

candidate for:
**BOARD OF
ESTIMATE
& TAXATION**



DAVID WEISBROD

Party: Democrat

Campaign Mailing Address: Greenwich Democrats, 9 Valley Drive, Greenwich, CT 06831

Campaign Website: www.greenwichdemocrats.com

Campaign Phone: 203 998 5194

Campaign Email: weisbrod.bet@gmail.com

Instagram: @bet.democrats4greenwich **Facebook:** @GreenwichBETDemocrats

Q: Please provide a brief biography of yourself for the voters.

A: I am a former Vice Chairman of JP Morgan Chase with extensive risk management experience. After JPMorgan I was CEO of LCH Clearnet LLC, a global derivatives clearinghouse. I am now in my fourth term on the BET. I have been a member of the Budget, Investment Advisory and Audit Committees. Before my BET engagement I was Chair of the Greenwich Planning and Zoning Board of Appeals. My wife and I have been Greenwich residents for 40 years. We raised three children here and have two grandsons in Greenwich public schools. I have a BA from Cornell University and an MBA from New York University.

Q: What are two of your favorite things about Greenwich?

A: The sheer beauty of our Town never ceases to amaze me. Our parks and coastline are treasures. The wisdom of previous generations to invest in such amenities has paid off enormously. The extraordinary talent of Greenwich residents is another treasure. The skill and dedication of volunteers on Town boards and staff in Town departments and teachers in our schools make Greenwich the unique and special place it is.

Q: What professional, volunteer, or public service accomplishment in the last 12 months are you most proud of and why?

A: I have focussed on listening to the voices of the community; to support sound initiatives demanded by residents (e.g. new skating rink, new Central Middle School). I have set a standard of fact-based decision-making and argued for multi-year capital planning to pace and optimally finance essential capital projects. I have advocated for thoughtful and cost efficient maintenance of the Town's infrastructure and the use of technology to reduce the cost of managing the Town. Most importantly, I strive to restore responsible, bipartisan collaboration and to work each and every day to preserve a low and predictable mill rate. A prerequisite for the Town's success is harmonious, civic minded leadership who respect one another and listen.

Q: What are one or two pressing challenges of the upcoming term and how would you approach them?

A: Extreme positions - e.g. resisting acceptance of a state grant for food scrap waste removal or investing in a cost saving geothermal heating and cooling system have bogged down the BET. Arbitrary elimination of \$140 million from the Town's strategic capital plan for projects that everyone knows are on the horizon (such as a new ice skating rink, or a necessary refurbishment of the Town's sewer treatment plant) distort the extent of the capital challenges facing our Town. New leadership is called for to listen to the voices of the community, to govern in such a way as to preserve low and predictable taxes.

Q: How do you plan to serve your constituents who didn't support you in decisions that affect our town and their lives?

A: It is so important to listen to ALL voices of our community. I will continue to pay close attention to those who appear at the BET public sessions that take place before the BET votes on the budget. In addition, I pay attention to the emails we receive and to points of view expressed by RTM members. Appearing before RTM committees is an important part of our role and listening to the perspective that comes from these meetings is critical.

Q: In April, the Board of Estimate and Taxation (BET) voted to reduce the Greenwich Public Schools budget by approximately \$4 million. This reduction allowed GPS to increase its budget year over year by 3% (vs 5%). [Minutes of the FY 2025-2026 Budget Decision Day Three (3) Meeting of the BET held April 4, 2025]. What is your position on this decision?

A: I voted NO on the vote to reduce the GPS budget by \$4million. The vote was taken without prior debate at the Budget Committee, ignored the bipartisan recommendation of the Board of Education and failed to comprehend the outcome: ie the firing of a score of teaching staff and a regressive shift in school start time with detrimental health consequences for our students. The RTM issued a formal rebuke voting 147 in favor, 37 opposed and 14 abstaining asking the BET to reopen the vote. The First Selectman also expressed disagreement with this unfortunate vote. All to no avail. The BOE, like other Town departments, must manage its budget in a fiscally sound manner, but irresponsible defunding w/o evaluation of consequences is not a wise path to take.