

What do the Council candidates have to say about their “unique qualifications” to serve? (48)

The Bethlehem Gadfly Candidates for election, Gadfly's posts, Serious Issues May 16, 2019

(48th in a series of posts on candidates for election)

Election Day is May 21

That's five days from today!

*Be sure to review the Gadfly series of Q&A's with candidates, **the like of which you can get nowhere else**, on these pairs of posts in the candidates series: 45/44, 36/35, 31/30, 26/25, 24/23, 20/19, 17/16.*

The third general question that BCDC asked of all the candidates was:

“What single skill or experience makes you uniquely qualified to serve on Bethlehem City Council?”

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Candidates for the one 2yr. seat

Will Carpenter: “fluency in the development process, I spent twenty years negotiating with mayors, councils . . . I know how the process works.”

Grace Crampsie Smith: “I’m a bridge builder . . . I’ve had to look at different sides . . . I’ve always looked at the whole situation pragmatically and objectively.”

Candidates for the three 4yr. seats

Michael Colon: “I grew up in the Marvine neighborhood of Bethlehem, I was raised by my grandparents . . . we didn’t have a lot. Through hard work I’ve been able to achieve the things I have today . . . I am one of two Spanish-speaking members of City Council . . . I relate to members of the City in any neighborhood . . . I volunteer work, I stay involved

J. William Reynolds: “I bring forth creative solutions to problems in our community . . . It’s never been enough for me to say “no,” it’s about how you come up with a “yes” . . . an ability to work through disagreement to come up with creative visions.”

Carol Ritter: “My one thing is leadership, I have led many boards in my career . . . leadership is about service . . . raised [with her team] millions of dollars for the Children’s Room [in the library].”

David Saltzer: “I worked for the City . . . born and raised in the City . . . and I was also a Union president . . . [looked at budgets from three perspectives] as a taxpayer, what was good for the City, and what was good for the Union.”

Paige Van Wirt: “I used to be an urban planner . . . I think I really understand what makes a healthy city . . . not afraid to ask questions . . . I understand the CRIZ . . . sidewalks . . . why were we not funding a feasibility study for a pedestrian bridge . . . I bring a different perspective to City Council.”

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Vote and vote informed!