

**ENFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING
THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2022**

A Special Meeting of the Enfield Town Council was called to order by Chairman Cressotti on Thursday, March 31, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 5:34 p.m.

ROLL-CALL – Present were Councilors Cekala, Cressotti, Hopkins, Ludwick, Pyznar and Santanella. Councilors Finger and Mangini attended remotely. Councilors Bosco, Despard, and Unghire were absent. Also present were Town Manager, Ellen Zoppo-Sassu; Assistant Town Manager, Steven Bielenda; Town Clerk, Sheila Bailey; Chief of Police, Alaric Fox; and Director of Finance, John Wilcox.

BUDGET DISCUSSION

The Police Department budget was reviewed. A copy of the presentation is appended to these minutes.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #6175 by Councilor Santanella, seconded by Councilor Hopkins to adjourn.

Upon a **SHOW-OF-HANDS** vote being taken, the Chair declared **MOTION #6175** adopted 7-0-0, Councilor Cekala having left the meeting at 6:15 p.m., and the meeting stood adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

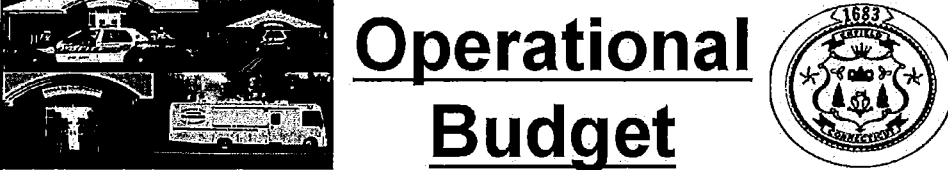
Sheila M. Bailey
Town Clerk
Clerk of the Council

What Goes Into a Line Item? An Example: Detective Bureau Supplies

Line Item 561900: "Detective Bureau Supplies": \$43,300

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Narcotics test kits ➤ Covert cameras ➤ Fingerprinting kits ➤ Blood detection kits ➤ DNA collection kits ➤ FLIR/night vision equipment ➤ Counterfeit money detection kits ➤ Gunshot residue kits ➤ Sexual assault collection kits ➤ Tents/screen scene walls ➤ Forensic light sources ➤ Fuming compounds ➤ Plastic bags 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Paper bags ➤ Evidence/currency packaging ➤ Handgun evidence box ➤ Rifle evidence box ➤ Knife evidence box ➤ Sharps Tubes ➤ Crime scene tape ➤ Masks/gloves/booties ➤ Bio-hazard clothing ➤ Bio-hazard waste disposal ➤ Mapping equipment ➤ Evidence packaging ➤ Evidence seal/tape ➤ Collection jars ➤ Plaster 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Snow wax ➤ Respirators ➤ Casting kits ➤ Bio-hazard filtration equipment ➤ Fingerprint fuming supplies ➤ Security packaging for suspect cellphones ➤ Mumble (talkaround) radio frequency ➤ Breaching equipment ➤ Infrared scanner ➤ Metal detectors ➤ Electronic surveillance & counter-surveillance equipment ➤ Etc.!!
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	<h1 style="margin: 0;">Operational Budget</h1>
<p>New Operating Budget: \$1,143,561</p> <p>Current Operating Budget: \$1,018,614</p> <p>Difference: \$ 124,947</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ <u>Price Increase to Current Budget Items:</u> + \$84,235 ■ <u>New Expenses Added to Budget:</u> + \$69,907 ■ <u>Expenses Removed from Budget:</u> - \$29,195 ■ <u>Summary:</u> + \$124,947

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Technical Services Civilianization



- Agency technical service needs are considerable and include the following: Body worn cameras, in-car cameras, street cameras, portable surveillance cameras, Freedom of Information Act requests for camera footage, NexGen CAD/RMS system, ASAP personnel/time management system, automated fingerprint system, voice recorder system, in-building cameras, prisoner communication system, department (landline) telephones, department cellphones, domain account management, key management system, assistance on the townwide radio system, etc.

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Technical Services Civilianization



- Please note that these are IT needs that are beyond the services of the town IT department; by their own acknowledgement these areas are outside their expertise and comfort zone.
- In order to satisfy these needs the police department has assigned one officer (permanently), along with a second officer (temporarily when needed) to catch up and keep up on these needs. For example, during the body-worn camera acquisition and rollout and during the transition to the NEXGEN report writing system, this second officer was placed in a temporary duty status to assist with these functions. It is my estimation that these duties in fact require approximately 1.5 positions to catch up and permanently keep up.

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Technical Services Civilianization

- We recommend the creation of 1.5 civilian positions of *"public safety systems technician"* within the police department budget.
- These positions would pay \$30.00 per hour, representing an annual cost of \$93,600. (This rate of pay is viewed as the minimum necessary to attract individuals with this skill-set, with a hope that we can perhaps attract recent police retirees.)
- This approach serves to "civilianize" this function and allows us to keep sworn law enforcement personnel performing sworn law enforcement work.
- *"Hazardous duty work for hazardous duty pay."*

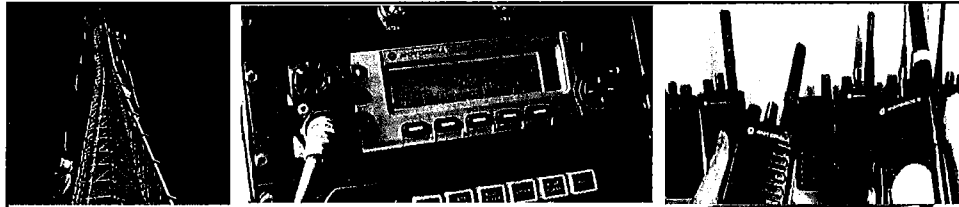
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2022-2023 C.I.P. Budget Summary (1)

- **Department Vehicles: \$952,000.** The DPW Fleet Replacement Plan currently calls for the replacement of the 21 department vehicles this year. The requested amount would allow the department to acquire 17 new police vehicles and associated equipment, in order to make a significant "dent" in the current vehicle deficit, with hopes that we can make another smaller dent next year to bring us up to par.

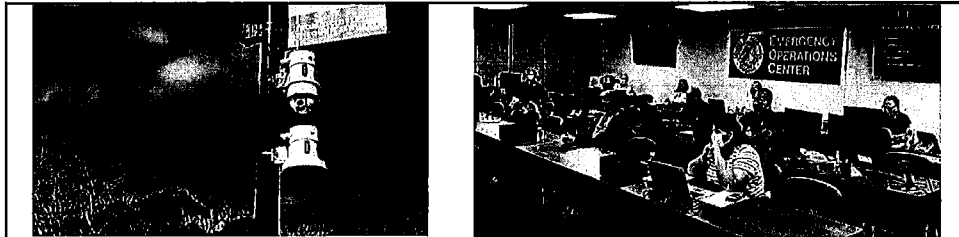
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2022-2023 C.I.P. Budget Summary (2)

- **Emergency Services Radio System: \$687,000.** The estimated cost for the complete upgrade to the (townwide) Enfield Public Safety Communications System is \$1,641,248.00. As of this writing there is approximately \$687,000 in CIP for this project. The second year's contribution toward this project should be another \$687,000.

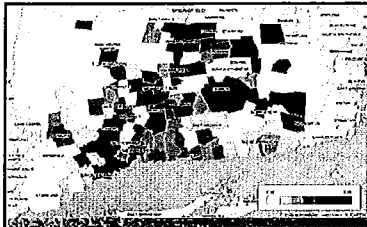
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2022-2023 C.I.P. Budget Summary (3)

- **Enfield Joint Operations Center Phase #4: \$175,000.** This phase will focus on significant investment in infrastructure or "back haul" locations, including the cost to add cameras as well as necessary fiber optic/tower work. The phase will "seal up" gaps in the current camera coverage.

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Update: Narcotics Concerns and Available Data

- The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner reports that between 2015 and 2020 the town of Enfield suffered 73 accidental overdose deaths, for an average of 12.16 deaths per year.
- In 2020 (the last full year available) Enfield saw 19 overdose deaths.
- Additionally, 82 Narcan "saves" occurred in Enfield in 2021. Some individuals have been revived on more than one occasion.
- As to 2020 and Connecticut as a whole, our state saw 1,375 overdose deaths for the year, our highest total yet (up from 1,201 in 2019).

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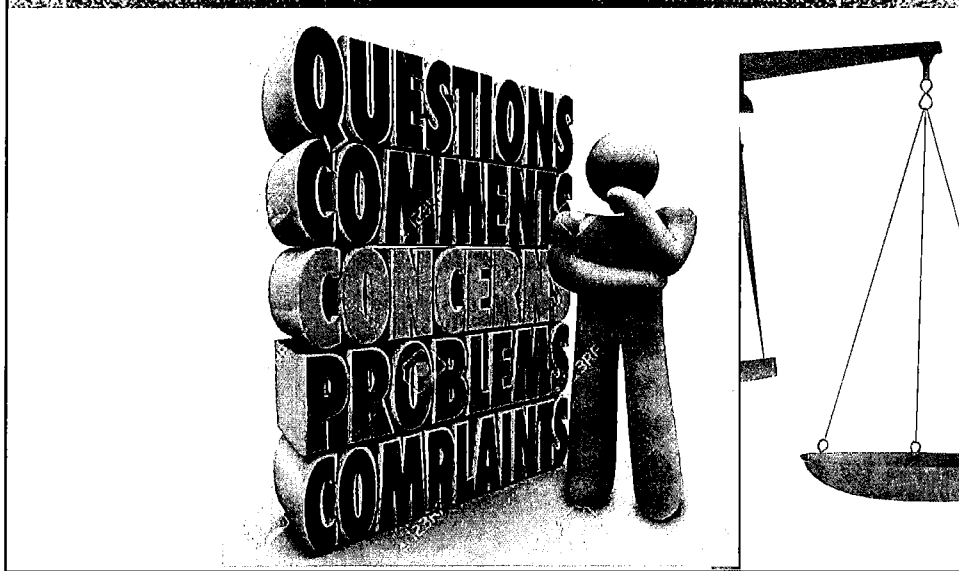


Update: Narcotics Concerns and Available Data

- Connecticut's per capita death rate has continually ranked among the nation's highest. An opioid is present in 94% of our overdose deaths. The synthetic opioid "fentanyl" was involved in 78% of these cases.
- On March 7, 2022, I testified (for the third year) before the Public Safety and Security subcommittee in favor of HB191, "*An Act Concerning Emergency Intervention by a Police Officer When a Person Suffers a Narcotics Overdose*". This bill has been favorably voted out of committee.

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And Now It's Your Turn:
Questions or Comments?



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