DAN CARROLL





CANDIDATE PAGE

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INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

I am pleased to announce my candidacy for Bedford Select Board in the upcoming Town Election. Having moved to Bedford in 1976 at age 4, I am proud to be able to say that my wife Tara and I are now raising our three boys in Bedford.

In 1975 at the age of 2 ½, I lost my father and there began my path to "the life lesson" of growing up fast. As the youngest boy in a family of eleven children (7 sisters and 3 brothers) I was raised on Woodland Road in Bedford by a strong single Mother who gave me a PhD in life.

Bedford welcomed me in the school system, the recreational sports programs, St. Michael Parish and a lifetime of wonderful memories at Bedford Day, Annual Strawberry Festival, Cub Scouts, Springs Brook Park and so much more.

After graduating Bedford High School in 1990, I received an Associate Degree in Criminal Justice from Middlesex Community College. I paid for my education by starting my own landscaping company here in Bedford, working landscaping on weekends while also working evenings (after school) as a Security Officer.

Years later, I applied for a job with the Town of Bedford, and was selected from a pool of over 50 candidates becoming one of the first civilian dispatchers (and only Bedford resident in the group) for the Bedford Police & Fire Departments. Looking to expand my horizons, I resigned from Bedford and pursued a career selling software in the Business Aviation industry.

The next fifteen years were spent travelling the world learning about international business, sales and relationship building – ultimately rising to become the Director of Sales for CAMP Systems International. Upon the birth of our first child, I exited aviation, so I could be present with my wife raising our son.

In 2016, I took on a position with a start-up business in the home energy space. That start up (Revise, Inc.) is now the 2nd largest Home Performance Contractor in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts helping home owners reduce their carbon footprint. In my business career, I am fiscally conservative with a controlled growth approach. We have built an incredible culture where each and every employee enjoys their job and understands what they need to do - in order to win each day. I believe in giving employees the tools they need to succeed, then giving them the autonomy to do their job.

Now is the time for me to give back to Bedford and allow our three sons the same amazing experiences this small town gave to me.

The Town Hall, Police Department, Fire Department, DPW, Recreation Department and School System are full of people I call friends. These employees are the engine that drives Bedford. I guarantee all of your voices will be heard "crystal clear" to ensure you receive the facilities, training, resources and tools you need to succeed every day to keep you happy and to keep Bedford at the top of the list of towns in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

To all residents of Bedford, many of which I know personally, I have:

- Volunteered coaching in Bedford youth soccer for six years and counting.
- Initiated two town wide-collections for the victims of Hurricane Sandy, which filled my two car garage with your generous donations. With logistical support of Bedford Police & Fire, we hand delivered these donations to New York.
- Secured \$30,000 worth of I-Robot product donations, which were also hand delivered to the hurricane victims.
- Coordinated with our Town Manager, DPW, Police Department, Boy Scouts & Girls
 Scouts to initiate a town clean-up day and worked shoulder to shoulder with residents
 picking up litter across Bedford.
- Worked with hundreds of residents reducing Bedford's carbon footprint by installing insulation and high efficiency heating & cooling systems.
- Worked for the Bedford Police & Fire Departments, as an Emergency Communications Officer answering your calls for help for several years.

In my garage hangs a Civilian Award given to me by the BPD for initiating the Hurricane Sandy Donation effort. This is a constant reminder of how we as a community came together for a humanitarian cause. As your Select Board Member I can and will bring us all together for the betterment of not only Bedford residents, but for anyone in need.

To those residents I have not yet met, I am looking forward to the opportunity of getting to know you and listening to your ideas. I will use common sense and deliver hard work, on your behalf each day. Bedford is already an amazing small town. With continued open dialogue and transparency, Bedford will continue to improve for generations to come. I ask for your support at the Town Election on March 12th and I look forward to listening to each of you during my campaign.

REPLIES TO THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS QUESTIONS

Q1—Please identify one thing about Town government that, if you could you change and how?

One thing I would change about Town government if I could would be granting our senior citizens (65 or older) an annual tax break after having resided in Bedford for more than 20

consecutive years. The reason for this would be to allow senior citizens the affordability to remain in Bedford for the remainder of their years. At the age of 65 years and older, our seniors no longer have children in our school system, which is a large portion of the taxes we all pay. In the current environment, taxes continue to increase along with the cost of gas, food, etc. and we owe it to our senior citizens to keep Bedford an affordable community to live.

Q2—What is your assessment of Bedford's capacity to develop more economically diverse housing particularly in light of new State regulations that will tie future MBTA service to increasing low income housing options?

For those unfamiliar with this new requirement: Enacted in January 2021, new Section 3A of M.G.L. c. 40A (Zoning Act) requires that an MBTA community shall provide at least 1 zoning district of reasonable size in which multi-family housing is permitted; provided that such multi-family housing shall be without age restriction and shall be suitable for children and families. The housing must be located no more than 0.5 miles from MBTA Service areas, if applicable. Failure to comply negates the town from receiving funds from three different state programs. With that said, Bedford may already be in compliance (if 2 family housing meets the criteria). Bedford must weigh the pros and cons of complying, as not to create an adverse impact on our schools, emergency services, infrastructure, etc.

Q3—What are one or two sustainability projects that you identify will improve the quality of life for Bedford residents that you will champion and advocate for the Town to implement in the next two years?

I will champion town wide clean up days. Having organized and executed a very successful town wide clean-up day for Bedford on May 2nd 2021, the response was overwhelming to repeat this more than once per year. The local Scouts have done these historically and I was able to work with them hand in hand in 2021. I will push for the town to coordinate permanent bi-annual clean up days (one in the spring and one in the fall) with the full support of the Town government. We can work together with the Town Manager, Police, Fire, DPW and local organizations such as Mothers Out Front, Girl Scouts, Cubs Scouts, Boy Scouts and the business community. A cleaner Bedford will improve the quality of life for all. Secondly, I will champion more community gardens. During the pandemic, many residents became first time gardeners and received the benefits of physical activity, improved nutrition, human interaction with others and reduced stress. Gardening is a wonderful way to improve quality of life for all.

SUMMARY STATEMENT

To all Bedford residents, business owners and town employees - thank you for the opportunity of considering me as one of your future Select Board Members.

Since signing my papers on December 6th formalizing my intention to run for Select Board, it has been enlightening to listen to this small community that I love so much. The main takeaway after listening to everyone over the last several months is that you want to and we must - put COMMUNITY FIRST. The last 2 years of a pandemic has taxed so many of us, our children and our business community. Now more than ever, Bedford needs to put COMMUNITY FIRST.

You have all told me what COMMUNITY FIRST means:

- Making Bedford affordable for our senior citizens to live out the remainder of their lives, in the town they love so much. One of my ideas is to provide our seniors over the age of 65 years, who have lived in Bedford for 20 consecutive years or more, an annual property tax break. I will also support affordable housing projects specifically for our seniors, giving them an option to downsize from their primary residence.
- Support the **improvement of our soccer fields, baseball fields, playgrounds and other open spaces** across Bedford. After 2 long years, we will all soon be able to fully socialize once again and what better way to do that than right here in Bedford. We can access monies from the Community Preservation Act (CPA). The revenue and state matching funds from CPA comes from a property tax surcharge of up to 3% and revenues can be used for open space, historic preservation, affordable housing and recreation.
- Reducing energy consumption is another way of putting community first. This is something I have heard from so many residents. I am knowledgeable in this space, as I am the Chief Operating Officer of the 2nd largest Home Performance Contractor in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts working directly within the Mass Save Program. Bedford hired a 3rd party consulting firm named Peregrine Energy Group who published the Bedford Net Zero Final Report dated October 11, 2019. I have read the entire report and suggest residents do the same, as it provides excellent data and results of their findings. I have taken part in many meetings with Massachusetts Energy Efficiency Advisory Council, who is responsible for guiding the development of the state energy efficiency plan. I can assist Bedford in making the proper decision with respect to energy consumption.

One major takeaway from the report is as follows:

Usage of electricity

Non Residential – 86%

Residential – 14%

Residential – 26%

Residential – 26%

- Bedford must remain a fiscally responsible town. Citizens have historically challenged capital expenditure items and large bonded projects in an honest, open and respectful manner during town meeting. We need more citizens involved in the process at the beginning, so they can make informed decisions to either support projects or not.
- Our business community must be engaged by our leaders more proactively to support community first. As a person who has a business on Great Road, I have proactively engaged our leaders and the community, in effort to support a multitude of town wide projects, sports teams, community events and fundraising efforts from the first day I

opened the Bedford location years ago. Having spoken with dozens of business owners in Bedford, I am 100% certain as your Select Board member I will get many more businesses involved in fundraising, supporting our teams, community events, etc. We already have a good support system from our local owners but others have told me directly they will also join the effort. Many owners may not live in Bedford but they love Bedford. I also would like to work closely on economic development utilizing my 20+ years of business experience working directly with the local Chamber of Commerce and existing business owners as your Select Board member to secure new businesses and assist with retention, as much as possible.

The election is March 12th and I feel this may be the largest turn out in recent years. No matter the outcome of this election, I will always remain actively involved in Bedford as a husband, father, business operator, coach and friend to this entire community. I am confident with your support, I will secure a seat as your Select Board member and we can continue working together keeping Bedford a small town with a big heart

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

- Erica Liu, President of the Chinese American Association of Bedford
- Mark McInnis
- David Parmentier
- Joe Piantedosi and 182 Residents