

## **Elections matter - Your vote matters.**

Elections matter. At the local level, the actions of elected officials impact us and our children every day. We need Selectmen with the leadership qualities and financial expertise to get Hopkinton back on track to fiscal stability. That is why I am running for Selectman.

As the Town's costs for health insurance, energy, and inflation keep rising, we need a long-term plan to keep expenses and revenues in balance. My top priority will be to create a financial plan that allows us to keep our schools strong and maintain our infrastructure (roads, sidewalks, etc.) without property tax overrides.

The cornerstones of my plan will be to make improvements in operational efficiency, be relentless in cost control, and broaden our non-residential tax base. If we move aggressively, we can have an immediate impact. Indeed, the efforts of the Financial Plan Working Group under the auspices of the Appropriation Committee and School Committee accounted for \$1 million in savings towards next year's budget. With leadership from the Board of Selectmen, we can do even better next year.

On the revenue side there are two key things that we need to do: get the wastewater treatment facility that Town Meeting approved years ago up and running to attract more world-class companies like EMC and Caliper, and facilitate the Legacy Farms project in a revenue-positive manner. We can do these projects in ways that leave as much land as possible undisturbed. I am committed to protecting our environment.

The taxes collected on commercial properties far exceed the cost of town services they require. By contrast, single-family homes on average require town services that cost much more than the taxes they pay. My plan will control residential tax increases by shifting a larger proportion of property taxes from residential to commercial property. Please visit my website ([rjdourney.com](http://rjdourney.com)) for more information.

Your vote matters. I respectfully ask that you go to the polls on Monday May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2008 and vote for me, RJ Dourney for Selectman.