

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Press release from the Woodbury Democratic Town Committee**

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Richard C. Snider, Democratic candidate for Town Moderator, today suggested that Woodbury needs to attract more people willing to serve on Town Boards and Commissions. "I have attended many meetings of various Boards and Commissions, and I am impressed by the dedication, knowledge and service of the individuals presently serving. Nevertheless, it would be presumptuous to think that these individuals never need a break from volunteer public service. Recently three longtime commissioners on the Planning, Zoning, and Historic District Commissions have resigned, and it is necessary that these vacancies be filled with qualified individuals." Mr. Snider encouraged Woodburians to become aware of the various areas of local government which depend upon volunteer public servants, and he suggested that the Town working with the Democratic and Republican Town Committees consider sponsoring programs like volunteer fairs to acquaint Woodburians with the available opportunities for volunteer public service, either through election or appointment

Mr. Snider, an attorney and member of the Charter Revision Commission, said he was pleased to see students present at various meetings of Board and Commissions. If elected, Mr. Snider would work with Nonnewaug High School to have students attend and participate at Town Meetings in order for them to experience not only democracy in action but also the importance and privilege of our right to vote.

Finally, Mr. Snider pointed to the local Democratic ticket's pledge to promote a more civil, compassionate Woodbury as necessary to bring people into the public sphere. "We need to create an environment, both at Town Meetings as well as on all Boards and Commissions, that encourages people to participate without thinking they will be vilified for actions which they may take or any points of view which they may express." he observed. "Too often in the recent past, Woodburians at Town Meetings as well as members of Boards and Commissions have been personally maligned, and such *ad hominem* attacks must be stopped. Respect for each individuals point of view, courtesy and factual information must guide our discourse."