

# Will Carpenter at the Bethlehem City Democratic Committee Forum May 6 (38)

The Bethlehem Gadfly Candidates for election, Gadfly's posts, Serious Issues May 7, 2019

*(38th in a series of posts on candidates for election)*

Will Carpenter is a candidate for the one 2yr seat on City Council, running against Grace Crampsie Smith.



The candidates were asked a specific question, could respond to the answers of the other candidates, participated in several group questions, and made a closing comment.

**Carpenter's question: on the Climate Action Plan, the environment (6 mins.)**

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*"While the citizens of Bethlehem wait for the proposed climate action plan, there are things we can do to fight climate change now. Please describe some of the*

*environmental initiatives and/or ordinances you would champion if elected.”*

- The environment is one of the things motivating me getting involved here.
- Everything that I look at as a Council person will be viewed with the eyes, how does this fit in with our Climate Action Plan.
- The cost of inaction is so much more than the cost of action.
- Getting ready for the next generation of technology . . . helps to build good jobs.
- . . . our not wonderful air . . .
- I’m going to dig into it, study it, make it my top priority.

**Crampsie Smith** followed up talking about things we could do now, such as a ban on single-use plastic bags, alternate means of transportation, strong laws against littering, and awareness programs for children (min. 2:15). **Reynolds** filled us in on specific details about what’s actually going on with the Climate Action Plan (min. 3:10). **Van Wirt** called attention to work by the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) on a plastic bag ban, a pilot program on solar warehouses, and electric vehicles (min. 4:28).

### **Carpenter’s closing comment (2 mins.):**

- I bring a different skill set to what’s currently on City Council.
- I have a developer background, but I’m far from a developer.
- I’d like to bring that attention, that thought process to City Council.
- I’ve negotiated lots of big deals, I’ve prepared budgets, had budget responsibility.

- I'm not running against anything, not coming in saying I have all the answers.
- citizens . . . environment . . . economy . . . priorities.

Look for more on Carpenter as he responds to other candidate presentations and participates in group answers on such topics as their unique qualities, transparency, neighborhoods.