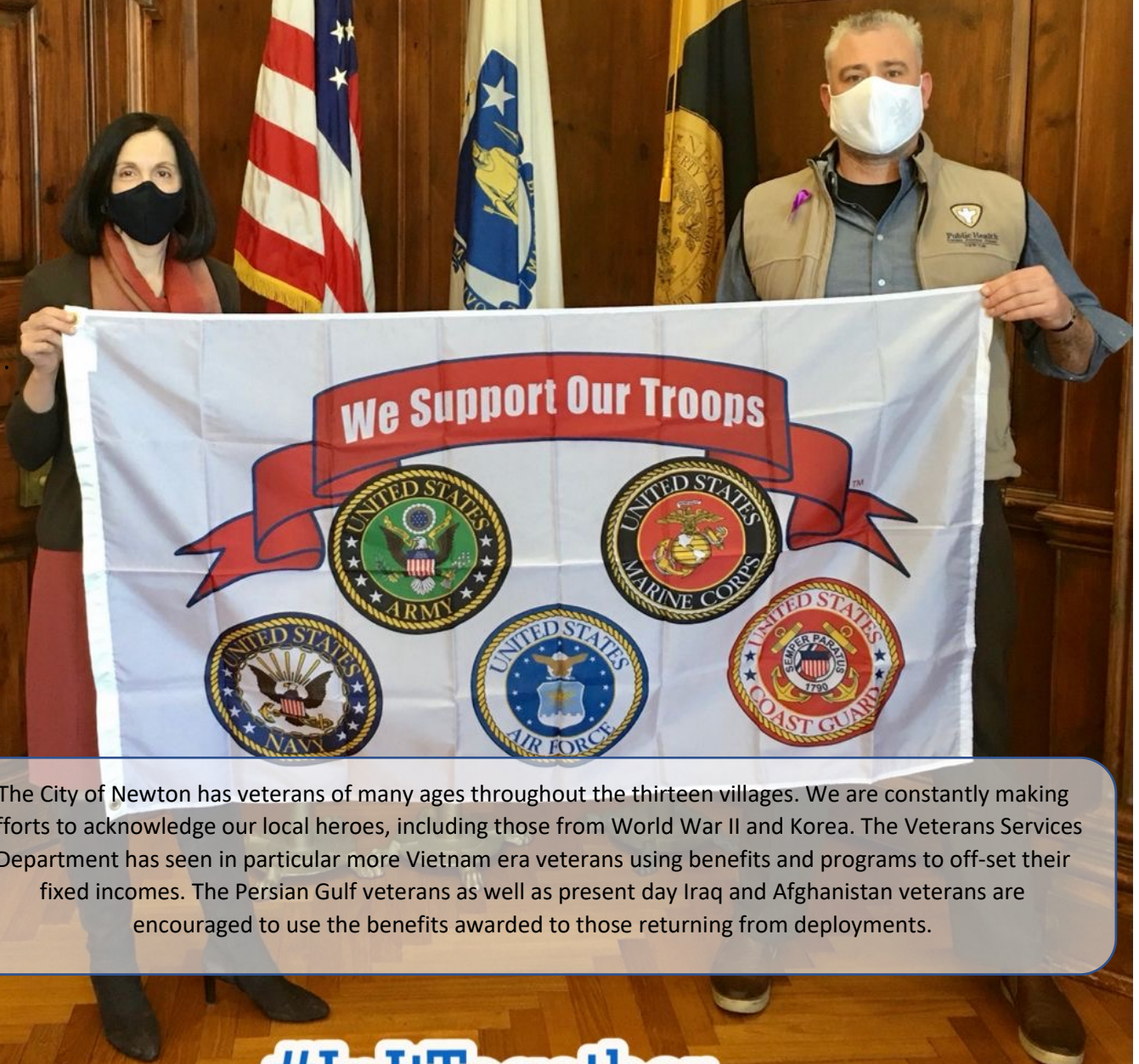


Veteran Services Department

Mission

To honor and assist our veterans and their dependents in obtaining resources that will help them to lead safer and healthier lives.



The City of Newton has veterans of many ages throughout the thirteen villages. We are constantly making efforts to acknowledge our local heroes, including those from World War II and Korea. The Veterans Services Department has seen in particular more Vietnam era veterans using benefits and programs to off-set their fixed incomes. The Persian Gulf veterans as well as present day Iraq and Afghanistan veterans are encouraged to use the benefits awarded to those returning from deployments.

#InItTogether

The Veteran's Services Department executes a prescribed comprehensive program of public assistance and services to veterans and their dependents. The Veterans' Service Officer (VSO) takes applications for benefits and for financial and medical assistance to qualified veterans.

The Veterans Service Officer dispenses state-sponsored veterans' benefits and assists veterans and their dependents or survivors in obtaining federal benefits. The VSO acts as the burial agent for the City and arranges proper interment of deceased veterans in accordance to regulations. I participate actively in patriotic and veterans-related events, issues and organizations.

Fiscal Year 2022 was a challenging year in the City for the Veterans' Service Department because of the pandemic. The honorable Mayor Fuller and I maintained our commitment to work closely with the American Legion Post 440 and the Sons of the American Legion, WAX, and the Elks to assist and organize the delivery of food to hundreds of residents. The American Legion and the City were strong advocates and a willing body of volunteers placing flags on all of the bridge overpasses in Newton.

Key changes that will be represented in the budget are the increase to the funding of all the various ceremonies that take place over the Memorial Day weekend. As the cost of much of the resources we use increases, so does the cost of proper celebrations, patriotic décor and marching bands in our annual parade.

Going forward, we will continue to find ways to support appropriate and meaningful observances and remembrance services annually.

New initiatives that are being brought to action are improving access and interface of technology with an aging veteran population. We are bringing in agencies and liaisons from

the area to aid and assist in bridging the electronic technology gap between the various aging veterans population in the City.

Seth Bai

Veterans Officer

Financial and Operating Highlights

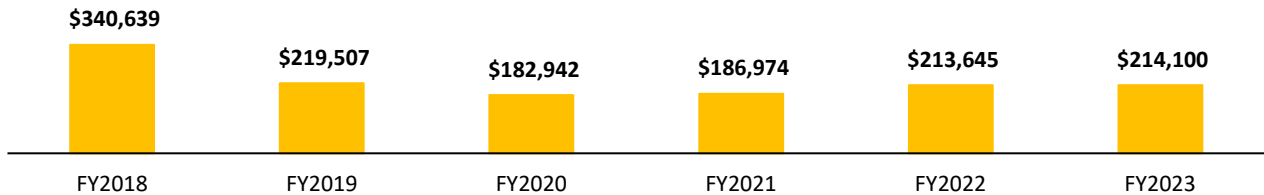
Financial Highlights

	< -----Actual ----->				Original	Proposed
	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023
Expenditure by Department						
Veteran Services	\$ 340,639	\$ 219,507	\$ 182,942	\$ 186,974	\$ 213,645	\$ 214,100
Total	\$ 340,639	\$ 219,507	\$ 182,942	\$ 186,974	\$ 213,645	\$ 214,100
% Incr		-35.56%	-16.66%	2.20%	14.26%	0.21%

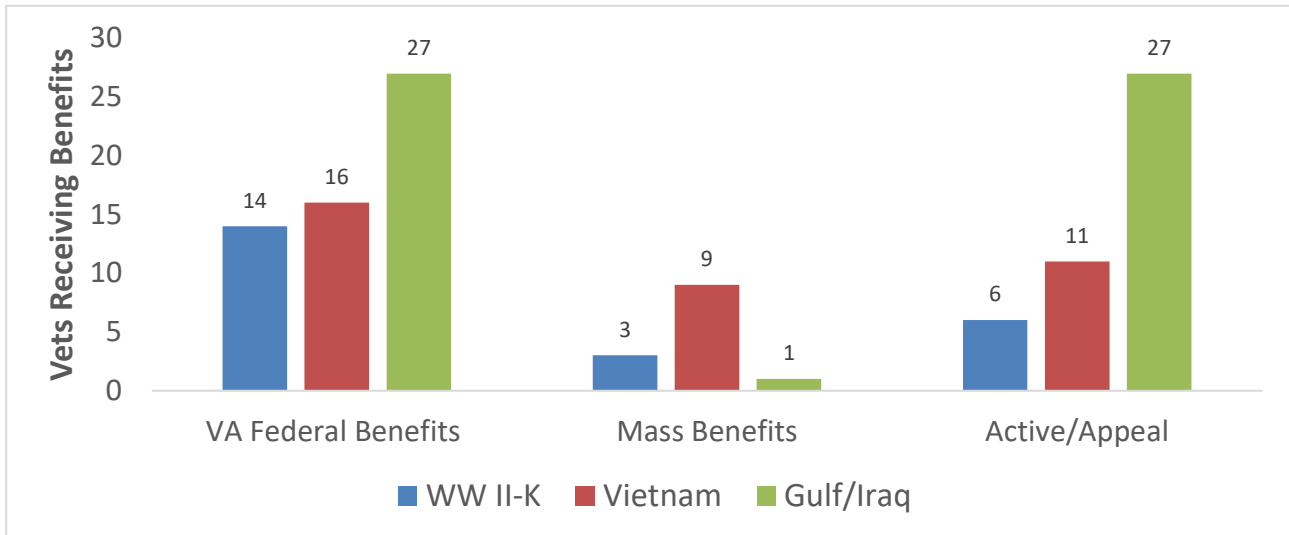
Personnel

Full-Time	1	1	1	1	1	1
Part-Time	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1	1	1	1	1	1

Total Veterans Expenditures



Operating Highlights



Veterans Services Department

Fiscal Year 2023 Outcomes and Strategies

Outcome 1

Provide Quality Support Services

into the workforce. Veterans' Services will work to help our veterans apply and make great use of their entitlements.

Veterans and their dependents in Newton may be qualified for either Federal VA or Massachusetts benefits, rarely both. As Baby-Boomers are retiring, the Generation- X and Millennials are in full mid-life and mid-career shifts entering academia, parenthood or reentry

The City of Newton continues to maintain a solid and strong partnership with the American Legion Post 440 and the other veteran-based tenants at the Post 440. The Newton Elks is also a partner to promote activities and community outreach. The City is adding coverage and presence to veteran awareness activities to spread patriotic themes around Newton's own hosted Flag Day ceremony, Memorial Day, and our Veterans Day observance. We are determining when and how to safely host a "Cell Phones for Soldiers" drive.

Outcome 2

Support Ceremonies, Observances and Events for Veterans.

Outcome 3

Provide Monuments and Flag Presence

to beautify them. In addition, the Mayor and Veterans Services understand that the Oak Hill Park Memorial needs a flagpole. This will be completed in the spring before Memorial Day.

There are three lots designated for the interment of Newton resident/veterans at the Newton Cemetery. The main/primary lot was erected in 1950 and is completely full. The second and third lots are still available; yet the lot themselves would benefit from decorative monuments and flowering shrubs

In support of the Mayor's mission to collaborate with other City departments, the Veteran Services Dept. will support civic engagements across several platforms: School Department, Health and Human Services, Senior Services, Newton Fire and Police Departments, IT and all other organizations.

Outcome 4

Participate in Newton Civic Engagement Events.

FUND: 0001 - GENERAL FUND
DEPARTMENT: 503 - VETERANS

CITY OF NEWTON BUDGET
DEPARTMENTAL DETAIL

	ACTUAL 2019	ACTUAL 2020	ACTUAL 2021	ORIGINAL 2022	RECOMMENDED 2023	CHANGE 2022 to 2023
503 - VETERANS						
0150343 - VETERAN SERVICES						
PERSONNEL SERVICES						
511001 FULL TIME SALARIES	74,727	77,557	79,575	83,178	85,672	2,494
514001 LONGEVITY	0	750	750	750	750	0
TOTAL PERSONNEL SERVICES	74,727	78,307	80,325	83,928	86,422	2,494
EXPENSES						
523000 WATER & SEWER SERVIC	330	45	174	250	250	0
531900 TRAINING EXPENSES	25	0	0	250	250	0
534010 TELEPHONE	117	88	95	115	100	-15
534100 POSTAGE	5,134	1,007	46	1,500	1,000	-500
534200 PRINTING	2,843	2,049	0	3,000	2,000	-1,000
542000 OFFICE SUPPLIES	111	425	491	100	100	0
558500 COMPUTER SUPPLIES	0	127	0	250	250	0
559300 AWARDS & TROPHIES	0	0	0	210	200	-10
559400 FLAGS & BUNTINGS	2,683	2,779	8,476	4,000	4,000	0
570900 VETERAN BENEFITS-REIM	111,495	92,282	94,460	100,000	100,000	0
571000 VEHICLE USE REIMBURSE	0	74	0	150	100	-50
571100 IN-STATE CONFERENCES	0	338	0	600	600	0
571200 REFRESHMENTS/MEALS	1,322	579	0	2,000	1,500	-500
571600 SPECIAL EVENT EXPENSE	971	500	0	1,000	1,000	0
573000 DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS	10	0	170	75	75	0
578200 MEMORIAL DAY PARADE	18,655	3,215	1,580	15,000	15,000	0
TOTAL EXPENSES	143,697	103,508	105,490	128,500	126,425	-2,075
FRINGE BENEFITS						
57MEDA MEDICARE PAYROLL TAX	1,084	1,127	1,160	1,217	1,253	36
TOTAL FRINGE BENEFITS	1,084	1,127	1,160	1,217	1,253	36
TOTAL VETERAN SERVICES	219,507	182,942	186,974	213,645	214,100	455
TOTAL VETERANS	219,507	182,942	186,974	213,645	214,100	455