

2022 Board of Assessors Candidate

One to be elected for 3 years

Patrick Gill

Precinct 1

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Community Activities

My name is Patrick Gill, I am a candidate for the open Assessor's seat as well as Precinct 1 Town Meeting seat as well. I am a proud graduate of Winchester Public School system as are my three children. I have resided on Nathaniel Rd in Precinct 1 my entire life. I bought my childhood home from my father back in 1994. I have successfully volunteered with many groups in town for the benefit of its residents for decades. I proudly assisted with St. Mary's youth ministry group known as Encounter as well as Winchester Sports Foundation, Winchester Field Development council and the Winchester Youth lacrosse and Football programs.

Candidate Statement

What skills and experience would you bring to the Board of Assessors?

Most importantly my willingness to listen and get answers to property owners. In my career it is very important that I have excellent written and verbal communication skills. I have the ability to enforce procedures in a professional, impartial and diplomatic manner. Confidentiality to sensitive information is very important in my career and I would imagine in the role of Assessors role as well. I have strong computer skills and the ability to analyze data.

What is the role of the Board of Assessors in Winchester?

The Board of Assessors is responsible for valuing all real and personal property in the town for taxation purposes. The Department of Revenue reviews the values and certifies that the board has complied with the rules and regulations to ensure equitable values. The Board adjusts values annually if necessary by reviewing the previous years' sales in Winchester. If a taxpayer appeals their assessment to the Board, we will review the information presented to us and make our determination.

The Board manages statutory personal exemptions primarily for seniors, but also veterans and the blind. These applications must be filed annually and approved by the Board.

The town issues over 20,000 excise bills annually and the Board is responsible for granting abatements if the car had been sold, traded or taken off the road. Additionally, there are exempt vehicles for town and government vehicles.

FY 2023 is a state mandated revaluation and the Assessors are already involved in the analysis of the sales to determine the new assessments.

What are the most important issues facing the Board of Assessors?

The Board must continue to value property fairly and equitably so that the Department of Revenue will certify the values produced by the Board. The town budget is approximately \$151,000,000 with \$112,000,000 coming from real and personal property taxes. Any delay in the certification of the values could result in tax bills going out late and the loss of revenue and interest.