

ELGIN & D'ONOFRIO FOR WESTPORT SELECTMEN

VoteWestport Press Release

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For Immediate Release

Our campaign would like to provide the town residents with updates from our office to address the topic of:

\$8.4 Million allocated by the federal government under the American Rescue Act of 2021.

On Sept. 22 the Board of Selectmen is asking the public at 7pm in the Town Hall auditorium for input as to how to spend the remains of the \$8.4 million federal funding allotted under the American Rescue Act of 2021. The selectmen candidates Elgin and D'Onofrio are demanding that planning and distribution of the remaining federal funding be held until after this upcoming election. The reasoning for this demand, per Mr. Elgin is this: "Our current administration has already discussed and promised funding to the Westport Weston Health District from this rescue act. It is scary to think that our current selectmen and state representative are supporting allotting millions of dollars to Mark Cooper, as he is actively being investigated for

mismanaging, or possibly stealing, funds from our health district.” D’Onofrio states “I truly am uncomfortable knowing funding will be going to the WWHD knowing Mark Cooper will be accepting it. In my opinion, it is the equivalent of asking a fox to watch the hen house.” Dr. D’Onofrio, after reporting potential misappropriations of district funds to the local police and health district board, and reporting poor health conditions at the WWHD, recently filed a formal complaint with the Connecticut Attorney General’s office demanding an impartial forensic investigation. Elgin states “With an obvious absence of a check and balance system at the health district, the WWHD should not be provided funding until a proper investigation has been completed. I am still in shock as to how our local officials have not addressed Mark Cooper’s conduct, at a minimum removing him from his position.”

Mr. Elgin and Dr. D’Onofrio have been environmentalists for a long time and state they wish to see funding being directed to a town-wide recycling program. Mr. Elgin states that other towns in Connecticut, such as the town of East Haven, have home trash and recycling pickup programs while having the same population as Westport and do this with half Westport’s revenue. Mr. Elgin also states “I think any money that is not being spent by the Town of Westport from this government act should be returned to the government, as the repetitive nature of spending for spendings sake will only worsen our current economy.”

From the desk of:

Tj Elgin, Westport First Selectman Candidate