

## 2025 Wrentham Candidates Forum Public Questions

### General Govt

- Do you think Wrentham is moving in the right or wrong direction?
- Government needs to rely on accountability and transparency in order to be effective. Government leaders also need to demonstrate respect to all those in this town, whether they agree or not. If elected, what will you do when you witness a fellow Committee or Board member disparaging other Wrentham community members with name calling and raised voices?
- As an elected representative for our town, you will be representing the entire community. How do you go about keeping a pulse on the town to get a feel for what this community needs/wants? How are you involved in the community outside of politics?
- What role should town government play in the daily lives of its constituents?
- Do you see a role for the Department of Government Efficiency in local government?
- How will you successfully represent our diverse community? And how have you done so in the past?

### BOA

- Rising taxes in the State are hitting businesses and residents, provide your insights and perspective on how you believe those should be balanced in Wrentham.
- Will we have an Assessor?

### BOH

- What do you see the biggest issue the Board of Health is facing in Wrentham in the upcoming years
- What do you think are pressing health issues to be addressed at the town level?
- Do you agree that the current vaccination recommendations from the CDC prevent illness and disease?
- How do you differentiate between what is good for the individual versus what is good for the community as a whole?

### Moderator

- Do we need 2 town meetings?
- During the last special town meeting members of the public and certain committee members were disrespectful and demeaning to several speakers. How will you ensure that you create a safe and respectful space in future town meetings so that all viewpoints can be heard without name-calling?

### Planning Board

- Please provide your view on the MBTA Act, recent updates/changes, and which direction you believe is best for the town and why
- What is your vision related the development and growth in Wrentham
- How will you combat misinformation coming from within the town government?
- Isn't it time that the Planning Board return to public meetings instead of Zoom only?

### Select Board

- Traffic and pedestrian safety, especially along the 1A corridor, has been pushed aside for a number of years. I have attempted to persuade the Select Board for a number of years to put this issue high on their agenda without success, the reason offered that the state won't cooperate. In the meantime, we have had many accidents, disabling injuries and some deaths. As traffic congestion along this artery continues to increase, there will be more. I would like to know which of the candidates will strongly advocate and work toward improved traffic and pedestrian safety in Wrentham. George G. Tooker, 277 South St.
- Provide an example of working on a team/committee with people sharing different points of views. How did you handle.
- What is your vision for Wrentham and its residents.
- Should water fees fund the general fund or be held in reserve to improve our water service?

What are the top three changes you would like to see in our town and how would you help enact those changes if elected?
While the population of Wrentham is predominantly white, we are still a very diverse town. How do you support diversity and challenge the unconscious bias that seems to be rampant in Wrentham? Please give examples.
What challenges do you think this town faces and if elected, how do you plan to help us overcome them?
Please provide your view on the MBTA Act, recent updates/changes, and which direction you believe is best for the town and why
Have you attended or participated in past Town and Select Board meetings and in what capacity?
What are your thoughts on how our town elections are held? Specifically the voting on important town matters at town meetings?
What is your vision for this town?
Given the slight overlap of the Select Board and School Committee, what do you see are some of the challenges our public school faces and how can the Select Board help them overcome those challenges?
What in our town, do you want to be different by the end of your term?
You are one voice but the board makes decisions. Can you speak to your ability to build consensus when your opinion is in the minority?
What specific actions or policies do you support or oppose regarding diversity, equity and inclusion in our town?
How do you discuss topics where there is strong disagreement and remain civil? How will the board work together with differing opinions?
Are there aspects of your education or experience that will be especially helpful in preparing you to serve as a member of the Select Board?
Isn't it time that the Select Board returns to public meetings instead of Zoom only?
Are you willing to put aside your personal opinions and vote how voters want you to vote?
How much tax payer money are you willing to spend on MBTA litigation? \$50K, \$250K, \$500K, \$1M, \$13M?
For the Select Board Candidates - Based on the very large turnout who voted down the zoning article for MBTA Housing, what plans do you have for satisfying the people who currently live in this community? This is not a philosophical question, but want action points such as negotiate with the state to reduce the number of units required based on what has already been built; reselect areas of town that will have the least impact on current residents or will likely never be built due to poor location choice; evaluate the consequences of being non compliant with real numbers of what Wrentham would lose, not hypothetical numbers of grants we never get, etc....

WPS SC

What is your experience working and/or volunteering in public schools?
What makes you the most qualified candidate for the position?
Provide your view on parental rights with regards to Wrentham Elementary school education.
Increasing literacy rates is a priority for our schools. How do you believe this can best be accomplished?
What are your thoughts on outside organizations with strong religious affiliations or political beliefs, such as the Massachusetts Family Institute and Moms For Liberty, helping form policies within our schools? And do you belong to or support either of those organizations?
As a school committee member, how would you respond to the efforts of special interest groups who advocate to censor the existing curriculum perceived by them to be in conflict with their personal beliefs?
Do you support book banning?
In the past, how have you personally supported our educators and do you feel they are receiving enough support from the School Committee or do they need more? And if so, how do you plan on accomplishing that if elected?

If elected, would you support ICE coming to our schools to detain students?
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Why do you believe in the public school system?
Did you support Policy GBI and will continue Paul Lashway's efforts to get it in our schools?
What are some changes you would like to see in our schools?
Having a child in the school district is not a qualification for being on the school committee, what are your top 3 qualifications that make you a desirable candidate?
Do you volunteer in our schools or work with students?
Have you participated in past School Committee meetings and in what capacity? Will you be able to attend all in-person meetings?
What is your position on charter schools and their role in public education?
What in our schools do you want to be different at the end of your term?
What is your experience with public schools? Have you attended School Committee meetings or spent time in our schools?
Are there unmet educational needs that you feel need to be addressed and what are they?
What policies will you support or oppose to protect our schools from violence?
What specific actions or policies do you support or oppose regarding diversity, equity and inclusion in education?
Are you satisfied with the current policies on bullying?
Do you feel our children are safe at Wrentham Public Schools? Safe from violence? Safe from being excluded for being 'different'?
Are there aspects of your education or experience that will be especially helpful in preparing you to serve as a member of the school committee?

<b>Constables</b>
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<b>Town Clerk</b>
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<b>Library</b>
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Library	Describe a program you added to the Fiske Library. Purpose, why needed, and success of program.
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<b>WHA</b>
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WHA	Describe why you are interested in joining the Housing board and what do you see as the boards challenges in the upcoming three years.
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