

# Candidates

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tion programs. I have a state certification as a superintendent of schools.

I have 30 years management experience in the private and public sector. I am a recognized professional in the waste management industry with a very strong background in recycling.

I retired from the public sector as a Commissioner of Public Works from a large urban city.

I have been married to Mary Kelly for 45 years. We have five sons, including triplet boys, and 11 grandchildren.

We have been residents of Jamestown since the late 1990s and have vacationed here for more than 20 years.

As an elected official I have demonstrated the ability to add to the town's bottom line by initiating a grant application that resulted in \$500,000 for the new water tower. I helped write a grant for the Jamestown Police Department that resulted in \$75,000 in funding for the department. I organized and implemented an auction of the town's surplus equipment, which helped to offset the cost of much needed new equipment. In addition, I am a very good listener.

Jamestown has to deal with the issues of affordable housing, upgrading our recreational facilities, protection of open space, Fort Getty development and the disposition of the former town offices.

## Sav Rebecchi-Independent



I'm a lifelong Rhode Islander, born in Bristol 60 years ago and raised there as well. I'm the proud father of two daughters who live in New York with their families, including three grandchildren. My wife Cheryl and I have lived in Jamestown for 12 years.

An entrepreneur most of my life, I opened my first retail business while in college. In 1984 my interest in technology led to the formation of Shoptech Industrial Software, which Cheryl and I operated for 16 years. Five years ago I established RWV, Inc. to advance internet-based, public service databank projects like CurbQuest.com.

My Jamestown public service activities started as a member of the 2001 Charter Review Committee.

Three years ago I was appointed to Jamestown's seat on the board of the Quonset Development Corporation. I also serve on their Governance and Strategic Planning Committees.

In the coming years, the debt from capitol expenditures, infrastructure and utility repairs will cause major stress on all Jamestowners. A significant burden will be from Water and Sewer facilities upgrades and pipeline repairs.

The double digit increases in user rates have just begun and will continue for years to come. These increases have the potential to ruin our community by forcing out low to moderate-income families and small businesses.

As a Town Councilor, I will move to immediately add a rate payer's task force to the Water and Sewer Board. In addition to other duties, their primary charge will be to fully scrutinize the 20 year impact of the debt and to seek out emergency grants to minimize the economic impacts.

## Michael Schnack-Democrat



I am a candidate for re-election to the Town Council and I am asking for your support to continue to serve. My work experience and experience on the Council gives me great understanding of the issues that the town faces and the ability to get things done. I am not afraid to ask questions or look at issues from all angles. When I don't have enough information to make a decision, I seek out those that do have the information or institutional knowledge. I am approachable and listen; fair and objective. I don't make decisions based on the popular opinion. I believe that these are the traits of a good public servant and I'm sure you agree.

I am 45 years old and have lived in Jamestown since 1997 with my wife Colleen and two children, Michael, 15 and Caty, 13. Since living in Jamestown I have served on the Ambulance Association Compensation Committee, Planning Commission, Harbor Management Commission and the Personnel Board. I have volunteered many hours with youth sports teams, church activities and I am a member of the Jamestown Rotary Club.

I work for the leading water services company in North America, which operates municipal and industrial water and wastewater treatment plants throughout the country. As the regional Human Resources Manager, I deal with employee issues on a daily basis

and I am responsible for all of the company's labor relations in the Northeast. I received my Bachelor's degree from Providence College, graduating with honors and completed my Masters' in Business Administration at the University of Rhode Island.

## Barbara Szepatowski-Republican



I am running for a second term on the Jamestown Town Council. At 54, I have been a Jamestown resident since 1975. Trained in environmental science and land use management, I spent my career working across the United States with industrial clients and private developers in the areas of environmental assessment, hazardous waste management and cleanup, environmental and coastal permitting, and worker safety. Presently I provide environmental site assessments for commercial property buyers and banks. For the previous eight years, I have also owned and operated Paws and Claws, which provides pet care, education, and advocacy. During the seven years that Paws and Claws had a retail location on Narragansett Avenue, I worked to help create an appealing and fun downtown area.

Although still in the planning stage due to a lack of a location, I have spent four years lobbying for a town-owned animal shelter to be built on the island. I designed the shelter program to not only provide safe housing for Jamestown's lost, injured, and abandoned pets, but to also offer education programs linking residents of all ages and backgrounds.

I am a member of the Jamestown Substance Abuse Prevention Task Force; the Red Cross Jamestown Emergency Shelter Team; Jamestown Baseball; and the Conanicut Community Coalition, which coordinates the Island's teen programs. Working closely with the Recreation and School Departments I have spent the past two years tirelessly working to build a

Teen Center in Jamestown.

## Robert Sutton-Democrat



I have lived in Jamestown with my wife, Lynda, since 1970. We have raised two sons in our home on Rosemary Lane and both my wife and I feel a strong attachment to the people and the natural beauty of this island and Narragansett Bay. I recently retired from full time work but I do some private consulting and I am a regular volunteer at the Jamestown Community Farm and a member of the Conanicut Grange, Sustainable Agriculture Committee.

I have a master's degree in public administration and my working career spans 41 years and includes four years in the Navy. I was a research associate at the University of Rhode Island, the Town Administrator in Jamestown for 17 years, and Chief of the Division of Planning and Development for the RI Department of Environmental Management for 15 years.

In the upcoming years Jamestown will confront the same critical problems faced by all towns and cities throughout the country, namely, supporting and maintaining quality education for our children and providing an acceptable level of public services to our residents. I cannot tell you I have all the solutions but I do have great respect for a public process that encourages timely discussion, decision and action. As an elected official I believe I would bring a common sense approach that is open and inclusive and solutions that are sustainable and respectful of our island's natural and human environment. I would also bring the experience of knowing how to get things done.

Candidates continued on next page

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