Summary of Reported Town Hall Openings CAAO Research / Historian Committee COVID-19 Report Updated to July 31, 2020

Most Connecticut town halls have been closed since mid-March 2020. This is the final summary of when the reported town halls re-opened. The reopening report will be added to the publication "Assessors Meet the Challenge of COVID-19" that came out June 2020. The publication is on the CAAO web site under CAAO Research / Historian Committee.

An October Hot Line survey will ask assessors how their field inspection went this year. Stay tuned.

Last Minute Add-On's and Up-dates

If your town hall is open and it does not appear on this list you have until <u>August 10, 2020</u> to add it on. Just send the name of the town, the date your town hall opened and any restrictions. E-mail: paulslattery9@yahoo.com

Towns That Never Closed

Cromwell: Never closed, but appointments were needed up until June 1, 2020.

Darien: Many offices never closed. Assessor's office opened June 1st.

Granby: Never closed. Open by appointment only. No official date for town hall re-opening.

- Meriden: City of Meriden never closed. They have been and still are taking taxpayers by appointments. Went to full staff May 18th. Many offices have Plexiglas around desks and counters. Fieldwork with masks began June 8, 2020.
- New Britain: City hall has been open throughout COVID-19. Only closed to the public April 7th to May 11th. Opened back up to the public May 12^{th.}
- Old Saybrook: Never closed. If someone called ahead, assessor's office would provide a copy of the card at the door. Town hall opened June 22nd. Plexiglas installed on counter and some desks near the counter.
- Waterbury: Never really closed. Always open by appointment. If you had an appointment with the tax collector and then needed a prorate, they just sent them to the assessors office and they would be taken care of.

Reported Town Openings in May

Guilford: Opened May 26th.

Orange: Town hall opened May 20th. Staggered staffing for two weeks prior since an active case was found in the building.

Reported Town Openings in June

Beacon Falls: Town hall opened June 15th by appointment only. Phone numbers are posted outside for visitors to call the appropriate department. Visitors must wear mask and use hand sanitizer. This will continue through the month of July.

Bethel: June 1st by appointment. Instructions are on town web site.

Bloomfield: June 8th. Sent out postcard with instructions. Appointments are preferred.

- Branford: Open June 1st. Monitor at door. Only a certain number allowed in at one time. Mask required.
- Bridgewater: Town hall opened June 15th.
- Brookfield: Open by appointment and rotating half-staff weekly. See July up-date.
- Canton: Opened June 22nd. Restricted hours. Any other time is by appointment only.
- Cheshire: Town hall opened June 3rd.
- Colchester: June 8th temperature checks at front door plus contact tracing. After June 22nd full hours allowing one person in the office at a time. Plexiglas in active offices.
- Coventry: Accepting appointments for limited purpose starting June 8th. Full opening June 29th. Extensive reopening plan issued to all departments.
- Darien: Assessor's office opened June 1, 2020 with appointment for the public.
 - Many of Darien's departments never closed.
- East Haven: Town hall opened June 22nd. Department heads worked during closure. Assessor's staff worked remotely from home.
- East Lyme: Open by appointment June 17th.
- Easton: Currently closed to public. The tax collector and assessor's office will be open when bills go out. Other offices will be closed to the public.
- Essex: Town hall opened June 22nd.
- Fairfield: June 1^{st} by appointment. All of the staff is back in the office June 22^{nd} .
- Greenwich: June 1st open to the public by appointment only.
- Lebanon: June 1st by appointment. Equipped with sanitizer stations. Most offices have plastic protection at the counter. Masks are required in building.
- Ledyard: Open to the public June 8th.
- Middlebury: Town hall opened June 26th.
- Middlefield: Access by appointment only for town records or meetings with town officials.
- Milford: Town Hall opened early June. Limited hours for public 10:00 to 2:00. Assessor's office remains closed to the public. Work is being done via drop box, email, or fax.
- Montville: Town hall opened June 15th.
- New Fairfield: Open only by appointment. Most of staff still working from home.
- Newington: June 15th per news article. Limited hours and by appointment.
- North Canaan: Re-opening only by appointment June 22nd.
- North Haven: Town hall open to the public by appointment only on June 29th. Limited reopening July 6th. Front door attendant to regulate number of people in building.
- North Stonington: Open by appointment June 1st Monday to Thursday. On June 22, 2020 by appointment with staffing every day.
- Old Lyme: Town hall opened June 22^{nd} . Appointments encouraged.
- Oxford: Town Hall open June 22nd. Temperatures taken, must wear mask, hand sanitizer provided, marker on floor. Plexiglas placed on the front of the desk. Limited hours.
- Plainville: Town hall opened to the public June 8th.
- Putnam: Back to normal June 15th with social distancing guidelines.
- Redding: Town hall closed. Planning on allowing limited public access by appointment. Date to be determined. Staff was back June 29th.
- Rocky Hill: Open to the public June 22nd.
- Salem: Open June 22^{nd} by appointment only.
- Sharon: June 15th per news article.
- Stonington: Town hall opened June 8th.
- Union: Open June 22nd. Requesting businesses to continue using e-mail and phones. Town is following a COVID-19 safety guideline format.

Washington: Open June 22nd by appointment only. Full office staff is now in office. Temperatures of visitors are taken before entry into town hall.

Waterford: Town hall opened to the public June 17th.

Watertown: Open to the public June 10th.

Wethersfield: Open June 15th by appointment. All of the staff is in the office as of June 3rd.

Windsor: June 8, 2020. New Plexiglas partitions installed. Signage on floors to encourage visitors to maintain social distancing.

Reported Town Openings in July

Ansonia: Tentative opening by appointment only July 20th. Staff was back June 22nd. Visitors must wear masks. Employee must wear masks when interacting with public. Work stations equipped with sanitizer. Physical barriers to be erected.

Avon: Town hall re-opened on July 6th.

Barkhamsted: Did not open as of 7/20/20. People can come to the door with a mask and ring the bell. They will assist them 1 at time, but they must remain behind a table in the lobby.

Bristol: Re-open July 6th. Observe 6-foot distance measures along with wearing PPE items.

Brookfield: July 6th staff is fully back working in town hall. Public is by appointment only. Installed sneeze guards for counters. Temporary dividers are up within each office.

Canterbury: Opened July 13th.

Deep River: Town hall opened July 6th.

East Granby: Opened July 6th by appointment.

Ellington: Town hall opened July 6^{th} by appointment only.

- Haddam: Reported July 9th. Town hall is open to the public for walk ins from 8:30 am till 2:00 pm and 2:00 pm till 4:00 pm by appointment M, T, W and Thursday 8:30 till 2:00 pm walk ins then 2:00 pm till 6:00 pm by appointment and Friday 8:30 am till noon for walk ins.
- Hebron: Town hall opened July 6, 2020. Visitors are required to wear masks, practice social distancing and follow all posted instructions.
- Manchester: Closed to the public and open by appointment at town's discretion since March 17, 2020. Re-open town hall July 6th. Plexiglas installed, masks required. Limited number of people in building when they re-open.
- Marlborough: Assessor's office to open July 1st. Masks and gloves are a must. A few staff workers will continue to work remotely from home.
- Newtown: Town hall open July 1st. Mask must be worn. Limited number of people in building. Signs on the floor for distancing.
- Plainfield: Opened town hall mid-July after glass has been installed in the offices that work with the public.

Roxbury: Opened to the public July 7th.

Somers: Town hall opened July 22nd. Visitors are required to wear masks and maintain a 6-foot distance from each other. A drop box is also available.

Sterling: Town hall opened July 7th normal hours.

Stratford: Opened July 6th to the public. All of the staff is back June 15th.

Trumbull: Town hall opened July 1st by appointment. Half of staff works every other day in office, other half of staff working from home every other day.

Voluntown: Assessor's office open July 1st by appointment only.

Continued next page

Proposed Town Openings in August

- Middletown: Town hall open August 3rd by appointment only. Drop-down sneeze guards installed.
- Weston: Plans to reopen August 10th but still has to be approved by board of selectman. The town hall in Weston is currently under renovation as well as the COVID-19 issue.