

# MEET THE CANDIDATES



## TOWN ELECTIONS ON TUESDAY, MARCH 12. 7 AM -7 PM

**Treasurer- 3 Years** – Christine Tewksbury

**Planning Board - 3 Years** - Jill Dross

**Library Trustee - 3 Years** – Nancy Mayland

**School Board - 3 Years** - Adrian Newton

**Trust Fund Trustee - 3 Years** – Debra Asquith

**Cemetery Trustee - 3 Years** – David Zaleski

**Supervisor of the Checklist - 6 Years** – Joanne T. Linxweiler

**Selectman - 3 Years** – Keith Leclair

**Address:** 115 Windsor Drive

**Office for which you are running:** Selectman

**Why do you see yourself as a qualified candidate:** I've served 5 years on the School Board and 6 years as a member of the Board of Selectmen. During the last 11 years of town involvement, I've worked with most, if not all the boards, committees, departments, and employees of the town. Together we've built relationships that are invaluable in continuing the success of the Town of Auburn. More recently, the last three years have presented several challenges that we've been able to work through together. With the cooperation and support of town employees, police, and fire we're able to continue providing services during the COVID pandemic. We've been able to use federal and state emergency funds for some much-needed upgrades and renovations to town owned properties. I believe that my experience in town and in the private sector will allow me to assist in keeping Auburn one of the best places to live.

**Any changes or improvements you would like to see within the realm of this office:**

As we look forward to the next three years, we have some work to do. With the planned retirement of several key town employees and officials we have some big shoes to fill. We will also start to re-envision what the center of town might look like with repairs to the Griffin Mill Bridge and talks of a joint project allowing for the expansion and renovation of the Griffin Library as well as the creation of a town owned Community Rec Center. After the land swap with MWW is complete we will look to start the safety upgrade at the intersection of Depot and Hooksett Roads.

I look forward to the opportunity to serve for another 3 years and would be grateful for your support.



# Selectman- 3 Years – John Herbert Tardiff

**Address:** 49 Shore Drive

**Office for which you are running:** Selectman

**Why do you see yourself as a qualified candidate:**

I am running for selectman for the Town of Auburn. I am a widower and have lived in Auburn for 48 years raising three children and two grandchildren. During these many years, I have had multiple occupations including a public school educator, a systems analyst and a financial assistant. In addition, I have served on the Auburn School Board, the Police Commission and the school board representative to the Manchester School District for Technology and Curriculum . I also served Auburn as the welfare administrator for about 10 years. As a member of the school board, I helped purchase and install the first computer network for Auburn School.

I have a MBA in finance from Southern New Hampshire University and was a financial assistant for SAU15 which serves Auburn, Candia and Hooksett. In this position, I prepared accounts payable, accounts receivable and tracked high school enrollments. Through a computer software program that I created, I was able to save the districts more than \$50,000 a year in over charges or duplicate entries. My financial background will allow me to assist the Auburn Selectman in any fiscal matters.

**Any changes or improvements you would like to see within the realm of this office:**

As a selectman, I would like to focus on our senior citizens, many of whom have lived in Auburn their whole life. Many of these residents are living on fixed incomes and are struggling with the high cost of living. These seniors should be able to remain in Auburn for their final years. I would also like to see the use of technology such as the broadcasting of committee and town meetings. Many citizens of Auburn are not able to attend these meetings and would like to be informed about any actions from these committees. Seniors and others in need face many challenges such as transportation, nutrition, and snow removal.

I would like to see our neighborhoods develop their own identity and reach out to their neighbors (Neighbors Helping Neighbors). I would hope that Auburn could find more resources to help not only our seniors but anyone else in need. The town should have up-to-date information about services available such as Meals-on-Wheels and free clinics and a person to answer these questions.

# Moderator - 2 Years - Kathleen A. Sylvia

**Address:** 56 Pond View Drive

**Office for which you are running:** Moderator

**Why you see yourself as a qualified candidate:** As Town Clerk I have worked closely with the last two Moderators, Jim Tillery and Tom Lacroix, whose excellence as moderators I will attempt to continue! I have seen how important the role of moderator is during the entire election process and I understand the duties involved. I believe this position could be a perfect segue as I retire from my eight years as Town Clerk.

**Any changes or improvements you would like to see within the realm of this office:**

The moderator’s role is largely defined by statute, with guidance provided by the Secretary of State’s office and New Hampshire Municipal Association. If elected, I would like to work with the town clerk in finding ways to optimize the end-of-day procedures at elections.



## Moderator - 2 Years – Emily Sandblade

**Address:** 124 Manchester Rd

**Office for which you are running:** Moderator

**Why you see yourself as a qualified candidate:** With a history as a poll watcher in past elections throughout New Hampshire, I have come to strongly respect and support Auburn's well-established tradition of conducting clean and fair elections. I am familiar with state election law and its application. In addition, my professional background as a software engineer and scientist enables me to more readily identify potential issues with the technical aspects of the voting process. Throw in a willingness to commit to a few very long work days over the next two years (the length of the moderator's term), enjoyment from working with people--most of the time anyway, the capability to think analytically, and a touch of OCD (AKA "attention to detail").

**Any changes or improvements you would like to see within the realm of this office:** I believe that the retiring moderator has performed well, and there are no major changes or improvements that are required. Because so many people participate in running the Auburn elections, there also isn't much chance of compromising election integrity. So my initial ambition is to simply make sure that the elections continue to be well run, that Auburn voters find it easy to vote and are confident that their votes are accurately counted, and that the whole process is as transparent as possible. Of course, if the election law changes, or if it becomes obvious that some aspect of the voting process can be improved within the constraints of election law, then I am quite willing to see that our procedures adapt accordingly.

## School Board - 3 Years - Derek Berger

**Address:** 34 Willow Court

**Office for which you are running:** School Board

## Police Commissioner - 3 Years – Patrick Bergeron

**Address:** 225 Hooksett Road

**Office for which you are running:** Police Commissioner

**Why do you see yourself as a qualified candidate:**

I spent the last 25 years in Human Resources (17 of them were active duty Air Force) and I realize that with the ever changing environment there needs to be a mission first, people always mindset in every aspect of our lives. Auburn is an amazing town and the more we get involved the more we take individual ownership of our community.

This will be my second term as a Police Commissioner and I will continue to represent the best interests of the Town of Auburn and its residents.

**Any changes or improvements you would like to see within the realm of this office:**

Just to ensure the continued safety in our community.

