

Hopkinton Independent, April 10, 2008

It's All About Leadership

By RJ Dourney

The election for Selectman is all about leadership. Leadership requires having clear objectives, a strategy for achieving the objectives, and the skills to inspire people to accomplish the objectives.

As Selectman my primary objective will be to hold taxes in check while keeping our schools strong, maintaining our infrastructure, and preserving the character of our community. This cannot be done by cutting spending to match revenue year after year.

Hopkinton does not have a spending problem; it has a revenue problem. Certainly, we need to continually make improvements in operational efficiency, but such improvements cannot solve a multi-million dollar problem. We also need significant additional revenues.

There are two key things that we need to do in order to increase revenues: Get the wastewater treatment facility that Town Meeting approved years ago up and running, and facilitate the Legacy Farms project in a revenue-positive manner. Both of these require strong leadership from the Selectmen. As a Selectman, I will not look for reasons why these projects shouldn't happen; I will find ways to make them happen.

My record as Vice Chair of the Planning Board is clear: I gather data, listen to all points of view, and move to action. I did this throughout the process of formulating the OSMUD bylaw for Legacy Farms. As a Selectman, I will proceed similarly – in a thoughtful manner and in a way that will balance the need to enhance our revenue stream with the desire to protect our natural resources and maintain our quality of life.

I am a seasoned executive who is focused on getting results. I know when to stop talking and take action, and my actions will always match my words.

I have the experience and character to provide the real leadership that we need for the challenges and opportunities ahead. Please consult my website (rjdourney.com) for more information on my positions.

I respectfully ask that you vote for me, RJ Dourney for Selectman, on Monday May 19th, 2008.

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