

## Candidates Statement

I am running for the Board of Selectmen because I know that I that to many of you I represent a fresh face with a new perspective, but I am also a seasoned public servant with 20 years of experience at every level of government. I held the office of Selectperson in Windham, CT from 2003-2005 as well as working for quasi- governmental agencies in Massachusetts since 2011. I want to bring that experience to Charlton in as we look to the future and the challenges ahead.

My husband Ted and I have a lovely home on J Davis Road which we share with our cats. Ted has been here since 2007 and I moved here in 2011. I have three adult children and 3 grandsons who love when we take them for the ice cream a Dresser Hill's Clam Box. In my free time I volunteer at Blessing Farm on H Foote Road. I've been a volunteer there since 2015. I value the opportunity to be part of a wonderful caring organization right here in Charlton.

Currently I work at a local housing authority aiding people from all walks of life. I see firsthand the effects governmental policies on every day living. If Charlton residents have questions or concerns they can reach me at [deborahnoble@gmail.com](mailto:deborahnoble@gmail.com) .

## Issues

A major concern for all towns is taxes, revenue and how to budget in a manner that achieves goals without placing undue burdens on its residents and business. To that end I propose using a performance based budgeting model. The traditional approach of government budgeting is often incremental changes in detailed categories of expenditure. Performance based budget can be a more common sense approach. Performance based budgeting differs by focusing on results rather than money spent in previous years. It encourages innovation, collaboration, more community input and growth.

The environment and landscape of Charlton is changing. There is a serious concern, with good reason, about soil and water contamination. We need a comprehensive long-term plan to continue to monitor and address contamination detected in private wells serving homes in the area of Berry Corner Road, H Foote Road and Eleanor Lane in Charlton. The creation of a new water line for these residents is the just the beginning.

Tax abatement programs and having businesses pay their fair share is and always will be a bone of contention. At this point in time both residents and businesses are taxed the same. Obviously this can change if and when we get more business to come to town. To encourage new business and growth for current business I will commit myself to be a presence at the Chamber of Central Mass South. The Town of Charlton has a membership with the Chamber and it's time we used it!

Civic involvement is crucial for a town as small as Charlton. Too often we see an empty space on the ballot where a candidate's name should be in local elections. In order to encourage more civic engagement from the town residents I propose having the Board of Selectmen's website updated to include goals for the current Fiscal Year, create a Talent Bank form that can be completed and submitted on line and offer Selectmen office hours one evening a month so that residents who are interested in running for local office can make a personal connection with someone who is already serving.

Thank you for your time and for reading my Candidate Statement. I look forward to getting to know all of you better and I hope I see you a Candidates Night on April 24, 2017.