

Good evening,

My name is Sharon Sherman. I live at 17 South Meadows, Woodbury, CT. I have been a resident of Woodbury for 36 yrs. and love Woodbury for its charm and history and the residents of the Town.

But, now is the time to look ahead and **NOT** drive down the road looking into the rearview mirror. We need to look ahead and plan for the multitude of changes that are bound to occur.

There is a perception that Woodbury is doing ok with a First Selectman and 2 Selectmen. Please do not misinterpret my remarks. I am not casting aspersions on the present Woodbury First Selectman and Board of Selectmen.

Let's be realistic, changes around us are occurring now and increasing at a rapid rate.

The fine research compiled by William Monti should be heeded. He researched state statutes regarding the number of Selectman a town the size of Woodbury could have.

Also, he looked into other municipalities the size of Woodbury (10K population) and the number of Selectmen they had. Most had 1 First Selectman and 4 Selectmen.

I also commend the Town of Woodbury Plan of Conservation and Development. Kudos to the Planning Committee!

But, who and how are we going to implement the Plan of Conservation and Development. This is our guide book for the future and a heavy lift.

What we need to implement the Plan of Conservation and Development fully is to add 2 more Selectmen to the Board of Selectmen with the thinking, planning and forecasting skill sets to put Woodbury in a better position to address our future challenges.

If we stay at the present model of one First selectman and 2 selectmen, opportunities may be missed.

Under a previous Town of Woodbury administration, we were fortunate to have individuals who used their thinking and forecasting skills. An example of this is when the Town bonded for future capital expenditures at low interest rates. I believe we are still reaping the benefits of this action.

I recall that it was emphasized at the time that the Town would be protected from unexpected financial hits,

And finally, having a First Selectman and 4 Selectmen would give residents with concerns access to problem solving Selectmen. Selectmen could also be assigned to different boards, commissions and committees, so that the business of the Town would not be conducted in "silos".

