

WHY I DESERVE YOUR VOTE TO THE BEDFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD

A Tool to Help Question and Evaluate Candidates for Bedford Township Office

1) Priorities – What should be the top five priorities of Township Hall over the next four (4) years? (1 = most important) Why do you feel these are the top five?

a_1__ Improving police protection

b_1__ Improving fire protection

c____ Improving parks and recreation

d_3__ Promoting economic development

e____ Reducing the size of Township government

f____ Full Disclosure of Township financial records (publish on Township web site)

g_2__ Maintaining and improving infrastructure (roads, water, sewer)

h____ Improving the commercial development and revitalization of the Temperance Overlay District & the surrounding area.

i_4__ Develop a Capital Improvement Plan for 5-10 years out.

j____ Practicing greater fiscal responsibility and lower taxes

k____ Improving services for citizens and being more customer friendly

l____ Improving the use of the Township Public Access Station on Buckeye Cable.

m_5__ Making better, bold and courageous decisions that benefit the entire township long term in spite of intense written and vocal pressure from special interest groups.

n____ Recognizing and protecting the property rights of all citizens

o____ Improving the use of the Township web site to communicate with residents.

Why do you feel that “Your top Five Priorities” are the most important?

A & B: (improving police and fire protection) SAFETY IS ALWAYS THE MAIN CONCERN OF CITIZENS. THIS IS OUR FIRST RESPONSIBILITY ALWAYS.

G: (maintaining and improving infrastructure) ROADS CAN ALWAYS USE IMPROVEMENT EVEN THOUGH MUCH HAS BEEN DONE ALREADY. WATER AND SEWER ARE CONCERNS OF MINE BECAUSE OF THE AGE OF OUR SYSTEMS. I WOULD LIKE TO INVESTIGATE THE WATER AND SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE TO RECOGNIZE POTENTIAL PROBLEMS THEN ADDRESS THEM TO HEAD OFF BREAKDOWNS.

D: (promoting economic development) AS I HAD MENTIONED AT THE FORUM, IT IS IMPORTANT TO BUILD OUR TAX BASE TO RUN THE TOWNSHIP AND ADDRESS THE INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS. NEW BUSINESS PROVIDES JOBS AND TAXES WITHOUT INCREASING THE TAXES TO OUR CITIZENS.

I: (develop a Capital Improvement Plan for 5-10 years out) ALL SUCCESSFUL BUSINESSES HAVE LONG TERM PLANNING AND GOALS. THE SAME APPLIES TO OUR TOWNSHIP, THIS GIVES US THE ABILITY TO MANAGE OUR FUTURE WITH AN ACTUAL PLAN.

M: (making better, bold and courageous decisions that benefit the entire township long term in spite of intense written and vocal pressure from special interest groups) THIS MEANS COURAGE AND LEADERSHIP. YOU HAVE TO HAVE THE STRENGTH TO MAKE THE RIGHT DECISIONS WITHOUT BEING CONCERNED ABOUT POPULARITY OR THE NEXT ELECTION. ALSO THE STRENGTH TO FOLLOW THE LAW.

2. What is your position on economic development for Bedford Township, especially the Temperance area? What is your plan to encourage economic development?

I HAVE SAID ALL ALONG THAT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IS THE KEY TO OUR FUTURE FOR ALL OF BEDFORD, WHICH INCLUDES LAMBERTVILLE, SAMARIA AND TEMPERANCE. WE HAVE TO RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF ALL, THIS IS WHY WE HAVE ORDINANCES AND LAWS. I BELIEVE WE HAVE TO GO TO OUTSIDE BUSINESSES AND COAX THEM TO COME TO BEDFORD. I HAVE WORKED ON PROJECTS WITH OTHER GROUPS, SUCH AS THE REGIONAL GROWTH PARTNERSHIP AND NORTHWOOD, OHIO TO DO THIS VERY THING.

3. What is your position on "Town Hall Meetings" where township officials can meet with residents to discuss their concerns and to keep them informed of what is going on in the township? Would you be willing to have these on a monthly basis and also have them televised and streamed live on the Bedford Township web site?

TOWNHALL MEETINGS ARE A WONDERFUL WAY TO COMMUNICATE, ALTHOUGH I THINK 1 PER QUARTER WOULD BE ADEQUATE. I HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH THEM BEING TELEVISED OR STREAMED LIVE.

4. What is your position on using the Township Access TV Channel on Buckeye Cable and live streaming on the Township web site to communicate with the public? For example, a monthly one-hour TV show hosted by the Supervisor or Clerk to get current information out to residents about various issues, township boards and upcoming meetings. Since most Township Board meetings do not last the full 3 hours that is allotted, this show could be broadcasted at the end of one of the meetings each month with the public in attendance.

YEARS AGO I SUGGESTED A SHOW THAT WOULD EXPLAIN THE ISSUES/AGENDA BEFORE EACH MEETING. MOST PEOPLE DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO THE PACKETS AND THIS WOULD BE A WAY TO GIVE PEOPLE THE INFORMATION BEFORE THE

MEETING. THERE ARE MANY DIFFERENT FORMATS THAT CAN BE USED TO COMMUNICATE.

5. What is your position concerning having all board members being fully informed before decisions are made at Township Board Meetings? Do you think that there is enough discussion on issues by all board members when decisions are made currently?

IT IS A MATTER OF PROFESSIONAL COURTESY TO BE INFORMED AS A BOARD MEMBER AND TO MAKE SURE ALL INFO IS MADE AVAILABLE TO ALL. THERE HAVE BEEN EXCEPTIONS WHERE A DECISION WAS NEEDED ASAP, SO WHEN THIS IS BROUGHT BEFORE THE BOARD, MORE DISCUSSION IS NECESSARY TO COME TO THE BEST DECISION.

6. There may be some tough future decisions concerning cuts to current employee and trustee benefits. Are you willing to make these cuts if necessary?

I WILL TAKE A KEEN INTEREST IN SAVING TAXPAYER DOLLARS IN THIS WAY. BUT I WOULD NEED CONVINCING BECAUSE I AM WORRIED ABOUT SERVICING OUR CUSTOMERS NOT ONLY OVER THE COUNTER, BUT BY PROVIDING PROFESSIONAL SERVICE BEHIND THE SCENES. WE NEED PERSONNEL THAT HAVE THE TALENTS TO DO THIS. I HAVE SEEN THESE TALENTS AT WORK AND DON'T THINK WE SHOULD LOSE THEM. OUR CITIZENS ARE WORTH THE COST.

7. What is your opinion of the current practice by the Bedford Township Supervisor of limiting the time for public commentary to 2 minutes concerning agenda items and 3 minutes for general comments at the end of each Bedford Township Board Meeting? Would you recommend any changes to this policy

NO, I DON'T THINK SO. IF THERE IS ENOUGH INTEREST IT COULD BE CHANGED. I WILL SAY AFTER BEING AT OR VIEWING THE MEETINGS OVER THE LAST 14 YEARS, RARELY HAVE I SEEN THE NEED.

8. What motivated you to seek a position on the Bedford Township Board? What do you see is your role as a member the Bedford Township Board? Do you think that all board members should take the responsibility for placing topics on the meeting agenda?

I SAW A NEED TO BRING COHESIVENESS TO THE BOARD. WHILE HAVING A PASSION FOR THE TOWNSHIP WE HAVE TO LEARN TO NOT MAKE IT PERSONAL. TAKING IT PERSONAL INTERFERES WITH THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE BOARD. I KNOW MY EXAMPLE WOULD BE TO HELP INSTILL COOPERATION AND THE GOAL TO SOLVE PROBLEMS. EACH BOARD MEMBER SHOULD BE ABLE TO BRING A CONCERN TO THE BOARD BY ASKING IT TO BE PUT ON THE AGENDA. 1

9. How many Bedford Township Board meetings have you attended in the past year? How many times have you watched the videos of Bedford Township Board meetings during the past year? After attending or viewing past meetings, do you have any recommendations to improve the efficiency and decorum at future meetings.

I WATCH OR ATTEND ALL. I WOULD LIKE MORE PROFESSIONAL COURTESY. I BELIEVE THAT SOME BOARD MEMBERS HAVE BROUGHT UP ISSUES THAT OTHERS HAD NO TIME TO PREPARE. THERE IS ROOM TO DISCUSS THINGS BEFORE THE MEETING AND AT LEAST MAKE BOARD MEMBERS AWARE THAT THERE WILL BE QUESTIONS. THIS WOULD SAVE TIME AS WELL.

10. What are some new ideas that you would recommend if elected? What is your "Vision" for Bedford Township in the next 4 years?

ACTIVELY REACH OUT TO BUSINESSES TO COME TO BEDFORD. MAKE THE PROCESS TO DO BUSINESS OR START A BUSINESS EASIER. I WANT TO GO OVER BUSINESS ORDINANCES AND LOOK TO STREAMLINE OR REMOVE OUTDATED ONES. I WOULD LIKE TO SEE BEDFORD GROW TO BE ABLE TO PROVIDE BETTER INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES. ALL WITH A VERY HEALTHY, REPECT FOR OUR RESIDENTS.

11. How should the public hold you as an elected official accountable for your campaign promises and your votes?

WE HAVE AN ELECTION EVERY 4 YEARS. THEY SHOULD COMMUNICATE WITH US AS WELL AS US WITH THEM.