

This is a brief, and hopefully pithy response to Mrs. Kirsten Hathaway's recent tirade. First of all, I was quite surprised that an HR director of any nonprofit agency would let her obvious bias against elderly citizens of any persuasion govern her thoughts, and my fervent hope is that she does not let those feelings govern her decisions on which candidates to hire or retain in her business.

Secondly, in the world of politics, people tend to make their decisions not just on ideology, but on experience, knowledge, and prior service in town positions. The citizens of Rutland Town have made wise decisions in this regard and the experience of multiple board members has contributed to a very well-run business enterprise to the benefit of all citizens. From Recreation to Highway, to Police, and Fire services and general administration of the town, our success shines brightly in the entire county.

Lastly, it is precisely the mix of experience and talent that has led to the quality infrastructure we have provided for our residents. We not only plan for the future, but we plan proactively with depreciation funds which cushion the tax burden to our citizens. Not only that but we have used the over 11 million of 1% Option Tax revenue as well as the ARPA funds from the federal govt. to pay for over half of the costs of our proposed Public Safety Building which we strongly support and ask for the Town's positive consideration. Just like the very necessary and much appreciated Highway Garage and Center Rutland Station, it is necessary infrastructure and part of the beauty and proactiveness of our town. And it pretty much completes our infrastructure needs for the long term future.

We hope you support us and we encourage all to get out on Election day, Tuesday, March 1 and vote.

Don Chioffi Rutland Town

Member, Rutland Town Selectboard