

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

For information contact:

Robert Weir

Westford Taxpayers Association

Post Office Box 103

Westford, Massachusetts 01886

Phone: 978-710-0066

<http://www.westfordtaxpayers.org>

[info@westfordtaxpayers.org](mailto:info@westfordtaxpayers.org)

### **Taxpayer Group Releases Candidate Interviews**

Westford, Mass. – April 18, 2008 – The Westford Taxpayers Association (WTA) has released the results of both written and in-person interviews conducted with candidates who are competing for two open positions on Westford's Board of Selectmen in the town's annual election scheduled for May 6, 2008. Complete, unedited copies of written responses and audio recordings of in-person interviews are available at WTA's website ([www.westfordtaxpayers.org](http://www.westfordtaxpayers.org)) for easy access by Westford voters. The WTA interviews were designed to complement other candidate-familiarity forums that already exist.

"We really appreciate the candidates who volunteered their time in a busy month to answer our questions," said WTA president Diane Weir. "We believe that the questions asked and the depth of the responses permitted in this format give Westford taxpayers a view of the issues and candidates they will not find elsewhere." Invitations to participate were extended to all four Board of Selectmen candidates. As a result, Kelly Ross and Valerie Wormell participated in both the written and in-person interviews; Robert McCusker participated in the written interview, but declined the in-person interview; and Kirk Ware declined to participate in both the written and in-person interviews.

Participants in the WTA interview series provided written answers to questions about the rules and procedures guiding municipal governance. WTA imposed no length restriction and has published their answers — unedited and in full — at its website. Part two of the series comprised one-on-one, in-person interviews and included questions solicited from Westford taxpayers. These 30-minute interviews were recorded on March 29, 2008 and explore a range of topics including each candidate's views on cutting expenses, Proposition 2-1/2 overrides, fee-based trash collection, high cost of pensions and health benefits for Westford employees, staffing the Rogers Fire Station, and the future of East Boston Camps.

### **About the Westford Taxpayers Association**

The Westford Taxpayers Association is a non-partisan, all-volunteer organization dedicated to promoting cost-effective, efficient, and open government in Westford, Mass. The group exists to benefit all Westford, Massachusetts residents and taxpayers and represents every category of taxpayer in the town. The association's website ([www.westfordtaxpayers.org](http://www.westfordtaxpayers.org)) offers relevant information to Westford taxpayers and includes a mechanism for website visitors to anonymously report abuses of taxpayer money. The association exists as a private civic organization under Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Service code. The Westford Taxpayers Association's continuing efforts are made possible by voluntary contributions, which are the association's primary source of revenue.

For information: <http://www.westfordtaxpayers.org>  
E-mail: [info@westfordtaxpayers.org](mailto:info@westfordtaxpayers.org)  
Phone: 978-710-0066

###