

Municipality Streamlines Operations, Improves Efficiency & Saves Time

TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT

East Windsor, Connecticut is a small town in Hartford county and located near the Connecticut River in the Route I-91 and Route 5 corridor. Settled in 1680 and incorporated in 1768, East Windsor has a population of 11,162 and the selectmen-town meeting form of government.

THE BUSINESS CHALLENGE

The financial and accounting software that the Town of East Windsor, CT was using had become antiquated, mainly due to not being upgraded in recent years. It also wasn't user-friendly or efficient. Creating reports was particularly cumbersome and inflexible, as users could not export or import information to/from Excel; they had to duplicate their efforts and record data manually.

"The software had a level of complexity that made it extremely challenging and time-consuming to use," explained Kim Lord, treasurer and pension administrator for the Town of East Windsor.

When the state of Connecticut mandated that cities and towns establish a uniform chart of accounts, East Windsor knew it was time to convert to a new, more automated and user-friendly financial software system.

THE ACCUFUND SOLUTION

BlumShapiro, a large New England-based accounting firm and a reseller for the AccuFund Accounting Suite, had begun working with the state of Connecticut on the uniform chart of accounts for cities and town when the Town of East Windsor heard about them.

"We were researching different types of software and had looked at two or three offerings before we learned about AccuFund," explained Lord. "I liked the look and feel of the user interface for the AccuFund Accounting Suite and it appeared to be very user-friendly. The fact that BlumShapiro was presenting it to us also made an impression because the firm is prominent in Connecticut for doing municipal audits and providing exceptional service. We knew they would provide us with excellent training and support."



The Town of East Windsor installed the AccuFund Accounting Suite in October 2014. In addition to AccuFund's Core System, East Windsor is using Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable, Purchasing, Cash Receipts, Fixed Assets, Requisitions and Reconciliations. Two employees in addition to Lord are full-time users of the Accounting Suite. Additionally, the seven department managers have access to the Purchasing and Requisitions modules for tracking orders for equipment, supplies, etc. They can access their budget information by just going into the AccuFund system and submit requisitions knowing whether or not they are over or under budget. With the previous system, the finance department had to create budget reports for each department and email them out.

"The department managers are thrilled with AccuFund," said Lord. "They find it so easy to use and intuitive."



Although converting from an antiquated system to a more modern and automated one presented some challenges, the Town of East Windsor reports their overall experience with the AccuFund Accounting Suite has been very positive.



“As soon as we smoothed out the issues with the conversion, AccuFund was working for us and proved to be a great system,” explained Lord. “The training provided by BlumShapiro ensured we had less of a learning curve and the user manuals provided by AccuFund continue to be extremely helpful. Matt and Sean from BlumShapiro worked with us to set up the reports we need. With AccuFund’s reporting capabilities, we now have more information at our fingertips.”

ACCUFUND RAISES THE BAR

The Town of East Windsor has achieved numerous benefits from using the AccuFund Accounting Suite, most notably time savings.

With the Town’s old financial software system, loading the payroll information took six hours as it was a manual process. With AccuFund, payroll is imported in under 10 minutes.



“Our payroll clerk just imports an updated Excel spreadsheet as a journal entry, which automatically posts the payroll expense to each department for that pay period,” said Lord. “Disbursing the payments to all the different departments in their different lines was a nightmare in the old system, and now it's very easy.”

The Town of East Windsor reports substantial time savings in other areas as a result of the AccuFund Accounting Suite’s interface with Excel.

“With bank reconciliations, I previously had to create Excel sheets and go through the bank statements, spending about a day doing the general fund bank reconciliation,” said Lord. “Now, because all the bank information is loaded into the AccuFund Accounting Suite and we can upload files, bank reconciliations take just 10 minutes.”

“There's definitely a huge advantage to how well all the features work in AccuFund,” concluded Lord. “Everything is easier and all the tasks have been streamlined. We're really happy with this product.”



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT ACCUFUND

Visit our Website at www.accufund.com, call your local reseller, or contact our Sales Department at **877-872-2228**. We would be pleased to discuss this case study, explain the benefits of AccuFund’s financial operations solutions for government for your fiscal department, and put you in touch with a local reseller certified to install and support the **AccuFund Accounting Suite** or the cloud/SaaS version, **AccuFund Anywhere-Complete**.