

John Coutinho, Candidate for Selectman

Experience is important, but when experience is paired with continued commitment and care, the result is not only successful, it is meaningful. I truly cherish this community; I live here; I work here; I volunteer here. Hence I am seeking reelection to the Board of Selectmen on May 15 because I care deeply about the direction of this town, and there is much unfinished business to be looked over to better serve this town.

I believe serving as a Selectman requires more than simply sitting on the town's executive board, dealing with bills, and discussing land acquisitions. Serving as a Hopkinton Selectman means acting as a sounding board for all those in the community. It means making myself available to hear answer questions at Golden Pond, where I work.

It means attending our community events, such as parades, presentations, retirements, symposiums, dinners, and even funerals to be with the community in good times as well as bad. This extra time spent with the people avails me to truly feel what the issues of the day are. These efforts allow me to gather as much background as possible before setting upcoming agenda items.

I have worked with the schools closely, and have given almost a decade of service to the Zoning Advisory Board (ZAC), to bring dozens of zoning enhancements.

Three years ago, before the election, I really thought that I had all the answers. However, after taking my seat and becoming liaison to seven other committees, I found that there was so much to learn about dealing with the politics, complexity, and red tape involved with government. Now with my experience in bureaucracy and in gathering the town's thoughts, I respectfully ask for your vote on May 15 to continue to be a Selectman who is always there for you.