

Colchester Water

Ralph Perkins • Candidate for Selectboard, Colchester

Election

www.perkinsforcolchester.com

Thank you to the folks that took a few minutes to talk with me over the past weeks.

As a recap and a thought to leave you all with as we go into Town Meeting Day:

My name is Ralph Perkins. Jeannie and I have lived in the Clay Point neighborhood since 2006. I am a retired production manager.

There are three things I would like to highlight as we look to the future: I believe no one should be taxed out of their home, residents must feel connected to their town government and public safety and public works must have the human and capital resources they need.

As a town we have been writing some pretty big checks lately. We spent all our ARPA funds on the sewer in the bay and we have borrowed against future LOT funds for the rec center.

Until we understand what State and Federal funding will be available to us moving forward, we need to be cautious in our spending. We need to focus on the basics; safety and infrastructure we own – while we develop a plan for our future.

Recently it has been said that a big area of focus for the next few years will be on the water systems in Colchester.

I couldn't agree more.

For the past 2 years, as a resident I have attended Champlain Water District monthly meetings (I may even have a better attendance record than some of the commissioners!)

The Colchester Water System issue will have many sides to it.

It is a discussion about risk, debt, growth, responsibility, and commitment.

The Town is already in talks on how to take over the systems. It would seem to me before that, the first question to voters should be what do we have to gain or lose by doing so.

We need to feel connected to our town government, understand what they are doing and why they believe it is beneficial for us.

If elected, I will do the homework. I will find answers to your questions, and work to have all the facts on the table so that together we can make decisions that keep Colchester a thriving, beautiful place to live.

Thank you for your time,
-Ralph P.