

Dear Fellow Islanders,

I'm writing to share updates from Town Hall—something I plan to do regularly through letters like this. Here's the first.

WATER

One of my top priorities is to upgrade the outdated septic systems in our Center municipal buildings. A year ago, before I was elected, the Town's Grants Committee secured a \$1.5 million grant for the project—but the previous administration let it expire. Fortunately, the grant was restored. Since taking office, I've consistently advocated to move this project forward, using the school's successful installation as a model. It's disgraceful that the Town has done nothing to clean up its own waste water after all this time.

TOWN COMMITTEES

The Town Board recently made new appointments to the Planning Board, Water Advisory Board, and Community Preservation Fund Committee. These new members are highly qualified, free of conflicts of interest, and committed to applying the Town Code fairly and impartially.

We've also hired a part-time, independent environmental consultant to review special permit applications. Applicants will now cover the cost of these reviews, saving taxpayers thousands of



dollars ensuring that the Town Board will be in a position to make informed decisions.

TRANSPARENCY

I've also pushed to open up government processes. One example: I advocated for the Grants Committee meetings to be open to the public. The Siller and Brach Williams administrations for some

reason held these meetings behind closed doors. I felt that the community deserves to know how grant priorities are set and how these funds are spent. With my persistence, these meetings will now be open to the public once again.

Finally, I am doing my best to ensure that this year's budget comes in on time. Taxpayers should be given ample time to review and comment on the budget without the delays experienced in the past.

I continue to host my monthly **Coffee and Conversation** gatherings at the Islander—every first Thursday of the month at 10:00 a.m. These meetings have proven to be invaluable opportunities for me to hear from fellow Islanders. I invite you to join me. You can always reach me directly at [**goodingforsupervisor@gmail.com**](mailto:goodingforsupervisor@gmail.com).

To be continued...

Warm regards,

Gordon Gooding

**Shelter Island Town Board Member
Candidate for Town Supervisor**