



SALLY EDDY BEDNAR*

Party: Republican

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

A: My professional background includes accounting, finance and consulting. A seasoned FINANCIAL professional with a CPA (4 yrs @ Ernst & Young), three decades on Wall Street (18 yrs @ Morgan Stanley & 11 yrs @ Wells Fargo). A dedicated public servant serving my 2nd term on the Town of Greenwich RTM - District 6 (Old Greenwich) and I am also serving a 2nd term on the Town's Affordable Housing Trust Board - Board Secretary. I am an experienced board member serving on Fairfield Prep School Board (Chair of the Finance Committee) and Fairfield University Investment Committee (Fairfield Prep rep).

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

A: 1. Outdoor activity options at our Town's well-maintained amazing parks - walking along the beach meeting up with my "dog friends" during the winter months at Tod's Point and Mianus River Park, playing tennis with friends at Binney Park (and elsewhere) and enjoying a walk through Bruce Park after a trip to Greenwich Ave. 2. Living in a "walkable" community (Old Greenwich) of open-minded active neighbors. Summer months sitting on our front porch watching Greenwich residents and neighbors walk past our home (on Shore Road) with beach chairs and backpacks headed for a day at the beach.

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

A: In the last two years I've taken leadership positions with three volunteer/non-profit organizations. Military MOMs of Greenwich. With two active-duty US Marines sons (and a third in ROTC) and a retired Marine husband, I am honored to serve as the Co-Head of the Military Moms of Greenwich. We are a grassroots organization started by two awesome Greenwich moms. Greenwich Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board. I am grateful to serve as Secretary of the Board. My father spent time living with his single mom in Cleveland public housing and I understand the importance of housing to some families in need. Fairfield University Investment Committee. I joined the Fairfield Univ. Investment Committee to represent Fairfield Prep School's interest.

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

A: The Town of Greenwich's challenges are many, but all manageable. 1. They include underinvested infrastructure, school deferred maintenance for example. A school system with an operating budget of nearly 1/2 of the overall Town budget, with teachers' pay at the TOP of the State of CT scale, and a Superintendent that is crafty in messaging to the public-school community. 2. Pressure from the State level on their own priorities including affordable housing and local zoning laws. Holding onto the Republican majority on the BET is a top priority. Counteracting the negative marketing from the Board of Ed/the media and getting the facts out into the public pre Nov. 4th elections is key.

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

A: I've served two terms on the Town of Greenwich RTM and two on the Town's Affordable Housing Trust Board. During these periods there are many instances where we do not agree with each other, but civil discourse prevails. Listening to others' viewpoints is an important aspect of service. Being a good listener and performing due diligence on all issues before the BET will be my goal.

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 support the decision to reduce the BOE requested 2025-2026 budget by \$4 million. The crafty Town of Greenwich BOE Superintendent flooded school-aged residents' parents with scary messages of cuts to ALP (gifted program), elimination of some sports teams and other important school aspects. Post the BET vote, the BOE identified \$1.8 million of savings by adjusting the GHS start time and associated bus service to 7:45 am in line with Darien and New Canaan high schools and another \$2.4 million of prior funds appeared. The extreme cuts by the Superintendent were not necessary or made. It makes sense for the BOE and the BET to be MORE in sync with each other and not hash out in public hearings, but negotiate/agree on a budget in advance.