



ELECTION ~ 2017

MICHAEL A. ROSENBERG

INCUMBENT & CAUCUS CANDIDATE FOR A 3-YEAR TERM AS A SELECTMAN



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Caucus Statement

I really love this town. Indeed, we have a symbiotic relationship. The town gives me a fulfilling physical, social and cultural environment. And I have been involved in public life here for more than 40 years because that is a vehicle for strengthening and enhancing the quality of life in Bedford, of trying to make this a better place to live and work.

Someone asked me recently what I think the qualities are that lead to success as a selectman. I have personally known every selectman since 1974, but I can only answer for myself. As a selectman, I benefit from having a genuine interest about everything that is happening in the community – in and out of government. Selectmen all have individual strengths. I know I can turn to each of my current colleagues for advice and reinforcement in specific areas. But a general familiarity is important -- with the items on our weekly agenda, the board's goals and objectives, the overriding values and parameters that the backdrop of town government, and much of what is happening outside of government – the schools especially, but also neighborhoods, the commercial and industrial sector, clubs and organizations, and institutions – the college, the hospital, the base and the airfield, and our neighboring towns..

Serving as a newspaper editor and columnist in Bedford for 25 years helped me gain the broad perspective necessary to understand the town over two generations. I still try to stay involved as much as possible, whether it's with the youth culture through high school sports and Dollars for Scholars, the Emerson Hospital Board of Corporators, or the important work being done by Bedford Embraces Diversity.

I want to emphasize that Bedford's superb municipal management, from Town Manager Rick Reed all the way down the chain of command to employees who answer the phones, makes all the difference in a selectmen's approach to each issue, to each day really, and ability to identify and achieve objectives.

Back in the 1970s and early 80s, I served six years on the now defunct Public Ceremonies Committee. That included 1975, the American Revolution bicentennial, and 1979, when the town marked the 250th anniversary of its founding. Now, Bedford's 300th anniversary year is only 12 years away – and I think it's time we start talking about what kind of a celebration we want and how we are going to try to pay for it. I hope to remain involved all the way to the big celebration.

One other important point -- if I am re-elected, that will be my final term. I wake up every day inspired and energized by the honor of serving as a Bedford selectman. So it's not easy to say – but what I have to do after four terms is make room for the next generation of leadership. So I hope you'll give me one more chance.