



**TOWN COUNCIL
WATERTOWN, CONNECTICUT**

**MONDAY, MAY 15, 2023
REGULAR MEETING – 7:00 P.M.
AGENDA**

**WATERTOWN TOWN HALL
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
61 ECHO LAKE RD.
WATERTOWN, CT 06795**

**THIS MEETING WILL BE AN IN-PERSON MEETING AND WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE
VIA ZOOM IN LISTEN ONLY MODE**

**A LINK WILL BE POSTED ON THE DAY OF THE MEETING
PLEASE SEE WWW.WATERTOWNCT.ORG UNDER THE CALENDAR OF MEETINGS**

1. Call Meeting to Order.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Roll Call.
4. Presentation - Recognitions.
 - a. UCONN TAB (Technical Assistance for Brownfields)
 - b. Watertown Foundation Centennial Park
 - c. Staff Recognition
5. Public Participation.
6. Minutes.
 - a. Special Town Meeting – May 1, 2023
 - b. Regular Meeting – May 1, 2023
7. Chairman's Report
 - a. Correspondence.
8. Town Manager's Report.
9. Subcommittee Reports.
10. New Business.

- a. Discussion and possible action on Watertown Foundation Park presentation to be located on the corner of Route 262 and Buckingham Street and formal naming of the park.
 - b. Consider an appropriation from the General Fund in the amount of \$4,791.72 for Police overtime. Funds received through the Federal Drug Enforcement Administration for reimbursement for participation in their program.
 - c. Consider an appropriation from the General Fund in the amount of \$12,424.70 for Police Overtime. Funds received through the Statewide Violent Crime Task Force participation.
 - d. Consider authorizing an appropriation of \$20,000 from the Water Sewer Capital Fund and \$20,000 Sewer Capital Fund for Legal Services.
 - e. Consider authorizing a compensation adjustment to the Assistant Building Official.
 - f. Consider a resolution authorizing an appropriation of \$4,441 for tax refunds.
 - g. Consider a resolution authorizing tax refunds.
11. Adjournment.

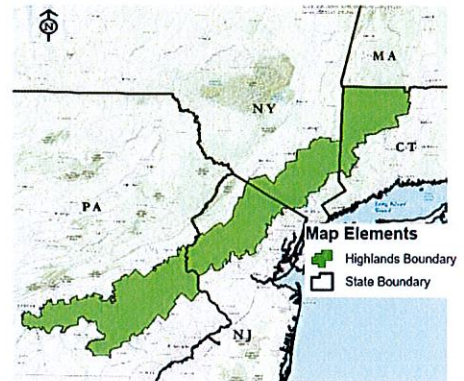
Litchfield Hills Greenprint
Collaborative

COULD YOUR TOWN BE A HIGHLANDS TOWN?

Highlands Conservation Act Objectives:

- * Clean drinking water * Healthy forests * Thriving wildlife populations * Productive agriculture
- * Abundant recreational opportunities

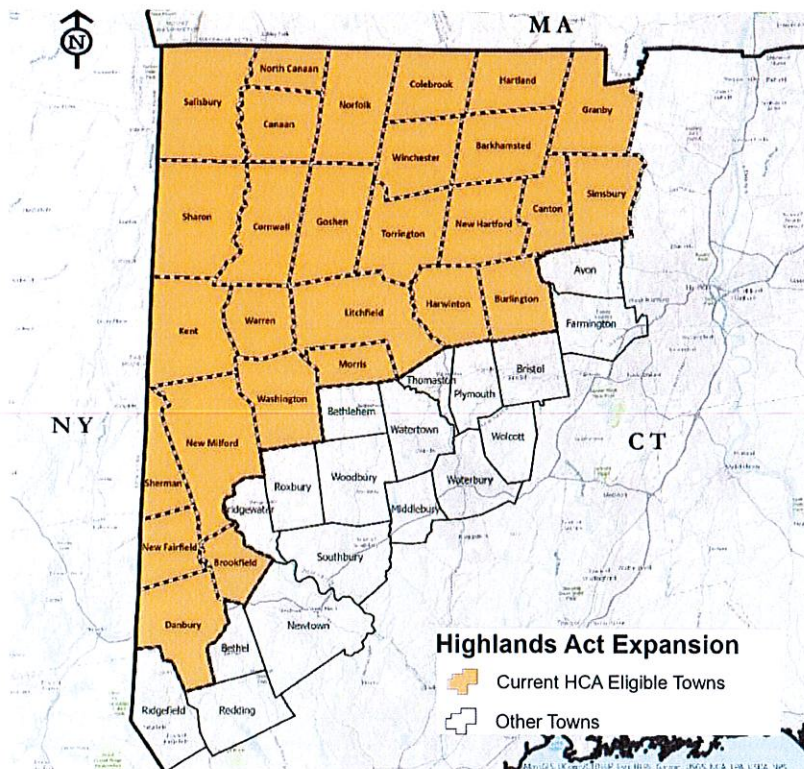
Background: The Highlands region spans 3.4M acres across four states: Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. The Highlands Conservation Act was first passed by Congress in 2004 to conserve lands with important natural resources in this region. Since that time, it has brought *over \$80 million dollars* in federal conservation funding to the four states for use in Highlands communities. Administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, funds are dispersed by state agencies (in CT, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection), to support land conservation projects that advance Highlands Conservation Act Objectives.



In December 2022, the Highlands Conservation Act was reauthorized with some significant new provisions:

- **Additional Highlands Eligible Towns:** The area eligible for Highlands Conservation Act funding can be expanded to include new towns in the region.
- **Newly Eligible Conservation Interest Holders:** County and municipal government entities can now be recipients of Highlands Act funding for land conservation.
- **Highlands Resource Updates:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife will update its project eligibility criteria in alignment with the conservation objectives, best available data and current science.

What New Towns May Be Eligible For Highlands Act Funding?



The original Highlands Conservation Act identified 28 Northwest CT towns as part of the Highlands Region. Communities southeast of the Rte. 202 corridor in Western Connecticut were left out, although many of these towns have natural resources supporting the conservation objectives the Highlands Act aims to protect. Similarly, in the other three states, towns with Highlands conservation resources were excluded from the Highlands Region.

The reauthorization of the Highlands Conservation Act expansion of the Highlands Region boundary to include additional towns that contain Highlands resources.

We can help your Town apply for inclusion in the Highlands Region (if it is not already) and attract federal conservation dollars for qualified land protection opportunities in your community.

Frequently Asked Questions

- (1) What does my town need to do?
Town leadership (town council, first selectman, mayor) needs to state (e.g. through a letter or resolution) willingness to be added to the Highlands Region.
- (2) How can my town position itself to be eligible for Highlands Act funding?
Indicating your town's willingness to be added to the Highlands Region is the first step in enabling conservation projects in your town to receive Highlands Conservation Act funds.
- (3) Does this commit my town to anything?
No. It will enable your town to be eligible for funding only. It does not commit the town to applying for funding, nor does it guarantee funding.
- (4) Would this impact the town's grand list or mill rate?
No. Being included in the Highlands Region allows for the potential use of federal Highlands funding in efforts to protect property with willing landowners in the community. The funding passes through to qualified state, county or municipal government entities that will purchase conservation land (through ownership, conservation easement, or both in combination).
- (5) Does this add regulations or oversight in my town?
No. If your town is added to the Highlands Region, there will be no additional regulations or oversight, just the potential to access federal funding.
- (6) Is every undeveloped parcel in my town potentially eligible?
The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has eligibility criteria based on the Highlands conservation objectives. These criteria are being updated based on the 2022 reauthorization language. We expect along with this update, the criteria will expand to new Highlands towns.
- (7) What happens next?
If your town leadership indicates willingness to be added to the Highlands Region, the letter or resolution will be forwarded to the Connecticut DEEP. The State will make a recommendation to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Director of U.S. Fish and Wildlife will have final approval.
- (8) Is there a deadline or a window of opportunity to state my town's willingness to be added?
There is currently no deadline to indicate your willingness to be added to the Highlands boundary. We anticipate U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will review requests periodically. There is likely benefit to indicating willingness sooner (e.g. Spring 2023) rather than later.
- (9) How does my town become a conservation interest holder? What does that entail?
While permitted in the 2022 reauthorization language, the details of municipal and county governments receiving Highlands funds for land conservation are still being worked out.

Who can I contact with additional questions?

Housatonic Valley Association
Tim Abbott
(860) 605-5625 | tabbott@hvatoday.org

[Local Partner]
[Insert]
Phone | Email



WATERTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT
195 FRENCH STREET
WATERTOWN, CT 06795
860-945-5200

Town Council


Date: May 15, 2023

Agenda Item: 10(b)



Joshua N. Bernegger
Chief of Police

Renee Dominguez
Deputy Chief

TO: Sue Zappone, Finance Director
FROM: Chief Joshua Bernegger  HQ
CC:
DATE: May 10, 2023
SUBJECT: Reimbursement Received by the Finance Department

On May 3, 2023 the following reimbursement was received by the finance department for expenditures from the police department's overtime account.

Drug Enforcement Administration for overtime incurred by Ofc. Reynaldo Torres:
\$4,791.72.

Please appropriate the aforementioned amount of \$4,791.72 to the police department overtime account 010-50130-020-0000.



WATERTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT
195 FRENCH STREET
WATERTOWN, CT 06795
860-945-5200

Town Council

Date: May 15, 2023

Agenda Item: 10(c)



Joshua N. Bernegger
Chief of Police

Renee Dominguez
Deputy Chief

MANAGEMENT MEMO

TO: Sue Zappone, Finance Director
FROM: Chief Joshua Bernegger *[Signature]*
CC:
DATE: May 10, 2023
SUBJECT: Allocation of Funds

Sue: We have been receiving contributions from the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Statewide Violent Crime Task Force for Detective Ferrucci's participation. To date, we have received five payments totaling \$20,984.85. To date, we have expended \$12,424.70 for Detective Ferrucci's overtime.

Therefore, we are requesting you allocate the amount of \$12,424.70 into our overtime account 010-50130-020-0000.

Thank you.



TOWN OF WATERTOWN
WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY Town Council
747 French Street
Oakville, Connecticut 067
(860) 945-5299 Fax (860) 945-5299
Date: May 15, 2023
Agenda Item: 10 (D)

TO: Mark Raimo, Town Manager
FROM: Jerry Lukowski, Public Works Director
DATE: May 2, 2023
RE: Fund Appropriation Request

Please add the following appropriation request to the next Town Council's meeting agenda for their consideration to approve:

Appropriate: \$40,000

Please appropriate \$20,000 into line-item Legal Services 015.50334.074.0158 and \$20,000 into line-item Legal Services 017.50334.075.0158.

These additional funds are needed to cover the cost of Legal Services for the Waterbury Litigation.

This transfer has been approved by the WSA at the WSA Regular Meeting on March 15, 2023.

Thank you.

JL;jm



RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, taxpayers have applied for Tax Refunds pursuant to Section 12-129, Refund of Excess Payments; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector recommended that the refunds be made in accordance with the provisions of Section 12-129; and

WHEREAS, in order to refund taxpayers who have been approved for their refunds, monies must be appropriated into the budget line item to expend the funds.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council appropriates \$4,441 to line item 010-50341-043-0102 from the General Fund for tax refunds.

Dated at Watertown, Connecticut this 15th day of May, 2023

Jonathan Ramsay, Chairman
Watertown Town Council

At a regular meeting of the Watertown Town Council held on May 15, 2023 the foregoing resolution was moved for adoption by Councilman/Councilwoman_____. The motion was supported by Councilman/Councilwoman_____.

Motion declared adopted.

Susan King, Clerk
Watertown Town Council



RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, taxpayers have made applications for property tax refunds in accordance with C.G.S. Section 12-129 *Refunds of Excess Payment*:

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector recommends that the refunds be made in accordance with the provisions of Section 12-1298;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves the attached listing of tax refunds.

Dated at Watertown, Connecticut this 15th day of May, 2023.

Jonathan Ramsay, Chairman
Watertown Town Council

At a regular meeting of the Watertown Town Council held on Monday, May 15, 2023 the foregoing resolution was moved for adoption by Councilman/Councilwoman _____.
The motion was supported by Councilman/Councilwoman _____.

Motion declared adopted.

Susan King, Clerk
Watertown Town Council

ACTION TAKEN BY THE TOWN COUNCIL:

At a regular meeting of the Town Council held on _____ day of _____ 2023, it was authorized to refund property taxes, interest, and fees amounting to \$ _____ to the below applicants.

Bill	Name	Address	City/State/Zip	Prop Loc/Vehicle Info.	Reason	Tax	Int	Fee	Refund
2021-03-0050099	ACAR LEASING LTD	c/o GM FINANCIAL	FORT WORTH, TX 76104	2019/3GNAXYEX1KS01311	Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments - A	538.52	0	0	538.52
2021-04-0080020	ACAR LEASING LTD	PO BOX 1990	FORT WORTH, TX 76104	2019/2GNAXUEV0K6106705	Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments - A	451.13	0	0	451.13
2021-03-0053282	CCAP AUTO LEASE LTD	1601 ELM ST	DALLAS, TX 75201	2019/1C4RUFBG3KC678406	Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments - A	372.9	0	0	372.9
2021-01-0005654	CORELOGIC REAL ESTATE	PO BOX 9202	COPPELL, TX 75019	75 SAUNDERS AVE	Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments.	506.64	0	0	506.64
2019-03-0058979	GUIDESS CASSANDRA L	35 STOCKYARD RD	EASTHAM, MA 02644	2004/1J4FA39S24P718041	Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments - A	32.69	0	0	32.69
2019-03-0058980	GUIDESS CASSANDRA L	35 STOCKYARD RD	EASTHAM, MA 02644	2013/3VWBP7AJ1DM256734	Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments - A	27.15	0	0	27.15
2021-01-0004587	LEGASSEY MARIE L/U	59 MANILA ST	WATERTOWN, CT 06159	MANILA ST	Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments.	524.10	0	0	524.10
2021-03-0064337	NISSAN INFINITI LT LLC	TAX OPERATIONS	DALLAS, TX 75265	2019/5N1AT2MV9KC792868	Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments - A	187.1	0	0	187.1
2021-03-0064374	NISSAN INFINITI LT LLC	TAX OPERATIONS	DALLAS, TX 75265	2019/1N4BL4CW1KN313030	Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments - A	397.51	0	0	397.51
2021-03-0064400	NISSAN INFINITI LT LLC	TAX OPERATIONS	DALLAS, TX 75265	2019/1N4BL4CW1KN313030	Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments - A	411.79	0	0	411.79
2021-03-0064405	NISSAN INFINITI LT LLC	TAX OPERATIONS	DALLAS, TX 75265	2019/5N1AT2MV2LC750074	Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments - A	605.58	0	0	605.58
2021-03-0064405	NISSAN INFINITI LT LLC	TAX OPERATIONS	DALLAS, TX 75265	2019/5N1DLOMM0KC511825	Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments - A	230.79	0	0	230.79
2021-04-0082405	NISSAN INFINITI LT LLC	PO BOX 650214	DALLAS, TX 75265	2022/1N6ED1EK5NN628170	Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments - A	80.51	0	0	80.51
2021-02-0041182	TOTAL SITE DEVELOPMENT	67 CARMEL HILL RD	WATERTOWN, CT 06167	CARMEL HILL RD	Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess payments (DU	73.97	0	0	73.97
2021-03-0070246	VCFS AUTO LEASING CO	1800 VOLVO PL	MAHWAH, NJ 07430	2019/7JRA22TL5KG002158	Sec. 12-129 Refund of Excess Payments - A	4,440.38	0.00	0.00	4,440.38
TOTAL									

Susan King, Clerk of the Town Council