

Parkersburg Municipal Candidates for November 8, 2016 General Election

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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 PJJ 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

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.