunches for the campers. We are looking forward to having a safe and fun summer for our campers.

**Highway Department:** TOG received our new International truck. I got the truck registered and insured last week. The truck is ready to be placed into service. Ken McPhail will discuss roads proposed for paving and repair in his monthly report.

**Barton & Loguiduce Water Line Study / Comprehensive Plan Update:** Both projects were started last year and delayed due to COVID-19 restrictions. B&L advised that the first draft is completed and under review. B&L will provide a draft of the report in 2 to 4 weeks. Once the report is completed a presentation of the report will be held at a Town Board meeting.

The comprehensive grant application is almost completed. B&L requested that TOG request letters of support to update the 2004 comprehensive plan. The new comprehensive plan will be the foundation for planning housing, business development and land use. Also, quality of life is an important element to be considered in the updated comprehensive plan. TOG will request letters of support for the grant application. Information concerning letters of support will be posted on our website.

**Hudson Riverside Park:** Barton and Loguidice [B&L] met TOG officials, at the HRP, to go over bid requirements for the outside of the classroom building. While B&L were at the site, we requested they survey the grounds and inside of building and make a proposal to the Board on bid requirements for both areas. Council Jeff Duxbury will discuss the Four Phase Plan to renovate the buildings and grounds.

**Washington County:** Slow moving vehicles were discussed at the May Public Safety Meeting. Sheriff Murphy has introduced a safety campaign on Sheriff's Facebook to educate and remind drivers about slow moving vehicles, such as, horse drawn carriages. Sheriff Murphy plans on reaching out to the Amish to discuss the need to adequately put reflectors on the rear of the carriages.

**The Sheriff's Annual Report** is posted on the TOG Facebook Page. The report is broken down by Town. TOG had 973 calls for service, 57 traffic accidents, total of 14 arrests and 84 traffic stops. The report contains a breakdown by various demographics.

The Sheriff's Office welcomes you to new series which we are calling the Month in Review, where we look at the things you may or may not have heard about. We start with what was the month of May 2021. The May video is posted on the Town Facebook page and on the Sheriff Office's YouTube page: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h\\_Ml9wWhI9c](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h_Ml9wWhI9c).

**Washington County Broadband Survey:** The County is conducting a broad band survey to identify broad band speeds, areas in need of service. The survey information will be used to advocate for grants and funding where service is needed most. The information flyer is on TOG website and hard copies are available at the Greenwich Town Hall.

## Supervisors July Report 2021

### **Greenwich Budget: 2021 6-month budget review:**

Expenditures [Salaries] TOG has expended 41% the personnel services line items. The highway superintendent salary will not be fully expended due to retirement. A portion of the highway superintendent's salary is used to augment the acting highway superintendent's salary. One parttime highway position remains vacant.

Contractual [Expenses] TOG has expended 36% of the contractual expense line items. The expenditures are on track with prior years and should stay within budget projections.

Revenues: TOG has received 67% of revenue payments. TOG has sales tax, mortgage tax and AIM funding that will be received in the fall. All the revenue projections with the exception of interest income are on track. There was a spike in May mortgage tax revenue payment from the County. The next mortgage tax payment is scheduled for November. TOG should exceed our projection for mortgage tax revenue for 2021. The sales tax revenue is provided by the County at the beginning of the fiscal year and is a known number.

**DOT Culverts: Christie Road:** The new bids have the overage at \$30,769.30. The bids have a 5% overage built into the contract. If the project comes in under 5% the overage will be reduced. Our portion is around the \$30,769.30. The project will start next year [Spring 2022] and TOG portion will be due when construction begins.

**Ferguson Road:** Ferguson Rd the overage is \$313,452.00. DOT advised that they looked at several options but the cost for construction is anticipated to increase. This project would go out to bid in 2022 and start in 2023.

We have two options for Ferguson Road: 1. DOT will allow TOG to opt out at no cost. Plus, DOT will give us the design plans and we could pursue the project ourselves. 2. Go ahead with the project and pay the overage. Bidding on the project will not go out until the end of 2022 and construction beginning in 2023, thus we have time to weigh our options. We can attempt to find additional funding through other grants to cover the overage or take on the expense using local resources, such as, TOG paving money and CHIPS funding. We have much to consider but there are options with time to plan and seek other alternatives.

**American Recovery Plan:** I submitted the required information and request for ARPA funding. My request was approved and received confirmation that TOG will receive \$334,735, of which half will be paid this summer and half in the summer of 2022. Use of the funding has strict guidelines. Infrastructure [as defined in ARP] sewer, water, and broadband. Recovery of lost revenue from 2019 can be reclaimed. Additional clarification on use of funding will be forthcoming from US Treasury. We can move forward with identifying loss revenue and eligible expenditures. I will prepare a report to the Board that identifies loss revenue and eligible expenses. Expenditures of ARP funding will be done through the normal budget process.

**Forward Into Light:** Music of the Women's suffrage movement, performed by Magpie, was held on the Commons June 12. The weather was perfect, and the event was attended by approximately 70 people. TOG co-sponsored the event with the Washington County Historical Society.

**Summer Camp:** The summer camp is well attended this year. We have 112 campers. The campers have been going to Lauderdale for swimming several times per week. The County progressive swim instructor has tested most of our campers. The remaining campers will be tested this week. The campers went to Fun Spot for their first field trip of the year. The Washington County Youth Bureau is providing activities and games for our campers. Special thanks to Food for Kids for providing lunches to "Our Kids." Making lunches for campers and summer school students is a huge undertaking and we thank the volunteers for their efforts.

**Reimbursed Highway Funding 2020:** I re-submitted for restoration of reduced 2020 CHIPS funding. The program was not well advertised and there were no guarantees funding would be restored. The reimbursed funding does not have to be used for paving. The funding must be allocated into the highway budget. Because we submitted for 100% reimbursement [which included the Town contribution for paving] the reimbursement can be allocated into the highway fund. We received \$54,716 reimbursement for 2020. With Board approval allocating \$40,000 into the capital reserve and \$14,716 in the highway account to be used in the 2022 budget to cover anticipated increase in fuel costs.

**Hudson Riverside Park:** The asbestos study is completed and revealed that asbestos was not found in any of the buildings. The problem area is in the barn if renovation or demolition occurs. If renovations or demolition is done [on the barn] vermiculite material must be removed by a certified asbestos contractor. NYS requires that vermiculite to be treated as hazardous waste when removed. The estimated cost for removal ranges from \$30,000 to \$80,000. We can move forward with our plans for the classroom building and keep the barn secured to limit access.

**Washington County Proclamation:** Washington County issued a proclamation in recognition of the 2021 Valedictorians and Salutatorians of Washington County Schools. Greenwich had two students honored David Gabriel Valedictorian and Sophia Traver Salutatorian. Congratulations on your achievements and much success in your future endeavors. Greenwich is proud of your accomplishments!

**North Road Bike/Jogging Trail Study:** Last year I submitted a request to the Adirondack Glens Falls Transportation Council to conduct a feasibility study on constructing a bike/jogging path from the village line up North Road to the old Village Reservoir. The venue has hiking trails, picnic area, and a pond. The council has accepted my proposal and will conduct a feasibility study. I met with AGFTC staff, and the plan is to complete the study in October and present to the study to the public at a Town Board meeting. This is the initial step is developing a plan and funding for the project.

**Letter of Support to Village:** I sent a letter to Mayor Fuller on behalf of the TOG supporting the Village's New York Main Street CFA grant application. The town enthusiastically supports the village's efforts to re-vitalize the downtown area.

**Hudson Headwaters Mobile Clinic:** I was contacted by HHW and asked to locate a space in Greenwich where HHW could have the public visit the new mobile clinic and meet staff. John Cullinan, Battenkill Motors, has agreed to work with HHW to provide space for public viewing.

**Constituency Contact Information:** In June, The Town Office had In-person contacts **222**; Phone contacts 420; Emails 735 = **1377 Contacts**

**Total for 2021:** In-person contacts **2011** Phone contacts **2905**: Emails **3998**. **Total 8914**

**Washington County:** The stimulus working group has issued a plan for stimulus projects. The full plan is on the County website.

Projects proposed:

Restore Lost Revenue \$1,368,000

Reimburse COVID-19 Expenses \$1,132,000

✧ Broadband Expansion \$6,000,000

Water & Sewer Infrastructure \$1,500,000

✧ Tourism \$600,000

✧ Foster Care & Child Care \$288,160

✧ Capital Improvement to Public Facilities \$1,000,000

**Total: \$11,888,160**

**Public Safety:** Washington County EMS Vax Team is being recognized as the winner of the Excellence in EMS Quality & Safety Award. This is a regional EMS award! The Regional Council is planning an awards ceremony sometime in August.

Every member of the team, not only the EMS providers, but Public Health, Public Safety, and elected officials have poured their heart & soul into the vaccination effort and are very deserving of the recognition. Town of Greenwich appreciates the Vax teams efforts. Your efforts helped bring normalcy back to our Town. An award well deserved!

**COVID-19:** Those wishing to be vaccinated can get information on the Washington County website or by contacting the DOH.

2021 Budget- 6 MONTH REVIEW

	Expenditures				Revenues			
	2021 Allocated		Expended- 6 Month Review		2021 Allocated		Received- 6 Month Review	
	2021 Allocated	Remaining	Expended- 6 Month Review	% Expended	2021 Allocated	Received- 6 Month Review	Remaining	% Received
<b>Personnel Services</b>								
A1010.101- Town Board	\$ 10,820.00	\$ 5,409.92	\$ 5,410.08	50%	\$ 1,040.00	\$ 1,512.93	\$ (472.93)	145%
A1110.101- Justice	\$ 9,360.00	\$ 4,680.00	\$ 4,680.00	50%	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 5,696.43	\$ 1,303.57	81%
A1110.103- Justice Clerk	\$ 9,500.00	\$ 3,328.50	\$ 3,328.50	35%	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 631.89	\$ 368.11	63%
A1110.104-Balliff	\$ -	\$ 152.00	\$ (152.00)		\$ 5,000.00	\$ 10,081.00	\$ (5,081.00)	202%
A1220.102- Supervisor Clerk	\$ 34,000.00	\$ 17,000.03	\$ 16,999.97	50%	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	100%
A1220.103- Assistant Clerk	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,118.00	\$ 182.00	14%	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 118.94	\$ 1,881.06	6%
A1340.1- Budget Officer	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 1,500.06	\$ 1,499.94	50%	\$ 7,500.00	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	0%
A1355.1-Assessor	\$ 31,018.40	\$ 15,418.40	\$ 15,600.00	50%	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 3,125.00	\$ 4,375.00	42%
A1355.103- Assessor Clerk	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	0%	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 3,510.00	\$ 8,990.00	28%
A1410.101- Town Clerk	\$ 37,000.00	\$ 18,499.96	\$ 18,500.04	50%	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 1,450.00	3%
A1410.102- Town Clerk-Dep	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 4,878.00	\$ 3,122.00	39%	\$ 12,800.00	\$ -	\$ 12,800.00	0%
A1410.102- Town Clerk-Dep	\$ 16,500.00	\$ 7,495.50	\$ 7,495.50	45%	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 67,342.10	\$ 7,657.90	90%
A5010.101- Highway Super	\$ 54,650.00	\$ 51,050.00	\$ 3,600.00	7%	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ -	100%
A7310.101- Youth Program	\$ 42,000.00	\$ 42,000.00	\$ -	0%	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	100%
A7510.1-Historian	\$ 3,825.00	\$ 1,912.50	\$ 1,912.50	50%	\$ 23,000.00	\$ 28,687.89	\$ (5,687.89)	125%
B3620.101-Code Enforcement	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 3,500.02	\$ 3,499.98	50%	\$ 600.00	\$ 1,116.00	\$ (516.00)	186%
B4010.101- Health Officer	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	0%	\$ 200.00	\$ 182.80	\$ 17.20	91%
B4020.1- Registrar	\$ 1,030.00	\$ 514.94	\$ 515.06	50%	\$ 625.00	\$ 1,150.00	\$ (525.00)	184%
B8010.101- Zoning- Attorney	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	0%	\$ 100.00	\$ 10.20	\$ 89.80	10%
B8010.102- Zoning- Clerk	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,482.41	\$ 517.59	26%	\$ 50.00	\$ 2.93	\$ 47.07	6%
B8020.101- Planning- Attorney	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,850.00	\$ 150.00	8%	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 62.31	\$ 937.69	6%
B8020.102- Planning- Clerk	\$ 3,120.00	\$ 1,080.00	\$ 2,040.00	65%	\$ 200.00	\$ 4.76	\$ 195.24	2%
DA5140.1- Brush and Weeds	\$ 9,860.00	\$ 9,860.00	\$ -	0%	\$ 88,000.00	\$ 39,447.00	\$ 48,553.00	45%
DB5110.1-General Repairs	\$ 159,120.00	\$ 95,841.09	\$ 63,278.91	40%	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 114.42	\$ 1,385.58	8%
DB5142.1- Snow Removal	\$ 107,195.00	\$ 32,152.35	\$ 75,042.65	70%	\$ 8,240.00	\$ -	\$ 8,240.00	0%
	\$ 555,298.40	\$ 327,771.68	\$ 227,526.72	41%	\$ 264,555.00	\$ 176,546.60	\$ 88,008.40	67%
<b>Contractual</b>								
A1010.4- Town Board	\$ 9,200.00	\$ (3,822.16)	\$ 13,022.16	142%				
A1110.4- Justices	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,645.72	\$ 354.28	12%				
A1220.4- Supervisor	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 7,711.46	\$ 4,788.54	38%				
A1355.4-Assessor	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 967.25	\$ 532.75	36%				
A1410.4- Town Clerk	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 2,012.84	\$ 1,987.16	50%				
A1420.4-Attorney	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 6,374.00	\$ 1,626.00	20%				
A1620.4-Buildings	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 20,361.08	\$ 15,638.92	43%				
A3310.4- Traffic Control	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 115.05	\$ 1,384.95	9%				
A1510.4- Dog Control	\$ 10,400.00	\$ 7,404.49	\$ 2,995.51	29%				
A5010.4- Highway Super	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 2,536.47	\$ 2,963.53	54%				
A5132.4- Garage	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 5,420.13	\$ 6,579.87	55%				
A5132.2- Garage Equipment	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	0%				
A5182.4- Street Lighting	\$ 500.00	\$ 235.96	\$ 264.04	53%				
A7110.4- Parks	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 557.63	\$ 2,442.37	81%				
A7140.4- Playground & Rec	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 3,361.36	\$ 638.64	16%				
A7310.4-Youth Program	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 6,900.00	\$ 2,100.00	23%				
A7510.4- Historian	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ -	0%				
A8510.4- Community Beautification	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,983.01	\$ 16.99	1%				
B3620.4- Code Enforcement	\$ 200.00	\$ 161.66	\$ 38.34	19%				
B4020.4- Registrar	\$ 110.00	\$ 110.00	\$ -	0%				
B8010.4- Zoning	\$ 600.00	\$ 532.00	\$ 68.00	11%				
B8020.4- Planning	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 680.13	\$ 819.87	55%				
SL15182.401	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,064.05	\$ 635.95	37%				
SL15182.402	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 1,792.70	\$ 1,407.30	44%				
SL15182.403	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 813.66	\$ 486.34	37%				
SL15182.404	\$ 4,900.00	\$ 2,956.45	\$ 1,943.55	40%				
SL15182.405	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,075.02	\$ 624.98	37%				
DA5120.4-Bridges	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	0%				
DA5140.4- Brush and Weeds	\$ 1,200.00	\$ (1,401.45)	\$ 2,601.45	217%				
DB5110.4- General Repairs	\$ 63,000.00	\$ 50,387.51	\$ 12,612.49	20%				
DB5130.4-Machinery	\$ 58,000.00	\$ 38,519.26	\$ 19,480.74	34%				
DB5142.4- Snow Removal	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 30,170.19	\$ 59,829.81	34%				
	\$ 358,310.00	\$ 230,085.09	\$ 128,224.91	36%				

## Supervisors August Report 2021

**COVID-19:** Washington County Public Safety conducted a briefing on August 4<sup>th</sup> to provide update on the current status of Covid 19 cases. County DOH advises that there is an uptick in Covid-19 cases. At the time of the briefing there are 33 active cases and 2 are hospitalized. One delta variant has been identified in Washington County. There are 5 labs that in NYS that do variant testing. Public Health is waiting for guidance from NYS regarding use of facemasks.

### **FOLLOWING VACCINATION STATS & BREAKTHROUGH CASES REPORTED**

**8/6/21**

Our Washington County, NY Public Health Department team continues to track our local COVID-19 vaccination statistics and monitor the "breakthrough" (COVID-19 + cases of those who are fully vaccinated) cases investigated within the county. As of this morning, the [#nysvaccinetracker](#) shows 32,142 people in Washington County have received the completed vaccine series, 33,856 have received at least one dose (or 55.3% of the population). To date, of the 32,142 fully vaccinated people in Washington County, investigative efforts have identified 27 breakthrough cases, in which a new positive COVID-19 case has been fully vaccinated. Of the 27 current breakthrough cases, two had been hospitalized related to COVID-19, the remainder experienced no or mild symptoms. *NOTE: We do not currently have the breakdown of total vaccinated by vaccine and are working to attempt to obtain that information from our state partners.* Here's the stats of our local "breakthrough" cases by vaccine type:

- 20 - Received Pfizer
- 6 - Received J&J (Janssen)
- 1 - Received Moderna

**Greenwich Budget: 2021- 2022 Retiree Healthcare Costs:** In 2021 TOG expended a total of \$26,981.64 on retiree healthcare. Five retirees are 65 plus \$326 per month; Three retirees under 65 \$617.97 per month. Two employees retired during the current fiscal year and impacted costs for part of 2021. Also, retirees under 65 receive a \$2200 stipend for their medical co-pays.

Projected retiree healthcare costs for 2022 is \$45,492.46 an increase of \$18,510.82. Each retire receives a \$2200 stipend for co-pays. When the stipend is factored in the actual cost for retiree health care costs in **2022 is \$52092.46**

When the three under 65 retirees reach 65 their costs will be reduced by approximately 50%. TOG was notified by health care providers of an 8.8% increase in 2022. The continued rise in healthcare costs will have a significant impact on future TOG budgets. TOG will work with Jager & Flynn to find ways to reduce costs without impacting coverage.

**Lincoln Avenue Local Law 2 of 2021:** No Parking No Standing signs have been installed on Lincoln Avenue.

**Ferguson Road Culvert:** TOG requested the design plans and item cost projects from DOT. DOT provided the requested information. I have sent the plans to Washington County engineers for their review. I will meet with the engineers next week. TOG has until the end of 2022 to plan on replacing the culvert. That gives TOG time to explore options.

**New York State and Municipal Facilities Program [SAM]:** TOG submitted a preliminary SAM application with the assistance of Carrie Woerner for capital funding for the purchase of a snowplow truck. Our preliminary application was accepted, and more detailed application was submitted to Ways and Means Committee for further consideration. If approved the SAM funding would provide \$125,000 toward a new truck. I would like to thank Carrie for her assistance in the SAM process.

**Traffic Circle:** I contacted NYS DOT regarding the traffic circle and street lighting. After much discussion DOT determined that the maintenance of the circle streetlights was DOT responsibility. DOT is sending a maintenance team to fix the streetlights. DOT is aware of the damage on the curbing of the traffic circle and is planning to fix the curbing and bricks before winter.

**HRP:** Bids for the remodeling of the outside of the classroom building are required to be delivered to the Town Clerk on August 25. Special Board Meeting is scheduled for August 26 at 7:00 pm to review the bids.

**John Farndell Meeting Room:** a 12-foot conference table, made locally, and 10 chairs have been ordered. A bronze sign has been ordered for the entrance into the meeting room. Donations have been raised to cover the costs for the table and chairs. The TOG appreciates Dawn Sharts efforts chairing the committee and getting support for the project.

**Marijuana Referendum:** NYS requires propositions for the November ballot be turned into the Board of Elections 90 days before the November election [August 2]. Because the 90-day ballot requirement conflicts with the 75-day requirement for a referendum TOG cannot get the referendum on the Nov ballot. TOG will have to hold a special election before Dec 31 to have residents vote on the issue.

**Street Flags and Veteran Signs:** I did some research on costs from the vender that provided flags and Veteran kits to Ft. Edward, Saratoga, and several other Towns in Washington County. Flag kit: Flag, flagpole, and poll attachments \$90.00 to \$100.00 depending on quantity. Veterans Banner: Two-sided banner with photo \$250 to \$300, poll attachments \$200 to \$250 depending on quantity. The next step is to schedule a meeting of interested parties to determine community interest.

**Summer Camp:** We had 112 campers register and had 75 to 90 campers on a daily basis. Campers had two field trips Strike Zone and Fun Spot. Campers went to Lauderdale Beach for swimming 3 days per week weather permitting. Washington County provided a progressive swim instructor to evaluate our campers. This is a DOH requirement. TOG has two certified lifeguards for next year and looking to provide training for 2-3 additional lifeguards in spring 2022.

Six weeks goes fast but the camp would not be a success without the hard work of the counselors and Food for Kids. Special thanks to Nessel Brothers for supplying lunch meats, Stewarts, Ice Cream Man for providing ice cream and Jay's Pizza making lunch a special treat for the campers.

Director George Ostrowski did an outstanding job managing the camp and providing leadership for our counselors. Thank you, George, for a great summer you provided for our campers.

A side note: The waterslide was a great hit with the campers. The kids were having such a great time I had to give the slide a try!

**Washington County:** Chairman Sam Hall appointed me Chairman of the Cannabis working group to provide recommendations to the County Board of Supervisors regarding the impact of the new Cannabis laws. Sheriff's Office, Probation and employees with commercial driver's licenses are currently regulated by federal requirements and no action is required at this time. Under current NYS law cannabis can be smoked in areas that allow cigarettes to be smoked. The committee recommended that a smoke free policy be adopted for all county facilities. The recommendation was sent the Governments Operations Committee [GOC] for review. The GOC voted to move the updated smoke free policy to the full Board for consideration.

The Washington County Sheriff's Office has released a new public dashboard that will display trends occurring within Washington County. Sheriff Murphy recognizes the value of being able to share local substance abuse statistics with the general public and local partners, as substance abuse has continued to increase both locally and nationally. The link can be found on the County website.

## Supervisors September Report 2021

**COVID-19:** The number of COVID cases are on the rise. Below are the Washington County statistics for Monday 9/13/2021. Hospitalizations remain low and the Washington County DOH recommends vaccinations. The County will have several clinics for vaccinations. All the information is posted on their website. County DOH will provide booster shot information in the next few weeks.

o **Current Washington County statistics (+/- change since last report):**

- Persons Under Monitoring (PUM): 498 (+ 28)
- COVID-19 + Active Cases: 150 (- 2)
- COVID-19 + Confirmed Cases: 3,413 (+ 26)
- COVID-19 + Recovered: 3,222 (+ 28)
- COVID-19 Current Hospitalizations: 3 (- 2)
- COVID-19 Related Deaths: 41 (No Change)

**Greenwich Budget:** The attached chart has the full benefit package for the Highway Department includes: 3% hourly increase - 8.8% health insurance increase – health care deductible funding, retirement, and social security costs. The proposal includes an additional .50 cents per hour [\$1040] for the highway foreman. The additional compensation is because the foreman will be assisting the new Highway Superintendent in assuming his new position. Total healthcare costs for highway staff increases \$7,172.97.

**The full employee package which includes benefits is a 14% increase over the 2021.**

**Retiree Healthcare costs for 2022 \$45,525.69 an increase of \$3642.06**

NYS Comptroller's Office advises that the employer contribution to the retirement fund should not increase in 2022.

**ARP Funding:** The Board authorized EFPR Group to conduct a loss revenue calculation for TOG. The loss revenue is calculation is \$234,203. The loss revenue can be used in the General Services area of the budget. The revenue can not be used for salaries, retirement costs and reserve funds. An example the funds can be used for a new furnace and windows in the Town Hall or improvements to the Town Garage. The funds cannot be used to supplant general services items in the budget. The remaining funds \$101,898 must be used in accordance with the US Treasury ARP guidance; Water, Sewer, Broadband. The use loss revenue funding is slightly more flexible than the standard guidelines.

**Infrastructure and Highway Funding Savings:** I'm proud to announce that the Christie and Ferguson Road bridge and culverts are to be replaced at no cost, saving the Town over \$340,000 and \$54,000 in CHIPS funding totaling \$395,931. I would like to thank the Town Board for their support in negotiating with DOT. Below is the announcement.

The Bridge NY grant was initially applied for and accepted under the previous administration with terms stating that the Town would be liable for any cost overage in excess of the grant amount. In November of 2020, the initial design of the project was received by Supervisor Don Ward. In February of 2021, Supervisor Ward received information from NYS DOT about the bids stating that the cost overages for the two projects equated to \$341,931 which the Town was responsible to pay under the explicit terms of the contract previously approved by the Town in 2018. When Supervisor Ward stated that the Town could not afford this project, DOT stated that the Town could opt out of the projects but would still be liable for the design costs which equated to \$244,772. Supervisor Ward and the Town Board worked on a plan to pay for the projects since the culverts were in dire need of replacing. This plan required the use of all CHIPS funding normally allocated for paving for 2021-2023. Supervisor Ward also re-applied for lost CHIPS revenue in 2019 due to the Covid-19 pandemic and was awarded an additional \$54,000 that would be used for the projects. Over the next 6 months, Supervisor Ward continued to negotiate with DOT to attempt to lower the cost. DOT agreed to rebid the projects to see if the cost could be lowered.

In August 2021, Supervisor Ward received notification that due to his persistent negotiation with DOT, the funding would be shifted from Bridge NY to NYS Capital Construction Program and both projects would be fully funded by NYS at no charge to the Town. Supervisor Ward is working with Washington County to install a temporary bridge on the Ferguson Road project, ensuring that the road is safe for continued use until the project begins in 2022. Supervisor Ward stated, "I have been working on this throughout the past six months and I am glad that I was able to come to a resolution and protect the Town from extra expenses. I am grateful that the Town will be able to use the CHIPS money that would have been allocated for the culvert projects and it can now be used to pave the roads that need repair." Through this negotiation and reapplying for funds, Supervisor Ward has saved the Town residents \$395,931 in total.

**American Flag Project:** The Town of Greenwich in conjunction with Greenwich VFW Post 7291 cosponsored the American Flag Street Lamp Project. Funds for the project were raised from private donations. The VFW is collecting and disbursing the funding. The TOG worked with National Grid to get approval of the installation of the flags. Phase one of the project was 11 flags by 9/11. That goal was met on Friday 9/10, when 14 flags were placed on poles along Rt 29. The plan is to establish a fund to maintain the flags and a group of volunteers to install and remove the flags in the winter. A great project and well received by the community. Those wishing to contribute and be a volunteer contact the VFW or myself at the Town Hall.

**911 Remembrance Ceremony Honoring Our First Responders:** On September 9/18 at 2:00 pm at the Greenwich VFW and the TOG is sponsoring a 911 Remembrance Ceremony with the VFW. After the 911 ceremony the VFW is having a cookout and games for First Responders and their families.

**Hudson Riverside Park Bids:** The last round of bidding for the full renovation of the outside of the classroom building was \$33,700 over the remaining grant allocation. The Board authorized that new round of bids for the roof and front door be sent out for competition. The bids are due at the Town Office on 9/25/2021 at 2:00 pm.

**DASNY Grant 7766 HRP:** I requested an extension to the grant because of funding issues [bids] were over the grant. I will be working with DASNY after we receive the new bids for the roof and door. DASNY understands the issues concerning materials and delays brought on by CIVID-19. I believe DASNY will grant an extension once the next round of bidding is complete, and the future of the project requirements are clearer.

**Greenwich Chamber of Commerce:** GCC is conducting their 30th Annual Halloween Parade on Sunday Oct 31 at 1:00 pm. The Best in Parade winner will receive a \$100 prize.

GCC announced that the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Lighted Tractor Parade is scheduled for Saturday November 20 at 6:00 pm.

**Town Road Paving:** The paving for the year has been completed. TOG paved 5.28 miles of road. The paving for 2021 is the most in several years. Next year we should be able to pave the same or more roads. In years past TOG paving was around 3 miles.

**Sale of Town Hall Garage:** The Town and Jim Schneible have agreed to a sale price of \$9500. Jim will be responsible for closing costs and the survey. Town Attorney Dave Klingebiel is preparing a contract for the sale of the property.

**Washington County:** Washington County Board of Supervisors voted to accept a settlement to an action relating to the Opioid Crisis. This settlement is with Johnson and Johnson. The settlement is worst case scenario \$119,587.03 and best-case scenario an \$279,089.25. The funds are restricted for use in opioid related issues.

**Emergency Rental Assistance Program [ERAP]:** The ERAP program covers rental arrears, prospective rent and utility arrears. Thirty-nine Greenwich residents applied for ERAP assistance. Total of \$211,068 in ERAP payment have been make for Wash Co residents.

Employee	2021 Hourly Rate	2022 Hourly Rate	%	Healthcare	%	Deductible Funding	%	Retirement	%	SS	%	% Increase
Employee 1	\$ 21.63	\$ 22.78	5.3%	\$ 2,011.04	8%	\$ 4,400.00	0	\$ 7,747.58	0	\$ 3,704.31	3%	16%
Employee 2	\$ 20.99	\$ 21.62	3%	\$ 562.48	8%	\$ 2,200.00	0	\$ 4,272.11	0	\$ 3,440.17	3%	14%
Employee 3	\$ 20.99	\$ 21.62	3%	\$ 1,127.98	8%	\$ 4,400.00	0	\$ 4,272.11	0	\$ 3,440.17	3%	14%
Employee 4	\$ 18.62	\$ 19.18	3%	\$ 562.48	8%	\$ 2,200.00	0	\$ 3,789.97	0	\$ 3,051.92	3%	14%
Vacant Employee 5	\$ 19.31	\$ 19.89	3%	\$ 1,608.84	8%	\$ 4,400.00	0	\$ 3,930.26	0	\$ 3,164.90	3%	14%

	2021 Cost	2022 Cost	%
Total Healthcare Cost	\$ 97,558.05	\$ 106,041.36	8%
Total Employee Contribution	\$ 15,071.22	\$ 16,381.76	8%
Total Town Contribution	\$ 82,486.83	\$ 89,659.60	8%

	2021 Cost	2022 Cost	%
Total Retiree Cost	\$ 41,883.63	\$ 45,525.69	8%

TOWN OF GREENWICH, NEW YORK

American Rescue Plan

Revenue Loss Calculation

December 31, 2020

TOWN OF GREENWICH, NEW YORK

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\* \* \* \* \*

Mr. Donald B. Ward  
Supervisor  
Town of Greenwich, New York:

In connection with our consulting arrangement, we have performed the procedures listed below, solely to assist you with respect to the revenue loss calculation of the Town of Greenwich, New York (the Town) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2020 as detailed in the Interim Final Rule to implement the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund established under the American Rescue Plan Act. Town management is responsible for the Town's proper recording of transactions in the books and records, for the safeguarding of assets and for the substantial accuracy of the financial records. Management also has final responsibility for the revenue loss calculation.

The procedures are as follows:

1. Identify revenue collected in the most recent full fiscal year prior to the public health emergency (last full fiscal year before January 27, 2020), called the base year revenue.
2. Estimate counterfactual revenue, which is equal to base year revenue adjusted for the growth adjustment, which is the greater of 4.1% or the recipient's average growth in the three full fiscal years prior to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
3. Identify actual revenue, which equals revenues collected over the past twelve months as of the calculation date.
4. The extent of the reduction in revenue is equal to counterfactual revenue less actual revenue. If actual revenue exceeds counterfactual revenue, the extent of the reduction in revenue is zero for that calculation date.

We were not engaged to and did not conduct an audit, review, compilation or any other type of assurance engagement with respect to the revenue loss calculation of the Town of Greenwich, New York. Therefore, we provide no assurance on such revenue loss calculation. Our work cannot be relied upon to discover errors, irregularities or illegal acts including fraud or defalcations.

The revenue loss calculation is intended solely for the information and use of the management of the Town of Greenwich, New York and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than that specified party.

EFPR Group, CPAs, PLLC

Williamsville, New York  
September 7, 2021

TOWN OF GREENWICH, NEW YORK

Revenue Loss Calculation

Year ended December 31, 2020

Base year general revenue - December 31, 2019	\$ 2,032,278
Growth adjustment	<u>104.1%*</u>
Counterfactual revenue	2,115,901
Actual revenue - December 31, 2020	<u>1,881,698</u>
Revenue loss - counterfactual revenue less actual revenue	\$ <u>234,203</u>

General revenue is the Town’s annual revenue adjusted by excluded items as defined by the U.S. Department of the Treasury’s Final Interim Rule.

\*The growth adjustment is rounded for presentation purposes.

## Supervisors October Report 2021

**COVID-19:** The number of cases is increasing in Washington County. Hospitalizations have remained fairly constant. The county is holding vaccination clinics throughout the county. The booster shot for Pfizer vaccine is being offered. Information for vaccinations is posted on the Town and County websites.

**Greenwich Budget:** Twenty-two-year analysis of the taxable portion of the budget [TPB] reveals the TPB budget increased 110% over 22 years.

Under Supervisor Don Wilbur the TPB increased from \$633,486 to \$1,009,915 a 59% increase.

Under Supervisor Sara Idelman the TPB increased from \$1,010,107 to \$1,331,534 a 37% increase.

For the first time in 24 years Greenwich for 2 consecutive years will have a budget that does not increase the TPB.

New York State Comptroller's office issued the fiscal stress scores for 2020. Town of Greenwich has a score of 0.0. Final stress No Designation.

Town wide Annual Reassessment 2022: \$444,922,471 an increase of \$9,321,130 [2.12%].

**Everlasting Lights:** Judith Patrick reported that due to growing and supply issues attempts to get trees for this year is proving very difficult. If anyone knows any growers or suppliers, please contact the Everlasting Lights Committee.

**Hudson Riverside Park:** TOG received three bids to replace the roof and front door. The bids ranged from \$163,000 to \$129,800. B&L is reviewing bids for the reasonable lowest bidder.

**Flag Project:** The Town and Village portions of the project is completed. Fifty-six flags have been installed. The was truly a community project from volunteer hours to install the flags and all those that contributed to line of street with our Flag. Thank you - Mike Savage, The Troy's, VFW Tim Taylor, George Perkins, and Ed Wait. Also, GFD, MFG, and Greenwich DPW. Over the winter a committee will be formed to continue the project and focus on the Hometown Hero Banner Project.

**Ferguson Road Temporary Bridge:** The County DPW will install the temporary bridge in October.

**Battenkill Park:** The water system and bathroom will be winterized and closed the last week of October.

The Park will remain open as long as possible depending on weather conditions.

**Library Funding:** The library is a valuable part of the community. I have a 5-year proposal to move us down the road to tax equity for Town and Village residents. The public funds contribution is for library services that benefit all residents. The five-year proposal is a starting point for discussion between the Town, Village and Library. The predictability of public funding will allow the library to plan their budget on an annual and business-like basis. The library will have to exceed the tax cap to ensure tax equity for all our residents. NYS Tax cap legislation states "A library board can propose a budget that exceeds the tax cap by a 60% vote of their total board and if the budget requires voter approval, must be approved by simple majority of voters (+50%). I acknowledge that my proposal is a starting point for solving the tax equity issues. This can be a framework for future discussions. Let us begin our transition with clear minds and positive thoughts.

## Supervisors November Report 2021

**John Farndell Meeting Room:** John's service to Greenwich sets the stand for all that follow about what "Community Service" means. John loved his family and often said that his wife Betty was his love and best part of this life. The true measure of a man is his legacy, and his sons and daughter are John's legacy. John was an accomplished Architect where he oversaw the design and construction of 249 projects. John was assistant Boy Scout leader and loved to play Santa Claus at Hudson Falls central schools where his daughter taught.

John was the first and only ZBA Chairman for 14 years. John loved Greenwich and worked every day to make Greenwich a great place to live. Tonight, we honor John for his dedication to "Our Community" and the example he set about public service. The beautiful table and chairs were purchased by private donations to honor John. By Town Board resolution the Town meeting room is officially named the John Farndell Meeting Room.

**State and Municipal Facilities Program [SAM] Grant:** I applied for a grant to help purchase a snowplow truck. On November 1, 2021, I was notified that the TOG has been awarded \$125,000 toward a new snowplow truck. This will cover approximately half the cost of a new snowplow. This will be our second truck in two years getting TOG closer to an affordable equipment replacement schedule.

**COVID-19:** The County is working on clinics for the booster shots. The first week in November County DOH will announce clinic locations and which vaccines are available.

**Greenwich Budget:** The 2022 budget does not increase property tax rates. The village tax rate is 0.91 the same as 2021. The Town tax rate is \$2.64 a reduction of 9 cents. The taxable portion of the budget increased by only \$32.

**Health Care Costs:** The Town portion of all health care costs is \$114,267.36. The employee contribution is 11%. Town cost plus deductible funding brings the total cost of healthcare for 2022 to \$138,467.36.

**Halloween Parade:** I was a judge at the GCC Halloween Parade. The event was moved the high school gym due to inclement weather. Attendance was excellent and the customs were great. Congratulations to all the winners.