

Helen Kwasniewski

Comments and/or suggestion

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TOWN CLERK

We as town residents have to realize that in the past "Millstone" was footing the town existence. Now that "Millstone" is on limited time and we as town residents and all department heads/directors and all elected official have to re-invent the wheel. The question we have to ask is "How can we keep our taxes/mill rate down" so we won't be like New London, Norwich with high mill rate AND keep the service the same that we taxpayers want.

With so many empty stores in Waterford is our "Economic Development Department reaching out to companies or advertising in the "Commercial Register". For example: the old Sears Auto reach out to Pep Boys. The Sears upper level reach out to Hobby Lobby (huge craft store).

1st - salaries are way too high. We need to consolidate some to departments and/or job task and CAP salaries. For example: do we need someone who makes approximately \$50,000 PLUS benefits to sit in the lobby area to answer phone and greet people. Have that position done by a volunteer like at the Senior Center – save of \$50,000 Plus benefits. This saving can be apply to reducing the mill rate.

Park and Rec have too many personal for same programs year after year. I feel that they can do with less employees. I am sure that we could look into this as well as other department.

We can decrease employees on garbage days with one garbage truck picking up regular trash and recyclables all at the same time as other towns do. Savings are salaries with benefits and the wear and tear on the trucks.

With monies collected for sewer and water usage go to the Water/Sewer Department so that that is there operating budget WITHOUT asking the town for money. This is being done in other towns.

With "Victoria Gardens" as well as Ahepa – they have put a burden on the use of town vans. They should have their own vans or bill these facilities. This is an increase to the Senior Service Budget.

There should be increase for the use of the event room at the Community Center as well as for ALL out of towners that come and use this facility like area Senior Centers do. I keep hear that we as Waterford residents we are losing our identity by allow them (out of towners) in which Waterford taxpayers paid for.

Waterford Dental Group should be charge for using the "park" parking for their clients who have to cross a busy highway. The question is WHY is Waterford allowing this. Each business has to submit "parking spaces" in there "plot plan" along with their building plans to the town building department.

Keep taxes "FROZEN FOR ALL SENIORS" for all the time that they are living in their homes – this is being done at the other end of our state who are wealthier than Waterford.

My taxes are extremely high and I do not get all the benefits. For example: the school system – I have no children but yet my taxes go toward the schools. With the school year cut short that should reflect on lower BOE budget.

I do not like having my taxes go towards paying town employees who bully senior citizen, who retires and comes back to work in the department that they retire from, as well as pick and choose when they can work.

With my final notes- The RTM is the last and final board to hear the budgets and I pray that they have the guts to open there mouths to scrutinize each department budget instead of giving a "blank check" like in the past. After the budget all departments live within and don't keep coming back to the board for additional money. I as well as all taxpayers have a budget that we live to. We don't have anyone to ask for more.

I believe that all elected official should think about the residents who elected them and not how to increase the budget to benefit them, friends, family and spouses wallet at the expense of Waterford taxpayers especially the SENIORS.

All town employees should live in the town who by taxpayers pay their salary period.