JOHN S HOPLEY

Party: Republican

Campaign Website: betrepublicans.com

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

A: I have over 25 years of senior leadership in global finance, private equity, treasury, and investment management, with experience across the U.S., Middle East, and Asia. I have expertise in strategic planning, financial analysis, and risk management. I have both a bachelor's and master's degree from Columbia University. I am a two-term member of the RTM and currently serve on the Department of Public Works Committee. I am a life-long Greenwich resident and am married with three children.

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

A: I love the community involvement of Greenwich residents and its great diversity!

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

A: Serving on the RTM has been a way to give back to a community that has provided so very much to my family. I am grateful for that opportunity and will continue to look for ways help Greenwich.

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

A: Two key challenges are keeping property taxes low while addressing necessary capital investments, such as schools and infrastructure. I will approach this by prioritizing needs, improving planning, and ensuring projects are managed efficiently and cost effectively. I believe in disciplined budgeting, long-term planning, and working together to find practical solutions.

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 will listen respectfully, seek ideas and values from all residents, and explain the reasoning behind positions. While not every decision will please everyone, I believe in transparency, fairness, inclusion and focusing on what is best for Greenwich as a whole. My goal is to earn the trust of all residents by approaching issues with respect, integrity, and a commitment to finding common ground.

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 supported the decision to increase the schools budget by 3%, a responsible rate that balanced the needs of students with those of taxpayers. At a time when families are facing higher costs, it was important to provide a meaningful increase while still protecting affordability. The BET remains committed to funding excellent schools, but also to ensuring spending is sustainable and prioritized wisely.