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Mayor Arthur Vigeant Announces Retirement After 30 Years in City Government

MARLBOROUGH— After six consecutive terms and the longest tenure of any Mayor in the City of Marlborough's history, Mayor Arthur G. Vigeant is announcing he will not seek reelection for a seventh term and will be retiring from elective office at the end of his current term.

Vigeant began his political involvement in the City of Marlborough in 1993 when he won election as a City Councilor-At Large. Vigeant would go on to serve nine total terms on the City Council as Council President. In 2011, Vigeant won a close Mayoral election and would go on to win reelection for five additional terms, never receiving less than 62% of the vote.

"I love the City of Marlborough," Vigeant said. "Serving as Mayor of my hometown is the honor of my lifetime. While it will be tough to move on after being involved for so many years, I'm ready to start a new chapter in my life with my family and close friends. The goal of anyone serving in public office should be to leaving things in better shape than when you started. I have done that and am proud of everything that my administration has been able to accomplish over the last eleven years. With the partnership of the City Council, our city has been able to achieve and maintain an impeccable financial foundation, the strongest in the City's history. Working together, we have made significant investments in our facilities, infrastructure, and municipal services while ensuring that Marlborough remains an affordable community for all families."

Some of the Vigeant Administration's noteworthy accomplishments include a major renovation to Memorial Beach, upgrading parks and recreation areas, including two new splash pads and three new turf fields, and construction of the Goodnow Brothers Elementary School and Senior Center. Most recently, the city completed the 26.2-mile marathon Panther Trail loop and is building a new Deck Hockey Rink slated to open in the coming months.

A hallmark of Mayor Vigeant's tenure is also the significant economic and commercial development growth that the city has experienced since 2012. Working in close collaboration with the Marlborough Economic Development Corp. (MEDC), the city's economic development arm, the city has attracted

several distinguished corporations to Marlborough such as: Quest Diagnostics, Boston Scientific, Cytiva/GE Healthcare, BJ's Wholesale, TJX Companies, and IPG Photonics. Since 2012, the MEDC has helped attract more than 7,000 new jobs to Marlborough and the city continues to have one of the lowest unemployment rates in the Commonwealth.

Vigeant credits these achievements as a key contributing factor to the City of Marlborough's vibrancy. "These companies recognize Marlborough's attributes of location, diversity, educated workforce, first class amenities and our reputable business-friendly reputation," cited Vigeant.

Regarding education, Mayor Vigeant cites Marlborough High School's nationally recognized STEM and workforce preparation programs as one of the most critical to the city's future. "We have a direct pipeline between our local employers across all industry sectors where our young adults can find great career opportunities in their community," stated Vigeant.

Throughout his tenure, Mayor Vigeant and his administration was aggressive in pursuing state funding and grant opportunities to invest in the city, successfully obtaining over \$11 million in MassWorks grant funding for numerous projects. The projects have helped fund renovations and roadway improvements to Simarano Drive, portions of Route 85, Main Street, Cedar Hill Street, Lincoln Street, and portions of Route 20.

One project Mayor Vigeant is especially excited to see completed is the French Hill revitalization project. The project began with a \$2 million MassWorks grant for Lincoln Street and then pivoted to negotiation with area landowners regarding the development of a significant parcel of land to protect the neighborhood and ensure a development that can benefit residents and enhance the neighborhood.

"The French Hill neighborhood is an important part of the city's history and, through this investment and our commitment, will remain an important part of the city's future," Mayor Vigeant said.

Among the many accomplishments over the last twelve years, Mayor Vigeant believes that the positive relations, cooperation, and, collaboration with the City Council and School Committee are some of the most important.

"Gridlock and in-fighting may be the norm in Washington, D.C., but in Marlborough we've focused on getting stuff done," said Mayor Vigeant. "I am fortunate to have worked with great people on the City Council and School Committee and am grateful for their friendship and efforts to make Marlborough stronger. While disagreements are inevitable, I hope our residents look back on the last decade as examples of how government should work. It's amazing how much good we can do by working together."

Mayor Vigeant looks forward to completing the Fiscal Year 2024 budget with his colleagues on the City Council and School Committee. In addition, the long-awaited Marlborough Public Library expansion project will be completed this summer.

"There is still plenty of work to do, and I hope with the support of my administration and the City Council, we can finish the projects slated for this calendar year." Mayor Vigeant said.

See attachment for a complete list of accomplishments and initiatives over the course of Mayor Arthur Vigeant's tenure.

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