

North Hills Municipal Candidates for November 8, 2016 General Election

This candidate information is brought to you by the League of Women Voters of Wood County as a public service. Candidate responses are printed exactly as received, including spelling, grammar and content. Candidate biographies and responses to questions were limited to 60 words. Statement to the voters were limited to 120 words.

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, sinning 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.