

BOARD OF FINANCE



Jeffrey Farr

Republican Party

Biographical Statement

Jeff has been on Weston's Planning & Zoning Commission for 11 years, 4 years as Chairman, and is committed to overseeing the appropriate budgeting and deployment of taxpayer monies to town schools, services, and infrastructure that are in our common interest. Jeff is a former Civil Engineer with graduate work in Finance and Accounting and Management consulting experience in the services industry. Jeff has lived in Weston for 35+ years, enjoying Weston's natural beauty, character, and recreational amenities. His children benefited from its excellent school system and he admires the active participation in its civic life by its citizens.

In your opinion, what is the most significant issue facing Weston today?

Financial sustainability is Weston's greatest challenge. Without significant real growth in the Grand List our capacity to fund annual town operations and maintenance is limited. Our current 32.37 mill rate already places Weston above all neighboring towns except Redding. Based on recent financial models, long-term stability depends on limiting annual spending increases to two percent. Meanwhile, the town faces a series of critical decisions: rightsizing the school plant for existing and projected enrollment, renegotiating various employee contracts, replacing aging fire and public works equipment, staying with state or self-funding various employee health and benefit plans, and committing to a timeline for upgrading town roads.

Why are you running for this specific office and what do you bring to it?

As a more than 35 year Weston resident, my family has benefited greatly from our Town's natural beauty, character, community spirit, and school system. My community service includes Vice Chair of the Weston Water Study, Planning and Zoning Commission, Town Sidewalk Committee, and the Board of Finance. I am committed to overseeing the appropriate budgeting and deployment of taxpayer monies to schools, town services, and infrastructure which supports our collective long-term needs.

What is the most important issue this board/commission faces and how would you potentially address it?

The Board of Finance faces the challenge of limiting annual budget increases to two percent. This requires strong collaboration with the Board of Education and Board of Selectman. I will continue to support the Board with financial modeling and monitoring property transfers leading up to the Town's next revaluation in 2023. I will also continue to advocate for leveraging the Town's bonding capacity to bring our aging road infrastructure up to par with surrounding towns.