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Easton Republicans



*Navigating a
Responsible Course for Easton*



2011



Derek
Buckley

Patrice
Hildenbrand

C. Lee
Hanson

Fred
Knopf

Christian
Griffin

Carolyn
Colangelo

Vance
Hancock

Todd
Johnston

**Town Clerk ★ Tax Collector
Easton Board of Finance
Region 9 Board of Education**

TOWN CLERK – Registrar of Vital Statistics

Responsibilities:

Creating, managing, preserving, and maintaining an archive of land records and other town records from the date of Easton's incorporation in 1845. Common services provided on a daily basis include creating, managing and preserving all town records, providing Notary services and acting as Town Sexton for Easton's abandoned cemeteries.

Candidate Objectives:

Facilitate convenient access to the Town Clerk's office, and the information stored therein, for all the public as well as third-party professionals. We will use technology to make more information available via the town website and provide internet access to records thus improving access to information in a cost effective manner.

The Town Clerk is elected for a two-year term.



Derek Buckley

- ★ Town Clerk for past 10 years.
- ★ Expertise in change management and technology.
- ★ Received undergraduate and PhD degrees from Leeds University, UK

TAX COLLECTOR

Responsibilities:

As taxation is a state function, the Tax Collector is governed by state law. Municipalities have no powers of taxation other than those specifically granted by the General Assembly and described in the General Statutes.

Common services provided on a daily basis include (1) Managing the Town's tax billing and collection activities with regard to real estate, motor vehicle and personal property taxes, (2) Coordinating with the Assessor and Town Clerk the recording of new and adjusted property tax information and (3) Administering the Town tax relief for elderly resident homeowners program according to Town ordinance.

Candidate Objectives:

Administer the tax collector's office in an accurate, efficient, and cost effective manner while serving as a helpful information source for townspeople. Support our seniors by administering one of the best model tax relief programs in the state.

The Tax Collector is elected for a two-year term.



Patrice Hildenbrand

- ★ Achieved collection rate of over 99%.
- ★ Certified Connecticut Municipal Collector.
- ★ Life-long Easton resident; Villanova University graduate.

Easton Board of Finance

Responsibilities:

The Board of Finance, operating within the general statutes of the State, is responsible for all Town government finances. The Board undertakes all administrative activities necessary in preparing the annual budget for the Town.

Important activities include – (1) Discussing with Town officials and department heads their proposed operating and capital expenditures, (2) Preparing materials for and presiding over public budget hearings for questions and comments and (3) maintaining Town operations and departmental expenditures within approved budget limits.

Republican Team Objectives:

Republican candidates' goals include – (1) helping preserve, protect, and manage the Town's assets through prudent fiscal planning and analysis, (2) attention to priorities of taxpayers and sound fiscal management. We will continue to work for reasonable taxes, high property values and the highest quality of academic excellence.

The Board of Finance consists of 6 members who are elected for six year terms.



C. Lee Hanson (6-year term)

- ★ Member Easton Board of Finance for over 20 years
- ★ BS in Business Administration from University of Massachusetts and MBA from Boston University
- ★ Former GE finance executive for over 25 years
- ★ Active in numerous "September 11" support organizations



Fred Knopf (6-year term)

- ★ Partner with the law firm of Wilson, Elser, Moskowitz, Edelman & Dicker.
- ★ Has served as a BOF alternate for the past four years.
- ★ Received his law degree from Quinnipiac University School of Law; graduate of Sacred Heart University.



Christian Griffin (2-year term)

- ★ Alternate member of Board of Finance for last 2 years;
- ★ VP Wealth Management for J.P. Morgan/Chase
- ★ BS in Business Administration from Central Connecticut State University
- ★ Two daughters attend Samuel Staples Elementary School

REGION 9 Board of Education

Responsibilities:

The Region 9 Board is charged with overseeing the activities for Joel Barlow High School. The Board is unique in that it serves as its own Board of Finance, its' budget being voted on separately from that of the Town's operating budget.

Important activities include – (1) : Establishing and overseeing the budget for Region 9, (2) Negotiating labor contracts and (3) Overseeing the educational and academic philosophy at Joel Barlow High School

Republican Team Objectives:

Republican candidates for the Region 9 Board of Education are committed to provide our high school students with the highest quality education while providing our taxpayers with responsible spending solutions.

The Region 9 Board of Education consists of eight members, four from Redding and four from Easton. Each member is elected for a 4 year term.



Carolyn Colangelo (4-year term)

- ★ Attorney with Maslan & Associates.
- ★ Adjunct instructor at both Fairfield University and Norwalk Community College.
- ★ Received her undergraduate degree from Southern Connecticut State University, and her law degree from Quinnipiac University.
- ★ Four children in the Easton public schools.



Vance Hancock (4-year term)

- ★ Independent attorney practicing business, commercial, and real estate law.
- ★ Graduate of Yale University with a law degree from Cornell.
- ★ Two sons attend Joel Barlow; daughter attends Helen Keller Middle School.



Todd Johnston (2-year term–vacancy)

- ★ Director in the Financial Services Advisory practice at PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP.
- ★ Undergraduate and graduate degrees from Ball State University.
- ★ Four children, the eldest two enrolled at Samuel Staples Elementary School.