

Candidate for Town Council



Sven Englund

Incumbent Town Council Member Sven R. Englund is a 59-year resident of New Canaan who has long been active in a variety of important causes to benefit the town. With that history, Sven brings a long-term view to the Council's deliberations and believes in working with fellow councilmen through relationships that are civil and respectful, even if not always in agreement.

Sven currently serves on the subcommittees for Public Safety, Land Use and Recreation, Infrastructure and Utilities. "I am committed to the preservation of the good and unique character of our town to spend our citizen's hard-earned tax dollars prudently," he said in a campaign statement. Through his 30 years as an active firefighter, he understands the issues facing the town's emergency services departments and organizations, having worked closely with the town police and volunteer ambulance company.

He joined the New Canaan Fire Co. in 1978 and has been active since, holding positions as assistant chief and president. He was named to the Fire Commission in 2006 and served through 2013. He joined the Old Faithful Antique Fire Engine Association in 1978, and serves as chief mechanic to keep the old trucks running.

Sven's concerns for the town date back to his first political activity when, as a New Canaan High School student, he worked to defeat a referendum to aerially spray the town with Malathion, a pesticide. "That commitment to environmental protection and preserving open spaces has continued throughout my life," Sven said, adding that as a member of the Green Mountain Club, he is an avid hiker, especially on the Long Trail.

With his wife Rita, they have raised two grown children, Kristen and Sven A. Englund, both graduates of New Canaan High School. As an electronics design engineer, Sven says he is particularly concerned with supporting school programs in the STEM field, science, technology engineering and math, to back the educational challenges facing the country. Sven graduated from Brown University in 1975 with a bachelor's degree in engineering.