

## **Board of Selectmen**

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### **1. Tell us about yourself and how your experiences will make you a good candidate for this office?**

My commitment to Norwood is grounded in strong family values. I have been married for 33 years to a retired public school teacher with 36 years of service. My three daughters love Norwood and admire its welcoming, family-friendly atmosphere. Now a proud grandfather to seven grandchildren and great-grandfather to three, I'm passionate about preserving Norwood as a wonderful place for families to live, visit, and thrive.

I have a long history of professional and entrepreneurial success. I began my career in the computer industry, gaining 20 years of experience in engineering, purchasing, and product management before transitioning to sales and marketing for an additional decade. Forty years ago, I started my own computer repair business, where I honed my entrepreneurial and problem-solving skills. For 25 years, I operated my Norwood handyman business, Home Specialists, Inc. providing home improvement and repair services to the local community before retiring. My extensive professional experience equips me with a practical and solutions-oriented approach to leadership.

Norwood is more than a town to me – it's my home. "I've raised my family here, built my career here, and I'm deeply committed to its future. Together, we can ensure Norwood remains a strong, inclusive, and fiscally responsible community.

### **2. What do you think the biggest challenge Norwood is facing right now and what would you do to address it?**

Norwood Hospital closed five years ago leaving Norwood and the 12 or so surrounding communities without a close, available hospital. Some board members have done nothing to bring it back. Our community deserves better! Norwood residents as well as residents from the surrounding communities are suffering long rides to other area hospitals, and in emergency situations that long ride can prevent them from getting to the hospital in time to receive the lifesaving care they need. Norwood was fortunate to have a Cardiac Cath Lab. Without our hospital, Norwood residents suffering cardiac events face a long trip to a hospital equipped with a Cardiac Cath Lab, either Good Samaritan Hospital in Brockton or one of the large Boston hospitals. Their chances of surviving the long ride are now greatly decreased.

I submitted an editorial to the Norwood Record which they published in their October 31 edition titled: A COALITION NEEDED TO SOLVE HOSPITAL ISSUE. In my editorial I suggested that the Town of Norwood put together and lead a coalition and invite participants from the surrounding communities also affected by the closing. We should come together as one, to pressure state officials for answers, and to offer suggestions towards finding a solution to reopening Norwood

Hospital under the Determination of Need (DON) and hospital license of one of the large, not-for-profit Massachusetts hospitals. There is strength in numbers; we would no doubt be stronger working together as a coalition of many affected towns, than by standing alone. I m encouraged to see that this step has finally been taken.

### **3. What do you think should be included in Norwood's Comprehensive Plan?**

Norwood is really a tightly knit community with generations of residents who were born here, raised their families here, and have enjoyed seeing their children and grandchildren remain in Norwood to in-turn raise their families here. This isn't an accident. This happened because the Norwood residents came together and developed a town in a way that met their needs. Norwood is a premier town for raising a family, with a rich cultural, historical, and recreational environment. We cannot let Norwood become another clogged, congested, high-density transit hub. Our children thrive in top-tier sports, music, theater, and media programs. I will fight to keep Norwood the "Crown Jewel of the Commonwealth"—a town where families, businesses, and traditions thrive. We need leadership that prioritizes fiscal responsibility, smart growth, and community values, public safety, and the return of Norwood Hospital.

### **4. What is an important issue that you would like the Board of Selectmen to address that they currently are not?**

Norwood, like the other 177 Massachusetts communities that are subject to the requirements of Section 3A of the Zoning Act, have been subjected to the MBTA Communities Act, which calls for "as of right" high density housing with a minimum gross density of 15 units per acre. This results in many unwanted, undesirable and very expensive changes to our town without any thought as to how it affects our schools, traffic, public safety, stormwater runoff, and budget. Several other communities have reacted to State Auditor DiZoglio's position that claims the MBTA Communities Act is an "unfunded" mandate that therefore is unenforceable. Middleborough, Marshfield and now Wrentham have filed suits against the administration.

The Norwood Board of Selectman, led by Chairman Bob Donnelly hasn't taken any action other than compliance, even though the residents of Norwood have spoken loudly against this on Facebook posts ever since the MBTA Communities Act was introduced.

While running for Selectman, I've walked to over 425 homes speaking with residents, and handed out flyers to over 200 residents outside supermarkets, pharmacies and the Norwood Senior Center. I can tell you with complete assurance that Norwood residents have personally told me that they are wholeheartedly against the MBTA Communities Act, and don't understand why our local government is not listening to them. I would like to see the Board of Selectman actually lead this town instead of merely following a group of people who are disconnected from our residents.