

MEET THE BOSTON CANDIDATES

Boston Town Council

Kathleen Selby

Republican, Conservative and Independence parties

What are the biggest issues that the town currently faces?

The plowing of the county roads, as well as general road maintenance and repairs. We also have major drainage issues. By having a positive collaboration with local governments, we can ensure resident safety and be aware of any possible drainage funding to help with costs.

What do you hope to accomplish if you win the election?

I know that if I am elected, there will be better financial oversight added to the board. With my 15 years of experience as budget director and bookkeeper in Boston, (2002-16) I have the knowledge of how municipal budgets are calculated and can offer sensible alternatives to high spending, responsible budgeting and tax savings.

What has the town done well? What can be done better?

There has been good communication through social media. The town is over-spending and over-taxing. Last year, our general town taxes increased by over 10%. We do not need to override the tax cap, as the supervisor has suggested. The supervisor position should remain part-time; I've seen it done effectively for years.

Why do you believe you are the best candidate for the position?

I believe I am the best candidate because of my 15 years of experience in working in town finances and budgets. During that time, I have also been involved in various municipal projects including water districts and grants. My town experience and my private sector business background, along with 28 years of community involvement, makes me the most qualified candidate.

What has caused you to run for public office?

When I left my position at the town in 2016, to accept a new position as district treasurer at Hamburg Schools, I found that I missed being involved in the town's operations. I want to make a difference by offering my experience to assist the board to make more informed decisions. In the end, we all want a fiscally responsible government.

Where do you stand on new development in your town?

I believe there are positives and negatives to new development. We need smart growth that keeps Boston's charm intact. People live here because they enjoy country living, but also want conveniences. A lot of factors determine small business growth in town and would need a case by case determination.

Boston Town Council

Gary Vara

Democratic Party (Working Families Party)

What are the biggest issues that the town currently faces?

The outsourcing of jobs that were always held by Boston town residents: town attorney, bookkeeper, and recreation director. Keep the town supervisor position part-time and utilize county resources to improve infrastructure and drainage problems.

How can you help to improve them through your efforts?

Bring back outsourced jobs to town residents. Creating better cohesiveness by keeping all jobs where they belong, in Boston Town Hall. We need to stop spending money on outside overpriced consultants.

How can you create efficiencies in the town?

I am a voice of reason who can work across the aisle on behalf of the residents of Boston, not the political party. While a councilman in previous years, I reduced the town tax rate for four years. I expanded many recreation programs while cutting costs. The role of a councilman is to do what's best for the residents and that is what I aim to do.

Why do you believe you are the best candidate for the position?

I'm a retired teacher, 50-year high school coach, former councilman and recreation director, and have the time to devote properly to the position of councilman. I want to return unity to Boston by keeping spending down, taxes low and bringing jobs back to Boston.

What has caused you to run for public office?

The excessive spending of the previous administration has sent Boston into a financial tailspin. I want to work with all involved to get Boston flying right once again. I and many residents have lost confidence in their government and I feel compelled to fix that.

What can be done better and where would your focus lie?

The town's people stood up to the town supervisor in 2018 when he wanted to make his position full-time and double his salary. I stand with them and will make sure this doesn't happen. By simply working positively and collaboratively with Erie County we can better improve our infrastructure and drainage challenges.



Boston polling locations

NORTH BOSTON FIRE HALL, 5646 HERMAN HILL RD
BOSTON TOWN HALL, 8500 BOSTON STATE RD
ST JOHNS CATHOLIC CHURCH SCHOOL, 6881 BOSTON CROSS RD



MEET THE BOSTON CANDIDATES

Boston Town Council

Zachary Munger

Democratic and Working Families parties, incumbent

What are the biggest issues that the town currently faces?

While there are many important topics that our board needs to continue to address, I feel that as a whole, our township is running smoothly.

What do you hope to accomplish if you win the election?

I would like to lead the development of a comprehensive long-term drainage plan for the Town of Boston. In addition, I would like to continue efforts to keep Boston's tax rates affordable and modernize services.

What has the town done well? What can be done better?

Over the last few years we've negotiated refuse contracts, emergency services contracts, cable and internet service contracts, as well as maintaining an open door to our constituents. We need to continue updating the town code. As we continue to develop and grow it's important that the town code assists us in staying true to what the community of Boston has always represented.

Why do you believe you are the best candidate for the position?

As a resident of the Town of Boston for nearly 34 years I feel that I am in-tune with the pulse of this town. I am a townie to my core. I feel that my experience over the last four years as a councilman has made me better prepared to handle issues as they arise. I would like to think that my dedication to continuing my education regarding town government, as well as my vested interest in the ongoing success of our town, make me a valuable resource to my neighbors.

What has caused you to run for public office?

My hope is that my children are able to grow up in Boston with the same values and experiences that I was blessed with. The opportunity to serve on our Town Board has allowed me to help in shaping the future of our town for them and every one who lives here.

Where do you stand on new development in your town?

Development, both residential and commercial, is important to maintain the strength of our community as long as it does not detract from our small-town feel. Smart growth is challenging. I feel that getting people involved in these decisions is important, including residents and the Planning Board, as well.

Boston Town Council

Kelly Martin

Republican, Conservative and Independence parties, incumbent

What are the biggest issues that the town currently faces?

Our largest issue right now is drainage issues and the poor condition of county roads that run through town. To fix our drainage problems that effect neighborhoods that line 18-mile creek is a huge and expensive undertaking that quite frankly our town cannot afford without help from the state. The county roads in disrepair, we have been told, are last on the list of projects because there is only so much money to go around for road projects in the county and our town being rural and not heavily populated, gets put to the bottom of the list.

What do you hope to accomplish if you win the election?

Continue to be fiscally responsible with spending and tax increases but also be able to work on our much-needed repairs. I will make every effort to find state grants and monies so that it does not get put on the backs of our residents.

What has the town done well? What can be done better?

We as a town have stayed quaint and welcoming but still embrace and attempt to attract new businesses that fall in line with our plan for the town. We need more community events that bring people together and allow everyone to meet and be neighborly and community minded.

Why do you believe you are the best candidate for the position?

I have in my past two years, kept taxes down, listened to my community and their desires and voted with their best interests at heart on all the important issues. I also have addressed constituent issues by doing my due diligence and getting people answers.

What has caused you to run for public office?

My community is very important to me and I want it to remain fiscally responsible and "small town" so that my children want to remain in the community we love. My husband and I chose to live here after living in Cheektowaga for 10 years previous. We fell in love with the area and knew this is where we wanted to spend the rest of our lives.

Where do you stand on new development in your town?

New development is welcome if it fits with the town plan. I don't want to fill the town with a bunch of development just to expand the tax base. We are not suburbia and by no means want chain stores and housing developments. Boston is rural and we like it that way.



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MEET THE BOSTON CANDIDATES

Boston Highway Superintendent Boston Highway Superintendent

Robert Telaak

Republican Party, incumbent

What are the biggest issues that your town and department currently face?

The age of the equipment that we currently utilize and the limited staff of only six highway employees.

How can you help to improve them through leading the department?

During the winter months, I have two men on three different shifts which helps to keep the roads clean during most of the 24-hour period. Additionally, we may call in the highway department workers to assist during severe weather to keep the residents of the town safe.

How can you create efficiencies in the department?

I have done so by not raising the taxes due to highway department costs and also by utilizing and repairing the older equipment which allowed us to purchase a new 2020 Western Star four-wheel-drive plow truck at the cost of \$256,000 without raising taxes over the past 14 years. This was paid in full without a loan or bond. The money we saved over the last four years by not plowing the county roads has saved the town enough money to purchase this vehicle outright.

Why do you believe you are the best candidate for the position?

My past 15 years has proven that I care deeply about the residents of this town and that the safety and economic feasibility of our constituents is the most important thing to consider. The roads are maintained yearly by sweeping loose stone, cleaning up road rights-of-ways, keeping drainage ditches along the road free of debris and flowing freely. Also, extensive grass mowing all the road right-of-way improves visibility, especially at intersections. The trees which overhang power lines and the road on our town right-of-way are also maintained for safety. Additionally, many drainage projects such as Boston Cross Road, Mill Street, Enser Road were completed. I have performed paving and drainage work for over 40 years.

What has caused you to run for public office?

As a lifelong resident of Boston and the incumbent Town of Boston Highway and Parks Department superintendent for the past 15 years, I am proud to serve the community that I love. Some of my goals have been to keep the roads of Boston free of potholes and clear of snow and ice for the resident's safety. I am on-call 24 hours a day, seven days-a-week without a deputy highway superintendent.

What are you most proud of accomplishing during your last term?

Instituted the Fall leaf pickup program and paid down the highway department debt – prior to 2005, of \$822,959.06. Saved thousands of dollars not only by doing in-house maintenance on all equipment, but preventative maintenance to extend the life of the equipment. Plow and salt all town-owned roads (76 lane miles total) in the 36 square miles of our town with only six highway crew members, down from nine or more in past years.

Bryant Burns

Democratic Party

What are the biggest issues that your town and department currently face?

Boston is a giant valley and drainage problems continue to plague the town. The Town of Boston has lost \$170,000 a year for four years due to a cancelled county plowing contract. This has led to a severe decrease in public safety for its residents, school buses and emergency responders. The fleet in the highway department is aging quickly with no compressive plan. Kicking the can down the road has to stop.

How can you help to improve them through leading the department?

Work collaboratively with the Town Board and Town Engineer to develop a comprehensive long-term drainage plan. Initiate a positive conversation with Erie County to restore the last plowing contract and bring back over \$170,000 per year in revenue and increased public safety.

How can you create efficiencies in the department?

With the return of the county plowing contract revenue, we will be able to fill lost employment positions. Stop oil-and-stoning low-traffic, flat roads. Use more modern and effective procedures to maintain roads. Modernize the leaf and brush pickup by establishing an "on call" system for residents.

Why do you believe you are the best candidate for the position?

We have been doing the same thing over and over in the highway department since 2005. It's time to modernize the department and develop an atmosphere of co-operation and trust with the Boston Town Board, Erie County Public Works, Boston Emergency Services and residents. I have been a successful business owner for 26 years. I did this by listening, communicating effectively, continuing to modernize my equipment and practices and building positive relationships through cooperation. I believe all stakeholders involved deserve to be treated with respect and I firmly believe I can deliver a better product and they will appreciate the changes I plan to make.

What has caused you to run for public office?

Over the past few years, I have become more interested in the town government. I cannot watch Boston lose needed revenue and compromise safety on our roads. I feel compelled to run for office because Boston can do better under my leadership.

What can be done better in the department and where would your focus lie?

Prepare a compressive Fleet Replace Plan and work collaboratively with the Boston Town Board to fund it efficiently. Good communication is very important to building positive working relationships with the residents. Also, using the town website more efficiently and sending letters to residents informing them when we will be in their area.



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MEET THE BOSTON CANDIDATES

Boston Town Clerk

Sandra Quinlan

Republican, Conservative, Independent and Libertarian parties, incumbent

How can you help to improve the department?

By working with the supervisor and town board to acquire information when it is available regarding a plan for repair and replacement of the infrastructure, so I may better assist residents with questions that may arise.

How can you create efficiencies in the department?

Efficiencies in the town clerk's office are created by continuing to work within the overall budgets of the town clerk and records management – which have decreased from previous years – without compromising the services given to our residents. I will continue to be financially responsible with keeping the budget that I have been allocated as the town clerk to minimum spending for supplies, conferences and training.

Why do you believe you are the best candidate for the position?

Prior to being elected as town clerk to fill a two-year vacancy, I held the position as a deputy town clerk for five years. My experience within the clerk's office has been service oriented towards the residents of this community. I have always worked to uphold the integrity of the clerk's office, strong work ethic, understanding and helpful, cooperative attitude, have continuously worked to carry out town clerk duties, and better myself with training and classes pertinent to the position.

What has caused you to run for public office?

Accountability and honesty is the obligation of every elected official. I seek the position as town clerk with a dedication to serve the residents of the Town of Boston. I will work constructively and develop cooperative working relationships with others, for the betterment of the town. I look forward to the opportunity and challenge to serve a four-year term and I will continue to do the job that I was elected to do.

What are you most proud of accomplishing during your last term?

Coming into office in January 2018, I knew that the office needed to be restored to its prior working condition of an elected town clerk. My deputy and I were able to address and reconcile all town clerk account issues, management of files and records organization, and the Town Board appointed the town clerk as registrar of vital statistics, which had been previously removed from the department.

Boston Town Clerk

Dawn Boncal

Democratic Party

What are the biggest issues that the department currently faces?

Our webpage hasn't been consistently updated in years – since 2012. The town clerk's office has not had year-round evening hours. The town clerk's office does not accept credit and debit cards for payments of fees and taxes.

How can you help to improve them through leading the department?

If elected, I will make it a priority to update the town webpage. Transparency is important and the Boston residents deserve better. I will have year-round evening hours and Saturday hours during tax season. The town clerk's office should be open for the convenience of residents; not its employees.

How can you create efficiencies in the department?

Updating the town webpage is important for residents to stay informed. Offering more forms of payment and more hours to transact business seems so obvious when you're focused on customer service.

Why do you believe you are the best candidate for the position?

I'm a married mother of four; I have been very active in Boston as a youth baseball and softball coach and a league board member. I also served as a religious instructor. I have worked and continue to work at Boston Town Hall. I have held numerous positions and have gained tremendous knowledge to prepare me to be successful at Boston town clerk.

What has caused you to run for public office?

The residents deserve a town clerk's office that is focused on them; not one that is there for the convenience of its employees. Government should do better.

What can be done better in the department and where should your focus lie?

Again, residents deserve a town clerk's office that is user-friendly, which is why I will accept credit and debit cards for payments.

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| OFFICE | JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT 14 YEAR TERM VOTE FOR ANY THREE | | | COUNTY EXECUTIVE 4 YEAR TERM VOTE FOR ONE | COUNTY LEGISLATOR 2 YEAR TERM VOTE FOR ONE | COUNCILMAN 4 YEAR TERM VOTE FOR ANY TWO | | TOWN CLERK 4 YEAR TERM VOTE FOR ONE | TOWN JUSTICE 4 YEAR TERM VOTE FOR ONE |
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| Conservative C | 1C Conservative Gerald J. Greenan III | 2C Conservative Gerald J. Whalan | 3C Conservative Deborah A. Haendiges | 4C Conservative Lynne Olson | 5C Conservative John Glenn | 6C Conservative Thomas Best | 7C Conservative Michael Murray | 8C Conservative Catherine A. Rydzynski | 9C Conservative Carl W. Morgan |

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