

Vote meaningfully today!

The Bethlehem Gadfly Candidates for election, Serious Issues November 5, 2019

 8th in a series of new posts on candidates for election 

Vote!

Today!

Election Day

Tuesday November 5

7AM as I post — polls open!

Gadfly knows, yes, yes, there are important electoral races for judge, district attorney, school board, etc., that will be decided today.

Speaking of school board, follower Karen Beck Pooley is on that ballot.

But Gadfly will pretty much always circumscribe his focus around the mayoralty and Council — offices that he will be close to and see in action.

And there's really no “race” in these races today.

But Gadfly expects you to vote.

And he has suggested to you an “[exercise](#)” to make your Council vote interesting today.

An exercise to make your vote “count.”

Use your vote as a referendum on at least the three incumbent Council members who will be automatically installed today for lack of competition.

Refresh yourself on their platforms and positions from the May primary.

Gadfly tips his hat again for these serious, thoughtful responses.

[Michael Colon – Gadfly statements for May 2019 primary](#)

[J. William Reynolds – Gadfly statements for May 2019 primary](#)

[Paige Van Wirt – Gadfly statements from May 2019 primary](#)

[Grace Crampsie Smith – Gadfly statements for May 2019 primary](#)

Mix in — using your reading of Gadfly the past five months — what you know of their performance since then.

Do some homework again. Some thinking again.

Ok, if you are whining that you are busy, Gadfly suggests that you at least look at prompt 7.2 on the statements they did for Gadfly, the one about **A Vision of/for the City**.

Gadfly thinks that might be the most important prompt.

Elections are new beginnings. Leaders inspire us with their visions. They shape the narrative. They turn us on.

Or should.

What are their visions of past, present, and, most importantly, future Bethlehem?

Then vote or withhold a vote as if it counted in the final analysis.

You don't have to vote for all three incumbents on the 4yr seat or the one on the 2yr. seat.

Discriminate. Choose.

You will feel better.

And they will be watching.

Gadfly doesn't know his way around the archives very well, but here is one place where you can find [Northampton County votes](#) tallied in past elections.

Here. for instance, is the May 2019 primary tally.

Dem - Bethlehem City Council At Large 4yr	25/25	100.00%
Michael G. Colon	1,739	22.79%
J. William Reynolds	1,870	24.50%
Carol Ritter	1,655	21.69%
Paige Van Wirt	1,786	23.40%
David A. Saltzer	579	7.59%
Write-In	3	0.04%
Total ...	7,632	100.00%
Dem - Bethlehem City Council At Large 2yr	25/25	100.00%
Grace Crampsie Smith	1,511	52.34%
Will Carpenter	1,040	36.02%
Ashley Daubert	336	11.64%
Write-In	0	0.00%
Total ...	2,887	100.00%

On the basis of past statistics like this, some wonk will project how many votes will be cast today, and you can bet the candidates will be looking at their numbers in the various precincts around town.

A smaller number than expected will be noticed.

Take the opportunity to send a message today — either a pat on the back or a wake-up call.

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