

ELECTION COVERAGE

This Week's Focus:

BOARD OF SELECTMEN CANDIDATES

As the Town's executive body, the BOS is very important, and as the only full-time elected official with broad powers, the First Selectman's leadership is very important to the Town's future. As the Town's CEO, the First Selectman is responsible for negotiating labor contracts (which determine 70%-80% of our total spending), and for the management or oversight of all the Town departments (e.g., Police, Fire, Public Works, Parks & Recreation, Health), as well as all public building projects.

The BOS consists of three members: a First Selectman and two Selectmen, all of whom are elected to the same four-year term. Under the Town Charter, no more than two of the three members can be from the same political party, so there is always one minority member. The First Selectman candidate receiving the highest number of votes is elected. The two other candidates receiving the next highest number of votes are elected Selectmen. All three Selectmen are ex officio members of all Town boards, commissions and committees, including the Board of Education.

You can vote for one First Selectman Candidate and one Selectman Candidate

First Selectman Candidates:

Mike Tetreau (D)

Chris Tymniak (R)

Selectman Candidates:

Sheila Marmion (D)

Laurie McArdle (R)

(Incumbents are Italicized)

To help voters gain insight into what the four BOS candidates think, Fairfield Taxpayer has asked each of them to answer the following simple but important questions:

- What is your assessment of the Town's performance and how do you think it could be improved?
- What is your assessment of the BOS's performance and how do you think it could be improved?
- If elected (or reelected), what will be your top three priorities and why?

By going to FairfieldTaxpayer.com and clicking on "2015 Election" you can:

- Find out what each of the candidates thinks.
- Review "bio's" and photos of all candidates.
- Send candidates your comments or questions with simple "1-click" links.
- Find out where you should vote after the recent redistricting.

PLEASE NOTE THAT MOST VOTING DISTRICT NUMBERS HAVE CHANGED AND MANY VOTERS WILL HAVE NEW VOTING PLACES.

To help inform all voters, please encourage candidates who have not yet responded to our questions to please do so!

Fairfield Taxpayer, founded in 2012, is a non-partisan organization dedicated to preserving Fairfield as a desirable and affordable community for all its residents. More than 4,500 of Fairfield's 37,000 registered voters are now on our e-mail list and almost 1,400 people connect with us through our Facebook page. These neighbors represent a diverse cross section of ages, occupations, incomes, districts, and political affiliations.

www.FairfieldTaxpayer.com

MOST OF US DON'T CARE? In 2009 and 2013, less than 30% of Fairfield's voters turned out for our municipal elections, even though the people elected will have a MAJOR IMPACT on our quality of life, our schools, our taxes and our property values. If you don't vote, who do you suppose will come out and elect our leaders?

PLEASE VOTE ON ELECTION DAY, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD.