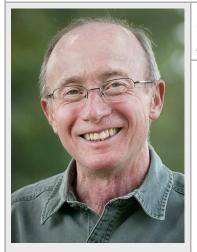
## Town News

# Election 15

Town Council Insert, September 2015



Hugh Clark, 71, has lived in Ancram 16 years with his wife Sheila. They have two sons and four grandchildren in Red Hook.

Hugh graduated from Pawling Central High School, received his bachelor's from Middlebury College, VT, and his masters from Emory University, GA.

Hugh is a 30-year Army veteran, 1966-1996. He led troops in Europe, Vietnam, and the U.S. as a Battalion and Brigade Commander and Provost Marshal.

He furthered his education in Command & Management and taught at West Point & the Army Management Staff College where he directed an executive program on leadership, policy formulation, communication, financial, human resources, and facilities management.

From 1996 to 2007, Hugh consulted to the National Academy of Public Administration and the NYS School Boards Association. He is Trustee & Chair, Finance Council, St. Bernard's Church. A published author, Hugh began his service to Ancram in 2007.

## Incumbent Hugh Clark runs for 2ndTown Council Term Nominated by Democrats and Republicans

It was the highlight of my four years as Councilman that the Town Board took the major steps needed to transform the community's vision into reality.

The Board adopted the new Zoning Law in 2014, and the new Subdivision Regulations in 2015.

Chair, Zoning Revisions Committee. Tapping the talents, experience, and perspectives of 13 volunteers, we revised the 1972 zoning law, aligning it with the 2010 Comp Plan to protect agriculture, open space, and water; increase opportunities for home-based businesses and affordable housing; and foster other improvements.

Next, we updated the 1994 subdivision regulations so that all land use rules now align with the Comprehensive Plan.

Training and Communications. In addition, we took the mystery out of land use laws for homeowners, entrepreneurs, and even the Planning Board by training the Building Department, Planning Board, and Zoning Board of Appeals. We published helpful brochures such as "Everything You Wanted to Know About Building Permits" and "Protecting Ancram's Scenic Views," so everyone understands the ground-rules and gets treated fairly.

Our fiscal fitness is another significant success that sets Ancram apart from its neighbors. We are upgrading the highway fleet and town operations while keeping town taxes flat and maintaining strong reserves. An independent audit validated the professionalism of our financial management and controls.

Sunshine. Communication, open exchange of information, and coordination among board members and between the Town Board and community have been key to building consensus about all important decisions affecting the town. Such openness created an environment in which talented volunteers feel free to participate and contribute their talents, time, and resources. The entire community has benefitted.

### What qualifies me for Town Council?

- 1. My experience working for Ancram: the last four years as Councilman, member of the Comp Plan Committee for 3 years, Chair of the Zoning Revisions and Subdivision Regulations Committees for 5 years. I understand the ever more complex issues affecting Ancram, within both the county and state context.
- 2. Doing the "grunt work". What the Town Board does is important and must be based on

facts. Somebody has to do the research, have the conversations, edit—often behind the scenes - to produce good options & make sound recommendations.

- 3. My professional background has prepared me for the technical aspects of the job.
- -Setting community directions, goals, standards, and strategies,
- -Aligning resources with those goals.
- -Assessing progress using data, deliberation, and open communication.
- Continuously improving accentuating the positive, correcting the negative.
- 4. Continuous learning: I regularly participate in learning opportunities, such as the Town Officials School and New York State land use training. Also, I regularly attend the Financial Advisory Council meetings at Town Hall, a valuable source of information and insight about town issues.

I try to bring the qualities of character, competence, commitment, and communication to my role as Town Councilman.

#### No Party Affiliation.

It is tradition that, while on active duty, Army officers do not align themselves with any political party. We serve the nation. I have decided to remain unaffiliated, because now I serve Ancram.

#### Boice and Rothvoss are first time Candidates for Town Council

### What's the job of the Town Council?

The Town Council, or Town Board, has four members who along with the Supervisor, approve the budget, approve payment of bills, make town laws, appoint residents to town committees, councils, and boards, and hold public hearings.

The term of a Town Council Member is four years in Ancram, with two positions to be filled every two years.

The Town Board meets every third Thursday of the month. During the month, members have "homework," reviewng the monthly Financial Report, issues, resolutions, pending legislation, etc. circulated by the Supervisor via email.

Town Council Members also serve on town committees in areas of greatest experience and interest, chairing these groups from time to time.



#### **David Boice - D**

I am 51 years old and have lived in Ancram all of my life. I have been married to my wife, Jennifer, for 29 years. We have two children Johanna who is attending Oneonta State University and Matthew who is attending Crane School of Music in Potsdam, NY.

My wife and I operate a lawn maintenance, snow plowing, caretaking business and have been doing so for 30 years.

I have been a member of the Ancram Volunteer Fire Company for 31 years. I also have had the honor to be Chief of the Fire Company for the last 27 years. I was a member of the Town Youth Commission for over 20 years.

Other organizations that I have been involved with in the community include the Ancram Union Cemetery and Saint John's Lutheran Church.

I am running for the Town Council position because I believe that I can help the Town Board in making decisions that will benefit the future of Ancram. I have occasion to talk to many of the residents of Ancram and generally hear multiple sides of all issues. I believe that by taking these into account I will be able to bring a view point to decisions that other people may not.

Anyone who knows me, knows that I will work long and hard to take into consideration everyone's thoughts and ideas to make decisions that will be in the best interest of Ancram and Ancram's future.

Thank you for the opportunity to help make Ancram a place we can all be proud of.



#### Dan Rothvoss Jr.- R

I am 32 years old and have lived in Ancramdale all of my life. I am a husband and father of three great kids.

I am a 4<sup>th</sup> generation farmer, spending my days working beside my father, as he did with his father. I have been helping my family make hay since I was able to drive a tractor! I hope someday one of my children will do the same.

I enjoy waking up every day knowing that I get to

spend my day working the land that my grandfather worked so hard to have.

I consider myself very lucky to live in one of the most beautiful areas I have ever been to. I have traveled to many states and small towns, and cannot find any that compare to our small town. As the saying goes, "there is no place like home."

Some of the people in my family have participated in our local politics in the past, and I hope I can do the same. My greatgrandfather was a town supervisor and my grandfather was a town judge. My grandmother was on the assessment board and my father was on the planning board. This will be my chance to contribute to our great town.

I believe the steps our leaders have taken so far to preserve our town are headed in the right direction. I think that I can help contribute to that cause.

I know that everyplace needs growth and change and I agree, but I also know how important it is to not upset the balance of our small town. We have people here whose families can go back to the start of this town. I think that is very important that generations of people have lived and prospered here. I think more people on the board who were born here and have lived here all of their lives will be beneficial to the board.

I would like to help keep the integrity of the town, and make it possible for our future generations to live, work and enjoy this area the same way I do.