



Brunswick Mayor and Council Election

Tuesday, August 4, 2020

Candidate Information Page

In order to help voters make an informed decision the Greater Brunswick Area Chamber of Commerce is publishing these information pages about all the candidates.

The Brunswick Board of elections will mail ballots to all registered voters in July.

Ballots must be received at City Hall no later than Tuesday, August 4, 2020!



Chris Vigliotti

For Council

I have over twenty years of process improvement and project management experience in the Government space. I have led several organizations to operate in a more effective, repeatable and efficient fashion. I am a sixteen-year resident of our fair city and have worked with the Brunswick Heritage Museum and Brunswick Hackerspace. I am committed to open, honest, thoughtful and thorough communication.

Why I Am Running

I feel that I am the right choice to serve the residents and shift the culture in our city from one of reacting and divisiveness to one of proactive collaboration. I have done my homework and have already begun the process of building consensus with legislators, leaders and residents. I vow to openly communicate my challenges, failures and victories throughout my time of service. I vow to be available for your questions, concerns and ideas. Now is the time for Brunswick to resolve its long-standing issues, claim its rightful place as a strong, inclusive community that honors its history, encourages growth, and ensures safety and prosperity for all residents.

These 6 question were presented to all candidates who were asked to limit their answers to 100 words:

1) *We have been working on downtown revitalization for over thirty years. Some progress has been made. What steps would you suggest to continue or improve the process?*

Answer: First lets cast off the false assertion that historic preservation is at odds with prosperity and growth. We should look to neighbors in Sykesville and Ellicott City for examples of prosperous historic downtown districts. We should learn from leaders in these cities and do what they do. Another critical step is to complete the process of designating downtown as a Historic Preservation District. This designation and supporting processes and procedures will empower us to encourage investment while honoring and protecting our history. The process of approving new development downtown must be clear, repeatable, efficient, open and helpful.



2) *What is your opinion of our local police department? Do you have any suggestions for improvement?*

Answer: The Brunswick Police Department is a

model for community policing, and it has everything to do with the compassionate, professional leadership of Police Chief Milt Frech. I sat down with him twice over the last two months and learned about his department's approach to community policing and current challenges. I was impressed with his commitment to operational transparency and customer service. One of my top priorities will be to help facilitate Chief Frech's plan to improve the BPD. This plan includes increasing veteran officer retention, affordable options for body cameras and increasing retirement benefits to match neighboring police departments.



3) *Water and sewer service and costs: do you have any suggestion about improvements?*

Answer: Brunswick has failed to provide safe, clean, affordable drinking water. Yourtee Springs; one of Brunswick's two water sources (the other being the Potomac River) has been offline for several years.



for Council
Chris Vigliotti
(continued)

This has us getting our water from the Potomac, which costs more to treat. Yourtee should have a publicly accessible, regularly updated project plan. We will complete the rollout of the new water meters which will detect spikes in usage in real-time (vs waiting for the next water bill). We must also modernize our infrastructure and look into providing access to low-cost whole-house water filters to homes impacted by sediment.



4) *Do you feel that Galyn Manor and Brunswick Crossing are fully neighborhoods of greater Brunswick? If not, how would you suggest accomplishing that?*

Answer: Strengthening our community is a challenge that we should continuously meet with our words and our deeds. We should strengthen our communication and collaboration with Community Organizations and HOA boards. We should coordinate events with Brunswick Crossing to prevent scheduling conflicts. I had an opportunity to meet with the Events Committee at Brunswick Crossing. They expressed an interest in partnering with the city to co-host events (we should assign a liaison to help facilitate). We should also create events that celebrate the arts and the artists Brunswick. Our city should be overflowing with arts and music.



5) *If a motion comes before the new Council to repeal or modify the current ordinance that forbids the keeping of chickens in Brunswick, will you support or oppose it?*

Answer: While it is not my top priority, I support our right to bear hens. Legislation must be safe, self-funding (fees pay for inspections), reasonable (limited number of hens, no roosters), clean and neighborly. There are literally tens of thousands of eggcellent ordinances that allow hens in various cities across America. A vast majority of residents are

either in favor of keeping hens or are neutral on the issue. Our residents will play a critical role in hatching legislation. Lastly, I have committed to getting a chicken tattoo on my arm when this legislation passes.



6) *What other question or topic do you think should have the Mayor and Council's attention in the next two years?*

Answer: It is vital that the next mayor and council explore how we can improve and support city staff. Our challenges are growing, our population is growing and both of these dynamics are putting an increased strain on city staff. I will advocate for a complete charter rewrite, replacing archaic, unclear and ambiguous language with clear, focused and human-readable language. Further, I will foster a culture of collaboration and information sharing. By working smarter and working together we will face the challenges that our city faces and create an efficient government that we can all be proud of.



Remember!
Your vote must be received
NO LATER THAN TUESDAY
AUGUST 4, 2020!!