

Chris ANDERSON

Town Council Dist. 1

Dear Neighbor and Potential Employer,

As a candidate for the District 1 Town Council seat I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. Born in 1971, I have lived the vast majority of my life within the Western Coventry Fire District. I was raised in a conservative family and am in favor of small government, but I strongly believe the government has no place in our bedrooms. I was a registered Republican until 2012 when certain statements about “legitimate rape” were made by Rep. Senator Akin that I simply could not condone. I have been an Independent ever since. Regardless, I vote for the person, not the party. Experience matters.

I've been married to my awesome wife Susan for 23 years and together we have two children who went through the Coventry school system and are now at URI. I have served this Town as its Prosecutor and for three years on the Tax Assessment Board of Review, currently as Chairman. I've been a practicing attorney for 20 years, with the last 10 in my office in Coventry on South Main Street. In 2014 I became the third generation of Anderson to run Coventry Pines Golf Course. You can read more about my roots in this community and my experience at my website, AndersonDistrict1.com.

I urge you to compare the two people running for District 1. There are vast differences in our experience and commitment to Western Coventry. Check out my opponent's website PascuaForCoventry.com (or AndersenDistrict1.com because these are the silly games my opponent likes to play.) Here's a summary of what you will find:

Chris Anderson

College degree in Political Science, Law Degree
20 Years as a general practice/real estate attorney
Former Coventry Prosecutor
Chairman Tax Assessment Board of Review
Former member of the Pawtucket YMCA Bd. of Dir.
Owner, Coventry Pines Golf Course, LLC
Lifelong resident of Western Coventry
Married for 23 years with two children attending the Coventry School System (K-12).

Jonathan Pascua

Attended 5 of 12 scheduled meetings of the Coventry Economic Development Committee
Union Firefighter/Paramedic, Coventry Fire

In short, I have lived in Western Coventry for most of my life, I'm an experienced attorney, former Town Prosecutor, Chairman, Tax Assessment Board of Review, former member of the Pawtucket YMCA Board of Directors and local business owner. My opponent is a Union firefighter with zero relevant experience who lives on Johnsons Pond. The choice is yours.

Why am I running for Town Council?

I believe I have a wealth of relevant, practical experience to offer for the benefit of our community. As an attorney, and coming from a family with a rich history of local public service, I have always thought about running for Town Council and this is the time in my life when I am able to make this commitment.

What do I want to accomplish on the Town Council?

This is not a time to take on a lot of new ideas. We need to fix what we have before taking on new projects and obligations. To that end, I'd like to see:

- 1) The Town develop long range plans to shift the composition of our tax base to help relieve the tax burden presently resting on single family residences;
- 2) End the Johnsons Pond mess. This is a threat to the entire Town as it affects our tax base and safety of the dam;
- 3) Enhance the relationship between the Town Council and School Committee to ensure we take advantage of a present opportunity to improve school infrastructure at a greatly reduced cost through R.I.D.E.;
- 4) Use my experience to stop the Town from making "unforced errors" as it has so many times in the past (crazy sewer plant use contract with West Warwick, failure to properly finance sewer construction projects, excessive employment contracts, wind turbines, recent failure to advance a heavily subsidized school construction opportunity, to name a few.)

For a more detailed explanation of my positions please visit my website AndersonDistrict1.com

What I Do Not Want to See?

Expanding the Town Council to seven members

My opponent supports many ideas that would be terrible for Western Coventry. Coventry is unique in that almost half the Town is sparsely populated and rural with the other half more densely populated and urban. Most towns in R.I. are smaller and more uniform in their development. My opponent supports expanding the Town Council from five to seven members, with the two new members being selected by vote of the whole Town (i.e. "at large") (Pascua fundraiser speech and PascuaForCoventry.com). Right now Western Coventry is represented on the Town Council as 1/2 of District 1. Therefore, at best, Western Coventry has 1 of 5 members advocating for its residents. Since Western only represents about 12% of the total

population of Coventry, the overwhelming likelihood is that the two new members would not come from Western. In that case, Western would be represented by 1 of 7 members, and that assumes the representative from Dist. 1 doesn't have a conflict between the western and eastern sides of District 1. This question will be on the ballot in November and I'd urge you to vote against it. Ask yourself, why would Mr. Pascua support reducing Western's representation on the Council?

Any Change to Western Coventry Fire District

My position on the Western Coventry Fire District is extremely simple "KEEP YOUR HANDS OFF". That's it, not complicated. I do not support consolidating the Western Coventry Fire District with the other fire districts. I have no issue if the other districts wish to consolidate and become a municipal department, assuming a plan is prepared by professionals that clearly demonstrates this is the best option for the Town.

My opponent, a I.A.F.F. Union member and Lieutenant in the Coventry Fire District, wants to consolidate all four Fire Districts into one municipal department. He claims that he would not force any district to give up their fire department unless the community voted to do so. But there are serious reasons to question this position. First, this isn't possible under current law and my opponent has not suggested changing the law to allow Western to exist outside of a municipal department. Second, consider what just happened with the September 12th Central Coventry Fire Dist. Board of Directors election. The CCFD BoD fought in Court to keep any write-in candidates off the ballot (in violation of the law) and even argued that the Superior Court should not be able to review how they conducted the election. After a recount by an impartial canvasser, 118 of the 120 ballots initially rejected were added to the vote count. These are the votes and voices of 118 citizens they did not want to recognize. These ballots would not have been counted if I hadn't gone to Court to force the Dept. to properly count *all* the votes.

Is this how you want your voice heard when it comes to the future of the Western Coventry Fire Dept.? Are you concerned about Lieutenant Pascua who advocates for consolidation of our fire department representing Western Coventry on the Town Council?

Unrestrained Development

The threat to keeping Western Coventry green isn't commercial and industrial development. I'm not suggesting that these activities should happen in Western, but they are already prohibited by zoning. The real threat to Western is unrestrained residential development. The Town needs to consider limiting the number of building permits that are issued, increasing the impact fees associated with the creation of new lots and potentially limiting the type of residential development in Western. We also have to recognize that property owners have a right to use their land.

I need your help so I can help you. My opponent wants to eliminate our fire department, reduce Western Coventry's representation on the Town Council, and does not understand the

biggest threat to keeping Western green. My opponent is a Union firefighter with no relevant experience who lives on Johnsons Pond, (literally *on* the eastern line of District 1. When he looks to the east, he is staring at Dist. 5). He enjoys considerable support from the Johnsons Pond area. I need your support to overcome that advantage.

I understand the problems facing residents of this Town. I live, work and raised a family here. I've had my personal issues with Town government and the School Department, I pay taxes and get to stare at wind turbines from my backyard. I know what you want from your Town government, it's what I want too. I have zero political aspirations. I have no interest in running for higher office. I am not a politician. I would appreciate the opportunity to share my knowledge and experience to serve this community. The choice is yours.

I welcome the opportunity to discuss the issues facing our town with you. You can learn more about my background, education, experience, and positions at AndersonDistrict1.com. I can be reached at 401 415-0001 (texts can also be sent to that number). Please leave a message if I do not answer, I will return your call. This time of year I can usually be found working at Coventry Pines Golf Course and would be happy to meet you there, or at my office (321 S. Main St.), or elsewhere at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John J. Anderson", written in a cursive style.