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**WESTPORT FIRST SELECTMAN JIM MARPE ENDORSES JEN TOOKER AND ANDREA MOORE
FOR BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

WESTPORT, June 16, 2021 – Westport First Selectman Jim Marpe announced today his endorsement of current Second Selectwoman Jennifer Tooker as the town’s next First Selectman, and current Vice-Chair of the Board of Finance Andrea Moore as Second Selectman. Mr. Marpe has served as First Selectman since his election to the Town’s highest office in 2013. In 2017 he won reelection with Jennifer Tooker as his running mate. Mr. Marpe announced in April that he would not be seeking a third term.

“I am proud to announce my unwavering support for Jennifer Tooker and Andrea Moore for Westport Board of Selectmen,” stated Mr. Marpe. “The primary job of the First Selectman is the day-to-day management and oversight of 15 Town departments and nearly 300 employees. It is truly a combination of being both a CEO and a COO, as well as the “public face” of Westport. Jen and Andrea are the only candidates whose professional backgrounds include significant management and leadership experience. Jen’s additional experience on the Westport Board of Education, Board of Finance and the Conservation Commission make her uniquely qualified to take the helm of Westport leadership,” Marpe continued.

“Jen Tooker has been an invaluable partner in my administration over the past three and a half years,” Marpe remarked. “Her incredible ability to solve complex problems and bring people together is the reason Jen has been tasked with managing some of the most important initiatives of our administration, including chairing the ReOpen Westport Advisory Team. Under Jen's leadership, this team has done remarkable work helping local businesses safely open and operate during the COVID-19 pandemic. This role was a natural extension of the work she has done with the local business community during her entire term as Second Selectwoman,” he added. “Jen also launched another key program of our administration, *Westport Together*, which promotes the positive development of our children with a focus on the social and emotional health and well-being of the community. It is this combination of effective governance and caring and compassion for our residents that makes Jen such a vital asset to Westport. And, because of the key roles in which she has served, Jen has a unique perspective on how to lead Westport into the future and a clear vision of what our community can be.”

“I have also worked closely with Andrea Moore in her roles on the Westport Board of Finance and the RTM over the past several years,” added Mr. Marpe. “I have been continually impressed with

Andrea's deep commitment to community, her dedication to serving constituents with integrity and transparency, and her common sense, bi-partisan approach to addressing issues facing the Town. I am proud of the work we have achieved together over the past several years on behalf Westport, and I am confident that Jen Tooker and Andrea Moore are best positioned to continue the Town's positive direction and meet new challenges and opportunities with success."

"It has been a privilege, every day of these last three and a half years, to serve this town with Jim Marpe," remarked Jen Tooker. "Jim leads by example. His love of this community and his tireless commitment to Westport has made us one of the most desirable towns in Connecticut. I am honored to receive Jim's endorsement and to know he has confidence that Andrea and I understand the work of the office and that we will continue the legacy of making Westport the best place to live and work."

"Jim Marpe has been a remarkable leader for Westport," added Andrea Moore. "He has shown what it means to be a true public servant, and our community has benefited greatly from his responsible, bi-partisan approach to governing. Along with Jen Tooker, I am truly honored to have his endorsement as a candidate for Westport Board of Selectmen, and I am committed to continuing this inclusive, effective and forward-looking management of the town we all love."

For more information, visit www.TookerMooreforSelectmen.com.

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