

3 PRIMROSE STREET
NEWTOWN, CT 06470
TEL. (203) 270-4221

BOARD OF FINANCE, SPECIAL MEETING
3 Primrose Street, Newtown - Newtown Municipal Center
Monday, December 21, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

These minutes are subject to approval by the Board of Finance

PRESENT: Steve Goodridge, James Gaston, John Fletcher, Janette Lamoureux (via google meets), Barney Molloy, Bryce Chinault

ALSO PRESENT: First Selectman Jeff Capeci

First Selectman Capeci called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Attendees saluted the American Flag.

Election of Chair and Vice Chair:

S. Goodridge made a motion to elect J. Gaston as Chair for the Board of Finance for the period of one year ending December 26, 2024. B. Molloy seconded. All in favor.

J. Gaston happily accepted the nomination and took over the meeting from First Selectman Capeci

J. Gaston nominated S. Goodridge as Vice Chairman for a period of one year ending December 26, 2024. B. Chinault seconded. All in favor

Voter Comments: none.

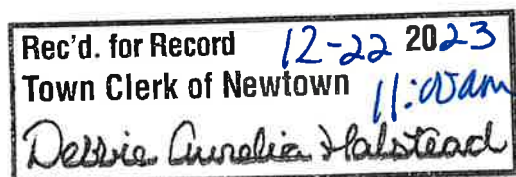
Communications: none.

Minutes: S. Goodridge moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of 11/28/23. B. Molloy seconded; J. Gaston abstained. All in favor. B. Molloy moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of 12/11/23. B. Chinault seconded. All in favor.

First Selectman's Report: The last Board of Selectmen meeting was cancelled. The Parks & Recreation contract was not ratified; it will be on the BOS agenda of Jan. 2nd. Budget discussion with department heads will begin next week. Public Building and Site will be closing out the Hawley School and Sandy Hook Permanent Memorial projects. The Library HVAC project is in progress. There was a meeting with CT DOT and the road contractor that worked on Rte. from Pearl Street to the Monroe line. They went over resurfacing and drainage which will give the road another ten years of life.

Digital migration project is closing, fire EMT, going well, there are half a dozen items on punch list. 3 Main Street will be appraised for sale. The Sunday storm resulted in more than half Newtown customers out of power at one point. Eversource worked diligently, 5700 houses restored within 12 hours. By 2pm on Tuesday the last single resident was restored. A large number of roads were impacted by the storm. By Tuesday morning the Highway Department had all but two roads cleared B. Molloy asked if the library director vacancy will impact the budget. First Selectman Capeci said it depends on when they hire someone.

Finance Director's Report: none.



New Business

Discussion & Possible Action:

1. Resolution: \$100,000 for Motor Vehicle Tax Recovery Relating to Out of State License Plates:

A company uses license plate software with cameras to look at parked vehicles to determine if a car has been at residence a long time; a letter is sent to find reasonable information. If not received the information goes to assessor. It is designed to find out of state/town cars that aren't paying property taxes. The company receives 40% of proceeds the first year but once on tax rolls it is 100% town revenue. B. Molloy moved to approve the resolution to appropriate \$100,000 for motor vehicle tax recovery relating to out of state license plates residing in Newtown to be funded from the Capital & Non-recurring fund. J. Fletcher seconded. B. Chinault asked for an example of the step by step process. It is on the website. Other towns in the area are utilizing the system. J. Gaston asked that all questions be filtered through him and he will provide discussion at a public meeting. The company attempts to resolve, if unable the assessor takes over. The company does not sell information. The \$100,000 amount may be in excess of what is needed; only the amount required will be used. The data collected resides with the company; the Town was told that they don't do anything additional with it. All in favor. (att.).

2. 2024 BOF Meeting Schedule: B. Molloy moved to approve the 2024 meeting calendar as presented.

S. Goodridge seconded. All in favor.

Voter Comments: none

Announcements: J. Gaston reminded the board of workshop for newly elected officials encouraging all to. One of the items covered will be the Freedom of Information Act, rules about meetings, particularly what constitutes a quorum. J. Gaston highlighted what's allowed and what is not allowed and also about Roberts Rules of Order.

The ARP and Recycling Ad Hoc Committees were discussed. There is still money to be allocated from the American Rescue Plan. The cost of recycling has doubled and only 50% of households use it. J. Gaston asked the board members to let him know if they are interested in serving on either Ad Hoc Committee; this will be on the next agenda. The meeting of December 28, 2023 will be cancelled.

Adjournment

Having no further business B. Chinault moved to adjourn the special Board of Finance meeting at 7:55p.m.

B. Molloy seconded. All in favor.

Att: Information on program to recover MV tax related to out of town/state license plates; 2024 Meeting Calendar

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Marcinek, Clerk pro tem

CAPITAL TAX RECOVERY

211 NEW BRITAIN ROAD, SUITE 208, KENSINGTON, CT 06037

T: 860-826-1100 • F: 866-256-8084

INFO@CAPITALTAXRECOVERY.COM

WWW.CAPITALTAXRECOVERY.COM

Our Process

Step 1: Meet with the Assessor

- We will meet with the Assessor to set expectations and discuss how the Town applies the relevant laws governing motor vehicle taxation.
- Obtain the motor vehicle grand lists from the Assessor.
- We upload the current motor vehicle grand list to our Automated License Plate Readers system (ALPR) and create a permit list.

Step 2: Deploy Investigators/Gather Data

- Deploy Investigators into the Town to gather data from the ALPR.
- When the ALPR scans a license plate not on the grand list, it flags that plate and creates a hit. A hit is a license plate not contained in the grand list. The ALPR system takes a picture of the license plate and vehicle, documents the date and time, and the address/GPS location of the vehicle (**see handout #1**).
- All hits are placed on an excel spreadsheet called a "hotlist." The hotlist is uploaded into the ALPR system.
- As we continue to scan, each time a plate on the hotlist is scanned, the system again flags the plate. Consecutive dates the plate was scanned are added to the hotlist so that we know how many times it was scanned and when.
- High motor vehicle concentration areas such as apartment buildings, condominiums, and multi-family rental unit areas will be scanned more frequently and will be a higher priority.
- We continually scan the entire Town for the duration of the contract, mainly at night and in the early morning, to identify as many vehicles as possible.
- We can set up at schools for student drop-offs and pick-ups.
- We will set up entrances and exits of apartment and condominium complexes posted as private. We can also request permission to enter the private property from the apartment complexes and condominiums that are posted.

Step 3: Obtain Vehicle Ownership

- Once a vehicle has been scanned on two or more occasions, the vehicle is placed "under review."
- We then conduct a motor vehicle registration search to determine the current owner.
- Being a licensed private investigator allows us to conduct motor vehicle searches for most states except a few.
- We have direct online access to New York DMV, allowing us to conduct registration searches for New York plates.

Step 4: Confirm Residency

- Once we obtain the owner information, we conduct a proprietary database “person search” for the registered owner of each vehicle.
- The database provides the person's current address and indicates the date the address was first reported, allowing us to include potential tax liability for previous tax years (see handouts #2-3).
- We also utilize various databases to confirm residency, including voter registration and utility records and have other investigative techniques to verify residence.

Step 5: Send 1st Letter of Correspondence/Public Relations

- Under the direction of the Town, we will prepare and mail the First Letter of Correspondence to all potential taxpayers informing them of their potential tax liability (see handout #4).
- The letter will include an assigned case number, explain why they received it, state the relevant motor vehicle tax law(s), and direct the potential taxpayer to our taxpayer web portal.
- Our web portal has a chatbot to answer general questions and again explains the process of disputing the claim should they wish to do so. The potential taxpayer can provide a written argument and supporting documents should they want to dispute the claim through the web portal.
- CTR will handle all communications with potential taxpayers. The CTR representative will answer general questions and explain current tax laws.
- Should the potential taxpayer contest the claim, we will review the provided dispute documents and compare them to our evidence.
- We can recommend that the Town accept or deny the dispute, or the Town can have sole discretion in making that determination.

Step 6: Provide Assessment Data

- After the allowed time to dispute the claim (timeframe at the Town's discretion) or when the disputed claim is denied, and the case is closed, we will provide the Town with the necessary data to prepare tax bills. The data will be in a format consistent with the Town's necessity for upload.


CTR's Shared Network Folder for the Town:

- We provide the Town with a shared folder allowing access to all case folders in which the potential taxpayer was sent the 1st letter of correspondence.
- All case folders will contain the vehicle registration information, address information, ALPR evidence, 1st letter of correspondence, and potential taxpayer communications.

Why our Solutions Work for You:

- There are no upfront costs to the Town. CTR will be only compensated when the Town collects taxes, fees, and interest.
- We conserve your resources; we increase your tax base.
- We simplified the communication process with potential new taxpayers regarding disputes. Our website allows easy upload of written arguments and supporting documents, and a chatbot is available 24/7 to answer general questions.

Photo evidence - 10/15/2022 (Page 1/1)

Information		ALPR
Plate read	HUS8609	
Location	(41.39637),(-73.45787)	
Address	1 Kennedy Ave Danbury, 06810	
Date	8/5/2021 11:09:31 PM	
Patroller	Mobile LPR	
User		

Addresses are based on the GPS coordinates, which are valid within a range of ± 5 meters.

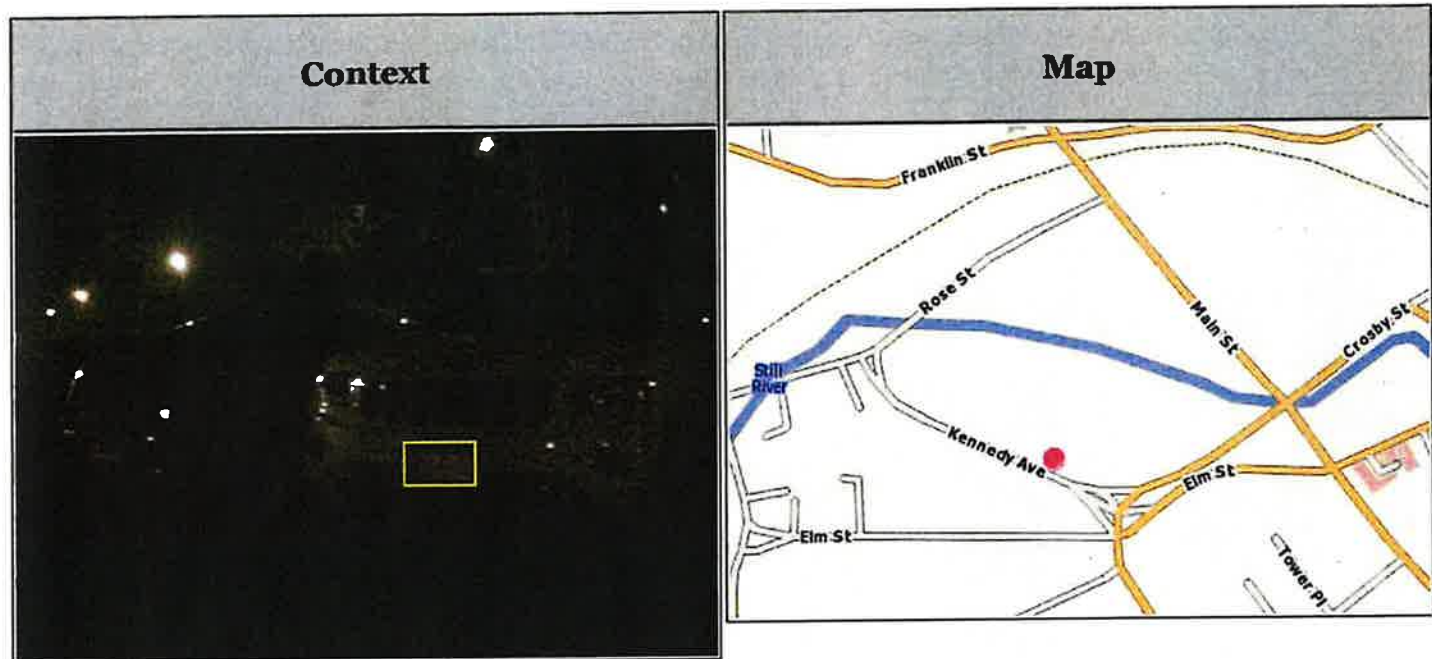



Photo evidence - 10/15/2022 (Page 1/1)

Information		ALPR
Plate read	HUS8609	
Location	(41.39655),(-73.45798)	
Address	1 Kennedy Ave Danbury, 06810	
Date	9/24/2022 9:11:46 PM	
Patroller	Mobile LPR	
User		

Addresses are based on the GPS coordinates, which are valid within a range of ± 5 meters.


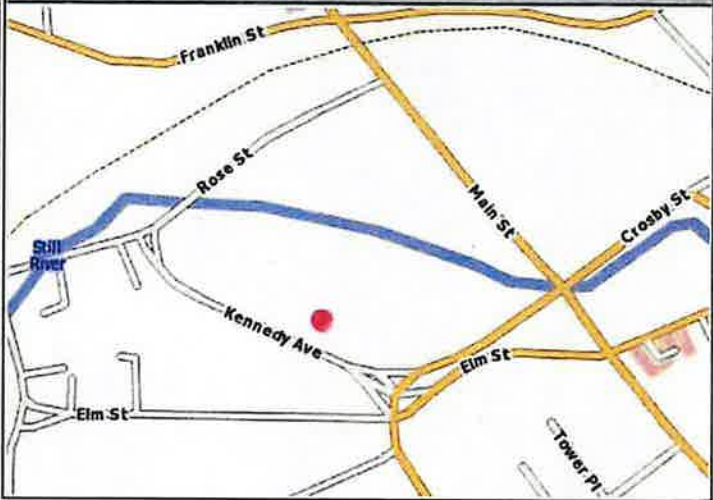

Context	Map
	

Photo evidence - 10/15/2022 (Page 1/1)

Information		ALPR
Plate read	HUS8609	
Location	(41.39648),(-73.45807)	
Address	1 Kennedy Ave Danbury, 06810	
Date	9/30/2022 10:44:34 PM	
Patroller	Mobile LPR	
User		

Addresses are based on the GPS coordinates, which are valid within a range of ± 5 meters.

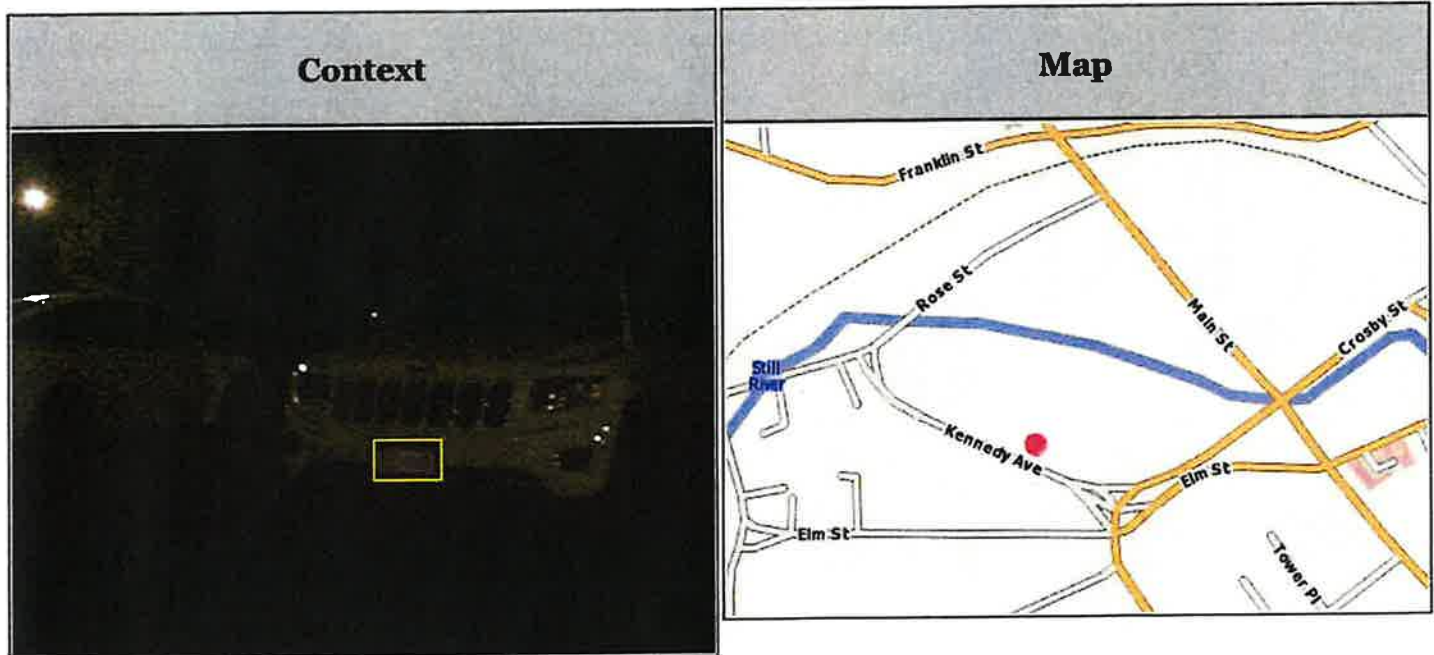


Photo evidence - 10/15/2022 (Page 1/1)

Information

Plate read	HUS8609
Location	(41.39653),(-73.45795)
Address	1 Kennedy Ave Danbury, 06810
Date	10/7/2022 2:30:27 PM
Patroller	Mobile LPR
User	

ALPR

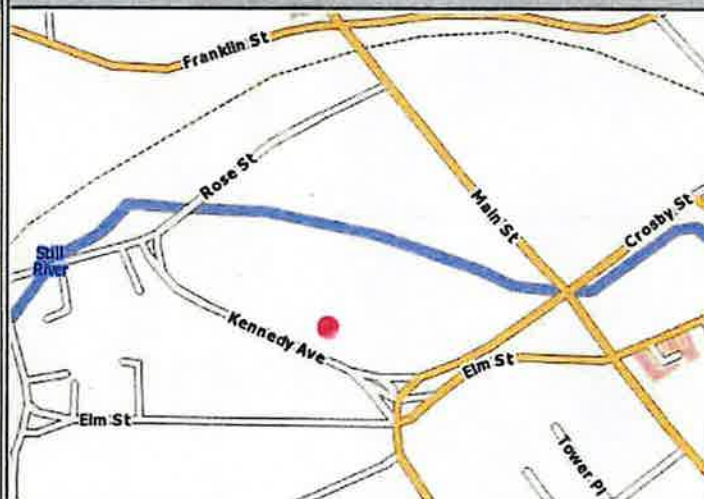


Addresses are based on the GPS coordinates, which are valid within a range of ± 5 meters.

Context



Map



STATISTICS

NAME:

SSN:

134-48-XXXX

DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER:

321247XXX, State: NY

GENDER:

FEMALE

DOB:

11/XX/1962

[+ Show more \(6\)](#)

EMAIL ADDRESS:

EMPLOYER:

ENTITY ID:

P162903812

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

AKA:

JOANN

JOEANNE

JOANNA

JO ANN

JOANNE J

[+ Show more \(14\)](#)

KNOWN ADDRESSES	SOURCES	REPORTED DATE	PHONE #(S)	SOURCES	PHONE TYPE
44 ABBEY LN UNIT [REDACTED] DANBURY, CT 06810 UNITED STATESFAIRFIELD COUNTY	Experian , Household Listing , TransUnion , Equifax	11/01/2022	(914) 769-5336	Phone Record , Household Listing , Experian , TransUnion , Bank Account Header Records	RESIDENTIAL - LAND LINE
44 ABBEY LN UNIT [REDACTED] DANBURY, CT 06810 FAIRFIELD COUNTY	Experian , Gateway	11/01/2022	(845) 621-1802	Phone Record , Household Listing , Experian , TransUnion , Bank Account Header Records , Email Records	RESIDENTIAL - VOIP
44 ABBEY LN UNIT [REDACTED] DANBURY, CT 06810 UNITED STATESFAIRFIELD COUNTY	Experian , Equifax , Household Listing	05/09/2022	(845) 628-1981	Phone Record , Household Listing , TransUnion	RESIDENTIAL - VOIP
[REDACTED] MAIN ST DRESDEN, NY 14441 YATES COUNTY	Experian , Gateway	10/04/2021	(646) 363-9282	Phone Record	RESIDENTIAL - WIRELESS
[REDACTED] MAIN ST DRESDEN, NY 14441 UNITED STATESYATES COUNTY	Experian , Equifax , Voters	10/04/2021	(919) 802-1418	Phone Record	RESIDENTIAL - WIRELESS
[REDACTED] ABBOTT AVE	Phone Record	06/20/2021	(646) 541-8106	Phone Record	RESIDENTIAL - WIRELESS
			(914) 500-3016	Experian Gateway	Cellular
			(914) 420-6267	Experian Gateway	Cellular

DANBURY, CT 06810			(845) 628-1981	Experian Gateway	Residence
UNITED STATESFAIRFIELD COUNTY			(845) 621-2068	Household Listing, Experian, TransUnion	null
LAKE SHORE DR	Experian	05/06/2021	769-2200	TransUnion	HISTORIC
MAHOPAC, NY 10541	Gateway		(914) 769-2200	TransUnion	PREVIOUS
PUTNAM COUNTY			(212) 920-9737	Phone Record	RESIDENTIAL - WIRELESS
LAKE SHORE DR	Experian,	05/06/2021	241-4446	Historic Credit Bureau	HISTORICAL
MAHOPAC, NY 10541	Household		746-4281	Historic Credit Bureau	HISTORICAL
UNITED STATESPUTNAM COUNTY	Listing, Bank Account		(978) 657-7522	Work Affiliations	BUSINESS
	Header		(215) 731-9026	Email Records	BUSINESS
	Records,		(678) 587-3586	Email Records	BUSINESS
	Vehicle,		(914) 500-3016	Bank Account Header	CURRENT
	Phone Record			Records	
	, TransUnion,		(719) 365-5000	Email Records	BUSINESS
	Equifax, Voters				
	, Email				
	Records				
LOCUST RD	Phone Record	02/15/2021			
PLEASANTVILLE, NY 10570	, Experian,				
UNITED STATESWESTCHESTER COUNTY	Household Listing, Vehicle				
	, Equifax,				
	TransUnion,				
	Bank Account				
	Header				
	Records,				
	Experian				
	Gateway				
SE BANCROFT CT	Vehicle,	05/15/2020			
PORT ST LUCIE, FL 34984	Experian,				
UNITED STATES SAINT LUCIE COUNTY	TransUnion,				
	Equifax,				
	Experian				
	Gateway				
PRIVET PL APT B	Experian	12/12/2016			
DELRAY BEACH, FL 33484					
UNITED STATES PALM BEACH COUNTY					
60 ROMER AVE	Household	04/30/2012			
PLEASANTVILLE, NY 10570	Listing				
WESTCHESTER COUNTY					
KENSINGTON AVE	Experian	02/15/2011			
THORNWOOD, NY 10594					
UNITED STATES WESTCHESTER COUNTY					

WASHINGTON AVE Experian 12/15/2006
 PLEASANTVILLE, NY Gateway
 10570
 WESTCHESTER COUNTY

WASHINGTON AVE Experian 12/15/2006
 PLEASANTVILLE, NY Bank Account
 10570 Header
 UNITED Records,
 STATESWESTCHESTER TransUnion,
 COUNTY Motor Vehicle
 Service &
 Warranty
 Records

PO BOX Experian 03/18/2004
 PLEASANTVILLE, NY
 10570
 WESTCHESTER COUNTY

Experian 03/18/2004
 PLEASANTVILLE, NY
 10570
 WESTCHESTER COUNTY

TransUnion, 01/23/2003
 NEW YORK, NY 10030 Experian,
 NEW YORK COUNTY Historic Credit
 Bureau

PORTSIDE LN TransUnion 01/23/2003
 EDGEWATER, FL 32141
 UNITED STATESVOLUSIA
 COUNTY

CARRIAGE LN TransUnion, 01/23/2003
 NEW FAIRFIELD, CT 06812 Historic Credit
 UNITED Bureau,
 STATESFAIRFIELD Experian,
 COUNTY Bank Account
 Header
 Records,
 Experian
 Gateway

W 144TH ST APT 4C Experian 09/16/2000
 NEW YORK, NY 10030 Gateway

HARRIS RD Historic Credit 12/31/1993
 BEDFORD HILLS, NY 10507 Bureau,
 UNITED Experian,
 STATESWESTCHESTER Experian
 COUNTY Gateway

MEDWAY AVE Experian 01/26/1993
 CONGERS, NY 10920 Gateway
 ROCKLAND COUNTY

■ MEDWAY AVE [Experian](#), 01/26/1993
CONGERS, NY 10920 [Historic Credit](#)
ROCKLAND COUNTY [Bureau](#)
■ OLD TOWN RD [Historic Credit](#) 12/31/1992
NEW FAIRFIELD, CT 06812 [Bureau](#)
FAIRFIELD COUNTY
■ MOUNT PLEASANT RD [Historic Credit](#)
NEWTOWN, CT 06470 [Bureau](#)
UNITED
STATESFAIRFIELD
COUNTY
■ HARRIS RD [Address](#)
BEDFORD HILLS, NY 10507 [Compilation](#)
WESTCHESTER COUNTY
10 NAOMI RD [Historic Credit](#)
PEARL RIVER, NY 10965 [Bureau](#)
UNITED
STATESROCKLAND
COUNTY
■ WRENN DR APT L [Phone Record](#)
CARY, NC 27511
UNITED STATESWAKE
COUNTY
■ 3RD AVE FL 23 [Work](#)
NEW YORK, NY 10022 [Affiliations](#)
USANEW YORK COUNTY
PO BOX ■ [Business](#)
PLEASANTVILLE, NY [Contact](#)
10570 [Records](#)
UNITED
STATESWESTCHESTER
COUNTY
PO BOX ■ [Voters](#)
DRESDEN, NY 14441
UNITED STATESYATES
COUNTY

[Phone Record](#)
NEW YORK, NY 10001
UNITED STATESNEW
YORK COUNTY

Sample Address Reported Dates

Experian Gateway Records

Document 1

Name:	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	SSN(s):	134-48-XXXX
DOB:	1956	Phones(s):	(914) 500-3016 Cellular (914) 420-6267 Cellular (845) 628-1981 Residence
Address:	44 ABBEY LN DANBURY, CT 06810- [REDACTED] FAIRFIELD COUNTY [REDACTED] MAIN ST DRESDEN, NY 14441- [REDACTED] YATES COUNTY [REDACTED] LAKE SHORE DR MAHOPAC, NY 10541- 1325 PUTNAM COUNTY [REDACTED] SE BANCROFT CT PORT ST LUCIE, FL 34984-6661 SAINT LUCIE COUNTY [REDACTED] LOCUST RD PLEASANTVILLE, NY 10570-3309 WESTCHESTER COUNTY	Reported Date(s):	06/04/2021-11/01/2022 07/01/2021-10/04/2021 03/29/2011-05/06/2021 10/16/2018-06/07/2019 01/07/1997-06/30/2016

■ WASHINGTON AVE
PLEASANTVILLE, NY
10570-2808
WESTCHESTER
COUNTY

09/10/1995-12/15/2006

■ 144TH ST
NEW YORK, NY
10030-1335
NEW YORK COUNTY

01/25/1994-09/16/2000

■ CARRIAGE LN
NEW FAIRFIELD, CT
06812-2564
FAIRFIELD COUNTY

03/28/1992-12/12/1996

■ MEDWAY AVE
CONGERS, NY 10920-
2506
ROCKLAND COUNTY

12/28/1991-01/26/1993

■ HARRIS RD
BEDFORD HILLS, NY
10507-2125
WESTCHESTER
COUNTY

11/25/1992-12/06/1992

FRAUD ALERTS

Sample 1st Letter of Correspondence



CITY OF DANBURY

ASSESSOR OFFICE
155 DEER HILL AVENUE
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

Date

Xxx

Xxx

Xxx

Case Number:

Type: **Resident/Vehicle(s) Registered Out-of-State**

Registration:

Address:

Tax year(s):

Dear ,

This letter is to alert you of a potential tax liability to The City of Danbury. The City has contracted with Capital Tax Recovery (CTR) to identify and investigate motor vehicles within the City that have not been reported for tax purposes.

CTR has advised our office that you are the registered owner or lessee of the above-referenced vehicle and that you may be or have been residing in the City of Danbury during the tax years indicated above. Connecticut law mandates any motor vehicle which is not registered in this state shall be subject to property tax in this state if such motor vehicle in the normal course of operation most frequently leaves from and returns to or remains in one or more points within this state.

Actions required:

- Review the vehicle information, address, and tax years noted above
- Determine whether you agree or disagree with the information
- If you agree, no further action is necessary
- If you disagree, you must respond within 21 days of the date on this letter with a written argument and supporting documentation at vehicletaxhelp.com.
- If you have no internet access, mail a written argument and supporting documentation to the address at the bottom of this letter.

To assist you in understanding the laws concerning the taxation of motor vehicles in Connecticut, see the information page enclosed with this letter and go to vehicletaxhelp.com, which provides an overview of the laws.

No further action is needed if you agree with the potential tax liability. Your vehicle(s) will be assessed and added to the City's motor vehicle grand list, and you will receive a City tax bill in the mail.

If you disagree or feel your circumstances do not apply, you must submit a written argument and supporting documentation within 21 days from the date of this letter. No, or an untimely response will result in the assessment and taxation of your vehicle(s). The written argument must explain why the potential tax liability does not apply and provide supporting documents for all vehicles and tax years noted above. Please provide all written arguments and supporting documents through vehicletaxhelp.com. If you do not have access to the internet, you may send your written argument and supporting documents to the address below. Write the Case Number on all documents. CTR manages and maintains all such investigative files under review by this office; ***all questions, written arguments, and supporting documents must be directed to CTR, not the Assessor's Office.***

Your written argument and supporting documents will be reviewed, and you will be notified within 60 days of whether your dispute has been accepted or denied.

Examples of acceptable supporting documents should you wish to dispute this claim. Please provide at least one Type #1 and one Type #2:

Type #1

- Notarized affidavit from a landlord (form available at vehicletaxhelp.com)
- Current signed lease
- Property deed
- Utility bills (gas, electric, etc.)

Type #2

- Pay Stubs (redacted financial/personal information)
- Tax returns (redacted financial/personal information)
- Bank Statements (redacted financial/account information)
- Credit Card Statements (redacted financial/account information)

All correspondence must be submitted to CTR directly at vehicletaxhelp.com or mailed to:

**CTR
P.O. Box 7332
Berlin, CT 06037**

You may contact CTR by email at info@capitaltaxrecovery.com or at 860-826-1100 if you have any questions.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation regarding this matter.

Donna Murphy
City of Danbury
Office of the Assessor

**Connecticut General Statutes Related to Vehicles Registered Out-of-State
(For Information Only)**

CGS 12-71b(g): Addresses vehicles registered outside of Connecticut whose owners are residents of any town in this state. *"Any motor vehicle which is not registered in this state shall be subject to property tax in this state if such motor vehicle in the normal course of operation most frequently leaves from and returns to or remains in one or more points within this state, and such motor vehicle shall be subject to such property tax in the town within which such motor vehicle in the normal course of operation most frequently leaves from and returns to or remains, provided when the owner of such motor vehicle is a resident in any town in the state, it shall be presumed that such motor vehicle most frequently leaves from and returns to or remains in such town unless evidence, satisfactory to the assessor in such town, is submitted to the contrary."*



TOWN OF NEWTOWN
BOARD OF FINANCE
2024 Board of Finance Meetings
Municipal Center – Council Chambers
3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT
All meetings will begin at 7:30 p.m.

January 8 and January 25

February 12 and February 22

BUDGET MEETINGS: February 15* (after Hearing), 21*, 22, 26*

PUBLIC HEARING: February 15*

March 11 and March 28

April 8 and April 25

May 13 and May 23

June 10 and June 27

July 8 and July 25

August 12 and August 22

September 9 and September 26

October 8* and October 24

November 12* and November 21*

December 9 and December 26

January 13, 2025 and January 23, 2025

***indicates dates outside of regular 2nd Monday/4th Thursday schedule**