

## **Scott Gifford – Candidate for Village of Deer Park Village President**

### **WHY ARE YOU RUNNING FOR OFFICE?**

I have been encouraged by a large number of residents to run for re-election. They support my positions of no property tax, attracting quality commercial development, preservation of open space and wetlands, maintaining a healthy financial balance sheet and the expansion of our road and drainage programs.

### **WHAT ARE YOUR QUALIFICATIONS FOR RUNNING FOR OFFICE?**

I have been Village President for 5 years and a trustee for 11 years prior. I also served as BACOG Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

### **IF NECESSARY, WHAT SERVICES OR PROGRAMS ARE YOU WILLING TO CUT IN ORDER TO MEET BUDGET?**

Because of our strong balance sheet the village will not have to cut any services or programs. We will be looking very closely at all line items during the budget process and tighten where we can during the challenging financial times.

### **WHAT IS YOUR POSITION ON THE ROUTE 53 EXTENSION? PLEASE EXPLAIN WHY YOU SUPPORT OR DO NOT SUPPORT THIS PROJECT.**

Deer Park supports the expansion of Rt. 53.

### **WHAT SINGLE BUSINESS ISSUE DO YOU FEEL WILL BE THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE TO ADDRESS IF YOU ARE ELECTED?**

I believe the village needs to maintain its vision of attracting quality commercial development. We will continue to use the Deer Park Town Center as our standard for future developments.

### **WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS TO FILL VACANT BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES IN THE AREA?**

Deer Park has very few retail developments and does not face the problem of vacant building or properties.

### **WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO DO IN ORDER TO PROMOTE LOCAL BUSINESS?**

Presently our businesses do their own promotion. With the addition of the new Hampton Inn and Suites, the village will have new funds to start promoting our businesses.

**WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS TO IMPROVE COMMUNICATIONS AND COOPERATION BETWEEN VILLAGES IN ORDER TO REACH AGREEMENT REGARDING FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS ON BORDERING PROPERTIES?**

The village has been active in the Rt.12 Corridor Planning Group to establish guidelines for development in the neighboring communities.

**WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT IN DEER PARK, AND WHAT WILL YOU DO TO MAKE IT HAPPEN?**

The village has had a number of discussions with developers looking to aggregate 15-20 acres of property just south of the Town Center to do a PUD type project. None have come to an agreement yet. The Village will continue to work with developers to create quality facilities.