



2021
TOWN
ELECTION



CONTACT

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BOARD OF ASSESSORS

ELLIOT. LOVY

INITIAL STATEMENT

Hello. My name is Elliot Lovy and I am running for a seat on the town Board of Assessors in 2021. I have lived in Bedford for over 15 years with my wife, Kim, and our three children. My two sons graduated with the BHS class of 2020. My daughter started Bedford High School this year. Go Bucs 2024!

I grew up in the Detroit suburbs and attended the University of Michigan. I graduated with a bachelor's degree in Mathematics in 1993, and promptly moved to the Boston area to start my career as a software developer. I lived a combined six years in Watertown and Belmont working at a few tech companies. On weekends, I would often meet up with coworkers in Bedford to rollerblade on the Minuteman Trail. I always enjoyed it, but never suspected I would one day live here!

In 1999, we moved to San Francisco, and spent 6 years in the Bay area (SF, then San Mateo). California was wonderful, but we always knew the Boston area would be our home. As we researched communities, we discovered the jewel that is Bedford. We arrived in August of 2006, just in time for our daughter to celebrate her first birthday, and for our family to celebrate our first Bedford Day. I have been in love with this town ever since.

When a seat on the Board of Assessors became available, I thought it a great opportunity to give back to the community, and offer my services to the town.

QUESTIONS ~ LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

What is your understanding of what an Assessor does?

The responsibilities of a town assessor are well defined by the Bedford town charter. The board's primary purpose is to assess the value of real estate and personal property within the town of Bedford. I have read over the minutes from prior Board of Assessors meetings, and through several of the annual analyses of tax bill changes prepared and published by the board. So, I have come to an understanding of an assessor's role in certification of tax rate calculations in accordance with the Massachusetts department of revenue, and in preparing recommendations for tax classification distribution to the town.

What is your position on the proposed change from having taxpayers elect the Assessors to having the Selectmen or Town Manager appoint them?

The Board of Assessors determines the fair market value of all town property. The town budgeting process wrestles with all the other factors in calculating the town's property tax rate. Whether an assessor offered their service to the town, or they accepted an appointment, their duties and responsibilities are the same. Just as we expect judges to recuse themselves, not because we think them incapable, but to ensure full confidence in the system. Bedford prefers an independently elected Board of Assessors, not because we think an appointed board would be corrupt, but because we want full confidence in the system.