

AMHERST TAXPAYERS FOR RESPONSIBLE CHANGE SELECT BOARD QUESTIONNAIRE

1. List specific budget solutions , including the amounts for each , for closing the projected FY 09 budget gap of \$600,000

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| <i>a. Increase from UMASS Ambulance Reimbursement to Amherst</i> | <i>Amount <u>\$ 140,000</u></i> |
| <i>b. Amherst College gift to Amherst in 2008</i> | <i>Amount <u>\$ 120,000</u></i> |
| <i>c. Restructure LSSE and cut 3FTE</i> | <i>Amount <u>\$ 200,000</u></i> |
| <i>d. Keep 2 planning dept. planner positions un-filled</i> | <i>Amount <u>\$ 140,000</u></i> |

2. Some neighboring communities contract out services to reduce their personnel costs. The Amherst Town Manager recently contracted out some of the wiring inspections the Town must conduct.

- **Given our continuing structural deficit, are you in favor of the Town exploring privatization of some additional Town functions ?**

Please circle one: (Yes) No

3. Past and future budget projections have shown that health insurance and employee compensation (steps, cost of living increases, longevity benefits) contribute significantly to the on-going structural deficit.

- **Do you favor reducing future employee compensation rates of growth ?**

Please circle one: (Yes) No

Amherst pays 75% of health insurance premiums while the employees pay 25%.

- **Do you favor increasing the employee's share of premiums to 30% for those employees earning above \$50,000 and 35% for those earning above \$80,000?**

Please circle one: Yes No

If compensation rate is reduced, then don't touch health insurance. Do one of the two(either reduce compensation rate or increase health insurance contribution by employees).

4. Amherst provides ambulance services to five neighboring towns and to higher education institutions . Over the past 4 years, Amherst Taxpayers have subsidized this service in the amount of \$694,658 on average per year.

- Do you believe Amherst Taxpayers should subsidize ambulance services to other Towns and institutions? Please circle one: Yes (No)

Candidates name (Print): Hwei-Ling Greeney