

Wood County Candidates for November 8, 2016 General Election

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US House of Representatives 1st Congressional District Candidates

Office U.S. House of Representatives District 1

Name Mike Manypenny

County of Residence Taylor

Party Democrat

Biography

I'm a former member of the WV House of Delegates, farmer and small businessman. I serve on many non-profit boards as a volunteer, including Northern WV Centers for Independent Living, TV Chamber of Commerce, Tygart Valley CAC, Project HOP2E Food Bank, Taylor County Farmers Market, Tygart State Park Foundation, Taylor County Family Resource Network, Taylor County Substance Abuse Task Force.

1. What should Congress do to help West Virginia communities impacted by the decline in the coal industry?

To help our coal industry we need to rebuild our crumbling infrastructure and require all public funded projects buy Made in America products to revive our industrial base, including steel, which would increase demand for WV met coal and coal mining jobs. Also Federal money for retraining programs for unemployed miners.

2. What measures would you propose to reform the federal tax code?

I support an increase on the top income earners making over \$250,000 a year and eliminate the tax subsidies for Corporations like Exxon Mobile and General electric that make hundreds of millions of dollars a year and continue to get tax subsidies which is considered a form of Corporate welfare. I would also support exemptions for reinvestments in American jobs!

3. What improvements in mental health services for veterans would you favor?

Our Veterans deserve our full support and respect for their service to this Country and our Freedoms. I support unlimited mental health services and other forms of healthcare for all our men and women who served in the United States military!

Office U.S. House of Representatives District 1

Name David B. McKinley

County of Residence Ohio

Party Republican

Biography

David McKinley represents West Virginia's First District in the U.S. House of Representatives. Since 2011, McKinley has served as a strong, independent voice in Washington. McKinley has been recognized for his bipartisan work on issues from energy to health care. One of just two Professional Engineers in Congress, McKinley founded and built an architectural/engineering firm before being elected.

1. What should Congress do to help West Virginia communities impacted by the decline in the coal industry?

Excessive regulations have hurt coal miners and decimated our economy. I will continue to fight against anti-coal policies, and push to invest in research to use coal more efficiently and cleanly. We also need to do more to diversify our economy and provide opportunity for coal communities. I've introduced legislation to do that and offer training for laid off miners.

2. What measures would you propose to reform the federal tax code?

Our tax code is too complex and has too many loopholes that benefit only the well-connected. It needs to be simpler, fairer, and flatter. The tax code should make it easier to create jobs, increase wages, and expand opportunity for hardworking taxpayers. The Better Way plan developed by House Republicans includes reforms to do that. Learn more at better.gop.

3. What improvements in mental health services for veterans would you favor?

Our veterans have sacrificed, and they deserve the best care when they come home. Sadly the VA system is broken. Congress has taken action to fix it, including passing the Clay Hunt Act, which expedites access to mental health services for veterans. This is a first step and more needs to be done to improve access to mental health care

WV State Senate 3rd District Candidates

Office WV State Senate 3rd District

Name Donna J. Boley

Party Republican

Biography

WVU-Parkersburg; appointed to Senate - 1985; Re-elected 8 times; Presently serving as Senate Pro-Tem in Senate; Chair of Confirmations; Vice-Chair of Education and military; member of Senate Finance and Energy committees; Legislative Rule Making Review, and others.

1. With the continuing decline in the coal industry, what industries would you promote to increase the West Virginia economy?

I will work to help overcome Federal Government's Disastrous regulations on coal along with promoting the gas industry as they struggle to build pipelines as a way to distribute their product. I also support tourism, agricultural and small businesses (which are the backbone of our economy). I will work with our county commissions and development authorities to bring business to WV.

2. What should be done to implement West Virginia's existing Flood Protection Plan?

This is an issue that has caused a real slow down in property sales and the Legislature has asked a committee to come up with a plan which we should be asked to vote on in 2017. June's floods in WV has made this issue a top priority.

3. What should be done to avoid a budget crisis such as the one that occurred in 2016?

The 2015 and 2016 Legislature faced the issue of not enough revenue by cutting government, rainy day fund and cigarette tax increase. We need our leaders to work on cutting more unnecessary spending BEFORE the 2017 session. Legislators are reluctant to increase taxes on businesses OR taxpayers until we have looked at our spending practices.

Office WV State Senate 3rd District

Name Bradley VanZile

Party Democrat

Biography

I was a member of the Army for 15 years having deployed for both Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. I am a union pipefitter with Local 565 out of Parkersburg. I fought for my country now I am ready to fight for the citizens of WV.

- 1. With the continuing decline in the coal industry, what industries would you promote to increase the West Virginia economy?**

We must diversify our economy and help our local small businesses thrive in West Virginia. Tourism in this state would help raise revenue if we promote how great this state is. Agriculture is another example that could help this state move forward using traditional crops as well as introducing newer crops to the area to be proactive in this region.

- 2. What should be done to implement West Virginia's existing Flood Protection Plan?**

We must identify areas that are in need of improvement and be proactive to fix them so that we can minimize the unfortunate death and destruction that has affected our citizens. I will also do anything to protect West Virginians safety as well as property damages. I support anything to help make WV a safer place moving forward.

- 3. What should be done to avoid a budget crisis such as the one that occurred in 2016?**

We need a diversification of our economy and supporting our small business owners investing in the infrastructure. Our small business owners need assistance to grow their businesses and make them want to open their businesses in WV. The legislation also needs to be a proactive legislation and not a reactive one.

Office WV State Senate 3rd District, Unexpired Term

Name Mike Azinger

Party Republican

Biography

I am a 1983 graduate of PHS, where I was also senior class president. I am married to my high school sweetheart, Jackie. We have three wonderful children.

I was elected to the House in 2014; have years of experience in business, sales, and political consulting, and hosted my own daily radio show dealing with politics, culture, and current events.

- 1. With the continuing decline in the coal industry, what industries would you promote to increase the West Virginia economy?**

President Obama and his EPA have been especially lethal to the coal industry in West Virginia; it's the job of the legislature to stand up to this egregious abuse of the 10th Amendment. That said, natural gas is an obvious choice. In the big picture, however, WV must become a job creating state by boldly cutting taxes and regulations.

- 2. What should be done to implement West Virginia's existing Flood Protection Plan?**

Speaker Armstead called for the flood plan to be discussed in September's interim sessions. Some of the items up for discussion were improved flood warnings, management of floodplain construction, etc. There is only so much government can do to prevent flooding, of course. Reasonable government remedies should be considered outside of additional taxes and regulations, growth of government, etc.

- 3. What should be done to avoid a budget crisis such as the one that occurred in 2016?**

The Republican-led legislature sent the Governor a balanced budget without any new tax hikes; the Governor chose to veto that balanced budget. We have too much government for a state this size. It's time to cut government and the prodigious waste that exists in our

budget. Families and job creators prosper where taxes and regulations are few and reasonable.

Office WV State Senate 3rd District, Unexpired Term

Name Gregory K. Smith

Party Democrat

Biography

Graduate WVU--Retired CEO, Mountain State Blue Cross Blue Shield (now Highmark)--Former Chair, MOV Chamber of Commerce--WVU-P Board of Governors--numerous non profit Boards of Directors Web: gregoryksmithforstatesenate.com

1. With the continuing decline in the coal industry, what industries would you promote to increase the West Virginia economy?

The most critical issue we face is to put partisan issues aside and create a better economic climate for new and quality jobs. Oil and Gas (cracker plant is still viable), timber, tourism and agriculture can be vibrant industries in our state. Public and career education must be coordinated closely to provide skilled training consistent with these and other priorities

2. What should be done to implement West Virginia's existing Flood Protection Plan?

This plan is more than 14 years old and many of the provisions still need implemented. Seems to be discussed only after a major flood. Better coordination between counties, municipalities and state government needs to be more effective. Also, more than 20 dams are in need of repair, therefore funding is an issue for some of the provisions.

3. What should be done to avoid a budget crisis such as the one that occurred in 2016?

The most fundamental responsibility of the legislature is to pass a balanced budget. Too much time spent on partisan politics and personal agendas instead of focusing on government efficiency, infrastructure, education and business development. Private sector business principles need to be applied to move our state forward. Politics as usual will certainly not allow our state to reach its potential.

WV House of Delegates Candidates

Office WV House of Delegates District 8

Name Bill Anderson

Party Republican

Biography

Born: Parkersburg, WV

Graduate: Williamstown High School; Marshall University, BA; West Virginia University, MA
U.S. Airforce Vietnam Veteran and Retired Williamstown High School Teacher

Elder: Williamstown Presbyterian Church, Vice Commander: American Legion Post 159

Elected to the House of Delegates 1992-2014 & current Speaker Pro Tempore of the House of Delegates.

1. With the continuing decline in the coal industry, what industries would you promote to increase the West Virginia economy?

We must continue the development of the state's natural gas reserves. The tourism industry is important to the future of our state and further development can be accomplished with additional promotion as well as infrastructure improvements. Our research universities and

the development of new technologies will be important in the future of improving West Virginia's economy.

2. What should be done to implement West Virginia's existing Flood Protection Plan?

The major problem holding back implementation of West Virginia's flood protection plan is funding. The plan was developed more than a decade ago. Additional funding for projects preventing flood damage will decrease the need for funding to clean up flood damage. Improvements in the state's economy will provide opportunities to further implement flood protection initiatives.

3. What should be done to avoid a budget crisis such as the one that occurred in 2016?

The legislature prepares the budget based upon the Governor's revenue estimates. This year's estimates were very difficult due to the collapsing revenues from severance taxes from coal, oil, and gas production. The state's tax base needs to be broadened and made less dependent upon the volatility of the energy industry.

Office WV House of Delegates District 8

Name David Bland

Party Democrat

Biography

I am a lifelong resident of West Virginia. I graduated from PHS in 1988. My father was a coal miner (UNWA) for 34 years. My brother Randy Bland was a state road worker of UE Local 170. I have been a member of the IUPAT for 15 years. I am a Marketing Representative for the IUPAT.

FB-David.Bland.3914

1. With the continuing decline in the coal industry, what industries would you promote to increase the West Virginia economy?

As the son of a coal miner, I respect the plight of the coal industry. I also see the need to diversify and expand wind, solar, natural gas, and timber industries. We have always been rich in natural resources but left poor by exploitation and greed. We should benefit from our natural resources. Tourism & entrepreneurial hubs need expanded.

2. What should be done to implement West Virginia's existing Flood Protection Plan?

The legislature must agree that a flood protection plan be implemented and work to protect the most vulnerable areas. Altered terrain and changing weather patterns require us to be forward thinking and proactive.

3. What should be done to avoid a budget crisis such as the one that occurred in 2016?

The budget is the most critical work of the legislative session. We need to cut waste, encourage small business growth, think outside the box and budget within income restraints. Agreement & cooperation between the parties could eliminate the need for special sessions. The rainy day fund must be maintained for emergencies such as the recent flooding

Office WV House of Delegates District 9

Name Ray Hollen

Party Republican

Biography

Raised on a small farm I learned the values of hard work, honesty, and sacrifice.

I'm a Marshall University Graduate, a retired USCG Officer, a retired WV State Trooper, a family man and a church leader.

I'll use common sense, my desire to serve the public, my public servant experience, and my leadership skills for the good of the people.

1. With the continuing decline in the coal industry, what industries would you promote to increase the West Virginia economy?

I will promote many types of industries that promote job growth in West Virginia. With our supply of oil and gas, I believe that we need to bring in industry that will create long lasting jobs in the oil and gas business. I also promote more automobile manufacturers to build here.

2. What should be done to implement West Virginia's existing Flood Protection Plan?

I believe that we should take a look at the plan and take an honest and sensible approach to implementing the plan. We should work with our Federal Representatives to help us along the way, so not to place a heavy burden on the state budget.

3. What should be done to avoid a budget crisis such as the one that occurred in 2016?

We have a serious problem in WV with the declining population and businesses closing. The loss of population and the loss of jobs equal the loss of money for the state. We begin by looking at cutting the size of Govt from the top, while also looking for ways to bring in more jobs and reverse the population decline.

Office WV House of Delegates District 9

Name Jim Marion

Party Democrat

Biography

age 63, married, wife Jan, 2 kids-John and Jamie, 2 grandkids-Lauren and Zach. I have lived in Mineral Wells for 33 years. I graduated from PSHS and have 1 year at WVU. I worked for UPS for 27 years as a delivery driver, retiring in 2005. I am a retired member of the Teamsters Union 175.

1. With the continuing decline in the coal industry, what industries would you promote to increase the West Virginia economy?

Promote tourism which is the state's best natural resource. Pass statewide hunting on Sunday which will bring in more money. Legalize the hemp industry which is better for the environment. Legalize medical marijuana. Tax both of them. Improve roads and schools which will bring more businesses to WV.

2. What should be done to implement West Virginia's existing Flood Protection Plan?

Implementing the whole plan would cost too much money, money that could be used elsewhere. But a sustained annual program using state and federal money would be effective in reducing the loss of life and damages.

3. What should be done to avoid a budget crisis such as the one that occurred in 2016?

We need to start cutting back now. Elected officials should take a 25% pay cut. Make it a priority to start working on the budget at the start of the legislative session. Bring back prevailing wage to get more tax money. Get rid of right to work for less to get better paying jobs and more taxes.

WV House of Delegates District 10 – Vote for not more than 3 candidates

Office WV House of Delegates District 10

Name Vernon Criss

Party Republican

Biography

Graduate of PHS and West Virginia Wesleyan College. Worked in our family businesses for over 40 years.

Served in House-of-Delegates from 1987-1990.

- 1. With the continuing decline in the coal industry, what industries would you promote to increase the West Virginia economy?**

Keep coal out front along with oil & gas. Third World Areas of Africa, India and Japan are building COAL FIRED POWER PLANTS. They will need our CLEAN-BURNING COAL. Yes, Japan is moving towards coal from nuclear.

- 2. What should be done to implement West Virginia's existing Flood Protection Plan?**

We must look to the Army Corps of Engineers, who control the waterways and have built the current flood controls in West Virginia's streams.

- 3. What should be done to avoid a budget crisis such as the one that occurred in 2016?**

Delivery of our services in a way using 21st Century systems in a 1950's set-up. The current system of "top-down" has been in the works for over 30 years. We need a system of "at point sale" without all the red tape and overhead.

Office WV House of Delegates District 10

Name Andy Daniel

Party Democrt

Biography

I am a lifelong resident of Parkersburg WV, son of David and Brenda Daniel. After graduating PHS in 1998 I became a commercial carpenter. In 2004 I started in business with 3D Construction and now employ up to 100 employees. My passion in life has been to create better paying jobs with good benefits.

- 1. With the continuing decline in the coal industry, what industries would you promote to increase the West Virginia economy?**

I believe that we should be using the resources that this great state of West Virginia has to create jobs. We should promote tourism. We also have some of the greatest colleges here in West Virginia. Why are we not having the research departments study what West Virginia's job opportunities are?

- 2. What should be done to implement West Virginia's existing Flood Protection Plan?**

I do believe that West Virginia's Flood Protection Plan needs implemented and to do that we need more revenue. To create more revenue, we need more jobs. If elected officials could work together, instead of fighting they could create more jobs and concentrate on things like fixing roads therefor making West Virginia a more attractive place for business to come.

- 3. What should be done to avoid a budget crisis such as the one that occurred in 2016?**

The first thing I believe would avoid a budget crisis next year would be to elect representatives that have proven to be efficient and do their jobs on time. The only constitutional responsibility a state legislature has is to pass a balance budget and it cost us the taxpayers an additional \$6000,000.00 in legislative wages to accomplish that last year.

Office WV House of Delegates District 10

Name Frank Deem

Party Republican

Biography

Frank was born in Harrisville, WV; Graduated from Marietta College; is a Navy veteran; is married and has 8 children. Frank owns JF Deem Oil and Gas. He has served in both the Senate and the House. He was named a Distinguished West Virginian by Governor Manchin and was 2011 WV Oil and Gas man of the Year. See frankdeemwv.com.

1. With the continuing decline in the coal industry, what industries would you promote to increase the West Virginia economy?

The natural gas industry. There is great need for natural gas in the northeastern and southeastern U.S. With well designed pipelines, we can supply these regions and encourage businesses that require our energy output to move here.

2. What should be done to implement West Virginia's existing Flood Protection Plan?

The 365 page Comprehensive Flood Protection Plan needs to be reviewed and implemented. We can never prevent flooding, but we can mitigate flood damage by improving flood plain construction, educating the public, using flood dams, improving storm water flow, improving flood insurance programs, and developing better flood warning systems.

3. What should be done to avoid a budget crisis such as the one that occurred in 2016?

No one wants to see cuts or taxes. We are a small state and the citizens are taxed enough. Until the business climate improves, it is looking up but will take time to grow; cuts will have to be made. Several good ideas for cutting and economic growth were introduced at the WV Business Summit this summer. But implementation takes time.

Office WV House of Delegates District 10

Name John R. Kelly

Party Republican

Biography

Educated Wood County Schools, Graduated Mountain State College, AAS; PCC (WVU-P), AAS; Glenville State, RBS. US Air Force veteran. Retired DuPont. Served on Council, 85-96, 2013-2014. Council President, 3yrs; held VP, Chairmanship of Public Works, Finance, and Personnel Committees. Five years on Area Roundtable. Elected to the WV House of Delegates 2015. Various Civic and Fraternal organizations.

1. With the continuing decline in the coal industry, what industries would you promote to increase the West Virginia economy?

The natural gas industry remains the easiest and quickest avenue of development in WV today. We are producing, and exporting, 500,000 cf of Ethane every day. This is enough to supply six cracker plants along the Ohio River. The next progressive step for the industry is completion of transportation pipelines to efficiently get that gas to market for processing.

2. What should be done to implement West Virginia's existing Flood Protection Plan?

The Legislature considered a Flood Plan several years ago but that plan was not adopted. Aspects of that plan are being considered by the Government Organizations Committee during the Interim Meetings and will likely be addressed during the 2017 Session. I generally support identifying a single state agency to coordinate future flood prevention efforts as recommended by the plan.

3. What should be done to avoid a budget crisis such as the one that occurred in 2016?

The budget crisis in WV was the result of decades of failed leadership and policies in our state. To fix the problem, we must elect conservative leaders in the Legislature and Board

of Public Works. We must right-size government operations in WV by weeding out waste, fraud, and abuse; and creating opportunities for 21st Century jobs in WV.

Office WV House of Delegates District 10

Name J. Morgan Leach

Party Democrat

Biography

J. Morgan's background includes a B.S. in Journalism and a J.D. in Energy and Sustainable Development from WVU College of Law. He is the founder and Executive Director of the West Virginia Farmers Cooperative. Their mission is to build a local food economy and adopt new cash crops to make farming more profitable. Visit jmorganleach.com and wvhemp.org for more information.

1. With the continuing decline in the coal industry, what industries would you promote to increase the West Virginia economy?

Diversification through agricultural innovation will help offset the decline in coal. Our mission is to target economically depressed areas and create new jobs in farming and manufacturing for women, veterans, displaced coal miners, and recovering addicts. Social enterprise companies will help us transition into the bio-regenerative economy of the future that will capitalize on the nexus between energy and agriculture.

2. What should be done to implement West Virginia's existing Flood Protection Plan?

There should be a priority on protecting our people and property. We have an opportunity to create jobs necessary for implementation of the Flood Protection Plan. This includes better management of flood plains, improved flood warning systems, better oversight of mining and timbering, building code enforcement, and more comprehensive flood insurance plans. Being proactive will help us mitigate future disasters.

3. What should be done to avoid a budget crisis such as the one that occurred in 2016?

The perceived correlation between tax cuts for big business and job growth is simply not accurate according to the WV Center on Budget and Policy. A strong plan to alleviate our budget crisis is economic diversification by creating new industry, taxing existing industries appropriately, and investing in higher education to provide the skilled workforce necessary for new industry to thrive.

Office WV House of Delegates District 10

Name Bill Merriman

Party Democrat

Biography

I attended all Wood County Secondary Schools, graduated from Parkersburg High School in 1987. Attended Ohio Valley College obtained an Associate Degree and continued my education at Glenville State College where I obtained a bachelor's degree in business management with a concentration in accounting. Attended Capital Law School in Columbus, OH and earned a Doctorate of Jurisprudence in 1996. I

1. With the continuing decline in the coal industry, what industries would you promote to increase the West Virginia economy?

I believe economic development is critical for the State of West Virginia. Obviously, the use of all of our natural resources would be promoted to increase the West Virginia economy. However, all businesses (small and large) should be promoted.

2. What should be done to implement West Virginia's existing Flood Protection Plan?

Given the recent flooding and weather related disasters in West Virginia implementation of the Flood Protection Plan is important. The administration has to be strong and capable of having all officials work in a non-partisan fashion for the health, safety and welfare of all the West Virginia citizens.

3. What should be done to avoid a budget crisis such as the one that occurred in 2016?

To avoid a budget crisis such as the one that occurred in 2016 all elected officials need to work together for the betterment of West Virginia and leave political agendas out of the decision making. West Virginia's bond rating was recently downgraded by the Fitch Rating Service. Other than the restrictions on coal, a primary source was the states

Wood County Commissioner Candidates

Office County Commissioner

Name James E. Colombo

Party Democrat

Biography

FAMILY: Married 54 years to Sharon Mellinger Colombo, Four Children, Seven Grandchildren

EDUCATION: Parkersburg Catholic HS, AA Degree-WVU-P, Honorary BA Degree-WVU, BA Degree-Marietta College

EMPLOYMENT: Colombo's Restaurant-Family business since 1954, WV Parole Board, 6 years, by Governor Mancin 2009, City of Parkersburg; January 1998-December 2005, nominated unexpired term began June 19, 2015

1. What do you believe is the most important issue facing the Wood County Commission today?

We must broaden our tax base through growth and development in order to combat the rising county cost as well as the housing cost burden of the Jail Bill.

2. Are there any changes in state laws regarding county government that you feel would benefit Wood County? Please explain.

The State must change the Law to find an alternate funding source for the Jail Bill. The counties cost for housing prisoners continues to rise. Wood County has been struggling to find funding sources. Other counties have resorted to not making minor arrests, and as we have, used day report centers or home confinement to reduce costs.

3. What is the best way to attract new businesses to Wood County?

Being Mayor kept me on the front lines for growth and development. I've been involved with developers, for businesses like Cold water Creek, Bureau of Public Debt, Sheetz and several large box stores. We must sell the quality of our community. I have spoken with representatives from area counties, stressing we are a team, must work together for our future

Office County Commissioner

Name Rick Modesitt

Party Republican

Biography

Life long resident of Parkersburg; Attended PHS, WVU-P; Served as Police Officer 1975 - 1997; Chief of Police 1994-1997; Twice elected WV House of Delegates; Twice served as Acting Mayor of Parkersburg; Served as County Commissioner 2000-2010; Former Chairman of Athletic Commission. Licensed Realtor; President Rick Modesitt & Associates.

facebook.com/rickmodesittforcountycommission or rickmodesitt.com

1. What do you believe is the most important issue facing the Wood County Commission today?

The looming fiscal crisis over the increasing jail bill is at a critical state. I believe my experience with conservative budgeting will be of value in managing this situation. Secondary is the heroin and elicit drug epidemic in our area. The two issues go hand in hand. A concentrated effort to rid our community of this problem is a must.

2. Are there any changes in state laws regarding county government that you feel would benefit Wood County? Please explain.

The manner in which prisoners are held by the state and billed to the counties must be reviewed. Some counties are going broke under this burden. Secondly, County Commissions should be given the same home rule rights as cities. Local officials tend to manage their communities better than dictated by Charleston. Finally, to provide additional substance abuse programs.

3. What is the best way to attract new businesses to Wood County?

Commissioners need to be salesmen for the County. We need to provide potential businesses an area where the quality of life is good; housing is reasonably price; infrastructure is available; a solid education system; so we can provide a well educated, stable, hard working work force.

We must be prepared to market ourselves against other counties and other states.

Office County Commissioner

Name Stephen Smith

Party Libertarian

Biography

I am in my tenth year as a Professor of Business and Accounting at WVU-Parkersburg. Prior to joining WVU-P I had a thirty year career as an accounting and financial manager in private business. I graduated from PHS, WVU (MBA) and Stetson University (Master of Accounting). My wife Paige and I have one daughter, a sophomore at PHS.

Facebook.com/stslibertarian.

1. What do you believe is the most important issue facing the Wood County Commission today?

Charges for incarceration of prisoners at the Regional Jail are the top issue facing Wood County. These fees are approaching \$250,000 per month. The Commission has virtually no control over any of the factors that affect this amount. We must work with all entities involved to get this growing burden on the budget of Wood County under control.

2. Are there any changes in state laws regarding county government that you feel would benefit Wood County? Please explain.

The State mandates a wide variety of tasks that the County government must perform. The State needs to grant authority to the County to determine how funds are raised (what types of taxes and fees are implemented) and how the required tasks are accomplished. This authority should include the option to put changes before the citizens in a referendum vote.

3. What is the best way to attract new businesses to Wood County?

Business looks for an efficient service structure in making location decisions. The County needs to provide needed services such as law enforcement, fire protection and emergency response in the most cost efficient manner possible. Whenever possible the County should cooperate with the State and the local business community, however, the role of marketing must be left with private business groups.

Wood County Assessor Candidate

Office Assessor

Name David C. Nohe

Party Republican

Because this candidate is unopposed in the general election, we asked for a biography and statement to the voters.

Biography

Mayor of the City of Vienna 1997 to 2012

WV State Senator 3RD. Dist. 2010 to 2015

Chairman of The Senate Banking and Insurance Committee

Vice-Chair of The Senate Judiciary Committee

Vice-Chairman of The Senate Energy, Industry and Mining Committee.

Former Chief of Detectives W.C.S.D. trained by the United States Justice Department in narcotics and dangerous drug law enforcement

Statement to Voters

My campaign for Wood County Assessor was successfully concluded in the May primary. I am very grateful and humbled by your confidence in me.

As in the past, you can expect to find the friendliest, most informative, and helpful office and staff available and I will provide you nothing less. I am honored to serve you again!

Wood County Clerk Candidates

Office Wood County Clerk

Name Bob Buchanan

Party Republican

Biography

For the past thirty years I owned and operated an accounting/financial planning practice here in Parkersburg, serving clients in West Virginia, Ohio and Florida, managing millions of dollars for individuals and businesses. I am married to my wife of thirty two years, Crystle and we have three boys, Curtis, Brandon and Austin.

- 1. With low voter participation in recent elections, what should be done to encourage more voters to participate in elections?**

The last election I saw first hand the need to get voters out to vote loosing by five votes. I plan to schedule classes with fifth and sixth grades to install patriotism. Providing a major effort to make sure every individual has a ride to the poll and that we react to expected voter turnout with adequate polling equipment.

- 2. With the many functions delegated to the County Clerk's office, what changes would you like to see to facilitate its operations?**

I believe we are fortunate to have tremendous staff however I would want to add an

accountant on staff, able to assist in providing necessary financial data to each department. I would like to expand the office to assist in securing leads for additional industry and business to locate in Wood County.

3. What experience, training or education do you have that makes you the best qualified candidate for this office?

Over thirty years of financial experience with business. Leading several Boards in turning around troubled organizations. Wood County Parks and Recreation Commission, Mountwood Park. Board member for Little Kanawha Conservation District able to lead restoration for Belleville after tornado. Board member Selby General Hospital, Chairman West Virginia Envirothon, Team member Wood County Juvenile Drug Court. Wood County 4H Leaders.

Office Wood County Clerk

Name Mark Rhodes

Party Democrat

Biography

I began working for Wood County in November 1984 as a Correctional Officer, 2001 as Chief Tax Deputy and 2005 as a Deputy Clerk. I was appointed by the County Commission August 1, 2013 to replace retiring Clerk Jamie Six. I have worked in all aspects of the County Clerk's Office, including Record Room, Recording Office, Probate, Elections and Finance

1. With low voter participation in recent elections, what should be done to encourage more voters to participate in elections?

I have no solution to this long standing problem.

2. With the many functions delegated to the County Clerk's office, what changes would you like to see to facilitate its operations?

The Probate Office needs to be moved to a larger area to permit a third deputy clerk and to provide more privacy to the Personal Representative handling the estate. Current staff is cross trained and can be shifted to cover whichever office is the busiest to better serve the public.

3. What experience, training or education do you have that makes you the best qualified candidate for this office?

I have worked in the Clerk's Office since 2005. I know elections, probate, finance and document recording and the laws that govern each department.

Wood County Surveyor Candidate

Office Surveyor

Name Paul K. (Kim) Marshall

Party Republican

Because this candidate is unopposed in the general election, we asked for a biography and statement to the voters.

Biography

Professional Licensed Land Surveyor, licensed since 1976, BS in Civil Engineering-WV Institute of Technology, WV Society of Professional Surveyors-Board of Directors, 2010-11, Wood County Surveyor 1980-92, Member of Wood County Farm Bureau, Past President of the Wood County

Planning Commission, Member of the Little Kanawha Regional Chapter of the WV Association of Land Surveyors.

Statement to Voters

I would like to thank the voters of Wood County for their continued support in allowing me the opportunity to once again serve them as County Surveyor. With 40 years of experience and being involved in every facet of surveying from boundary surveying to GPS surveying, I am once again grateful for the privilege to hold the office of County Surveyor. At the end of this 4 year term, between myself and my Dad, we will have served the citizens of Wood County in the office of County Surveyor for 40 years spanning seven decades and in two separate centuries. Our property is a blessing from God to each of us. Thank you, Paul K. (Kim) Marshall

Wood County Circuit Clerk Candidate

Office Circuit Clerk
Name Carole Jones
Party Republican

Because this candidate is unopposed in the general election, we asked for a biography and statement to the voters.

Biography

Circuit Clerk 1991-Present. Graduate Marshall University with a degree in Business Administration. Completed West Virginia University Local Government Leadership Academy. Employed in Wood County Circuit Clerk's Office since 1968. Chief Deputy to former clerk, Juanita Coe. Appointed as Circuit Clerk in 1991 by then Chief Judge Arthur N. Gustke. Elected to office in 1992, 1998, 2004 and 2010.

Statement to Voters

I am honored to have had the opportunity to serve as Circuit Clerk of Wood County for many years, and I would like to thank all of you who have supported me and voted for me in the past. I do appreciate the trust that you have placed in me. I hope that you have found that I have lived up to your expectations, and have served you in an honorable and professional manner. Even though I am unopposed at the present time, I would truly appreciate your vote of confidence on November 8, or during early voting.

Wood County Prosecutor Candidate

Office Prosecutor
Name Pat Lefebure
Party Republican

Because this candidate is unopposed in the general election, we asked for a biography and statement to the voters.

Biography

Pat Lefebure is a veteran of the Wood County Prosecutor's Office and has successfully prosecuted felony, misdemeanor, and juvenile cases. He has worked extensively to combat the drug epidemic in our community. He and his wife have chosen to raise their family in Wood County. He obtained his law degree from Capital University and his undergraduate degree from Marshall University.

Statement to Voters

I will work tirelessly to fight the drug epidemic in Wood County. This problem affects everyone from the elderly to our children. In fighting this problem there is not a right or wrong answer, but it requires that we use all of our resources to better combat the drug problem. The Wood County Prosecutor's office will continue to provide treatment opportunities to those offenders that need help and fight for prison time for individuals that bring drugs into our community. I will also strive to provide opportunities to educate the public about ways that they can communicate their concerns within their communities and help law enforcement make Wood County a safer place to live and work.

Wood County Sheriff Candidates

Office Sheriff

Name Steve Stephens

Party Republican

Biography

28 years of law enforcement experience with Vienna PD. 9 years at Wood County Sheriff's Office as deputy and current Chief of Confinement Operations. Former Drug Task Force officer and commander. Former FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force Agent. Current chair of Governor's Law Enforcement Professional Standards Subcommittee. Current Vienna councilman. F.B.I. National Academy and WV State Police Academy graduate.

1. Do you feel the Sheriff's Department has adequate resources to address the increasing drug-related crime? Please explain.

No, I don't due to several factors. We only have 36 deputies to perform the various responsibilities of the sheriff's office. We need more manpower dedicated to drug interdiction and investigations. The county commission wants to help but the increasing jail bill costs are prohibiting this need. We have to ask for more assistance from the state and federal agencies.

2. Do you feel the public safety services to rural areas of Wood County are adequate? If not, what changes would you make as sheriff?

No. I would arrange community meetings to hear the needs of the residents and respond accordingly. I would like to set up sub-stations at the VFDs where deputies can access Wi-Fi to work on reports. This allows higher visibility and acts as a crime deterrent. Unfortunately, the high call volume and lack of manpower dictates our activity.

3. What changes would you like to see in the operation of the sheriff's office?

The sheriff's office will focus on becoming more community oriented. I am going to streamline administrative positions and improve upon the salaries of each employee from within our budget. We need to improve our training for both deputies and civilian staff in all divisions within the office. It is paramount to step up our priorities in drug education and enforcement.

Office Sheriff

Name Brent L. West

Party Libertarian

Biography

For over a decade I have been a small business owner and manager. I currently work in the mental health field utilizing my studies in criminal justice and psychology. As a manager, I surround myself with exceptional people that I can turn to when I need assistance or guidance - this is a key to effective

leadership.

1. Do you feel the Sheriff's Department has adequate resources to address the increasing drug-related crime? Please explain.

No. As long as law enforcement continues following the policies of the failed "war on drugs", drug related crimes will continue to escalate, and thereby squandering resources to address other criminal activities. Substance abuse is a medical condition and should be treated by medical professionals (so long as the activity does not merge into violent or property crimes).

2. Do you feel the public safety services to rural areas of Wood County are adequate? If not, what changes would you make as sheriff?

No. There was an instance in my community of an assault with a deadly weapon, the response time was more than twenty minutes. The scheduling of deputies is most important to have adequate staffing and response time for all areas of the county. By reducing resources allocated to non-violent drug crimes, our deputies can more readily assist the community.

3. What changes would you like to see in the operation of the sheriff's office?

The Sheriff's Department needs to take an active, positive approach in the community. The focus should be on community relations and helping those struggling. The deputies should be held to a higher standard than in the past. The laws apply to all members, including police officers, of the community fairly. The militarization of the department should cease.

Parkersburg Mayor Candidates

Office Mayor Parkersburg

Name Sherry Dugan

Party Democrat

Biography

Lifetime resident Parkersburg

Graduated PHS 1974

Graduated Kings College 1977 degree in History/Poli Sci.

Owner Das Rookhaus 1978.

Member municipal planning commission.

City council 1990-1994

Past city committees :

Facade, Sign, Municipal, Personnel, Public Works, finance.

Past National VP US Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Past Exalted Ruler,BPOE198

Member First Lutheran Church, Altrusa, Jr League and others.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Parkersburg are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

Infrastructure has been a major issue for decades. Public Works is doing the best job with funds available. There is much more to be done. Streets are in disrepair, major water lines need work, possible floodwall issues, and general presentation of the city.Citizen committees have been fantastic. Our city needs to work closely together and increase the city's efforts.

2. What do you want to accomplish as mayor?

As Mayor I want to be financially responsible to our citizens, and provide more services. In turn bring /grow business to increase tax base. Provide jobs for young people to stay. Provide more recreational opportunities.Bring integrity and cooperation back to city hall. Actively work to

reduce drug problem. Restore pride in our great city. Keep our young people.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective mayor

My previous experience with city government, committees, council, and working knowledge of the charter allow me to work towards effectiveness. Thirty eight years as a small business owner taught financial responsibility and creativity. Numerous volunteer experiences added to my education. I've learned the value of a dollar, how to work with people, and how to accomplish the task at hand.

Office Mayor Parkersburg

Name Tom Joyce

Party Republican

Biography

Tom Joyce is a lifetime resident of Wood County. A 1992 graduate of Parkersburg Catholic; degrees include BS in Business Administration (Marshall University, 1997); Master's in Human Resources and Labor Relations (WVU, 1998); Master's in Safety and Environmental Management (WVU, 2001). Co-owner of St. Joseph's Ambulance Service since 2003; currently Director of Environmental Safety and Security for Camden Clark Medical Center.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Parkersburg are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

Parkersburg has an aging infrastructure which requires short, mid and long term planning to begin closing the gap and to repair our streets and drainage problems. Through diligent and focused planning and execution I believe we can provide a better service and product to our citizens and businesses that rely on our infrastructure.

2. What do you want to accomplish as mayor?

I will foster an environment of cooperation and trust with our citizens and devote necessary resources to ridding our neighborhoods of criminal influence and blight. I want to make Parkersburg a safer, more beautiful and trusting community - one that will attract development and promote growth.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective mayor?

I understand the importance of listening to and respecting others' perspectives. I have experience solving everyday as well as complex problems through cooperation and trust. I'm fortunate to have been taught humility, kindness and conviction by my parents. I understand that elected officials are first and foremost public servants and I believe citizens should be treated as customers not consumers.

Parkersburg City Council Candidates

Office City Council Parkersburg District 1

Name Kenneth "Ed" Judy

Party Republican

Biography

I have a Business Administration Degree and worked for the Parkersburg Water Department. You can find me on Facebook under Kenneth Judy for District 1. I am married to Rebecca (Thompson) and we have 2 children, Shawn and Jasmine. Currently I work in Freight Reconciliation for a local business taking care of 33 of the company's plants across the U.S.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Parkersburg are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

Since the Water and Sewer joined to form the Utility Board they have done a good job replacing old lines. I think they will have to keep going with the plan they have. Our storm drains I do feel need attention. I know several streets in our city flood every time we have a big rain.

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

I would like to see us focus on paying off debt. Like most of our government the focus has been on raising taxes and spending. We have youth working few hours to pay a user fee. I would rather look at cities that are lowering debt then copy the ones that come up with new taxes to pay for spending.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

To be effective in government you need to be able to work together. I know that you sometimes have to compromise and listen to new ideas. I have also consulted with different businesses on start-ups and expansions. They say people work hard for something they believe in. I believe in this town and the people in it.

Office City Council Parkersburg District 1

Name Dave McCrady,

Party Democrat

Biography

I was born and raised in District 1 and have 2 children and 2 grandchildren residing in the district. I graduated from Parkersburg South. I retired in 2005 with 35 years service with Pipefitters Local 565. I have attended council and budget meetings to prepare myself to serve District 1 and the City of Parkersburg.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Parkersburg are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

The infrastructure of Parkersburg needs an update. We are letting our City building go without proper maintenance and our fire stations are in a sad state of disrepair. We need to upgrade the computer system to bring it up to date. Our trash service needs to be modernized with trucks that pick up the trash cans rather than being lifted.

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

I want to be part of a council that is forward thinking and looking ahead for our City. A council that works for all of Parkersburg and united in bringing our City to the best we can be. I am passionate about providing our fire and police departments with training and equipment to combat our drug problem in Parkersburg.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

My background in construction and field engineering allows me to understand repairing, upgrading and building our facilities. I have always worked hard, I have volunteered countless hours at Erickson and installing playground equipment and a walking path at Martin Elementary. I was instrumental in installing the lights in front of Parkersburg South.

Office City Council Parkersburg District 2

Name Sharon A. Kuhl

Party Republican

Biography

59 years of age. Married to Joe A. Kuhl- 30 years. Graduated from Parkersburg South High School 1975- Associates Degree in Accounting- Member of : South Parkersburg Womens Club- Friends of Parkersburg Parks- Captain Neighborhood Watch- Member of South Parkersburg United Methodist Church.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Parkersburg are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

No. More Finances need to be directed toward our Infrastructure i.e. Street, Storm Sewers and Storm Drains. Not just a "patch job."

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

Create a Parks Committee. Bring our Parks up to date with more family oriented activities i.e. miniature golf, disc golf, water/splash park and cameras. Hire more personnel for Park Maintenance. Reduce or eliminate Police, Fire and User Fee. Approve more monies toward paving, storm water run off and sewer line repairs.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

Having worked in the Private Sector for 40 years, I know how to compromise to work with others to get the job done! I truly care about the City of Parkersburg and District 2 and I promise no call will go unanswered!

Office City Council Parkersburg District 2

Name Sharon Lynch

Party Democrat

Biography

Elected to City Council in 2008.; Graduate of Calhoun County High School; Bachelor's Degree Glenville State College; Master's Degree in Business Administration from Ohio University. Former Human Resources Director at Camden Clark Medical Center and WesBanco Bank; Currently employed as Human Resources Director at Family Crisis Intervention Center. Son Jim, daughter-in-law Paula, grandchildren Katie, Garret, and Nick.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Parkersburg are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

Although infrastructure is a continuous municipal need, fund availability determines what gets done . Water pressure and storm sewers need significant attention, and not as an emergency situation, but rotational. Housing, especially in the downtown, needs addressed. The demolition of abandoned or decaying buildings could provide room for better housing.

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

Increasing the police force is my foremost objective. Crime rate has increased 22.5% in the last decade. Parkersburg had 38,000 calls in 2015; had 65 police officers, compared to the three other largest cities having 100+ officers. Violent crimes were 60% and property crimes were 66% in Parkersburg compared to the county as a whole.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

When elected 8 years ago, I promised to listen to concerns and work to resolve problems. I believe I have. Streets paved, ditches cleaned, drainage improved, shelter constructed, playground equipment installed, and a retention pond built are just a few examples. Work is occurring on lingering issues. Your Voice for the South respectfully requests the right to continue.

Office City Council Parkersburg District 3

Name Robert Mercer

Party Republican

Biography

I was born and raised in Parkersburg and attended Parkersburg South High School. I have been a Dispatcher at Wood County 911 for over 10 years. Most of my adult life I have been involved in some type of public service. I have been married for 35 years and have 2 daughters and 3 granddaughters.

- 1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Parkersburg are being adequately addressed? Please explain.**

Yes Roads are being replaced and dilapidated structures are being torn down. We are seeing the city taking great strides to improve the infrastructure .More needs to be done but it will come in time.

- 2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?**

I want to accomplish several things as a member of council. But the main ones are .Making Parkersburg a place where business and families want to locate .I want to work with citizen groups to help make our city better. I want to bring the people back to the meetings so they will know that their opinion counts.

- 3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?**

I bring the qualities of Honesty and Leadership, I bring the ability to work with people on all levels.I bring the knowledge of working within a budget and caring for other peoples money. I bring the quality of listening and acting on what I believe is right just for me but for those I represent.

Office City Council Parkersburg District 3

Name Craig Metz

Party Democrat

Biography

I am a graduate of PSHS and Glenville State College. Employed for the past 18 years as City of Vienna Public Works Director, I have managed multi-million dollar budgets for Water, Sewer, Street and Stormwater departments, designing street projects, water and sewer improvements and bio-retention systems. Certifications include Flood Plain Management, Roads Scholar, Emergency Management and Public Service Commission accreditations.

- 1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Parkersburg are being adequately addressed? Please explain.**

No. Although I believe Public Works and Utility Board personnel are doing a great job, assistance is needed. There are utility lines that were installed in the early 1900s that should be replaced to avoid the negative effects of inadequate water, sewer and storm drainage systems. I would promote seeking grant money to supplement the city's cost of needed projects.

- 2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?**

My major priorities for Parkersburg are improvements to the infrastructure, parks and streets and providing a voice for the residents to present their concerns and ideas, growing the city from within. This can happen when we work together as one body, not as twenty small groups, each with its own agenda. I want to help make Parkersburg better, not bigger.

- 3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?**

As Vienna's Public Works Director, I have attended council meetings for the past 18 years,

affording me an overview of each area of the city's departments and services. The projects and issues for which I have shared responsibility give me an awareness of all aspects of utility and street projects, from budgeting to completion. I hope to serve Parkersburg's citizens.

Office City Council Parkersburg District 4

Name Eric Barber

Party Democrat

Biography

I'm 38 years old, married with a 2 year old daughter. I work as a H.V.A.C. technician at the Uptowner project. I live in a troubled part of Parkersburg where I see dealers operate without fear of arrest. I understand the reality of life for the average citizen because Its my reality as well.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Parkersburg are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

No. Among our infrastructure concerns are fire stations and roads. Some city streets are in such disrepair that they damage cars. Our fire stations need repaired or replaced. Investment in our utility infrastructures will be required to ensure our city has clean and safe drinking water.

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

Parkersburg's biggest issue is crime and drug addiction. Increasing the size of our police force to meet our city's needs will be my priority. I will also work hard to get a meaningful treatment center in Parkersburg. We have big city problems and our priority should be law enforcement and drug suppression.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

I'm an average citizen who is experiencing the same problems many Parkersburg family's are enduring. I'm a hard worker who is empathic of the suffering in our city. I have a common sense approach that comes from being a common citizen.

Office City Council Parkersburg District 4

Name John R. Sandy

Party Republican

Biography

Resident, taxpayer, property owner. Business owner, retired public servant, former Parkersburg City Councilman. Mature, responsible and Conservative

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Parkersburg are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

The infrastructure needs of Parkersburg are not being addressed adequately. The streets are terrible. We need to commit two million dollars to streets immediately. Code Enforcement is a joke-deplorable housing conditions continue to exist. We have a declining population -admit it and try to improve what we have and forget Pie in the Sky Schemes and deal with reality.

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

Reduce frivolous spending-reduce the size of the City Government by making a Charter change and reduce City Council from nine to five districts-saving the City \$384,000.00 over four years and spend that money on Five additional Policeman and five additional Fireman. Reinstate the Longevity for City employees.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

Common sense, maturity, ethics and conservatism.

Office City Council Parkersburg District 5
Name J.R. Carpenter
Party Democrat

Biography

Marshall graduate in management, minor in marketing/finance. Self employed and run The Crystal Cafe with my wife for 14 years. Current District 5 councilman , was president of council during last years difficult and emotional times while maintaining order in following the charter. Actions speak louder than words, I listen, respond to, and get most issues resolved in my district.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Parkersburg are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

Our infrastructure is being addressed and has been improved in the past 14 months. There still is a long way to go though. More streets, sidewalks, park improvements still need to be addressed and completed. Currently our fire stations are in dire need and require attention and money. Avery street sidewalk and lighting project is set to start from 8th

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

Continue to insure our charter is followed. Council was set up as a check and balance on tax money and government.. Our future is our children, we need them to want to come back. I would like to see our fire stations and aquatic park plans implemented . See to it that internal district concerns are addressed with timely responses.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

I am currently serving as councilman . I serve the public in retail daily, available to listen to districts specific issues and work with the administration for resolution and timely responses of these issues. During last years turbulent times , as president, I maintained calm composure and patience during our meetings. I ask again for your vote to continue serving our district.

Office City Council Parkersburg District 5
Name Lisa A Zecca
Party Republican

Biography

MS Education Rehabilitation Counseling. For the last 20 years employed for a managed care company as a Manager and Expert Witness. Manage over 500 contractors and full time team members. Managed \$3,000,000 budget/revenue. Strong Leadership and Ethical background. Former Council Member for SJV church. Current PJL committee member and SMMRCC volunteer. Facebook: Lisa Zecca City Council

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Parkersburg are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

In any infrastructure, respect to the needs and function require regular attention and commitment. When growth or redirection is required it is important that it is recognized and a mutually agreeable solution and commitment is embraced and implemented. It is the commitment that present the current state of the City of Parkersburg in

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

I would like to see citizens continue to grow within the function and success of the city's future. I would like to be an avenue for those who are unfamiliar or uncertain about our city to take a more active role in its growth and development. Empowering the residents will spread

hometown pride and stimulate economic growth.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

Qualities that I possess include being an excellent listener, and fair decision maker. I have a strong faithful foundation and commitment to community and those that serve it and whom it serves. Additionally I have strong organizational and business skills that will guide/assist me when addressing difficult problems.

Office City Council Parkersburg District 6

Name Mike Reynolds

Party Republican

Candidate did not reply

Office City Council Parkersburg District 7

Name Rob Noland

Party Republican

Candidate did not reply

Office City Council Parkersburg District 7

Name John Reed

Party Democrat

Biography

Former Paramedic, St Joseph's Hospital and Parkersburg Police Officer. Parkersburg City Council in 1980s. New Store Development Coordinator for Blockbuster, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Washington D.C., promoted to Corporate Headquarters Ft Lauderdale to oversee test store operations. Returned to work for Wood County as Director of Building Permit and Compliance Office and currently Director, Wood County Solid waste Authority

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Parkersburg are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

Streets are in disrepair from two factors, potholes and public utilities that digs up the street and don't properly return them to their original condition. If utilities cannot properly repair their roadwork, the city should require road bonds from those utilities, so money may be pulled for a contractor to complete the job properly without further taxes being spent.

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

Stronger compliance with repairs to dilapidated housing that lowers the value of all residents property and entices criminal occupancy through subpar rents. Forming Neighborhood Councils to work with citizens to share ideas for solutions to common problems and insure city services are responsive to and reflect the needs of its neighborhoods. This provides a forum for discussion on neighborhood issues.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

I have the ability of forming teams of individuals experienced in their fields to create ideas and implement projects that better the community. We have a diverse community full of people with individual skills that we can bring together to work on programs to fulfill the desires of the public to make our town an even better place to reside.

Office City Council Parkersburg District 8

Name John W. Rockhold, III

Party Democrat

Biography

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT- Kiwanis, Boys and Girls Club Foundation, Westbrook Mental Health Center, West Virginia Central Credit Union Supervisory Board

As a member of Parkersburg City Council I serve on Roundtable – Wood County and Parkersburg Development Authority and PKB. I also represent Parkersburg by serving on the Board of Directors of the West Virginia Municipal League.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Parkersburg are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

The needs of Parkersburg's infrastructure are being addressed as best they can with limited resources. Waterlines, sewers and floodwall pumps that are not visible are just as important as streets, sidewalks and city parks. I feel that preventive maintenance better serves the citizens rather than doing major, costly repairs after damage occurs due to neglect.

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

I want to bring leadership and stabilization to the Parkersburg City Council that will include a new mayor and several new council members by doing what is right and best for Parkersburg based on 12 years of experience.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

My qualities to serve include a willingness to listen to our citizens and to investigate the issues. I have the dedication to do what is right and best for Parkersburg and the desire to serve with faithfulness, dedication and integrity.

Office City Council Parkersburg District 8

Name Zachary T. Stanley

Party Republican

Biography

I was born and raised in District 8 Parkersburg. I was a Senator on Student Council at WVU-P while completing my Bachelors Degree in Business. I graduated from WVU with my MBA in 2014. I am a Branch Manager at Peoples Bank in Parkersburg. I am happily married to my wife, Kristen, and have 3 sons, Sutton, Griffin, and Judah.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Parkersburg are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

The infrastructure needs in Parkersburg are not adequately addressed, from our roads to our parks the word that adequately describes our city is complacency. Our leadership has not been progressive enough to lead our community into the 21st century. Our town has become an eye sore and it is time to bring Parkersburg back to prominence once again.

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

I will work with the citizens of Parkersburg ensuring their voice is heard and acted upon; too often the cries of our community fall on deaf ears. I will strive for our residents to make memories in Parkersburg. I will try and get rid of the user fee, aggressively seek new business, and overhaul the archaic City Park pool.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

Leadership: I served 12 years in the Army Reserve, 9 of which were a leadership role. I'm a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom and know what it takes to lead, motivate, and listen to

understand, instead of listening to respond. I have managed in most jobs I have had, working with others under pressure to produce results.

Office City Council Parkersburg District 9

Name Shelly Cuppett

Party Republican

Biography

I am a wife of 24 years and a mother of three children. I bring to this position communication skills that can not be taught in any classroom. Communication is the foundation for all relationships which is the foundation for not only families but also for businesses and cities.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Parkersburg are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

There will always be infrastructure needs in the city due to many challenges including environmental and weather changes. I believe the City of Parkersburg has adequately addressed many of its infrastructure needs, however there is always room for improvement.

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

As a member of City Council, I will work hard to represent my District to the best of my ability while striving to restore unity within the walls of our city. Although I am not a native, Parkersburg is where I call home and as long as I live here- I want to contribute in making our city amazing!

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

Overseeing a family requires the gift of listening. It is challenging at times to listen to and meet each individual's needs while maintaining a healthy balance. It requires time and patience. I may not have always had the perfect solution but as a mom, I am qualified for any task the City of Parkersburg presents to me.

Office City Council Parkersburg District 9

Name Jeffrey Fox

Party Democrat

Biography

Born, raised and a lifelong Parkersburg resident. Attended Emerson, Hamilton and PHS. Degrees from WV Tech and WVU-P. Electrician and a longtime member of IBEW 968. Served Local 968 as Business Manager/Financial Secretary, President and Recording Secretary. Volunteer for local non profits.

www.foxford9.wordpress.com

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Parkersburg are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

The "basic" infrastructure needs may be being met. Declining population means less citizens to fund the maintenance of an infrastructure once serving 14,000 more citizens. Paving is very visible maintenance, but there are challenges in storm sewers and proper drainage of our city. It is ongoing work to safely maintain water lines and sewage lines to proper standards.

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

Work together with other council members, the mayor and local leaders to grow opportunity. Work to attract jobs which will pay a livable wage and provide benefits. Listen and address the needs and concerns of constituents to make our city a safer and more inviting place to live or locate a business.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

Experience from serving as business manager for 200+ workers, dealing with contracts, health care, pensions, training and more. I'm hardworking and persistent when faced with a finding a solution. I'm a good listener and believe that many of the best ideas to make Parkersburg a better place to live and work can be found from its citizens.

Vienna Mayor Candidates

Office Mayor Vienna

Name Tom Azinger

Party Non-partisan

Biography

Born: Wood County, Lived in Vienna 40 years.

Graduate: PHS and WVU

Eagle Scout

Small Business Owner, Insurance agent for 30 years

WV House of Delegates 1994-2014

Delegate Committees: Government Organization, Veterans, Banking, Insurance, Small Business, and Seniors.

Wood County Senior Citizens: Former Board Member

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Vienna are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

There could be more work done in the area of infrastructure. The paving budget has been increased, but I would try to give it another bump up. Would make sure all hydrants and valves are up to standard. The water is shut off several times a year so I would work on the water and sewer line upgrades/schedule citywide.

2. What do you want to accomplish as mayor?

As mayor, I want to continue strong support for the fire and police departments. Today public safety is the #1 priority. Would give support to the activities involving children, who are our greatest assets. Would become involved with the business community who is city's primary source of revenue. Would look very closely at expenses to hold them in line.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective mayor?

I get along with people well. I try to be frank, forthright, and not promise what I can't deliver. As a former bank director I understand finances and how to balance a budget. I am frugal. I have twenty years of experience working in the WV House of Delegates on the Government Organization, Banking Committee, and Small Business Committee.

Office Mayor Vienna

Name Randall Rapp

Party Non-partisan

Biography

I am 62 years old and have been married to Cassie for 36 years. We have 2 daughters, Carrie and Shelly. I graduated from PHS and have a BA from WVU. I have 25 years' experience as a small business owner. I serve on many local boards and believe in working together to make Vienna the "Pride of the Valley".

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Vienna are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

Overall, the infrastructure of the city is in good shape. The water tanks are new or refurbished.

The sewer plant was rebuilt with new technology. We are constantly replacing old lines. We have a 5 year plan where we are working on the oldest sections of town first and replacing fire hydrants as needed.

2. What do you want to accomplish as mayor?

I want to help Vienna remain one of the top cities in WV; help our schools maintain their excellent ratings so our population base will grow; promote economic development so there will be good jobs for our graduates. I want them to stay and make our neighborhoods more stable. I want to eliminate drug abuse and promote healthy lifestyles.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective mayor?

I have 12 years' experience on city council. I have the respect of my peers and serve as President of the Mid-Ohio Valley Mayors' Association. I know the value of cooperation and strive to work with groups at local, state and federal levels. I have proven that I can lead Vienna through a crisis and still maintain our city.

Office Mayor Vienna

Name Lawrence J. Wilson

Party Non-partisan

Biography

Wonderful wife of 25 years. Two daughters, married, 7 grandchildren. AA College degree, Courses in Management and Accounting. 13 years of Federal Service in U.S. Army and 7 with Social Security Administration. Fought Corruption no matter the personal cost to myself. Firm and unflinching belief in the Constitution and Bill of Rights. Please read my blog: vienna-wvissues.weebly.com.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Vienna are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

Needs of residential areas are totally inadequate. Many neighborhoods with no sidewalks which are a major Public Safety issue. Actual City property lines in many areas are unfair to residents and have resulted in huge expenses to them over the years. Routine City maintenance is seemingly poor and/or not done on timely basis?

2. What do you want to accomplish as mayor?

Sidewalks on at least one side of every street for Public Safety. Adjustments of property lines to give to adjacent property owners land they have maintained for years at their expense when in fact was City property. Repair/ replace faulty sewer/water lines. Improve hiring and promotional opportunities for Employees. Obey City Ordinances and Federal/ State Laws.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective mayor?

Integrity, Morals and Ethics. Absolutely no use for Cronyism, Favoritism or Nepotism. Years of Public Service where the customer is to be helped with no exceptions on who they are or know. Knows and respects who I would be working for: Residents, Taxpayers, Voters. Firm belief in Governmental Public Service. Strong ethical belief in helping the people.

Vienna Recorder Candidates

Office Recorder Vienna

Name James R. "Jim" Sims

Party Non-partisan

Biography

Lifelong resident of Wood county. Graduated from Parkersburg high school, married 37 years, 3 children, Adam, Angela, Abby, 3 grandchildren, worked 27 years City of Parkersburg as electrician,

supervisor building grounds flood wall, director sanitation recycling. I serve on the board Latrobe street mission, vienna lions club, vienna planning commission, also ordained minister for over 20 years.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Vienna are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

As with all infrastructure there are parts we cannot see. I am sure there are parts that are aging and need upgraded. I am not aware of any real problem areas at this time.

2. What do you want to accomplish as recorder?

As Recorder I would like to make city government more user friendly, more transparent, and keep an open door policy. Keep and make the rules to work for all the citizens of Vienna.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective recorder?

I bring a great deal of knowledge of city government to the table. As with any new job I am sure there are things I will have to learn. But I bring a willingness to do so and also to be part of the team that keeps Vienna a great place to live for all. Thank you for your support.

Office Recorder Vienna

Name Cathy Smith

Party Non-partisan

Biography

Raised in a military family, graduating from PHS in 1971. Worked for the Vienna Police Department following graduation and remained an employee till 2001. Have eleven years of service with Department of Veteran Affairs. Returned to VPD in 2014. Served on Vienna City Council since 2001, as Recorder since 2012. Mother of Steve Harris, Brittany Nolan and Holly Smith.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Vienna are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

Infrastructure is always an ongoing project in any City. Vienna spends a minimum of \$500,000 yearly on road paving projects. In 2015, the 28th Street bridge across Pond Run was replaced. The City has acquired a sewer camera truck for use in the sewer system and detecting sewer blockages.

2. What do you want to accomplish as recorder?

To continue preserving and maintaining the records for the City of Vienna and take an active part on Council striving to make Vienna the best and safest City to raise your family.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective recorder?

Having served the City of Vienna my entire adult life, I feel I have the familiarity, knowledge and expertise to continue serving the citizens of our community.

Vienna City Council Candidates

Vote for not more than 5 candidates for Vienna City Council

Office City Council Vienna

Name Roger D. Bibbee

Party Non-partisan

Biography

I am a lifelong resident of Vienna. I served on the Fire Department for 28 years with the last 13 years as Deputy Fire Chief. I am a graduate of PHS and attended WVU Government Leadership Academy. I have an extensive background in public safety and I'm a member of Fellowship Baptist Church.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Vienna are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

The infrastructure is adequate but it must be a work in progress. City Services and infrastructure must meet the needs of our citizens, homes, and business's. I will continue to support infrastructure upgrades which will also have an impact on community development. Infrastructure must keep up with the growth of the City.

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

With the passage of Home Rule and the one percent sales tax I would like to start the process of rolling back property and B&O taxes. I believe this would make it easier for our citizens and encourage future business development. We must continue adequate emergency planning to keep our citizens safe.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

I will apply a common sense approach to city government. On any action before me I like to think about what will continue to make Vienna a great place to live, work, and raise a family. I have City Council experience and will represent all citizens with honesty, integrity, and will be accountable for my decisions.

Office City Council Vienna

Name Jon W. Cain

Party Non-partisan

Biography

Born and Raised in Wood County

Graduate

Parkersburg High School

Parkersburg Community College

West Virginia State University

Served in the USMCR USNR

Certified Public Accountant

Real Estate Developer CM Properties

Vice President WV Board of Accountancy

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Vienna are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

Vienna has seen the challenge to its water system this past year and the citizens were left to drink bottled water for an extended period of time. An immediate emergency system was not in place to protect the city. There is a need for strategic planning to be installed.

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

I want to bring transparency to our city government. All transactions and decisions have to be exposed to the general public and the public needs to be able to comment on these items.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

I would bring over thirty years of experience as practicing Certified Public Accountant. I have worked with clients from small business to multi-state corporations. As real estate developer I have managed multi million dollar construction projects. This base of knowledge will allow me to bring a fresh look at our government.

Office City Council Vienna

Name Roger Conley

Party Non-partisan

Biography

I am Roger Conley. A lifelong resident of Wood County having lived in Vienna for nearly 10 years. I

am married to Katherine for 42 years. We have 3 grown children and 5 grandchildren. Most of my career has been in upper management of the manufacturing industry. I have owned and operated Conley Fabrication LLC. For nearly 10 years.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Vienna are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

Our infrastructure will require a comprehensive continuous improvement plan addressing our aging water and sewer lines. Our streets and sidewalks need improved at a more rapid pace. Our storm drain system needs upgraded to prevent street flooding. This plan can and should be funded by annually earmarking a portion of the extra revenue received from the home rule program.

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

I will utilize decades of experience as a successful business man, economic development and as a proven job creator to bring growth, new jobs and job retention to our city while keeping it a safe place to raise our families. We can cut cost in many ways while reducing taxes/fees and remain fiscally strong. I look forward to assisting.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

I bring strong leadership ability, the key to any successful organization. I understand how to create budgets and work within that budget while spending money based on a good ROI (return on investment). I think we would be better served if our leaders signed the front side of more checks than the back side as I do.

Office City Council Vienna

Name Mike Elam

Party Non-partisan

Biography

Lifelong resident of Vienna. Wife of 13 years, Melissa. Sons, Chaz 9 and Tyson 3. Employed by Stonerise Healthcare as an Administrator. Bachelor's Degree from Marshall University. Attend North Parkersburg Baptist Church. Actively involved in Vienna Rec. My faith and family are the two most important things in my life.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Vienna are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

I want to make sure all policies and procedures are being followed and are up to date.

Infrastructure maintenance, improvements, and replacements should be reviewed periodically to ensure we are doing things in the best interest of the community. A few to start with would be flooded side streets and street paving and maintenance.

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

Business development throughout the commercial district and Spencer's Landing development. I'm concerned about so many empty buildings and closed businesses. I want to help revitalize our city. I also want to make sure we are being proactive as a community in the dangerous drug movement coming into the Mid-Ohio Valley. It effects health, families, businesses, and public safety.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

As a nursing home administrator I know how important it is to surround myself with good people. I believe as citizens we should surround our mayor with a council that will be wise, discerning, positive, and productive. In life, I'm not a participant, I'm a competitor. I can bring that same focus to the responsibilities involving our city.

Office City Council Vienna

Name Gail Gaines
Party Non-partisan

Biography

Vienna has been my home my entire life. My parents, grandparents, daughter and granddaughters were all raised here as well. I spent a few years in other states & gathered various life experiences that I feel will add to my qualifications. I have a background in finance, real estate, insurance & appraising.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Vienna are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

Leadership is key to any well run City. Our citizens should be proud of the accomplishments this year. The undertaking of projects such as Spencer's Landing, improvements to both parks & the quick, efficient handling of recent water problems. Drugs & crime are a growing problem everywhere but good leadership has kept us below the crime rate of neighboring cities.

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

Vienna has grown to be a beautiful city. Good leadership has enhanced the flavor of this growing city without losing its small town charm. I do not want to see that change. Vienna is doing great things and my interest in running for office is simply that I would like to be a part of what makes this city great

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

My recent retirement allows me to devote my time to things that interest me. I feel this is the direction I am being led. I promise to devote myself to learning the needs of the citizens, attend meetings, serve on committees and work to promote the well being of our beautiful city.

Office City Council Vienna
Name Larry Godfrey
Party Non-partisan

Biography

I am an avid Christian and Native of West Virginia. Resident of Wood County for 54 years. Resident of Vienna for 13 years, attended WVUP 1979-1980, honorable discharged US Army Reserves 1966. Completed numerous training programs and seminars on local governance and effectiveness. Member of North Parkersburg Kiwanis Club, member of Mt. Olivet 3 and Scottish Rite Bodies.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Vienna are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

Yes, however, the infrastructure needs of Vienna will increase dramatically in the next 20 years. The City has a current operating budget of approximately \$8,522,321 and the infrastructure budget will be in the range of \$25,000,000 to \$40,000,000 during this period. Now is the time to start preparing for this influx of major additional funding.

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

My commitment is to serve the citizens and the employees of Vienna. I will be available for you at any time to discuss your problems and concerns. I would like to complement Vienna City Government and the employees. They have done an excellent job of maintaining a strong financial and stable environment.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

I am dedicated, qualified, experienced and committed to serve the citizens of Vienna. I have served 12 1/2 years as an elected public official. I have served on several community and service organizations. My public service consist of serving 8 1/2 years on Parkersburg City Council and four years on the Wood County Board of Education. Retired DuPont 35 years.

Office City Council Vienna
Name Norman Harris
Party Non-partisan

Biography

Graduate of Williamstown High School. I have been a citizen of Vienna since 1990. I am employed with the City of Vienna as the Parks and Recreation Director and have been a department head for twenty plus years. I have gained considerable knowledge of the working operations of the city in my employment.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Vienna are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

I feel the infrastructure needs of Vienna are being addressed, but more attention of the water, sewer, and storm water lines need to be addressed. The age and in some cases the sizing are not adequate. We need to place these items on a yearly replacement or redesign some areas, just as the street repair or repaving have be done

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

I would like to review and implement reduced taxes or reduced fees to the citizens. Implement all infrastructure repair on a yearly basis. Work on strengthening council to be the governing body that it should be. Work on traffic control in the city, some streets need to become one way

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

I bring to the city a proven record of improvement, as I have done with the parks and recreation for the city for the past 20 years. Managing budgets to get the most out of the money to give back to the citizens.

Office City Council Vienna
Name Harry Helmick
Party Non-partisan

Biography

Married 43 years to Patricia Helmick living in Vienna where we have raised three children. Carie Walker, Melissa Barnhart, Alex Helmick. Retiring from the Insurance industry about four years ago and received extensive training in Financial needs. Experience that will be valuable as a City council member working with large sums of money and budgets. Making sensible decisions for the

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Vienna are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

Vienna can do a better job meeting the infrastructure needs of all residents. For example, some small streets and alleys in the city need work. Some residents can hardly access their properties or garages, while other side roads are poorly maintained and destroy vehicles and other property. As well as small streets that should be one way only

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

As a member of city council, I want our residents to know I am their voice. I want to hear from them and push for what is best for all our city's residents. I want to have more debate and public hearings so our community feels we are being responsible with their tax dollars.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

I have been in the private sector for 50 years. I have managed large budgets, and know how to effectively work with colleagues and neighbors. I will always do what is best for the city I love and have lived in for several decades. I want this to be the place where future generations will continue to thrive

Office City Council Vienna
Name Jim Leach
Party Non-partisan

Biography

Lifelong education and service to others are the hallmarks of leadership. My background includes 20 years legal experience, a Masters in Energy Law from WVU in 2015, being CEO of Business Systems, a 50 year-old Vienna business, and being a general/electrical contractor developing real estate in Vienna. My family and I have created jobs in Vienna for 30 years.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Vienna are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

We are blessed in Vienna to have a strong tax base and stable city government backed by dedicated and long-tenured city employees. The consolidation and streamlining of our maintenance and utility support facilities is visionary and of long-term benefit. Vienna is a model community and I look forward to contributing to our continued progress and prosperity.

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

First, be a good council member. My passion, however, is Johns Manville. With a Masters in Law in environmental and hazardous waste law, I understand contaminated property. I also own the Texaco tank farm and the Brockway Glass plant. I have experience with those sites. With this education and experience, I can help our leaders remediate Manville for our city.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

In my view, effective action comes from teamwork. I coached Vienna sports for almost 15 years, where I learned that teamwork builds synergy, a powerful force for achievement beyond what any individual can do alone. I also like to analyze issues before deciding upon a course of action, but then focus intensely on the desired result until it is accomplished.

Office City Council Vienna
Name Jim Miracle
Party Non-partisan

Biography

I am Retired US Navy and currently working at the Parkersburg and Wood County Library. I am the Chairman of the Landmarks Commission and Coordinator for Carlin's Battery.

I am looking forward to serving the citizens for another term. He was appointed to serve on Tree and Beautification, Vienna Planning Commission, CVB Liaison and the Utility Board.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Vienna are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

I do feel the infrastructure needs of the Vienna have been met. I have had the pleasure of working with my fellow Councilmembers to rebuild the Utility Board and Public Works Department. The New Complex on 60th Street eliminated using many smaller buildings. Thereby, having one centralized facility, with easy access for the citizens of Vienna.

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

I would like to see the City Grow, by supporting the Business' we already and bringing in more business prospect. To finish the rehab and development of the John Manville site. We also need to try to get some relief for the citizens in the some form of tax reduction if at all possible

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

I have tried to do the best for the citizens and love working to solve problems. I am a Citizen of this city just as you all are. I would love to serve you again and see our city GROW..

Office City Council Vienna

Name Rick Phillips

Party Non-partisan

Note that the late Rick Phillips' name will be on the ballot. If he were elected, a vacancy would exist and the new city council would name a replacement after taking office in January 2017.

Office City Council Vienna

Name Brian Rader

Party Non-partisan

Biography

I am a lifelong resident of Vienna, married to my wife Susan for 22 years and have a 21 year old daughter named Mackenzie. I have worked for the Wood County Sheriff's Department for the last 18 years and have a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal justice. I am a local business owner.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Vienna are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

I feel our infrastructure is being addressed. There is always a need in continued improvements to our roads, water and sewer for the safety of our citizens. We need to assure our residents feel safe in their homes and businesses by providing our public safety departments the state of the art equipment and gear to protect and serve.

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

As a member of council, I would fight in making sure we have a balanced budget yearly and take care of our citizens and personnel. I want to see Vienna develop and have an activity center for our young and seniors, and improve on our parks. I want to work towards seeing more businesses make our city their home.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

I grew up in Vienna and have seen how we have grown and prosper over the years. I am a local business owner so I know how to stay within my means. As a Vienna resident and being employed by the Sheriff's Office Confinement Operations I have developed a strong relationship with the employees, public works and public safety personnel.

Office City Council Vienna

Name Bruce Rogers

Party Non-partisan

Biography

My name is Bruce Rogers and I was born in Wood County West Virginia. I graduated from Parkersburg High School. I received a BS degree from Marshall University and a MA degree from West Virginia University. I taught school for Wood County at Edison and Jackson Jr. (Middle) High School. I served in the US Air Force.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Vienna are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

In the past four years we, as council, have up-dated our sewer station with new pumps, relays and a back-up generator, renovated our water storage tanks and added two new tanks. We have put electronic reading systems on our water meters, developed an emergency plan, in conjunction with local churches, and placed emergency generators on City buildings.

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

I would like to sell City property behind Cheddars and use it to clean-up the Manville plant sight so that it may be developed by businesses to bring jobs and economic development to the

- City. Develop Spencer's Landing with shelter, restrooms, and athletic fields. Use the newly purchased camera truck to decrease storm water in our sewer system.
- 3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?**
- I hope that my educational background and experience that I have had while serving as a councilman would enable for me to continue be an effective council person.

Office City Council Vienna
Name Rod Shuman
Party Non-partisan

Biography

Life-long Vienna resident and PHS graduate 1978. Married to Vickie 36 years. Father of Matt Shuman and Shelley (Jason) Czerr. Grandfather of Bear Czerr. Graduated WV State Police 54th Basic Police Academy 1984. Wood County Deputy Sheriff 1983-1989. Vienna Police Officer 1989-2014, retired Sergeant. President of Vienna Recreation (member 30 years) and member Vienna Park Board approximately 20 years.

- 1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Vienna are being adequately addressed? Please explain.**
- There is always room for infrastructure improvement. Paved streets are being repaired adequately, but most concrete roads are in need of repair. There is grass growing in many cracks where tar used to be added regularly. Drainage is still an issue on many streets.
- 2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?**
- I would like to update some of the City code using common sense. We have laws that I feel are detrimental to business growth. Parking space requirements for new buildings make demolition of old buildings implausible from 28th Street north on Grand Central. This area should be addressed differently regarding parking requirements.
- 3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?**
- I have an open mind and can reason with anyone regarding differing opinions. I have been blessed with patience which I feel helps to make sound judgment calls. I have been a public servant virtually my entire adult life volunteering with Vienna Recreation Sports and in Vienna Parks.

Office City Council Vienna
Name Victoria "Vicki" Sopranik
Party Non-partisan

Biography

After graduating from WVU, I started my career in retail management, later attending WVU Law School. I first worked at a large firm focused on commercial litigation and civil defense and now work at a small firm assisting individuals. The skills I developed over my career give me a strong foundation to solve complex problems for the citizens of Vienna.

- 1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of Vienna are being adequately addressed? Please explain.**
- Although the infrastructure in Vienna has improved, particularly the water filtration updates for C8 and the new Utility Board Facilities, there is more to do. The destruction and revitalization of Johns Manville property is highest priority. Improvements also need to be made to other dilapidated buildings to create a base for new investment and job creation in Vienna.
- 2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?**
- We need to reclaim and revitalize the Johns Manville property as well as other older properties

to create new investment, create new economic development projects to create jobs, continue to improve our water resources to protect our citizens, improve the infrastructure of our schools and create a drug program to stop the epidemic of drug overdoses in our community.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

Being an avid reader of all genres has developed my ability to connect the big picture to individual's needs. My past experience in the legal field has honed my attention to detail, organization skills and ability to execute tasks quickly and efficiently. I would be honored to use these skills to help make Vienna the best city it can be.

North Hills Mayor Candidates

Office Mayor North Hills

Name Gregory Burd

Party Non-partisan

Candidate did not reply

Office Mayor North Hills

Name Craig Elliott

Party Non-partisan

Candidate did not reply

North Hills Recorder Candidates

Office Recorder North Hills

Name Robert High

Party Non-partisan

Biography

-Resident for 30 years, member of Town Council for 10 years, participate in most projects
-Retired from career as VP Finance, Controller, currently business consultant with SCORE
-12 years Arm Finance Officer, Top Secret clearance, airborne qualified; proudly served in Vietnam;
drive Veterans to clinics
-Active Secretary, Vienna Lions Club, sining highest achievement award last 3 years.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of North Hills are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

Support and encourage Council's plans and objectives

Find "solutions" to Town's inflow and infiltration (I&I) problem that costs the Town thousands of dollars each year; record Sewer Board minutes.

Emphasize high priority projects including storm drain repairs, swimming pool maintenance; limit re-paving.

Recommend and facilitate a Town-wide referendum on pond rehabilitation

Reduce speeding in NH and replace speed limit signs

2. What do you want to accomplish as recorder?

Acknowledge and build on previous Recorder's outstanding efforts

Provide monthly financial reports to Council with variances to budget.

Require "Urban Deer Hunt" participants to pay for all costs

- Enforce collection of Street User Fees
Find alternatives to reduced State funding.
Reduce the Mayor's authority to spend funds without Council approval
Develop Town's website to include time and date of vandalism
- 3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective recorder?**
- Experienced in financial management; accounting and management professor; previously NH Recorder.
Participate in Town activities and encourage others to join Neighborhood Watch,litter clean-up, 4th of July celebration, and swimming pool membership.
Support the use of Roberts Rules of Order as required by Town's By-Laws and adherence to "open meetings" rule.
Emphasize a "strong Council" technique for administering Town activities.

Office Recorder North Hills
Name Regina Smith
Party Non-partisan

Candidate did not reply

North Hills City Council Candidates

Vote for not more than 5 candidates for North Hills City Council

Office City Council North Hills
Name Dale Baumgartner
Party Non-partisan

Biography

My wife Sarah and I have enjoyed raising our five children here in North Hills for almost ten years. We choose North Hills when I relocated to West Virginia for work. I have a Masters Degree in Metallurgical Engineering which I will use to help North Hills continue to be the preferred choice for families in the MOV area.

- 1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of North Hills are being adequately addressed? Please explain.**

Infrastructure issues are even more pressing with North Hills being a small community. North Hills is a place we want to raise families and enjoy once they have grown, so long term thinking is needed to correct. North Hills has some of highest sewage rates of any MOV community so that will be an immediate focus of mine.

- 2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?**

What I hope to accomplish as member of the town council is simple: Make North Hills the best community in the MOV area through fiscal discipline and sound decision making. I'm not running for town council as a hobby. I'm running so that I can work very hard at utilizing tax payer's money as effectively as possible.

- 3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?**

I believe my experience living in other parts of the country raising a family and working on multimillion dollar projects in my places of employment will help me be the type of council member people want.

Office City Council North Hills

Name Diane Burd
Party Non-partisan

Biography

I am Diane Burd and seeking your vote for Town Council for North Hills. I'm a working professional with natural drive, experience in leadership, and great teamwork ethics. It is my desire to help create the best community for us to not only raise our families but to help those gracefully aging to live in peace and comfort.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of North Hills are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

The infrastructure has been addressed with the resources we have had available to do so, however, we need to look deeper into potential grant opportunities to locate financial resources to assist the town in upgrading the water, lighting and other day to day items affecting the functionality of the town.

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

I hope to see North Hills continue to thrive as the safe, family oriented town it has always been. In today's times can no longer sit idly by and assume things are running smoothly. We need to be neighbors watching out for neighbors on a grander level than before. I want to help figure out how we do that.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

I'm a hometown resident and firm believer that we are responsible for the world we leave for the next generation. I am blessed to have grandchildren in NH and that drives me to want to ensure the absolute best not only for them but for all the family's who will fill our homes in the future.

Office City Council North Hills
Name William E. 'Gene' Hilton
Party Non-partisan

Biography

After graduating from MSU with a BS in Chemical Engineering, I worked for DuPont for 42 years where I served as project liaison and leader from scope through start-up of several facilities and led teams in design and installation of software systems. Using my training in safety and quality, I trained and led audit and improvement teams for both.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of North Hills are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

While I feel the critical infrastructure for North Hills including maintenance and upgrade programs is good, I feel it can be expanded further and improved by: working with electrical and water suppliers to minimize outages and, providing additional facilities for community social activities, recreation and nature. An engineering study of soil stability and potential stabilizing methods is important.

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

My objectives are to help support infrastructure maintenance, seek outside funding for new projects to increase community activities, work to increase community participation in Town projects and activities, foster improvements in Town 'curb appeal' to increase property values, and maintain the Town's current low crime level. I intend to continue working with Neighborhood Watch, and Yard Sales traffic.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

I feel that I am community oriented, willing to work as required for the Town, experienced in participating in or leading improvement teams, automatically look to future Town needs, willing to consider and research new ideas, and work to support others.

Office City Council North Hills

Name Chris Johnson

Party Non-partisan

Candidate did not reply

Office City Council North Hills

Name Ashley Kalika

Party Non-partisan

Biography

I grew up in Pennsylvania and attended college at Penn State; graduated with a BS in Management Information Systems. My family moved to North Hills in 2010. I am currently a stay at home mother of three girls, all under the age of 8

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of North Hills are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

I believe the infrastructure needs of North Hills are being handled properly. If and when there is an issue, concerns are handled by the town in a very timely fashion. I believe the addition of our Facebook page is a great step to open communication within the town so everyone can stay informed and so everyone can have a voice.

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

If chosen to be a council member, I would work on maintaining and building North Hills to continue to be an updated, family-centered town. I consider myself very lucky to be able to raise my children in such a safe environment. To put in the time and effort to preserve a place such as this, would be an honor.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

I am organized, dependable and enthusiastic about this opportunity. I consider myself a very empathetic person, and can quickly relate with people. Although I have no previous experience in this area, I have always been a quick learner and look forward to the opportunity to do my part to keep North Hills flourishing.

Office City Council North Hills

Name Spencer W. Seeley

Party Non-partisan

Candidate did not reply

Office City Council North Hills

Name Don Stemple

Party Non-partisan

Biography

I grew up in Vienna and have resided in the area for most of my life. I have lived in North Hills since 2001. I am currently employed by American Electric Power as a Customer Service Engineer and have

worked in the electric utility business for 34 years. I graduated from WVU in 1982 with a degree in Industrial Engineering.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of North Hills are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

North Hills does have some aging infrastructure that will require attention. Present and past town leadership have done a good job maintaining the town's streets, grounds, and sewer systems with the funds available. To meet new governmental regulations, present council was forced to increase sewer rates recently. Most residents pay their street user fees so the streets can be maintained.

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

My goal as council member (and North Hills resident) is to support agendas and activities with my available time and talents that make North Hills a nice place to live for my family and all other residents. One particular project that I would like to see happen, if funding could be made available, is to dredge the North Hills pond.

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

I'm experienced, having served on North Hills council for close to six years. I care about people and always try to be fair and understanding with their circumstances.

Office City Council North Hills

Name Tom Zawatsky

Party Non-partisan

Biography

As 30-plus-year residents of North Hills, my wife and I have been fortunate to have raised our two sons in this safe and beautiful community. Currently a retired Mechanical Engineer and council member for the last two years, I have enjoyed working with other seriously conscientious members of the governing body to help improve the quality of our town.

1. Do you feel the infrastructure needs of North Hills are being adequately addressed? Please explain.

The town's streets have been more than adequately maintained for a number of years. However, the recent significant increase in water/sewer bills to our residents demands a temporary reallocation of street funds to reduce the Inflow & Infiltration of rain water into our sewer system. Additionally, a long-term cost-effective solution to the town's pond-maintenance costs must be addressed.

2. What do you want to accomplish as a member of city council?

My priority issues: Guidelines for consistent and fair enforcement of all ordinances; Implementation of individual budget category balances available to each Council Member at each Council Meeting enabling more informed expenditure decisions; Development of available guidelines for standard administrative duties to encourage high levels of resident participation in town governance; and, a more interactive Town Website for communication with residents

3. What qualities do you have to make you an effective member of city council?

During my working career in various Project/Manufacturing capacities, which included sales/management in addition to hands-on experience, I addressed a wide variety of challenging problems. The skills I practiced (analytical, planning, selling, designing and implementing) are all transferable to the issues we face as a town. Retired from regular employment, I now have the opportunity to give back to my town.

