

# Simone Reba – Nomination Speech

**Good morning, neighbors.**

My name is **Simone Reba**, and I own **Unit 342**.

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When I bought my home here, I fell in love with **Mallard Lakes** the wildlife, the calm, the sense that this is a place worth protecting.

And this past weekend's **nor'easter** reminded us why.

In two years here, this is the **second storm** that's brought water **within a foot from entering our property** — proof of how serious our situation is and how urgently we need long-term solutions.

**It's hard to see that and not want to act.**

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That feeling runs deep for me.

When I was ten, my family was flooded by **Hurricane Agnes** — six feet of water in our basement.

I still remember the smell, the damage, the helplessness.

That experience taught me something — you move forward by working together.

Maybe that's why I can't just stand by when I see water rising again.

**Because honestly — if you could fix this, wouldn't you want to?  
And if you'd tried once, wouldn't you try again?**

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Drawing on years in **finance, risk management, and public service**,

I looked for programs that could help **without adding costs to owners**.

I offered to help the Board form a flood mitigation committee.

When that wasn't accepted, I kept researching — because this community matters too much to stop.

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I've been fortunate to work with **Stacey** and others who reviewed data, challenged ideas, and helped ensure accuracy.

That's collaboration — people bringing different strengths together for the

good of the community.

It shows that when we focus on **solutions instead of sides**, we get results.

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I know some people see talking about flooding as complaining or being negative —  
or think if you don't like it here, you should just move.

But to me, **caring enough to speak up isn't negativity — it's commitment.**  
When you love a place, you don't walk away; you work to fix it.

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That's why I've spent **over 1,000 hours** researching flood-mitigation options —  
not because I regret buying here, but because I love this place and want to protect it.  
I may not succeed, but at least I'll know I tried — out of **commitment, not conflict.**

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I'm running because we need **transparency, accountability, open communication,**  
**and long-term planning from our Board.**

If you're unsure what to believe,  
please judge me by **how I have communicated with you,**  
not by **how others have communicated about me.**

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**Thank you.**

Whatever the outcome, I'll keep working to rebuild trust  
and move **Mallard Lakes** forward —  
**because this community is our home.**