



Mike Mandel

for Watertown Councilor-at-Large

(write-in Mike Mandel, 124 Maplewood Street)

I'm Mike Mandel and I'm running as a write-in for Town Council-at-Large.

I believe a town councilor should represent the voice of the people and therefore should take a clear position. When the town is divided on an issue, it will be reflected in the difference of each councilor's stand, and this will enable a discussion that furthers the democratic process. Not taking a stand means avoiding the debate.

Walmart wants to take 7.8 acres, six football fields of property and fill it with 90,000 square ft of Big Box adjacent to some of the nicest neighborhoods in town.

Impact to the neighborhood:

- incredible traffic - 40% of all cars coming from outside of town will enter from Watertown Square.
- estimated additional 3,000 cars a day
- undermine the identity of the surrounding neighborhoods with huge scale development
- homes will lose property value over time.
- less property taxes collected

Effect on locally owned business:

Why shop at Russo's when it's 20% cheaper at Walmart? We've got bike shops, Farinas, Ben Franklin, and the independent shops already in the mall. We've already got a Target and Best Buy and Shaws and Stop&Shop. Everything Walmart offers we already have. Walmart kills off competition and then we're left with: WALMART period.

- outsourced merchandise
- part-time minimum wage employees who can't unionize. Who aren't covered by any Walmart health insurance and so must go to Mass Health, another drain on government resources.
- Walmart discriminates against women in their corporate hiring.
- At some Walmart stores in Massachusetts guns and ammunition are sold.

I am running for Town Councilor at Large because I feel that I have to. John Donohue seems to support Walmart. When I asked him directly if he did he said "I support the right economic development for this property" I said, "We all support that, what about this proposal, Walmart?" He said, "I support the right economic development for this property." I looked at him straight on and replied. "That's not good enough!" I called Steve Corbett on Tuesday. He supports Walmart without reservation. I called Angie Kounelis, my own district councilor, she's leaning toward yes on Walmart, but won't really commit until it's "on the table". Other Councilors refuse to take a stand. See the Tab article on this.

This is just not good enough and that's why I'm running.

What do I think should happen at this property site? This summer the Town Council developed a Strategic Framework for Economic Development that provides an answer. The Plan suggests a mix of information technology, design, and engineering firms. Doble Engineering already has a facility nearby. Seven Cycles builds high tech bikes, as well. Social service agencies have offices here. The Plan suggests a redesigned streetscape with wide sidewalks, shade trees and a bike path (which is already partially constructed). I support this Plan.



talk to me:

<http://MikeMandel.info>

twitter@mikemandel124

mike@MikeMandel.info

So, what is my vision for the future of Watertown?

- **Strengthen our educational system.**

pay teachers a salary so they can actually live in Watertown. The promise of this country is based on opportunity made possible by a great educational system.

- **Open the books of all the Town departments and find out where the money is really going.**

We need transparency in deciding how to allocate the funds we have. 68 Watertown workers earned more than \$100,000 last year. With our teachers working without a contract, we need to scrutinize these expenditures and end unnecessary overtime. I would make this a strong priority. See the Tab article that specifically identifies who is benefiting from this.

- **I want better public transportation**

Since the 2008 recession the MBTA has been overloaded with increased ridership. Let's see how we can improve the bus service in our town.

- **More bike paths.**

We need to keep expanding our Community Path bike lanes that would connect from the Charles River paths at Howard Street through Watertown Square to the newly completed Watertown Greenway at School Street. There were two options

for the path in this area - on street bike lane/cycle track or off-street bike path. The off-street path would go right through the proposed Walmart property. The on-street option would have to cross both of the proposed Walmart driveways.

- **I'm concerned about the effects of cell phone tower radiation.** I want to make sure we are not blasting unhealthy microwave radiation at schools kids and residents without tapping the knowledge base of studies that show that this radiation may be dangerous. I want to work for appropriate regulation.

- **We have the Charles River that runs right through town, why don't we build on making our experience of Watertown truly a WATER-town experience.** Let's plan to make the riverbanks more inviting, more integrated into our everyday experience of living here.

I'd like to go out to see a movie IN WATERTOWN.

I'd like to go browse and buy a book IN WATERTOWN.

I'd like to listen to some great music, maybe even dance a bit IN WATERTOWN.

I want to build on what's great about this town and make it even greater. That's why I'm running for Councilor at large.

How we will win:

Send this information to everyone you know who lives in Watertown. Email them the flyer. Go to mikemandel.info

Watertown TAB (October 28, 2011)

DO YOU SUPPORT A WALMART ON ARSENAL STREET?

| | | |
|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| Mark Sideris | T.C. President | would not say |
|--------------|----------------|---------------|

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------|
| Tony Palomba | Council-at-Large | NO |
|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------|

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------|
| Susan Falkoff | Council-at-Large | NO |
|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------|

| | | |
|--------------|------------------|---------------|
| John Donohue | Council-at-Large | would not say |
|--------------|------------------|---------------|

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------|-----|
| Stephen Corbett | Council-at-Large | YES |
|-----------------|------------------|-----|

| | | |
|--------------------|--|-----------|
| Mike Mandel | write-in candidate for Council-at-Large | NO |
|--------------------|--|-----------|

| | | |
|----------------|------------|---------------|
| Angie Kounelis | District A | would not say |
|----------------|------------|---------------|

| | | |
|--------------|------------|-----------|
| Cecilia Lenk | District B | NO |
|--------------|------------|-----------|

| | | |
|--------------------|------------|-----------|
| Vincent Piccirilli | District C | NO |
|--------------------|------------|-----------|

| | | |
|-----------|------------|---------------|
| John Lawn | District D | would not say |
|-----------|------------|---------------|

You can vote for up to 4 candidates for *Councilors-at-Large*, they represent the entire town, not just one district. I have the best chance of making the council if you vote just for the 3 who are against Walmart.

VOTE FOR
Council-at-Large **3**
WRITE-IN
MIKE MANDEL
 124 Maplewood Street
& ONLY THOSE WHO ARE COMMITTED TO STOP WALMART



| COUNCIL-AT-LARGE | | |
|---|----------------------------------|----|
| For 2 Years | Vote for not more than Four | |
| ANTHONY PALOMBA | <input type="radio"/> | 10 |
| 40 Oakley Road Candidate for Re-Election | | E |
| SUSAN G. FALKOFF | <input type="radio"/> | 89 |
| 19 Oliver Street Candidate for Re-Election | | J |
| JOHN A. DONOHUE | <input type="radio"/> | 17 |
| 11 Standish Road Candidate for Re-Election | | C |
| STEPHEN CORBETT | <input type="radio"/> | 17 |
| 14 Irving Park Candidate for Re-Election | | D |
| Mike Mandel, 124 Maplewood St. | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | 30 |
| (Write-in) | <input type="radio"/> | |
| (Write-in) | <input type="radio"/> | |