

# SHELTON*Life*

2025-2026

## BIENNIAL REPORT OF MUNICIPAL SERVICES





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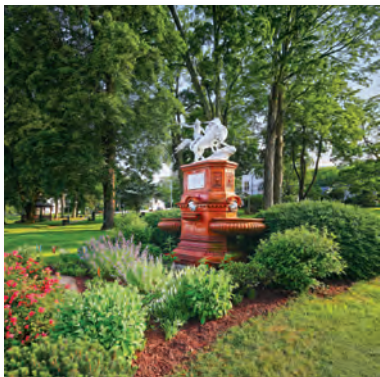
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*All copy in this Biennial Report was provided by department heads and has been proofread for grammar, not content.  
When necessary, copy was edited and cut to fit space allotted.*



Front Cover: Huntington Green, Curtiss Memorial Fountain Circa 1895, fully restored in 2001.

Back Cover: White Hills Baptist Church

*Photographer: Paula Severino*

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# SHELTON

## CONNECTICUT

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### *Balanced Growth for a Balanced Community*

Shelton Life publications including the Shelton Life newsletter and Biennial Reports, have long highlighted the City's commitment to balanced growth and responsible development.

Shelton continues to experience dynamic growth, with significant investments in both residential and commercial opportunities. Over the past decade, private investments in downtown Shelton have exceeded \$100 million, transforming the area into a vibrant hub of activity and innovation. These investments not only enhance the City's social and economic vitality but also contribute to a growing grand list, supporting Shelton's goal of maintaining a stable and predictable tax base. Businesses, in particular, benefit from this consistency, which enables them to confidently forecast and invest in future growth.

Economic development is not confined to downtown alone. Growth and expansion are reaching all areas of Shelton. A major milestone includes the City's recent investment of several million dollars into the extension of Constitution Boulevard off Bridgeport Avenue (Route 714). This new roadway will provide access to approximately 64 acres of land for additional business development. The area is expected to support up to 600,000 square feet of new commercial or manufacturing space, bringing hundreds of new jobs and additional tax revenue to Shelton.

While economic growth is essential, Shelton's leadership remains equally committed to preserving the community's natural beauty and historic character. The city currently maintains over 2,000 acres of public open space and 32 miles of recreational trails.

Looking ahead, Shelton is planning an initiative that blends environmental restoration with historic preservation: the creation of the Shelton Canal Lock Park. Located at the northern end of Canal Street, the project is a collaboration between the city, the state of CT, Conservation Commission, the Shelton History Center, and the Shelton Economic Development Corporation. The park will restore the historic canal lock and surrounding waterways while introducing pocket parks, walking trails, and improved public access to the Housatonic River.

As always, we invite residents to take part in these ongoing efforts to shape our city's future. Together, we can ensure Shelton remains a "Wonderful Place to Live"—for generations to come.



# Greetings From the Mayor

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July 2025

Dear Shelton Residents and Businesses,

We are pleased to present the City of Shelton's 2025–2026 Biennial Report. This marks the sixteenth biennial report prepared since its reinstatement in 1995 by the Economic Development Commission.

This publication provides a comprehensive overview of our community, featuring detailed summaries of city departments, a clear vision for the future, and numerous examples of successful public initiatives that demonstrate our commitment to cost-effective, responsive services. Our city's leadership proudly shares this vision—one shaped and strengthened by the voices of our residents and business owners, the very individuals who have chosen Shelton as their home and invested in its ongoing growth.

Most recently, the city has been awarded two additional grants totaling close to \$4,000,000. One grant is for additional remediation along Canal Street in the amount of \$2,975,000, and the other grant is for public facility and recreational enhancements in the amount of \$1,000,000.

While the City of Shelton continues to be successful and has evolved in many ways, one constant remains: the extraordinary spirit of our volunteers. Their dedication, generosity and commitment to the greater good of our city continues to drive our community forward.

We remain steadfast in our commitment to fostering strong public and private partnerships with the business community. Our collaboration with the Shelton Economic Development Corporation stands as a shining example of how city and business leaders, working together with a shared focus on growth and engagement, can build a more inclusive and prosperous future.

On behalf of the entire City of Shelton team, I wish to thank you for your continued investment and involvement. Together, we are shaping a smart, sustainable community that we are all proud to call home.



Very truly yours,



Mark A. Lauretti, Mayor  
Shelton, Connecticut



# Shelton's Government

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



**City of Shelton Board of Aldermen**

Seated (L to R): Cris Balamaci, John F. Anglace, Jr., Board President; and Ben Perry. Standing: Lorenzo Durante, Eric McPherson, Board Vice President; and Bernie Simons Missing: Porter McKinnon and Anthony Simonetti

## *The Elected Officials Who Operate & Administer Shelton*

### *Office of the Mayor*

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

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

### *The Board of Aldermen*

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

The elected Board of Aldermen govern the City. There has been close communication, cooperation and agreement on major issues. Cooperation with the Mayor and City departments has been a cornerstone of this Board. Permanent and Ad Hoc

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

### *The Board of Apportionment and Taxation*

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

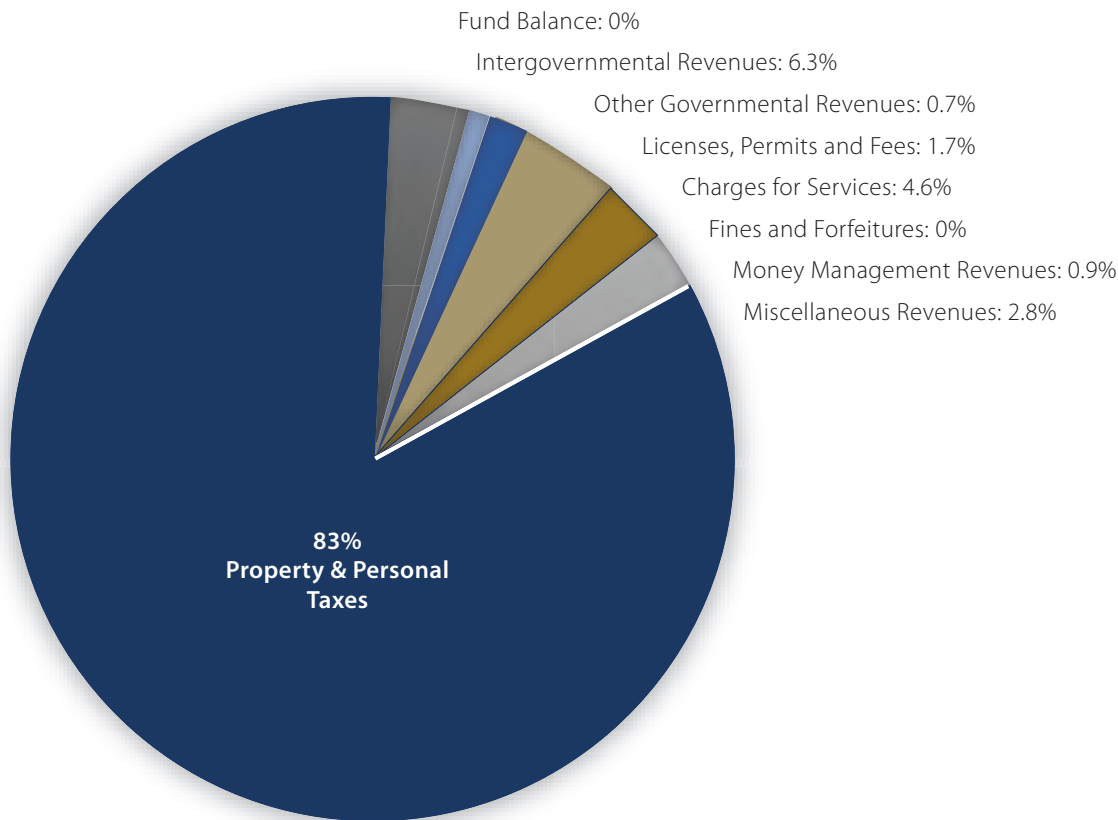


# Annual Budget-Revenue

Each year the City handles a great deal of money. Determining how much money the City needs to provide residents with comprehensive services and then spending this money wisely, is a process that concerns and affects us all. Over the years, City departments have gained a great deal of experience in the preparation of their budgets. As a result, Shelton's budget process has become highly efficient. As people hear of budget and tax battles that occur in cities and towns across the state, they come to realize the effectiveness of our system in Shelton.

## Where the Money Comes From

FY 2025 - 2026 BUDGET REVENUE



### 2025/2026 Income

Property and Personal Taxes.....	\$ 117,414,923
Fund Balance .....	0
Intergovernmental Revenues .....	8,904,301
Other Governmental Revenues.....	974,504
Licenses, Permits and Fees .....	2,484,265
Charges for Services.....	6,514,750
Fines and Forfeitures.....	26,000
Money Management Revenues .....	1,300,000
Miscellaneous Revenues.....	4,006,867
	<b>\$141,625,610</b>

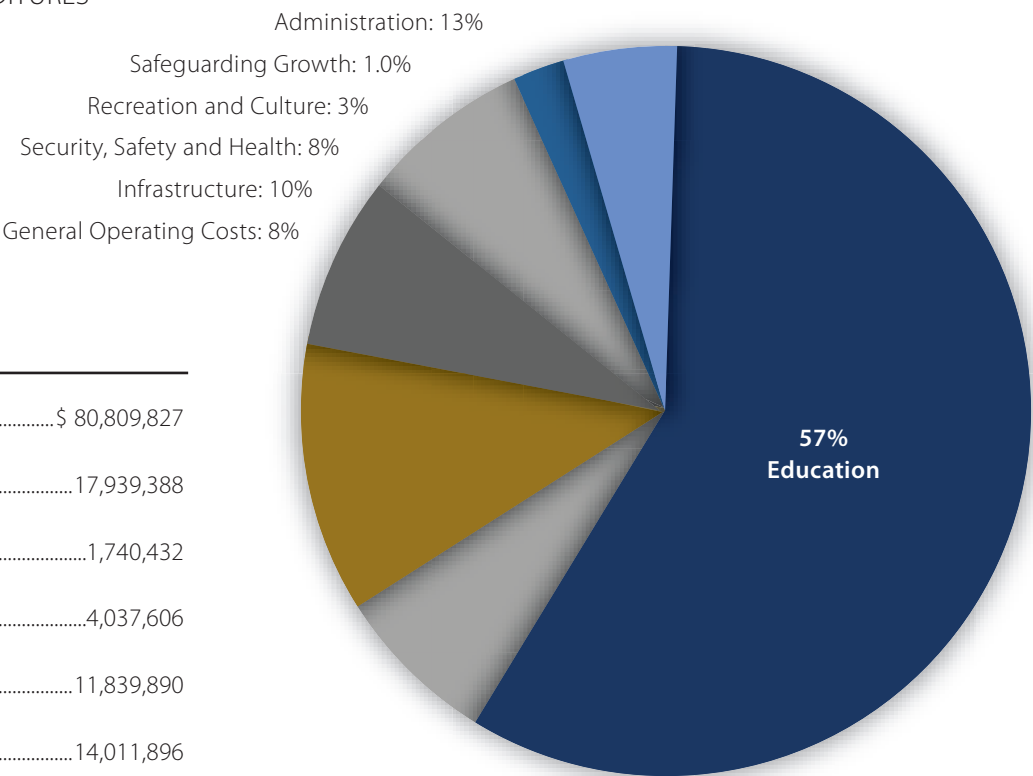


# Annual Budget-Expense

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

## Where the Money Goes

### FY 2025 - 2026 BUDGET EXPENDITURES



### 2025/2026 Expenses

Education .....	\$ 80,809,827
Administration.....	17,939,388
Safeguarding Growth .....	1,740,432
Recreation and Culture .....	4,037,606
Security, Safety and Health.....	11,839,890
Infrastructure.....	14,011,896
General Operating Costs .....	11,246,571
	<b>\$141,625,610</b>

### General Operating Costs

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

### General Operating Costs: 7.9%

Debt Service* .....	\$ 4,816,588
Management Information Service .....	611,418
Miscellaneous Expenses .....	3,169,625
Contributions to Outside Agencies.....	419,187
Public Risk Management .....	2,229,753
	<b>\$11,246,571</b>

\*Includes Interest and principal reduction



# Governance & Administration



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

The Finance Organization is made up of several departments and is overseen by the Director of Finance. Its main goals are to provide a strong system of internal controls to safeguard the City's assets and to promote economy and efficiency in the administration of City funds.

## Making Shelton Work for You

### Treasurer

The City Treasurer is an elected position and works with the Finance Director to coordinate the accounting functions of the City. The Treasurer acts as an agent for the City deposit funds and maintains oversight of the City Accounting Department. The City Treasurer works closely with the Board of Aldermen Finance Committee in establishing guidelines for proper accounting methods and controls.

### Director of Finance

The Director of Finance manages the Finance Department which includes the oversight of the following departments; Tax Collector, Tax Assessor, Information Technology and the Purchasing Department. The Director shall administer all financial matters of the City. The Director shall prepare financial reports for such periods as may be required by the Mayor. The reports show expenditures and revenues for the City and its boards, commissions and other bodies including the Board of Education, its departments, other agencies and its officials. The Director oversees the establishment of the budget and is involved in overseeing the investments of the City.

### Accounting Department

The City Accounting Department is responsible for recording all monetary transactions for the City including all accounts payable and accounts receivable functions. The Department maintains an accounting and reporting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for all funds including the General Fund, Special Revenue, Capital Projects and Trust and Agency. The Accounting Department is responsible for all cash reconciliations. It works closely with the auditors to complete the end of year audit to provide an accurate accounting of the City's financial position. It also works closely with all departments throughout the year to ensure adherence to the budget as well as providing accurate and detailed reporting to department heads, boards and commissions to aid them in carrying out their duties and responsibilities. The Accounting Department is also responsible for all payroll operations of the City.

### Tax Collector

The Tax Collector's office is comprised of four full-time employees that collect real estate, motor vehicle (both regular and supplemental) and business personal property taxes, along with sewer usage fees and water/sewer assessments. The tax bills are mailed in June each year with the exception of the motor vehicle supplemental (January) and water/sewer assessments (April).

Real estate taxes over \$100 and business personal property taxes over \$5,000 are due in two equal installments, which are due July 1st and January 1st. The bills are mailed in June and they have a payment stub for residents to submit with each installment, and one to retain for personal recordkeeping. The office does not mail a separate bill for the January installment.

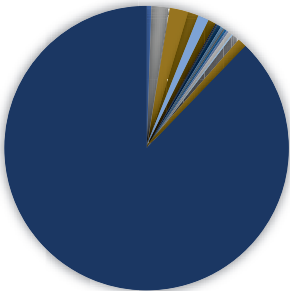
Sewer use is based on a flat fee per unit. Bills are mailed each year in June and come due July 1st, covering the year in advance (July 1st to the following June 30th).

Motor vehicle taxes are due in one installment each year, July 1st, for those vehicles registered on the previous October 1st. The supplemental list is due January 1st each year and is based on those vehicles registered after October 1st through September 30th, billed pro rata per the month the vehicle was registered during the motor vehicle tax year of October-September.

General Administration .....	\$777,167
BOE-Bus Transportation .....	4,048,000
Employee Resources .....	9,018,564
Legislative and Ethics .....	176,601
Elections.....	212,532
Assessors Office .....	648,146
Probate Court.....	16,000
Elected/Appointed Officials.....	18,450
City/Town Clerk.....	545,775
Public Employees Appeal Board .....	200
Legal Service/Corp Counsel.....	267,270
Tax Collectors Office.....	377,718
Purchasing .....	394,000
Accounting and Fiscal Control.....	763,965
Board of Aldermen.....	675,000

**\$17,939,388**

**13%**  
**Governance & Administration**





The tax office maintains one of the highest collection rates in the state which is attributed to the historically low tax rate which Shelton has come to be known for, as well as its dedicated and customer service-oriented staff. Taxes can be viewed and paid online on the City's website.

## *Assessor*

The Assessor's office discovers, lists and measures all taxable and exempt properties in the City. The Assessor's office conducts field inspections on building permit work such as; residential, commercial, industrial, additions, porches, garages and decks, etc. The Assessor files the Grand List October 1st of each year. Revaluation is the appraisal of all real property. The City is mandated by State Law to revalue property every five years to ensure each taxpayer pays their fair share of the tax burden.

The Assessor's office is in the process of re-evaluating all real property in the City as of October 1, 2025. The city hired Municipal Valuation Services to assist the assessor with the property inspections, reviewing sales and the final step valuing all properties at their current market value. For more information see the City's website and refer to assessor page.

A breakdown of field cards can be found on the City's website. The Assessor's office also values motor vehicles, business personal property and administers State and local programs for veterans, totally disabled, blind and elderly homeowners.

## *Central Purchasing Department*

The Purchasing Department is responsible for making all purchases on behalf of the City. The department purchases all goods and services required by the City, its boards, commissions, other bodies and its departments. The Purchasing Department is responsible for following all rules and regulations relating to proper bidding for all goods and services as established by the City Charter and State and Federal statutes. In addition to maintaining records related to those purchases and bids, the department provides support to the City's operations as well as maintaining their own budget responsibilities for office supplies, utilities, office equipment, mailing services, printing and advertising.

## *Registrar of Voters*

The Office of the Registrar of Voters is regulated by Connecticut State Statutes and the Connecticut Secretary of the State. Its duties include maintaining voter registration records, annual canvassing of voters, compiling and retaining accurate statistical information for federal, state, and municipal government agencies and providing and managing fair and impartial primaries and elections. The Office of the Registrar of Voters is also responsible for secure operations of all voting tabulators, polling place preparation, hiring and training poll workers and other duties as required by Connecticut Election Law.

To register to vote, you must be a U.S. Citizen, a resident of the town in which you wish to vote and at least 17 years of age and turning 18 on or before Election Day.

Registration requirements, registration and election forms, office hours, voting locations, and sample ballots for upcoming primaries

and elections can be located on the City's website. The Registrar of Voters' Office is in the Richard O. Belden Cultural Center located at 54 Grove Street.

## *City/Town Clerk*

The Town Clerk's Office is dedicated to the accurate recording, preservation, and accessibility of public records in compliance with Connecticut state statutes, the Freedom of Information Act, and the City Charter. As the official record keeper for Shelton, the office plays a vital role in maintaining the integrity of government operations and public transparency.

### **Key Responsibilities:**

**Land Records & Public Documents:** All land records are recorded and preserved with precision. The office also files calendars, meeting schedules, agendas, and minutes for all city boards and commissions, along with a wide variety of other municipal records.

**Vital Records:** The office securely maintains birth, marriage, and death certificates, as well as burial, cremation, and disinterment permits.

**Elections & Voter Services:** In collaboration with the Registrar of Voters, the office oversees local, state, federal, and special elections. It also assists voters with absentee ballot applications and related processes.

**Public Information & Customer Assistance:** The Town Clerk's Office acts as a central information hub for all city departments, guiding residents to the appropriate services. Residents can also visit [www.cityofshelton.org](http://www.cityofshelton.org) for 24/7 access to meeting agendas, minutes, and contact information. A land record activity alert service is also available for homeowners.

### **Licensing & Permits:**

- Sporting licenses (hunting, fishing, archery) for individuals age 16 and up, including a new Trout and Salmon license
- Town boat ramp and Aquarion Reservoir permits
- Invasive boat stickers
- Annual dog licenses beginning in June (dogs over six months must be licensed and current on rabies vaccinations)

### **Other Services:**

- Filing of trade names, military discharges, liquor permits, and notary public certifications
- Certain notary services
- Registration of foreclosed properties
- Recording mylar maps
- Processing municipal and state conveyance taxes
- Records retention management
- Distribution of all incoming mail to appropriate city departments

**Preservation & Grant Funding:** Since 2001, the office has participated in the Connecticut State Library's Historic Preservation Grant Program, receiving over \$100,000 to preserve and protect the city's oldest and most valuable records.

**Training & Revenue:** All fees collected by the Town Clerk's Office are established by state law and contribute as net revenue for the City of Shelton. To ensure high-quality service, staff participate in ongoing state-sponsored training on evolving laws, technology, and customer service standards.



# Education



Seated (L to R): Lorraine Rossner, James Oraziotti, Jason Neves  
Standing: Kate Kutash, Patricia Moonan.  
Missing: Chair Amy Romano, Jim Feehan, Anthony Smeraglino, Joan Littlefield

**T**he Shelton Public Schools Board of Education administrative team and staff take the responsibility of educating and preparing students for the future as the #1 priority. As a community, all must work together to ensure that the responsibility to prepare the next generation for their future roles is met.

## *Preserving the Integrity and Quality of Shelton's Future*

### *Board of Education*

The Shelton Board of Education (BOE) is an elected group of nine members and essentially embodies the “public” side of public education. Their responsibilities, to name a few, include the hiring and evaluation of the superintendent, setting the annual educational budget, assisting in negotiating as well as approving contracts for various groups of employees and establishing policies and procedures which support educational programs which benefit students from Pre-K through High School.

The Board elects a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Secretary. The Chairperson assigns members to the four standing committees. Each of these committees’ function in their area with the uniform goal of improving student achievement, establishing governing policies and regulations, as well as monitoring buildings, school grounds and transportation in the most effective and efficient way to ensure safety and compliance with State and Federal laws and regulations. The four committees are:

**The Teaching and Learning Committee** provides monitoring and oversight of all matters pertaining to curriculum, instruction, assessment, and professional learning of staff and faculty.

**The Finance Committee** provides monitoring and oversight to the school budget and all matters related to finance such as Board capital improvement projects, maintenance and repairs.

**The Policy Committee** is responsible to keep all Board of Education policies current based on education statutes, laws and new legislation. The Board of Education policy book has been updated and can be found on the district website.

**The Buildings and Grounds Committee** was established to monitor the maintenance and capital projects that are scheduled or

need to be scheduled. The committee monitors the transportation of students and the contract between the Board of Education and the bus vendor.

All district BOE activities and information is available to the public on the district website which can be reached at [www.sheltonpublicschools.org](http://www.sheltonpublicschools.org).



## Board of Education Budget

### I. Compensation: All Departments 80.2%

#### A. Teachers & Administrators 51.5%

Teacher & Administration	
Salaries .....	39,239,044
Other Payments, Certified .....	361,555
Temporary, Certified Substitutes .....	1,262,000
Temporary, Certified Tutors .....	750,000
	<u>41,612,599</u>

#### B. Classified Staff 13.5%

Support Staff Salaries .....	10,324,410
Other Payments, Support Staff .....	61,090
Support Staff, Temporary .....	215,000
Summer Help .....	133,500
Part-Time Custodians .....	169,941
	<u>10,828,426</u>

#### C. Employee Benefits 15.2%

Medical Insurance .....	9,097,729
Social Security-Medicare .....	1,372,715
Pension/Retirement .....	1,171,449
Unemployment Compensation .....	72,500
Workers' Compensation .....	250,000
Other Benefits .....	310,125
	<u>122,274,518</u>

**Total: Compensation & Benefits 64,791,058**

### II. Program Improvement & Staff Dev. 0.1%

Program Improvement & Staff Dev. ....	87,090
Conference & Travel .....	15,750
	<u>102,840</u>

### III. Instructional Materials 1.2%

Wide-Area Network .....	114,456
Instructional Software .....	156,185
Teaching Supplies .....	641,005
Textbooks/Workbooks .....	35,000
Library Books .....	10,050
Periodicals .....	1,556
Testing Materials .....	1,556
	<u>959,808</u>

### IV. Outgoing Tuition 5.1%

Outgoing Tuition - Public Schools ...	2,150,074
Outgoing Tuition - Private Schools ..	1,838,737
Adult Education .....	156,546
	<u>4,145,357</u>

### V. Maintenance & Utilities 4.4%

Electricity .....	1,434,778
Gas .....	1,059,237
Water .....	82,400
Heating Fuel .....	10,900
Equipment Repairs .....	133,053
Building Repair/Maintenance .....	300,100
Service Contracts .....	269,892
Equipment Rental .....	139,258
Gasoline .....	15,000
Custodial Supplies .....	142,000
Maintenance Supplies 6 .....	2,000
	<u>3,588,618</u>

### VI. Student Transportation 6.8%

Regular Student Transportation .....	3,150,000
Special Education Transportation ...	1,929,516
Athletic Transportation .....	95,000
Student Field Trips .....	2,500
School Bus Fuel .....	286,547
	<u>5,463,563</u>

### VII. Expenses & Equipment 2.2%

Telephone Charges .....	83,400
Postage .....	22,384
Printing .....	13,600
Other Services .....	17,913
Non-Instructional Supplies .....	84,292
Dues & Memberships .....	70,481
Pupil Services .....	629,430
Other Professional/Tech. Services .....	722,269
Liability Insurance .....	49,414
Replacement of Equipment .....	9,500
New Equipment .....	5,900
	<u>1,758,583</u>

### Total Non-Salary

**Expenditures 19.8% ..... 16,018,769**

### Total Board of

**Education Budget ..... 80,809,827**

State ECS Grant ..... (2,000,000)

**Net Cost to Taxpayers ..... 78,809,827**

## Shelton Public School's Mission - A Vision of a Graduate

The Shelton Public School system aims to prepare students for the future by nurturing and guiding them through milestones designed to develop skills which will enable them to thrive in a rapidly changing global society. To achieve this, the system is committed to moving beyond traditional instructional methods and assessments to improve student growth. The school has three main goals: academic growth and achievement, social-emotional learning, and family and community engagement. To achieve these goals, the school has developed strategies and action plans which involve identifying curricular needs and supporting schools in their

implementation of initiatives in alignment with state standards, developing self-awareness, social awareness, relationship, self-management, and responsible decision-making skills in all students, and establishing and maintaining meaningful experiences for all stakeholders to engage in opportunities centered on the shared vision of excellence and innovative instruction. The plan is designed to improve student success in critical thinking and problem-solving, creativity and innovation, flexibility and adaptability, initiative and self-direction, collaboration, and empathy.



# Shelton Schools



Superintendent of Schools Kenneth D. Saranich, Ed.D.

*The Shelton School System is made up of individuals passionately committed to providing all of its nearly 4,500 students with educational programs and services which will enhance their ability to become productive, adaptable adults in the emerging, complex global society.*

*Shelton is home to five K-4 elementary schools, one upper elementary school for grades 5 and 6, an intermediate school for grades 7 and 8, and a high school serving 1,300 students. Shelton employs almost 400 certified staff, which includes teachers and administrators, along with a support staff of a little less than 200 employees. Opportunities are provided to participate in professional learning activities to keep current with the changing needs of our students.*

## *Preserving the Integrity and Quality of Shelton's Future*

### *Elementary Education*

Each of Shelton's five elementary schools provides an enriched hands-on curriculum using a comprehensive approach to reading and writing. The literacy curriculum uses the program called Wit and Wisdom for core instruction support. The curriculum stresses literacy skill development through the use of rich and engaging text to help students build the knowledge of important ideas in the liberal arts and sciences.

The district uses the Foundations Phonics Program which is a 30-minute daily supplemental program for all students in grades K-2 that provides a comprehensive foundational skills program for phonics, word study, spelling, and handwriting that aligns with the science of reading. In unison with Foundations the district uses Heggerty Phonemic Awareness in grades K-2 which provides explicit and systematic instruction in phonological and phonemic awareness skills. The lessons in the Heggerty curricula are aligned with evidence and research-based practices.

In addition, our elementary schools offer fully integrated art, music, physical education, and technology instruction. Support services are available in reading, special education, enrichment, social services and English as a Second Language. Our current K-4 elementary schools include Booth Hill, Elizabeth Shelton, Long Hill, Mohegan and Sunnyside. A peer partner oriented Pre-K program also exists at Long Hill and Mohegan Elementary Schools.

Exciting and challenging new curriculum initiatives in mathematics and science have been introduced at the elementary level in an effort to make learning more meaningful and relative to real-life experiences. The mathematics curriculum uses the program called Eureka Math for core instruction support. All curriculum is aligned with the Common Core State Standards, preparing students for college and career. Engaging, cross-curricular, project-based learning tasks have been incorporated into our inquiry-based

science curriculum. Generation Genius is a teaching resource that provides engaging hands-on, inquiry-based science lessons that are aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and the Common Core Math Standards.

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

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

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

### *Perry Hill School*



*Perry Hill Language Arts teachers have been incorporating play-based learning into their modules.*



Perry Hill opened in September of 2010. The grades 5-6 program design was developed to prepare students to enter grades 7-8. Students have the opportunity to work with multiple teachers and build responsibility. The 5-6 program of study is a comprehensive education model with an emphasis on improving student learning. The design is to present our 5-6 students with an academically rigorous curriculum while ensuring a caring, supportive environment which values all students and is based on positive relationships established between students and staff. Perry Hill School addresses this by creating teaching triads (3-person teacher teams) and full implementation of Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) to ensure all students have access to the most effective and precise instructional and behavioral practices and interventions possible which promote positive student choice, decision-making, and academic growth. The school professional staff operates in a co-operative and collaborative environment which provides academic intervention through an Academic Support Center and Accelerated Math course. Students cover 6-8 math content in two years.



*Perry Hill students have been learning about mixtures and solutions as well as climate and weather. Students have been making observations and conducting investigations to determine whether mixing two or more substances results in a new substance. They have also been introduced to a new resource, Generation Genius.*

## *Special Education Services*

The Special Education Department is responsible for designing and implementing programming for students identified with special needs, ages 3-22. Students who are suspected of having a disability are evaluated, and if found eligible, are entitled to an Individualized Education Program which includes special education and possibly related services. Related services staff include: school psychologists, speech-language pathologists, social workers, occupational therapists, counselors, and physical therapists. Each of Shelton's eight schools includes certified staff who provide services to students with disabilities. A continuum of service delivery models for special education and related services exists across the district, including services in the following settings: Pre-Kindergarten half-day programming, general education classrooms, resource classrooms, Life Skills, Behavior/Emotional Needs, and Autism specialized programs, 18-22 year old transition programming, and out of district special education schools.

Perry Hill School, Shelton Intermediate, and Shelton High Schools house the Best Buddies program. This program provides a forum for disabled and non-disabled students to participate together in extracurricular and social activities, as well as to develop social skills. Shelton High School students have the opportunity to participate in work experience programming to support and develop the skills necessary for community employment and life skills after graduation. This program places students at job sites throughout the community, as well as provides the support of job coaches on site for supervision and skill acquisition assistance.

The Office of Pupil Personnel Services and Guidance Departments also oversee the provision of support for students with impairments who have been found eligible under Section 504. Section 504 plans



*Shelton CTE directly supports Shelton's Business Advisory Council, which fosters "collaboration with students, parents, educators, and the professional community to provide resources to create opportunities for students to succeed in the competitive global marketplace." The fall meeting was a massive success, with a record number of attendees sharing collaborative engagements and 'TEAM building' for all stakeholders.*



provide accommodations which promote access to the general education curriculum for students who qualify. The goal for both Section 504 and Individualized Education Plans is to assist students in accessing and participating in general education curriculum, instruction, and activities.

## *Shelton High School*



Shelton High School is guided by the district's Vision of the Graduate and focuses on building 21st Century competencies for the students it serves. The school is committed to providing a diverse student body with a safe environment which is characterized by respect. The faculty, staff, students, parents and community work collaboratively to encourage lifelong learning and responsible citizenship.

For the 2023-2024 school year 351 students took 612 College Board Advanced Placement exams in 24 different subjects. Seventy-five percent (75%) of the exams were scored a three or higher, indicating those students have successfully passed a college level course while still in high school. Shelton High School also has articulation agreements with the University of Connecticut, Southern Connecticut State University, and Housatonic Community College. With these agreements, students at Shelton High School are able to earn college credits in almost every subject area, including English, math, science, career and technical education, music, and world languages. In 2023-2024, SHS had 184 enrollments across the 12 dual-enrollment courses offered in partnership with these three institutions. Shelton HS also offers courses to students through the Virtual High School platform for courses not offered within its program of studies.

Students also complete a Mastery Based Diploma Assessment before graduating from Shelton High School. The Capstone project is a culminating experience for students to apply the knowledge and skills they have obtained from their four years of studies to a real world problem or experience.

In addition to achieving high levels of academic performance, students at Shelton High School are also expected to volunteer within the community to promote responsible citizenship. Students who meet graduation requirements at Shelton High School have attained a solid foundation for becoming responsible and successful citizens of not only a local community, but of a global society as well.

## *Shelton Intermediate School*

Shelton Intermediate School (SIS) opened in 2001 and proudly serves 7th and 8th grade students by providing a comprehensive educational experience. Our goal is to enable students to experience social, emotional, physical, and intellectual growth during these middle school years. We attempt to instill in students a sense of personal accountability in not only their academic performance, but also behavioral performance as well. All students receive a developmentally appropriate academic program which also allows for exploration experiences. With our expanded programs students will be exposed to programs which meet their academic, developmental, and prevocational needs.

In addition to the basic core courses of Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies, students also have the opportunity to participate in elective courses based on their interests. These courses include Band, Music Production, Art, Exploring World Cultures, STEM Automation and Robotics, Business Technology, Inventor's Lab, Video Game Design, and Agri-Science to name a few. Many 8th grade students even qualify to begin taking high school courses such as Algebra, Geometry, French, Spanish or Italian. To enhance their experience at SIS even more, students can join a wide variety of clubs which meet weekly. The weekly clubs make it possible for students to spend time with their friends who have the same interests while doing something they enjoy.

Throughout the school year students also participate in school dances, field trips, and other fun events like our Lock-In and Holiday Hill trip.



*The SIS Music Ensembles started the year off with a restorative circle combining the SIS Choir and Band during our first flex rehearsal. This set us up for success by building community between our various ensembles.*

Shelton Intermediate School is organized utilizing a team structure. Students are divided into smaller, heterogeneous teams of 90-100 students. Core classes are taken within the team and students move about the building for their elective classes. Counselors are assigned by grade level for continuity during their two years at SIS. The faculty and staff are trained to provide the best educational opportunities for the pre-adolescent student. We encourage parents to be involved as collaborative partners with the school. When we all work together, great things are possible.

# Educational Partnerships

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

## *Community Partnerships Encourage Student Growth*

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### *Shelton Schools Community Support and Involvement*

The Shelton Public Schools take seriously our role of educating and preparing the next generation. As is often said, the growth and development of children into adulthood is the responsibility of everyone. Junior Achievement, our School Business Advisory, and our Mentor Program are model examples of that work.

#### *The Shelton Business Advisory Council*

Working collaboratively, the Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Shelton Public School system have created many new and exciting initiatives for Shelton students through the Shelton Business Advisory Council. Throughout the year, the Council facilitates many opportunities such as the Pathways to Success event, College and Career Readiness Week activities, on and off campus internships and externships, field trips, guest speakers, dual enrollment courses, professional learning, collaborative projects and so much more! The Shelton Business Advisory Council's Mission, Vision, and Purpose are to provide resources and create opportunities for students to succeed in the competitive global marketplace. With formal biannual meetings, the council members meet with Shelton students and teachers to share information and identify new and exciting ways for students to collaborate with professional and community leaders.

#### *Junior Achievement*

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

#### *Mentoring Programs*

The Shelton School System is fortunate to have a group of dedicated, caring men and women throughout the greater Shelton area who volunteer weekly to meet with their mentees during the school day. Their gifts of time, self and positive influence make the

difference for a child which can last a lifetime. Over 100 students are given such support by these dedicated individuals who are the heart and soul of the Shelton Mentor Program. The program continues to grow with the inclusion of teachers, administrators and support staff. Ongoing recruiting sessions are occurring at businesses and civic organizations throughout the valley, and those who have time and desire to volunteer are encouraged to do so.

#### *Technology*

Shelton Public Schools have been working diligently to upgrade critical infrastructure while providing increased access to engaging instructional technologies. We were able to allocate grant funds to upgrade much of our network infrastructure while implementing a new Wi-Fi system during the 2022-2023 school year. These new systems will greatly aid in increasing our network speed, throughput, and overall reliability while supporting the increased utilization of technology throughout the district for years to come. We continue to successfully support our Chromebook initiatives throughout the district by implementing and maintaining a districtwide Chromebook replacement strategy. This ensures our K-12 students will have access to devices which can meet the ever expanding technological needs of the district now and into the future. Our students are fully 1:1 with Chromebooks in grades 5-12 and we continue to increase access to devices in our K-4 schools. The district was also fortunate to receive grant funds in order to expand our internal streaming capabilities. This new system was implemented to allow our schools to have the capability to easily broadcast morning announcements and student news throughout their respective buildings. We look forward to seeing how our students learn and engage with audio/video production as we build upon the capabilities of the system.

Technology Center staff are always working to provide a positive user experience while supporting and maintaining district technologies. It continues to be a fruitful and productive year where technology and related services are concerned, and we look forward to continuing this work.



# Safeguarding Growth



223 Canal Street, River Breeze Residential

Appropriate, balanced and orderly development throughout Shelton has resulted in economic growth throughout the entire City. The process to approve development proposals requires the collaboration of several City departments to ensure all proposals are in compliance with City regulations. In addition, these departments are governed by regulations of regional, State and Federal agencies for development proposals and must also conform to those guidelines.

## Preserving the Integrity and Quality of Shelton’s Future

### Planning and Zoning Commission

The Commission is comprised of six regular members who are elected to four-year terms on a staggered basis, with not more than four from the same political party. Two alternate members, one from each political party, are elected to two-year terms.

The Commission is responsible for reviewing applications for residential, commercial and industrial development in Shelton – prior to any construction or major alteration – to determine if the proposed development is the highest and best use of the property and to ensure conformity to existing Zoning regulations. If required, or deemed necessary due to the approval being sought, the Commission will conduct a hearing to allow the public to comment on the merits of an application and whether it is in the best interest of the City.

Throughout the year, the Commission may also modify zoning regulations in response to applications for zone changes or due to new state statutory requirements. A reference guide for the Commission on future land use and zoning decisions is Shelton’s Plan of Conservation and Development.

In recent years, the Commission’s work has resulted in positive and sustained residential, commercial and industrial growth in all areas of the City. The downtown area, in particular, has been the site for numerous new, mixed-use residential and commercial developments, and construction of recently approved development proposals along Canal Street have begun. In the lower Bridgeport Avenue corridor, construction work to extend Constitution Boulevard continues with several companies under contract to purchase various tracts of adjacent city-owned land for light industrial use. These nearly seventy acres of land were earmarked for economic development after purchase by the City in 1996. Construction of residential units and commercial buildings are now underway at numerous sites on River Road with the majority expected to be completed by the end of 2026.

### Examples of Proposals Approved Recently by the Planning and Zoning Commission:

- Restaurants/Dining
- 6 Todd Road: a new 3,690 sq. ft. building for occupancy by a McDonald’s fast-food restaurant;

- 801 Bridgeport Avenue: a new 13,800 sq. ft. building in the Fountain Square shopping center for occupancy by a Trader Joe’s specialty grocery store;
- 801 Bridgeport Avenue: a new 2,500 sq. ft. freestanding building in the Fountain Square shopping center for occupancy by a restaurant;
- 381 Bridgeport Avenue: exterior and interior renovations of a 7,000 sq. ft. free-standing building in The Marketplace Shopping center for occupancy by a Buffalo Wild Wings casual dining restaurant and sports bar franchise.

### Light Industrial

- 217 Long Hill Crossroads: a 53,000+ square-foot expansion of an existing light industrial building;
- 7 Ivy Brook Road: a new 40,000+ square-foot office/manufacturing and warehouse facility;
- 51 Black’s Hill Road: a new 12,000 square-foot warehouse building.

### Residential

- 10 Long Hill Avenue: a 17-unit apartment building with two units to have deed restricted, affordable rental rates;
- 113 Canal Street: a 30-unit apartment building with three units to have deed restricted, affordable rental rates;
- 123 Canal Street: a 92-unit apartment building with eight units to have deed restricted, affordable rental rates;
- 281 Canal Street: a 129-unit apartment building with thirteen units to have deed restricted, affordable rental rates;
- 301 Old Bridgeport Avenue: a 39-unit apartment building with five units to have deed restricted, affordable rental rates;

### 1.0% Safeguarding Growth

Inland Wetlands Commission .....	\$159,136
Economic Development.....	195,300
Planning and Zoning .....	722,979
Conservation Commission .....	88,540
Zoning Board of Appeals.....	23,330
Community Development .....	94,969
Building Department.....	456,178
	<b>\$1,740,432</b>



- 303 Old Bridgeport Avenue: a 30-unit apartment building with three units to have deed restricted, affordable rental rates;
- 1055 Bridgeport Avenue: a 52-unit apartment building with seven units to have deed restricted, affordable rental rates;
- 453 River Road: a 152-unit, four-building apartment complex with thirteen units to have deed restricted, affordable rental rates;
- 722 River Road: a 90-unit, two-building apartment complex with nine units to have deed restricted, affordable rental rates;
- 740 River Road: a 40-unit condominium complex.

#### Retail/Commercial

- 762 River Road: a 31,500+ square-foot medical office building;
- 874 Bridgeport Avenue: exterior and interior renovations of two retail spaces in the Shelton Square shopping center for occupancy by a Five Below retail store.

### *Planning and Zoning Office*

The Planning and Zoning Office staff consists of an administrator, assistant administrator, a zoning inspector, and a department clerk. In addition, a land-use assistant is available for special projects by the Planning & Zoning, Inland Wetlands and Blight departments. The City's Corporation Counsel, a land-use engineering consultant and other various engineering specialists are available on an as-needed basis.

It is the Administrator's and staff's responsibility to examine residential, commercial and sign applications to ensure each conforms with zoning regulations prior to review and action by the Planning and Zoning Commission. After approval of a construction proposal by the Commission, subsequent building activity is monitored by office staff in collaboration with the City's Building Inspector and Fire Marshal to ensure continued compliance with City regulations.

Approval of proposals for business, pools, sheds, home offices and home occupations are directly handled by staff after an appropriate review. Zoning violations filed with the office are investigated and resolved by the zoning inspector.

### *Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission*

The Inland Wetlands mission is to protect inland wetlands (marshes, swamps and bogs) and watercourses (rivers and stream belts and floodplains) to ensure that the natural values of the inland wetlands and their resources will always be available to the citizens of Shelton, and to protect the citizens of Shelton from unwise development on wetland areas that are often susceptible to damage.

The objectives of wetlands include protecting and improving water quality, providing fish and wildlife habitats, storing floodwaters and maintaining surface water flow during dry periods. These valuable functions are the result of the unique natural characteristics of wetlands.

Wetland conservation is important because the wetlands provide habitat for thousands of species of aquatic and terrestrial plants and animals. The wetlands are valuable for flood protection, water quality improvement, shoreline erosion control, natural products, recreation and aesthetics.

Wetland ecologists have already documented the environmental benefits provided by wetlands. These include water purification, flood protection, shoreline stabilization, groundwater recharge and stream flow maintenance.

The wetlands can improve water quality by removing pollutants from surface waters. Three pollutant removal processes provided by wetlands are particularly important: sediment trapping, nutrient removal and chemical detoxification.

Many techniques which are used to manage upland wildlife are used in wetlands such as disking, burning, herbicide application, and providing food plots. Additionally, levees and water control structures can be used to manage hydrology, which is a primary driver of wetland characteristics.

The principles of wetlands are to preserve and protect aquatic resources and to restore ecological integrity, natural structure and natural function.

### *Community Development*

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

### *Anti-Blight Program*

The Anti-Blight Officer and staff work together to reduce the number of blighted properties, both residential and commercial, to achieve a cleaner, healthier and safer Shelton. They work closely with the Building, Health and Zoning Departments.

The Anti-Blight Officer and staff work with property owners and residents to achieve compliance with the Anti-Blight Ordinance. The Anti-Blight Officer investigates complaints of blighted properties and may issue citations. Some examples of the blighted conditions addressed include properties in disrepair, abandoned and overgrown properties, ensuring yards and lots are kept free of accumulations of debris and rubbish, ensuring sidewalks afford safe passage, ensuring planting strips are also maintained for safe passage, making certain fencing is properly maintained and graffiti is removed in a timely manner.

The objective of blight control is to decrease property code violations, habitual neglect, and to negate a decrease of property values of neighboring areas.

The properties which are deteriorating, neglected and vacant jeopardize existing investment and project an image of an unsafe and unmaintained environment. If a structure is considered unfit for human occupation or use, it may be deemed a public nuisance. Some frequent problems with long-term vacant structures include broken

*Continued on page 33*



# Economic Development



*Shelton's growth and pattern of success continues and increases because of a strong citizen involvement and support in the affairs of the City. As the City moves forward, concentration on what can best be done to assure a healthy, steady growth while maintaining the quality of life is emphasized. Shelton is unique as it has over 1,000 acres of primeval forests, close to 1,500 acres of working farms, bustling commercial and industrial activity, and is home to over 40,000 residents.*

## *For Progress and Continued Growth*

### *Economic Development Commission*

The Economic Development Commission (EDC) is established under the authority of the City of Shelton's Charter and operates in accordance with applicable Connecticut state statutes. The Commission is composed of five members who are Shelton electors appointed by the Mayor. It is tasked with advancing Shelton's economic interests through business recruitment, retention, and community marketing initiatives.

Since its inception, the EDC has played an essential role in promoting Shelton's strong economic identity. In 1992, the Mayor formally charged the Commission with developing a proactive marketing campaign to strengthen Shelton's image, retain local businesses, and attract new ones. The Commission's performance was recognized by the Mayor as "solid, successful, and imaginative."

Today, the Economic Development Commission continues to promote Shelton as a dynamic, business-friendly city through the following key initiatives:

#### **Shelton Life and Community Business News**

A widely circulated newsletter designed to inform and engage Shelton residents about local business, environmental initiatives, and community success stories. With over 18,500 copies distributed, Shelton Life continues to reinforce Shelton's ongoing commitment to sustainability and quality of life under the theme "Shelton Going Green."

#### **Taking Care of Business**

An annual event that brings together the Mayor, City officials, and local business leaders. The Mayor presents updates on Shelton's economic outlook and initiatives, while business owners have the opportunity to ask questions, share concerns, and engage directly with city leadership. The event fosters transparency and collaborative economic development.

#### **Shelton Life – City of Shelton Biennial Report**

Published every two years, this comprehensive report highlights the state of the City's finances, reviews the performance of boards and commissions, and summarizes notable accomplishments across Shelton's government and community. It serves as both a record of progress and a strategic planning tool for the future.

#### **Annual Flag Day Ceremony**

Hosted in partnership with local veterans, business leaders, and civic groups, this event honors the American flag and those who have served our country. The ceremony includes a traditional picnic and provides networking opportunities for local business representatives, veterans, and community members.

#### **School Art Contest**

In collaboration with the Shelton Board of Education, the EDC sponsors an annual art contest that encourages creativity among students and celebrates outstanding artistic achievement. The contest builds civic pride while promoting engagement between students, families, and the broader community.

The Economic Development Commission remains committed to supporting Shelton's long-term vision for a vibrant, inclusive, and sustainable local economy. Through continued outreach, event programming, and targeted communications, the EDC ensures Shelton remains a top choice for residents, businesses, and investors alike.

### *Shelton Economic Development Corporation*

The Shelton Economic Development Corporation (SEDC) is a nonprofit organization established in 1983 to promote balanced and sustainable development in the City of Shelton, Connecticut. As a key liaison between local government, business leaders, and civic organizations, SEDC plays a central role in shaping Shelton's economic growth and development strategies.

SEDC maintains strong working relationships with financial institutions, development agencies, and state and federal partners. It provides leadership in public-private partnerships and statewide initiatives aimed at fostering economic progress.

The organization is governed by a board of directors elected annually, consisting of 15 to 60 members who represent a cross-section of Shelton's public and private sectors. The SEDC offers a broad range of services to support commercial, industrial, and residential growth across the city.





*Sheila O'Malley, President of the Shelton Economic Development Corporation, has replaced Paul Grimmer who has retired after nine years as President. Sheila O'Malley officially began her new position on May 23, 2025.*

Over the past four decades, Shelton has experienced significant, well-planned development. The SEDC has played a leading role in coordinating environmental assessments and redevelopment strategies, particularly along the Canal Street corridor adjacent to the Housatonic River. To date, the SEDC has overseen the environmental evaluation of 18 properties totaling 25.6 acres in this area.

In collaboration with the City of Shelton, SEDC has secured more than 40 state and federal grants, leveraging over \$27 million in public funding for environmental remediation and infrastructure improvements. These investments have returned most of the previously underutilized riverfront properties to productive use:

- 8.5 acres for public open space
- 11.25 acres for new residential development
- Over 5 acres for new commercial uses



*Pictured above and below is Cedar Village at the Locks, 287 Canal Street*



These public initiatives have catalyzed over \$140 million in private investment in Shelton's downtown, transforming the area into a vibrant, mixed-use community.

Looking ahead, SEDC remains focused on completing the revitalization of the northern section of Canal Street. Key priorities include:

- Reconstruction of Canal Street and Wooster Street, including the reopening of the Wooster Street Rail Crossing
- Extension of the Housatonic Riverwalk
- Design and development of Canal Lock Park

Through these projects, SEDC continues to support Shelton's vision for a thriving, accessible, and economically dynamic riverfront district.



## Overview of Economic Development Success in Shelton, CT

The City of Shelton, Connecticut, has become a statewide model for smart, sustainable economic development. Over the past four decades, Shelton has transformed from a mill town into a vibrant community with a strong and diverse economic base. This success is the result of long-term planning, public-private collaboration, and strategic investment in infrastructure and environmental remediation.

Shelton boasts one of the lowest mill rates in the region, a result of consistent commercial and residential growth that has expanded the tax base while preserving quality of life. The city has attracted national and international companies, developed modern office and industrial parks, and revitalized its downtown and riverfront areas. Key efforts by the Shelton Economic Development Corporation and the Economic Development Commission have leveraged more than \$27 million in public funds, leading to over \$140 million in private investment.

With a balanced mix of business, housing, and open space, Shelton continues to support sustainable growth, drawing both residents and employers who value its accessibility, livability, and forward-thinking leadership.



# Elected Officials & Volunteer Commissions



## BOARD OF APPORTIONMENT AND TAXATION

(L to R) Joanna Carloni, Greta Jacobson, Wayne Bragg, John Belden  
Missing: John Boyko, Joseph Knapik



## CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

(L to R) Seated: Joe Bienkowski, Chairman; Dave Zamba Standing:  
Cheryl Dziubina, Rebecca Twombly Missing: Rob Novak



## BOARD OF LIBRARY DIRECTORS

(L to R) Jim Geissler, Board Chair; Becky Perillo, Jean Cayer and David Gioiello  
Missing: Aleta Miner and Steve Bellis



## REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

(L to R) Standing: Peter R. Pavone, Janet Sabovik. Seated: Marilyn Forbes,  
Bob Lally.



## PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

(L to R) Standing: Charles Kelly, Alexandria Castro, Staff, Robert Cristiano,  
Virginia Harger, Chair; Jimmy Tickey, Dominick DiGangi, Consultant  
Seated: Ruth Parkins, Elaine Matto Missing: Matt McGee (alt), Win Oppel (alt)



## ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

(L to R) Seated: Bryan Vasser, Ed Conklin, Chairman; Phil Cavallaro  
Standing: Linda Adanti, Tina Kelly, Clerk



*The City of Shelton recognizes and acknowledges the timeless hours that our volunteers contribute. Their devotion and commitment is what makes our City a great place to live and work.*



### WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

(L to R) Standing: Guido Picarazzi, Larry Pace, Michael Duncan, John Marsilio  
Seated: Donald Ramia, Chair, Steve Chuckta  
Missing: Eugen Emini



### TRAILS COMMITTEE

(L to R) Ellen Cramp, Teresa Gallagher, Mike Flament, Terry Gallagher, Bob Wood, Mark Vollaro, Bill Dyer



### CONSERVATION COMMISSION

(L to R) Back: Jim Tate, Bill Dyer, Tom Wilson, Tom Harbinson.  
Front: Sheri Dutkanicz, Teresa Gallagher



### INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION

(L to R) Standing: Gary Zahornasky; Chair, Michelle Kawalautzki  
Seated: Michael Lombardi, Ron Baia, Staff  
Missing: Peter Finch, Charles Wilson, Vice Chair



### PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

(L to R) Front: Robert Zuraw, Vice Chair, Michelle Haywood, David Zamba, Chair; Debra McGlone, Sharna Kozak, Chris Battistelli  
Back: Mike Gonsalves, Gary Cahill, Jeffrey Van Scoy, Lorenzo Durante, Matthew Pivovar  
Missing: Darrin Besescheck



### FAIR RENT COMMISSION

(L to R): Henry Kaminski, Jennifer Cutrali, Doug Dempsey, Salley Finck, Lucky Singh



# Recreation & Culture



A large network of parks, playgrounds and recreational facilities, plus a diverse offering of cultural and athletic activities, help enrich the lives of Shelton residents. There is no need to look further than the Shelton community to satisfy one's leisure time needs.

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

## For a Stimulating, More Rewarding Community

### Parks and Recreation Department

Shelton's Department of Parks and Recreation is overseen by a 12-member commission. Run by the City's Parks and Recreation Director along with a four-person administrative full-time staff, the department fulfills the recreational needs of Shelton residents with a wide variety of athletic and creative programs.

The Parks and Recreation department facilitates sports leagues such as baseball, softball, basketball, football, lacrosse, and cheerleading which are available at several age levels. Winter months find over 2,000 residents participating in indoor gym programs such as volleyball and basketball. Over 8,000 weekly participants take part in spring outdoor recreation programs while 3,500 adults and children play weekly in fall programs.

The department also manages the year-round indoor pool program which offers lessons and various aqua-aerobic programs for all ages. Yearly pool and fitness room memberships are offered for both residents and non-residents of Shelton. Seasonal indoor pickleball memberships are available for purchase and free play is welcomed at the new courts that were recently installed at Shelton High School and East Village Park.

The Parks and Recreation Department also sponsors a summer concert series held on the Huntington Green and downtown at the Riverwalk/Veterans Memorial Park. These well-attended events are held Wednesday evenings from late June through August. Commission members are responsible for organizing this program along with the Independence Day festivities. The annual Summer Playground Program is offered to Shelton youth and is held at every elementary school.

The Fourth of July concert and fireworks displays are held each year at the Riverwalk/ Veterans Memorial Park and are undoubtedly the largest activity in Shelton. Over 15,000 people attend the event which can be viewed throughout the downtown area.

Another large community event is the annual Commodore Hull 5k Road Race which is held Thanksgiving morning with the start and finish at Veterans Memorial Park on Canal St. The event is capped at 625 runners and is a fundraiser for the Boys and Girls Club.

The Shelton Dog Park was constructed in 2010 with a fenced-in area for large dogs and another for small dogs. The park is adjacent to the 11-mile network of hiking trails which includes the multiuse Shelton Lakes Recreation Path. A "Friends of the Dog Park Committee" has been formed to help with the upkeep.

With over 170 acres of developed parks, the Parks and Recreation Director along with the Parks Superintendent direct a full-time staff of eight, to maintain and care for all public recreation areas, including 27 athletic fields and the Board of Education properties. An additional staff of 75 part-time employees is hired throughout the year as attendants for playgrounds, gyms, pools, and the Sunnyside boat ramp.

More information and details about the Parks and Recreation Department can be found at [sheltonparksandrec.recdesk.com](http://sheltonparksandrec.recdesk.com).

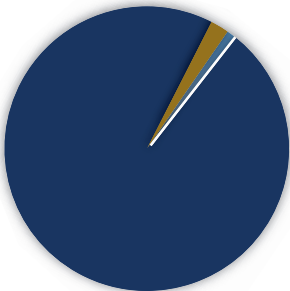
### The Shelton Community Center

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

The 60,000 sq. ft. center contains a 25-yard, eight-lane heated swimming pool, an indoor basketball court, two pickleball courts which are available for winter use, a weight room, a mid-sized banquet room with a kitchen that is available to rent, and a branch library. It also houses the offices of the Parks and Recreation Department, a private daycare, and the U.S. Post Office.

### 3% Recreation & Culture

Recreation .....	\$2,156,408
Senior Center .....	561,765
Library .....	1,319,433
	<b>\$4,037,606</b>





*Community Center Gymnasium*

Many of the City's recreational programs are held at the Community Center. Exercise, craft, and swimming classes are among the offerings. Rooms are available for meetings, seminars, birthday parties, and more. Over 5,000 people visit the center weekly for one or more of the available activities and events.

### *The Plumb Memorial Library and the Huntington Branch*

The Plumb Memorial Library and the Huntington Branch Library offer a physical collection of 103,342 books and materials. There is a total of 83,636 books, 5,707 audiobooks and Playaway listening devices, 12,590 DVDs and 1,310 other items including magazines, newspapers, kilowatt meters, video games and more which can be checked out with a valid library card.

The libraries offer a robust roster of ever-changing programs for all ages. From baby and preschool story times, to book talk groups, Tai Chi classes, computer classes, craft classes and film series, there is always something being offered. A calendar of events can be found [www.sheltonlibrarysystem.com](http://www.sheltonlibrarysystem.com).

In addition to programming, 13,865 Shelton residents have a library card, and even while the Plumb Memorial Library was undergoing renovations, 119,049 items were checked out last year. Both libraries were visited by a total of 78,692 visitors, and the library staff answered 10,946 reference questions, while 64,927 people visited the library's website.

Databases are also offered through the library's website which can be used to download or stream thousands of books, audiobooks, movies, tv shows, music, magazines and comic books through resources known as Hoopla, Libby and Palace Project apps. Consumer reports, medical information, college planning, history and world politics are also available. All are free to check out with a library card in good standing.

The library is supported by a non-profit 501©(3) known as the Friends of the Shelton Libraries (FOTSL). The FOTSL supports the library's initiatives and also oversees the ongoing book sale in the historic Reading Room of Plumb Memorial Library.

Presently, there is a Junior Friends Group started by the children and teen librarians from Plumb Memorial Library and the Huntington Branch Library that meets once a month. The high school students

balance volunteering for the libraries and other community groups within Shelton with fun activities, and students earn school volunteer hours by doing so.

Plumb Memorial Library is on the National Registry of Historic Places. It was originally built in 1895 and had an addition built in 1975. It has exquisite oak moldings and stained glass throughout the original part of the library, which includes the Red Lion window, and two separate stained-glass pieces of women representing Art and Literature. This year culminates five years of renovations of the Plumb Memorial Library.

The staff for both of the libraries in Shelton consists of a Library Director and Branch Librarian, and twelve full-time and eighteen part-time employees. The Library Director reports monthly to the Library Board which is composed of a six-member bipartisan elected board to assist not only in the recent renovations but also enacting library policy and support of the library as a whole.

### *Shelton Senior Center*



The Shelton Senior Center (SSC) was established in 1991 and provides programs and services geared towards older adults in the community. Membership is open to all at least 55 years of age. The membership includes access to the facility and offerings. All programming is offered onsite. As a department of the City of Shelton, the Senior Center operations are funded by the City and by participation fees.

The SSC's mission is to enhance the quality of life by creating opportunities to support wellness, social connections, community engagement and lifelong learning for a diverse and growing senior population. Our vision is to extend social involvement and well-being to seniors. Our standard is to purposefully embrace inclusion by creating a more equitable, accessible, safe and welcoming Senior Center where differences are recognized, respected and valued.

The monthly newsletter, which includes the calendar of offerings may be picked up in the Senior Center Lobby, City Hall, Community Center and Library. It can also be viewed on the City of Shelton website. The newsletter provides the activities for the month including an array of fitness classes, bingo, educational programs, travel opportunities, assistance with benefit programs, card groups, special social events and dances, to name a few.

The Center offers a daily lunch for a nominal fee. All meals are cooked on the premises in the commercial kitchen. Health screenings are offered monthly and include hearing, blood pressure, vision, balance, vaccinations and pharmaceutical needs.

*Continued on page 33*



# Security, Safety & Health



(L to R) Standing: Fire Commisioners, Charles Teichert, Mark Besecheck, Mike Maglione, Matt Brennan, Bruce Kosowsky

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

## Assuring Shelton’s Well-Being

### Department of Police Services

The Shelton Police Department is entrusted with the responsibility of enforcing all state and local laws within Shelton. Under the leadership of the Chief of Police, the 51 sworn police officers and 15 civilian members of the Shelton Police Department are dedicated to the mission of the department which is to enhance the quality of life in Shelton by providing police services in a professional manner to the more than 70,000 people who live or work in Shelton.

Shelton continued the trend of ranking in the Top 10 safest cities among Connecticut cities and towns in SafeWise’s annual reporting for 2024. This ranking is the result of a proactive patrol division coupled with a thorough detective bureau.

Crime prevention has been a focus of the department. The crime prevention unit has continually provided tips, given presentations and interacted with business owners to reduce crime. The crime prevention unit is always researching new and innovative ways to combat crime. Nationwide there has been an uptick in catalytic converter thefts. The department purchased catalytic converter etching kits and handed them out to seniors in the community.

Members of the department continue to be involved in community outreach. The department conducted their fourth annual holiday toy drive which was a resounding success. Many local children were able to have a special holiday because of these efforts and the generous donations of our residents. Sworn personnel have taught college classes along with courses at the police academy, were present at career fairs, read books to children for Dr. Seuss Day and ran in the CT Special Olympics Torch Run. Members of the department have supported the Boys and Girls Club, Homes for the Brave, the Shelton Exchange Club, and General Needs Ltd.

CodeRed is used to provide time sensitive alerts that are sent to a landline, cell phone and/or an email. Alerts include road closures, changes in garbage pickup, and details regarding events. To enroll and learn more visit [www.sheltonpolice.net](http://www.sheltonpolice.net) and click on the CodeRed icon in the bottom right hand corner.

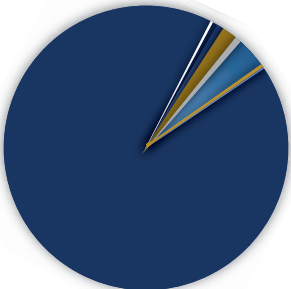
### Fire Marshal

This Office is comprised of the Fire Marshal, a Deputy Fire Marshal, three Fire Inspectors and a Fire Prevention Officer. The Fire Marshal and staff are responsible for the overall fire safety within the City and enforcing all laws, ordinances and regulations pertaining to the fire codes and applicable safety regulations. This Office, among other requirements, conducts fire safety inspections of all new and existing buildings and facilities, except for two-family homes, which are regulated by the Connecticut Fire Safety and Fire Prevention Codes and applicable regulations. The office will inspect any building or occupancy, including one and two-family homes, upon receiving an authentic report which the office finds it poses a fire hazard that could endanger life. The staff reviews and approves plans for compliance to fire safety codes for new buildings and for changes to existing buildings. The office issues and regulates permits for open burning and the use, transportation and storage of fireworks and explosives. The staff is also responsible for investigations to determine the cause, origin and circumstances of all fires which occur within the City. Fire Prevention education is offered to all schools, various civic organizations and City corporations. The Fire Marshal enforces and issues summonses for parking in fire lanes, blocking fire hydrants, not adhering to the open burning regulations and violations of the fire alarm ordinances. The Fire Marshal, Deputy Fire Marshal and a Fire Inspector are certified open burning officials for Shelton.

### 8% Security, Safety & Health

Public Safety & Emergency Service	.\$133,816
EMS Commission	.....125,465
Fire Marshal	.....373,794
Fire Department	.....1,128,540
Animal Control	.....451,413
Police Department	.....8,873,108
Shelton Youth and Family Services	.....245,336
Public Health	.....338,420

**\$11,839,890**



## *Fire Department*

The Shelton Fire Department provides protection from fire and performs rescue services. The department is comprised of four companies (Echo Hose Hook and Ladder Company # 1, Huntington Fire Company # 3, Shelton Volunteer Fire Company # 4 - Pine Rock Park and White Hills Voluntary Fire Company # 5) operating from four stations located throughout our community.



The Shelton Fire Department is committed to upholding a standard of excellence by building on a solid foundation of community spirit, and through continued training by dedicated neighbors helping neighbors. The Shelton Fire Department is an all-hazards department and responded to 1,784 incidents in 2024. The department's fleet consists of twenty specialized fire and rescue apparatus including marine units for water rescues. Our staff consists of 225 volunteers trained and state certified in many aspects of fire/rescue to meet the needs and challenges of our community. The department is well supported by the City's administration to meet the current and future needs of the community. The Board of Fire Commissioners serves as the administrative body of the Fire Department. The Board consists of a chairman, appointed by the Mayor and four fire commissioners, elected by each fire company. Supervision of the department is entrusted to the Fire Chief, Deputy Chief and four Assistant Chiefs.

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

## *The Office of Public Safety and Emergency Service Management*

The office provides effective and orderly governmental control and coordination of the City's emergency response to reduce the impact such events may have on City residents and infrastructure.

- Prepares and maintains the City's comprehensive Emergency Response Plan providing emergency management planning for the entire City. The Local Emergency Management Plan has been updated and is current with the Connecticut Department of Emergency Management.
- Provides City of Shelton residents, businesses, and non-profit organizations with emergency preparedness education and training necessary to reduce loss of life, minimize property damage, and protect the environment from emergencies. In addition, the office serves as the liaison and coordinator of

State/Federal financial assistance for municipalities and City residents following City declared disasters.

- Staffs and operates the Emergency Operations Center, which is the City's command post during serious incidents and severe weather occurrences and has received a grant for communication and technology upgrades.
- Serves as the liaison to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, CT Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (Division of Emergency Management) and other local emergency management agencies and organizations.
- Coordinates the activities of volunteer, public and private agencies in all phases of emergency management (Planning, Mitigation, Preparedness, Response, and Recovery).
- Develops plans and exercises, and coordinates emergency management training for the City of Shelton. The office conducted a full-scale preparedness exercise with Shelton Police, Fire Department, Federal law enforcement agencies and Lockheed Aircraft fire and Security services. The office conducts numerous trainings with businesses and agencies in Shelton.
- Assures timely and adequate public warning of potential or imminent disaster events and provides disaster-related safety information to the public and media. The office utilizes the CODERED notification system.
- Assists Municipalities; City, State, and Federal officials and their respective constituents with disaster planning, mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery programs.
- Provides the public and media organizations with accurate and timely information regarding emergency management programs and issues in the City of Shelton.

## *The Shelton Youth and Family Services*

Shelton Youth and Family Services (SYFS) was originally established in 1988 as the Shelton Youth Service Bureau. The SYFS coordinates, plans and develops services for the youth of Shelton and their families. In 2023, the Shelton Youth Service Bureau was renamed Shelton Youth and Family Services for the purpose of promoting the well-being of Shelton youth and families by providing them with a network of resources and opportunities through partnerships with many local service providers. SYFS works cooperatively with schools, police, youth, parents and other community resources to encourage youth and their families to strive for their full potential.

Shelton Youth and Family Services Advisory Board is comprised of twenty-two members who are appointed by the Mayor. Membership includes youth, school administrators, police department personnel and community representatives. The Board meets monthly, excluding July and August, to discuss needs assessment, program planning and possible solutions of existing or potential problem areas of youth and families.

Under the umbrella of the SYFS is the Community Alert Program (CAP) which is Shelton's substance abuse prevention program and sponsors prevention and awareness programs throughout the school year.

*Continued on page 35*



# Infrastructure



One of the busiest departments in Shelton, The Department of Public Works oversees key areas of infrastructure one may take for granted. Elements including but not limited to maintaining roads and bridges, snow plowing, overseeing the collection of trash and recycling from an outside vendor, sewer construction and wastewater treatment are just to name a few. Developing and maintaining City properties are critical for Shelton to remain a vital community. The department charged with these all-important tasks is supervised by the Director of Public Works and the Superintendent.

## Keeping Shelton’s Streets and Buildings Safe and Clean

### Department of Public Works (DPW)

The DPW (City Yard) is located at 41 Myrtle Street. The Department maintains the responsibility of keeping the City’s streets safe and clean. It consists of twenty skilled and dedicated employees who provide essential services which sustain infrastructure, establish safe living and working conditions and contribute to a high quality of life for City residents.

The DPW maintains and repairs over 216 miles of City streets which includes street sweeping, Right-Of-Way (R.O.W.), mowing, sightline clearings, pothole repairs, installation of curbing and some paving. Also, the DPW installs, cleans, repairs or replaces over 5,800 catch basins, 600 stormwater outfall as well as 100 plus miles of sanitary sewers. The Department oversees the preservation of City roadways through various methods which may consist of milling and paving, micro-surfacing, crack sealing, and chip and fog sealing.

During the winter season, the main function of the DPW is the plowing and snow removal from streets, parking lots and schools. The application of ice control and storm cleanup are all provided by the DPW. In addition, they install street and traffic control signs. The skilled mechanics maintain the City’s 205 pieces of equipment and vehicles.

The spring and fall bagged Leaf Curbside Collection and Christmas Tree Collection dates of which will be posted on The City website, support the popular composting program which is provided to City residents.

### Sanitation

The City has an alternate week curbside single-stream recycling collection along with the weekly trash collection. Both collections use fully automated equipment which have been very successful in improving the daunting task, while the City-issued carts have enhanced the appearance of the City on collection day.

The Department of Public Works oversees the operation of the City’s Transfer Station located at 866 River Road. The Transfer Station handles the disposal of residential waste, bulky and demo waste and the recycling of cardboard, batteries, metal items, E-tech items, mattresses, tires, propane tanks and more. A wood shredder makes mulch of the removed or fallen trees throughout the City. The mulch is available for residents at no cost.

### Recycling

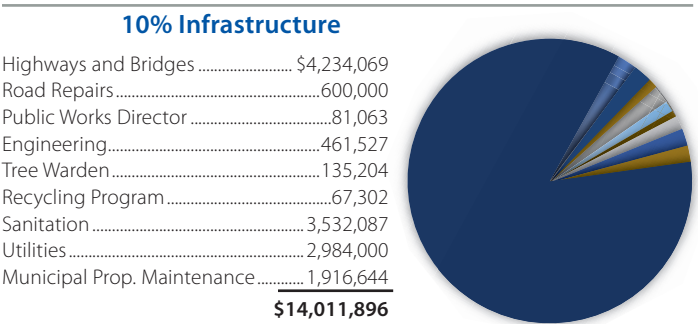
The City’s Recycling Program offers a yearly Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day which is held at the DPW (City Yard). Information and date will be posted on The City website.

### City Engineer

The Office of the City Engineer oversees the preparation of design plans and specifications for infrastructure improvement projects. The office also has the responsibility of monitoring the construction of these improvement projects and inspecting the new subdivision roads being built by developers, which will ultimately become City streets. Other office functions are the review of site and subdivision plans for various City commissions and boards as well as coordinating the extension of water mains requested by residents and preparing the assessments.

The office routinely issues street opening permits and oversees the permanent restoration of the excavations made in City streets. In any given year, the office issues in excess of 300 excavation permits. In addition to being the custodian of City infrastructure records, the office also updates the digital tax assessment maps and issues street addresses for the Assessor’s Office.

The Office of the City Engineer is tasked with ensuring compliance with the federally mandated program MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) which is to prevent harmful discharges of pollutants into waters of the United States. In 2023, the office has contracted with several engineering firms to review more complex engineering projects and to assist with State and Federal compliance programs.



Additionally, the office of the City Engineer oversees the inspection of all City owned dams, as CT DEEP mandates regular inspections based on the hazard rating of the dam. These reports are due either bi-annually or every 5 years, hazard rating dependent.

## *Building Maintenance*

The Building Maintenance Department is responsible for the repair, modification, maintenance and continued renovations of 25 City buildings as well as the four firehouses in the City. The department has a staff of thirty-two full and part-time workers comprised of a supervisor, administrative clerk, maintenance trade workers, and custodians.

Custodial duties include cleaning and maintaining a safe environment in all buildings for the public. Maintenance trade workers address breakdowns and perform repairs on all mechanical equipment and physical aspects of the City buildings including electrical, plumbing, carpentry and HVAC.

## *Building Department*

It is the responsibility of the Building Department to ensure public safety, health and welfare which can be affected by building construction. Compliance to State Building Codes is enforced to secure safety to life and property. The Building Department is responsible for plan review, issuing permits, completing inspections and issuing Certificates of Occupancy (CO) for all phases of building construction. The Building Department has prepared this information to aid you in obtaining the permits required for all construction including new homes, renovations, garages, solar systems, swimming pools, sheds over 200 sf, barns, commercial/industrial buildings, signs, roofs, windows, demolition, as well as, fences, walls and terraces exceeding six feet high.

**R105.2 – Work exempt from permit** – Exemption from the permit requirements of this code shall not be deemed to grant authorization for any work to be done in any manner in violation of the provisions of this code or any other laws, statutes, regulations or ordinances of the jurisdiction. Permits shall not be required for the following work:

1. One-story detached accessory structures used as tool/storage sheds, playhouses and similar uses, provided the floor area is not greater than 200 square feet (18.58 m<sup>2</sup>).
2. Fences, other than swimming pool barriers, not over 7 feet (2134 mm) high.
3. Retaining walls that are not higher than 3 feet (914 mm) measured from finished grade at the bottom of the wall to finished grade at the top of the wall, unless supporting a surcharge.
4. Water tanks supported directly upon grade if the capacity does not exceed 5,000 gallons (18 927 L) and the ratio of height to diameter or width does not exceed 2 to 1.
5. Sidewalks, driveways and on-grade concrete or masonry patios not more than 30 inches (762 mm) above adjacent grade and not over any basement or story below.

6. Painting, papering, tiling, carpeting, cabinets, countertops and similar finish work not involving structural changes or alterations.
7. Pre-fabricated swimming pools that are equal to or less than 24 inches (610 mm) deep.
8. Swings, non-habitable tree houses and other playground equipment.
9. Window awnings supported by an exterior wall which do not project more than 54 inches (1372 mm) from the exterior wall and which do not require additional support.
10. Decks not exceeding 200 square feet (18.58 m<sup>2</sup>) in area, that are not more than 30 inches (762 mm) above grade at any point, are not attached to a dwelling and do not serve the exit door required by Section R311.4.
11. Repairs that are limited to 25 percent of roof covering and building siding within one calendar year.

The City of Shelton now has an on-line permitting program (OpenGov/Viewpoint). We no longer accept written permits. For all new applications, go to [www.sheltonct.viewpointcloud.com](http://www.sheltonct.viewpointcloud.com) to register and apply for a permit. Once you submit your application, it will automatically enter into our system and go to each department needed for your individual permit. As your application moves through the different departments, you will receive an e-mail stating your application has been approved and will include any fees owed to that department. Once you pay that fee, your application will move forward to the next department for approval until finally reaching the Building Department. Once the Building Department approves your application and you pay the fee, the permit will be issued to you immediately via e-mail. Once the permit is issued to you, you can begin your project.

If your application needs additional information, the department needing this will send you a message through OpenGov which will appear in your e-mail. Once the information is complete, the application will automatically move on to the next department. The fees can be paid by credit card on-line or you can bring a check down to our office to avoid the credit card fees.

The schedule of inspections needed for construction are as follows: (1) footing inspection (before concrete is poured); (2) foundation/backfill/waterproofing/footing drains; (3) rough inspection (framing/electric/plumbing/mechanical); (4) insulation and (5) final CO inspection.

The building permit applications consist of building permit, electrical permit, plumbing permit, mechanical permit, demolition permit, solar permit and sign permit.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact our office at (203) 924-1555 x1517.

## *Sewer Department/Water Pollution Control Authority*

The Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) is an eight-member board responsible for overseeing sanitary sewer projects and the operations of the Water Pollution Control Plant. The Sewer

*Continued on page 34*



# Conservation in Shelton

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**T**he Conservation Commission is an advisory board whose purpose under state statutes is “the development, conservation, supervision and regulation of natural resources.” The seven members of the commission are led by a Chairman with support from the City’s Natural Resources Manager.

## *Preserving Shelton’s Open Spaces for Future Generations*

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### *Open Space Preservation*

Shelton is dedicated to preserving its natural beauty, maintaining over 2,000 acres of public open space for the benefit of the community. These carefully maintained areas include scenic hiking trails, recreational facilities such as ballfields and a dog park, as well as community spaces like the Huntington Green and Veterans Memorial Park. Residents and visitors alike can enjoy fishing areas, picnic spots, and vibrant community gardens, all contributing to Shelton’s rich outdoor experience.

Beyond recreation, Shelton’s open spaces play a crucial role in environmental protection. Forested areas help improve water quality by filtering out pollutants, while also reducing flood risks by naturally managing stormwater. Trees further enhance the community by cooling summer temperatures, reducing noise, and providing buffers between neighborhoods.



Preserving open space is not only beneficial for the environment, it also makes economic sense. By limiting the expansion of conventional housing developments, Shelton reduces the demand for costly municipal services. Since residential tax revenues often fall short of covering the long-term costs of new infrastructure and services, maintaining open space helps keep tax rates low while enhancing residents’ quality of life.

In addition to public lands, Shelton has successfully protected several hundred acres of privately owned working forests and farmland through land preservation agreements. These agreements help sustain local agriculture while allowing for limited public access, such as hiking along Stockmal Trail or selecting Christmas trees at Jones Family Farm. This balance ensures that Shelton’s agricultural heritage remains a vital part of the community.

Strategic land acquisitions have also created an interconnected network of green spaces across Shelton, with the Shelton Lakes Greenway as a standout feature. This greenway boasts miles of hiking trails, three reservoirs, a dog park, and beautiful gardens, making it a favorite destination for outdoor enthusiasts. To learn more about Shelton’s Conservation Commission and its efforts to protect and expand open spaces, visit [sheltonconservation.org](http://sheltonconservation.org).

### *Conservation in Shelton: Protecting Natural Resources and Community Spaces*

Shelton is committed to preserving its natural resources, and several dedicated organizations work to maintain and enhance the city’s open spaces. From maintaining hiking trails to protecting forests and reducing litter, these groups ensure Shelton remains a beautiful place to live, work, and explore.

### *Conservation Commission*

The Conservation Commission serves as an advisory board focused on the development, conservation, and management of Shelton’s natural resources. With seven members and support from the City’s Natural Resources Manager, the Commission provides recommendations on open space acquisitions and land use planning. It works closely with the Board of Aldermen, Planning and Zoning, and Inland Wetlands departments to promote responsible land stewardship.

### *Shelton Trails Committee*

The Shelton Trails Committee maintains an extensive 32-mile network of hiking trails, offering paths for all experience levels—from easy, family-friendly walks to rugged trails suited for overnight backpacking adventures.



In partnership with the Connecticut Forest and Park Association (CFPA), the Shelton Land Conservation Trust, and local Eagle Scouts, the committee regularly clears vegetation, repairs pathways, and builds bridges to ensure safe and enjoyable access for hikers. The Committee also organizes popular guided hikes, including the Marshmallow March, Full-Moon Hike, and Turkey Trot Trek, fostering community engagement and outdoor exploration. For trail maps and event updates, visit [sheltonconservation.org/trails](http://sheltonconservation.org/trails).

## *Anti-Litter Committee*



(L to R) Standing: Kathy Sedlet, Teresa Gallagher, Joe Welsh, Steve Sedlet  
Sitting: Sharon Herman, Ken Chirsky, Gil Pastore  
Missing: Dana Pagano, Cheryl McMahon, David Edgeworth, Mary King

Keeping Shelton clean and beautiful is the mission of the Anti-Litter Committee. Through its Adopt-a-Street Program, businesses and community groups take responsibility for designated roadways, committing to at least four clean-up efforts per year. Participants receive recognition with street signs, thanking them for their dedication.

The Committee also organizes the annual Shelton Clean Sweep, a city-wide litter collection event held on Earth Day, where residents, businesses, and city departments come together to clean parks,



*Recreation Path at Silent Water.*

waterways, and roadsides. These ongoing efforts help maintain Shelton's scenic beauty and protect the environment year-round.

## *Shelton Land Conservation Trust*

The Shelton Land Conservation Trust (SLCT) is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to preserving open space in its natural state. Managing approximately 370 acres of forests, meadows, streams, and wetlands, the Trust maintains well-loved properties such as Nicholdale Farm, Tahmore Preserve, and the Bushinsky Arboretum, which provide public hiking trails and a youth camp.

The SLCT is run by a volunteer Board of Directors and relies on active members who assist with land monitoring and conservation efforts. Most land acquisitions come through donations, offering tax benefits for landowners who contribute to conservation efforts. Funding for the Trust comes from memberships, private donations, and estate gifts.

To learn more about how you can support local conservation efforts, visit [sheltonlandtrust.org](http://sheltonlandtrust.org).



*Bogwalk that was constructed for the Paugussett Trail at the Wiacek Meadows Open Space.*



# Eagle Scout Projects

*Building a better path to enhance Shelton's resources. How eagle scout projects have strengthened our trail system over the years.*

*By Bill Dyer, Trails Committee Chairman*

In the past 25 years, the Shelton trails network has increased from four to 32 miles of hiking trails. With the exception of the Shelton Lakes Recreation Path, all these trails have been created by volunteers who continue to maintain this entire sizable network. The Shelton trails network has benefitted greatly from the 35 Eagle Scout Community Service Projects performed for the Shelton Trails Committee in addition to 20 projects completed for the Shelton Land Conservation Trust. Every trailhead kiosk built in Shelton resulted in an Eagle Scout award.

The BSA Eagle Scout program is designed to teach the Scout to develop and manage a project for the benefit of the community. (We refer to an Eagle candidate as "Scout" because BSA now has female members. In fact Valley Troop 101 is an all-girls troop.) When a project is selected involving Trails Committee trails, the Scout must work with a committee representative to define the project, get the approval of the BSA leaders, and present it to the Trails Committee and Conservation Commission for acceptance. If the project involves a pedestrian bridge over a stream, approval of the Inland Wetland Commission is also required. The Scout must also raise funds for the project and to provide refreshments for the work crew of Scouts and adults that accomplish the project. Projects that have benefitted Shelton trail system include kiosks, pedestrian bridges, trail reroutes, trailhead improvements, interpretive signs, benches, trail stabilization and water bars, bog walks, mile markers, an outhouse, picnic tables, split rail fencing, bird and bat houses, invasive plant removal, and native plantings. The Trails Committee often loans hand tool like posthole diggers and loppers to the Scouts as well as use our 6-wheeled John Deere Gator to bring materials to remote construction sites.

In 2010 an unusual situation occurred when two friends, Nick Shigo and Kenny Giangregorio, from two different Scout troops each achieved the required merit badges to seek Eagle Scout rank. They proposed to work on a combined construction effort for their Community Service Projects. This involved creating a hiking and bicycle bypass of a very steep section of the Paugussett Trail, plus both Scouts proposed additional individual tasks. BSA Housatonic Council approved the projects with the stipulation that each Scout have his own construction crews. They planned together and worked separately to complete their projects during that year.

It usually takes a Scout from 6-9 months from concept to completion to obtain the rank of Eagle Scout. After receiving the award of Life Scout, the Eagle Community Service Project requires the various approvals, fund raising, obtaining material if necessary (for trails this often includes obtaining donations from lumber stores), organizing and managing the project construction crew, and completing the required paperwork. This all must be done



Kiosk: Eklund Garden

Kiosk: Paugussett Trail

before the Scout's 18th birthday. Many parents push the Scout to complete their Eagle Scout Project before the "fumes" set in – car fumes and perfumes.

After the rank of Eagle Scout is attained, the Scout receives the award at a BSA Court of Honor. The ceremony involves the Scout troop, parents, relatives and the Scout leaders. City leaders and state representatives often attend and letters of congratulation from US Senators and occasionally the President are read. Having "Eagle Scout" on a collage application or resume for a first job can be a major advantage. It shows the candidate has the ability to start, plan, manage and finish an important task. The Shelton Trails Committee will install a small plaque for every Eagle Scout project to celebrate the accomplishment and encourage future generations of Scouts.

## Eagle Scout Projects for the Shelton Trails Committee:

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| 1996 | Vivek Bellore, Troop 3, Bridge for Oak Valley Trail over Hope Lake inlet stream  |
| 2001 | Joshua Liposky, Kiosk and small bridges, Oak Valley Trailhead (at Hope Lake picnic area)   |
| 2004 | Andrew Lautenschlager, Troop 28, Kiosk at Gristmill Trail<br>Steve Ng, Troop 2, Kiosk for the Rec Path at Pine Lake<br>Royce York, Troop 3, Entrance improvements at Nells Rock Trail, including split-rail fence  |
| 2005 | Adam Cleri, Troop 3, Kiosk and small bridge for the Turkey Trot Trail<br>David Holden, Troop 101, Kiosk for Oak Valley Trail at Rt. 108/ power line crossing<br>John Lebate, Troop 25, Stabilized approaches to Oak Valley Tr. Bridge at Hope Lake inlet |

- 2006 Spencer Tate, Troop 3, Two heavy bridges for the Rec Path off of Wesley Drive
- 2009 Craig Richard, Troop 27, Nells Rock trailhead improvements, drainage  
Chris Cavuoto, Troop 27, Birchbank kiosk (installed at Indian Well)
- 2010 Nick Shigo, Troop 55, Paugussett Tr. bypass & bridge rebuilt at "J"-Pond  
Kenny Giangregorio, Troop 28, Paugussett Trail cliff bypass and rocky trail reroute  
Dylan Spagnuolo, Troop 19, Kiosk for Rec Path at Lane St.
- 2012 Liam Fama, Troop 28, Bridge for Birchbank Trail, Upper White Hills Brook lower crossing  
Mike Yevich, Troop 27, Bridge for Birchbank Trail, Upper White Hills Brook upper crossing
- 2013 Dan Heiden, Troop 55, Kiosk for Nells Rock Trail  
Josh Kreitler Troop 27, Paugussett Tr. 1/3 mile extension, including bridge, north of Buddington  
Gabe Brown, Troop 55, Hope Lake arch bridge to island  
Daniel Vigezzi, Troop 27, Paugussett Tr. bridge near Independence Drive  
Wesley Sekelsky, Troop 27, Paugussett Tr. reroute and 2 bridges near Independence Drive  
Matt Vittori, Troop 27 Kiosk for Birchbank Trail  
Logan Clair, Troop 27, Nells Rock Trail bridge and trail stabilization
- 2014 Tom Savarese, Troop 27, Birchbank Trail stabilization  
Luke Claire, Troop 27, New trail from Beech Tree Hill Road to a small pond in the open space  
Mark Sullivan, Troop 25, New kiosk for the Paugussett Trail on Buddington Road  
Bryce Gallagher, New kiosk for the Shelton Lakes Community Garden and Trail System
- 2016 David Leandres, Troop 55, Eklund Garden/Paugussett improvements
- 2017 Joe Singh, Troop 18, Paugussett Trail reroute at Constitution Blvd. (Wiacek)
- 2018 Josh Andes, Troop 11 (Seymour) Benches at Shelton Lakes
- 2020 Korey Barber, Troop 27, Bridge over Round Hill Brook, Paugussett Trail  
Marc Santacapita, Troop 19, Paugussett Trail @ Independence Dr., reroute trail, move bridge  
Andrew Kluk, Troop 3, installation of Rec Path mile markers
- 2021 Kevin Wokanovicz, Troop 27, Paugussett Trail improvements at Wiacek Woods (Meadow St.)
- 2024 Colin Edwards, Troop 28, French's Hill kiosk and bog walks



*Pedestrian Bridge*



*Completed Kiosk at French's Hill Trailhead*



# REMEMBRANCE

COMMEMORATING THE SERVICE  
OF LOCAL RESIDENTS  
PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE



*Veterans Memorial Park (Canal Street East/Cornell Street)*

The City of Shelton's war memorials reflect the city's enduring respect and gratitude for its veterans and fallen heroes. These memorials are located primarily in the downtown section of Shelton, especially near Veterans Memorial Park, and they commemorate the service of local residents in every major American conflict, from the Revolutionary War through the modern era.

Veterans Memorial Park is the centerpiece of Shelton's commemorative landscape. Situated near City Hall, it is a quiet, dignified space designed for remembrance and reflection. The park contains multiple granite monuments honoring Shelton veterans who served in World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War and the Global War on Terror. Each stone is inscribed with the names of local residents who made the ultimate sacrifice. The Vietnam memorial bears the dedication "A Victory Denied" 1961-1975; The Korean War memorial reads "The Forgotten War" 1950-1953; The World War II memorial reads "Freedom is Not Free" 1941-1945; and The World War I memorial bears the dedication "The War to End All Wars 1917-1918.

Over the past couple of years, several monuments have been added. Though there are fewer surviving records, local veterans of the Revolutionary and Civil War are also commemorated in historical contexts through other plaques and events.

In the winter of 2022 the Eagle Monument that was displayed at the War Memorial Building near Riverview Park at 799 Howe Avenue was relocated to join the existing memorials at Veterans Memorial Park.



*Veterans Memorial Park Revolutionary War Monument*



*Veterans Memorial Park Civil War Monument*





Veterans Memorial Park



Huntington Green



Plumb Library



City Hall

In 2023 another memorial was dedicated in memory of the USS Thresher (SSN-593). The USS Thresher was a U.S. Navy nuclear-powered attack submarine and the lead ship of her class. It became tragically famous for sinking during deep-diving tests in 1963, becoming one of the worst submarine disasters in U.S. naval history. One hundred twenty nine men aboard perished; among them local resident, John Smarz.

Huntington Green Veterans Memorial, located in the historic village center of Huntington (the original town center of Shelton), honors veterans from earlier American wars. Huntington Green dates back to the 18th century and has been a focal point for civic and patriotic events.

The American Legion Post 16 Sutter-Terlizzi, located in downtown Shelton, also maintains memorials and participates in veteran-related events. The Post occasionally hosts temporary or traveling memorials such as the Vietnam Moving Wall. Inside there are plaques and photos documenting the service of local veterans throughout the 20th century.

Throughout the city there are numerous historical markers and tributes that honor the service and sacrifice of our residents. Some of these places include:

- **Riverside Cemetery:** Six Shelton residents who lost their lives in overseas conflicts are memorialized here. Five headstones honor World War I heroes buried in France, while another commemorates a Korean War hero interred abroad. Nearby, additional monuments recognize the dedicated service of local firefighters and police officers.
- **City Hall and Plumb Memorial Library:** Both locations feature prominent monuments honoring Shelton's World War II veterans.

- **Street Names:** Roads such as Sgt. James "Jimmy" Brown Way have been named in tribute to fallen soldiers, serving as daily reminders of their legacy.
- **Memorial Plaques:** Found in schools, firehouses, and churches throughout the city, these plaques pay tribute to local heroes across generations.

Together, these memorials weave a powerful and personal narrative of Shelton's enduring connection to America's wars. They stand as lasting reminders that the freedoms we enjoy today were secured by the courage and sacrifice of Shelton's men and women in uniform. Plans are in place to install additional granite hubs for QR code plaques at each memorial as well as other destination plaques highlighting cultural or educational aspects of the downtown and riverwalk.



Veterans Memorial Park



# SENIOR LIVING

## TAKING CARE OF SHELTON'S SENIORS AND DISABLED

The City of Shelton, along with the Shelton Economic Development Corporation, has been actively undertaking renovations at the city's Sinsabaugh Heights. Sinsabaugh Heights is a state-subsidized housing complex in Shelton, Connecticut, designed to provide affordable living for low-income seniors aged 62 and older, as well as individuals with certified disabilities. It is managed by the Shelton Housing Authority and is located at 187 Meadow Street, near Shelton High School.



The complex is comprised of multiple buildings, mainly Sinsabaugh Heights I and II consisting of 80 private apartment units. Residents have access to a community building equipped with laundry machines and a general lounge area for recreational activities.

The City of Shelton was the recipient of a \$1.5 million grant in 2023 from the State of Connecticut Department of Housing through their Small Cities program for infrastructure upgrades including the installation of new storm doors, PTAC (packaged terminal air conditioner) units and a state-of-the-art fire alarm system. Over the past two years all 80 housing units have received upgrades.



*Shelton Housing Authority L to R: John Fitzgerald, John Simonetti, Chair; Harriet Polansky, Property Manager; and Linda Cherney, Resident.*



The Shelton Housing Authority is governed by a volunteer board of directors appointed by the City of Shelton's Mayor. They oversee the day-to-day operations of the complex as well as the Helen DeVaux Senior Housing complex (40 units) at 91 Howe Avenue, Shelton.



*Helen DeVaux Senior Housing*

Free transportation, funded by the City, is available to and from the SSC for all Shelton residents on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

You may register for a membership, classes, events, workshops and travel opportunities in person at the Shelton Senior Center, 81 Wheeler Street. Registration fees vary. Current SSC membership is required for all activities. Most programs are offered without charge.

For more information please visit the City of Shelton website or call the Center at 203-924-9324 x1551.

### *Shelton History Center*

The mission of the Shelton Historical Society, a not-for-profit organization, is to preserve elements of the community's history in order to create lasting and meaningful connections between Shelton's past, present, and future generations. This is achieved through education, maintaining a museum with its collections and providing a voice in the community regarding matters of historical importance. It accomplishes this by offering enrichment programs for students in various grade levels, tours of its historic structures for visitors and by holding presentations and special events for the community. For more information, visit [www.sheltonhistory.org](http://www.sheltonhistory.org).

In 1971 the Shelton Historical Society, which was formed by volunteers in 1969, purchased the Brownson home on Shelton Avenue from the Derby Savings Bank for \$1.00 on the condition that it would be moved to another location. Mr. and Mrs. Wisner Wilson, who owned farmland and a vegetable stand on Ripton Road, were gracious and donated a portion of their land and barn for this purpose.



The Shelton History Center now consists of the one-room Trap Fall School, a carriage barn housing a collection of horse-drawn vehicles, a corn crib and an outhouse, in addition to, the circa 1822 Brownson House and the 19th century Wilson Barn with its exhibit, "Three Centuries of Shelton from Farming to Industry and Beyond." The house is interpreted to the year 1913, an era when Shelton was rapidly growing into an industrial center.

In addition to the buildings which make up the Shelton History Center complex, the Society holds collections which include over 2,800 vertical files holding more than 11,000 documents, 250 linear feet of books, rare books, primary source documents and artifacts which represent more than 300 years of local history. The Society holds these items in the public trust to document, discover, and disseminate information which supports knowledge and understanding of events and people that have shaped local and regional history.

or missing doors or windows, loose or missing veneer or siding, damaged and derelict signs, collapsing roof or overhang, damaged and vandalized security gates, trash and debris, deteriorating plywood panels on boarded-up doors and windows, outmoded electrical and mechanical systems, broken and impassable sidewalks and high grass and weeds.

The blighted area encompasses vacant lots, abandoned buildings, and houses in derelict or dangerous shape as well as environmental contamination. Blight is also smaller property nuisances that creep up on cities and suburbs, overgrown lawns, uncollected litter, inadequate street lighting and other signs of neglect.

### *Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program*

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

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

The maximum lending amount is \$25,000 per unit. The loaned funds are 0% interest loans and are "deferred" loans, meaning that homeowners are not required to pay back the loan until the following conditions occur: the homeowner no longer lives in the house, the house is sold, the title to the home is transferred, or the homeowner dies. All loans are secured with a mortgage deed, promissory note, and memorandum of agreement. All homes built before 1978 will be tested for lead-based paint. If lead-based paint is found, mitigation will be performed.

### *Zoning Board of Appeals*

The Zoning Board of Appeals is comprised of five regular members and three alternate members. It holds its hearings on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at City Hall. An applicant can give reason why they cannot meet the Planning and Zoning (P&Z) regulations or allowable use in the zone in which they reside or if they feel the zoning enforcement officer was in error of the decision which was made. The Zoning Board of Appeals holds hearings to listen to testimonies, collect relevant evidence and gives a chance for opposing arguments which enables the members to be fairly apprised of the facts on which the applicant wishes to seek relief within the City of Shelton. A hearing is held to grant relief in two areas; (1) grant variances on the City of Shelton Planning and Zoning land and use regulations and (2) to hear appeals on decisions and actions of the City of Shelton Zoning Enforcement Officer. In addition, the Zoning Board of Appeals is empowered to determine if a location is suitable for a motor vehicle operation in the City. It acts in its quasi-judicial capacity and is governed by Section 8 of the Connecticut General Statutes. If needed, the Chairman of the Board may administer oaths and compel the attendance of witnesses when deemed necessary.



Administrator makes recommendations to and works in tandem with the board which meets on a monthly basis.

The sewer administration department is responsible for reviewing applications for new development, determining sewer use fees, providing information to contractors and homeowners about the vicinity for sewer hook-ups and inspecting all sewer construction. The department manages the maintenance, upgrade and rehabilitation of over 120 miles of sanitary sewer piping and more than 3,300 sanitary sewer manholes. The office schedules contractors for manhole rehabilitation, cleaning and televising of sewer lines, chemical root treatment and cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) contracts.

The department uses an Infonet system which tracks any inefficiencies in sewers by viewing videos of the cleaning and televising contracts. It also oversees the Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) program mandated by the State Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) which calls for the removal of grease from the sewer discharge pipes of food establishments.

The WPCA continues with the important work of reducing infiltration and inflow (I/I) of rain or ground water from the sanitary sewer system which creates unnecessary demands on the City's plant and clearing easements for accessibility.

The health and maintenance of the sanitary sewer system is a collective effort between the WPCA and the City residents. Please never flush items such as "flushable" or "disposable" wipes which are not designed to properly break down within the system.

### *Water Pollution Control Plant*

The Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) was first put into service in 1966 as a primary treatment facility on the site of the old coal docks on Riverdale Avenue. The plant's primary function is to remove solids from the incoming wastewater through a settling process and chlorine disinfection process. It was a great step in cleaning up the Housatonic River and modernizing the previous infrastructure.

#### Plant Statistics

- Plant Capacity: 4,000,000 gallons a day
- SBR four tanks, each with a capacity of 1,000,000 gallons per day
- Air Blowers: 1,800 scfm per unit/5 available
- Chlorination tank: Approximately 250,000 gallons
- Septage holding: 30,000 gallons
- Emergency Generation (Kw): 1,000 V-12 Cummins Generator
- Fuel Capacity: 4,000 gallons
- Pumping stations: 5 throughout the City
- Monitoring via 24 hour samplers and computerized alarm systems and controls allow the staff to make adjustments to the process operations as well as the five pumping stations.
- This past year two new pumps, one 75 hp and one 50 hp, were installed at two of the pumping stations.

### *Public Improvement Building Committee*

The Public Improvement Building Committee (PIBC) is a volunteer committee appointed by the City of Shelton. Its members have expertise in construction, engineering, and project management and are entrusted with the planning, renovation, and construction of public buildings and facilities for both the City of Shelton and the Shelton Board of Education.

The Committee's primary mission is to enhance the quality of life for Shelton residents by improving the safety, functionality, and accessibility of municipal and educational facilities used for learning, recreation, and community activities.

Currently, the PIBC is actively overseeing the planning and design of two important projects:

- Mohegan School Roof Replacement
- Auxiliary Turf Field for Shelton High School

Over the years, the Committee has successfully delivered numerous capital improvement projects, including:

- Community Center: Rehabilitation of the indoor swimming pool and refurbishment of building surfaces with protective metal coatings.
- Elementary Schools: Roof replacements, enhanced security through fortified entrances and doors, updated boiler systems, and new energy-efficient windows.
- Shelton High School: Upgrades to the football field and running track, installation of LED outdoor lighting, creation of a dedicated emergency access road to the athletic complex, and replacement of the building's air conditioning chiller system.

Through the diligent work of the Public Improvement Building Committee, the City of Shelton continues to invest in infrastructure that supports education, recreation, and the well-being of its residents.



## *Security Safety and Health Continued from page 23*

In July and August, SYFS celebrates families on Saturday nights by offering FREE outdoor movies. Movie schedules are posted around the city and on the city website. On Halloween, an annual Trick or Trunk Night is held at the Shelton Intermediate School parking lot. The event offers a safe and fun environment for families in our community. The Tween/Teen program provides activities for youth in grades 5, 6 and 7, such as extreme recess, pool parties and dances.

During the school year life skill classes are offered to students in grades 3-12. Class topics include; Vaping, Social media, Anger and Stress Management, Alcohol and other Substances and Decision Making and Responsible Behavior. Also, Safe Sitter classes are offered several times a year for youth ages 11-14. Classes are taught by a certified Safe Sitter instructor.

The SYFS "Heart of the Community" program recognizes youth who have "given back" to their school or community through volunteer hours or acts of kindness.

The Youth2Youth Peer Advocates are an energetic group of high school and middle school students who meet weekly to explore youth issues, plan community service projects and train to become peer educators and youth mentors.

The Family with Service Needs is a community-based program designed to work with the child and family to address behavioral issues and to coordinate with community resources to assure youth and families are provided with the necessary services and support.

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

### *Medical and Health Services*

Echo Hose Ambulance Corps (EHAC) is a not-for-profit, 501(c)3 emergency ambulance provider for the City of Shelton. Established in 1949, EHAC was originally part of the Shelton Fire Department before modern emergency medical services were established. Now, EHAC is an individual entity within Shelton's public safety system, staffed with over 120 volunteer and career Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) and Paramedics who are prepared to respond to Shelton's 7,000 annual emergency calls.

The EHAC has proudly earned the State of Connecticut Governor's EMS Agency of the Year Award in 2019 and 2021. EHAC provides our community with exceptional Basic Life Support and Advanced Life Support services, which include cardiac and respiratory

monitoring, pediatric life support, and other lifesaving emergency interventions for your family, friends, and neighbors.

The EHAC has a paramedic available for you 24/7. Minimum staffing levels include three ambulances during the day and two at night, standing by and ready to serve the residents of Shelton. Also, with the integration of volunteer and paid staff, seven ambulances, and two paramedic "fly cars," EHAC can accommodate 9-1-1 volume surges and can help cover special events around the City when needed. With the support of EHAC, the City of Shelton continues to be recognized as a HEARTSafe community.

The EHAC does more than respond to 9-1-1 emergency calls. The EHAC Training Center, located at 430 Coram Avenue, educates the public by continually offering a wide variety of courses, such as Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Paramedic, CPR, First Aid, Bleeding Control, Narcan Administration, Daycare Provider CPR and First Aid, OSHA, Hazmat, and N-95 Mask Fit-Testing for organizations and businesses. In addition, a partnership with the local health district allows EHAC to bring vaccinations right into the living rooms of Shelton's homebound residents. Each year EHAC trains hundreds of EMT and paramedic students, helping to ensure the EMS system has a continuous flow of qualified prehospital providers across the State of Connecticut. EHAC trains and helps to certify over one thousand providers each year. For more information about Echo Hose Ambulance Corps, please visit [www.echohose.com](http://www.echohose.com).

### *Shelton Animal Shelter/Animal Control*

The Shelton Animal Shelter is located at 11 Brewster Lane in Shelton and is open seven days a week from 8am-4pm, although appointments are required for viewing animals.

The shelter has 30 runs for dogs and 14 cages for cats. The facility also has outdoor and indoor play areas for the animals as well as a grooming room to keep them looking and feeling good.



Shelton Animal Control serves the Shelton community by enforcing animal related laws for dogs, cats, livestock and other small pets. It is staffed by one full-time supervisor, a full-time animal control officer, multiple part-time animal control officers, an administration assistant and kennel workers.

Animal Control responds to domestic animal issues such as stray and roaming animals, injured domestic animals, bites and attacks, animal cruelty issues and the enforcement of all other State and local animal ordinances. Animal control officers are certified and lawfully allowed to respond to issues pertaining to domestic animals and livestock only.

Wildlife issues are handled by the State's Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP). Shelton Animal Control has been the contracted animal control provider for the Town of Derby for the past nine years.





# Acknowledgements

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**S**helton Life, the Biennial Report of the City of Shelton, Connecticut, was produced, under the direction of the Office of the Mayor, by the Economic Development Commission of Shelton with the assistance of the Shelton Economic Development Corporation. This publication is the product of a community effort. The Commission acknowledges and thanks everyone for their input and support in this effort.

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## *Special Thanks to All of Those Who Aided in the Production of this Publication*

From the Chairman of the Economic Development Commission:

On behalf of the Economic Development Commission, I am honored to present this comprehensive biennial report on our vibrant city. This publication represents the collective efforts of numerous dedicated individuals and organizations who share our commitment to Shelton's continued growth and prosperity.

Our deepest gratitude extends to Mayor Mark Lauretti for his unwavering vision and steadfast dedication to advancing the City of Shelton. His transformative leadership continues to position our community as a premier destination for business, families, and visitors throughout Connecticut.

We acknowledge the Board of Aldermen for their collaborative support and legislative guidance that made this comprehensive report possible. Their commitment to transparent governance and economic development initiatives reflects the very best of public service.

We recognize the outstanding contributions of Ken Saranich, Kristen Santilli, Kayleigh Sheriden, and all our dedicated school principals who provided comprehensive content for our Education, Shelton Schools, and Educational Partnerships sections.

This report would not have been possible without the exceptional cooperation of all City departments and offices, who responded promptly and thoroughly to our requests for information and data. Their professionalism exemplifies the quality of service our residents have come to expect. Special recognition goes to Kellie Vazzano, Administrative Assistant, Jane Dowty from the Office of the Mayor, and Lynne Piscitelli, Assistant Finance Director, for their assistance.

We extend our sincere thanks to Paula Severino for her creative vision, design expertise, and key photographic contributions that brought this publication to life. We also thank Unitas Photography, Kellie Vazzano, Bill Dyer, Teresa Gallagher, Jim Tate and all participating departments for their photo submissions and input. Special thanks to Graphic Image of Milford for their professional printing and distribution, helping this report reach our entire community.

We acknowledge the Shelton Economic Development Corporation and its President, Sheila O'Malley, for their ongoing collaboration and shared commitment to our economic growth initiatives. Special thanks to Aleta Miner for her professional writing expertise and efficient coordination of data collection—her contributions have elevated the quality and comprehensiveness of this report.

As we present this 16th edition of Shelton's Biennial Report, we hope you find it both informative and inspiring. This biennial publication represents our commitment to transparency, community engagement, and shared progress. We encourage active community participation and welcome your contributions to future editions. Together, we will continue building a stronger, more prosperous Shelton for generations to come.

Respectfully,



*Bing Carbone, Chairman*

Economic Development Commission, City of Shelton

WEBSITE: [cityofshelton.org](http://cityofshelton.org)

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

## ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENTS

City Hall (Main Number) .....	203 924-1555
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Dial the Department you need:

Building Department.....	1517
City/Town Clerk.....	1503
Community Development.....	1504
Economic Development.....	1504
Engineering.....	1509
Fire Department.....	1515
Fire Marshal .....	1514
Finance Department/City Treasurer.....	1508
Human Resources .....	1516
Inland and Wetlands Commission.....	1512
Mayor's Office.....	1504
Planning and Zoning Commission.....	1510
Purchasing Department.....	1506
Sewer Department.....	1511
Tax Assessor.....	1500
Tax Collector .....	1501

Fax Number.....	203 924-0185
Animal Shelter .....	203 924-2501
Building Maintenance Supervisor.....	203 925-8576
Highways and Bridges .....	203 924-9277
Housing Authority .....	203 924-2736
Probate Court.....	203 924-8462
Public Works Director.....	203 924-9277
Registrar of Voters.....	203 924-2533
Shelton Senior Center.....	203 924-9324
Shelton Youth and Family Services .....	203 924-7614
Water Pollution Control Plant.....	203 924-8288

## SHELTON SCHOOLS

Superintendent of Schools/Board of Education.....	203 924-1023
Adult Education Office .....	203 924-6651
Booth Hill School.....	203 929-5625
Elizabeth Shelton School.....	203 929-1330
Intermediate School .....	203 926-2000
Long Hill School.....	203 929-4077
Mohegan School.....	203 929-4121
Perry Hill School.....	203 924-4002
Sunnyside School.....	203 922-3021
Shelton High School.....	203 922-3004
Shelton Student Transportation Services.....	203-922-1311

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Community Center.....	203 925-8422
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## PLUMB MEMORIAL LIBRARY

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

## Schedule of Meetings

### BOARD OF ALDERMEN

Full Meeting  
2nd Thursday of Month (5:30 pm)

Street Committee  
1st Tuesday of Month (5:30 pm)

Public Health and Safety  
1st Wednesday of Month (6:00 pm)

Finance Committee  
4th Tuesday of Month (6:00 pm)

### BOARD OF APPORTIONMENT AND TAXATION

4th Thursday of Month (7:00 pm)

### BOARD OF EDUCATION

at 382 Long Hill Avenue  
4th Wednesday of Month (7:00 pm)

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

3rd Tuesday of Month (6:00 pm)

### INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION

2nd Thursday of Month (6:00 pm)

### PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

at The Community Center  
3rd Thursday of Month (7:30 pm)

### PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

2nd Wednesday of Month (6:00 pm)

### PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCES

4th Tuesday of Month (7:00 pm)

### WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

2nd Tuesday of Month (4:30 pm)

### ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

3rd Tuesday of Month (7:00 pm)

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



Economic Development Commission

c/o City Hall

54 Hill Street

Shelton, CT 06484



Shelton  
Going Green

City of Shelton, Connecticut

54 Hill Street • Shelton, Connecticut • 06484 • Telephone: 203.924.1555 • Fax: 203.924.0185

Website: [cityofshelton.org](http://cityofshelton.org)