



Corporation Counsel BUDGET PRESENTATION

FY 2020-2021



➤ CORPORATION COUNSEL SCOTT R. CHADWICK

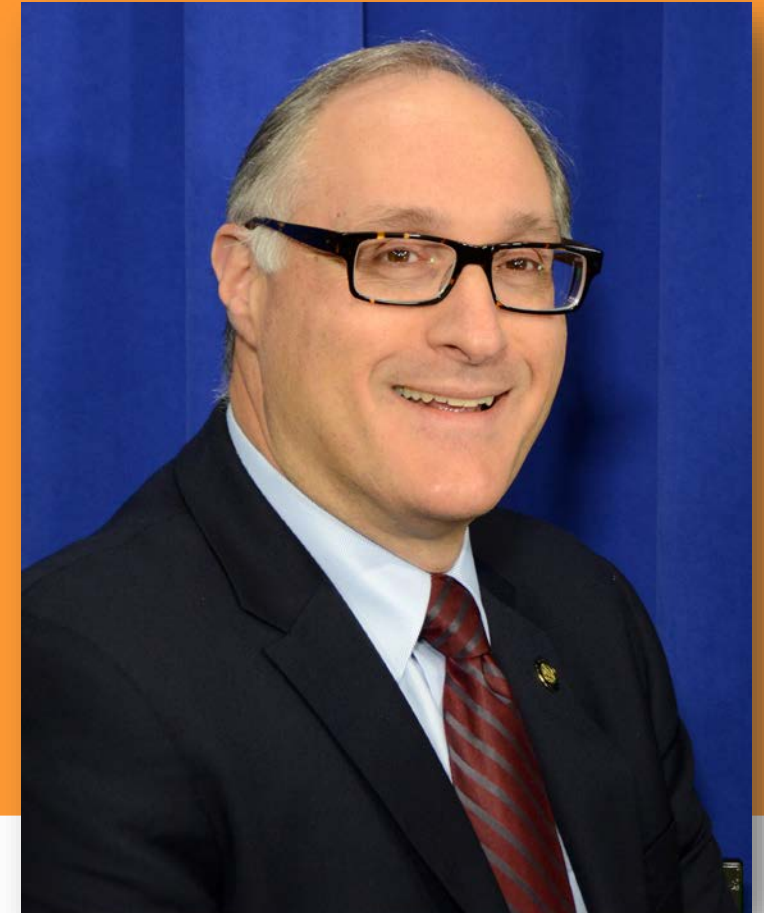
- In 2006, Scott was appointed Corporation Counsel for the Town. He manages and oversees the Town's legal staff and outside counsel, and provides general legal advice to the Town's departments, boards, and commissions. Scott also handles the Town's auto and general liability defense work, administrative appeals, enforcement actions, and assessment appeals.
- Scott graduated from East Hartford High School in 1980. He received his B.A., cum laude, from Western New England College and his J.D. from the University of Connecticut School of Law.
- From 2011 to 2018, Scott served as a hearing officer for the Department of Motor Vehicles. In 2014, Scott was elected as the tenth Judge of Probate for the District of East Hartford.
- Scott is currently a partner with the Hartford law firm of Ford & Paulekas, LLP. He represents individuals, small businesses, and major corporations in various civil proceedings and litigation, including arbitrations and trials. Scott also represents municipalities in various litigation matters, as well as the collective bargaining process.



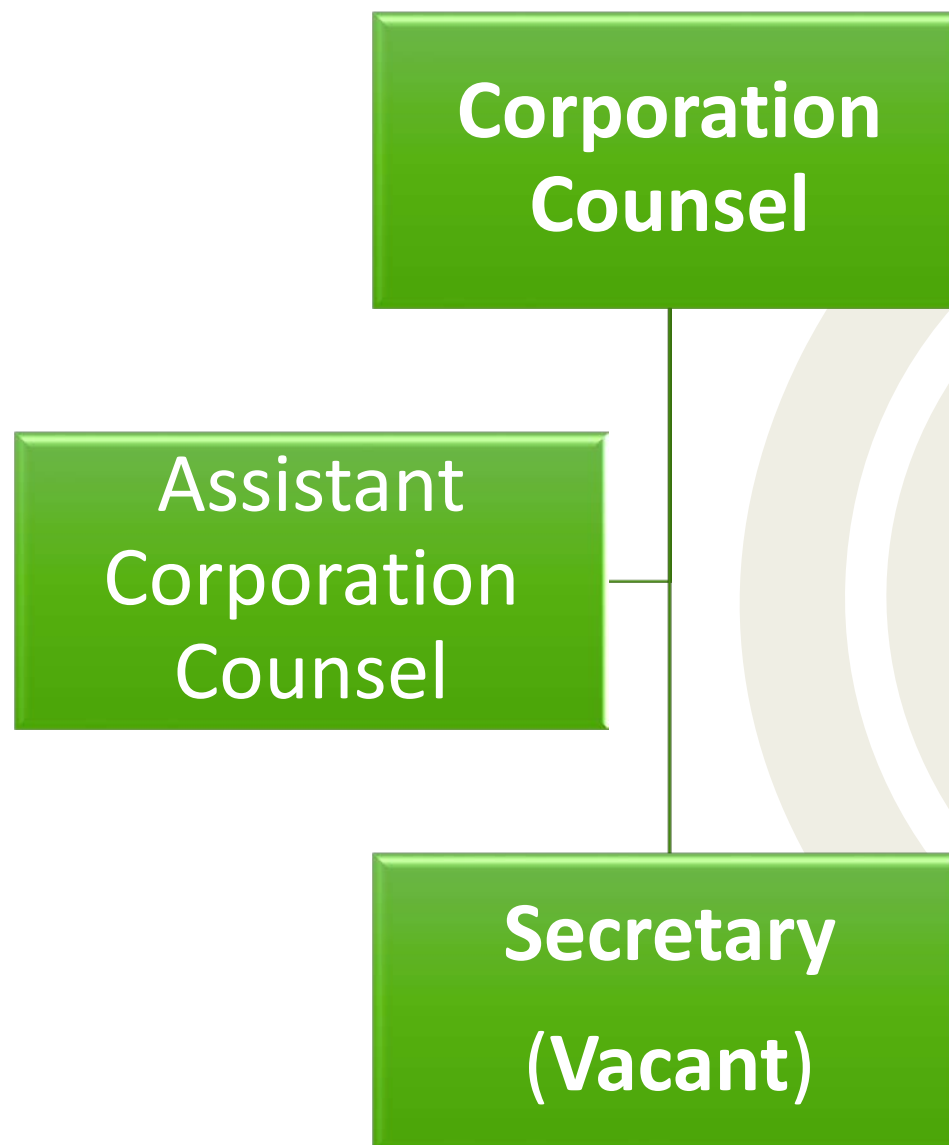
➤ ASSISTANT CORPORATION COUNSEL RICHARD P. GENTILE



- Prior to joining the Corporation Counsel's office Rich was legal counsel to Hartford Financial Products and Vice-President and Director of Government Affairs for Trumbull Services Company (part of The Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc.), a partner in the Hartford law firm of Danaher, Tedford, Lagnese & Neal, P.C. and an associate at Carter, Ledyard & Milburn in New York.
- He has served the Town as Chairman of the Board of Selectmen (1989-1991), a member of the East Hartford Town Council (1991-1993), Town Council Chairman and Deputy Mayor (1993-1997), Chairman of the Town's Redevelopment Agency (2000-2005) and as a member of various boards and commissions. Rich is currently a Justice of the Peace, a member of the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Association of Municipal Attorneys, and the Town's Harbormaster.
- Rich graduated from Columbia College (A.B., 1981) and The Fordham University School of Law (J.D. 1984). He is admitted to practice in New York, Connecticut, The Southern District of New York, The District of Connecticut and the United States Supreme Court.



➤ STAFFING



► DEPARTMENT DESCRIPTION & SERVICES



The Corporation Counsel's office serves as the Town's legal advisor. The office works closely with all departments of Town government in providing legal representation with respect to the rights and responsibilities of Town departments, the Town Council, the Board of Education and appointed Boards and Commissions.



► DEPARTMENT DESCRIPTION & SERVICES

- The Corporation Counsel's office acts as the legal advocate for the Town in all actions, suits, or proceedings brought by or against it or any of its department, officers, agencies, boards or commissions.
- The Corporation Counsel's office drafts or reviews all third party contracts, comments on new or revised Town Ordinances, routinely advises boards and commissions including Planning and Zoning, the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Inland-Wetlands Agency and is responsible for legal work associated with the conveyance or acquisition of real estate.



➤ ACHIEVEMENTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Worked closely with the Mayor's office, Town Council and Inspections and Permits Department to substantially revise the Town's Property Maintenance Code and Blight Ordinance.
- Created detailed instructions and forms packet to help implement the Blight Program including notice letters, hearing forms and lien documentation.
- Worked with the Town Council's Real Estate Acquisition and Disposition Committee, and the Development Department, to negotiate the abandonment of Columbus Circle Extension and the conveyance of the same to the east Hartford Housing Authority to foster the development of Veteran's Terrace.
- Sold a series of tax deed Foreclosure properties including 53 main Street and 67 Woodbridge (sold to habitat for Humanity) resulting in the placement of such properties back on the Town's tax roles.
- Assisted the Development Department with the drafting and negotiation of new DDDIII regulations which have allowed an expanded level of commercial development in the Ensign Street area.
- Assessed the Town's rights with respect to 5g small cell installations and negotiations with mobile carriers regarding the same.
- Assisted Police Department and Tax Collector with respect to substantial FOI requests including determination of documentation not subject to disclosure under the Act.
- Negotiated contracts with a Construction Manager and general Contractor for the Senior Center and Wickham Library.

► BY THE NUMBERS



**Closed Tax Lien Sales
\$600,000 in revenue**



**Drafted or reviewed,
negotiated & approved
excess of 50 contracts per year**



**Resolved multiple auto
and general liability claims**



**Settled numerous (tax)
assessment appeals**



**Brought several code &
ordinance enforcement actions**

➤ NEW INITIATIVES

- Draft Standard Form of Consultant Contract
- Create a Forms Library





➤ DEPARTMENT CHALLENGES

Our constant refrain: “we continue to do more with less.”
As evidenced by the staffing levels of comparable municipalities, the Office of the Corporation Counsel handles a significant amount of legal work with minimal staffing.

➤ BUDGET CHANGES

ORG	OBJECT	DESCRIPTION	REASON	\$ CHANGE
G2200	60110	Salary- Legal Secretary	In previous years the position of Legal Secretary was shared 50/50 with HR. The entire salary is being transferred to Corporation Counsel.	\$31,219
G2200	62213	Dues & Subscriptions	As the office has reduced subscriptions, this portion can be transferred to offset other increases.	(\$6,100)
G2200	63230	Legal	The need and demand for outside counsel increases annually.	\$35,000
G2200	63237	Appraisal/ Assessment	As we resolve assessment appeals, the Town incurs fewer annual costs. This portion can be transferred to offset other increases.	(\$10,000)
G2200	63290	Case Preparation Expense	As we refer more matters to outside counsel, case preparation expenses decrease. This portion can be transferred to offset other increases.	(\$50,000)



THANK YOU!
