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Office Parkersburg Mayor
Name Mike Cottrell
Party Republican

Biography

1979 Graduate of PSHS, educated at WVU. Starting my career in the Engineering Field at DuPont, I also pursued Fire Service career on parallel timeline. Continuing education at Ohio State Fire Academy, WVU Fire Extension, National Fire Academy. My dual careers allowed me to manage multi-million dollar budgets, countless employees. More importantly, save numerous lives.

1. What do you think the city government's role should be in dealing with the problems of homelessness and addiction?

City should be proactive with homelessness issues and addiction issues. The two issues are not exclusively connected. The front line, law enforcement officers on the street. The second would be to coordinate efforts between all, including emergency and social services, homeless and treatment centers, mental health professionals and faith based organization, to help provide resources addressing the situations.

2. What are your priorities in allocating financial resources between infrastructure and other needs of the city?

The immediate needs are improving public safety, infrastructure, roads, stormwater drains, sidewalks. Equally important would be eradicating the drug epidemic in our community. We must provide a safe environment and good city services, then focus on recruiting new business and residents.

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

Regarding recent emergencies, the Camden Ave Ames Plant fire and the current corona virus, My experience in both emergencies services and fire services equally qualify me to lead the city during crisis. I have management experience encompassing Engineering Project Management, mentoring and management of multiple work groups, all of which would be assets in the office of mayor.

Office Parkersburg Mayor
Name Sherry Dugan
Party Democrat

Biography

Lifelong resident of Parkersburg. Graduated PHS 1974, Graduated King College 1877 with a degree in History/Political Science, minored in Accounting. Owner Das Rookhaus. Past city councilman, National VP US Jaycees, Exalted ruler Elks 198. President Junior League, member First Lutheran Church. Served on city Facade, sign. Finance, and personnel committees. Currently serving on Parkersburg Municipal Committee

1. What do you think the city government's role should be in dealing with the problems of homelessness and addiction?

Much of the homelessness is due to the opiod crisis. Although I believe in treatment for those seeking help, I also feel those who do not succeed should be returned home. Thus, an exit strategy for treatment centers must be in place. A stronger police presence within ştate perimeters to help deter dealers is essential. Perhaps more officers .

2. What are your priorities in allocating financial resources between infrastructure and other needs of the city?

Looking at what needs repaired under our streets, addressing that , then refinishing our streets shows a greater fiduciary responsibility. Utilizing the development department to pursue companies with higher wages, increases

our tax base. Working with non profits increasing the quality of life, IE the Juleps Playground. Watching income closely to increase police and fire protection while mainlining a balanced budget.

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

As a self employed small businessman for over forty years, I truly know the value of a dollar. Providing more service for each tax dollar must be paramount. I have attended 90% of all council, committee, and budget hearings for the last five years. I understand the charter, finances, and work well with people.

Office Parkersburg Mayor

Name Tom Joyce

Party Republican

No Reply

Office Parkersburg Mayor

Name Byron B. Meeks

Party Republican

Biography

I am a graduate of WILLIAMSTOWN High School. I am an owner of a mechanical garage and have done mechanical/body work all of my life. I am a people person. I have dealt with and love to hear, help many citizens of Wood County. I'm for "Making A Change" in Parkersburg, together. Find me on Facebook under Meeks for Mayor.

1. What do you think the city government's role should be in dealing with the problems of homelessness and addiction?

Their role should be getting to know the citizens and listening to them who are dealing with these issues. Get to the heart of the issues by asking their opinions, involving them, not judging or pushing them aside, as what we can do together to overcome. The city government is for ALL of their citizens NOT for just the select

2. What are your priorities in allocating financial resources between infrastructure and other needs of the city?

The mayor and city government are elected by the citizens for the citizens. My priorities are to listen to the citizens for their inputs to how and what is needed done for Parkersburg. We need to look at how to facilities to help all of our citizens: homeless, Veterans, etc. We need to prioritize their needs to make Parkersburg great

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

My experience is working with the community for 26 years. I don't judge and listen. I get to know citizens of my community and help where and when I can. I listen to them and show pride when they accomplish things. It's all about caring for your local citizens: "rich," poor, homeless, addicts, etc. We can SUCCEED together.

Office Parkersburg Mayor

Name Mark Meredith

Party Republican

Biography

I'm a lifelong resident of Wood County and I've lived in Parkersburg for 26 years. I graduated college from WVIT with a B.S. in Industrial Technology after attending WVU-P and graduating with an A.S. in Engineering Technology and Drafting Design. I worked for KBR as an Electrical Designer (2002-2018) and now work for the IBEW-968.

1. What do you think the city government's role should be in dealing with the problems of homelessness and addiction?

The removal of abandoned and vacant homes used as shelter for homeless individuals or by addicts for illegal drug activity. Creating affordable housing alternatives for homeless or at risk individuals or families. Implementing proactive planning policies and engagement with community resources as well as neighboring city leaders. Develop or copy best practices that have been successful in other cities.

2. What are your priorities in allocating financial resources between infrastructure and other needs of the city?

Public Safety would be my highest priority followed by maintaining infrastructure. Technology upgrades could reduce the costs associated with other areas of government. A Community Investment Trust could be established for civic projects and revitalization. I would also increase culture and recreation funds to increase revenue through tourism. Funds for razing abandoned and vacant properties would be a top priority.

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

Working as an Electrical Designer for 16 years, and previously working for a commercial real estate developer, has given me experience in managing many projects simultaneously that included: budgeting, material and labor acquisition, coordination at the beginning of a project through to installation, and leading and organizing groups to complete tasks. These are transferable skills I would use as Mayor.

Office Parkersburg Mayor

Name Nancy Wilcox

Party Democrat

Biography

I have worked in finance for over 40 years, and am currently the CFO and Manager of the Kraton FCU. I am the current Treasurer for the Holiday in the Park. I served eight years as a City Councilwoman (District 1), in which time I was the Chair of the City Finance Committee and served on the City Planning Commission.

1. What do you think the city government's role should be in dealing with the problems of homelessness and addiction?

Our city worked in the past to help those, in need and get them back on their feet, but that work has diminished in recent years. I believe our city needs to address these issues in a far more serious manner; a manner, that will curb these issues as well as give people hope for the city's future.

2. What are your priorities in allocating financial resources between infrastructure and other needs of the city?

Our city infrastructure is a priority issue for my candidacy, and I will begin work on allocating more city resources to infrastructure projects on day one. Not only does our crumbling city infrastructure, such as roads and sidewalks, pose a safety concern for Parkersburg residents, it also pushes businesses away from investing in our city, ultimately hurting the taxpayers twofold.

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

My experience in city government and finance has shown me the way things should be run, and our current elected officials aren't holding up their end. I believe I have the ability and experience to work for all of Parkersburg in a way that will promote safety, investment and growth that we haven't seen for far too long.

Office Parkersburg City Council District 1

Name Jessica Cottrille

Party Republican

No Reply

Office Parkersburg City Council District 1

Name Andrea "Red" Greer
Party Democrat

Biography

What's best for Parkersburg isn't necessarily best for those profiting from our resources; our community deserves a NOT FOR SALE advocate. I've signed onto Stephen Smith's #WVCantWait campaign/platform. I won't take corporate cash, never cross picket lines, and will always make time for my constituents. I'm not for sale, and you can find my campaign at www.RedGreerWV.com.

1. What do you think the city government's role should be in dealing with the problems of homelessness and addiction?

We must build our responses on firm, science-based understanding of the underlying problems. Other cities have implemented workable measures to combat these problems; we can and must learn from them. We cannot keep looking down on those less fortunate. It's time to start offering real, long-term solutions; be that housing assistance, rehabilitation, or some comprehensive program to address these issues.

2. What are your priorities in allocating financial resources between infrastructure and other needs of the city?

Our infrastructure must be improved to attract and keep good-paying jobs for our residents. Infrastructure improvements must be emphasized initially, including upgraded internet capabilities, comprehensive road repair, and environmental responsibility. These must be addressed to bring Parkersburg into the 21st century. Such improvements would result in increased revenues that could then be allocated to a greater degree for additional needs.

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

I'm not a career politician, but I've been intensely interested in politics for many years. I've had many different life experiences. They've built a strong empathy in me, represented by my long-held belief that every human deserves rights, dignity, and community. I want to help, to make things better. For my kids. For yours. For all of them. And us.

Office Parkersburg City Council District 1
Name Dave McCrady
Party Democrat

Biography

Born and raised in district 1, graduated 1969 PSHS ,50 year member local 565 Plumbers & Pipefitters. Currently I am the Councilman for District 1 and serve as Chairman of Public Works and Storm Water committees, along with serving on the Finance committee. Married with 3 children and 4 grandchildren living in Parkersburg. Very active in building of Erickson ASF.

1. What do you think the city government's role should be in dealing with the problems of homelessness and addiction?

We must support our Police, Fire, and first responders that deal with this on a daily basis. Parkersburg has a number of drug addiction facilities. We must be able to return the clients that leave the program back to their home cities where they have a family and friends support system to help them. We must continue drug education in

2. What are your priorities in allocating financial resources between infrastructure and other needs of the city?

Currently we are addressing problems that were brought to light in 1984. Our aging storm water system must be repaired. We must continue our aggressive relining of failing lines . We need to continue our paving schedule and slab replacement at between 1.2-1.5 million per year and keep our police and Fire departments fully staffed .

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

With 50+ years experience in construction I understand our infrastructure, and street problems. I have experience in planning and budgeting. With three years on the Public Works committees I have learned the inner workings of each Department and their capabilities. I understand the need to continue our aggressive plan that is now in place to remedy our overburdened storm water

Office Parkersburg City Council District 2

Name Michael Hess

Party Republican

Biography

I'm running for Parkersburg City Council to bring a fresh perspective to city government in order to help businesses grow, families thrive, and youth evolve into the leaders of tomorrow. I am a 2019 graduate of Parkersburg South and am currently pursuing my bachelors degree in Legal Studies at WVUP. To learn more visit my website at www.hess4council.com.

1. What do you think the city government's role should be in dealing with the problems of homelessness and addiction?

Homelessness is greatly increased by addiction. By decreasing the drug problem, homelessness will also be decreased. I would continue to work with law enforcement, mental health services, addiction services and others to find solutions

2. What are your priorities in allocating financial resources between infrastructure and other needs of the city?

Properly allocating financial resources is important. Funding infrastructure and other city needs is a delicate balance and both are important to attracting new business

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

I've been interested in government and have actively attended city council meetings since I was 14 years old. Former Chairman, Parkersburg Mayor's Youth Advisory Council. Associate Member, Wood County Republican Executive Committee. Eagle Scout and former Scouting leader. Recipient, City Council Youth Achievement Award. Recipient, Charlie B. Akers Scouting Award.

Office Parkersburg City Council District 2

Name Sharon A. Kuhl

Party Republican

Biography

Married to Joe Kuhl for 34 years. Graduated from PSHS 1975. Accounting Degree. Retired

1. What do you think the city government's role should be in dealing with the problems of homelessness and addiction?

Other than financial assistance, local government has a small role in dealing with homelessness and addiction. State and Federal Governments have greater resources, laws and authority to assist. This has put our city in a no win situation, even though City Council and Administration has diligently worked on these problems

2. What are your priorities in allocating financial resources between infrastructure and other needs of the city?

I believe that City Government has a responsibility to provide safe streets and proper storm sewers to insure the citizens can reside in a safe and prosperous city. As a Council Person, I have availed myself to all current data as to the conditions of the infrastructure first and addressed the other needs as finances and situations do allow..

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

While serving on City Council for the past 3-1/2 yrs, I have gone thru the budget process. Reviewing and approving the budget is the primary responsibility of Council. Using my training and experience in accounting

and currently serving on Council, I believe this experience makes me the most qualified candidate for City Council District 2.

Office Parkersburg City Council District 3

Name Robert Mercer

Party Republican

No Reply

Office Parkersburg City Council District 4

Name Eric Barber

Party Republican

No Reply

Office Parkersburg City Council District 4

Name Brett Bringardner

Party Republican

No Reply

Office Parkersburg City Council District 4

Name Donna Sue Helmick

Party Democrat

No Reply

Office Parkersburg City Council District 4

Name Wendy R. Tuck

Party Democrat

Biography

I have a BA and MA in Education, married to Steve Tuck for 43 years, mother, foster parent, local homeowner in District 4 since 1982; served on the Local Emergency Planning Council, neighborhood organizer, grant writer, teacher, Executive Director of EVE, Inc and the Volunteer Action Center, Certified Child and Adolescent Trauma Professional, Child Development Specialist for Birth to Three.

1. What do you think the city government's role should be in dealing with the problems of homelessness and addiction?

Partner with community organizations, state and federal governments to develop and fund successful strategies. If homeless or addicted people work for the City, pay fair wages. Designate safe places for them to live. Eliminate unsafe, abandoned buildings and fire hazards. Sponsor crisis intervention training for first responders to de-escalate potential dangers or conflicts with homeless, mentally ill, or addicted people.

2. What are your priorities in allocating financial resources between infrastructure and other needs of the city?

Keep people safe from crime, injury, and disease (police patrol, sidewalks, sanitation). Promote economic development that 1) benefits low-income families and 2) adds to civic life. Engage the public in increasing city resources by reducing storm wastewater run-off, recycling, and Neighborhood Watch. Maintain the infrastructure currently in good shape and build up funds that will be needed in the future.

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

I was an emergency foster parent for 10 years, assessing situations, solving problems, establishing safety, and mobilizing resources. I was also the Executive Director of two non-profit organizations, responsible for program

and staff development, volunteer training, disaster preparedness, public relations, facility maintenance, community networking, budgeting, and financial management. I raised and administered over a million dollars in grants. I'm committed.

Office Parkersburg City Council District 5

Name J.R. Carpenter

Party Democrat

Biography

J.R. Carpenter, Born in Parkersburg, raised my family in Parkersburg . Two of my three children work in Parkersburg, plus all my grandchildren are here. As you can see I am fully vested in our city. My business is here. I am committed to seeing our city become a place where our grandchildren want to stay and raise their families.

1. What do you think the city government's role should be in dealing with the problems of homelessness and addiction?

Parkersburg has a network of food. Two free meals a day, 7 days a week. Beds availability from churches, shelters, and institutions are utilized by those that follow their rules. Sobriety being one of them. Addiction is best curbed by reducing the availability thru arrests/drug busts. We will also see thefts drop by the increased efforts by police.

2. What are your priorities in allocating financial resources between infrastructure and other needs of the city?

Infrastructure is an ongoing process. Keeping our city viable and functioning for future generations opens up more economic development opportunities. Enhancing our quality of life now. Other needs are important to attract our children/grandchildren back to stay. Economic development coupled with family attractions/entertainment will accomplish this goal. Affordable housing plays a key role. Economic development must start NOW.

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

Parkersburg Catholic graduate 1979, Marshall graduate 1984. BA management , marketing/finance minor. Currently own/operate Crystal Café for 18 years, virus pending, many more. As a 2 term incumbent, thru some turbulent times, I have always taken great pride as the representative of District 5 in listening and addressing individual concerns. Maintaining a balance of our tax monies vs district needs.

Office Parkersburg City Council District 6

Name Mike Reynolds

Party Republican

No Reply

Office Parkersburg City Council District 7

Name Thomas Rafferty

Party Democrat

Biography

I'm a lifelong resident of Wood County and lifelong member of Saint Francis Xavier Church. I'm a proud 1975 graduate of the Parkersburg Catholic School System. I worked 36 years for Borg-Warner Chemicals, GE Plastics, Sabic Innovative Plastics until my plant was closed. I then returned to WVU-P, earning an RBA degree in Psychology

1. What do you think the city government's role should be in dealing with the problems of homelessness and addiction?

I strongly believe City Government should do everything possible to help the professionals working diligently to help those suffering homelessness and addiction. I have personally witnessed heartbreaking struggles with substance abuse and the needless loss of life due to opioids. If elected, I look forward to assisting Westbrook Health Services, which is in District 7

2. What are your priorities in allocating financial resources between infrastructure and other needs of the city?

As a lifelong resident, I'm sorely aware of some of Parkersburg's infrastructure needs. I am supportive of all our city's needs and if elected, will do all I can to see those needs are met. But, if we do not take care of the City's infrastructure first; any benefit to our city could be negatively affected.

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

At 63, I would bring a lifetime of Parkersburg experience to my seat on City Council. I was Student body President of my High School. I returned to my Alma Mater and served as Treasurer then President of my children's elementary PTO, and Treasurer then president of Parkersburg Catholic's BOE, and Secretary then Chairman of my Church's Parish Council.

Office Parkersburg City Council District 7

Name Chris Rexroad

Party Republican

Biography

I hold a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education specializing in Social Studies grades 5-9 and a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership. I teach 6th grade Social Studies, including government. Nine years of teaching has taught me how to work with children and adults. Collaboration with co-workers, administrators, and parents has taught me to establish viable solutions for all.

1. What do you think the city government's role should be in dealing with the problems of homelessness and addiction?

I feel the city should provide a safe area for the homeless that can provide basic utilities and sanitation. Community service by the residents could be used to give them jobs and fund the living area. Funding should be allocated for drug prevention and rehabilitation programs to combat the addiction crisis in our community.

2. What are your priorities in allocating financial resources between infrastructure and other needs of the city?

Funds should be allocated to keep up the infrastructure in our community, such as road and bridge maintenance and public utilities under the city's purview. This should be balanced with funding for social programs for community members in need. Also, good wages for all city employees is necessary to maintaining our community's safety and infrastructure.

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

My education and work experiences have taught me how to collaborate with others, compromise, and create solutions that benefit all stakeholders. My teaching background in government gives me insight on how government should operate and the laws that bind us. I feel my ability to work with people of differing opinions makes me a good candidate for this position.

Office Parkersburg City Council District 7

Name Charity Wise

Party Republican

Biography

I was born and have lived in the MID-Ohio Valley my whole life. I'm raising my children here, I attended college here and ran the finance department of a business in the area which had around 300 on payroll. I love this town. I'm aware of the issues we face, but I believe Parkersburg has a charm all its own.

1. What do you think the city government's role should be in dealing with the problems of homelessness and addiction?

Since addiction is both a cause and a result of homelessness both issues need to be addressed together. I think recovery programs are a good start but after 30 days where can these newly sober people go? I think supported housing, mental health education, employment opportunities along with money management skills will greatly decrease the chance of relapse and homelessness.

2. What are your priorities in allocating financial resources between infrastructure and other needs of the city?

I'm not a career politician. I'm a wife, mother, sister and friend who has common sense and a deep desire to improve our city. The policies I weigh in on will affect my family the same as every other family in this city. I will help shift revenue to the places in the city that need it most.

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

My sole focus is to make everyday life better for the families in my district and Parkersburg. I'm not interested in gaining clout or status. I will use my skills in finance, organization and my tenacious will to see things through to be the best representative for my district.

Office Parkersburg City Council District 8

Name Zachary T. Stanley

Party Republican

No Reply

Office Parkersburg City Council District 9

Name Jeff Fox

Party Democrat

Biography

Born and raised in my district, I attended Emerson, Hamilton and PHS. I have degrees from WV Tech and WVUP. I'm a 30+ year member of IBEW 968, working as a wireman and serving as recording secretary, president and financial secretary/business manager. I volunteer with multiple groups throughout our community. Parkersburg is home.

1. What do you think the city government's role should be in dealing with the problems of homelessness and addiction?

Collaborate with agencies having the expertise and data, using community task forces which represent the entire spectrum of both issues. Implementation of successful collaborative programs from other WV cities. Use some CDBG funding to help provide basic human shelter & hygiene needs. Educate the public on local issues and efforts, and welcome their input.

2. What are your priorities in allocating financial resources between infrastructure and other needs of the city?

Roads, sidewalks, stormwater systems are aging and in need of constant repair. Large, potentially damaging trees need attention. Taxpayers rightfully expect solid infrastructure. Maintain solid police, fire and sanitation departments. A focus on projects that improve safety and quality of life (parks, events, education, charity). Take care of our young and old citizens and those in need.

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

As a lifelong resident of Parkersburg, I have seen the changes and challenges. As a business manager or wireman, I dealt with budgets, worker contracts, health care, pensions, construction projects, safety, ect. Volunteering with organizations allows me to hear feedback and info. I have not missed a council meeting in my 3+ years. I listen, learn and work.