

In keeping with my motto of most efficient use of all resources, I am proposing to issue an RFP to install solar panels on the land behind the Princeton Junction Volunteer fire company building. Since the township owns both the land and the building, it will have to enter into an agreement with the developer. The system will be a Power Purchase agreement costing nothing to the taxpayers. The volunteer fire company will benefit with lower electricity bills. It will also preserve the prime land for better use.

Thanks to Dan Dobromilsky our landscape architect, we have already established the feasibility of such a system. Although the township doesn't own the West Windsor Volunteer Fire Company building, I continue to encourage them to consider this system.

I feel West Windsor often doesn't get the credit it deserves. That's why last year I was excited to welcome Erytech, a biotech company working on the cutting edge of science, to West Windsor. Their ultra-modern facility is complete and they hope to hold a grand opening in another month. They will develop individualized medicine for such hard-to-treat diseases as pancreatic cancer. I hope it is only first of many such companies opening their offices in West Windsor.

Today I am excited to announce a partnership with Magzter, a digital newsstand, whose founder and President Vijay Radhakrishnan is a resident of West Windsor. In simple terms, Magzter is the Netflix of magazines and newspapers. As a member you have unlimited access to their content. Magzter can do one better than Netflix in allowing access based on geo fence or, in other words, your location rather than membership based on a username and password. Thanks to the generosity of Mr. Radhakrishnan, everyone within West Windsor's boundary will

We will continue this honest budgeting approach in the budget the council will approve tonight.

This is the first year that SPRAB was replaced by the Technical Review Committee. The first few applications under the new system are progressing well through the pipeline.

One piece of unfinished business from last year: I had proposed that we use the township-owned land near the municipal complex to build indoor sports facility for the residents of West Windsor. Due to other commitments, mainly affordable housing issues, I didn't get a chance to move the project forward. I hope to get started this year.

This year I would like to propose two exciting projects that I intend to finish within this year.

A few years back, when I opposed a solar farm on township owned property, I was criticized as being an anti-environmentalist.

The best environmental policy is to make the most efficient use of all resources, time, money and space. As someone who cares about the environment, I will always pursue this policy.

I want to thank Mr. Edmund Haemmerle, a township resident for quietly working with me on various solar projects for the last two years.

When I became mayor, I realized that half the solar system installed on the Senior Center was not working. Through the persistent efforts of Mr. Haemmerle, we finally got the full system restored last week. It's fully functional now.

First a quick recap of last year:

As promised, we settled with the fair share housing center on our affordable housing obligation without requiring any housing on the Howard Hughes property. Our compliance hearing with Judge Jacobson is scheduled for next week and we fully expect our plan to pass. The court also dismissed three out of five counts of the Howard Hughes lawsuit against us. We will aggressively defend against the remaining two counts.

We continue our aggressive purchase of open space. In particular, we condemned and purchased the Hall farm along Village Road, which prevented over 400 townhouses being built on the property. With council's help we also fashioned our affordable housing plan to prevent an entire development of about 500 homes from being built.

We will continue our approach of purchasing available open space to minimize housing development. This will also protect the environment and provide for future recreational needs of West Windsor residents.

This year, we have upgraded our permitting and inspection department to a new system. Within the next few months you will be able to apply for and review your permit status online. The department continues to be busy with new applications and once again generated over two million dollars in UCC revenue for the township last year.

My insistence on honest budgeting resulted in over a \$600,000 surplus last year. We have recovered the last four years' worth of drawdown of surplus.

Everyone in West Windsor, who has public sewer service, can thank Bob for his selfless service over the past 38 years. It is no exaggeration to state that Robert Bartolini is the only individual who has been responsible for West Windsor's sewer system since the township's founding in 1797.

Bob, I would like to thank you on behalf of all mayors, council members, and residents of West Windsor for an amazing job you have done for the township. Many residents of West Windsor may not know your name but almost everyone is touched by the work you have done.

I have a proclamation to honor your great service to the township.

< Give Bob Proclamation >

Before retiring, Bob was gracious enough to train his replacement on the authority, Let Bob's experience be a lesson to everyone. Never approach the mayor with a problem unless you are willing to spend the next 38 years working on it.

On a serious note, I would like to thank all volunteers who make West Windsor a great place to live. Those include township appointed committees plus those who serve on other bodies such as WWBPA, FOWWOS, the Arts Council, the Farmer's Market and others.

As I sat down to write this speech, I had hundreds of ideas I wanted to talk about. However, when council President Miller found out about the speech she called to offer a compliment. Alison said she likes my brevity. That was a nice way of saying "Shut up quickly."

Thank you for coming. I don't like making speeches so I tried to keep this address a low key affair. I guess some of you found out anyway.

When I came to this country in 1984, Ronald Reagan was President, Mr. Stanley Parrine was mayor of West Windsor, and I had full head of hair. Over the next 10 years I moved to various cities and states before finally settling down in West Windsor in 1994.

As I got involved in local issues, one thing I found most impressive is how the township is run by volunteers. From the affordable housing committee to the zoning board of adjustment, a lot of work gets done by volunteers. Every year when we attend the annual volunteer fire fighters dinner, my wife reminds me that these are the people who do the actual work while I as mayor only "talk".

Today it's my great pleasure to recognize one such individual who has worked quietly to leave his mark on West Windsor. In 1980 a young man came to then mayor Carol Beske to check whether he could get public sewer service to his own home. Like all good politicians, the mayor requested the young man to look into the possibility.

For the next 38 years Bob Bartolini worked diligently at the task. He has worked as West Windsor's sole representative to the Stony Brook Regional Sewerage Authority. During this time he has served in various capacities as chairman of the construction committee, vice chair of authority, and then chair of authority from February 18, 1997 until his retirement on December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

have free access to Magzter content for a year. Thus, West Windsor will become the FIRST city in the US, or rather the world, to be called a “Smart Reading City” where you can read for free as long as you are within our geographical boundary. The township will enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Magzter but it will not cost the taxpayer a single penny. The service will be available shortly as soon as we sign the Memorandum.

West Windsor is fortunate to have residents who have so much to offer. I hope companies trying to relocate to New Jersey will realize where the real action is in West Windsor.

Finally, 2018 was the first year for West Windsor Gives Back, my concept to raise funds for local charity. Thanks to the generosity of sponsors and township residents, the mayor’s ball was a sold out event. We raised over \$35,000 to purchase drones for the West Windsor Police Department... I was happy to observe their positive impact during a township event. They are not fully operational yet but I promise to keep the council informed about their use as they do become operational.

This year’s recipient of West Windsor Gives Back is the Princeton Junction Volunteer Fire Department. The hard working volunteers of West Windsor Gives Back and the volunteer fire department are already off to a great start.

As was already announced, next year’s beneficiary of the Mayor’s Ball will be the West Windsor Arts Council and the 2021 recipient will be the West Windsor Volunteer Fire Company #1 on South Mill Road, which will be celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2021.

When the West Windsor Gives Back fundraisers reach out to you, please be generous. Remember that charitable contributions are not capped and are fully tax deductible.

For the past 25 years; West Windsor has been a perfect place to raise my family. The NJ family magazine just named West Windsor as "the Best Town for Families in Mercer county and 6<sup>th</sup> out of 512 in the state. Let us all work together to keep it that way.