

# Selectmen Rebuke Wednesday's Rampage of U.S. Capitol

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During board comment at the end of their meeting tonight, the Board of Selectmen condemned Wednesday's storming and occupation of the United States Capitol.

"I don't think we can leave the table tonight without reflecting on the horror of yesterday," First Selectman Bob Lessler said. "I think it's extremely sad and very unfortunate that the sitting president of the United States used language that would essentially cause people to attack the Capitol of the United States."

All it takes for evil to prevail is for good people to remain silent, he said, citing the words of Elie Wiesel, Holocaust survivor and Nobel prize winner.

"It was a very sad day in the history of the United States and something all Americans who respect the rule of law, who respect the will of the voters, who respect the Constitution, should abhor," Lessler said.

A mob of Trump-inspired loyalists stormed the U.S. Capitol Building, the internationally recognized symbol of democracy, to disrupt the final electoral count affirming the peaceful transition of power to President-Elect Joe Biden.

After being evacuated during the riot, lawmakers returned once the intruders were removed and worked late into the night, to complete the task. The invasion of the

“People’s House” didn’t stop them from reconvening to complete the process and affirm Biden’s victory.

“I agree with Bob in saying the actions of yesterday were appalling,” Selectman Kristi Sogofsky said. “I don’t think anyone who saw it on their TV thought anything like that would ever occur.”

Sogofsky said it’s fortunate that there are systems in place to ensure that the people who stormed the Capitol — whose actions were “awful, surprising and disappointing” — would be dealt with in an appropriate way.

First Selectman Dave Bindelglass said he agreed with the “expressions of horror from people across the political spectrum,” and singled out former President George W. Bush. “He’s certainly not a person of similar political views to myself but I thought what he said was absolutely appropriate,” Bindelglass said.

“I would certainly agree with both of you that it was a horrible incident and hopefully one that will not be repeated in any of our lifetimes, and was perhaps a wakeup call,” Bindelglass said.

Bush was among a number of prominent Republicans who condemned the actions of the pro-Trump mob. Bush wrote in a prepared statement, “I am appalled by the reckless behavior of some political leaders since the election and by the lack of respect shown today for our institutions, our traditions, and our law enforcement.”

Without specifically naming Trump, he went on, “The violent assault on the Capitol — and disruption of a Constitutionally mandated meeting of Congress — was undertaken by people whose passions have been inflamed by falsehoods and false hopes.”

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# Year in Review 2020: November Election

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# VOTE RESULTS

## Presidential

DEMOCRATIC PARTY	BIDEN AND HARRIS	<b>81,283,485</b> <i>ELECTORAL COLLEGE: 306</i>
REPUBLICAN PARTY	TRUMP AND PENCE	<b>74,223,744</b> <i>ELECTORAL COLLEGE: 232</i>

## Representative in Congress

DEMOCRATIC PARTY	JIM HIMES	<b>224,428</b>
REPUBLICAN PARTY	JONATHAN RIDDLE	130,622

## State Senator

DEMOCRATIC PARTY	MICHELLE McCABE	29,761
REPUBLICAN PARTY	TONY HWANG	<b>31,857</b>

## State Representative

DEMOCRATIC PARTY	ANNE HUGHES	<b>8,662</b>
REPUBLICAN PARTY	JOHN SHABAN	6,567

## Registrar of Voters

DEMOCRATIC PARTY	DAVID SMITH	<b>2,596</b>
REPUBLICAN PARTY	DORI WOLLEN	2,286

Voters in Easton and across America turned out in record numbers for the Nov. 3

Presidential Election. They cast an unprecedented number of absentee ballots, which states sanctioned to keep people safe during the coronavirus pandemic. Voters also showed up at the polls.

Area voters returned the Connecticut incumbents who represent Easton to their posts. U.S. Rep. Jim Himes, Connecticut Senator Tony Hwang and Connecticut Rep. Anne Hughes will continue to serve for another two-year term.

The determination of who would occupy the Oval Office took longer than the regional contests, as we awaited the final tallies and certification from each of the 50 states and the Electoral College. President-Elect Joseph Biden won both the popular and the Electoral College vote and will be inaugurated Jan. 20, 2021.

President Donald J. Trump signaled in early fall that he would refuse to accept defeat, and has since filed and lost numerous court appeals claiming fraud. The Supreme Court denied a last-minute attempt by Trump's allies to overturn the election results in Pennsylvania.

The State of Connecticut provided each municipality with an official absentee ballot drop box to provide voters with a safe and trusted method for contactless delivery of their absentee ballot during the pandemic.

The box, located on the Easton Public Library green, across from the Easton Police Department, was available 24/7 for drop off of absentee ballot applications or absentee ballots for Easton only. The box was monitored by surveillance cameras in the Police Department.

Tom Herrmann, Easton's election moderator, attributed the smooth-running local polling operation to the well-trained poll workers. The line of masked and socially distanced voters moved quickly and efficiently.

Easton elects both Democratic and Republican registrars of voters during state and presidential election years, that is, during even years, 2020, 2018, etc. Both Democrat David Smith and Republican Dori Wollen will serve as Easton registrars for the next two years.

*Graphic images by Emily Gentile.*

*Voters Return Incumbents Himes, Hwang and Hughes to Their Posts*

*Easton Voters Return Record Number of Absentee Ballots*

*Lines Move Quickly with Brisk Election Day Turnout*

*Himes Vows to 'Restore Civility and Decency in our Daily Discourse'*

*Hwang Promises 'Better Days Ahead' After Successful Re-election*

*Hughes Beats Shaban for the 135th District Seat*