

Absentee Ballot

If you would like to vote by absentee ballot, you can email the town clerk at almira@whitinghamvt.org, call the town clerk's office at 368-7887 or you can go on your my voter page at <https://mvp.vermont.gov/>

Not registered yet? You can register at the town clerk's office, the state voter page <https://mvp.vermont.gov/>, or you can call the office and request that we mail you an application.

Note: If you decide you do not want to mail your ballot back, you can either drop it off at the town clerk's office, drop it in the new box at the Municipal Center located at the front of the building next to the kiosk and in front of the flag pole or you can bring it to the polling place on election day and deposit your ballot.

General Election ballots are being mailed out this week to all active registered voters to their last known address and will not be forwarded.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Almira Aekus, Town Clerk At 368-7887

PROPERTY TAXES ARE DUE

NOVEMBER 2ND

Payments can be made by mail, in person, or by depositing in the box located at the front of the Municipal Center next to the kiosk and in front of the flag pole (please do not deposit cash in the box). The town can now accept credit cards for taxes and sewer payments. If you are interested in paying by credit card, you will need to go to townofwhitinghamvt.org and click on express pay on the home page. Please note there is a 2.65% charged for this service.

Town of Whitingham

www.whitinghamvt.org
PO Box 529, Jacksonville, VT 05342

New TRANSFER STATION
STICKERS ARE REQUIRED on
September 1st of each year

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE
COLLECTION EVENT
OCTOBER 3RD
9am to 1pm

PROPERTY TAXES
ARE DUE
NOVEMBER 2ND

STANDARD MAIL
US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #12
JACKSONVILLE, VT 05342

Postal Customer



Town of Whitingham

MEET THE CANDIDATES

The following candidates are running to fill the recently vacated Selectboard seat. The winner will serve until Town Meeting 2021.

- Richard Lemaire
- Lyman Tefft
- Chris Walling

A SPECIAL ELECTION

will be held on

Tuesday, October 13, 2020

by Australian ballot. The polls will be at the Whitingham Municipal Center, 2948 VT Route 100, Jacksonville, VT.

Polls open 10am to 7pm.

RICHARD LEMAIRE

My name is Richard Lemaire and I am running for the position on the Selectboard. A brief background. I grew up in Readsboro and during my summer vacations I worked for the Village of Readsboro. I attended and graduated from Whitingham High School. I married in Oct of 1971 and our home is in Whitingham. I have worked driving truck on construction projects such as 91 and Bear Swamp. I spent 31 years in the Ski Business and 10 years were as the manager of the Cupola Ski Shop in Dover. We started our own excavation business in the early 90's up until I retired in 2015. I have always been interested in town affairs but never had the time to be properly involved. I have been attending the board meetings since before town meeting to gain first hand knowledge of how the board operates and issues facing the town and have expressed some of my concerns. I am currently a member of the Whitingham Highway Garage Committee working with other community members and the Selectboard.

The board posed three questions to the candidates. **1.) Why are you running?** I am running because I care about the town. **2.) What do you see as the most important issue(s) the town is facing?** I believe the most important issue the town is facing is the Sewer Project. The questions and decisions that are made need to be equitable to everyone involved. **3.) How do we balance increasing tax burden with increasing demand for municipal services?** As for the tax burdens, I believe we need to research bringing in new employment opportunities and different avenues that will provide information that will support both the financial goals and growth goals for now and in the future of the Town of Whitingham so people can afford to live here. I am asking for your vote and will work hard to earn your trust.

LYMAN TEFFT

Why are you running?

The reason why I want to be a Selectboard member in the town of Whitingham is that I have lived here 40 years or more and I feel that my experience on being a different boards throughout the town could help the town into the future.

What do you see as the most important issue(s) the town is facing?

I feel that the most pressing issue for the town of Whitingham is the lack of jobs for the younger people to have an incentive stay in town. And to raise their families and keep the municipal taxes the school taxes down so that the elderly who's on fixed income can stay in their homes.

How do we balance increasing tax burden with increasing demand for municipal services?

I would have all the town departments will get their budgets and see if they could cut anything where will not affect the operation of the department and see if they could level fund or have a 1 to 2% increase over the years I understand that inflation and the cost of manufacturing things are going up do the factors that we cannot control but I hope we can control our spending in our town.

Thank you for your consideration and hopefully, they serve on the Selectboard

Sincerely Lyman Tefft aka as Skip

CHRIS WALLING

My name is Christopher Walling and I have been a resident of Whitingham for the past 15 years. I have been employed in the valley for the past 28 years as a teacher and coach. I am currently employed at Twin Valley Elementary School where I have spent my entire teaching career. I coached girls' varsity soccer at Twin Valley High School for 19 years, as well as coached girls' JV basketball for 12 years. I am also currently the President and soccer coordinator for Twin Valley Youth Sports, which provides sporting opportunities in soccer, basketball, and baseball/softball for children in our valley who are entering Pre-K through grade 6. I received my undergraduate degree from Plymouth State University in 1992 and did my graduate study at Canisius College in Buffalo, NY, completing a master's degree in physical education in 2016.

I am interested in serving on the Selectboard because I believe that with my knowledge of the school system and my ability to communicate with a diverse community of people, I can help develop positive relations with the Selectboard and the school board, which must be able to work together to solve the tax burden issues facing our town. I bring exceptional listening skills and can communicate objectively with people about what is in the best interest of all stakeholders.

There are several issues that face our town during this time of crisis. One is the availability of fiberoptic throughout the town. During this pandemic, the lack of a reliable source of internet has been magnified and we must develop a plan where all of our school children, as well as the many taxpayers who have been forced to work from home, have an equal opportunity to reliable internet access. Moving forward, this must be a priority for our town to expand the availability of reliable internet options to all. To balance the increasing tax burden with the increasing demand for municipal services, I believe that both the school board and Selectboard budgets must be properly and accurately balanced in order to maintain a consistent and reasonable tax rate. Also, providing more business opportunities in town and offering town community events which will attract young people to move here, as well as keeping our own youth in town as the grow up and mature, will help keep the tax rate reasonable. This younger generation will bring children into our school system, thus helping increase the school population, which will help ease this burden.