



1. **Anthony (Tony) Percoco**

2. **Mayor**

3. **Republican**

4. Ellenville Public Library & Museum Trustee, Member of the Ellenville Central School Board of Education, Chairman of Village of Ellenville Beautification Committee

5. I spent 38 years in education, working as a junior high teacher, elementary teacher, assistant elementary principal, and also served as an elementary and high school counselor.

6. Wife, Victoria; we have two children, two stepchildren, and seven grandchildren.

7. I have lived in the Village of Ellenville since 1951.

8. Member of American Legion; Retired Ellenville Teachers & Related Professional Association; St. Mary's & St. Andrew's Church.

9. I was asked by the Republican Party to serve as their nominated candidate for the Mayor's position. As a long-standing resident, I have not been happy with the decline of our community, from dirty streets, housing that has deteriorated due to negligence, and the litter which has given the village a black eye in the Hudson Valley.

10. Greatest strength/ability: being a counselor taught me how to listen. I am also a problem solver. My skills also encompass organizational planning, which helped me as a teacher, board member and as a tour planner. I also have a sense of commitment.

11. What I would like to accomplish most while in office: continue to improve the image of the village; replace slate sidewalks on Warren Street, which are very dangerous; provide funding which may enable property owners to paint or repair their homes; prepare a plan which will make Canal and Center Streets an attractive area for residents and visitors; explore solar energy for heating the new municipal building; develop a plan for the village to inform residents as soon as possible in the event of any emergency.

12. The most important short-term issue facing the village is the completion of the Senior Citizen Housing Project on Center Street.

13. The most important long-term issues facing the village are: building new village hall on Center Street; Cedar Grove Complex; the Blight; the Hunt Memorial Building.

14. If citizens' committees were convened to study issues relevant to living in the village, this might attract

more people. When I was a member of the committee to study the dissolution of the village, our committee reports attracted many people to the meetings.

15. Bringing municipal officials before the TV camera is a good idea. As a school board member at televised meetings, I forgot the camera was in the room. The meeting provided an opportunity for the public to become better informed of issues discussed.

16. Let's look at Wurtsboro. They have perhaps six restaurants, and the village always looks lively despite its rural appearance. If we had good restaurants, I believe people would come here. Another example is High Falls; good restaurants and shops bring in people.

17. First, there has to be a commitment to look for cost-saving measures. Invariably, this always involves personnel. Once you try to phase-out people, the pressures begin to mount. We have to look at trying to increase the area of the village. Is this possible? It has to be explored. There may be some excellent firms who can come in and study the financial structure of the village and give the board recommendations for savings. The school district has done this with transportation, and the report was well worth the monies spent for the program.

18. On October 24, 1974, the Village Board requested a professional study on having the village dissolved. I was a member of that team. In the long run, the issue was dropped because money for the study was not available from the state. A newspaper article of May 22, 1975 reported "village and town officials favored the plan because out of the survey would come suggestions for tightening up the governmental services and procedures whether or not the dissolution of the village would be recommended. Until state monies are forthcoming, no survey work will be initiated." In 1999, I wrote to Mr. Albert Spada, County Clerk, trying to get information on the Village of Rosendale, which was dissolved many years ago. I was given leads to pursue that did not materialize at the time. We should still try to find out whether residents saved money and still have municipal services. Perhaps Ulster County Community College students could research any benefits that occurred to the Village of Rosendale as a class project. An idea to ponder for the future.

19. Special Project: Since 1997, I have requested from the village two historical markers to honor visits by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and President Lyndon B. Johnson. Mrs. Roosevelt was the commencement speaker at the high school graduation in 1957. After the program, she visited Supervising Principal Jack Braun's home, where she had dinner with the family. President Johnson had dedicated the Ellenville Community Hospital in 1966. The Town of Wawarsing remembered him when they passed a resolution of having the Center Street Bridge named after him. Placing markers in the community would honor the memory of two famous individuals who made their presence felt in American politics. 

