

You Own
This Town



BARDSLEY EVERYBODY'S MAYOR

www.michaelbardsley.com

PAID FOR BY THE BARDSLEY CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE, LORETTA GOUGEON, TREASURER, P.O. BOX 60252, FLORENCE, MA 01062

A CHAMPION OF CIVIL RIGHTS

Michael has devoted much of his life to fighting for civil rights. He has been a participant in Northampton's Pride March since 1984, led anti-bullying initiatives as an educator, fought for working people, and sponsored the City Council's Living Wage Resolution and Resolution to Defend the Bill of Rights. He formed the Northampton Human Rights Commission.

A COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER

Michael has devoted his time and energy to a variety of causes and efforts in Northampton. Currently, he serves as organizational coordinator for the Dementia Initiative, a community program that connects people with dementia and their caregivers with needed services. He also serves as a mentor at the Hampshire County Jail and House of Correction, working to help inmates acquire skills that will help them become successful citizens after their release.

AN ENVIRONMENTALIST

As a City Council member, Michael worked on initiatives aimed at increasing Northampton's recycling rate and promoted energy efficiency in city departments. He opposed expansion of the Northampton landfill and was a leader in the effort to put a landfill question before voters in 2009.

A STRONG VOICE FOR TRANSPARENCY AND INCLUSION

As a member and president of the Northampton City Council, Michael fought to ensure that all residents would have a voice in city government and that decision-making would be transparent. He continues to believe that Northampton can only become a better place to live if government's ears are open to all voices.



Northampton is a great city full of great people. It's *our* town — everyone's. And all of us — natives and newcomers; Cooley Dickinson nurses, academics, downtown merchants and downtown waitstaff, white collar, blue collar, no collar; from Fair Street to Chesterfield Road — deserve a mayor who will hear our voices, involve us in decision-making, use our tax dollars wisely, and help keep our city strong and vibrant.

MICHAEL BARDSLEY WILL BE THAT MAYOR.

Michael Bardsley is:

AN ESTABLISHED LEADER

Michael was a member of the Northampton City Council for 16 years. He served as president of the council for eight years. He has a long track record of service to the city and as an advocate for transparency in city government.

A VETERAN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR

Michael spent more than 30 years as a teacher, guidance counselor and administrator in the Amherst public schools. He has developed and administered budgets and managed public employees. He possesses a deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing our public schools.

A BELIEVER IN OUR SCHOOLS

As a retired teacher, guidance counselor and school administrator, Michael possesses a deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing our public schools. He has the experience and the skills to lead the School Committee and maintain a strong, vibrant public education system in Northampton.

A LABOR LEADER

Michael was president of the Amherst-Pelham Teachers Association for 10 years and served on the Board of Directors for the Massachusetts Teachers Association. He knows what it's like to work for a living and he believes in honoring and protecting collective bargaining rights.

In his career as an educator, Michael:

- Developed and administered budgets.
- Worked as a member of a management team.
- Evaluated employees, showing appreciation for those doing a good job, supporting those who needed professional growth, and holding accountable those not fulfilling their responsibilities.
- Made hiring and firing decisions.
- Communicated effectively within a complex organization.
- Developed and implemented new programs.
- Led crisis teams during emergency situations.
- Participated in contract negotiations.
- Evaluated systems and determined what needed to change when they were not functioning effectively

As Northampton's next mayor, Michael will bring that experience, his experience in city government, and his belief in openness to fulfilling a list of objectives including:

- Reforming the budgeting process to keep city services strong while promoting responsible use of taxpayers' dollars.
- Strengthening the city's economic development program to make Northampton a community in which working people can continue to live affordably.
- Implementing a transparent process for all major decisions to ensure that a variety of perspectives — including voices of dissent — are considered respectfully.
- Improving the climate within City Hall to ensure that local government is accessible to every resident.
- Addressing ongoing issues that have led to a decrease in employee morale.
- Protecting the city's natural resources through increased efforts to reduce our solid waste disposal via enhanced recycling, increasing our use of renewable energy, and ending practices that could put our water supply at risk.
- Leading continued improvement of the quality of education we offer our children, especially within our elementary schools.
- Initiating a discussion about term limits for the mayor's office.

Northampton is a great city because of the contributions of everyone who lives here. It will remain a great city as long as it invites all of us to be part of shaping the community.

As mayor, Michael Bardsley will work to ensure that our city, Northampton, becomes a better home — for all of us.

To make a donation to the Bardsley for Mayor campaign or to learn about volunteer opportunities, visit MichaelBardsley.com.

